69TH Edition

Blue Ridge Parkway

www.blueridgeparkway.org

DIRECTORY & TRAVEL PLANNER



Roanoke Star and Overlook
Roanoke, VA
Exit at Milepost 90 - 121

The Most Visited Unit Of The National Park Service



Grandfather Mountain
Linville, NC
Exit at Milepost 305.1



You'll find opportunities for recreation, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, camping, wildlife viewing and much more.

Biltmore
Asheville, NC
Exit at Milepost 388.8

Official Publication of the Blue Ridge Parkway Association



Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park

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Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE DRIVE" AT YOUR FINGERTIPS... 469 miles of scenic places, historic sites, lodging, outdoor recommendations and more delivered directly to your smartphone.

FREE DOWNLOAD HERE!

Planned and developed in cooperation with the Blue Ridge Parkway National Park Service.

The 69th Edition

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. BOX 2136, ASHEVILLE, NC 28802
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***Some Parkway photographs by:* Alex Armstrong, William A. Bake, Matt Celko, Vicki Dameron, Jeff Greenberg, Keith McTaggart and Douglas Tate.**
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This free Directory & Travel Planner is published by the 500+ member Blue Ridge Parkway Association to help you more fully enjoy your Parkway area vacation. Members representing attractions, outdoor recreation, accommodations, restaurants, shops, and a variety of other services essential to the traveler are included in this publication.

PROMOTING TOURISM FOR MORE THAN 65 YEARS

When you visit their place of business, please let them know you found them in the Blue Ridge Parkway Directory & Travel Planner. This will help us ensure the availability of another Directory & Travel Planner for your next visit to the Parkway area.

As an official partner agency of the Blue Ridge Parkway -National Park Service, our association is committed to providing trustworthy visitor information across print, web and mobile platforms in cooperation with an active membership of regional travel partners, local businesses and attractions along the scenic corridor of the Shenandoah National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the tri-state region of Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

Distribution of the Directory & Travel Planner does not imply endorsement by the National Park Service of the businesses or commercial services listed.

Travel-related businesses in the region served by the Blue Ridge Parkway, Shenandoah National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park are eligible for membership. This includes hotels, motels, resorts, restaurants, chambers of commerce, merchants associations, banks, public utilities, manufacturers, retail and wholesale businesses, and travel attractions of all kinds.

To join the Blue Ridge Parkway Association go to www.blueridgeparkway.org/join or email: info@blueridgeparkway.org or call (828) 670-1924

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Welcome!

Moving Forward Together

Each year the Blue Ridge Parkway draws millions of visitors from all over the country. In 2016 over 15 million visitors enjoyed the Parkway making it the second most visited National Park Unit in the country. Some come to experience the changing seasons on the Parkway or listen to mountain music while others will come to enjoy hiking and camping, or to simply relax with a change from the daily routine…regardless of why you visit, there is something on the Parkway for everyone.

We strive to provide these everyday experiences to the public while also planning and managing projects to enhance the Parkway experience for years to come. In 2017, exciting projects became a reality – including the opening of the Doughton Park Visitor Center, formerly the Bluff Camp Store, and the construction of a new shower building at the Price Park campground. We welcomed over 10,000 park visitors and neighbors to experience the total solar eclipse in August. We also continued to engage park neighbors and visitors in citizen science projects to help us learn more about the variety and location of species found in the park.

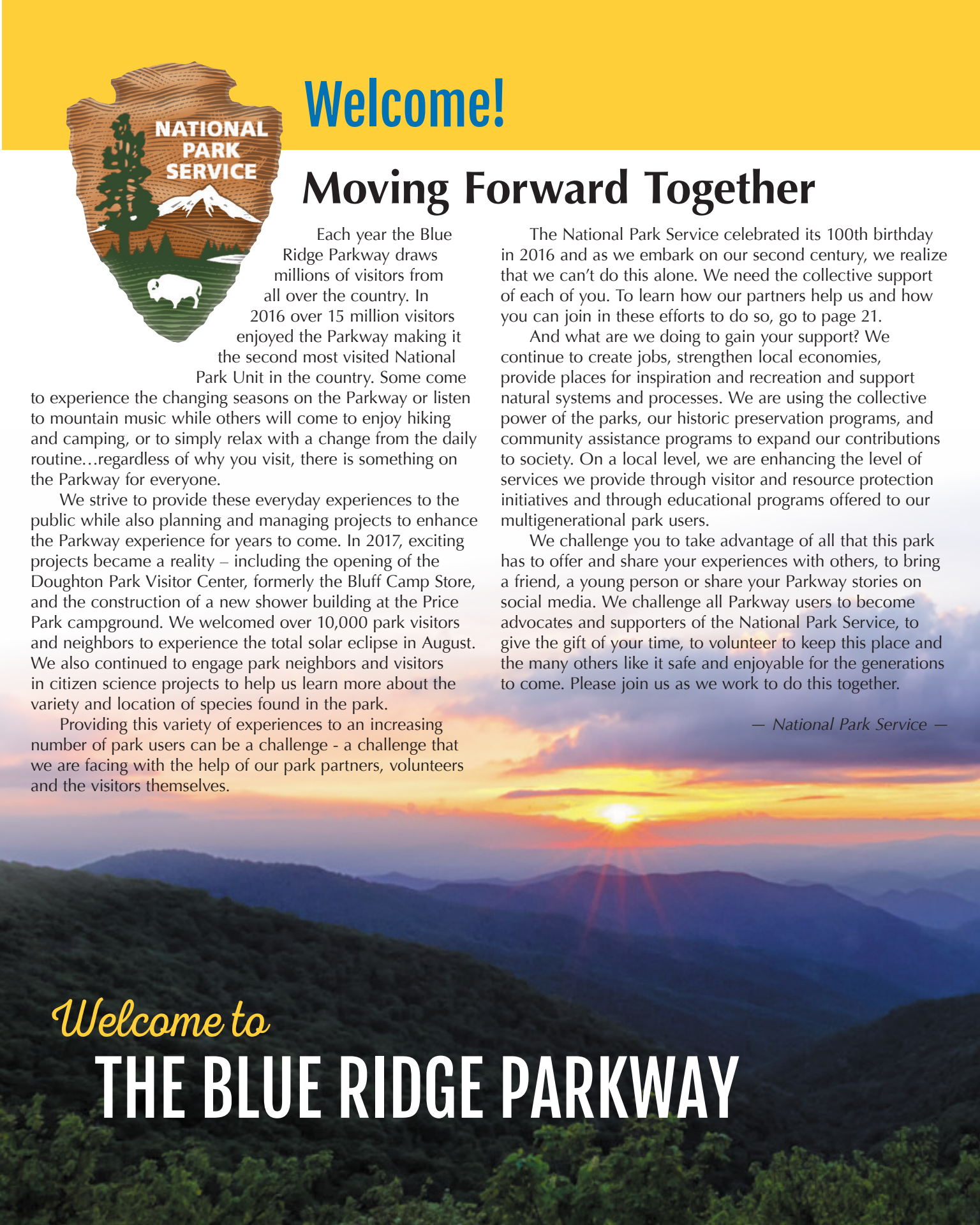
Providing this variety of experiences to an increasing number of park users can be a challenge - a challenge that we are facing with the help of our park partners, volunteers and the visitors themselves.

The National Park Service celebrated its 100th birthday in 2016 and as we embark on our second century, we realize that we can't do this alone. We need the collective support of each of you. To learn how our partners help us and how you can join in these efforts to do so, go to page 21.

And what are we doing to gain your support? We continue to create jobs, strengthen local economies, provide places for inspiration and recreation and support natural systems and processes. We are using the collective power of the parks, our historic preservation programs, and community assistance programs to expand our contributions to society. On a local level, we are enhancing the level of services we provide through visitor and resource protection initiatives and through educational programs offered to our multigenerational park users.

We challenge you to take advantage of all that this park has to offer and share your experiences with others, to bring a friend, a young person or share your Parkway stories on social media. We challenge all Parkway users to become advocates and supporters of the National Park Service, to give the gift of your time, to volunteer to keep this place and the many others like it safe and enjoyable for the generations to come. Please join us as we work to do this together.

— National Park Service —



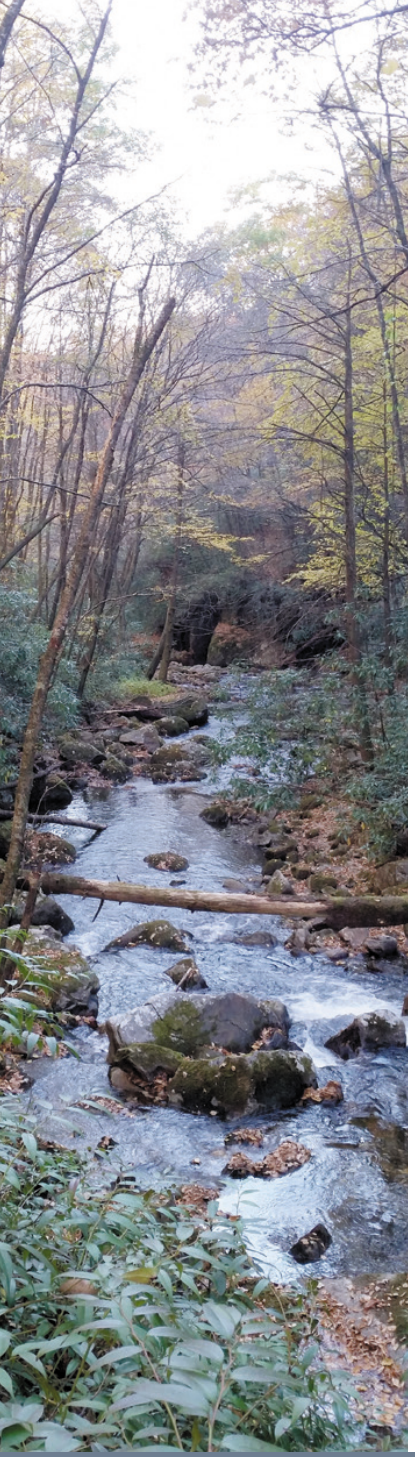


Photo by Keith McTaggart

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Mileposts:

Along the Parkway, you will see numbered mileposts. The 0 milepost marker is at Rockfish Gap immediately south of Shenandoah National Park. Each mile is numbered progressively southward on the Parkway to its southernmost point at milepost 469 at Cherokee.



Photo by William A. Bake

PARKWAY MILEPOST





THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

Something for Everyone

For visitors in search of novelty and adventure, the Blue Ridge area provides an unparalleled diversity of experiences. There's so much to see and do that no two visits are ever the same.

Outstanding scenery and recreational opportunities make the Blue Ridge Parkway one of the most popular units of the National Park system. Winding its way through 469 miles of mountains and meadows, the Parkway connects Shenandoah National Park at milepost 0 in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park at milepost 469 in North Carolina.

Nature lovers will find majestic mountain vistas and scenic drives, outstanding hiking, biking, and equestrian trails, world-class whitewater and waterfalls, excellent campsites and fishing streams, and an incredible diversity of plant and animal life in the region's abundant protected forests and parks.

Those searching for cultural experiences and historical connections will discover a land rich in living traditions of music, craft and culture. Split rail fences, old farmsteads and historic structures complement spectacular views of distant mountains and neighboring valleys.

The Parkway incorporates several recreation areas, some exceeding 6,000 acres. These sites within the Parkway have visitor centers, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails and, in many instances, concessioner-operated lodges, restaurants and other facilities.

The Parkway offers something for everyone. To make the most of your visit, stop at any of the area's visitor information centers and you will quickly see why it is often called "America's Favorite Drive".









To make the most of your visit, stop at any of the area's visitor information centers to see why the Parkway is often called "America's Favorite Drive".

The Parkway offers a myriad of opportunities for enjoying all that makes these mountains so special.

Here are a few destinations you won't want to miss:



MP 5.8

Humpback Rocks

Hike to the famed rock outcropping high on the mountain to enjoy the magnificent view or stroll through the farm museum and imagine scratching out a living in the rocky soil here. Traditional lifestyle demonstrations occur seasonally.

Highlights: *Visitor center and museum, historic farm, hiking trails, picnic area.*

See page 36



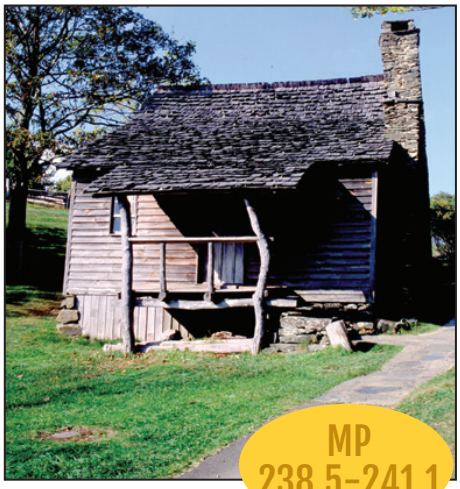
MP 167.1–176.3

Rocky Knob & Mabry Mill

The sights and sounds of rural life in Appalachia resonate throughout the Rocky Knob area during the summer and fall. Stop by Mabry Mill to view corn being ground, enjoy cultural demonstrations, or tap your toes to traditional mountain music on Sunday afternoons.

Highlights: *Visitor center, historic mill, cultural demonstrations, summer concerts, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant.*

See page 46 & 47



MP 238.5–241.1

Doughton Park

Many visitors and locals alike call this area "their favorite Parkway spot". Appalachian history comes to life among the ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides here. Hike some of the 30 miles of trails or visit Brinegar Cabin to learn of early mountain life. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, Brinegar Cabin, hiking trails, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 60***



MP 85.9

Peaks of Otter

Stunning mountain views, cool summer temperatures, and amazing natural resources have enticed visitors to Peaks of Otter for centuries. Climb to the rocky peak of Sharp Top, run your fingers through a black bear's pelt at the Nature Center, or simply relax on the shore of Abbott Lake.

Highlights: *Visitor center, nature center, historic lodge, Polly Wood Ordinary, Johnson Farm, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant.* ***See page 39 & 41***



MP 213

Blue Ridge Music Center

Music is a natural part of these mountains. Traditional folk music and dance has been created and kept alive in this region over the decades. Here visitors can explore the interactive Roots of American Music museum and enjoy live music daily from May through October. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and museum, live folk music and jam sessions, hiking trails.* ***See page 53.***



MP 292.7–295.8

Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

Moses H. Cone fashioned a textile empire by bringing denim production to the south in the late 1800s. He and his wife Bertha built Flat Top Manor as a summer retreat at the turn of the 20th century. Come explore the manor or stroll along 25 miles of carriage trails on the estate.

Highlights: *Visitor center, craft store, historic estate and grounds, hiking trails, horseback riding.* ***See page 65***



Julian Price Memorial Park

MP 296.4–298.6

Julian Price established one of the nation's largest insurance companies and purchased this land in the 1930s as a recreational retreat for his employees. Visitors today find opportunities to explore the mountains by camping, picnicking, and canoeing and fishing on Price Lake. **Highlights:** *Hiking trails, canoeing, fishing, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 69***



Linn Cove Viaduct

MP 304

The rugged slopes of Grandfather Mountain challenged engineers as they completed this last section of the Parkway in 1987. A world renowned marvel of engineering the viaduct was painstakingly designed to protect the ecologically sensitive slopes of the mountain. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, historic architecture/ parkway design, hiking trails.* ***See page 68.***



Linville Falls

MP 316.4

The Linville River flows from its headwaters high on the steep slopes of Grandfather Mountain and cascades through two falls as it begins a nearly 2,000 foot descent through this rugged and spectacularly beautiful gorge. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, waterfalls, hiking trails, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 72.***



The Museum of North Carolina Minerals

MP 330.9

Discover the area's rich mineral resources and mining heritage with hands-on, interactive exhibits to explore the creation of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the region's wide variety of minerals.
Highlights: *Visitor center and museum.*
See page 72



Craggy Gardens

MP 364.1

These high elevation summits are home to spectacular rhododendron displays in May and early June, and to a unique forest of gnarled and twisted trees that have been shaped by harsh weather. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, hiking trails, rhododendron blooms, picnic area.* ***See page 76.***



MP 382

Folk Art Center

Tucked inside the Folk Art Center you will find a National Park Service visitor information counter as well as a large array of regional crafts created by members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Craft demonstrations provide the chance to meet the artists at work. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and folk art exhibition hall, hiking trails.*



MP 384.5

Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville

Watch an orientation video and learn how to make the most of your visit to the Parkway and region at this visitor center. View exhibits featuring the unique Parkway design and construction, the natural and cultural history, and recreational opportunities of the Blue Ridge. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and park film, National Heritage Area information and hiking trails.*



Photo by Joshua Moore

MP 407.6

Mount Pisgah

Reach new heights in the high country of Mount Pisgah, the birthplace of forestry. Hike historic trails, spend the night at the Parkway's highest campground or lodge, and be sure to catch the sunrise. **Highlights:** *Historic lodge, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant.*
See page 82



Photo by David Smart

MP 451.2

Waterrock Knob

It feels as if you can touch the clouds at the southernmost and highest elevation visitor center on the Parkway. Come prepared for cooler weather and spend time enjoying mountain views that stretch to the horizon. For an unforgettable experience, pause to watch a sunrise or sunset. **Highlights:** Visitor center, hiking trails. ***See page 85.***

The designed landscape of the Parkway offers hundreds of spectacular views. To best enjoy these views, get out of your vehicle or off your motorcycle and use the Parkway's many overlooks.

PLACES TO PAUSE...

Check www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/eatingsleeping.htm for availability of food and lodging

	Milepost	Visitor Center	Exhibits	Programs	Restrooms	Picnic Areas	Camping
Humpback Rocks	5.8	H	H	HP	H	X	
Otter Creek	60.9			H	HP		HP
James River	63.8	H	H	X	X	X	
Peaks of Otter*	86	H	H	H	H	HP	HP
Explore Park VC	115	H	H		H		
Roanoke Mountain	120.4			H	H	HP	
Rocky Knob	169	H		HP	HP	HP	HP
Mabry Mill **	176.1		HP	HP	HP		
Groundhog Mountain	189				HP	H	
Blue Ridge Music Ctr	213	H	H	H	H		
Cumberland Knob	217.5		HP		HP	HP	
Doughton Park	241	H	HP	HP	HP	HP	HP
NW Trading Post	258.6				H		
Jeffress Park	272				HP	HP	
Cone Park	294.1	H	H	H	H		
Price Park	297.1			H	HP	HP	HP
Linn Cove Viaduct	304.4	H	H		H		
Linville Falls	316.4	H	H	X	HP	HP	HP
Minerals Museum	331	H	H	H	H		
Crabtree Campground	339.5				HP	HP	HP
Craggy Gardens	364.6	H	H	X	X	HP	
Folk Art Center	382	H	H	H	H	H	
Parkway Visitor Ctr.	382	H	H	H	H	H	
Mt Pisgah*	408.6			HP	HP	HP	HP
Waterrock Knob	451.2	H	H	H	H	HP	

H – Wheelchair Accessible. HP – Accessible with Assistance.
X – Not Handicapped Accessible.
HPA – Located in Picnic Area. *- Lodging and Dining Available. ** Dining Available. ^ Lodging Available.



Gas Availability

No gasoline is available on the Parkway. Gas is available not far off the Parkway at any of these US or State Highway intersections:

VIRGINIA

US 250	MP 0	less than 3 miles west
VA 56	MP 27	less than 3 miles east
US 60	MP 45.6	less than 5 miles west
US 501	MP 63.7	less than 2 miles south
VA 43	MP 90.9	less than 5 miles north
US 460	MP 106	less than 4 miles west
VA 24	MP 112.2	less than 2 miles east or west
US 220	MP 121.4	less than 5 miles north
US 58	MP 177.7	less than 1 mile east
US 52	MP 199.4	less than 1 mile north
VA 89	MP 215.8	less than 8 miles north

NORTH CAROLINA

US 21	MP 229.7	less than 8 miles west
NC 18	MP 248.1	less than 3 miles west
NC 16	MP 261.2	less than 12 miles west
US 321	MP 291.8	less than 2 miles north or south
NC 181	MP 312	less than 3 miles north
NC 226	MP 330.9	less than 3 miles north
US 70	MP 382.5	less than 2 miles east or west
US 74A	MP 384.7	less than 3 miles south
US 25	MP 388.8	less than 1 mile south
		less than 3 miles north
NC 191	MP 393.6	less than 3 miles north
US 276	MP 411.8	less than 10 miles north
US 74/23	MP 443.1	less than 3 miles east
US 19	MP 455.7	less than 3 miles east
US 441	MP 469.1	less than 5 miles south

Accessibility:

Most Parkway facilities are wheelchair usable. Some facilities have minor slopes and/or structural barriers. Use the grid on the left for site specific information. If more detailed information is needed, please contact the Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters, 199 Hemphill Knob Road, Asheville NC 28803 or call 828-298-0398.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
– A Responsible Visit





GENERAL DRIVING SAFETY



Because of its unique design, the Parkway drive differs from most and can mean taking some extra care to ensure a safe visit. "Enjoy the view, but watch the road!" is our way of reminding visitors to pay extra attention along the Parkway. A few specific pointers and facts may help even more.

WATCH OUT FOR…

STEEP GRADES – In some places, the Parkway has steeper grades than normally found on highways. Without paying close attention, your speed can increase far more than you expect.

UNFORGIVING ROAD SHOULDERS – The Parkway's road shoulders are narrow in places and the meadows or forest edges grow close to the pavement. This is part of the beauty of the drive but may require some extra attention.

BUILT-IN DISTRACTIONS – Wildlife, wildflowers, bicyclists, and extraordinary views… all of these contribute to the Parkway experience and every traveler should be aware of these distractions while enjoying the drive.

LIMITED SIGHT DISTANCES – There aren't many straight lines in the natural world and the Parkway was designed with gentle curves and not many straight sections. This is part of what makes the road seem to lay gently on the land and it also requires some extra attention while driving.

SPEED CHANGES – The Parkway speed limit is mostly 45 mph, but occasionally you will find yourself in developed areas where the driving speed drops to 25 mph.

SPIRAL CURVES – Some of the tight curves do not have a consistent radius so extra care needs to be taken, especially on motorcycles.

TUNNELS – Most tunnels provide plenty of clearance, although several near Cherokee have a minimum height of less than 12 feet at the road's edge, and drivers of especially tall vehicles should consider an alternate route. For complete list of tunnel heights, visit: www.blueridgeparkway.org/tunnels



Parkways Dos and Don'ts:

To help protect and preserve the Blue Ridge Parkway, observe all park regulations. Be alert for uncontrolled fire, safety hazards, accidents and emergencies. Please report such conditions by calling ***9-1-1.***

ROADSIDE PARKING - Parking is allowed on road shoulders, but please avoid wet areas and make sure that all four wheels are off the pavement.

TRAILS - Trails are for hiking only. Bicycles and motorized vehicles are not permitted. Several horse riding trails are available.

CAMPING - Camping is permitted only in park campgrounds or designated back-country sites. See camping information, page 10.

PETS - All pets must be on a leash (maximum six feet) or under physical restraint at all times while in the park. The territorial instinct of dogs can lead to fights with other dogs on the trail. Dogs also frighten hikers and chase wildlife. If a pet cannot be kept under control, it should be left at home. Only service animals are permitted in facilities.

LAKES, RIVERS & PONDS - These are for fishing and scenic beauty only, with no swimming allowed. Nearby U.S. Forest Service recreation areas, state parks, and mountain resorts often have swimming facilities.

PREVENT FOREST FIRES - Fires are permitted in the provided grills or fire pits in campgrounds and picnic areas only.

BOATS - Only on Price Lake, boats without motors or sails are permitted.

LITTER - Deposit all litter in the trash cans provided.

ALL NATURAL RESOURCES ARE PROTECTED - Leave wildflowers and other vegetation in their natural condition for others to enjoy. Do not disturb animal or plant life in any way. Hunting and trapping are prohibited. Do not interfere with animals by feeding, touching, or frightening them. Do not cut, deface, or damage trees.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - Possession of open containers of alcohol in vehicles is prohibited. Alcohol is permitted in picnic areas until 9:00 PM, and in campgrounds by registered campers.



Camping

The Parkway's eight campgrounds offer restrooms, drinking water, picnic tables and grills. Most can accommodate sizeable recreational vehicles, but no hook-ups are available. The settings are tranquil and scenic, and offer ready access to miles of hiking trails for those who want to explore on foot. ***Be sure to ask about Ranger programs that are offered seasonally.*** Most campgrounds are at elevations greater than 2,500 feet, which means that temperatures are usually cooler than the surrounding area. Even in summer a sweater can come in handy.

Campgrounds are open May through October. First come, first-served sites are available at all Parkway campgrounds. Reservations may be made for any campground except Crabtree Falls by visiting ***www.recreation.gov*** or calling toll-free **(877) 444-6777.** Typically, demand is higher on weekends and holidays. Shower facilities are available at Mt. Pisgah and Julian Price Park campgrounds. Go to the Plan Your Visit/Eating & Sleeping page at ***www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/camping.htm*** for camping fee information.

Campground improvements will occur this summer that may close sections of some campgrounds. Make your reservations early and call ahead to check on the availability of any one particular campsite.

Group camping is available at Linville Falls and Doughton Park campgrounds. Reservations may be made online by visiting ***www.recreation.gov*** or calling toll-free **(877) 444-6777**. In addition, limited backcountry camping is available via permit at Basin Cove in Doughton Park (336) 372-8877 May-October, (828) 348-3487 (off-season), Old Johns River in Julian Price Park (828) 963-5911 May-October, (828) 348-3510 (off-season), and Rock Castle Gorge in Rocky Knob (540) 745-9664 May-October, (828) 348-3272 (off-season).

Camping outside of designated campgrounds (or without a permit at backcountry sites) is prohibited.



Lodging & Dining

Lodges are located on the Parkway at ***Peaks of Otter*** (MP 86), and ***Mt. Pisgah*** (MP 408).



Peaks of Otter

Restaurants, other facilities and services are available seaonally at a number of other locations.



Pisgah Inn • Tree Tops

Go to Plan Your Visit for Basic Information Operating Hours & Seasons at www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/hours.htm

Fishing

The Parkway lies along the headwaters of many regional watersheds. Thirteen lakes were constructed for aesthetic beauty and recreational opportunities. Streams, ponds, and rivers give anglers ample opportunity to test their skills for trout, bass, and panfish. A state license from either North Carolina or Virginia is valid for fishing in all park waters. Creel limits and other regulations vary. Ask a Ranger for details.

Firewood

Tree-killing insects and diseases, brought in on firewood, threaten the forests and wildlife dependent on the food produced by those trees. To reduce the threat, the National Park Service requires campers to use heat-treated firewood that is bundled and displays a seal issued by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or a state department of agriculture. Several on and off-parkway visitor centers and stores sell certified firewood from May to November. Campers may also use fallen dead wood found within 100 yards of their campsite. Stop at a campground kiosk to learn more about these new regulations.



Cultural Demonstration and Special Events

The sights and sounds of traditional rural life in Appalachia are portrayed through cultural demonstration and special events in many locations on the Parkway.

Join the crowd to experience the unique music and culture of the region at Humpback Rocks, Mabry Mill, Brinegar Cabin, Roanoke Mountain Picnic Area and the Blue Ridge Music Center.

Numerous special events celebrate different aspects of the Parkway's history and heritage. These include: Music and Art in the Mountains at the Peaks of Otter, The Transportation Festival at James River and the Overmountain Victory Celebration at the Minerals Museum of North Carolina.



Farmfest at Humpback Rock



Overmountain Victory Celebration



Mabry Mill

Keeping Music Traditions Alive



"Where can I go to hear music… good music… authentic mountain music?" This is a common question from many Parkway visitors and the options may seem limitless. The people of this region have created and continue to keep alive some of the richest traditions of music and dance in the nation. Parkway visitors can either schedule or "stumble upon" music virtually anywhere.

You can find music in a variety of places on the Parkway, especially on weekends May through October.

- The Blue Ridge Music Center (Milepost 213) is dedicated to the subject — Mid-Day Mountain Music occurs on a daily basis and weekend concerts are held in the outdoor amphitheater. "The Roots of American Music" is an interactive exhibition that tells the compelling story of the region's rich musical heritage.
- Sunday afternoon music and dancing at Mabry Mill (Milepost 176) has a long tradition as do the Sunday evening concerts at Roanoke Mountain Picnic Area (Milepost 120).
- Monthly concerts are held at Humpback Rocks Farm (Milepost 6) during the summer.

So, the answer to the question *"Where can I go to hear music?"* is up to you. Do your research, check local tourism organizations, or your favorite music website. Bring a blanket, a chair and perhaps an instrument and follow the sounds of Blue Ridge music!

Ranger Led Programs

A variety of interpretive programs are offered from June through October. Campfire talks, guided hikes, historic craft demonstrations, music, and nature study are some of the activities you and your family can enjoy. Specific schedules are posted at all developed areas.



Junior Ranger Programs

A Junior Ranger is someone like you who cares for and learns about America's national parks so that others in the future may enjoy them. Ask for a handbook at any visitor center and begin your journey to becoming a Parkway Junior Ranger.



HIKING

Other Important Safety Advice

- Hiking shoes or boots are recommended for most trails, especially the more strenuous ones. Steep and rocky areas and slippery stream crossings require extra attention and careful footing. Even for trails marked "easy," it is advisable to wear flat or rubber-soled shoes for comfort and good traction. Wearing sandals, "flip-flops," or high heels can result in accidents.
- Lock valuables in the trunk of your car or take them with you.
- Sudden changes in weather are common in these mountains. Even in mild seasons, rapid dips in temperature and unexpected thunderstorms frequently occur, and at higher elevations the wind and temperature can carry a surprising chill. Be prepared for weather changes by bringing along suitable clothing.
- Do not drink the water from streams or springs.

Kids In Parks / Track Trails

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation's Kids in Parks TRACK Trails program is a network of self-guided hiking trails on and in communities along the Parkway. Each trail has a series of brochures designed to turn an ordinary hike into a fun-filled, discovery-packed adventure. Kids who hike these trails can register on the Kids in Parks website to win prizes that make their next outdoor adventure more fun. Visit the five TRACK Trails on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville, Peaks of Otter, Julian Price Park and the Blue Ridge Music Center. Learn more at everykidinapark.gov

Mount Mitchell State Park, NC

Mount Mitchell is the highest point in eastern North America, rising to 6,684 feet. A Mount Mitchell State Park map with trail information is available at the state park headquarters, two miles up NC State Highway 128 from the park entrance at Milepost 355.4. Write to Mount Mitchell State Park, 2388 State Hwy 128, Burnsville, NC 28714 or call (828) 675 4611. ***www.ncparks.gov***

Appalachian Trail, VA

The Appalachian Trail parallels the first 100 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway to a point just north of Roanoke VA. There are many trail access points along this section of the Parkway. For more information, please refer to Appalachian Trail publications. ***www.nps.gov/appa***

Traditional Music Trails



Music becomes an important part of the story and the visitor experience. Serious followers of regional music can explore Virginia's Crooked Road Music Trail or the Blue Ridge Music Trail in North Carolina (thecrookedroad.org and blueridgemusic.org), leading them to towns and venues throughout the region.

Visit the Roots of American Music museum at the Blue Ridge Music Center to learn more about the history and growth of the region's musical heritage.

Every Kid In a Park Pass

The free pass provides fourth graders and their families with free entrance to the national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries.

Visit the Every Kid in a Park website at: everykidinapark.gov to obtain your pass and start your outdoor adventure!



POPULAR HIKING TRAILS OF
The Blue Ridge Parkway

Hiking maps are available for some of the trails listed below. Check with the Visitor Center closest to the trailhead.

Virginia Trails

Milepost	Trail - Miles - Difficulty
5.9	**Farm Museum Trail 0.25** *easy*
34.4	**Yankee Horse** (logging RR) **0.2** *moderate*
60.8	**Otter Creek 3.5** *moderate*
63.1	**Otter Lake Loop 0.8** *moderate*
63.6	**James River**(canal locks) **0.2** *easy*
63.6	**Trail of Trees Loop 0.5** *moderate*
78.4	**Apple Orchard Falls 1.2** *strenuous* **
83.1	**Fallingwater Cascades 1.6** *moderate* **
83.5	**Flat Top** 4.4 *strenuous*
85.7	**Abbott Lake Loop 1.0** *easy*
85.9	**Elk Run Loop 0.8** *easy*
85.9	**Johnson Farm Loop 2.1** *moderate*
85.9	**Harkening Hill 3.3** *moderate*
86.0	**Sharp Top 1.6** *strenuous*
110.6	**Stewart Knob 1.2** *moderate*
114.9	**Roanoke River Loop 0.35** *easy*
120.4	**Roanoke Mountain Summit 0.11** *moderate*
154.5	**Smart View Loop 2.6** *moderate*
167.1	**Rock Castle Gorge Loop 10.8** *strenuous*
176.2	**Mabry Mill 0.5** *easy*
213.0	**Fisher's Peak Loop 2.25** *moderate*

North Carolina Trails

Milepost	Trail - Miles - Difficulty
217.5	**Cumberland Knob 0.5** *easy*
230.1	**Little Glade Millpond Loop 0.4** *easy*
241.0	**Fodder Stack 1.0** *moderate*
271.9	**Cascades Loop 0.5** *moderate*
294.0	**Flat Top Mountain 3.0** *moderate*
294.1	**Figure 8 Loop 0.7** *easy*
296.5	**Boone Fork Loop 5.5** *moderate-strenuous*
297.0	**Price Lake Loop 2.7** *moderate*
304.4	**Linn Cove Viaduct Access 0.16** *easy*
305.2	**Beacon Heights 0.2** *moderate*
305.5	**Tanawha** (MP 297 - 305) **13.5** *moderate-strenuous A*
316.4	**Linville Falls, Erwins View 0.8** *moderate*
316.4	**Linville Falls, Plunge Basin 0.5** *strenuous*
339.5	**Crabtree Falls 2.5** *strenuous*
364.2	**Craggy Pinnacle 0.7** *moderate*
407.6	**Mt. Pisgah Summit 1.3** *moderate-strenuous*
407.6	**Buck Springs** (lodge to view) **1.06** *easy-moderate*
408.5	**Frying Pan Mountain 1.06** *moderate-strenuous*
418.8	**Graveyard Fields Stream Loop 2.3** *moderate*
431.0	**Richland Balsam 1.5** *moderate*
451.2	**Waterrock Knob Summit 0.6** *moderate-strenuous*

North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail

The Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) stretches 1,150 miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to the Outer Banks. In the North Carolina mountains, much of the MST parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway. To find the trail, look for markers along the Parkway with a hiker symbol and a white circle blaze.

Volunteers maintain this and other Parkway trails. Learn more at mountainstoseatrail.org

Please note: Distances are one way except for loop trails. See trail maps for distances, features, walking conditions and important advice.
*** Designated National Recreation Trail. A =Tanawha has nine Parkway access points, several in the Grandfather Mountain area.*

Waterfall Hikes

- *Always take caution while enjoying waterfalls!*
- *Do not climb on rocks near waterfalls.*
- *Use extreme caution when walking along riverbanks, since these rocks are slippery.*
- *Never dive or jump into park waters. Submerged rocks, trees or debris could be immediately below the surface of the water.*

Hiking to a waterfall can be a wonderful and rewarding experience. On the right is a list of popular hikes with waterfalls along the Parkway.

MP 78 **Apple Orchard Falls** - These falls have a viewing platform directly underneath the falls, creating a refreshing shower during the summer months.

MP 83 **Falling Water Cascades** - Near Peaks of Otter, the trail is lined with rhododendrons, creating a beautiful setting.

MP 316 **Linville Falls**- Linville Falls has four different overlooks to properly appreciate the falls.

MP 339 **Crabtree Falls** - Originally, these falls were known as Murphy's Falls until the Park Service changed the name to Crabtree Falls when the Parkway was built in the 1930's.

MP 411 **Looking Glass Falls** - Looking Glass Falls is one of the most symmetrical waterfalls in western North Carolina. Travel east on 276. Sliding Rock and Moore Cove Falls are nearby.

MP 417 **Skinny Dip Falls** - Skinny Dip Falls features a swimming hole at the bottom of the cascades. These falls lie along the Mountains-to-Sea trail.

MP 419 **Graveyard Fields Falls** - The name "Graveyard Fields" originates from a time when a great windstorm felled hundreds of spruce and fir trees in the area. The moss covered stumps resemble graves.

WHAT'S PEAKING ALONG THE PARKWAY?

Many questions posed to Parkway staff have to do with peak seasons. When things happen in the natural world can't be predicted precisely because of the variety of factors coming into play. The following short list gives some guidance and may help you find your favorite peak event.

Rhododendron

Catawba rhododendron is the purple variety that blooms from early June around the Peaks of Otter in Virginia to the third week of June at Craggy Gardens in North Carolina. Any time between these dates, there are spots of the variety in bloom. Rosebay rhododendron is the larger, white or pink variety that begins in late June and blooms into July, primarily through Rocky Knob, Virginia.

Hawk Migration

Many species of hawks migrate south during the winter and one of their major routes follows the spine of the Blue Ridge. Warm air in the valleys rises up the sides of the mountains and hawks catch a ride on these thermals, circling higher and higher, almost going out of sight. Then they head south, coasting or gliding in order to save energy and flying as far down the ridge as possible. They will find another thermal, make another twisting, corkscrew ascent, and then another glide south. This pattern takes them hundreds of miles down the mountains toward their winter destination. North of Roanoke, Virginia at Harvey's Knob Overlook (Milepost 93.5) is a favorite spot for hawk watchers from September through November. Mahogany Rock (Milepost 235) in North Carolina is also a popular spot. Tens of thousands of hawks, along with a few Peregrine Falcons and perhaps a Bald Eagle are counted by local birding clubs each year during this spectacular migration.

Fall Foliage

Fall is the season when the Blue Ridge attracts the most attention. Travelers, nature writers, photographers, and artists come to enjoy the visual display created by hardwood leaves changing from summer green to autumn gold, red, and orange. Visiting here in the peak of the fall color season is a sight that few fail to appreciate. Finding the right window of time and the perfect spot can perhaps be nothing more than good fortune, but keeping a few things in mind and exercising some patience can increase anyone's changes of seeing the Blue Ridge in its autumn glory. Typically, the Parkway experiences the much anticipated change in fall foliage around the middle of October. Many factors contribute to variations in when and where colors will peak, with moisture throughout the year and the colder temperatures being key factors. In a park that is 469 miles north to south and varies over 5,000 feet in elevation, the best plan for witnessing fall color is to drive some distance on the Parkway, changing elevations and north-south orientation. A little planning in mid to late October will yield at least some of the spectacular color that we're famous for.

Monarch Butterflies

During the latter half of September, a little-known aspect of the grand scheme of nature unfolds along the Parkway as Monarch butterflies begin an epic migration. These familiar orange and black striped beauties are often seen on milkweed plants late in the summer. At Cherry Cove Parking Overlook (Milepost 415.7) south of Mt. Pisgah, visitors gather in mid-September to witness the north to south migration. Thousands of Monarchs may pass by here and other nearby places on a daily basis.

Wildflowers

Although visitors may know the precise place and time on the Parkway to view their favorite species of wildflowers in bloom, there is little doubt that May is, overall, the best month for wildflowers. May Apple, Trillium, some lingering Bloodroot, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Lady Slippers, Bleeding Heart, and Firepink – all of which are among the most admired and photographed in the region – make their appearance at some time during the month. As with any blooming species, elevation can make lots of difference, so enjoy a long, leisurely drive, meander down a trail, and enjoy this special month of the year.

Fall leaf guide

Use this guide to identify the brilliant colors of Blue Ridge Parkway trees during fall leaf season.



PARKWAY BY THE SEASONS

As you plan your trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway, keep in mind that elevation and, to a lesser degree, your north-south orientation can make a big difference! The Parkway's elevation ranges from 649 feet at Virginia's James River to 6,047 feet south of Mount Pisgah in North Carolina. Sudden changes in weather are common in these mountains. It is always a good idea to have a jacket and cap on hand, dress in layers, and to be aware of the local weather forecasts.

SPRING – Springtime in the mountains is a transitional period and very unpredictable. Winter weather can linger long after trees are greening up in the lowlands. Sunny skies can be followed quickly by cold fronts and snowy conditions. Afternoon rain showers are common. Below-freezing temperatures are still common throughout March and into mid April.

SUMMER – Summer is hot and humid as it is in most of the southeastern United States, but it is much more pleasant in the higher elevations. July and August high temperatures are typically in the 80s at mid to high elevations, warmer at the lower elevations. The summer temperatures can be considerably cooler at times and many times you will be glad to have a light jacket. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are common and can move in quickly.

FALL – Warm days and cool nights are the normal conditions, with frost common at high elevations beginning in late September. By the time leaf color has peaked in late October, expect high temperatures to sometimes remain in the 50s and 60s. Freezing temperatures and snow are a possibility beginning in November.

WINTER – Extreme winter weather can occur here, with wind, ice and snow occuring even when the Piedmont has pleasant conditions. Always be prepared for fast-approaching winter weather conditions and expect parts of the road to be closed due to ice and snow.

Check for weather or construction-related closures updated daily by Blue Ridge Parkway staff.
go.nps.gov/brp-map

SHOWY BLOOMS

A Quick Guide to some flowers & shrubs on the Parkway

Shrubs



Catawba Rhododendron
(Rhododendron catawbiense):
A medium shrub with pink to purple flowers growing above 3000 feet on exposed ridges.
June – Early July



Rosebay Rhododendron
(Rhododendron maximum):
also called White Rhododendron: A large shrub with white to pink flowers, over a wide range of elevations.
June – July



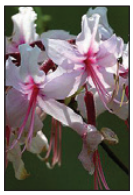
Flame Azalea
(Rhododendron calendulaceum):
A medium shrub with bright orange to red flowers. Azaleas are in the rhododendron family.
June – July



Wild Hydrangea
(Hydrangea arborescens):
A medium shrub with large clusters of white flowers.
May – August



Mountain Laurel
(Kalmia latifolia):
A medium shrub with pink flowers.
June – July



Pinxter Flower
(Rhododendron nudiflorum):
A medium shrub with pink honeysuckle-like flowers, common at lower elevations.
April – May

Flowers



Fire Pink
(Silene virginica):
This 6-20 inch plant has bright red flowers up to 1-1/2 inches wide.
April – June



Goat's Beard
(Aruncus dioicus):
3-5 feet tall with flower plumes 3-5 inches wide and 6-10 inches long.
May – June



Bluets
(Houstonia species):
3-6 inches tall with many small 4-petal flowers, light to dark blue. Bluets sometimes grow in large beds.
May-August



Turks-Cap Lily
(Lilium superbum):
6 to 10 ft tall with flowers 2-4" wide with a green star at center. The Carolina Lily (L. michauxii) is similar but lacks the green star & bears fewer flowers. *July-August*



White Trillium
(Trillium grandiflorum):
The largest of several trilliums found along the Parkway, grows to about 15 inches. Trilliums have 3 leaves and a single 3-petal flower.
April – May



Bee Balm
(Monarda didyma also called Oswego Tea):
2-5 feet tall with bright red 2-inch flowers. Wild Bergamot is similar but pink.
July – August

OTHER COMMON FLOWERS

Birdfoot Violet - (Viola pedata) 4-10 inches tall, bluish-purple flower. March — June
Columbine - (Aquilegia canadensis) about 2 feet tall, nodding red and yellow flower. June — July
Sun Drops - (Oenothera fruticosa) 1-2 feet tall, yellow 4-petal flower. June — July
Evening Primrose - (Oenothera biennis) 3-5 feet tall, yellow 4-petal flower. June — July
Phlox - (Phlox species) 2-6 feet tall, magenta-pink flowers. July — October
Touch-me-not - (Impatiens species) 3-6 feet tall, nodding yellow or orange flower. July — August
Tall Bellflower - (Campanula americana) 2-6 feet tall, blue, 5-petal flower. July — August
White Snakeroot - (Eupatorium rugosum) 3-5 feet tall, bright white flower heads. July — Sept
Dense Blazing Star - (Liatris spicata) 2-4 feet tall, rose-purple flowered spike. August — Sept
Goldenrod - (Solidago species) about 3 feet tall, golden-yellow spikes or plumes. August — Sept
Ox Eye Daisy - (Chrysanthemum leucanthemum) 1-3 feet tall; white petals, yellow center.
Black-Eyed Susan - (Rudbeckia hirta) 3-6 feet tall, yellow petals, black center.
Tall Coneflower - (Rudbeckia laciniata) 2-3 feet tall, drooping yellow petals, green center.
Coreopsis - (Coreopsis major) 2-3 feet tall, golden-yellow petals, green center.
Jerusalem Artichoke - (Helianthus tuberosus) 5-10 feet tall, yellow petals, yellow center.
Aster -(Aster species) 2-5 feet tall; many small flowers; blue, purple, or white petals.

THE BLACK BEAR

Be Bear Aware!



Photo by Kristina Plaas

For many visitors, a Parkway trip is not complete without a glimpse of a mammal considered by many to be the very symbol of wildness, the Black bear (Ursus americanus). In both Virginia and North Carolina, bear populations are healthy and stable – a great natural history success story. Much of the reason for their stable population is due to your responsible actions.

Seeing a bear is exciting and the highlight of any visit to a National Park. These encounters are better if they are memorable for good reasons rather than bad ones. You can help protect these bears by being **"Bear Aware"!**

BE BEAR AWARE!



- Stay at least 50 yards away. If a bear's behavior changes when it sees you, you are too close!
- Stay in your vehicle when viewing bears along the roadside.
- Carry out or dispose of your trash properly. Don't be responsible for giving bears their first taste of human food. Our food is not part of a bear's healthy, natural diet. Remember that "a fed bear will become a dead bear".
- If a bear approaches you, it is demanding more space. Don't run, but slowly back away, watching the bear. Increase the distance between you and the bear. The bear will probably do the same.

How Do You Compare to a Black Bear?

- **SMELL** Bears have a sense of smell that is more than seven times better than a bloodhound's! In fact, scientists believe that bears have the best sense of smell of any land mammal.
- **HEARING** A bear's hearing is over twice as sensitive as a human's and exceeds the frequency range humans can hear.
- **SPEED** Think that you can outrun a bear? Think again. Bears can run 30 miles per hour—faster than the world record 100 meter sprinter! Bears are also good tree climbers and can swim very well.
- **INTELLIGENCE** Bears have large brains compared to body size. They have excellent long-term memory.
- **VISION** Bears have color vision.



Elk crossing at southern entrance to Parkway in Cherokee. Photo courtesy RomanticAsheville.com

Elk – The New Big Guy in Town

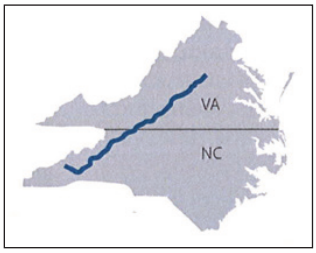
Elk once roamed the southern Appalachians, but were eliminated from this area in the late 1700s by over-hunting and habitat loss. Reintroduced to nearby Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 2002, elk can now be found on the southern end of the parkway.

Elk are large animals—much larger than black bears. Adult males, known as "bulls", can weigh 700 pounds. Females are called "cows" and average 500 pounds. Adults are 7-10 feet long from nose to tail, and up to 5 feet tall at the shoulder.

These imposing creatures are an increasingly common site on the parkway's southernmost stretches. If you see an elk while traveling the Parkway stay in your vehicle and do not approach them. These wild animals deserve their space and your respect for their safety and yours. Elk can become aggressive, particularly in the fall which is their mating season.

BIODIVERSITY AND THE BLUE RIDGE

More than just a road



Blue Ridge Parkway stretches 469 miles

The Blue Ridge Parkway is so much more than just a road. In fact, the extraordinary number and variety of living organisms found on the Parkway is one of its most unique and least understood resources.

What contributes to this variety? The species variety found in these mountains, referred to as biodiversity, is the result of the varied ecosystems or habitats found here. The temperate climate found in the Appalachian Mountains combined with elevations ranging from 610 ft at James River to 6053 ft at Richland Balsam and the 469 mile geographic span of the Parkway make for remarkably diverse habitats.

The habitats vary so widely that plants growing on a mountain summit at the park's northern end may be quite different from those on a summit at the southern end. Some of these habitats are exceptionally rare.

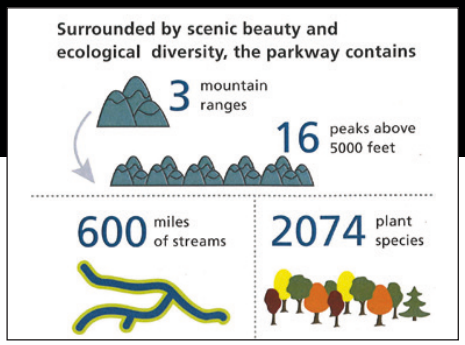
Rock outcrops at high elevations contain a fragile group of alpine species that were pushed southward during glacial times and eventually left stranded on the southern mountains.

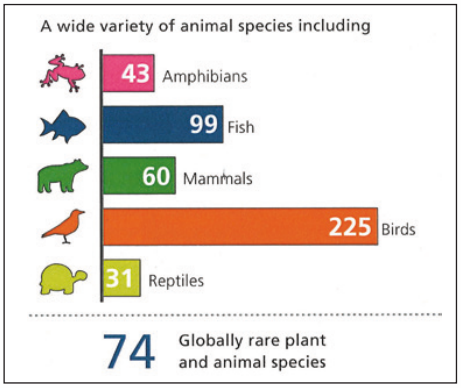
Grassy balds are treeless grassy meadows that occur on select ridgetops in the southern Appalachian Mountains. These meadows, once grazed by native animals such as bison and elk in centuries past, are now maintained by park biologists to preserve the unique habitat they provide.

It may be thought of by many as just a road, linking Shenandoah and the Great Smokies but without a doubt, the Blue Ridge is one of the most diverse places on earth.

By the Numbers*:

Blue Ridge Parkway	2987 species
Grand Canyon NP	2618 species
Yosemite NP	1964 species
Yellowstone NP	1878 species



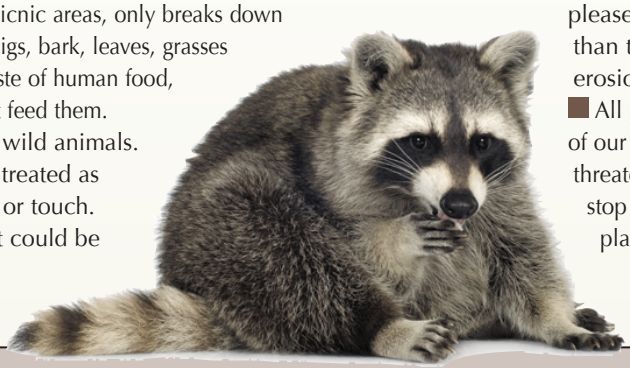


You can help biologists continue to discover the amazing diversity of life found in nature by becoming a "citizen scientist." As an amateur scientist, you can help count and record useful information that can add to the numbers of plant and animal species found here and in your community.

** information provided by NPSpecies Checklist*

Keep it wild

- The best diet for all animals is a natural one. Human food can make any wild animal sick. The digestive system of a white tail deer, common around campgrounds and picnic areas, only breaks down the natural food sources including twigs, bark, leaves, grasses and acorns. Wild animals like the taste of human food, but for their safety and health, do not feed them.
- Rabies can be transmitted by most wild animals. Animals in the park should not be treated as pets or lured close enough to feed or touch. If a wild animal approaches you, it could be a sign of serious illness. Please tell a Ranger.
- Many of the Parkway's rare and endangered plants are threatened by foot traffic. Whether rare plants are present or not, please stay on the trail - if for no other reason than to protect all plants and to prevent erosion.
- All plants on the Parkway are protected. Many of our native wildflowers in the Blue Ridge are threatened by illegal harvesting. You can help stop this poaching - if you see anyone collecting plants on the Parkway, report it to a Ranger.



Wildlife Observation:

Did you see an interesting wildlife observation or something rare?

Email us at BRP_Wildlife@nps.gov with information on what you saw, the date and location. Sending a photograph of your sighting is always helpful.

MANAGING PARKWAY VIEWS

More than Meets the Eye



Three Ridges Overlook in Virginia, ***before.***



Three Ridges Overlook in Virginia, ***after.***



Skilled arborists selectively restore designed vista.

Managing the scenic beauty of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a complex and important task. The Blue Ridge Parkway was designed to maximize scenic views and give visitors the impression that they are in a park with boundaries to the horizon. Today, the Parkway has some 500,000 acres of viewshed within 469 mile-long corridor.

Studies through the years consistently cite the primary purpose for visiting the Parkway is to enjoy outdoor recreation and view scenic beauty. As trees have grown over the years, views have been impacted and park visitors frequently communicate with park staff, partner groups, elected officials and others that because of this growth, their experience was diminished.

Park managers are working to identify potential vistas for restoration keeping in mind the original design intent of the Parkway, while also addressing natural resource protection in this biologically diverse park.

In recent years, neighboring communities and Parkway partner organizations have gotten involved and provided funding for vista restoration. These funds bring highly skilled arborists into the park to address the tallest trees (50-70 years of growth) at the bottom edge of an overgrown vista. The Haywood County Tourism Development Authority at the southern end of the Parkway donates funding annually to clear vistas in the 40 miles of park through this community, and the FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway's Virginia License Plate funds are also designated to address viewshed management on the Parkway. In 2018, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation will join these partners and will also support vista clearing projects.

Effective management and conservation of one of the Parkway's signature features is a complex undertaking. Thankfully, with increased awareness of the issue and support from partners and communities, these successful projects will continue.



North Carolina High Country, ***before.***



North Carolina High Country, ***after.***

A GRAND VIEW OF THE STARS

The perfect place to star gaze



Pleiades Near Graveyard Fields. Photo courtesy PARI

Starry, starry night…these words might conjure up an image of van Gogh's famous painting or bring back memories of a popular 1970's song. A new memory to add to these is the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the evenings.

Imagine driving along the Blue Ridge Parkway as the sun begins to set and you are surrounded by the changing light of the late afternoon. As the bright blue sky begins to darken and the day transitions to twilight, you decide to pull into an overlook and the wait for the evening show to begin.

Natural sounds and natural lightscapes are essential in keeping our national treasures whole. They are magnificent in their own right and inspirational to the visitors who come to national parks. Studies have shown that visitors to national parks are beginning to understand the value of protecting the natural nighttime conditions including the night sky and nocturnal sounds. These resources are vital to the protection of wilderness character, fundamental to the historical and cultural context, and critical for park wildlife.

For more information on the value of these resources go to:

www.nps.gov/subjects/nightskies/wilderness.htm and
www.nps.gov/orgs/1050/index.htm



3 Galaxies Over the Balsams. Photo courtesy PARI

Did you know:

The National Park Service mission includes night skies as a resource and value worth preserving—a protection that matters in an era when light pollution is increasing. America's national parks contain many cherished treasures. Among them are captivating natural sounds and awe-inspiring night skies. The joy of listening to the quiet sounds of nature and the wonderment of seeing the Milky Way stretching overhead are unique experiences that can still be found in many of our national parks.

Tips for optimal stargazing:

Parkway overlooks can provide an excellent place to observe the Parkway's dark skies. Just after sunset and evening twilight, you may first be able to see some larger planets and the moon. As you wait a little longer, the sky darkens and stars begin to appear. If your timing is right and the weather cooperates, you might be lucky enough to view the Milky Way.

- Check with park staff or locals for their recommendations on the best place to view the night sky.
- Your best viewing is when no moon is visible and you are away from surrounding lights. Much of the Blue Ridge Parkway is protected from light pollution.
- Search for overlooks with a wide view overhead and with minimal lights in the surrounding areas. Once you have located a suitable spot for observing, safely park and turn off your car lights.
- It is also a good idea to carry a small red or white LED flashlight in order to see and avoid obstacles such as curbs. Using a red LED flashlight or placing red cellophane over a white flashlight will help preserve your night vision.
- A planisphere or star map can help you identify the objects in the night sky.
- Look for star gazing programs, astronomy apps, magazines and local astronomy clubs to learn from others who share this interest.



Dark Skies on the Parkway. Photo courtesy PARI

To learn more about the preservation of dark skies, visit the International Dark Sky Association website at www.dark-sky.org.

Thanks to the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute for their input and images for this article. PARI is a public non-for-profit organization dedicated to providing hands-on educational and research opportunities.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY
Protecting its future



Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, milepost 294, is a focus of restoration and rehabilitative efforts by the Foundation.

In 1997, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation started as a simple idea: Give people who love the awe-inspiring scenic route the opportunity to protect and guide its future. As the Foundation celebrates two decades, it is continuing to bring together donors and volunteers to support new projects and programs that will have a lasting impact on one of the nation's most visited national park units. Through gifts, feedback, and ideas their vision for the Parkway can be seen along all 469 miles.



Caught on camera: Over the past few years, more than 50 motion-activated wildlife cameras were purchased with donated funds. Images, like this one, of mammals, birds, and insects in their natural environment help inform park biologists.

Funding for our national parks continues to decline, threatening the abundant resources along the Blue Ridge Parkway, which draws more than 15 million recreational visitors each year, exceeding the number of visitors to Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Grand Canyon National Parks combined.

Over the last 20 years, the Foundation has grown into a dedicated Community of Stewards made up of individuals, businesses, and organizations that are committed to ensuring the Blue Ridge Parkway remains a place of abundant outdoor recreational opportunities, a vibrant and sustaining habitat for flora and fauna, a touchstone to mountain history, an economic engine for neighboring communities, and most of all, America's Favorite Drive.

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation's Community of Stewards has invested more than $12 million to:

- Protect natural resources through wildlife surveys, trail repairs, environmental studies, training for rangers, and more.
- Expand education and outreach by introducing young park stewards to the outdoors through the Kids in Parks program, update museum and visitor center exhibits, fund youth conservation crews, engage in citizen science projects, and more.
- Preserve history and culture by placing Moses H. Cone Memorial Park on the National Register of Historic Places, support musical programming at the Blue Ridge Music Center, restoration projects at Mabry Mill, Humpback Rocks, Peaks of Otter, and more.
- Enhance visitor amenities and experiences at stops up and down the Parkway, including Peaks of Otter, Graveyard Fields, Price Lake, Linville Falls, Craggy Gardens, and many more locations.

As the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation embarks on its third decade, it is calling on every visitor to consider how extraordinary this journey is and make a commitment to protect it for future generations to enjoy.



Generous donations to the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation funded the replacement of the waterwheel at Mabry Mill, milepost 176, helping to retain the historic landscape at this popular site.

How you can help! ***For information on how you can contribute to the Foundation's efforts, please see page 21.***

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Join the National Park Service team!

Volunteer services, internships and a variety of partnerships have become an essential and effective means for the National Park Service to fulfill parts of our mission and foster a shared sense of stewardship that is so crucial for our future.

If you are a student looking for a meaningful internship or someone with extra time who'd like to volunteer, you can make a difference by bringing your unique experience, background, interest and perspective to our work.

There are thousands of opportunities for high school, college, and graduate school students to work alongside National Park Service staff to explore potential careers, gain valuable job experience, fulfill college requirements, and learn new skills. Many internships are filled at the park level so contact the park that interests you - - but others are advertised and recruited nationally by the National Park Service or in partnership with several national organizations.

For more information about volunteering
www.nps.gov/blri/getinvolved/volunteer.htm

In addition, the Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) Program at Blue Ridge Parkway works to preserve the cultural heritage, history, and natural resources of the Parkway region by helping to provide visitor services, education, interpretation, and resource protection programs and activities.

We welcome the interest and involvement of all generations who will help us care for our nation's environment and preserve her history.

Go to ***www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm***
to learn more about student internships.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

Contact

For a full list of Foundation projects, please visit:
BRPFoundation.org
or call (866) 308-2773



BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION

"A Community of Stewards"

BRPFoundation.org

The Blue Ridge Parkway is no ordinary road. With rich Appalachian culture, stunning landscapes, and outdoor adventures from beginning to end, this exceptional journey connects us to the natural wonders and enriching heritage of our mountains.

Maintaining the ribbon of road, overlooks, forests, trails, historic sites, and more requires steady commitment, ample resources, and on-the-ground work. Unlike many popular National Parks, the Parkway receives no income from entrance fees. By supporting the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, you play a role in sustaining and nurturing this national treasure. Without you, many of the resources, amenities, and services often taken for granted would vanish. Whether your interests are in education, environmental and resource protection, visitor amenities, or cultural heritage, you can join the thousands of others who understand the importance of preserving this route that forever ties us to the grandeur and rich history of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Visit BRPFoundation.org to become a member of our Community of Stewards.

"Discover Your Journey. Then Help Protect It."

PARKWAY PARTNERS



The first National Park Service Director Stephen T. Mather said "establishment of parks is not enough, what is needed are more people who will take the time to gain a better understanding of the important issues facing our National Parks."

Increasingly, partnerships are essential and effective means for the National Park Service to fulfill parts of our mission and foster a shared sense of stewardship. Stephen Mather knew that building public support for a fledgling National Park System was crucial for its future.

Fortunately, many nonprofit partner groups now work hand-in-hand with the Blue Ridge Parkway. While these organizations have differing missions, they share an overarching goal: to preserve and enhance the national treasure that is the Blue Ridge Parkway.

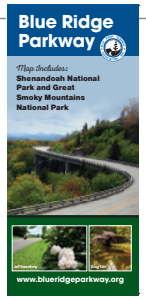
Learn more about how you can participate in the vital work partners perform – educating, protecting and promoting the natural and cultural assets along "America's Favorite Drive."

Visit
Blue Ridge Parkway Association

Local Businesses | Attractions | Mobile App
Accommodations | Online Resources
Recreation | Tourism

Ways to Help:

- Join BRPA's business association to support our regional tourism economy and improve visitor experiences. Work together with other regional business owners, communities, and nonprofits to provide maps and Parkway information for travelers.



blueridgeparkway.org

Enhance
Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

Preservation | Natural Resources
Education Visitor Safety | Blue Ridge Music Center

Ways to Help:

- Become a member of our Community of Stewards. Make a donation or purchase a NC specialty license plate to support a wide range of projects on the Parkway, from historic preservation to environmental initiatives.



brpfoundation.org

Explore
Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail

Hiking guidebooks | Volunteer trail crews | Stewardship

Ways to Help:

- Become a member; volunteer to maintain trail; hike the MST; purchase a NC MST license plate



photo by Mitzi Gellman

mountainstoseatrail.org

Volunteer
FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway

Environmental Stewardship | Volunteerism Preservation
Educational Programming

Ways to Help:

- Become a member, volunteer, purchase a VA license plate to support vista restoration, or connect with your local chapter.



friendsbrp.org

Learn

Eastern National

Shop | Visitor Services | Passport Cancellations

Ways to Help:

- Shop at 14 Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center stores to support the park and its programs, enrich your park visit and multiply your memories!



easternnational.org

Each Blue Ridge Parkway visitor center and store has a different story to tell with uniquely themed product collections. Sample Southern Appalachian crafts and lifeways, the history of American music, Victorian manor life, a waterfall gateway to wilderness or high-elevation mountaintops, collect National Park Service Passport stamps and more.

VIRGINIA

Humpback Rocks **MP 5.8**
James River **MP 63.8**
Peaks of Otter **MP 85.9**
Rocky Knob & Mabry Mill **MP 167.1-176.3**
Blue Ridge Music Center **MP 213**

NORTH CAROLINA

Doughton Park **MP 238.5-241.1**
Moses Cone Memorial Park **MP 292.7-295.8**
Linn Cove Viaduct **MP 304**
Linville Falls **MP 316.4**
Minerals Museum **MP 330.9**
Craggy Gardens **MP 364.1**
Folk Art Center **MP 382**
Blue Ridge Parkway Asheville Visitor Center **MP 384.5**
Waterrock Knob **MP 451.2**

Preserve

Carolina Mountain Club

Volunteer | Hike | Trails

Ways to Help:

- Help construct and maintain the trails along the southern portion of the Blue Ridge Parkway, including the NC Mountains to Sea Trail. Hike with us on the Blue Ridge Parkway.



carolinamountainclub.org

Protect

Conservation Trust for NC

Land Protection | Youth Conservation Corps | Hikes

Ways to Help:

- Join us for a hike and learn how we work with landowners and local land trusts to protect spectacular Parkway vistas. Support our NC Youth Conservation Corps to help build more Parkway trails!



ctnc.org

Experience

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Appalachian History | Performances and Festivals
Traditional Arts & Crafts | Blue Ridge Music Trails

Ways to Help:

- Protect and preserve the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area through the development of natural and cultural resources. Promote economic opportunity through heritage tourism.



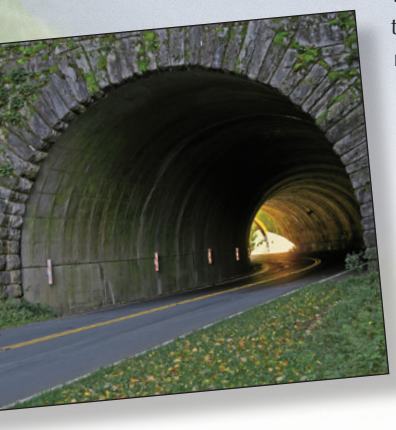
blueridgeheritage.org

Connect with the Blue Ridge Parkway!
Get the latest news and updates including photos, events, and road conditions.

BlueRidgeNPS *@blueridgenps* *BlueRidgeNPS*
@blueridgenps *nps.gov/blri*

About the THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a scenic highway connecting Shenandoah National Park and Skyline Drive in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee. Traversing Virginia and western North Carolina, the Parkway encompasses a 469-mile drive through many areas of natural and cultural significance.



The majority of the Parkway in Virginia runs through the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, along mountain crests into the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests in North Carolina. This National Scenic Byway is a two-lane road with a maximum speed limit of 45 mph. For those who enjoy road trips and nature, traveling the Parkway is not to be missed.

A Parkway trip can be the opposite of hectic daily life. People are busy, inundated with information and connected as much as possible. We often rely on secondary sources rather than personal experiences. A Parkway experience defies much of this. Slow and relaxed, the Parkway provides sunshine, mountain gusts and up-close views of the Blue Ridge region.

You will hug the crest of the world's oldest mountain range as you wind through the coves and forest slopes of southern Appalachia. The breathtaking views stamp an unforgettable impression on your mind.

It has been said, "Too many places we see in America today look like too many places we see in America today." Interstates, cities and subdivisions can look alike no matter where you are. But America's National Parks are each unique, with remarkable experiences unattainable anywhere else.

The landscapes along the Virginia portion of the Parkway differ from those in North Carolina. A glimpse of traditional early days of settlement is visible in Virginia, with recreated farms near Humpback Rocks and Mabry Mill further south. In North Carolina, Linville Falls and the Cradle of Forestry highlight mountain forests and natural wonders.

In addition to stops along the Parkway, the road runs near historic towns from top to bottom for accessing the areas' heritage and culture. The Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters are located in Asheville, N.C. – a city well loved by literary figures Carl Sandburg, Thomas Wolfe and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Exploration of their homes and haunts presents an interesting side trip.

The Parkway inspires pride, appreciation and responsibility. Whether enjoying an afternoon drive or visiting for the first time, pride is important to protecting the Parkway. Appreciation may be found in the streams, trails, wildlife, historic structures, cool air, vistas or absolute serenity. Responsibility lies in the stewardship required of all visitors to National Park sites. This place can only stay as we know it with community, regional and individual help. Whatever your Parkway experience, respect other visitors and wildlife and keep to the trails to enjoy all of it.







The Park holds more than 500 miles of trails, including 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Trails may follow a ridge crest, or they may lead to high places with panoramic views or to waterfalls in deep canyons.

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

AMERICA'S BYWAYS™

Shenandoah National Park lies astride a beautiful section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which form the eastern rampart of the Appalachian Mountains between Pennsylvania and Georgia. The Shenandoah River flows through the valley to the west, with Massanutten Mountain, 40 miles long, standing between the river's north and south forks. The rolling Piedmont country lies to the east of the Park. Skyline Drive, a 105-mile road that winds along the crest of the mountains through the length of the Park, provides vistas of the spectacular landscape to east and west. Many animals, including deer, black bears, and wild turkeys, flourish among the rich growth of an oak-hickory forest. In season, bushes and wildflowers bloom along the Drive and trails and fill the open spaces. Apple trees, stone foundations, and cemeteries are reminders of the families who once called this place home. Shenandoah National Park has many stories waiting to be told, and a world of beauty that can renew and bring peace to the spirit.

Facilities and Services

Includes visitor centers, bookstores, campgrounds, showers and laundries, picnic areas, gift shops, lodges, cabins, restaurants, gas station, ATMs, waysides, campstores, a stable, & restrooms.

- Most facilities and services are available April through November
- Plan to obtain all food, gas, and lodging outside of the Park in December, January, February, and March.

Check the Park's website or call (540) 999-3500 for current information.

www.nps.gov/shen

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Visitors can participate in Ranger-guided activities, view audio-visual programs or exhibits at visitor centers, enjoy the panoramic views from overlooks, hike to peaks and waterfalls, fish or just plain relax in the peaceful surroundings.

Continuing a tradition set by George Freeman Pollock, who founded a resort at Skyland long before Shenandoah National Park was established, Delaware North at Shenandoah National Park, the Park's concessioner offers a variety of activities for visitors in spring, summer, and fall, providing a terrific way to have fun and learn more about the Park's history and wildlife as well as regional arts, music, and crafts.

For a calendar of events visit the concessioner's website at ***www.goshenandoah.com***

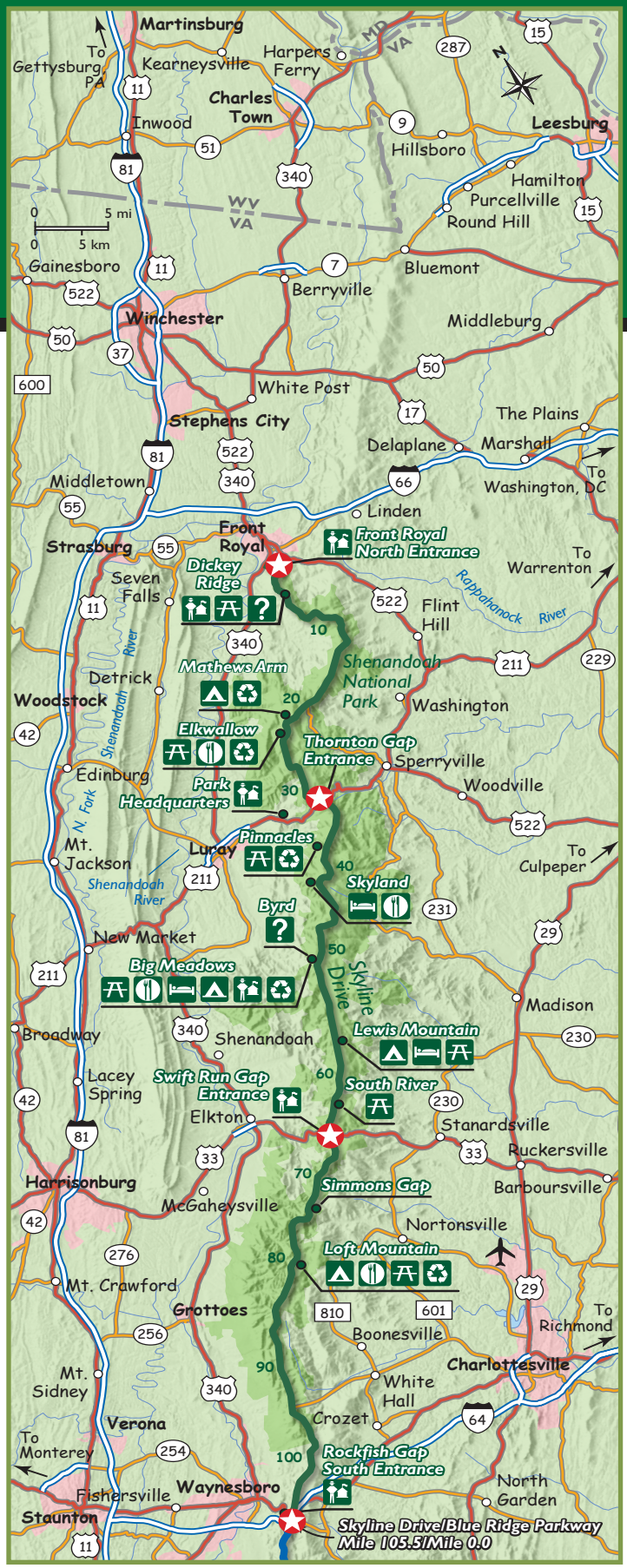
A LITTLE HISTORY

In 1926, U.S. Congress authorized creation of Shenandoah National Park. Today nearly 200,000 acres of eastern deciduous forest are a sanctuary for more than 100 varieties of trees, 200 bird species, and 1,100 flowering plants.

Private lands were purchased by the Commonwealth of Virginia. On December 26, 1935, Virginia gave the deeds to the Federal Government, formally establishing the Park. In 1936, Shenandoah was dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for the recreation and re-creation found here.

Visit Shenandoah and step back in time. Over 400 buildings and structures within the Skyline Drive Historic District are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as being nationally significant for their architecture and association with the history of the 1920s and 1930s.

Today, approximately 1.4 million visitors come to Shenandoah each year. It is our hope that this park, created as a peaceful refuge for nearby urban populations, will continue to offer relaxation, recreation, and inspiration for many generations to come.



Shenandoah National Park Region:

Northern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Near Skyline Drive & Shenandoah National Park

WINCHESTER/FREDERICK CO., VA

18 miles north of the Skyline Drive via US 522, I-81 Exits 310, 313, 315, 317. Historic district, quaint towns, museums, professional theatre, cinema, golf, and fine restaurants. For more info: Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center 1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd Winchester, VA 22601 www.visitwinchesterva.com (877) 871-1326.

Dinosaur Land - 3848 Stonewall Jackson Hwy, White Post, VA 22663. Intersection 522, 340, & 277. 8 miles south of Winchester, VA. Over 50 Dinosaurs, gift shop. www.dinosaurland.com (540) 869-2222.

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley - Anchors a regional history museum complex including Glen Burnie Historic House & 6 acres of formal gardens. Open Tues-Sun 10 am - 4 pm. www.shenandoahmuseum.org (888) 556-5799.

SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA

Venture off the Pkwy and experience OUR Rush Hour. Scenic drives, hiking, paddling, history, vineyards, breweries, restaurants, caverns. There's only one Shenandoah County in the Shenandoah Valley! www.VisitShenandoahCounty.com (888) 367-3965.

WOODSTOCK, VA

Located on Rt. 11, I-81 exit 283.

Hampton Inn & Suites - 1150 Motel Dr. off I-81 exit 283. Free hot breakfast, free Wi-Fi, indoor pool, meeting rooms. www.woodstocksuites.hamptoninn.com (540) 459-7111.

Inn at Narrow Passage - 30 Chapman Landing Rd. & US 11. 1740's log inn on Shen. River, Jackson's Hqts, full fireside brkfst, WiFi, fridge, fireplaces. www.innatnarrowpassage.com (800) 459-8002.

MAP KEY:

- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 190 species of resident and transient birds are known to use the park.

FRONT ROYAL, VA

Located at Milepost 0, Front Royal is a stepping on and off point for a wonderful and spectacular Skyline Drive tour through the Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway.
(540) 635-5788. www.discoverfrontroyal.com

Skyline Caverns - US 340, 1 mile south of Front Royal. Open all year. Miniature train, gift shop, fast food, Enchanted Dragon Mirror Maze, rock shop. Guided tour is impressive & educational. Unusual Anthodite formations. www.skylinecaverns.com (800) 296-4545.

Super 8 - 111 S Street, 1/4 mile to Shen Natl Park. Elevator, free breakfast & WiFi, pet friendly, free parking, & restaurants nearby. (540) 636-4888.

Quality Inn - 10 Commerce Ave, N entrance Shen Natl Park, bike parking, free breakfast, pool, restaurant, LCD TV - HBO, free WiFi, laundry, renovated. www.qualityinn-frontroyal.com (540) 635-3161.

0 **Access point US 340 and Skyline Drive.** From Front Royal east 35 miles to Middleburg. 63 mi. to Washington D.C.; southeast 18 mi. to Washington, VA; north 21 mi. to Winchester.

0.6 **Front Royal (North) Entrance Station** is staffed by National Park Service personal who, besides collecting entrance fees, can answer your questions and give other assistance.

2.8 **Shenandoah Valley Overlook** provides a sweeping view across the valley to Signal Knob, a Civil War communications post to the right on Massanutten Mountain. The mountain divides the valley and the Shenandoah River, with the south fork on the near side and the north fork on the far side. The two forks meet north of Front Royal.

4.6 **Dickey Ridge Visitor Center**. Exhibits, movie, publications, water, comfort stations and picnic grounds. Alt. 1,940.



Shenandoah National Park | Photo courtesy NPS

Winchester, VA Region

Contact

Winchester-Frederick Co.
Visitors Center & Gift Shop
1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Winchester, VA 22601

Open 7 days a week, 9am-5pm



877-871-1326
www.visitwinchesterva.com

The Winchester area offers a true hub for visitors to Shenandoah National Park. A unique history, vibrant pedestrian downtown, and an array of lodging, dining and shopping choices all abound in a place where you can follow in the footsteps of George Washington, Stonewall Jackson and Patsy Cline.

Spring and summer visitors will be treated to the world-famous Apple Blossom Festival, thriving nights and a vibrant countryside. If you can take your eyes off the stunning leaves in the fall, you'll find a quieter pace and a full slate of fall festivals. Wintertime finds holiday events, cozy B&B stays, and a growing number of wineries to explore.

Get the inside scoop before visiting the Winchester area with articles like "16 Local Spots for Dining alfresco," "Top 10 Must-Do List for Fall," "8 Totally Unexpected Finds" and more at www.VisitWinchesterVA.com/blog.

Don't wait too long; the good deals here go quick!

A beautiful 18 mile stroll from the Skyline Drive, via US 522 (I-81 exit 313)

6.8 **Gooney Run Overlook** gives a view across the valley and towards Dickey Ridge on the right.

17.1 **Range View Overlook** offers a spectacular view of a large section of the Blue Ridge.

21 **Hogback Overlook.** 11 bends of Shenandoah River visible on clear days. Alt. 3,385 ft.

22.2 **Mathews Arm Campground** is open late May through October. Tent and trailer sites, sewage disposal station. No showers or laundry. Camp store two miles south on Skyline Drive.

24 **Elkwallow.** Picnic grounds and wayside, grills, snack bar, gift shop, campstore, water & comfort station.

28.4 **Beahms Gap Overlook** provides access to the Appalachian Trail and shorter trails.

? DID YOU KNOW?

Shenandoah National Park has over 500 miles of trails. Over 30% of the trails are within designated wilderness areas. 101 miles are part of the Appalachian Trail.

LURAY-PAGE COUNTY, VA

Nestled between the Blue Ridge & Massanutten Mountains, Page Valley is a beautiful escape any time of the year. "Once you visit us, you may never want to leave." www.VisitLurayPage.com (888) 743-3915.

ATTRACTIONS

Luray Caverns - Eastern America's largest and most popular caverns. A U.S. Natural Landmark featuring the world's only Stalacpipe Organ. Skyline Drive and Shenandoah National Park 10 min; I-81, 15 min. www.luraycaverns.com (540) 743-6551.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Allstar Lodging Vacation Cabins - Dozens of unique vacation rentals. 1-10 bdr. sleep 2-40 guests. In Luray, near Caverns, Skyline Drive, mountain views, riverfront, fireplace, hot tub, Jacuzzi, swimming pool, kitchen, open yr. round, pets welcome. www.allstarlodging.com (540) 843-0606.

Luray Caverns Motels - Opposite each caverns entrance. Quiet, scenic locations with Blue Ridge Mountain views. Discount food coupons, free WiFi, pools. Golf packages at Caverns Country Club Resort. (540) 743-6551; (888) 941-4531.

The Mimslyn Inn - Circa 1931."Vintage Southern Hospitality". Comfortable, inviting, and ready for you to experience. 401 W. Main St. www.mimslyninn.com or (540) 743-5105.

Front Royal, VA

Contact

For Details on Attractions, Events Lodging and a Free Visitors Package E-mail: tourism@frontroyalva.com



540-635-5788
www.discoverfrontroyal.com

Welcome to Front Royal, Virginia the northern Gateway to Shenandoah National Park and the Canoe Capital of Virginia. Steeped in rich history and natural beauty this thriving community boasts attractions and amenities for everyone.

The Blue Ridge Mountains meet the Shenandoah River in Front Royal beckoning you to discover miles of parkland, hiking trails, electrifying waterfalls and wildlife viewing.

Outfitters rent canoes, kayaks, rafts, and tubes for floating down the Shenandoah, its beauty celebrated in song. Taste and tour at World-class Wineries, and play the greens at five award-winning Golf destinations. Live, Shop, Play and Visit Historic Downtown Front Royal located just one mile north of Shenandoah National Park. Highlights include museums, antiques, fine art, estate jewelry, live music and do-it-yourself crafts.

Enjoy an eclectic mix of restaurants and relax in the Village Commons, a favorite spot for events, concerts and meeting friends. Take a rest from your adventures at one of our many bed & breakfasts, motels or campgrounds.

Front Royal, Virginia is your northern Gateway to Shenandoah National Park and the Canoe Capital of Virginia!

Shenandoah River Outfitters & River Log Cabins - Canoe, kayak, raft, tube the Shenandoah or stay in the river cabins. www.shenandoahriver.com (800) 6-CANOE2.

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park - 5 miles from Drive on US 211 West. Beautiful mountain views. All facilities for RV's or tents. Pool, themed mini golf, 3 types of cabins, water slide. Late Mar-Nov. www.campluray.com. Reservations (540) 300-1607.

SHENANDOAH CAVERNS, VA

5 miles north of New Market, I-81 Exit 269.

Shenandoah Caverns - Explore an underground world of wonders that has been thrilling visitors for over 90 years. It's Virginia's only cavern with elevator service! Open all year. www.shenandoahcaverns.com (540) 477-3115.

Shenandoah Valley Travel Association - ***Request an official Shenandoah Valley Travel Guide at www.VisitShenandoah.org or call (800) VISIT-SV. Mail requests to P.O. Box 4164, Winchester, VA 22604.***

NEW MARKET, VA

15 miles west of Skyline Drive on US 211. I-81 Exit 264.

Virginia Museum of the Civil War & New Market Battlefield State Historical Park - Museum exhibit presents entire Civil War in Virginia with focus exhibit on the VMI cadets in the Battle of New Market. Museum shop, picnic area, overlooks. Walking trail on actual battlefield. www.vmi.edu/newmarket (866) 515-1864.

CEDAR CREEK & BELLE GROVE

From Backcountry to Breadbasket to Battlefield -- and Beyond

The Shenandoah Valley invites you to learn about its rich heritage, from Native Americans who first shaped the land, to pioneers of this frontier; this fertile area became one of the most important wheat producing regions of the entire South. The Valley also witnessed some of the most dramatic events of the Civil War, including the Battle of Cedar Creek, a decisive October 19, 1864 Union victory.



Cedar Creek & Belle Grove NHP
7712 Main Street • Middletown, Virginia 22645
(540) 869-3051 www.nps.gov/cebe

31.5

Thornton Gap Entrance Station - West 9 mi. to Luray, 24 mi. to New Market. East 7 mi. to Sperryville, 26 mi. to Culpeper. Alt. 2,304. Thornton Gap is one of the major entrances to the park. Park Rangers at the entrance station can answer your questions and give other assistance. Park Headquarters is four miles west on US 221.

Luray & Page County, VA

Contact

Visitors Center hours:
9am-5pm daily
18 Campbell St. • Luray, VA 22835



1-888-743-3915
www.VisitLurayPage.com

A land called Shenandoah, Luray and Page County are home to Shenandoah National Park and Luray Caverns. The fabled Shenandoah River also traverses the gently rolling farmland of this central Shenandoah Valley region. The picturesque, rural setting boasts charming towns with historic sites, loads of antique shops, farmers markets, fairs, and festivals. Outdoor activities abound with canoeing and kayaking on the storied Shenandoah and discovery is available through horseback riding in the George Washington National Forest. The region is a destination for hiking, cycling, racing, and many participatory events along with hundreds of weddings in outdoor venues, area lodges, inns, and more. Closer to nature, find campsites and camp resorts, with cabins galore; Page County is aptly designated as the Cabin Capital of Virginia. So, from the geological wonders beneath the earth to the vistas of lush farm fields reaching for the foothills in the Blue Ridge Mountains – you really can Choose Your Level when visiting Luray and Page County.

Historic Culture • Friendly Atmosphere • Natural Beauty
www.CabinCapital.com

32 **Mary's Rock Tunnel** built in 1932, goes through 600 feet of rock with a 12 feet 8 inch clearance.

36.6 **Pinnacles.** Picnic grounds with shelter, tables, fireplaces, water and comfort station. Alt. 3,350. Access to Appalachian Trail.

38.6 **Stony Man Mountain Overlook.** Straight ahead as you enter the overlook from the north is the profile of a man looking up toward the sky. Across the valley is Massanutten Mountain.

39.1 **Little Stony Man Cliffs** can be reached by a round trip hike of 0.9 mile from the parking area. Access to Appalachian Trail.



Wild Geranium grows in Shenandoah and on the Parkway| Photo by Matt Celko

41.7 **North Entrance to Skyland.** Highest point on Skyline Drive at 3,680 feet. One of the primary tourist facility stops. Naturalist George Freeman Pollock who built Skyland resort in the 1890s, was a major proponent for establishing the park. Lodge, dining room, gift shop, riding horses, Stony Man Nature Trail and other trails, conducted hikes and evening programs.

Skyland Resort - Located in the Shenandoah National Park at MP 41.7. Open late March through late November. Features 177 rooms ranging from rustic cabins to cozy suites with fireplaces, full service restaurant, a gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts, & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Guided horse rides, special events & scheduled Ranger activities. www.goshenandoah.com Call (877) 247-9261.

42.5 **South Entrance to Skyland**

42.6 **Whiteoak Canyon** has six waterfalls. A 4.6 mile round-trip trail leads to the first waterfall, the park's second highest at 86 feet.

43 **Limberlost Trail** (accessible), a 1.3 mile loop, passes through an old orchard and the remains of a grove of ancient hemlocks. It is an accessible trail (with assistance), with a crushed greenstone walkway, wooden boardwalk and bridge, and many benches.

44.2 **Crescent Rock Overlook** 25 yards from the Skyline Drive, provides the best view of Hawksbill Mountain.

Shenandoah County, VA

Contact

Shenandoah County Tourism
600 North Main Street
Suite 101
Woodstock, VA 22664



Strasburg | Toms Brook | Woodstock
Edinburg | Mount Jackson | New Market

888-367-3965

www.VisitShenandoahCounty.com

Just a short distance West of Skyline Drive, enjoy the charm and beauty of six historic small towns situated along route 11 like pearls on a string. Each with its unique charm and personality, you are certain to find a friendly face, great local art, stories, antiques and relics of Shenandoah's past.

During your stay, experience the best of outdoor recreation: hiking and biking, river floats, fishing and camping. Take a scenic drive down country roads to find vineyards and farms. You may sip local wines and brews and enjoy the freshest flavors of our agricultural communities through farm-to-fork dining.

However you choose to enjoy the valley, Shenandoah County has so much to offer:

- History and Genealogy
- Extreme sports and leisurely strolls
- Unique attractions and artisan studios
- Charming Bed and Breakfasts and rustic camping
- Agricultural traditions with the freshest dining and markets

There's Only One Shenandoah County in the Shenandoah Valley!

45.5 **Hawksbill Gap Parking Area** trails lead to Hawksbill Mountain, at 4,051 feet the highest point in the park.

50.4 **Dark Hollow Falls**, the waterfall closest to the Drive, cascades 70 feet over greenstone. Round trip from the parking area is 1.4 miles.

51 **Big Meadows** offers a multitude of activities and services at three sites, all connected by a network of trails. Byrd Visitor Center is one of the park's two major information facilities, providing exhibits on the area's human and natural history; film and Ranger programs; sales outlet for publications and maps; and conducted hikes. The wayside facilities include a coffee shop, camp store, gift shop and service station. One mile from the Drive, using either entrance, is Big Meadows Lodge with rooms, dining room and gift shop open in spring, summer and fall. Big Meadows Campground has tent and trailer sites, trailer sewage disposal station, showers, laundry, ice, firewood, picnic ground and an amphitheater for ranger programs. During the summer and fall, campsites at the campground may be available by reservation only. Byrd Visitor Center, the Big Meadows Campground, the Lodge, and wayside are usually closed in winter. Byrd Visitor Center is open winter weekends, weather and drive conditions permitting. Please call the park for current information or if you plan to visit in winter. Shenandoah National Park Headquarters. (540) 999-3500. (540) 999-3500.

Big Meadows Lodge - Located in Shenandoah National Park at MP 51. Open mid-May through early November. Features 97 rooms from rustic cabins to cozy suites with fireplaces, full service restaurant & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts. www.goshenandoah.com Call (877) 247-9261.



Bluets are one of the wildflowers found in Shenandoah | Photo by William A. Bake

56.4 **Bearfence Mountain Summit** provides a 360 degree view. The round trip from the parking lot is only 1.2 miles but part of it is a rock scramble and can be difficult, especially if wet. Wear sturdy shoes.

57.2 **Lewis Mountain**. Facilities and services include cabins, campground with tent and trailer sites, camp store, picnic ground and campfire facilities. Alt. 3,390.

62.5 **South River Picnic Grounds** is a fine place to stop for a picnic and then take a hike to South River Falls, 2.6 miles round trip.

MADISON, VA

Madison is blessed with beautiful mountains & foothills with a wide variety of outdoor activities. Madison Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center - 110 A N Main Street, Madison, VA 22727. www.madison-va.com (540) 948-4455.

Shenandoah Hills Campground - Open year round. Rt. 29, 11 mi N. of Ruckersville. RV's, cabins, tents. Propane, dump, 50/30A. www.shenandoahhills.com (540) 948-4186.

65.5 **Swift Run Gap Entrance Station Access point** US 33. East 12 miles to Standardsville, west 7 mi. to Elkton, 24 mi. to Harrisonburg. South 25 mi. to Grottoes. Alt. 2,365 Park Rangers at the entrance station can answer your questions and give other assistance.

HARRISONBURG, VA

Harrisonburg Virginia, 23 miles from Skyline Drive, on 33 West to visit us for shopping, museums, and local eateries. Plan your stay in historic Harrisonburg by visiting the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, open daily 9am-5pm. 212 S. Main St. A place "Where History and Hospitality Meet." (540) 432-8935 www.VisitHarrisonburgVA.com for information.

Old Massanutten Lodge B & B - Exit at MP 65.7 at Swift Run. "We're Here To Pamper You." 3 elegant rooms, w/ baths, some whirlpools, full gourmet breakfasts. Close to US 33 & I-81 Exit 247. www.oldmassanuttenlodge.com (540) 269-8800.

Stonewall Jackson Inn - Stay Here! Affordable, 5 star & top rated by TripAdvisor & B&B.com. Harrisonburg's lively Historic District, 10 rooms. Check our happy guest reviews! EZ on/off @ Skyline MP 65. www.StonewallJacksonInn.com (540) 433-8233.

The Village Inn & Restaurant - I-81 Exit 243. Scenic rural setting, free HBO, relaxing pool and hot tub, deluxe playground, wireless internet, in-room coffee, microwave & refrigerator. AAA 3 Diamond. Family owned for 3 generations. www.thevillageinn.travel (540) 434-7355.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit go.nps.gov/brp-map

The Journey Through Hallowed Ground

National Scenic Byway



Explore "Where America Happened" and discover the land of conflict and reunification. This journey will take you through America's heritage with key locations during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. This historic byway will give you and your family a well-rounded excursion through the Piedmont Region of Virginia.

Starting and ending points in Virginia: Leesburg and Charlottesville

Time to Drive: 4.5 hours

The Virginia section, of the 180 mile long byway, begins near Leesburg at the Virginia and Maryland border just south of Point of Rocks on US 15 and ends near Charlottesville.

You'll pass through: Leesburg, Haymarket, Warrenton, Remington, Culpeper, Orange and Old Somerset. There is no park admission fee and the speed limit varies.

This byway travels through a region with exceptional historic value. With five Virginia presidential homes found on this journey, including Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, it's sure to be a great history lesson!

Don't forget to stop in Charlottesville for rich cultural, natural and artistic history. Charlottesville will also offer a selection of first-rate museums, galleries, wineries, shops and parks dispersed throughout the area. The northern entrance to the Blue Ridge Parkway and the southern entrance to Shenandoah National Park are only a half hour west via US 250 or I-64.

For more information:
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/byways/2343/directions

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway follows the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are a part of the Appalachian Mountain chain. These mountains span from Georgia to Pennsylvania, containing the highest mountains in the eastern United States.

GROTTOES, VA

From MP 0, 4 miles West of the Skyline Drive via US 250 and 12 miles North via US 340.

Grand Caverns - America's oldest continuously operated show cave & voted #2 in U.S. by Parade magazine. Experience nature's handiwork. Open daily. *www.grandcaverns.com* (888) 430-CAVE.

66.3 **Hightop Mountain Parking**, at an elevation of 2,635 feet, is on the west side of the Drive and provides access to the Appalachian Trail and outstanding views on the summit of Hightop Mountain.

66.8 **Swift Run Overlook** offers a view of the Piedmont to the east and Flattop to the south.

72.8 **Simmons Gap Ranger Station** personnel are responsible for the southern portion of the park. Stop if you need assistance from the Rangers.

77.8 **Rockytop Overlook** good view of the Big Run watershed.



Turks Cap Lily grows here | Photo by Matt Celko



Loft Mountain Ampitheater | Photo courtesy NPS

79.5 **Loft Mountain.** Loft Mountain Wayside has a restaurant and gift store. Loft Mountain Campground (one mile up the access road from Skyline Drive) has both tent and trailer sites, a trailer sewage disposal station, camp store, showers, laundry, ice, firewood, and conducted ranger programs in the summer. This campground usually closes in late October. Amphitheater; hikes in summer. Alt. 3,300

81.1 **Doyles River Trail** takes you to the upper falls, 2.6 miles round trip, lower falls, 3.2 miles round trip.

84.1 **Jones Run** is a good place to park for a rewarding hike of 3.6 miles, round trip to the 42 foot Jones Run Falls. The reward: mosses and flowering plants growing on the water-sprayed cliff.

84.8 **Blackrock Summit Parking** is the start of a one-mile round trip hike to Blackrock and outstanding views.

93.8 **Turk Gap Parking Area** is east of the Drive near a crossing of the Appalachian Trail.

98.5 **Calf Mountain Overlook** provides a spectacular 300 degree view.

? DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Mountains, the mountains the Parkway runs through, are made up of granite, metamorphosed volcanic formations and sedimentary limestone. These mountains were formed over 400 million years ago!

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Visit our 2 locations - 610 E Main Street, on the downtown mall in Charlottesville, and 5791 Three Notch'd Rd., Crozet at old train depot. For hours & directions, www.visitcharlottesville.org (877) 386-1103.

ATTRACTIONS

Barboursville Vineyards & Historic Ruins - 30 min E of Pkwy, Rt 33 at Rt 20. Tastings daily at Virginia's most honored winery, fine dining at Palladio Restaurant. Details & Calendar of Events. www.bbvwine.com Reservations (540) 832-7848.

Monticello, Home of Thomas Jefferson - 2 miles SE on Rte 53 off Rte 20 & I-64. Day passes include house tours. Special tours including the Behind-the-Scenes tour also offered daily. Visit website to book in advance. Cafe & The Shop at Monticello. 931 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville, VA. www.monticello.org (434) 984-9800.

FOOD & LODGING

English Inn - US 29N & US 250 bypass. Std & king rms. Incl. Full breakfast buffet, 24 hrs coffee/tea, heated indoor pool. Ask about packages & discounts. 2000 Morton Dr., Charlottesville, VA 22903. www.englishinncharlottesville.com (800) 786-5400 or (434) 971-9900.

Hilton Garden Inn Charlottesville - Mile 0, I-64E to exit 124. Restaurant, indoor pool, free HSIA, near Monticello & Downtown. www.charlottesville.stayhgi.com (434) 979-4442.

CROZET, VA

10 miles East of Parkway, Exit Milepost 0.

Albemarle Tourism & Adventure Center - Downtown Crozet, inside historic train depot. Free programs & events, visit www.visitcharlottesville.org/adventurecenter

Montfair Resort Farm - 18 mi. from Parkway, MP 0. 9 mi. N. of Crozet. Eco-friendly vacation cabins by mtn lake. All cabins have WiFi. Pets welcome. Hiking, fishing, canoes, bikes included! www.montfairresortfarm.com (434) 823-5202.

104.9 **Rockfish Gap Entrance Station** is staffed by the Park Service who can answer questions and provide assistance.

105.4 **Rockfish Gap Access point** Skyline Drive, Blue Ridge Parkway, and US 250, west (on US 250) 4 mi. to Waynesboro, 15 mi. to Staunton. East (on 250) 20 to Charlottesville. I-64 also crosses the mountains here. Rockfish Gap starts, or ends Skyline Drive, depending on which way you are heading. The Drive runs directly into Blue Ridge Parkway, also administered by the National Park Service.



Blue Ridge Parkway Ridge Region:

Milepost 0, Rockfish Gap to Milepost 106, Roanoke, VA

0 **Rockfish Gap Access point** Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, US 250 **Access point**. West 4 miles to Waynesboro, 15 mi. to Staunton and 60 miles to Monterey. East 20 mi. to Charlottesville. Alt. 1,909. Afton. VA Exit US 250, MP 0.

STAUNTON, VA

Staunton's historic downtown delights visitors with its vibrant arts scene & great restaurants. The amazing architecture & compact downtown make for great walking & exploring opportunities. www.VisitStaunton.com (540) 332-3972.

ATTRACTIONS

Augusta Expo Event Center - Fishersville VA. 9 miles from MP 0 at I-64W exit 91. Events, concerts and festivals year round. www.augustaexpo.org (540) 337-2552.

Frontier Culture Museum - Bringing the Past to Life. A living history museum. 17th, 18th, & 19th century working farms. 1290 Richmond Rd, Staunton. www.frontiermuseum.org (540) 332-7850.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Hampton Inn Staunton - 15 mins from MP 0, I-64W to I-81S, exit 220. Luxury rooms, free hot breakfast, fitness room, outdoor pool. HHonors. (540) 886-7000.

Stonewall Jackson Hotel - In historic downtown Staunton, 15 minutes from the Parkway, we offer 124 cozy guestrooms & restaurant. www.stonewalljacksonhotel.com (540) 885-4848.

GREENVILLE, VA

22 miles from MP 0 via Interstate 64 and Interstate 81.

Stoney Creek Resort Campground - 277 Lake Dr. Geenville, VA. MP 0. Open all year. 198 sites, pool, lake, and views. www.stoneycreekresort.net (540) 337-1510.

MAP KEY:

- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Appalachian Trail, VA

The Appalachian Trail parallels the first 100 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway to a point just north of Roanoke VA. There are many trail access points along this section of the Parkway. For more information, please refer to Appalachian Trail publications. www.nps.gov/appa

WAYNESBORO, VA

4 miles west of Parkway via US 250 or I-64. Shops, restaurants, gas, and outdoor recreation. Information center located at exit 99 off of I-64. www.VisitWaynesboro.net or (540) 943-5187.

Best Western Plus Waynesboro - I-64 Exit 94. Our award-winning hotel is just 5 minutes from MP 0 of the Parkway! Pet-friendly, beautiful mountain views, hot breakfast, indoor pool & many restaurants nearby. www.bwwaynesboro.com (540) 942-1100.

Colony House Motel - 494 Three Notchd Mtn Hwy. MP 0. 500 ft from Parkway entrance. Locally owned, 26 rooms, laundry, internet, cozy, great views. (540) 942-4156.

Days Inn Waynesboro - I-64 exit 94. 5 miles from Parkway. Newly renovated oversized guest rooms boast panoramic mountain views. Complimentary continental breakfast & outdoor pool. 2060 Rosser Ave. (540) 943-1101.

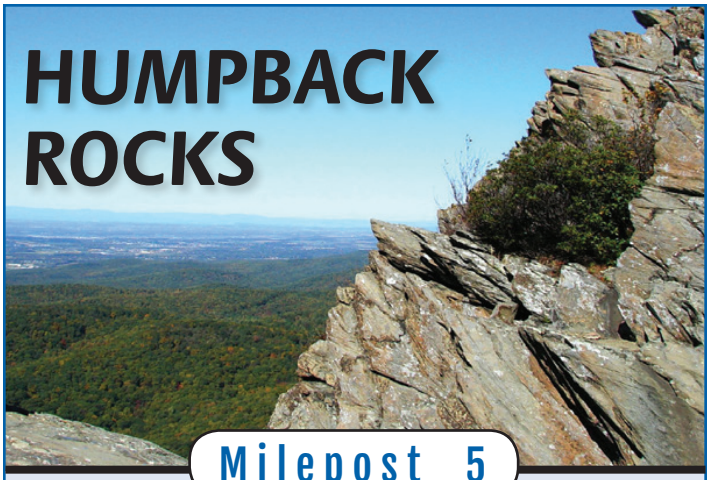
Hampton Inn - Luxury rooms, free hot breakfast, free high speed wireless internet access, indoor pool, fitness room, near hospital. Suites available. Near P. Buckley Moss Museum. (540) 213-9500.

Holiday Inn Express - 20 Windigrove Drive. 5 miles W. MP 1. Great service and good rooms with breakfast, indoor pool and Jacuzzi. Call now: (540) 932-7170.

Quality Inn - 4.5 miles from MP 0, 1-64 Exit 96. Newly renovated rooms, features hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and free high speed internet. (540) 942-1171.



Motorcycling the Parkway | Photo by Jeff Greenberg



HUMPBACK ROCKS

Milepost 5

Travelers heading south from Rockfish Gap experience a scenic drive through a mountain forest interspersed with agricultural lands. Climbing and descending ridge tops and gaps offers magnificent views of the Shenandoah Valley to the west and Rockfish Valley to the east, along with the flora and fauna of Appalachian hardwood forests. This is a region that was once cleared for agriculture, trade routes, timber harvesting, and subsistence living. Now it supports mature forests, designated wilderness, US Forest Service lands, and the return of many species of wildlife not seen in years.

Humpback Rocks at Milepost 5.8 is perhaps the best representation of the varied combination of natural and cultural resources anywhere along the Parkway corridor. The prominent rock outcrop was a landmark guiding wagon trains over the Howardsville Turnpike in the 1840s. A portion of the historic trace still exists. This was a major route across the narrow Blue Ridge until railroads came through the mountain gaps. The view from "the rocks" is spectacular any time of the year.

Adjacent to NPS Humpback Rocks Visitor Center, an outdoor farm museum is surrounded by nearly 3,000 acres of predominantly forested lands. Early Parkway designers collected buildings from nearby and assembled them here in an arrangement that allows for an easy stroll along the pathway. The farm museum consists of a single-room log cabin and a series of outbuildings that represent elements of regional architecture of the late nineteenth century. Costumed interpreters provide demonstrations seasonally, including weaving, basket making and gardening. Interpretation focuses on and emphasizes the generalized life styles of subsistence farmers.



A visit to Humpback Rocks will help travelers better understand the difficulties and advantages associated with farming and living in these mountains and get a sense of how transportation routes across the mountains linked residents and communities in the region. Participate in "hands on" cultural demonstrations depicting domestic and farm chores including gardening and music.

NELSON COUNTY, VA

From MP 0 to the mighty James River, explore 471 miles of wineries, breweries, cideries, distilleries, orchards, unique lodging, restaurants & shopping. Info: Nelson County Dept. of Tourism, PO Box 636, Dept. BRPA, Lovingston, VA 22949. www.nelsoncounty.com. For free travel & event information, e-mail: info@nelsoncounty.org (800) 282-8223.

5.8 - 9.3 **Humpback Rocks.** Visitor Center ? and Park Store. Mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), Picnic area, comfort station (Milepost 8.8). 800 acres.

8.8 **Greenstone Parking Overlook**. Self-guiding nature trail.

13.5 **Reids Gap Access Point**. Route 664.

13.7 **VA Route 664 Access Point**.

Cabin Creekwood - "Your Truly Restful Getaway!" 2 miles west of Parkway on Rt. 664. Year round, quiet, secluded, fully furnished resort, mt. cabins, pool. 44 Creekwood Ln., Lyndhurst, VA 22952. www.cabincreekwood.com (888) 942-2246.

WINTERGREEN, VA

5.5 miles east on Route 664 and Route 151, exit at Milepost 13.5.

Wintergreen Resort - Lodging, dining, 45 holes of golf, tennis, pools, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, ice skating, spa, hiking, fishing. www.wintergreenresort.com (434) 325-2200, (800) 266-2444.

16 **VA 814 to Sherando Lake Access Point**. (4.5 mi.) in George Washington National Forest. Swimming, picnicking, camping.

LOVE, VA

West of Parkway, exit at Milepost 16.

Royal Oaks Cabins - Love, VA. Exit at Milepost 16, 500 ft west on Route 814. Royal Oaks Cabins Store, deli, gifts - "Come in Love. Stay in Love. Leave in Love." Experience love in our 13 cabins and 4 large chalets with mtn. views, fireplaces, hot tubs, equipped kitchens, free Wi-Fi, TV/VCR/DVD. Open year round. www.vacabins.com (540) 943-7625.

27.2 **Tye River Gap**. Rt. 56 **Access Point**, west to Vesuvius, Steeles Tavern, east to Montebello. Alt. 2,969.

STEELES TAVERN, VA

West of Parkway on VA 56, exit at Milepost 27.

Osceola Mill Restaurant & Inn - Water-powered mill, now serves as a fine dining restaurant, B&B and Crabtree Falls cabin rentals built by the McCormicks, inventors of the reaper. Featured restaurant and B&B National Geographic Mag. July/09. MP 27, 5 min RT 56 W www.osceolamill.com (540) 377-6455.

Sugar Tree Inn - 3/4 mi W. of MP 27 is a haven of natural beauty called The Sugar Tree. Set on 28 acres at 2800 feet, the inn is a place of peace and tranquility. Relax in rustic elegance and enjoy 40-mile views from our front porch. Wood-burning fireplaces in every room. A full country breakfast is included; dinner is available for inn guests with advance reservations. www.sugartreeinn.com (540) 377-2197.

Nelson County, VA

Contact

Nelson County Tourism
Post Office Box 636
Dept. BRPD
Lovingston, VA 22949



434-263-7015
www.nelsoncounty.com

From milepost 0 of the Blue Ridge Parkway to the mighty James River, plan to experience a getaway full of adventure and relaxation. Remember how to have fun in our 471 square mile playground, then rest at a unique local bed and breakfast or cabin.

Relax and unwind as you marvel at Nature's bounty. Whether it's the pink and white of the spring apple blossoms or the spectacular fall foliage, the backdrop is picture perfect for your vacation.

Be entertained with the simple things – take time to relax, enjoy the scenery, the local music scene or the farm-to-the-table culinary delights from local restaurants, wineries, breweries, cideries or distilleries.

Experience the Sunrise Side of the Blue Ridge

FAIRFIELD, VA

11 miles west of Parkway on VA 56 and US Hwy 11. Exit at MP 27.

Fox Hill B&B Suites - 38 acres, pet friendly. Between MP 27 & 45.6; king beds, 3-course breakfast, WiFi. www.foxhillbb.com (800) 369-8005.

MONTEBELLO, VA

2.5 miles east of Parkway on VA 56, exit at MP 27.

Montebello Resort - Exit MP 27, Rt 56 East 3 miles. Full service campground with shaded sites for RV's, campers, tents (open Apr-Oct). Cabin rentals available year round. Fee-based trout ponds, no license required. Country store w/fuel, groceries & many gift items, open year round. For more info, visit www.MontebelloVA.com. For reservations call (540) 377-2650.

Rock-n-Creek Cabin - 1.5 miles off BRP MP 27. Enchanted cabin offering special amenities, culinary & country comfort. www.rockncreekcabin.com (540) 377-9383.

34.4 **Yankee Horse Parking Area**. Logging Railroad Exhibit.

45.6 **US-60 Access point.** East to Amherst, West to Buena Vista and Lexington.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit go.nps.gov/brp-map

BUENA VISTA, VA

Milepost 45.6 - US 60 Access point West to Buena Vista.

Glen Maury Park Campground - 10th St., 5 miles from Parkway. 315 acres with 52 sites or 250 units, group camping. Clean modern facilities. LP gas. (800) 555-8845.

LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA & ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VA

Natural Wonders, Great American Heroes & Charming Towns! Featuring the homes and final resting places of "Stonewall" Jackson and Robert E. Lee, breathtaking Blue Ridge Mountain scenery, and a charming downtown that offers abundant eateries, locally-owned shops and cozy B&B's. www.lexingtonvirginia.com (540) 463-3777.

Brierley Hill Bed & Breakfast - 985 Borden Rd. Lexington VA. Spectacular panoramic mtn & valley view, Jacuzzi suites, fireplaces, WiFi, 5 star. www.brierleyhill.com (800) 422-4925.

The Georges Historic Boutique Hotel - 11 N. Main St. 12 mi. from US 60 exit. Deluxe rooms/suites, two restaurants, on site free parking. www.thegeorges.com (540) 463-2500.

Hampton Inn Col Alto - 401 E. Nelson St., Lexington MP 45. Historic manor rooms and modern rooms. Pool. www.hampton-inn.com/hi/lexington-historic (540) 463-2223.

60.8 **Otter Creek**. Campground, trails and scenic roadside cascade.

Lexington / Rockbridge, VA

Contact

Stop by our Visitor Centers located at:
106 E. Washington St., Lexington
595 E. 29th St. (U.S. Route 60)
Buena Vista | Mile Post 45.6



1-540-463-3777
www.lexingtonvirginia.com

With two official Appalachian Trail Communities – Buena Vista and Glasgow – our area welcomes recreation-lovers of all types. Visit the awe-inspiring Natural Bridge State Park, paddle the James River, cycle picturesque backroads, enjoy a vineyard or brewery, or tap your toes at a music festival at Glen Maury Park. After a scenic day on the parkway, trail or river, relax in one of our well-appointed cabins, B&Bs, hotels or campgrounds.

In historic Lexington – one of USA Today's "Top 10 Best Southern Small Towns," and once home to Robert E. Lee, "Stonewall" Jackson and George C. Marshall – you can visit the museums, houses and grave sites honoring these iconic leaders. Hop aboard a horse-drawn carriage tour, and patron indie-owned eateries and boutiques. Catch a double feature at Hull's Drive-In Theater or a horse show at Virginia Horse Center.

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

Legendary history, awe-inspiring beauty and authentic experiences

61.4 **Rt 130 Access point** East to Lynchburg 20 mi. West to Glasgow 9 mi. and Natural Bridge 15 mi.

Lynchburg NW/Blue Ridge Parkway KOA - 6252 Elon Rd. Monroe, VA. MP 61.5 - Rt. 130 East, 1 mile from Parkway. RV/tent/cabins - big rigs welcome! www.lynchburgkoa.com (800) 562-8717.

63.6 **James River Visitor Center and Park Store**. Exhibits.

NATURAL BRIDGE, VA

15 miles west of Parkway via US 501 or VA 130, exit at Milepost 61.6 or 63.7. I-81 Exits 175 or 180.

ATTRACTIONS

Natural Bridge Zoological Park - Discover the largest & most complete collection of birds & animals in the state of Virginia. Ride an African elephant, stand next to & feed the giraffes, gaze into the eyes of a huge white tiger. Feed over 300 tame beautiful parakeets in our huge new parakeet landing aviary. Enjoy monkeys, mandrills & gibbons as they raise their babies in their spacious habitat displays. Enjoy the only nesting colony of beautiful pink Chilean flamingos in Virginia & watch the rare Himalayan black bears soaking in their swimming pool. Our staff members give educational & entertaining talks throughout the day with select baby animals & colorful parrots. Feed, pet, & photograph hundreds of tame animals & birds up close. Free picnic area & Safari gift shop. Off I-81 between exits 175 & 180. 15 minutes off Parkway. Open daily 9-6pm. www.naturalbridgezoo.com (540) 291-2420.

Virginia Safari Park - Virginia's only 180-acre drive-thru zoo! Drive 3 miles of road where animals of all sizes, shapes and colors approach your vehicle in search of a tasty bucket of feed. See deer, camels, bison, zebras, elk, giraffe, and many more! 4 mi. North of Natural Bridge on Rt. 11. Left @ NB KOA. Open March-Nov. www.VirginiaSafariPark.com (540) 291-3205.

LODGING & CAMPING

Natural Bridge KOA Campground - Rt. 130 west to The Natural Bridge, Rt. 11 North 4.5 miles, RV, tent, cabin, deluxe cabins. Open all year. www.naturalbridgekoa.com (800) 562-8514.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WV

Come visit "Nature's Mountain Playground." Fall drives, great fishing & bicycling, fun events. Greenbrier River Trail, Green Bank Telescope, Cass Scenic Railroad State Park. www.NaturesMountainPlayground.com (800) 336-7009.

63.9 **US 501 Access point West** to Natural Bridge 15 miles. East to Lynchburg 22 miles. Alt. 670.

LYNCHBURG, VA

Take a detour at Milepost 63.7 and experience celebrated historic places, diverse local cuisine, and unique shops as Lynchburg is the perfect place to stay while exploring Central Virginia! www.LynchburgVirginia.org (434) 485-7290.

Lynchburg, VA

Contact

Lynchburg Visitor Center
216 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504



1-800-732-5821
www.LynchburgVirginia.org

Take a detour off mile post 63.7 to experience celebrated historic sites, diverse local cuisine, and unique shops in Lynchburg, Virginia!

Amid the Blue Ridge Mountains and alongside the James River you'll find the urban oasis of Lynchburg, Virginia. At times throughout its history, Lynchburg ranked as one of the wealthiest communities per capita nationally fueling building booms some extraordinary architecture.

These historic structures are now revitalized into unique places to experience our arts, culinary and recreational activities. With warm hospitality and engaging attractions including the Lynchburg Museum, our National Medal winning Amazement Square Children's museum, and miles of scenic hiking and biking trails along the James River, Lynchburg is THE place to stay while exploring Central Virginia treasures like, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, the National D-Day Memorial and Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

Take a turn off mile post 63.7 to visit #LynchburgVA!

74.7 **Thunder Ridge Parking Area.** Ten minute loop trail to superb view of Arnold's Valley. Alt. 3,485.

76.5 **High Point on the Parkway in Virginia**. Apple Orchard Mountain. (El. 4,229.) Alt. 3,950.

83.4 **Fallingwater Cascades National Scenic Trail.** Divided into two sections or may be hiked as one continuous loop. Fallingwater Cascades section is a 1.5 mile loop of moderate hiking. Flat Top section is more strenuous, 2.5 miles to summit and 4.4 mi. to Peaks Picnic Area on VA 43.

84-87 **Peaks of Otter Area** - 5,000 acres. Three Peaks-Sharp Top [El 3,875], Flat Top [El. 4,004], and Harkening Hill [El. 3,364]. Visitor Center ? self-guided trail, historic farm interpretive programs. Picnic area, campground, restrooms.



Flame Azalea is named for the clusters of vibrant blooms that decorate the shrub | Photo by Vicki Dameron

BEDFORD, VA

Exit via VA 43 at the Peaks of Otter and take a peek at Bedford's orchards, potteries, country inns, arts, & shops. The Welcome Center is located at 816 Burks Hill Rd. (Hwy 460 & 122 - near the D-Day Memorial), Bedford, VA 24523. www.visitbedford.com (877) 447-3257 or (540) 587-5681.

ATTRACTIONS

Bedford Artisan Trail - "Handcrafted and Homegrown in the Shadow of the Peaks of Otter." Artisan studios, galleries, farms, dining, lodging, points of interest. MP 86. www.artisantrailnetwork.org

Bedford Welcome Center - 816 Burks Hill Road (Hwy 460 & 122 - near the D-Day Memorial), Bedford, VA 24523. Toll free (877) 447-3257, (540) 587-5681.

National D-Day Memorial - 9 acre complex with English garden, landing scene, Victory Arch. Guided tours/school programs with reservation. Admission fee. www.dday.org (540) 586-DDAY.

Peaks of Otter Winery & Orchards - Seasonal or by appt. Free tours, tastings & animal visits. Farm vacation rental house. Website: www.PeaksofOtterWinery.com (540) 586-3707.

Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest - Experience Thomas Jefferson. Discover his personal retreat. Step into his private world. Through guided house tours visitors will be welcomed March 15 - December 30, 7 days a week from 10-4 to rediscover Thomas Jefferson. Located near Lynchburg, VA. www.poplarforest.org Call (434) 534-8120.

Bedford, VA

Contact

Bedford Area Welcome Center
adjoining the entrance to
the National D-Day Memorial
at the junction of
Routes 460 & Hwy 122.

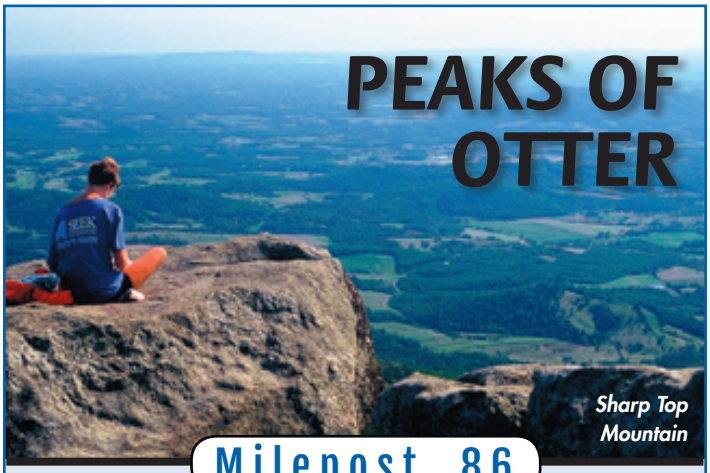


1-877-447-3257
www.visitbedford.com

Just minutes away from the legendary Peaks of Otter, Bedford offers delightful diversions from your travels along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Six wineries scattered throughout Bedford from the slopes of the Peaks of Otter to the shores of Smith Mountain Lake comprise the Bedford Wine Trail.

Thomas Jefferson's amazing retreat which he designed and built, Poplar Forest, provides an intriguing glimpse into his personal life. Other American heroes are remembered at The National D-Day Memorial, an extraordinary-moving tribute in the community which suffered the largest casualties per-capita on D-Day. The Bedford Museum, housed in the historic Masonic Temple offers exhibits including what the Washington Post hailed as one of the best displays in the state dealing with the heritage of Virginia's Indians. Historic Centertown offers shops, restaurants, Art Galleries and cafes in a delightful historic old fashioned downtown. Smith Mountain Lake offers boat cruises aboard the Virginia Dare and many other recreational offerings. Begin your stay at the Bedford Welcome Center, open daily. To reach Bedford from the Parkway exit at MP 121.4 (Rt. 460 East), MP 63.8 (Hwy 501) or Milepost 86 (Route 43 East) at the Peaks of Otter. Follow signs to the Visitor's Center.

The majestic Peaks of Otter are best seen from the mountain's base in Bedford



Milepost 86

Visitors to the Peaks of Otter gain a sense of both the history of community and the history of tourism in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. The community had its beginning in 1766 when Thomas Wood settled here from Pennsylvania. By the mid 1800s, there were twenty families, a school, and a church integrated into the business of tourism, providing food and labor for a large resort hotel.

Polly Woods' early tavern or "ordinary" provided the basic necessities for travelers as early as 1840 and is preserved at the Peaks of Otter as well. Visitors will get a sense that many of the things attracting them to the Peaks of Otter today have attracted visitors for centuries. Prominent historical figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Robert E. Lee have visited or written about the Peaks of Otter, signifying its importance as a natural landmark in Virginia's Blue Ridge.

The Johnson Farm provides opportunities for insight into community life in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with hands on living history demonstrations that convey a sense of visiting an occupied family home. The farmhouse is perhaps the Parkway's best example of a log cabin home that was enlarged over time, clap boarded and otherwise modified to reflect the evolution and development of Appalachian homes. The Johnson farm represents what may be thought of as "middle class" life in the mountains, providing a significant contrast to log homes selectively preserved by Parkway planners, and breaking down the stereotypes often associated with mountain residents.

Natural history also abounds at the Peaks of Otter, an area that is representative of the hardwood forests common along the mid range elevations of the Parkway. The area is also home to rare plants and animal species and an extensive trail system offers visitors access to these areas. A hike to the top of Sharp Top, one of the three "peaks", along with Flat Top and Harkening Hill, is a long standing tradition dating back over a century. Overnight lodging and food service makes the Peaks especially attractive.

What attracts visitors today, abundant wildlife, the high mountains, cool summer temperatures, and diversity of natural resources, have made the Peaks of Otter a hunting destination for humans for 10,000 years and a destination for travelers for centuries. Newly developed exhibits in the visitor center convey this in more detail.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cedar Post Inn B&B - 1346 Reed Creek Rd. 8 mi. from Pkwy MP 63.7. 2 rooms w/ priv. bath, full breakfast, fish, hike, relax. www.cedarpostinn.com (434) 299-6327.

Days Inn - 921 Blue Ridge Ave, Bedford - MP 86. Spacious rooms, free breakfast, pet friendly, adjacent restaurant, seasonal pool, RV parking. (540) 586-8286.

Loft on Lawyers Row - 1840's era. Centertown Bedford building accommodates family of 5. Period decor, cable/Wi-Fi, full kitchen, fireplace, pet friendly. www.loftonlawyersrow.com (540) 874-4841.

Olde Liberty Station Restaurant - Your ticket for casual dining. 12 mi. from MP 86; Open 11-10 M-Th, 11-11 Fri, Noon-11 Sat., 1st Class Dining in beautifully restored train station. Great prices. (540) 587-9377.

Vanquility Acres Inn - Rt 43S 8 mi. to Rt 838. 10 acre farm, beautiful views of Blue Ridge Mountains, fishing, lake, AC, fireplaces, cable TV, WiFi, suites w/priv. baths, full breakfast. www.vanquilityacresinn.com (540) 587-9113.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Gross' Orchard & Apple Valley Homeplace - Vacation home rental. Open year-round. $75 per couple per night. Mountain grown fruit & produce. Bedford, VA. Rt. 43 in Apple Valley. U-pick or U-select. Apple Festival 3rd Sat. in Oct. (540) 586-2436.

85.9 **Peaks of Otter Area Visitor Center ? And Park Store** - 5,000 acres. Three Peaks-Sharp Top [El 3,875], Flat Top [El. 4,004], and Harkening Hill [El. 3,364]. Self-guided trail, historic farm interpretive programs. Picnic area, campground, restrooms.

85.9 **VA 43 Access Point** East to Bedford 10 miles and Smith Mountain Lake via VA 43 and VA 122.

Peaks of Otter Lodge - MP 86 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily from mid-April through November. Weekends December through early April. Restaurant, lounge. Shuttle to Sharp Top Mountain. www.peaksofotter.com (888) 454-7711.

91 **Bearwallow Gap**. VA 43 **Access Point**, 4 miles west to Buchanan. Alt. 2,258.

BUCHANAN, VA

4 mi. from Parkway Milepost 90.9. Downtown historic district with structures dating from 1750 - 1950. Shops filled with antiques, art, furniture & collectibles. Walk our Swinging Bridge or paddle the James River. www.townofbuchanan.com (540) 254-1212.

Middle Creek Campground - 1164 Middle Creek Rd. 7 miles from BRP MP 90. Beautiful mtn camping on the creek, food available, pool, fishing, swim pond, laundry, showers, ice cream. www.middlecreekcampground.com (540) 254-2550.

Wattstull Inn & Restaurant - AAA. Hilltop location with scenic views. 8 mi S of Natural Bridge. From Parkway exit via Rt. 43. Phones, TV, AC, pool. www.wattstullinn.net (540) 254-1551.

Blue Ridge Parkway Plateau Region:

Milepost 106, Roanoke, VA to Milepost 217, Virginia/North Carolina Border



105.8 **Access point Parkway and US 460**. 9 mi. southwest to Roanoke, VA. 21 mi. northeast to Bedford, Lynchburg and Appomattox, VA.

112.2 **Access point Parkway and VA 24.** 5 miles south to Roanoke. Nearest access to Smith Mountain Lake via VA. 24 & 122.

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA

500 miles of glistening shoreline. Year-round appeal, history & wine anytime, fish, boat, golf, dine, shop, stay. FREE Visitor's Guide: www.visitsmithmountainlake.com (540) 721-1203.

114.9 **Roanoke River Overlook.** Trail.

115 **Visitor Center at Explore Park.** Contains a gift shop featuring local artisan crafts and Parkway memorabilia, public restrooms, and a media center with videos on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Roanoke County's Explore Park - Just off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 115. Explore Park features hiking and biking trails, a gift shop and special events. www.explorepark.org

Mill Mountain Discovery Center - Located on top of Mill Mountain, exit Milepost 120.4. An environmental education and regional information center providing nature programs, hands-on exhibits, and visitor information. Open 6 days a week year round. (April-October: Monday-Saturday: 10am-4pm) (November-March: Monday-Saturday Noon-4pm). (540) 853-1236.

VINTON, VA

The Parkway - A Part of The Community. Convenient full service shopping, restaurants, festivals and events, farmers' market, history museum. www.vintonva.gov or (540) 983-0613.

MAP KEY:

- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

120.4 **Roanoke Mountain**. Day-use area, trails.

ROANOKE, VA

The Roanoke Valley and the neighboring scenic towns and counties - together known as Virginia's Blue Ridge - is the quintessential mountain destination. As the largest metropolitan region along the Blue Ridge Parkway, Virginia's Blue Ridge has so much to offer visitors. Endless choices for creative cuisine and more shopping than you can squeeze into a weekend are just the beginning. The vibrant arts and culture scene includes one-of-a-kind opportunities like the Taubman Museum of Art, the renovated Center in the Square, the Virginia Museum of Transportation and more. It's all surrounded by the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains, which means outdoor fun on the rivers, streams, lakes, trails and back roads. Get a bird's eye view of Virginia's Blue Ridge from the Roanoke Star and Overlook, featured on the cover, just off of Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 120. Then head to the Visitor Information Center, open daily 9am to 5pm, to plan a perfect Blue Ridge Day. Contact: Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, 101 Shenandoah Ave, Roanoke, VA 24016. www.VisitVBR.com or 800-635-5532 or 540-342-6025.

ATTRACTIONS

Virginia Museum of Transportation - Downtown Roanoke. Trains, antique vehicles, cars, model train layout, museum store. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. www.vmt.org (540) 342-5670.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Apple Valley Motel - US 220S. Exit Milepost 121. Cable TV, A/C, phones, spacious, clean rooms. Major credit cards accepted. 5063 Franklin Road, Roanoke, VA 24014. (540) 989-0675.

Bent Mountain Lodge B & B - MP 136. 10 suites all with priv. baths, 20 min. to Floyd, VA, 20 min. to Roanoke, VA. Non-smoking rooms, cont. breakfast. 15K sq. ft. lodge. Weddings. www.bentmountainlodgebedandbreakfast.com (540) 651-2500.

Best Western Plus Inn at Valley View - Complimentary continental breakfast, internet access, & free area transportation. Indoor pool & guest laundry. (540) 362-2400.

Cambria Suites Roanoke - 301 Reserve Avenue. 5.8 miles from Parkway MP 122. Oversized suites with superior amenities and free covered parking. (540) 400-6226.

Colony House Motor Lodge - 3560 Franklin Rd. Roanoke. 2 mi off Parkway on US 220. Suites available. HBO, ESPN, pool, Free Continental breakfast. Meeting room available. Shopping and good restaurants nearby. (540) 345-0411 or (866) 203-5850.

Comfort Inn Airport Hotel - Near Valley View Mall, pet friendly, smoke free, free WiFi, fitness center, free area transportation. (540) 527-2020.

Hampton Inn & Suites Roanoke - 6 mi. from BRP Milepost 121. 130 rooms, less than 1 mi. to Airport, walking distance to Valley View Mall. 220N/581N to exit 3E. (540) 366-6300.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT



The Booker T. Washington National Monument is located near Hardy, Virginia, in Franklin County. It preserves portions of the 207-acre tobacco farm on which educator and leader Booker T. Washington was born into slavery on April 18, 1856.

Begin your visit at the visitor center. Exhibits and an audio-visual presentation orient you to the life of Booker T. Washington. There is also a sales area with books and related items focusing on African American history. Uniformed park personnel and volunteers can answer your questions and assist you in making the most of your visit.

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway in Roanoke Via US 460 at Milepost 106 or Virginia Rt 24 at Milepost 112.2 east to Rt 122 south. Located at: 12130 Booker T Washington Hwy, Hardy, VA 24101
(540) 721-2094 • www.nps.gov/bowa

Holiday Inn Tanglewood - Roanoke, 4468 Starkey Rd., 2 mi. from MP 121. Best Views in the Valley. Renovated 2012. Micro, fridges, restaurant, lounge. (540) 774-4400.

King George Inn B&B - MP 120, 4 miles off Pkwy. L Franklin Rd, R King George Ave. Restored mansion in historic district. Walk to restaurants. www.KingGeorgeInnBandB.com (757) 675-4034.

MainStay Suites Airport - Near Valley View Mall. Hot breakfast, pet friendly, free WiFi, fitness center, guest laundry, free area transportation. (540) 527-3030.

Roanoker Restaurant - Est.1941. Homestyle breakfast - lunch - dinner. Fresh veg, breads, salad, sandwiches, seafood. Daily specials. Reasonable prices. To-go shop. Child menu. Open Tues-Sunday. Exit Milepost 121 onto 220N to I-581, exit Wonju St., left on Colonial Ave. 7 miles from Parkway. (540) 344-7746.

Shirley's Bed and Breakfast - Roanoke, VA. MP 115 at Explore Park, easy Parkway access. Luxurious rooms, exceptional breakfast, pool, wine. Owners LOVE to host guests from near and far. www.shirleysbandb.com (540) 589-5600.

Super 8 Daleville - I-81 exit 150B, 11.9 mi. from Pkwy MP 106. Within minutes of the best historic and natural attractions in Southwestern Virginia. (540) 992-3000.

121.4 **Access point Parkway and US 220**, 5 mi. north to Roanoke. 5 mi. south to Boones Mill. 21 mi. to Rocky Mount, 45 mi. to Martinsville. Smith Mountain Lake by way of US 220 to Rocky Mount and Va. Rte. 40.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, VA

Nestled amid Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Franklin County boasts communities that continue to value their farms, forests, waterways and cultural heritage. Discover the area's musical heritage, artisan treasures, outdoor adventures and cultural/historic attractions. Franklin County Tourism www.visitfranklincountyva.org (540) 483-3030.

129.6 **Roanoke Valley Parkway Overlook**. Fine view of Roanoke.

144 **Devils Backbone Parking Overlook**. Fine view.

144.8 **Pine Spur Parking Overlook.** Named for the pine which is the tree depicted on Parkway emblem. Alt. 2,703.

154.5 **Smart View**. 500 acres, hiking trails, large picnic grounds, comfort stations, drinking water. The cabin home of T.T. Trail is picturesque.

FREE DOWNLOAD: Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App. Includes maps & works even without cell reception!

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VA

Enter Montgomery County, VA 21 miles from MP 165.2 via Rt 8 North. www.visit.yesmontgomeryva.org (540) 394-2120 ext. 4225.

The Oaks Victorian Inn - 311 East Main St. in Christiansburg, VA. Award winning Four Diamond Select Registry B&B. www.theoaksvictorianinn.com (540) 381-1500.

Quality Inn - Exit 118C of I-81, 20 miles from Parkway. Next to Cracker Barrel. Free breakfast & internet. Seasonal pool. (540) 382-2055 or (800) 4CHOICE.

RADFORD, VA

Radford Visitor's Center - Rt 8 to I-81, Exit 109. "Find it in Radford" - Mary Draper Ingles statue, outdoor play and other sites. Easy access to the New River for tubing, fishing & kayaking. Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery. Radford University planetarium, College of Visual & Performing Arts series and Highlander athletics. Crooked Road Affiliated Venue, Monday evening Fiddle & Banjo Jam. www.VisitRadford.com (540) 267-3153.

? DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway includes access to Mt. Mitchell, tallest peak east of the Mississippi at 6,683 feet.

Franklin County, VA

Contact

Franklin County
Division of Tourism & Film
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
(540) 483-3030



VisitFranklinCountyVa.com

Our namesake could not have said it any better. Franklin County abounds in great things worth the doing – all within reach of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Just image a land with two lakes and four rivers among the rolling foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. To that add a heavy dose of heritage and culture.

Outdoors worth doing: Bike and hike our scenic trails and byways, including the parkway's Smart View Recreation Area, nature preserves and wildlife management areas. Paddle, boat, fish, and experience our four rivers and two lakes (Philpott and Smith Mountain). No Franklin County journey is complete without a visit to the Booker T. Washington National Monument and the Blue Ridge Institute & Farm Museum at Ferrum College.

Culture worth doing: We are the front door to The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail and home to the Harvester Performance Center. Experience local arts, crafts, and cultural vibrancy of the towns of Boones Mill and Rocky Mount. Savor the flavor of fresh farm produce, fine dining, and home cooked meals, paired with local brews and spirits. Do things worth the writing in Franklin County.

"… do things worth the writing" – Ben Franklin

FERRUM, VA

East of Parkway via Rts. 640 & 602, exit Milepost 152 or via Rts 860 & 40, exit Milepost 159.

Blue Ridge Farm Museum - Route 40. 1800 VA-GR farm complex w/ livestock & interpreters of farm life. Mid-May - Mid-August Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5. www.blueridgeinstitute.org (540) 365-4416.

Blue Ridge Institute and Museum - Route 40. State Center for Blue Ridge Folklore. Changing exhibits on folk life and folk art. Mon-Sat 10-4 www.blueridgeinstitute.org (540) 365-4416.

165.3 **Tuggle Gap.** VA. Rt. 8 **Access Point.** East 6 mi. to Woolwine, VA; 16 mi. to Fairy Stone State Park. Swimming, boating, picnicking. North 6 mi. to Floyd, 20 mi. to Christiansburg.

? DID YOU KNOW?

WATCH THE WEATHER!

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a place of extremes, varying greatly in elevation, ecosystems, and climatic conditions. Weather changes can occur rapidly, so be prepared when clouds roll in. Watching the weather while standing at a Parkway overlook can be a grand and interesting experience.

FLOYD, VA & FLOYD COUNTY

At MP 165, take Route 8 six miles to vibrant downtown Floyd. Enjoy a unique blend of new and heritage music, arts, shops, restaurants and spirits, with hiking & biking along 40 miles of the Parkway (MP 137-175); historic rock churches and heritage sites. www.VisitFloydVa.com (540) 239-8509.

ATTRACTIONS

Chateau Morrisette - Milepost 171.5. West on Black Ridge Rd, left on Winery Rd. Timber-frame winery with spectacular view. Year-round tours, tasting, shop, Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch & dinner. Check website for hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com (540) 593-2865.

Floyd Center for the Arts (formerly The Jacksonville Center) - 220 Parkway Ln (Rt. 8). From MP 165, go N on Rt. 8 for 5.5 mi. Galleries, studios, gift shop, classes & more. www.floydartcenter.org (866) 787-8806.

Riverstone Organic Farm - 708 Thompson Road, Floyd, VA. 3 miles from Parkway MP 150. Certified Organic working farm with vegetable and livestock. Walking paths, riverside picnic area and farm store with local produce and gifts. Workshops, events and tours listed at www.riverstoneorganicfarm.com.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Ambrosia Farm B&B and Pottery - 5 mi West of MP 171.5. Historic log-built inn, fireplaces, WiFi, lovely views, porches, wineries nearby, pottery studio. 271 Cox Store Rd, Floyd VA. www.ambrosiafarm.net (540) 745-6363.

Floyd County, VA

Contact

Floyd County Visitor Center
109 East Main St.
Floyd, VA 24091



540-745-4407
www.VisitFloydVA.com

Running on Floyd Time… Floyd is as much a state of mind as it is a destination.

Floyd County is a haven of natural beauty renowned for our hospitality and for a vibrant culture of music, arts, local foods, wines and spirits, and outdoor adventure.

Along our 40 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, explore the historic Mabry Mill, Rocky Knob, Smartview, and Rock Castle Gorge National Recreation Area.

At Milepost 165, head to the Town of Floyd, a key stop on The Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail – with our celebrated Friday Night Jamboree when streets overflow with musicians. Also enjoy live music from Thursday to Sunday.

Shop, dine, wine, explore at venues throughout the county. Hike to the panoramic view atop Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve or kayak along the Little River. Let our history take you back to a simpler time of old mills and stone churches. You just may need to stay awhile – and a variety of unique lodging awaits you.

The colorful Town of Floyd is 6 miles east of the Parkway. Take VA 8 at Milepost 165.

Bella La Vita Inn B&B - 1.7 mi west of BRP between MP 161-162. Extraordinary affordable accommodations. (540) 745-2541. www.bellalavitainn.com

Chantilly Farm Campground - Full hookups, water, sewer and electric or tent camp. 2697 Franklin Pike, Floyd VA 24091. www.chantillyfarm.com (540) 808-4984.

Chestnut Ridge Farm - Cozy 3BR, 1BA farmhouse at MP 152. Porch rockers, farm animals, mtn. views, peaceful, stars galore! Pets OK. www.chestnutridgefarm.net (540) 493-8372.

The Floyd Country Store - Downtown Floyd, VA. Traditional music & dancing, country food & shopping. (540) 745-4563 www.FloydCountryStore.com.

Hotel Floyd - 300 Rick Lewis Way. Downtown Floyd, 6 mi. off MP 165.2. Green hotel, 40 unique rooms themed after Floyd's character. Pet friendly rooms available! www.hotelfloyd.com (540) 745-6080.

Little River B&B - 3 miles from downtown Floyd, VA. Scenic views, delectable breakfast. MP 164, Rt. 8. (540) 745-4598. www.little-river-bedandbreakfast.com

Oak Haven Lodge - Comfortable, affordable, overnight accommodations. 7 mi. from MP 164 on Route 8. Lovely 12-room lodge. www.oakhavenlodge.com (540) 745-5716.

Pine Tavern Lodge - Est. 1927. 1 1/2 mi. from stoplight on US 221 N. Nicely furnished rooms & 1 cottage. Open year-round. (540) 745-4428.

Stonewall Bed & Breakfast - Spacious three-level log home set in a native mountain forest. We specialize in country hospitality and provide a country experience in the down home B&B style. MP 159.3. www.stonewallbed.com (540) 745-2861.

Stoney Meadow Inn B&B - 0.6 mi. from MP 152. Spacious rms, WiFi, excellent food. 25 acre farm w/ animals. M/C, Visa, Discover. www.stoneymeadowinn.com (877) 344-1088.

Tuggles Gap Restaurant & Motel - Great restaurant, clean affordable lodging, hot coffee, gas, ice. Floyd County, VA. www.tugglesgap.biz (540) 745-3402.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Green Label Organic Outlet Store - 210 W. Oxford St. Fun organic clothing with a point of view. USA made. Locally made gift items. Behind Food Lion to the right. www.greenlabelorganic.com

Harvest Moon Food Store - Offering a unique array of gourmet and health foods, supplements, gifts, toiletries, wine and beer. Supporting over 30 local producers with selections of local and organic produce, meats, wine, cheese, eggs and fresh bread. Floyd, VA. www.harvestmoonfoods.com (540) 745-4366.

Wrenn Pottery - Functional porcelain pottery for home & table. Gallery open. Airbnb: Potter's Parkway Pitstop Apartment too. 227 Remington Rd. SE, Floyd, VA. www.wrennpottery.com (704) 562-9825.

Patrick County, VA

Contact

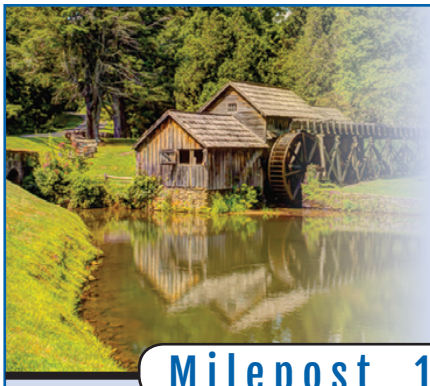
Patrick County Tourism
106 Rucker St.
Stuart, VA 24171



276-694-6094
www.visitpatrickcounty.org

Eat, Shop, Play, and Stay! Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, Patrick County is a jewel of a destination, offering activities for the whole family. Drive the Blue Ridge Parkway, tap your toes to traditional mountain music along the Crooked Road Music Trail, tour our wineries—Stanburn and Villa Appalaccia. Enjoy a sun-filled day at the Fairy Stone State Park, the Gordon Trent Golf Course, or one of our eight annual festivals. History buffs can browse our local museum, visit Jack's Creek Covered Bridge, tour our stone churches, step into the Victorian era at the Reynolds Homestead or at the Civil War Reenactment at Laurel Hill, the birthplace of Gen. J.E.B. Stuart. A variety of restaurants and local stores awaits you. And after a long day, relax in luxury at our 5 star Primland Resort, settle in at one of our cabins in the country or a locally owned bed and breakfast.

Experience the Simple Life in Patrick County, Virginia!



MABRY MILL & ROCKY KNOB

Milepost 176.2

The cultural sites, facilities, and adjacent farms throughout the Rocky Knob area speak of a settled and ancient landscape. Farming has been a way of life in this part of Virginia for generations, and continues here where a drive off the Parkway into crossroads communities will demonstrate. You will also be rewarded with great views as well!

Travelers see the daily patterns of life on the high plateau at Puckett's Cabin, and, of course, at Mabry Mill. The Parkway has played a significant role in influencing change in the area. Seeing how people have interacted with the landscape over time is fascinating for those who slow down and experience the pace of life on or off the Parkway. The rural countryside experience is a delight, whether during the rosebay rhododendron bloom in late June, or during the fall harvest and foliage display along the plateau around mid-October.

Ed and Lizzy Mabry's gristmill is over a century old and graces the pages of countless calendars and postcards. It is arguably the most picturesque spot on the entire Blue Ridge Parkway. Ed built this mill and the Mabrys ground corn for their neighbors for three decades, creating a community gathering place for the folks who called Meadows of Dan home. Although the mill itself is the focal point of the area, visitors are reminded that Ed Mabry was talented in many other areas as well, adding a wheelwright shop, sawmill and blacksmith shop to his enterprise in addition to a two-story frame house. Parkway designers of the 1930s preferred the look of rustic cabins and dismantled the Mabry's home in favor of bringing in the Matthews' log cabin from nearby.

Cultural history demonstrations are offered in summer and fall. The sights and sounds of rural life in Appalachia, community, mountain industry, and the change from an agricultural to an industrial society resonate from this place on a regular basis during the summer season.

Rangers and volunteers staff Matthew's Cabin in the visitor season, often carding, spinning and making baskets while orienting visitors to the area. Blacksmith demonstrations are presented several days weekly in the blacksmith shop. On weekends in October, visitors delight at the sight and smells of apple butter made over an open fire. This is one of the most popular gathering places anywhere on the Parkway. Old time music has filled the air here for decades on Sunday afternoons. Flat-footing is encouraged!

A network of trails through the 3,500 acre Rock Castle Gorge, just a few miles north, offers access to some of the most botanically diverse areas of the Parkway. Trails into the Gorge are accessible from several points, including the Rocky Knob campground, located at Milepost 167.

167 **Rocky Knob,** 4,800 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, campground, 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

169 **Rocky Knob Visitor Center ? and Park Store** - 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

Pickett's Thickett - Milepost 170.4. 2 houses on 95 acres. 3 BR & 4 BR, AC, pond, fully equipped, very private. Near 2 wineries & Mabry Mill. Call (336) 292-0999.

WOOLWINE, VA

Located 6 miles east of Parkway, via Rt. 8.

Mountain Rose Inn - Rt 8 MP 165/ 6 mi. South to Rt 40. Left 1.5 mi. Award-winning southern B&B circa 1901. 5 large rooms w/ensuite, A/C, antiques, fireplaces, porches. Pool, trout stream, private 100 acres with walking path. Gourmet 3-course breakfast. www.mountainrose-inn.com (888) 930-1057.

WILLIS, VA

9 miles west of Parkway on Rt. 799, exit at MP 174.

Buffalo Mountain Getaway - There's no place like home, except here. Visit our website to see all of our properties. www.buffalomountaingetaway.com (540) 789-8335.

Cabins Off The Parkway - 579 Halls Store Rd, Willis VA. MP 174. 1 & 3 bedrooms with scenic views, 5 star reviews, disc golf 2017. www.cabinsofftheparkway.com (704) 807-1886.

Daddy Rabbit's Campground - Milepost 174, 4 miles west on 799 to 727. Camping cabins, tents, full hookups, metered LP gas, hot showers, laundry. Open April 15-Nov. 1. (540) 789-4150.

Mountain Song Inn - Beautiful rural retreat just 15 miles from MP 174. Fantastic view and 4 course breakfast, must see! 5 stars on TripAdvisor. www.mountainsonginn.com (540) 789-3000.

176.2 **Mabry Mill.** Self-guiding, features restored mill and exhibits on rural life in Appalachia.



Puckett Cabin | Photo by Vicki Dameron

MEADOWS OF DAN, VA

Just off Parkway on US 58, exit at Milepost 177.7.

ATTRACTIONS

Chateau Morrisette - Milepost 171.5. West on Black Ridge Rd, left on Winery Rd. Timber-frame winery with spectacular view. Year-round tours, tasting, shop, Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch & dinner. Check website for hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com (540) 593-2865.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

A Blue Ridge Cabin - Cozy, fully equipped log cabin, private, sleeps 7. 1.5 mi. from MP 177.7. Fireplace, peaceful deck, & onsite café. www.ablueridgecabin.com (276) 293-1233.

Blue Ridge Motel - Adjct Parkway. 75 yds West on US 58 MP 177.7. Sat. TV, elect. heat, AC, carpet, tubs & showers. Low rates, WiFi. Clean and quiet. VISA-MC. Open all year. (276) 952-2244.

Mabry Mill Restaurant & Gift Shop - Country-style menu. Famous sweet potato, cornmeal and buckwheat pancakes. Breakfast all day. Lunch/dinner entrees. Virginia crafts and souvenirs. May-Oct. www.mabrymillrestaurant.com (276) 952-2947.

Mayberry Mountain Meadows - 1340 Mayberry Church Rd. MP 180. 2BR suites/priv baths, farmhouse, 2BR lake cabin, dog friendly, private lake. E-mail annsvernon@gmail.com.

Meadows of Dan Campground - US Bus. 58W & BR Pkwy. MP 177.7. Clean-Quiet-Peaceful. At 3,000 ft. Full hookups, bathhouse, dump stat. Separate wooded tent area. Pets on leash-CG only. Furnished cozy or luxury log cabin rentals, some w/ whirlpools & gas log fireplaces. No pets in cabins. Open year round. www.meadowsofdancampground.com (866) 952-2292.

Meadows of Dan River Walk Cabins - 2 miles east of MP 177 BRP on Hwy 58. Peaceful mountain retreat with extraordinary cabins. www.meadowsofdanriverwalkcabins.com

Poor Farmers Secluded Cabin Rentals & Country Store - Best place to stay. Farmers market, Marathon gas, deli, unique gifts, open all year. MP 177, jct Hwy 58, Meadows of Dan. Poor Farmers Market on Facebook. E-mail fshelor@swva.net (276) 952-5697.

Primland Resort - Meadows of Dan, VA. 4 miles from Parkway MP 177. Luxury lodge, cottages, spa, golf, wing shooting, fly fishing, sporting clays, horseback riding. Casual and fine dining. One of a kind observatory. www.primland.com (866) 960-7746.

Woodberry Inn - MP 174.1 - 16 lovely rooms, full service restaurant and bar. Clean and peaceful. Open all year. www.woodberryinn.com (540) 593-2567.

SHOPPING

Granatelli Pottery - 1/2 mile east of BRP at MP 171.7, 1145 Rock Church Rd, Meadows of Dan, VA. Porcelain ware. www.SilvieGranatelli.com (540) 593-6091.

Poor Farmers Farm - An old fashioned Country Store. 5 miles E. on US 58 (not business 58) from Parkway MP 177.7. www.poorfarmersfarm.net (276) 952-2560.

Martinsville - Henry County, VA

Contact

Martinsville-Henry
County Visitor Center
191 Fayette St • Martinsville, VA 24112
Parking and Convenient
Access Available on Moss Street



1-888-722-3498
VisitMartinsville.com

Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Southern Virginia, Martinsville-Henry County, Virginia has plenty of activities available to guarantee that you have fun in record time. Visit the trout-filled Smith River, scenic Philpott Lake, and the Smith River Trail System. Experience heart-pounding racing at NASCAR's most historic track: Martinsville Speedway. Explore the arts and culture that our area has to offer from the Smithsonian-affiliated Virginia Museum of Natural History to numerous sites along the Smith River Artisan Trail. With its beautiful location and rich history, Martinsville-Henry County is the perfect destination for your next getaway!

Stop by the state-certified Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center for personalized service, maps, area information, coupons and a selection of unique souvenirs. Open Tuesday-Friday 9am to 5pm, Saturday 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm and Sundays 1pm to 5pm.

Experience Fun in Record Time - just 30 minutes from MP 177.7.

177.7 **US 58 Access point.** 22 mi. west to Hillsville. East to Stuart, Martinsville, and Danville.

PATRICK COUNTY, VA

Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains where natural beauty, outdoor recreation and history blend. For more information on accommodations and events: Patrick County Tourism Division, PO Box 466, Stuart, VA 24171 or econdev@co.patrick.va.us or visit us at: www.visitpatrickcounty.com (276) 694-8367.

Virginian Motel - 105 W. Blue Ridge St., Stuart VA. 1/4 mi. from Pkwy. Newly renovated rooms, in the center of town, several shops within walking distance. (276) 694-4244.

MARTINSVILLE, VA

40 miles east of Parkway MP 177.7 on US 58. Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center, 191 Fayette St. History, art, recreation, & more. Fun in Record Time! www.VisitMartinsville.com (888) 722-3498.

188.8 **Groundhog Mountain Parking Overlook**, high point affording 360 degree view. Observation tower. Examples of various types of old chestnut rail fences. Picnic area, Comfort station. Alt. 3,030.

189.9 **Puckett Cabin** home of Orleana Hawks Puckett, storied local midwife. Alt. 2,850.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 176 bridges on the Parkway, which makes up 10% of all National Park Service bridges.

CARROLL COUNTY, VA

In the heart of the Blue Ridge Plateau, in the middle of VA's famous Crooked Road, and known for scenic mountain vistas plus mountain views and streams. Hiking, fishing, golfing, canoeing, bird-watching, flea markets, gun shows, mountain music and annual festivals are just a few of our many attractions. Our Visitor Center is located at Exit 14 off I-77 only 10 miles from the BRP at Fancy Gap. Contact: Carroll County Tourism, 239 Farmers Market Drive, Hillsville, VA 24343, www.VisitTheBlueRidge.com (276) 730-3100.

Doe Run Resort - 200 yards from Parkway. MP 189.5. Wedding venue, conference center, restaurant. www.doerunresort.com (276) 398-4099.

Lake Ridge RV Resort - 8736 Double Cabin Rd. Hillsville. Best kept secret in VA! We offer cabin rentals, RV & tent camping. Enjoy our new waterslides, pools, mini golf, paddle boats, catch & release fishing and much more! www.LakeRidgeRV.com (276) 766-3703.

199.4 **Fancy Gap**, US 52 **Access point**, 8 mi. north to Hillsville, VA, 1.5 miles to I-77, 20 mi. to Wytheville, VA, 33 mi. to Pulaski, VA, 14 mi. south to Mt. Airy, NC. Alt 2,920.

Mount Airy, NC

Contact

Mount Airy Visitors Center &
Chamber of Commerce
200 N. Main Street
Mount Airy NC 27030
Open 7 Days a Week



800-948-0949
visitmayberry.com

Mount Airy is part of the Yadkin Valley Wine Region, home to over 35 wineries!

Mount Airy captures the spirit of small town Mayberry with friendly people, great food, and a peaceful, scenic setting. We have Mayberry attractions, as well as great music and entertainment, shopping, dining, wineries, and accommodations - hotels, cabins, b&bs, and campgrounds. Mayberry attractions include the Andy Griffith Museum, a statue of Andy and Opie, Squad Car Tours, Wally's Service Station, and Floyd's Barbershop.

Shop and dine in Downtown Mount Airy and enjoy wine tastings at Old North State Winery. Visit the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History. Enjoy weekly bluegrass and old-time music & jam sessions at the Earle Theatre, as well as a new Blue Ridge & Beyond music series & a Summer Concert Series at the Blackmon Amphitheatre.

Only 15-minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway - take the parkway exit at Milepost 199.5, and travel on Highway 52 S, 12 miles south of Fancy Gap, VA.

Mount Airy, NC: Mountains, Music, Mayberry, Merlot
Visit Andy Griffith's hometown, the inspiration for Mayberry on "The Andy Griffith Show"

HILLSVILLE, VA

Historic Hillsville Virginia, state and national historic district, Preserve America Community, site of the 1912 Courthouse Shootout, eateries and shops www.townofhillsville.com (276) 728-2128.

The Gap Deli at the Parkway - US 52 & MP 199.5. Homemade soup, sandwiches, salads & desserts. Open daily with seasonal hours. (276) 728-3881.

FANCY GAP, VA

Exit Parkway at MP 199.5. Hwy 52. I-77 Exit #8.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Fancy Gap Cabins and Campground - Picturesque, quiet, family-owned property directly on Parkway. RV, tent camping, cabins & motel rooms. Come enjoy the fresh mtn. air. MP 202.5. Motorcycles, bicycles welcome. Free WiFi. www.fancygapcabinsandcampground.com (484) 560-9119.

Grassy Creek Cabooses - Refurbished RR cabooses w/2 person Jacuzzi's, satellite TV, decks, great views. Just 1.5 mi. off BRP at MP 193.5. Open year round. Call (276) 398-1100.

Lonesome Pine Cabins - These authentic log cabins of yesteryear, with views for miles, with in-room Jacuzzi & fireplace, are ideal for your relaxation. Located between Milepost 193 & 194 Blue Ridge Parkway. Open year round. www.lonesomepinecabins.net (276) 398-3332.

Mountain Top Motel - MP 200 at Rt 52, half way point along Parkway, restaurant, gas across street, clean rooms, wireless internet, DIRECTV w/ 200 ch. (276) 728-9414.

Snow Mountain Properties - Cabins along the Parkway, sleep 2-13 ppl, some w/ amazing views, others w/total privacy, some units pet friendly. www.snowmountainproperties.com (276) 398-3535.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Mountain Star Gallery - Located at the Fancy Gap exit next to the Parkway MP 199.5, fine artisan crafts and handmade pottery. www.mountainstargallery.com (276) 728-3359.

Skyland Lakes Golf Club - Milepost 202.2 at Rt. 608, bordering Parkway. Public 18-hole golf course around mountains and lakes. Accommodations available. (276) 728-4923.

Treasure Potts Antique and Garden Shoppes - Int. of Hwy. 52 and BRP at MP 199.5. Period furniture, pottery, clocks, lamps, china. Plants and garden accessories. (276) 728-3880. www.treasurepotts.com

? DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway was designed as a recreational motor road, connecting Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks.

Surry County, NC • Yadkin Valley • Wine Country

Contact

Milepost 229 Hwy 21 to Elkin and
Mile Post 199.5 Hwy 52 South



800-948-0949
www.yadkinvalleync.com

**Elkin – Mount Airy –
Dobson – Pilot Mountain**

Whether you enjoy walking, biking, paddling or relaxing with a Yadkin Valley wine—Surry and the Yadkin Valley have it all! It's our very gracious, very spirited and festive nature that makes Surry a delightful place to visit for a day or two or more. From Mayberry to Merlot...from cruise-ins to mandolins...from scenic wonder...to wonderful dining, Surry is a rich blend of Southern pleasures.

Visit one of over 30 Yadkin Valley wineries and savor the rich history of our region.

Parkways, Greenways, Blueways
and Chardonnays.... Very Surry has it all!!

the Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is literally the "Backbone" of a great scenic mountain region embracing the Southern (and highest) portion of the Appalachian mountain range, an area of approximately 20,000 square miles. Opening up vast mountain areas for the benefit and enjoyment of all, the Parkway forms a broad avenue of approach, and at the same time a high balcony from which to view the natural wonders and cultural significance of this mountain region.

This great 469-mile scenic Parkway follows closely the highest ridges between the Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, attaining altitudes of more than 6,000 feet and averaging between 3,000 and 4,000 feet. It is designed especially for leisurely enjoyment of the scenic wonders along the way—a high road of adventure intended for leisure travel on the ride-awhile, stop-awhile basis. The numerous overlooks provide parking areas from which to enjoy some of America's finest scenic views.

You may enter or leave the Parkway at any of the US or State highway intersections. These intersecting roads lead to scores of towns, mountain resorts, and scenic areas close to the Parkway on either side, where accommodations, meals and service stations are available. The ✪ symbol on the 6 sectional maps will help you easily identify these Parkway entrances/ exits. We have also shown on the six detailed section maps, the approximate location of every tenth Milepost.





This directory is designed to help you select accommodations and to enjoy to the fullest the scenic attractions along the Parkway. There is a numbered Milepost each mile along the Parkway. You will note in this directory in bold type, the mileage which will correspond with the Mileposts.

The wondrous profusion of mountain flowers in spring and early summer, the high altitude coolness of the forest-clad mountains in summer, and the glorious coloring of these mountains in autumn provide an everchanging appeal.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is open 365 days a year, weather permitting. Sometimes road repair is undertaken in the winter months and detours are posted. The Parkway is not plowed or salted in the winter so, after snow or ice events, portions may be closed until the weather warms and makes the roadway safe for travel again.

You can visit: go.nps.gov/brp-map or call the Parkway's recorded information line at 828-298-0398 to access road condition information.



Milepost 213

BLUE RIDGE MUSIC CENTER

The sounds of the fiddle, banjo, and guitar are likely to welcome you when you visit the Blue Ridge Music Center that straddles the North Carolina/ Virginia border. As part of Virginia's Heritage Music Trail:The Crooked Road and the Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina, some of the region's finest traditional music can be heard on weekends at the outdoor amphitheater late May through October. Weekdays, visitors are welcome to a front porch experience with local musicians on the breezeway.

The Blue Ridge Music Center is managed cooperatively by the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation with a mission to share traditional music and the bounty of our mountains with visitors. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1985, the site includes an outdoor amphitheater, indoor theater, and interpretive center, and gift shop. The Roots of American Music exhibit gives insight to the history and culture of regional music traditions. Trails are accessible from the parking lot including a Kids in Parks TRACK Trail which offers a special hiking experience to children of all ages.

Music seems to be a natural part of these mountains – practically inseparable from those who call this special place home. Nowhere is that heritage felt more strongly than here on the banks of Chestnut Creek and in the shadow of Fisher Peak. The people of these mountains have created and kept alive some of the richest traditions of folk music and dance in our nation, much of it being commercially recorded in the 1920s and 1930s. The region is nationally recognized as a center of traditional Blue Ridge Music. Music here arises from diverse ethnic groups, European and African, and has evolved over generations into distinct styles with distinct identities. It reflects community, personal values, and cultural connections to the wider world.

Admission is free, so relax, enjoy the music, the concerts, and the experience at the Blue Ridge Music Center, a place near to heart of America and its music. www.blueridgemusiccenter.org

MT. AIRY, NC

Exit Parkway at Milepost 199.5, Hwy 52 South. 12 miles south of Fancy Gap, VA. Visit Andy Griffith's hometown and inspiration for the fictional town of "Mayberry." Visit the Andy Griffith Collection, squad car tours, regional museum, Floyd's Barbershop, Wally Service Station, historic downtown, Andy Griffith Playhouse & homeplace, Pilot Mountain State Park, historic homes & the world's largest open-face granite quarry. Bluegrass shows/jams weekly. (800) 948-0949 or www.visitmayberry.com for visitor information.

Comfort Inn Mount Airy - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74, exit 11 to US 601 North. 2 miles take 52 Bypass South, at first light left. www.mountairyhotel.com Call (336) 783-0008, (877) 424-6423.

Hampton Inn - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74 exit 11 to US 601 North. Left at stoplight 1 1/2 mile on right. Award winning hotel! www.mountairy.hamptoninn.com (336) 789-5999, (800) 565-5249.

Knights Inn - Exit 100 off I-77. Right (Hwy 89 East), 6 miles straight, right on 52 Bypass North, 1/2 mile on left. www.KnightsInn.com (336) 786-8387, (800) 843-5644.

SURRY COUNTY, NC

Surry NC, S of the Parkway on Hwys. 21, 18, 89 and 52. Lodging, restaurants, shopping, wineries, outdoor recreation, and more! www.verysurry.com (877) 999-8390.

DOBSON, NC

A small community is in the heart of North Carolina Wine Country and home to some of NC's premier wineries. Exit Parkway at MP 199.7 to I-77S exit 93. For more information visit: www.dobson-nc.com or call (336) 356-8962.

Hampton Inn & Suites - MP 119.5 US 52 to I-77 S exit 93. Wine bar, indoor pool, exercise room, hot breakfast, meeting rooms. www.hamptoninn.com (336) 353-9400.

Shelton Vineyards and Harvest Grill - 199.5 US 52 to I-77S to NC exit 93 and follow the signs. Estate winery, offering tours and tastings daily. Restaurant serving lunch and dinner Mon-Sat, lunch on Sun. www.sheltonvineyards.com (336) 366-4724.



Parkway in Virginia | Photo by Jeff Greenberg

PILOT MOUNTAIN, NC

10 miles south of Mt. Airy, via US 52.

Pilot Knob Inn - Tobacco barn cabins & Honeymoon suites, whirlpools, fireplaces on 100+ acres, lake with boating & fishing, Pilot Mtn 1 mile off Hwy 52. Full breakfast & sauna. www.pilotknobinn.com (336) 325-2502.

PINNACLE, NC

Exit at MP 199, via US 52 S, 5 miles SSE of the town of Pilot Mountain, near Pilot Mountain State Park.

Jomeokee Park - 30 mi. off Parkway on US 52. Quiet & peaceful. Tent camping & 20/30 amp sites. Gorgeous view of Pilot Mtn. Apr.-Nov. www.jomeokee.net (336) 325-2296.

213 **Blue Ridge Music Center** - Visitor Center and Park Store. Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled seasonal performances (June-September) of old-time and bluegrass music. (276) 236-5309. Open Daily Summer-October. Visit www.blueridgemusiccenter.org for concert schedule.

215.8 **VA 89 Access point.** 7 mi. North to Galax.

SMYTH COUNTY, VA

"Mountains of Possibilities" include: outdoor recreation, great motorcycle trails, history & heritage, music & arts, museums & shopping, events & festivals, and beautiful scenery. www.visitvirginiamountains.com (877) 255-9928.

A PLACE OF BEAUTY – A PLACE OF SONG...

This is The Crooked Road.

The Crooked Road is Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, a 300 mile driving route through the Appalachian Mountains from the Blue Ridge to the Coalfields region, following U.S. Route 58. The trail connects major heritage music venues in the region such as the Blue Ridge Music Center, Birthplace of Country Music Alliance, and the Carter Family Fold. The traditional gospel, bluegrass, and mountain music heard today was passed down from the generations and lives on through a wealth of musicians and instrument makers along the trail. Annual festivals, weekly concerts, live radio shows, and informal jam sessions abound throughout the region. A variety of handcrafted woodwork, weaving, and pottery can be found in country stores and small workshops. Numerous opportunities for outdoor activities, from hiking, biking, fishing and boating are also available.

For more information:
(276) 492-2409
www.thecrookedroad.org | www.mtnsofmusic.com

Welcome to Dobson

Birthplace of the Yadkin Valley AVA

Contact

Dobson can be reached off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 199.7 to I-77S exit 93.



336-356-8962
www.dobson-nc.com

Founded in 1850, Dobson is the county seat of Surry County North Carolina and is nestled right in the heart of North Carolina Wine Country. Small and inviting, Dobson offers lots of nice area attractions for visitors looking for a laid back and relaxing getaway.

While in Dobson visitors will want to visit the historic downtown, centered on the courthouse square, and explore the various dining options in the area ranging from fine dining to family owned restaurants. Dobson is also home to some of NC's premier wineries with each of those wineries offering their own unique wines and experiences to all customers; a day in itself can be used to leisurely travel to all of these wineries. There are also two hotels, camping areas and cabin rentals offering a variety of unique accommodations to travelers.

Dobson also has many offerings for those wanting to be outdoors. With beautiful views and mountain vistas visitors are encouraged to enjoy hiking, canoeing, fishing, picnicking and playing at local parks & numerous other outdoor activities while in the Dobson area.

Dobson is also home to some of NC's premier wineries with each of those wineries offering their own unique wines and experiences to all customers.

ABINGDON, VA

Off Interstate 81, Exits 14, 17, 19.

Barter Theatre - Professional Live Theatre - Unleash your imagination with two unique stages and endless adventures. Abingdon, VA - I-81 exit 17. Call (276) 628-3991 & visit www.bartertheatre.com

The Crooked Road - Virginia's Heritage Music Trail. Visit the place where America's Music was born...and lives on. www.thecrookedroad.org (276) 492-2409.

BRISTOL, VA / TN

Located on I-81 at the Tennessee/Virginia state line.

Birthplace of Country Music Museum - A Smithsonian Institution affiliate, tells the story of the 1927 Bristol Sessions and its continued impact on music today. (423) 573-1927. www.birthplaceofcountrymusic.org

Bristol Caverns - 5 miles southeast of Bristol on US 421. Only 8 miles from I-81 Exit 3. A journey through the caverns will take you through millions of years of timeless beauty. Largest and most beautiful in Smoky Mountain region. Open daily. (423) 878-2011.

GALAX, VA

Exit 215, just 7 miles north on Rt 89. Live radio show each Friday night from the Rex Theater. Downtown shops, area museum, New River Trail, August Old Fiddler's Convention, Crooked Road Historic Music Trail. www.visitgalax.com (276) 238-8130.

City Gallery Fine Art - 207 S Main St - 7 mi from Pkwy. A n o now co-op of regional artists & fine crafts with members from southwestern VA & northwestern NC. www.citygallerygalax.com (276) 236-8338.

Cool Breeze Campground - MP 215 3/4 mile N on Rt. 89. Left on Edmonds Rd #613, 2.5 miles on Right. Full hook-ups, big rig friendly, bathhouse, laundry, Rally Center. Clubs welcome. Free Wi-fi & pet friendly. Open year round. www.coolbreezecampground.com (276) 236-0300.

Blue Ridge Travel Association - ***Free travel guide of the attractions, accommodations and events for locations along I-77 and I-81, and scenic byways of the mountains of Virginia. www.virginiablueridge.org (800) 446-9670.***

WYTHEVILLE, VA

Outdoor recreation, arts, music, theater, history, wineries, motorcycle trails, mountains—an authentic getaway awaits you. Wytheville…There's Only One. www.VisitWytheville.com (877) 347-8307.

Big Walker Lookout - Observation tower, scenic views, hiking trails, cafe & craft/novelty shop. Exit at Fancy Gap - US 52 North, past Wytheville to Big Walker. Open all year. (276) 663-4016. www.scenicbeauty-va.com

Bolling Wilson Hotel - 1927 hotel redesigned to pay homage to Wytheville's most prominent citizen, Edith Bolling Wilson, with design elements telling the story of her life. Elegant, cosmopolitan feel. www.bollingwilsonhotel.com (276) 223-2333.

Wytheville, VA

Contact

Wytheville Convention
& Visitors Bureau
975 Tazewell Street
Wytheville, VA 24382
cvb@wytheville.org



877-347-8307
www.VisitWytheville.com

You can search the world over and not find another town with the name of Wytheville. But, the name is just the beginning of the unique and interesting aspects you will want to experience in this beautiful small town in Southwest Virginia. Located at the crossroads of Interstates 77 & 81 in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Wytheville offers a variety of interesting attractions for all ages surrounded by the beauty of a wealth of outdoor recreation. From wineries and gardens to dinner theatre featuring all musicals, from historic museums and an Indian village to a 45-acre animal park, whether it's a scenic drive, a motorcycle ride, fishing or unique shopping, there's something for the entire family. Accommodations range from all-suite and boutique hotels to family-oriented properties, luxurious bed & breakfasts as well as numerous campgrounds. Over 60 restaurants offer a variety to dining choices. Wytheville, Virginia…There's Only One.

Wytheville is located at the crossroads of Interstates 77 & 81, just 30 minutes from the Fancy Gap entrance to the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Blue Ridge Parkway Highlands Region:

Milepost 217, VA/NC Border to Milepost 340, Crabtree Falls



216.9 **NC - VA State Line**. Alt. 2,547.

217.3 **NC 18 Access Point**.

217.5 **Cumberland Knob**. 1,000 acres, picnic area, comfort stations, drinking water. 15-minute loop trail to Cumberland Knob. (Elev. 2,855). Loop trail into Gully Creek Gorge. 2 hours.

218.6 **Fox Hunters Paradise.** Overlook and parking area. A one-minute walk on a paved trail takes you to a rock pedestrian overlook near the spot where old-time hunters listened to their hounds. Alt. 2,805.

229.7 **US 21 Access Point.** West 7 mi. to Sparta, NC., 17 mi. to Independence, VA. East 4 mi. to Roaring Gap, NC.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC

Alleghany County Visitor Center is just a few miles off the BRP in downtown Sparta. Slow down. Breathe easy. Stay as busy or un-busy as you want to be. Conquer a mountain or play checkers on the front porch. Find out where to stay, dine, hike, explore, canoe, fish, shop and play. www.sparta-nc.com (800) 372-5473.

John Harmon Gallery - 10100 US Hwy 21 S Roaring Gap. MP 229, south on 21, four miles. Fine art, pottery & chainsaw carving. www.JohnHarmonGallery.com (336) 363-9138.

GLADE VALLEY, NC

North of the Parkway via US 21, exit at MP 229.

Glade Valley B&B - Located near the middle of the BRP at MP 229. Visit our beautiful log home with mountain views. Six rooms, all with private baths. Start your morning with a homemade country breakfast. Exit at Rt. 21, south towards Roaring Gap, ¼ mi. turn left on Shawtown Rd. 1¼ mile, right on Shaw Lane. 330 Shaw Lane, Glade Valley, NC. www.gladevalley.com (800) 538-3508.

MAP KEY:

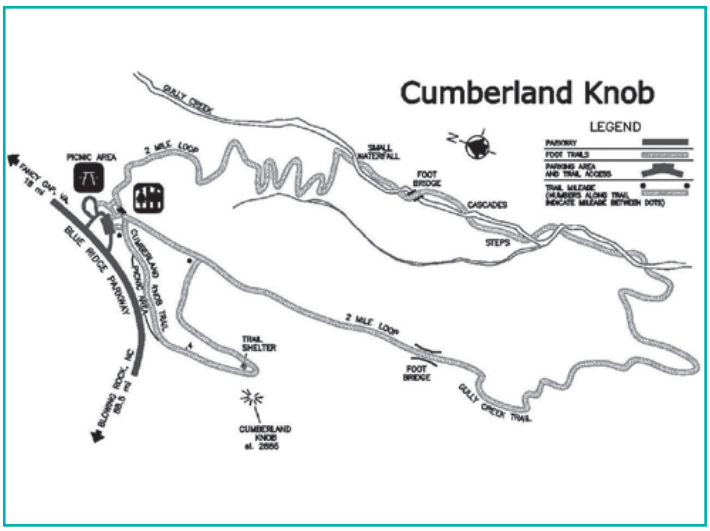
- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

Olde Beau Resort - 729 Olde Beau Blvd, Glade Valley. MP 229.7 - 5 miles, South Hwy 21, entrance left. Rooms, golf, pool. www.oldebeau.com (800) 752-1634.

ROARING GAP, NC

5 miles south of Parkway on US 21, exit at MP 229.

High Meadows Inn & Nikola's Restaurant - 3.5 miles S. of BRP, spacious rooms, suites, cable/TV, free WiFi. www.highmeadowsinnnc.com Inn (336) 363-2221, Rest. (336) 363-6060.



Cumberland Knob, MP 217. Parkway Construction began here, first recreation area open to public | Map courtesy NPS

JONESVILLE, NC

Heart of the Yadkin Valley. Exit at Milepost 229, go South of Parkway on US 21 to I-77 Exit 82. The Jonesville area offers a true hub for visitors to the Yadkin Valley Wine Region. Yadkin County boasts at least 12 wineries that offer tours, tastings, and refined dining. We also have abundant opportunities for the antique collector or outdoor adventurer. Need overnight accommodations? Stay at our first class hotels with 301 rooms. We also have numerous gas stations nearby to fill up and unique locally owned restaurants for your dining pleasure. Once you have finished eating and drinking, you can go outdoors and walk our greenway, kayak the Yadkin River or hike nearby Stone Mountain. For more info visit Jonesville Welcome Center I-77 Exit 82, (336) 835-2000.

Best Western Plus Yadkin Valley Inn & Suites - Jonesville NC, 28642. I-77 Exit 82, 22 miles to Parkway. Clean, friendly & convenient. Free hot breakfast, excellent food & fuel options. www.goo.gl/h7B8Zr (336) 835-6000.

PINEY CREEK, NC

US 21 to Rt 93. Exit Parkway at MP 229.

RiverCamp USA - 2221 Kings Creek Rd. Piney Creek, NC. MP 248, 18N to 113N, follow signs. Located on the New River, FHU, 30/50 amps, river and pull-thru sites, group area, canoe, kayak, and tube rentals, store. www.rivercampusa.com (336) 359-CAMP (2267).

FREE DOWNLOAD: Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App. Includes maps & works even without cell reception!

Alleghany County & Sparta, NC

Contact

Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce and Visitors' Center
58 South Main Street
Sparta NC 28675



1-800-372-5473
www.sparta-nc.com

Do you have the latest electronic organizer but your life still runs in circles? Do you wakeup each morning with new worries to add to yesterday's unfinished business?

Discover an unhurried day with time to feel nature's pace, the slow rising of the sun, the warmth it brings to the day and the waning light that heralds nightfall. Discover the Blue Ridge Mountains of Alleghany County and Sparta, North Carolina. Ride winding two-lane roads and be awed by the same scenic splendor that attracts Parkway visitors. See art take shape at an artisan's studio. Float down the New River and let its waters soothe you. Experience mountain music at an informal jam, barn dance or live music venue.

Be challenged by our mountain links and enjoy a cool summer's day of golf. At day's end, snuggle under covers and the stars of a cool mountain night and sleep your cares away.

NC 18 offers Parkway travelers a back-roads alternative route through the Alleghany County countryside and the small town of Sparta. Exit and return to the Parkway at Mile Posts 217.3 and 248. Sparta is also accessible via US 21 at Mile Post 229.6 and Mile post 234.

SPARTA, NC

North of Parkway on US 21. Exit at MP 229 or 248.

Alleghany Inn - 341 N Main St, Sparta, NC 28675. 64 rooms, free wireless internet, cable TV 100+ chan., guest laundry. Restaurant on site. 48 solar panels, 7.5 miles MP 229. Reserve online: *www.AlleghanyInn.com* or (888) 372-2501.

Harmony Hill B&B - 1740 Halsey Knob Rd. Exit at MP 217, 229, or 248. 360 degree views, 6 guest rooms with private baths. Wine and cheese at 5:00. Full breakfast. Sit on the porch, sip a glass of wine, and enjoy! *www.harmonyhillbnb.com* (336) 209-0475.

ELKIN, NC

Exit at Milepost 229 - travel south on Hwy 21. Visit more than 6 wineries of the Yadkin Valley on your way to historic Elkin. Lodging, restaurants, shopping and more!
www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com

GoYadkinValley.com - It starts with a river. MP 276.4 through 199.5 to discover wineries, outdoor adventure and small town charms. *www.GoYadkinValley.com*

238.5 **Doughton Park** - named after Robert L. Doughton, a staunch supporter and neighbor of the parkway. 6,000 acres. More than 30 miles of hiking trails meander through the park's pastures and along its streams. Hikers may encounter 25 stream crossings through ankle to knee-deep water. Visitors can stretch their legs on modest strolls or embark on more ambitious, day-long outings. Some trails may be strenuous.

238.5 **Brinegar Cabin** built by Martin Brinegar about 1880 and lived in until the 1930s when the homestead was purchased from his widow for the Parkway.



Thunder Hill at Dawn | Photo by William A. Bake



Milepost 238

DOUGHTON PARK & BRINEGAR CABIN

Rolling ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides characterize the Doughton Park area. Remote mountain places like this were settled in the mid-to-late 1800s by growing families seeking more land by moving farther up the mountain creeks and valleys, while remaining in proximity to parents, grandparents, and other relatives. While people in many other parts of the country were rushing into the modern ways of the 20th century, these close-knit families–like the Brinegars, Caudills, Joines, Crouses and Pruitts–still raised most of their own food, built their own homes, and lived well into the 1900s without modern conveniences.

Martin Brinegar and Caroline Joines were married in 1878 and built a log cabin near Caroline's parents' home. It still stands here on the ridge along with their springhouse and granary. Here they raised and provided for their three children. Below the Brinegar cabin is Basin Cove. Settled in the 1880s by Harrison Caudill, Basin Cove grew into a community of 20 families with a store, church, and school. In 1916, torrential flooding throughout the mountains caused mud slides and destruction to cascade down the valley, destroying all but one home and killing several people.

Today, Parkway visitors can experience the ruggedness andbeauty of life here. Glimpse Basin Cove and the remaining cabin from Wildcat Rocks near Bluffs lodge. Or hike some of the more than 30 miles of trails that meander through the meadows and climb the steep hillsides. The Brinegar cabin is open several days a week during the summer and fall. Visitors can tour a demonstration garden and the cabin, and see exhibits, learning how Caroline made her family's clothes from the flax she grew and sheep she raised herself.

239 **Campground trailer sites,** comfort stations, drinking water.

241 **Doughton Park Visitor Information Station** ? **and Park Store** - elevation 3702'.

241.1 **Wildcat Rocks.** View the Caudill House, a survivor from a community largely destroyed by an early 20th century flood.

248.1 **NC 18 Access point.** 2 mi. west of Laurel Springs. 24 mi. east to North Wilkesboro, NC.

LAUREL SPRINGS, NC

Just north of Parkway on NC 18, exit at MP 248.

Miller's Camping - 1 mi. N of Hwy 18 at MP 247. FHU 30 & 50 amp, tent sites, hot showers, laundry, adjacent to MST, WiFi, open Apr. 15-Oct. 31st. *www.millerscamping.com* (336) 359-2828. info@millerscamping.com.

Thistle Meadow Winery - Family-owned winery located 3 mi. from MP 246. Over 50 kinds of wines made. WiFi available. *www.thistlemeadowwinery.com* (800) 233-1505.

Wild Woody's Campground & 3 Antique Stores - We buy, sell, trade and rent vintage campers. Tent camp on trout stream. Firewood, showers, beer, wine, snacks, ice cream, rare records, unusual antiques. Must see to believe! Open May-Nov. Thur.-Sun. (336) 984-8088.

ASHE COUNTY, NC

www.thecoolestcorner.com. Enjoy scenic views, hiking, biking, canoeing, golf, 3 historic towns, arts district, crafts, festivals. Ashe Chamber, PO Box 31, West Jefferson, NC 28694. www.ashechamber.com (888) 343-2743.

The Cabins at Healing Springs - Historic healing spring discovered in 1883, renovated cabins built in 1904 with modern amenities. Rest, relax and rejuvenate at Healing Springs! *www.cabinsathealingsprings.com* (336) 982-6262.

258.7 **Northwest Trading Post** offers crafts and packaged food gifts from North Carolina's northwestern counties. (336) 982-2543



Doughton Park, Ice Rock Falls | Photo by William A. Bake

Jonesville, NC

Contact

Jonesville Welcome Center
Open 7 days a week
I-77 Exit 82



Heart of the Yadkin Valley

336-835-2000
www.Visitjonesvillenc.com

Jonesville, NC is a part of the Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor and in the "Heart of the Yadkin Valley". For decades, our area was a key to tobacco growing region, however as tobacco farming declined, farmers have turned the fields into wine-making. To date, the Yadkin Valley is home to more than 3 dozen wineries.

Jonesville captures a "Small Town with a Big Heart" with friendly people, great food and 4 award winning hotels. We are the hub for a number of local activities such as the Yadkin Valley Wine Festival, which is held the 3rd Saturday in May, the Yadkin Valley Grape Festival, which is held the 3rd Saturday in October. The Annual Yadkin Valley Pumpkin Festival held the 4th Saturday in September along with the Brew Fest.

Jonesville, NC also has many offerings for those wanting to be outdoors with the beautiful views of the mountains, visitors are encouraged to enjoy our Green Way Trails with hiking, canoing and kayaking.

"Small Town with a Big Heart"

GLENDALE SPRINGS, NC

100 yards west of Northwest Trading Post, MP 259.

Greenhouse Crafts Shop - 1/4 mile west of Trading Post. Beautiful gifts, crafts, books, CDs, instruments, garden. Open 7 days. (336) 982-2618.

Northwest Trading Post - at MP 259 is now "Sally Mae's on the Parkway" featuring Hand Made In The USA products with food and drinks in a magical historic venue. (336) 982-2543.

Raccoon Holler Camp & RV Park - Between Mileposts 257 & 258 just off NC 16. Beautifully shaded, full hookups, fishing. Open April 15 til Nov 1. www.raccoonholler.com (336) 982-2706.

Zaloo's Canoes - Cool off! The kids will love it. 5 minutes off Parkway. Safe, scenic 2-3 hour tube and canoe trips on the New River. Best family adventure on the Parkway. Go west at the North West Trading Post MP 259 for one half mile then right on Hwy 16 for 3 miles. Glendale Springs. www.zaloos.com (800) 535-4027.

261.2 **NC 16 Access point.** West 12 mi. to Jefferson, 14 mi. to West Jefferson, 26 mi. to Grassy Creek. East 20 mi. to North Wilkesboro.

JEFFERSON, NC

12 miles north of Parkway via NC 16, exit at MP 261.

Buffalo Tavern B&B - 958 W. Buffalo Road, W Jefferson, NC. MP 261, 4 rooms, full breakfast, mountain views, 1872 farm house. www.buffalotavern.com (877) 615-9678.



Stay on trails when hiking | Photo by Jeff Greenberg

WEST JEFFERSON, NC

Historic West Jefferson, located 14 mi. from MP 261. Art galleries, restaurants, unique shops. (866) 607-0093. Find us online: www.visitwestjefferson.org

Mountain Aire Golf Club - Beautiful 18 hole public golf course. Great condition, reasonable rates. Exit Parkway at Glendale Springs or Deep Gap. 1396 Fairway Ridge Dr., West Jefferson, NC 28694. www.mountainaire.com (336) 877-4716.

268 **Benge Gap.**

Park Vista Inn & Restaurant - 1907 Park Vista Rd. MP 268. Totally renovated inn and restaurant. www.parkvistainn.com (336) 877-5200.

Elkin, NC

Contact

www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com
www.WhatsUpinElkinNC.com



336-794-6468
www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com

Looking for a base to visit both the Vineyards of the Yadkin Valley and the Parkway? Elkin is the geographic center of the gorgeous Yadkin Valley wine area, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. When traveling to Historic Elkin from the Parkway, down Hwy 21, you'll have the chance to stop at over four Vineyards and Tasting Rooms – and 20 More can be visited within 20 Minutes of Downtown Elkin. The area offers some of the best places to shop, bike, hike and even paddle to see the fall color display. With the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, Mountains to Sea Trail and the Yadkin River Paddleway, you'll have plenty of opportunities to learn of our history and stretch your legs from a day of touring. Discover other North Carolina wonders here – like fishing in our stocked trout waters of the Big Elkin Creek or strolling the historic architecture walk of downtown.

Exit the BRP at Milepost 229 onto Hwy 21, travel south to Elkin.

Visit The Best Small Town in America!

272 **E.B. Jeffress Park**. Picnic area, comfort station, trail to Cascades.

LANSING, NC

20 miles northwest of Parkway via Rt 163, then Rt 194.

On the Windfall Cottages - Located in Ashe County. Secluded, upscale cottages on a private mtn top. www.onthewindfall.com (704) 975-3058.

WILKES COUNTY, NC

The Blue Ridge Parkway is our northern county line. Exit at Mileposts 248.2 (NC 18), 261 (NC 16), or 276.4 (US 421). Information: PO Box 727, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659. E-mail: chamber@wilkesnc.org. Web: www.wilkesnc.org Phone (336) 838-8662; FAX (336) 838-3728.

276.4 **Deep Gap**. US 421 **Access point**. W. 11 mi. to Boone. East 26 miles to North Wilkesboro.

FLEETWOOD, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via US 221, exit at MP 276.4.

Fleetwood Falls® - A quiet place nestled in the mountains, along the New River. Real estate for sale. Open all year. 9 1/2 miles NW of Parkway off Hwy. 221 on State Road 1106. 3108 Railroad Grade Road, PO Box 128, Fleetwood, NC 28626. www.fleetwoodfalls.com (336) 877-1110.

WINSTON-SALEM, NC

South of Parkway via US 421, exit at Milepost 276.4 or Milepost 199.5, US 52 South.

Old Salem - Restored 18th-19th century town with 80 buildings on 100+ acres; decorative arts, award-winning heirloom gardens, shopping, dining, picnic tables. 1.5 hours from Parkway. 9:30-4:30 Tues-Sat; 1:00-4:30 Sunday. www.oldsalem.org (336) 721-7300.

GREENSBORO, NC

Come explore the historic grounds of the Revolutionary War battlefields at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. From one treasure to another, take a free tour of Replacements, Ltd. with over 13 million pieces of inventory. To pack in even more, spend time in our revitalized downtown - home to art galleries, theatres, restaurants, our minor league ballpark and exceptional historical museum. In the summer, be sure to cool off at Wet 'n Wild water park. www.visitgreensboronc.com or (800) 344-2282.

? DID YOU KNOW?

Much of the forests surrounding the Parkway are made up of stunted oak and oak-hickory trees. More Flora includes various grasses, shrubs (including Rhododendrons and Dogwoods), hemlock, mixed-oak pine forests and spruce-fir forests.

Yadkin Valley, NC

Contact

Interested in visiting the area and want more information?
www.GoYadkinValley.com



www.GoYadkinValley.com

With abundant outdoor activities, local arts and crafts, charming bed and breakfasts, and exquisite food and wine offered at local restaurants, in North Carolina's Yadkin Valley you have the makings of a great wine country getaway or family vacation. If your idea of fun includes hiking, biking, kayaking, canoeing, disc golf, and ziplining, the Yadkin Valley offers all of that and more. Visit shops, restaurants, galleries, and antique stores, take in a farmer's market or festival. Tour a distillery and try some moonshine, or visit our vast array of wineries and sample award-winning wines. Here in the Yadkin Valley you'll discover a thriving, vibrant region, proud of its history and heritage and welcoming you to partake in its bounty. Exit the Parkway at Mileposts: 199.4, 215.8, 217.3, 229.7, 276.4 to enjoy all the Yadkin Valley has to offer.

vineyards • history • music • craft
art festivals • outdoor fun

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway is carried across streams, railway ravines and cross roads by 176 bridges and six viaducts.

HICKORY, NC

Get lost in the beauty of the Hickory Metro, just 45 miles from the Blowing Rock, NC Parkway exit, on US 321. Hike our scenic trails, fish in our streams, explore our cultural arts, science, and sports attractions, as well as experience the best place to buy furniture in the country. For more information call (828) 322-1335 or go to www.HickoryMetro.com.

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC

"your time…our place". Sculpted by Nature…Crafted by Man, visit Caldwell County; experience live music, live theatre, festivals and car shows, world class sculpture exhibits, local crafts, antiques. Located thirty minutes south of Blowing Rock at Milepost 294. www.explorecaldwell.com (828) 726-0616.

ELIZABETHTON, TN

"Birthplace of American Democracy," two state parks, largest rhododendron gardens in U.S., oldest frame house in TN, 134' covered bridge. Enjoy the outdoors, camping, water sports & hiking. www.tourcartercounty.com (423) 547-3850.

291.8 **US 221/321 Access point**. 7 mi. north to Boone, 2 mi. south to Blowing Rock.

BOONE, NC

7 miles north of Parkway, via US 221/321, exit MP 291.9.

Watauga County Tourism Development Authority - ***Simple Pleasures & Mountain Values! Explore one of America's premier outdoor recreation and relaxation destinations. Visit www.exploreboone.com***

NC High Country Host & Regional Visitor Center - ***Travel info for Boone, Blowing Rock, Beech Mtn, West Jefferson area. Open 7 days a week, located at BRP Milepost 291 exit. Order a free vacation planner. www.MountainsofNC.com (800) 438-7500.***

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Art of Living Retreat Center - Relax & Recharge. 3 mi from MP 285.5 in Boone. Stunning views & deep relaxation with workshops, yoga, delicious food, pottery classes & more at NC's hidden gem. www.artoflivingretreatcenter.org (800) 392-6870.

Comfort Suites - 1184 Hwy 105, 6 miles from Parkway. 96 suite hotel rooms, heat, indoor pool, exercise and game rooms. Hot breakfast. (888) 854-5959.

Country Inn and Suites - 818 E King St Boone. Close to all local attactions, free WiFi, hot breakfast, indoor pool, hot tub & gym. Standard rooms and suites. (828) 264-4100.

Courtyard by Marriott - 1050 Hwy 105 Boone, NC 28607. Brand new hotel in the High Country of NC. www.courtyard.com/hkybn Phone (828) 265-7676.

West Jefferson, NC

Contact

Exit at Milepost 259
800-438-7500



888-343-2743
MountainsofNC.com

Named one of North Carolina's "Best Main Streets" and winner of numerous best small town awards, West Jefferson is located just 20 minutes off the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Take a downtown walking tour of the 15+ mountain murals in the downtown arts district. Stop by the Ashe County Cheese Factory for some fresh cheese curds from the only cheese plant in NC. Visit a local brewery or dine in a historic building. Make sure to view the three Ben Long Frescoes in St. Mary's Church on your way into town!

Stroll the Lighting of the Town in the US's largest Christmas tree producing county and Choose & Cut your own Christmas tree. Visit one of the festivals, the farmers market, and listen to live music on the backstreet on cool summer evenings. View the changing fall leaves with a barn quilt tour through the countryside. Every season is celebrated in West Jefferson!

The NC High Country:
Home to 121 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 2060 Blowing Rock Rd. 5 miles from Parkway. Continental breakfast. Call (800) 228-2800.

Foscoe Rentals - Cabins, condos and vacation homes centrally located to Boone, Banner Elk and Blowing Rock. www.foscoerentals.com (800) 723-7341.

The Gamekeeper Restaurant & Bar - MP 294, Right on Shull's Mill Rd, 2.5 miles. Eclectic stone cottage, outdoor dining, local harvests. www.gamekeeper-nc.com

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton - MP 291.9, Boone's only Hilton hotel. Opened Oct 2016. 1252 US 421 South. Heated pool, free WiFi. (828) 386-6464.

Hidden Valley Motel - Hwy 105 in the Foscoe Valley between Boone and Banner Elk. Enjoy birds, blooms and butterflies in our country garden. www.hiddenvalleymotel.com or jim@hiddenvalleymotel.com. Call (828) 963-4372.

Highland Hills Motel & Cabins - 2748 Hwy 105, Boone NC. Rooms, cabins, condos & cottages, pet friendly. www.highlandhillscabins.com For best rates call (800) 948-5276.

Holiday Inn Express Boone - 6 mi. off Parkway. Close to restaurants and attractions. Outdoor heated pool. AAA/AARP/group discounts. www.expressboone.com (888) SEE-MTNS.

KOA Kampground - From Boone, 194N 3 mi. Left on Ray Brown Rd. 1 mi. Beautiful view. Rec room, mini-golf, laundry, pool. 123 Harmony Mtn. Lane, Boone, NC 28607. (828) 264-7250.

La Quinta Inn & Suites - 165 Hwy 105 Ext. Boone. Walking distance to ASU and downtown. Close to Grandfather Mountain and popular ski areas. (828) 262-1234.

Lost Province Brewing Company - A brewpub located in downtown Boone at 130 N. Depot St. Serves authentic and innovative craft beer & savory wood-fired fare. www.lostprovince.com (828) 265-3506.

Lovill House Inn - Award winning B&B in Boone on 421N. 6 Rooms/private baths/porch/11 acres. Full hot breakfast. www.lovillhouseinn.com (828) 264-4204.

Pepper's Restaurant - Famous sandwiches since 1975. Featuring steaks and seafood, soup & salad bar and homemade desserts. Open 7 days. Located at the Shops at Shadowline near Harris Teeter. All ABC permits. www.peppers-restaurant.com (828) 262-1250.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway uses short side roads to connect to other highways, and there are no direct interchanges with interstate highways, making it possible to enjoy wildlife and other scenery without stopping for cross-traffic.

Wilkes County, NC

Contact

Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

(Funded by Wilkesboro Tourism Development Convention and Visitors Bureau)



336-838-8662
www.ExploreWilkes.com

Pick a reason to Explore Wilkes! Located in the Yadkin Valley where outdoor beauty and recreation thrives. Mountain streams, rivers, and lakes are featured throughout the tall trees and lush green valleys as visitors enjoy fly fishing, boating, canoeing and kayaking. Wilkes is a host to multiple trails for walking, hiking, biking, and bird watching. Visitors will relish the harvest of the local vineyards, wineries, orchards, and fresh vegetables and handmade crafts sold at the downtown farmers' markets. MerleFest, The Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame, Carolina In the Fall, Faith Fest, Carolina Jam, Concerts on the Deck, Brushy Mountain Apple Festival, all featuring the best of Americana, Gospel, Bluegrass, Beach, and mountain heritage music. Quiet, modern, and private accommodations hosting multiple hotel rooms, secluded cabins, and picturesque campsites are accessible and affordable. Visit www.ExploreWilkes.com – you'll like what you see.

Discover the wonderful recreational opportunities such as camping, boating, bird watching, hiking and mountain biking the seven-mile Dark Mountain Trail at W. Kerr Scott Dam & Reservoir.



Price Park Meadows | Photo by William A. Bake

Quality Inn & Suites University - 840 E King St Boone. Close to all local attractions. Free hot breakfast, WiFi and pool. Refurbished rooms, suites and Jacuzzi rooms available. (828) 266-1100.

Willow Valley Resort - 3 miles off Hwy 105 from Boone. Eff. 1 br/2 br/3 br cabins & condos. Fully furn. Golf, pool, fireplaces. Excellent getaway. 8am-9pm Sun-Sat. (828) 963-6551.

RECREATION

River and Earth Adventures - Whitewater rafting, caving, canoe and kayak rentals/shuttles, outdoor adventures and ecotours. www.raftcavehike.com (866) 411-RAFT (7238).

VALLE CRUCIS, NC

via Rts US 421N or NC 194, 5 miles SW of Boone.

Mast General Store - Established 1883. Listed National Register of Historic Places. Authentic & nostalgic emporium located in pastoral setting 8 miles from Boone in the Valle Crucis community. Clothing, camping gear, shoes & boots, housewares & unique gifts. Hwy 194 (828) 963-6511. Also visit our downtown stores in Boone, Asheville, Hendersonville, Waynesville, Greenville, SC and Knoxville, TN. Visit online at www.mastgeneralstore.com.

BLOWING ROCK, NC

Charming resort village on the Parkway. Exit Hwy 221 & 321, MP 293 & 295. Lodging, dining, boutique and outlet shopping. Near The Blowing Rock, Mystery Hill, Tweetsie Railroad and Grandfather Mountain attractions. PO Box 2445, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.BlowingRock.com (828) 295-4636 or (877) 750-4636.

ATTRACTIONS

The Blowing Rock - Breathtaking view 4090 feet above John's River Gorge. Prevailing winds return light objects thrown over the void. Hwy. 321 South, Blowing Rock, NC. www.theblowingrock.com.

Blowing Rock Art & History Museum - 159 Chestnut St. MP 294.5, Tues. - Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12pm-4pm. May-October. www.BlowingRockMuseum.org (828) 295-9099.

Elizabethton/Carter County, TN

Contact

P.O. Box 190
Elizabethton, TN 37644



ANNUAL EVENTS

Elizabethton Covered Bridge Celebration:
Second weekend of June

Rhododendron Festival
June 16 & 17

Elizabethton Twins Baseball Season:
June - September

Liberty!
July 13-15,
July 20-22,
July 27-29

1-423-547-3850
www.tourcartercounty.com

The highlands of Roan Mountain and historic downtown Elizabethton are sure to inspire travelers to plan extraordinary adventures there. Wander along the Appalachian Trail, which connects several waterfalls found in the Cherokee National Forest. Hire a fly fishing or rafting guide to help navigate the Watauga River, which is known for its trophy trout. Rent a boat, jet ski or paddle board to explore Watauga Lake, which is one of the cleanest reservoirs in the country. Discover diverse eateries and days of antique shopping in Elizabethton. Ride a bike on the Tweetsie Trail over to Sycamore Shoals State Park to learn about the first democratic society established in our great nation. Nestle in each night by staying in a bed and breakfast, a campground or in one of the cozy cabins at Roan Mountain State Park. Don't merely read about it, but come experience all Tennessee's Mountain Playground has to offer!

Family-friendly outdoor activities, antiques, diverse local dining and cozy accommodations.

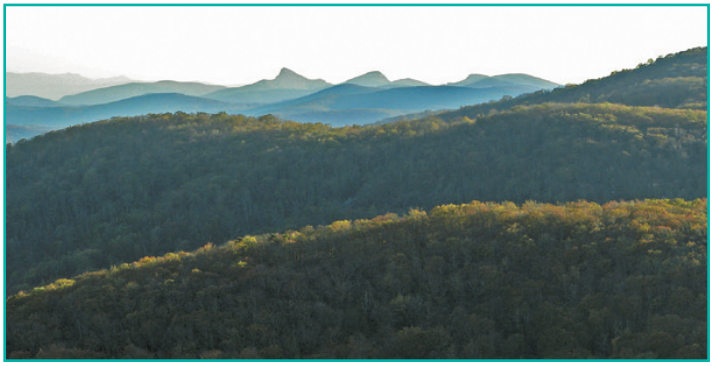
High Gravity Adventures - MP 291.9 Boone/Blowing Rock. Aerial adventure park. Discount code BRP to save 10%. www.highgravityadventures.com (828) 386-6222.

Mystery Hill - Be Amazed! Since 1948 visitors have experienced a true gravitational anomaly that causes objects to defy gravity. Question your perception. Stand inside a giant soap bubble. Over 50,000 arrowheads, 1903 Dougherty House, gem mining, fossil museum and more. BRP MP 291.9 Hwy 321. Open every day rain or shine, except Christmas. www.mysteryhill-nc.com (828) 264-2792.

Tweetsie Railroad - North Carolina's first theme park. Relive the Old West aboard the historic steam-powered locomotive known as Tweetsie. Bring your family and enjoy entertaining shows, rides, shopping, mountain clogging, panning for gold and a deer park. Open 9AM-6PM Friday-Sunday, April through May. June through Mid-August open seven days a week from 9AM-6PM. Mid-August through October open Friday-Sunday from 9AM-6PM. Located on Hwy 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock, NC and from the Blue Ridge Parkway exit at Milepost 291, Boone exit. For more information call (800) 526-5740 or visit www.tweetsie.com.

? DID YOU KNOW?

Rhododendron, mountain laurel, and a variety of azaleas put on their big show from May through late June. See the bloom guide on Page 15.



Hiking Linville Gorge | Photo by William A. Bake

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpine Village Inn - 297 Sunset Dr. Cozy rooms & suites with AC, free Wi-Fi. Some fireplaces & Jacuzzi. Pet friendly rooms. www.alpine-village-inn.com (828) 295-7206.

Blue Ridge Mountain Rentals - Offers a selection of 175 luxury vacation homes in the Boone, NC area at or near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Whether you are planning a family vacation or a romantic getaway for two, let us help! Visit www.BlueRidgeRentals.com or Call (800) 237-7975.

Chetola Resort - Magnificent views on 87 acres. Chetola Lodge, Bob Timberlake Inn and spacious condominiums. Spa at Chetola Resort, Timberlake's Restaurant, fitness center, Orvis Endorsed Fly Fishing Lodge, golf, fishing, sporting clay shooting packages. 185 Chetola Lake Drive, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.chetola.com (828) 295-5500 or (800) 243-8652.

Boone, NC

Contact

Boone, NC
Exit at Milepost 291
ExploreBoone.com



800-852-9506
ExploreBoone.com

The Boone stretch of the Blue Ridge Parkway offers a million ways to step away from your everyday routine and step outside yourself.

The promise of our cool springs, mild summers, and colorful autumns is the only coaxing you'll need to go biking, hiking, fishing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, or tubing.

Take a stroll through a street festival, listen to live music, or spend some time in our downtown shops, restaurants, galleries, and boutiques. There's even a 40-foot climbing wall in the middle of downtown. So when we say there's adventure waiting around every corner, we mean it.

From extreme mountain sports to relaxing evenings outdoors, from trips back in time to rides your kids will never forget, Boone has just the right amount of adventure for visitors of all ages and interests.

Boone has a vibrant art, history, and cultural scene as well as nationally known attractions and outdoor adventure.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit go.nps.gov/brp-map

Green Park Inn - Full service National Historic Register hotel continuously operated since 1891. Complimentary full breakfast, restaurant, tavern, fitness room, and spacious public areas in original Victorian style. Straddling the Eastern Continental Divide 3 miles south on 321 Blowing Rock/Boone exit. www.GreenParkInn.com (828) 414-9230.

Hemlock Inn - "A Blowing Rock Tradition". Open all year. One of downtown's best locations. Located 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Hemlock Inn is one building off main street, within walking distance of shops, restaurants, and park. Kings, queens, and king suites are available. Handicap accessible rooms also available. All rooms have color cable TV, A/C, telephones, microwaves, small refrigerators and coffee pots. Suites have fully equipped kitchens. Gazebo sitting area with fire pit and fountain. Free WiFi available. www.hemlockinn.net (828) 295-7987.

Holiday Inn Express Blowing Rock - 1 mile South on 321 Rooms with King or 2 Queen beds, microwave, refrig. Complimentary hot breakfast, internet, indoor pool. www.holidayinnexpressblowingrock.com. (828) 295-4422.

Homestead Inn - 153 Morris St. in the heart of town. Open year round. Sun.-Thurs. discount. Quaint, cozy, immaculate rooms. A/C, flat screen TV, phones, coffee, fridge, micro, fireplaces, Jacuzzis. Efficiency avail. Free Wi-Fi. www.homestead-inn.com (828) 295-9559.

Inn at Ragged Gardens - Located 1.5 mi. from Parkway. Historic downtown location with in-house restaurant. www.ragged-gardens.com (828) 295-9703.

Jenkins Rentals - The finest vacation rentals in the Blowing Rock area. Homes with hot tubs, long range mountain views. www.jenkinsrentals.com (800) 438-7803.

Meadowbrook Inn - 711 Main St, Blowing Rock, MP 291.9, heart of downtown. Rates include breakfast & Wi-Fi, indoor pool. www.meadowbrook-inn.com (828) 295-4300.

Swiss Mountain Village - 2324 Flat Top Rd. Blowing Rock NC. 1/4 mile from Park. 40 cabins and swiss style chalets for retreat, fishing pond, relaxation. www.swissmountain.com

The Village Inns of Blowing Rock - Our 3 Inns are located within walking distance of Main Street. Rooms, suites & cottages available. Pet friendly. www.thevillageinnsofblowingrock.com (800) 821-4908.

Westglow Resort & Spa - 1 mile from Parkway on Hwy 221. Open all year. Enjoy day spa packages, fine dining, and overnight visits. www.westglow.com (828) 295-4463.

Woodlands BBQ - Best in BBQ. Located on 321 Bypass. Featuring barbeque beef, pork, chicken & ribs. Open from 11am until 10pm. Take out available. www.woodlandsbbq.com (828) 295-3651.



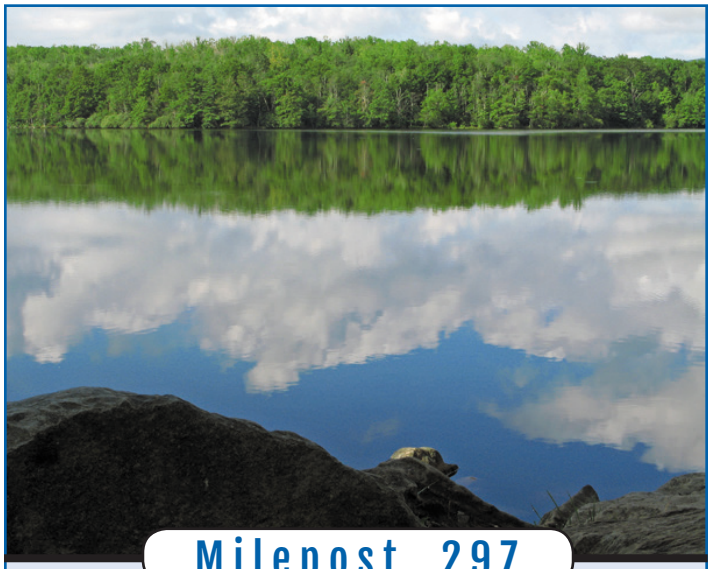
Milepost 294

MOSES H CONE MEMORIAL PARK

As unlikely as it sounds, blue jeans, farming and fine art largely define this country estate - turned Parkway recreation area. Moses Cone and his wife Bertha built what was then known as Flat Top Manor at the turn of the twentieth century. The son of a German Jewish immigrant who came to America as a peddler, Moses and his brother Caesar fashioned a textile empire, making them the leading producers of denim in the world. Visitors here will gain an understanding of the influence of this textile giant, and the role that the landscape architecture movement and country estate movement of the nineteenth century had on life in the Appalachian mountains.

In the 1890s and early 1900s, Cone fashioned this country place at Blowing Rock with its 23-room Colonial Revival mansion as a retreat from the rigors of his business empire and as a way to showcase his prosperity. He built approximately twenty five miles of well-planned and exquisitely maintained carriage roads and two lakes. On Flat Top Mountain and Rich Mountain he and Bertha raised cattle and sheep and planted tens of thousands of apple trees. Soon after Bertha's death, the family offered the property to the Parkway with the understanding that it would be operated as a "public park and pleasuring ground."

The manor and the entire estate has been designated as a historic district and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Carriage roads are popular for hiking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing, especially by residents of the Boone/Blowing Rock area. During the summer and fall, National Park Service staff provides frequent tours of the house. The manor house is both a good starting point and a highlight of any visit. Browse the bookstore and the craft center, with its assortment of contemporary and traditional crafts. Craft demonstrations are offered frequently in the summer.



Milepost 297

JULIAN PRICE MEMORIAL PARK

Julian Price purchased this land as a recreational retreat for his employees after establishing one of the nation's largest insurance companies. After his untimely death in 1946, his heirs left the land to the Blue Ridge Parkway as a memorial to a man who shared the natural beauty of the area with others.

Today, visitors see the rebirth of a hardwood forest on hillsides where lumber companies cut virgin tracts of hemlock, poplar, and chestnut in the early 20th century. According to some, it was the "best boundary of timber in Carolina." Julian Price Memorial Park contains 4,200 acres with elevations ranging from 3,400 feet to nearly 4,000 feet.

Price Park is a haven for relaxation and recreation with the 47-acre Price Lake as its focal point. Visitors enjoy one of the most popular and largest picnic areas on the Parkway, along with camping, boating and fishing on Price Lake, and ample opportunities to explore the mountains on hiking trails. Grandfather Mountain, at 5,946 feet, rises majestically nearby.

The wilderness appeal of forested highlands and cold mountain streams at Price Park welcomes those who want to enjoy the outdoors. The Green Knob Trail, Boone Fork Trail, and Price Lake Trail offer ample hiking opportunities. The Tanawha Trail, perhaps the crowning achievement of all Parkway trails, stretches 13.5 miles from Price Park to Beacon Heights, paralleling the Parkway and rising along the slopes of Grandfather Mountain. A trek along the Tanawha Trail crosses fragile habitats and ecosystems, tunnels through laurel and rhododendron thickets, and crosses many boulder fields and cascading streams.

Whether delighting in the calm waters while driving across the dam, camping, picnicking, or experiencing the Parkway by foot, most visitors will understand why Price Park is one of the most popular of all Parkway stops.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Grandfather Country Store - MP 298. Est. 1880's. 1 mi off Pkwy. at Holloway Mtn Rd & Hwy 221. Travel info, staples, antiques, local honey, foods & gifts, used & rare books, camping supplies. *www.grandfathercountrystore.com* (828) 295-6100.

Parkway Craft Center - A shop of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, located in the Moses Cone Manor, Milepost 294, represents 400 artists of the Southern Appalachians on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Craft demonstrations offered from April to November. Open daily March 15 to November 30, 9-5 daily. Closed Thanksgiving. *www.craftguild.org* (828) 295-7938.

292.7 **Moses H. Cone Memorial Park**, 3,600 acres. Many miles of horse and carriage trails, hiking, fishing.

294 **Moses Cone Manor House; Visitor Center ? and Park Store.** Parkway Craft Center; comfort station.

297 **Julian Price Memorial Park**. 4,344 acres. Campground, picnic area, lake, boating, fishing, trails. Alt. 3,400. Reservations for camping: *www.recreation.gov*

304.4 **Linn Cove Viaduct Information Center ? and Park Store.** Visitor information, comfort station, publications. Trail access viaduct. Alt. 4,000.

305.1 **Access point Parkway and US 221**. 3 mi. west to Linville.

SEVEN DEVILS, NC

11 miles from MP 305.2 - Via 221S to 105N. Awesome views from rental cabins! Otter Falls Park, hiking trails, tennis & pickleball courts, playground, zipline, tubing. (828) 963-5343. www.sevendevils.net



Chestoa Overlook | Photo by William A. Bake

AVERY COUNTY, NC

Home of the Woolly Worm Festival. Christmas trees, top resorts & attractions, skiing hub. Located in the "High Country" in the western mountains of North Carolina. Avery County Chamber of Commerce, 4501 Tynecastle Hwy Unit 2, Banner Elk, NC 28604. Open Monday-Friday from 10-4 and Saturday from 11-3. Website: www.averycounty.com (800) 972-2183.

BANNER ELK, NC

10 miles north of Parkway on NC 184/194, exit at Milepost 305.2.

Best Western Mountain Lodge at Banner Elk - Located on Hwy. 184 only 7 miles from Milepost 304. Full service hotel. Seasonal packages. www.bestwesternbannerelk.com or call (877) 877-4553.

Carlton Gallery - 10360 Hwy 105 S. between Boone & Banner Elk, NC. Celebrating 35 years, local/regional artists, paintings, clay, wood, glass, fiber art, jewelry, art workshops. www.carltongallery.com (828) 963-4288.

Grandfather Vineyard - MP 305, Linville exit US 221. Right at light onto 105 South, then 7.6 mi. to Vineyard Lane on R. Daily tastings 12-6pm. www.grandfathervineyard.com (828) 963-2400.

? DID YOU KNOW?

When construction began in 1935 the Parkway was the longest single-unit road ever designed.



Milepost 304.4

LINN COVE VIADUCT

A seven mile unfinished section of the Blue Ridge Parkway was delayed for twenty years as environmentalists, adjacent landowners, engineers, and architects put their skills together on how to preserve the scenic and fragile environment on the slopes of Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina. The resulting Linn Cove Viaduct is a symbol of pride to landscape architects and engineers for its marriage of beauty with utility and habitat protection.

Visitors here will gain an appreciation for the relationship between the building of the Linn Cove Viaduct and the overall Parkway design and engineering, as well as its role in protecting the fragile habitat on Grandfather Mountain.

From the first explosion of colorful wildflowers in the spring to the refreshing coolness of summer to the fall extravaganza of color to the beauty of snow covered peaks in winter, each season provides the traveler with a completely different Parkway experience.

Blowing Rock, NC

Contact

Blowing Rock-Crown of the Blue Ridge



877-750-INFO (4636)
www.BlowingRock.com

One of the only towns located directly on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains and storybook village charm.

It's a place where you can roam...or relax. Explore hiking and biking trails, go horseback riding, fly fishing or skiing at Appalachian Ski Mountain. Shop in our unique downtown boutiques or Tanger outlets. Visit family attractions including The Blowing Rock, Tweetsie Railroad and Grandfather Mountain or discover our annual festivals including Blowing Rock WinterFest (Jan), SAVOR Blowing Rock (May), Art in the Park (May-Oct), Blowing Rock Horse Show (July-Aug), and Blowing Rock Music Festival (Sept). Then, take time to pamper yourself at one of our spas, indulge at our award-winning restaurants, or rest up in style at our bed and breakfasts, country inns, hotels, resorts or vacation rentals.

Known as the "Crown of the Blue Ridge," Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are cool and refreshing in the spring and summer, before blazing into a beautiful tapestry of changing leaves in autumn and frosting with snow in winter.

The Pedalin' Pig - 4235 NC Hwy 105. Open daily 11am-9pm. Southern style BBQ, ribs, brisket, chicken, trout. Inside/outside dine-in/takeout. Large, easy parking, WiFi. www.thepedalinpig.com

Smoketree Lodge - 12 miles south of Boone on Hwy 105. Nestled at the foot of Grandfather Mtn. Studio, one and two bedroom condos equipped with kitchenettes, DVD players, & WiFi. Heated indoor pool, saunas, Jacuzzi and cable TV. www.smoketree-lodge.com (800) 422-1880.

SUGAR MTN., NC

8 mi. from Parkway, exit MP 305.1, Hwy 221 S. to 184 N. Enjoy golf, tennis, hiking/biking, scenic lift rides, rafting, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing, and ice skating. Stay for one of our special events like Oktoberfest or SugarFest. Ample lodging from efficiency to large homes, for information visit www.seesugar.com or call (866) 797-8427.

Resort Real Estate & Rentals at Sugar Mountain - 3390 Tynecastle Hwy, Banner Elk NC 28604. Fully equipped homes, condos. Cabins on Sugar. Rent by day/wk/mo. Book online 24/7. www.staysugarmountain.com (800) 438-4555.

Sugar Mountain Accommodations & Realty - Dereka's, corner of Sugar Mountain Dr & Tynecastle Hwy. We offer charming Chalets & Condos. 800-545-9475 See us at www.staysugar.com.

FREE DOWNLOAD: Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App. Includes maps & works even without cell reception!

BEECH MTN., NC

Cresting at 5,506', Beech Mtn. is the highest town in Eastern America. Summer temps rarely exceed 75 degrees F, creating an ideal climate for hiking, mtn. biking, golf, and tennis. Winters are rich in snowfall, creating ideal ski conditions. Lodging options range from hotels to cabins. www.beechmtn.com

Fred's General Mercantile - On Beech Mountain, 30 min from Milepost exit 305.2, everything a general store used to be ...and more! "If we don't have it, you don't need it" www.fredsgeneral.com (828) 387-4838.



Three Knobs Overlook | Photo by Brooke Losey

Seven Devils, NC

Contact

11 miles from MP 221S to 105N. Awesome views from rental cabins! Otter Falls Park, hiking trails, tennis & pickleball courts, playground, zipline, tubing.



828-963-5343
www.sevendevils.net

Convenient to the Blue Ridge Parkway, Grandfather Mountain and Bear Paw State Natural Area, the Town of Seven Devils offers a great starting point for your visit to the NC High Country. Located between Boone and Banner Elk, visitors can take advantage of easy access to area hiking, shopping, golfing, skiing, and fishing, and more, while enjoying the truly peaceful atmosphere of our quaint mountain community.

Come visit our Otter Falls Park, a 1.2 mile hiking trail through a cool mountain forest, leading to a waterfall and Valley Creek. Stunning mountain views are everywhere you look from rental cabins, condos, and homes in the Town of Seven Devils. Come, Relax, Enjoy, Stay...for a weekend, a season, or a lifetime!

"Discover our Positive Altitude"

Seven Devils— A unique Destination!

LINVILLE, NC

3 miles from Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 305.1.

63rd Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - July 12-15, 2018. America's finest gathering of Scottish Clans. Music, dancing, pageantry, athletic & children's events. www.gmhg.org (828) 733-1333.

Grandfather Mountain - Grandfather's lofty heights offer guests opportunities for rejuvenation, excitement and family memories in a natural haven that will endure forever. Marvel at 360-degree views from the Mile High Swinging Bridge, stand eye-to-eye with bears, cougars, otters, eagles and deer in natural habitats and interact with our friendly, knowledgeable staff. Two miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway Viaduct; one mile from Parkway. Take Linville Exit, MP 305 to US 221. Open daily (weather permitting in winter). www.grandfather.com Phone (828) 733-4337 or (800) 468-7325.

Old Hampton Store & Barbeque - 77 Ruffin St. Linville, MP 305. 1920 general store, BBQ restaurant, tavern www.oldhamptonstorenc.com (828) 733-5215.

Pixie Motor Inn - Intersection of NC 105 and US 221. WiFi and cable TV, air conditioned. Seasonal April-October. (828) 733-2597.

308.2 **Flat Rock Parking Area.** Self-guiding nature trail to superb view of Linville Valley and Grandfather Mountain.

NEWLAND, NC

8 miles north of Spruce Pine off 19E, exit at Milepost 305.1.

Secluded Valley RV Campground - 8 miles North of Spruce Pine on 19E. 5 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 317. 30 & 50 amp full hookups, children & pets welcome, level & spacious sites. www.secludedvalleyrvcampground.com (828) 765-4810.

PINEOLA, NC

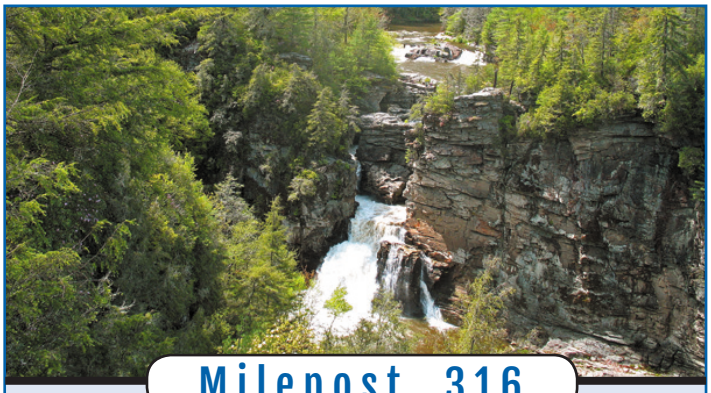
2 miles north of Parkway on US 221, exit at Milepost 305.1 or 312.

Christa's Country Corner - General store, deli, ice cream, clothing and gifts. Choose and cut Christmas trees. Straight across from Entrance/Exit. Milepost 312 Morganton - Pineola Exit. (828) 733-3353.

Down by the River Campground - 292 River Campground Rd. At MP 312, Right on Hwy 181 North, 1 mile down on left. 30 & 50 amp service, hot showers, spacious, level sites, laundry. (May-Oct.) www.downbytherivercampground.com (828) 733-5057.

Huskins Court Motel & Cottages - Hwy 221 Pineola, NC. Renovated '50s motor court, clean, comfortable, safe, great rates, welcoming staff. (828) 733-2564.

Pineola Inn - US 221 3 mi. S of Linville. 1.5 mi off Milepost 312. 40 rooms, clean, reasonable rates, AC, CATV, microfridges, log cabins, honeymoon suites with Jacuzzis, cross country skiing, sales & rentals. www.PineolaInn.com (828) 733-4979 or 733-2008.



Milepost 316

LINVILLE FALLS

The English botanist Mark Catesby observed, described, and sketched the natural world of the Blue Ridge for seven years in the eighteenth century. His particular interest was the extensive network of streams and rivers arising along the mountains and gathering volume and speed as they descended to the coastal plain and beyond.

"The larger rivers in Carolina and Virginia," he wrote, "have their sources in the Appalachian Mountains, generally springing from rocks, and forming cascades and waterfalls... uniting into single streams... innumerable brooks and rivulets, all which contribute to form and supply the large rivers." Here at Linville Falls, Catesby's descriptions become real for the Parkway visitor.

The Linville River flows from its beginning point high on the steep slopes of Grandfather Mountain and cascades through two falls as it begins a nearly 2,000 foot descent through a rugged and spectacularly beautiful gorge. The Cherokee knew this river as "Eeseeoh" or "river of cliffs," and a hike into the gorge leaves no doubt about the origin of the name.

Towering hemlocks, dense stands of rhododendron and native wildflowers grow along the trails that encircle the falls. Little wonder this is one of the Parkway's top destinations. And what awaits the visitor who hikes down from the visitor center at Linville? A forested gorge of virgin timber stands as pristine and primitive as in the days when only Native Americans called this place home. The aquatic and forest ecology and the unique geological stories told here make a visit special.

In the early days of Parkway planning, under the shade of a hemlock tree above the falls, philanthropist John D. Rockefeller was treated to a fine picnic lunch and convinced of the necessity of protecting this piece of Appalachian scenery. The lunch was spread out within earshot of sawmills that had already begun timbering the area. After some months of negotiations, Mr. Rockefeller agreed to "pick up the tab" for the Linville Falls property, ensuring protection for Parkway visitors today.

We may not immediately think of the Blue Ridge Parkway as a park rich in water resources. But from Native Americans to colonial botanists and 21st century tourists, the waterways and streams of the Blue Ridge have played a vital role in the overall ecology and unsurpassed beauty of our region. The Blue Ridge Parkway, like all national parks, is set aside to protect these special parts of our world.

312.2 **NC 181 Access point**, 32 miles southeast to Morganton, 2 mi. north to Pineola.

CROSSNORE, NC

6 miles south of Linville off Hwy 221, exit at Milepost 305.9 or 312.

Crossnore Weavers & Gallery - "A working museum." Traditional hand-woven textiles produced since 1920. Open Mon.-Sat. Off Hwy 221 in Crossnore. *www.crossnoreweavers.org* (800) 374-4660.



Linville Falls Trail | Photo by Alex Armstrong

DID YOU KNOW?

Parkway "Gunboards"

In the early days of Parkway design, the long rifle and accompanying powder horn were thought to be the best and most iconic image to represent the stories of the mountain settlers and frontiersmen. These were incorporated into the original signs at overlooks and developed areas. They are now recognized as part of the Parkway's history and early design elements.

316.3 **Linville Falls Visitor Center and Park Store, campground**. For camping reservations visit *www.recreation.gov*.

316.4 **Linville River Parking Area**. One of the Parkway's largest stone arch bridges. Three spans of 80 feet each. Fish in Linville River. Picnic area. Comfort station. Alt. 3,250. Take Spur Rd. to Linville Falls, campground and visitor center.

317.5 **US 221 Access point.** South 1 mi. to Linville Falls community. 24 mi. to Marion.

Avery County, NC

Contact

www.townofbannerelk.org
www.sevendevils.net
www.beechmtn.com
www.seesugar.com



800-972-2183
www.averycounty.com

Avery County, North Carolina, located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes fun seekers of all ages. Experience our distinct four seasons. We are Home to the world famous Woolly Worm Festival, one of the top 10 fall festivals. Ski the highest summits of the South at our 3 state of the art ski resorts: Appalachian Ski Mountain, Beech Mountain Resort and Sugar Mountain Resort. Activities abound year round including hiking, biking, rafting, tubing, horseback riding, antiquing, fine art festivals, art galleries and more. Cross the mile high bridge at Grandfather Mountain, explore the Civil War Trail, swim, fish and canoe at beautiful Wildcat Lake or take a thrilling ride on a zipline. Visit the Blue Ridge Parkway, America's favorite scenic drive, or see the majestic mountains from the comfort of a trolley tour while visiting our award winning wineries. Visit Newland the highest county seat east of the Mississippi and celebrate our rich mountain heritage. Shop and dine in beautiful downtown Banner Elk and enjoy true Southern hospitality. Avery County offers a variety of lodging and dining to satisfy any taste and budget. Live the dream, Avery County is a sought after place to live work and play. From our top notch schools and colleges to our entrepreneurial spirit, why live anywhere else?

Come for the day, spend a lifetime.

LINVILLE FALLS, NC

1 mile south of Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 317.4.

ATTRACTIONS

Linville Caverns - North Carolina's only show caverns. Open daily March thru November, Dec.-Feb. weekends only. Courteous, experienced guides, outstanding gift shop. Located on US 221 between Linville and Marion, just 4 miles south of the Parkway, exit Parkway at Milepost 317.4. Turn left on US 221 toward Linville Falls and Marion. Email: info@linvillecaverns.com www.linvillecaverns.com (800) 419-0540.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cross Creek Cabins - 5 cozy log cabins, 2 mi. from MP 317.4. Open all year. Pet friendly. Ponds, creek, walk to Linville Falls & gorge. www.crosscreekcabins.com (828) 765-9701.

The Inn At Blue Ridge - MP 317.4 - 5 mi South on Hwy 221. A beautiful bed & breakfast. 12 large rooms with fireplace, refrigerator, private deck & adjacent to golf course. (828) 756-7001 toll free (866) 756-7001. www.theinnatblueridge.com

Linville Falls Campground, RV Park & Cabins - Milepost 317, left (south) on US 221, 500 ft. beautifully shaded, full hookup sites. Separate wooded tent area. Cabin rentals. Hot showers, playground, laundry. May 1-Nov. 1. www.linvillefalls.com (828) 765-2681.

Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages - MP 317.4, US 221S, left 1 mile to Rt. 183. Restaurant (ABC permit), walk to falls & gorge. www.linvillefallslodge.com (800) 634-4421.

Linville Falls Winery - Come enjoy the High Country's premier wine experience. Just 1/2 mi. off the BRP, exit MP 317 on US 221 N. Daily tours and tasting noon - 6pm. www.LinvilleFallsWinery.com (828) 765-1400.

Parkview Cabin - Romantic getaway two bedroom cabin with fireplace, & Jacuzzi. Full kitchen. Private mountain location. Wrap-around deck with scenic views. (828) 765-4787.



View from Little Switzerland | Photo by Alex Armostrong

DID YOU KNOW?

Swimming in the Linville River and climbing on the rocks is dangerous and not allowed.

Parkview Lodge - Milepost 317.4, 500 ft. south of Parkway on US 221. Private guest rooms, 1 bedroom suite, & secluded cabins available. TV, wine & beer shop. Free breakfast with guest room. Open all year. www.parkviewlodge.com (828) 765-4787.

320.7 **Chestoa View** offers an unusually fine view from one of the many vertical cliffs on Humpback Mountain.

Bear Den Campground - Blue Ridge Parkway @ MP 324.8. 400 acres, 144 sites. Tents to RV's. Campin' cabins. Apr-Oct 31. 600 Bear Den Mtn. Rd., Spruce Pine, NC 28777. www.bear-den.com (828) 765-2888.

Creek Side Cabins - Blue Ridge Pkwy MP 324.8. Fully furnished with all amenities including Jacuzzi, fireplace. Cabins for 2-10 guests. Open yr. round. www.bear-den.com (828) 765-2888.

McDOWELL COUNTY, NC

Welcome to our spectacular region of the Blue Ridge Parkway between Linville Falls and Crabtree Falls, Mileposts 316 to 344. Visit the unique community of Little Switzerland with gem mines, shopping, museum and the Orchard at Altapass, MP 328.3. Explore our hiking, cycling and waterfall trails, trout streams, caverns, Lake James, gold mines and golf courses or find adventure canoeing, boating, swimming or bird watching. You'll also enjoy discovering our towns of Marion and Old Fort where you'll find unique lodging properties, fun events, arts and craft sites, shops and more. Call us for information. www.blueridgetravelers.com (888) 233-6111.

The Altapass Orchard - MP 328, Family fun, storytelling, hayrides, free music - Sat, Sun, Wed-Friday, fudge, ice cream, gifts, apples, books, crafts, seasonal 5/15 - 10/31. (888) 765-9531.

Inn on Mill Creek - B&B in Pisgah National Forest, just 20 min. east of MP 382.6 or exit the Parkway at MP 344. A casual & comfortable homebase while exploring from Linville to the Asheville area. 3895 Mill Creek Rd. Old Fort NC. www.innonmillcreek.com (828) 668-1115.

Mountain Stream RV Park - 6954 Buck Creek Road, MP 344: 4 miles off Parkway. Creekside sites, full hook up, close to attractions. "Prettiest Little Park This Side of Heaven" (828) 724-9013.

330.9 **NC 226 Access point.** 6 mi. north to Spruce Pine. 14 mi. south to Marion.

330.9 **Museum of North Carolina Minerals Visitor Center and Park Store.** Access point of Parkway & NC 226. Features minerals found in North Carolina and regional geology. Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce.

330.9 **Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail** - Commemorates the campaign leading up to the American victory at Kings Mountain in 1780. Route crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway at Gillespie Gap, near the Mineral Museum. Administered by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/ovvi

PENLAND, NC

8 miles north of Parkway via NC 226N, exit at Milepost 331.

Penland Gallery - At Penland School of Crafts in Mitchell County, featuring contemporary craft and information about area studios. Open Tues-Sun from March to early Dec. Exit Parkway at US 226; follow 226N 7.5 miles; turn onto Penland Rd; follow signs to Penland School. Call (828) 765-6211.

MITCHELL COUNTY, NC

Exit Milepost 331. Gem mining, gem & mineral shops, Gem & Mineral Festival, Rhododendron Festival, whitewater rafting, Appalachian Trail/Roan Mountain, Penland School of Crafts, NC's largest indoor recreational facility. For accommodations, event dates & attractions, contact: Chamber of Commerce, 79 Parkway Rd., Spruce Pine, NC 28777. Email: info@mitchell-county.com. Web site: www.mitchell-county.com (828) 765-9483 or (800) 227-3912.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit go.nps.gov/brp-map

SPRUCE PINE, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via NC 226, exit at Milepost 331.

ATTRACTIONS

Gem Mountain - 13780 Hwy. 226S 1 mile from Parkway MP 331. Open March-December Monday-Saturday; open daily June, July & August. As seen on the Learning and Travel channels. Gem mine rain or shine. Mine trips, flume mining, free fluorescent display. www.gemmountain.com (888) 817-5829.

LODGING & CAMPING

Peak Mountain Cottages & Retreat Center - On 300 acres 7 miles N of Pkwy. Room to play or relax. Hiking trails, clear mtn streams. 460 Rabbit Hop Rd near Penland. Individuals, families or groups up to 25. www.peakmountaincottages.com (828) 765-9559.

Pine Valley Motel - Clean, modern, rooms, apt. 42 unit - all first floor, micro/fridge in rooms. 4 mi on NC 226N from MP 331 - Mineral Museum. Laundromat on site, wireless internet. Open all year. www.pinevalleymotel.com (866) 671-2246.

Richmond Inn Bed and Breakfast - 51 Pine Ave. MP 331 - 5 miles from Parkway in Spruce Pine. Eight comfortable guest rooms each with private bath, TV & WiFi. Open year round. Top Trip Advisor status. www.richmondinn.us or (828) 765-6993.

Springmaid Mountain Campground/Cabins - Retreat, horses/tubing/fishing. 7 mi N of MP 331 @ 2171 Henredon Rd. Year round. www.springmaidmountain.com (888) 297-0725.

The Village of Sugar Mountain, NC

Contact

Stay and play, in the Village of Sugar Mountain!



Photo Courtesy of Todd Bush

1-866-79-SUGAR

www.seesugar.com

With a peak elevation of 5,300', close proximity to area attractions, a variety of economical and intimate accommodations to rest your weary head, and only minutes from the Parkway, the Village of Sugar Mountain is the perfect base camp for your next mountain adventure.

Enjoy four seasons of fun in and around the Village of Sugar Mountain:

Winter: Skiing & Snowboarding, Tubing, Snowshoeing, Ice Skating, SugarFest

Spring/Summer: Golf, Tennis, Hiking & Mountain Biking, Outdoor Adventure Outfitters, Weekend Scenic Lift Rides, Lees McRae Summer Theater, Appalachian Summer Fest

Fall: Golf, Tennis, Hiking, Mountain Biking, Leaf Looking, Oktoberfest, Woolly Worm Festival, Valle Country Fair, Autumn at Oz

Lodging: Chalets, Condos, Spacious Houses

Escape from the ordinary and let the adventure begin at the Village of Sugar Mountain. MP 305.2. Enjoy the new Summit Express chairlift at Sugar Mountain Resort!

Does the Blue Ridge Parkway Close for the Winter?

Visitors Encouraged to Plan for Upcoming Maintenance and Seasonal Weather Related Closures

(NC/VA) – Visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway often ask when the Parkway closes for the winter. The Parkway motor road remains open, although many park facilities close seasonally. Temporary weather or maintenance related closures may impact Parkway travel during the winter months. An online interactive map was developed to help you keep up with the ever changing road conditions along the historic, 469-mile route. The map allows visitor to zoom in on specific sections of the Parkway for up to the minute road closure information.

Go to **go.nps.gov/brp-map**
to use this essential Parkway planning tool.

SHOPPING

Blue Ridge Soap Shed - See soap made. Enjoy 130 varieties of handmade soap in retail shop. Open 10-5 Mon-Sat April-December. 6/10th mile from Parkway MP 331 on NC 226N toward Spruce Pine at 179 Meadow View Rd. Web orders welcome year round. Classical seven path Labyrinth, Medicine Walks in nature. Visit *www.soapshed.com* or call (828) 765-6001.

333.9 **NC 226A Access point** to Little Switzerland.

LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NC

Just off Parkway on Rt. 226A, exit at Milepost 334.

ATTRACTIONS

Emerald Village - 3 miles from Parkway at Little Switzerland. Gem mining, gold panning, mine tours, waterfall, free exhibits, real mines, fun shopping! NC's Gem! *www.emeraldvillage.com* (828) 765-6463.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpine Inn - Clinging to the side of Grassy Mountain with THE most spectacular views in Little Switzerland. Rooms with large private balconies. Free sunrise, WiFi, picnic area, grill, fire pit. Reasonable rates. From MP 334, 1 mi. S on 226A. *www.AlpineInnNC.com* (828) 765-5380.

Switzerland Cafe & General Store - Hwy 226A, Milepost 334. Open 7 days. Serving lunch daily Easter - Halloween. Imported beers, wines & cheeses, picnic supplies, t-shirts, crafts. *www.switzerlandcafe.com* (828) 765-5289.

Switzerland Inn & Chalet Restaurant - Located directly on Parkway. Established in 1910. Variety of accommodations including mountain view suites, cottages & rooms in the main lodge. Chalet Restaurant serves three meals daily. Gracious casual atmosphere with old world charm. Tennis, golf privileges, swimming, fire pit, unique shops on property. Milepost 334. PO Box 399, Little Switzerland, NC 28749. *www.switzerlandinn.com* (828) 765-2153 (800) 654-4026.

Marion, Old Fort, Little Switzerland, Lake James & Linville Falls

Contact

McDowell County
Tourism Authority
91 South Catawba Avenue
Old Fort, NC 28762



Don't Miss:

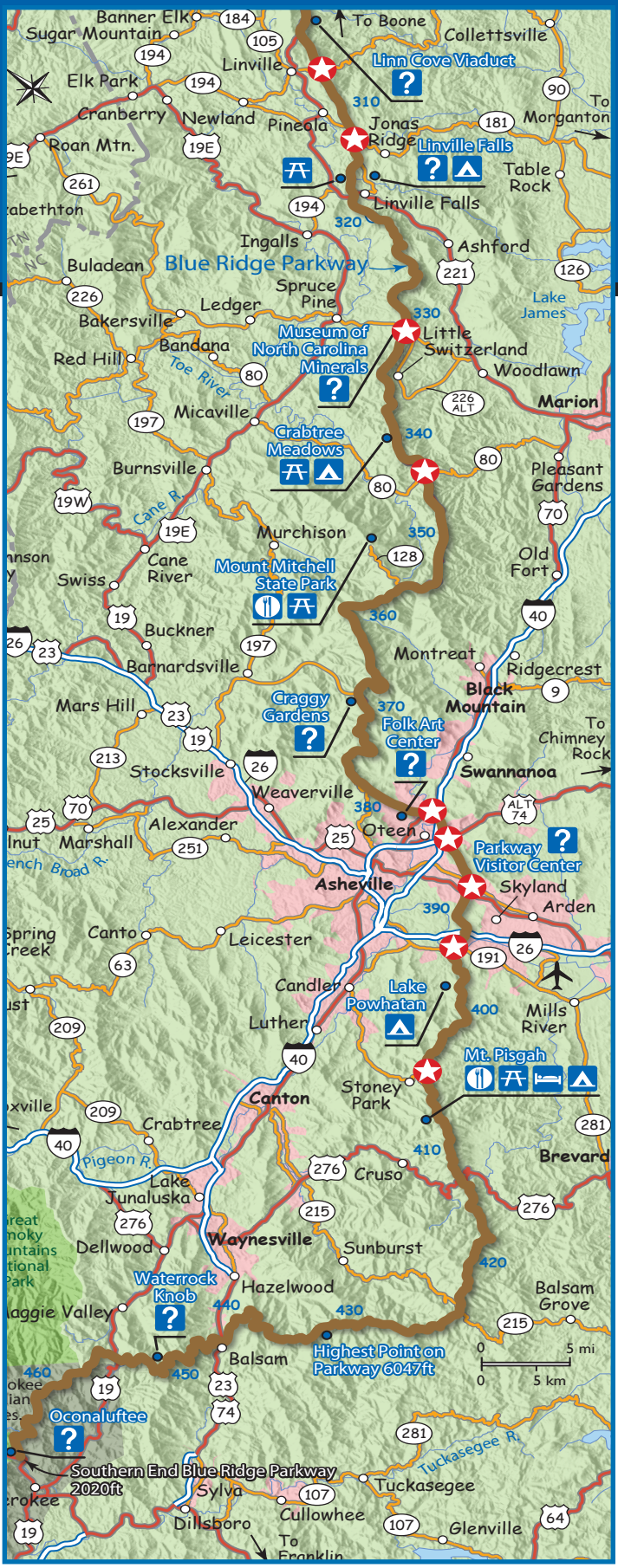
- Linville Caverns
- Curtis Creek Recreation Area
- Point Lookout Trail (Bike or Hike)
- Historic Carson House
- South Creek Vineyard
- Pristine Trout Streams
- Belle Nicho Winery and Orchard at Altapass
- 2 State Parks at Lake James
- Mountain Gateway Museum
- Davidson's Fort
- Catawba River Greenway
- Catawba Falls

888-233-6111
www.blueridgetravelers.com

Explore our Blue Ridge Parkway communities between Linville Falls and Crabtree Falls, Mileposts 316 to 344, including the Orchard at Altapass and Little Switzerland. Take the scenic route to Marion, with downtown arts and crafts, food and vintage shopping. Old Fort's Mill Creek village hosts our visitor center, art gallery, Mountain Gateway Museum, an antique mall and ten outdoor murals.

Follow our trails, including the Blue Ridge Traveler's Wine Trail, the spectacular McDowell Quilt Trail featuring over 200 barn quilts, and our scenic driving trails with the DiamondbackNC, White House Run, Lake James Loop and Cruising for Gold on the Vein Mountain Trail. Events, gallery sites, lodging, attractions and directions are online. Call to receive a free visitor guide and map!

Gold, gems and other mountain treasures are less than 2 hours from Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Charlotte and Greenville/Spartanburg!



Blue Ridge Parkway Pisgah Region:

Milepost 340, Crabtree Falls to Milepost 469, Cherokee, NC

339.5 **Crabtree Falls**. 250 acres. Hiking, camping, comfort station, drinking water. 40 minute walk to Crabtree Falls.

340.4 **Crabtree Falls Picnic Area.**

344.1 **Buck Creek Gap**, NC 80 **Access point**. North 16 mi. to Burnsville, south 16 miles to Marion.

BURNSVILLE, NC

Enjoy small town charm with bed & breakfasts, inns, handmade crafts, shops, summer theatre, golf, hiking, camping, musical events & festivals on Burnsville's Town Square.
www.yanceychamber.com (828) 682-7413.

FOOD, LODGING & CAMPING

Albert's Lodge at Mt. Mitchell - 5 min N of BRP, large rms, kitchenette, A/C, HDTV, WiFi, prvt. patio deck with spectacular view of Black Mtns, walk to Roaring Fork Falls. www.AlbertsLodge.com (828) 675-4691.

Black Mountain & Briar Bottom - 46 primitive sites/6 group sites. 50 Black Mountain Campground Rd., Burnsville, NC. Enjoy fly fishing, swimming, & tubing. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area - 31 campsites. 6000 Hwy. 80 South, Burnsville, NC. Some sites with river access, near Mt. Mitchell. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Maples Coffee House - Coffee, tea, treats. MP 344 - 15 miles, north on 80S, 573 Micaville Loop. www.maplesthesweetspot.com (828) 675-1876.

Mount Mitchell Golf Club Lodge - 2 miles off Pkwy at MP 344, rooms, condos, houses. Award-winning golf, great dining at Hawtree's Grill and Pub. Open April-November. www.mountmitchellgolf.com (828) 675-4923.

MAP KEY:

- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

Toe River Campground - 225 Patience Park Rd. M.P. 344 - Apprx. 10 miles North on Hwy. 80. Family campground on South Toe River. toeriver@yanceycountync.gov www.toerivercampground.com (828) 675-5104.

SHOPPING

OOAK Art Gallery - 14 miles north of MP 344. Fine, folk, & funky local art and live music. www.ooakartgallery.com (828) 675-0690.

Something Special Gift Shop - Downtown Burnsville. A unique shop in a country store setting. One block from picturesque town square. Mon-Sat 9-6. (828) 682-9101.

355 **NC 128. To Mount Mitchell State Park.** Highest peak in Eastern U.S.A., observation tower, tent camping area, trails, nature study, picnic area, Natural History Museum, restaurant. (May-October).

364.5 **Craggy Gardens Visitor Center and Park Store.** Exhibits, publications. (May-October) Trails.

367.6 **Spur to Craggy Gardens.** Picnic area, comfort station, trails.

375.6 **NC 694, Ox Creek Road.** Scenic Elk Mountain Highway. 8 miles to Weaverville. 7 miles to Asheville.

377.4 **NC 694 Access Point.** Town Mountain Road. 7 miles to Asheville.

WEAVERVILLE, NC

10 miles north of Asheville on US 19-23.

Dry Ridge Inn B&B - A relaxed small town B&B. 10 minutes from downtown Asheville, the Biltmore, and the Parkway. www.dryridgeinn.com (800) 839-3899.

377.4 **NC 694**. Town Mountain Road. 7 miles to Asheville.

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

"The Little Town That Rocks." Near Asheville. Arts/crafts, antiques, galleries, museum, specialty shops. Hiking/biking, golf, festivals, breweries, music. 40 restaurants. B&Bs, cabins, hotels. Pet friendly. Free guide. www.exploreblackmountain.com (828) 669-2300.

Carolina Foam Fabric & Home Decor - I-40 Exit 64 behind Pizza Hut, 5 miles east of Parkway on I-40. Area's largest selection of quilter's fabric, upholstery and drapery fabric. (828) 669-2400.

DID YOU KNOW?

Mount Mitchell State Park offers flora such as Wildflowers, including ox-eye daisy, white snakeroot, purple-fringed orchid, St. John's wort and pink turtlehead color the landscape.

Yancey County, NC

Contact

Burnsville Chamber
of Commerce
106 West Main Street
Burnsville, NC 28714



828-682-7413
www.yanceychamber.com

Welcome to the Home of Mt Mitchell...

Welcome to Yancey County, North Carolina. This scenic mountain destination is known for a unique blend of mountain music, world-renowned arts and crafts culture, thriving business community, and endless opportunities for outdoor recreation. Nestled in the Black Mountain Range, Yancey County is home to six of the tallest peaks east of the Mississippi, including Mt. Mitchell which stands at 6,684 feet and is THE tallest peak in the Eastern US.

Burnsville is a picture of Americana, the kind of place that invites you to take a leisurely stroll around Town Square. Enjoy a charming mix of shops, galleries and restaurants.

The majestic solitude of our mountains with their unspoiled, breathtaking beauty, the gentle pace of life and our warm, welcoming community have enticed numerous people to live, work and play here. Come and experience our home – you may find you belong here!

Come and experience our home – you may find you belong here!



Milepost 364

CRAGGY GARDENS

The name here is appropriate - Craggy Gardens. Twisted, jagged, rocky "crags" give the place its name, but these high elevation summits are home to the most spectacular floral display along the 469 mile Parkway corridor. For generations, visitors have headed for the Craggies in mid to late June, typically the prime time for viewing the pink and purple blooms of Catawba rhododendrons that blanket much of the area.

In addition to the "rhodies," the Craggies turn red in the fall with a spectacular show of mountain ash berries that can cast a scarlet glow over the entire area. The same species dominates parts of the highlands of Scotland as well and "craggy" is a term that many of the early settlers brought from their homeland to describe the rugged Blue Ridge.

High elevations such as Craggy Gardens yield an abundance of wildflowers and rare plants. From a distance, treeless areas such as the craggies appear bare and have become known as "balds." There are two types of appalachian balds... grassy and heath. The former are dominated by grasses, wildflowers and occasional members of the heath family. Heath balds are typically home to low growing rhododendron, mountain laurel, blueberries and flame Azalea. Although these balds are disappearing for reasons that are unclear, both can still be found at the craggies. Because of the presence of rare and endangered plants, easily damaged by careless hikers, please stay on the trails – for their safety and for your own!

Harsh weather can invade these exposed, high elevation ridgetops, resulting in the gnarled forests of twisted beech, birch, and buckeye. At 5,500 feet elevation, weather conditions here are severe. Strong winds, ice storms, and the short growing season dwarf and twist anything that dares to grow here.

With or without warning, severe weather can come to the Craggies, so always be prepared for colder temperatures and high winds.

Town Hardware & General Store - Aisles of smiles! Three historic buildings jam-packed with an extensive and eclectic mix of products. Open 7 days/wk. 103 W. State St. www.townhardware.com (828) 669-7723.

382.0 **Folk Art Center Visitor Center ? and Park Store** - Headquarters of Southern Highland Craft Guild, craft sales, demonstrations and exhibits, interpretive talks and other programs, conferences, craft library, auditorium and Guild offices. Hours: Daily 9-5. Hours extended in summer. (handicapped friendly).

382.5 **Access point Parkway and US 70.** West 1 mi. to Oteen, 5 mi. to Asheville. East 10 mi. to Black Mountain.

384 **Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center ? and Park Store** - Museum-quality exhibits, a 22-foot interactive map and a dramatic 24-minute Parkway movie. Open daily 9-5. www.blueridgeheritage.com (828) 298-5330.

384.7 **US 74A Access point.** West 3 mi. to Asheville. East to Chimney Rock, Bat Cave, Gerton, and Lake Lure.

CHIMNEY ROCK & GERTON, NC

25 miles SE of Asheville on US 64/74A, exit at Milepost 384.7.

ATTRACTIONS

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park - The best of the NC mountains in one place. Stunning 75-mile views over Lake Lure, several unique hiking trails and geological features such as Devil's Head and the Opera Box, a 26-story elevator built inside the mountain, a 404 foot waterfall. Pet friendly. Just 25 mi. SE of Asheville, NC. www.chimneyrockpark.com (800) 277-9611.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

The Esmeralda Inn & Restaurant - Chimney Rock, NC. Historic inn, restaurant, Select Registry member, cabin rentals. www.theesmeralda.com (828) 625-2999.

Hickory Nut Falls Family Campground - Tent, pop up, TR & MH. W&S 15 & 30 amp. Gm/Ld rm, hot showers. Apr-Oct. PO Box 97, Chimney Rock, NC. www.hickorynutfallsfamilycampground.com (828) 625-4014.

SHOPPING

Bubba O'Leary's General Store - 17 miles east of MP 384.7 US Hw 74, open year round, old timey fun stuff and gear for all your mountain adventures. www.bubbaolearys.com (828) 625-2479.

LAKE LURE, NC

28 miles southeast of Asheville on US 74A, exit at Milepost 384.7.

Fox Run Townhouses - Lake Lure. Townhouses with full kitchens, fireplaces, washer/dryers and Jacuzzi tubs, golf, tennis and water activities. www.8664myvacation.com (866) 469-8222.

384

Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters is located just off the Parkway at Milepost 383. Information may be obtained by writing to this address: 199 Hemphill Knob Rd, Asheville, NC 28803 or calling (828) 298-0398. Detailed information may be found on the National Park Service's Parkway website at www.nps.gov/blri.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC

Welcome Center 2932 Memorial Hwy. Lake Lure NC 28746, MP 384.7. Have the Time of Your Life! www.visitblueridgenc.com (828) 287-6113.

ASHEVILLE, NC

This mountain resort city at Milepost 382.6 of the Blue Ridge Parkway beckons lovers of festivals, the outdoors, fine restaurants, distinctive shopping, and Biltmore Estate, a 250-room French Renaissance chateau. The Visitors Center at Exit 4C off I-240 is open every day, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M-F and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekends. www.exploreasheville.com (828) 258-6101.

ATTRACTIONS

Biltmore Estate - Discover the timeless hospitality of Biltmore® in Asheville, NC. Experience the breathtaking beauty of Biltmore House—America's largest home®—and century-old gardens. Explore our 8,000-acre Blue Ridge Mountain backyard, then taste award-winning wines, dine, and shop in Antler Hill Village. Relax in our two splendid hotels for a complete getaway. Located on US 25, just north of the Parkway and I-40. Plan your visit online at www.biltmore.com or call 1-877-BILTMORE.

Blue Ridge Towns & Trails - ***Discover the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Explore our great small towns, what's happening, where to eat, sleep and play. Detailed information available at: www.NCBlueRidge.com***

The North Carolina Arboretum - Entrance at MP 393. Renowned gardens, hiking & biking trails and engaging exhibitions. www.ncarboretum.org (828) 665-2492.

WNC Farmers Market - 570 Brevard Rd. Asheville Exit 47 I-40. Exit 33 I-26. Open daily. Enjoy local produce, crafts, plants and restaurant. Free. www.wncfarmersmarket.org (828) 253-1691.

WNC Nature Center - MP 382.6, 75 Gashes Creek Rd. 60+ native species of the Southern Appalachians. Cougars, bears, otters, red wolves & more! 10-5 daily. www.wncnaturecenter.com (828) 298-5600.

FINE ARTS, CRAFTS, & SHOPPING

Asheville Outlets - Conveniently located at the intersection of I-40 and I-26. To keep up-to-date on all Asheville Outlets happenings, follow us on Facebook & Instagram @ashevilleoutlets and Twitter @shopasheville or visit www.ShopAshevilleOutlets.com

Bellagio Art-to-Wear - Showcases exquisite collections of distinctive clothing, jewelry and decorative accessories by acclaimed American artists in an opulent boutique setting. This gallery is located steps away from its sister gallery, New Morning Gallery. 5 Biltmore Plaza, Exit Milepost 388.8. For more info www.bellagioarttowear.com; Bellagio@Bellagioarttowear.com (800) 933-4438.

Blue Spiral 1 - Presents contemporary Southeastern fine art and crafts through over 25 annual exhibitions in a stunning three-level, 15,000 sq. ft. setting. The gallery features the work of one hundred regional artists. This spacious gallery is located in downtown Asheville, one block South of Pack Square. 38 Biltmore Ave; Exit Milepost 388.8. E-mail: info@bluespiral1.com. For more info www.bluespiral1.com, (828) 251-0202.

Folk Art Center - Milepost 382. Home facility of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Features craft shop of regional crafts, 3 exhibition galleries, daily craft demonstrations, special events. Parkway information and bookstore. National Park Service programs during season. Open daily 9-6 April-Dec; 9-5 Jan-March. Website: www.craftguild.org (828) 298-7928.

Grovewood Village - 111 Grovewood Rd. Adjacent to the Omni Grove Park Inn. Experience Asheville's historic arts and crafts destination. Free on-site parking. www.grovewood.com (828) 253-7651.

New Morning Gallery - A fine crafts destination for over 30 years, offers a unique selection of hand-crafted furniture, home accessories, pottery, glass, jewelry, garden sculpture and other imaginative gifts by American artisans in a 12,500 sq. ft. setting. The gallery is located in Historic Biltmore Village, two blocks from Biltmore Estate's entrance. 7 Boston Way; Exit Milepost 388.8. E-mail: Artforliving@newmorninggallery.com. For more info: www.newmorninggallerync.com, (800) 933-4438.



Craggy Gardens | Photo by William A. Bake

Rug & Home - Over 20,000 oriental rugs & home accessories. Finest rugs from India, China, Pakistan, Persia, Turkey, Egypt, Karastan, Milliken. Tapestries, needlepoints, oil paintings, antique furniture, brass, crystal, & Tiffany lamps, mirrors. Local & national artists. Sculptures and fine porcelain. Located at I-26, exit 33 behind Ethan Allen. Open 7 days. (828) 667-4585.

Southern Highland Craft Gallery - Featuring fine regional crafts. 26 Lodge St., Biltmore Village, Asheville, NC. www.craftguild.org (828) 277-6222.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area - ***Protecting, preserving & celebrating one of the most beautiful regions on earth and the cultural heritage of those who shaped its history & traditions. Located in the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center, 195 Hemphill Knob Rd. www.blueridgeheritage.com (828) 298-5330.***

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

3B's Inn Bed, Breakfast and Biscuits - Rms, suites & cottage EXCLUSIVELY for people traveling with dogs. Gerton, NC. www.3bsinn.com (828) 625-4926.

Asheville Biltmore Fairfield Inn & Suites - Left onto 191, 2.5 mi. on left across from Asheville Outlets. www.marriott.com/avlbs (828) 665-4242.

Asheville Cabins of Willow Winds - 25 Luxury cabins, 38 acres adjacent to Parkway & Mountains-to-Sea Trail. www.ashevillecabins.com (800) 235-2474.

Asheville East KOA Campground - 6 1/2 miles from Parkway. Go east on Hwy 70. Kamping Kabins, lodges, RV & tent sites. 2 fishing lakes, pool, trout stream on 55 acres. Open year-round. www.ashevilleeastkoa.com (828) 686-3121 or (800) 562-5907.

Asheville West KOA - I-40 Exit 37, minutes to Biltmore House, gem mining, river rafting, music, arts & crafts - full hookups, tents & kabins. Reserve now; (800) 562-9015. www.koa.com/campgrounds/Asheville-west

Baymont Inn Biltmore - I-40 Exit 50 or 50B. Near Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village. 2 miles north from Blue Ridge Parkway on US 25. Indoor pool & spa. Free cont. breakfast. AAA, AARP. www.baymontinns.com/hotel/17936 (828) 274-2022, (800) 337-0550.

Bear Creek RV Park - From Blue Ridge Parkway, exit Hwy 191 North. Open year round. Full hookups, paved sites, laundry, heated pool May 15th-Sept. 15th. www.ashevillebearcreek.com (800) 833-0798.

Bent Creek Lodge - 10 Parkway Crs. MP 394, Exit for NC Arboretum then 1/2 mile south on 191. Elegantly rustic lodge, mt. views, comfy beds, hiking trails, fireplace & great breakfast. 10 mi. to Asheville. www.bentcreeknc.com (877) 231-6574.

Campfire Lodgings - 7 mi. from dwtn. Asheville. Mtn. top camping, full service RV sites, yurts, cliff house, cabins, and tent sites. Open year-round. www.campfirelodgings.com (828) 658-8012.

Asheville, NC

Contact

Asheville Visitor Center
36 Montford Ave. Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 258-6129



877-GO-TO-AVL
ExploreAsheville.com

Let the magic find you in Asheville, North Carolina – a welcoming city in the mountains with a rhythm and vibe all its own. Get your fill of inventive cuisine from more than 250 independent restaurants that take farm-to-table to a new level. Take your pick of music venues offering live music from local legends and national names in a variety of soul-stirring styles. Sip innovative cocktails and raise a glass to award winning beers in the craft brewery capital of America. Explore the charming town of nearby Black Mountain, or wander through the 250-room Biltmore Estate, America's largest home. Browse downtown Asheville's 30-plus galleries and stroll through working artists' studios in the River Arts District. Go zip lining and whitewater rafting just outside the city or venture out on the cheese trail. Discover the lure of an Asheville getaway, and emerge inspired. Visit ExploreAsheville.com to book your stay today.

The Destination That's Like No Other in the South

Chestnut Street Inn - 176 East Chestnut St. Come see why everyone loves us! 2.5 blocks to downtown Avl., made from scratch breakfast. www.chestnutstreetinn.com (828) 285-0705.

Clarion Inn - Asheville Airport, 550 Tavern & Grille on-site, 24/7 airport shuttle & full hot breakfast. www.ashevilleclarion.com (828) 684-1213.

Clarion Inn Biltmore Village - I-40 to exit 50 or exit 50B. Nearest to Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village, 2 mi. from Pkwy. Outdoor pool, deluxe cont. breakfast. (828) 274-0101.

Country Inn & Suites - I-26 Exit 33. 1 mile from Parkway & NC Arboretum. Free continental breakfast. Close to Asheville Outlets & Biltmore Estate. Outdoor pool, 2 room suites, some w/whirlpool. (828) 670-9000.

Country Inn & Suites Asheville - Westgate, free Shuttle to downtown, free hot breakfast, pet friendly, Tripadvisor award-winning hotel. (828) 772-3188.

Country Inn & Suites Asheville Downtown Tunnel Road - 199 Tunnel Road. 3 miles from Parkway. Newly renovated. 100% non-smoking, indoor pool & spa, free hot breakfast, 1 mile from downtown, 3 miles from Biltmore House. (828) 254-4311.

Courtyard by Marriott - 1 Buckstone Place. Exit MP 382, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Bistro Restaurant, indoor pool, spa, fitness center. www.courtyardasheville.com (800) 321-2211 or (828) 281-0041.

Crowne Plaza Resort - Exit 3A, 1 mi. from downtown, 5 min. from Pkwy. Wellness ctr, spa, golf, tennis, pools, zipline, restaurant, bar, free WiFi, pet friendly. www.ashevillecp.com (828) 254-3211.

Cumberland Falls B&B - 254 Cumberland Ave, Asheville, MP 384. Luxury rooms, gourmet 2-course breakfast. www.cumberlandfalls.com (828) 253-4085.

Econo Lodge-Airport - Located at I-26 exit 40. Minutes to Blue Ridge Parkway, Biltmore House, airport, & WNC Agriculture Center. Wire & wireless internet. Cable TV. (828) 684-1200.

Engadine Inn and Cabins - 2630 Smoky Park Highway, Asheville (Candler) NC, 6.5 mi., 10 min. from MP 393.6. 5 B&B rooms in circa 1885 Inn, plus 6 private cabins. www.honeyhillasheville.com (828) 633-1110.

Fairfield Inn Asheville Airport - Airport shuttle 24/7, hot breakfast, indoor pool, fitness center. www.marriott.com/avlnc (828) 684-1144.

The Omni Grove Park Inn - 290 Macon Ave. via Charlotte St. Exit from downtown I-240. Historic resort with world-class spa, dining, and golf. www.omnihotels.com/grovepark (800) 438–5800.

Hampton Inn & Suites Biltmore Area - Exit Milepost 393.6, go 2.5 miles north on Highway 191. All new hotel opening summer 2018! Free hot breakfast, wine & beer bar, comp. local shuttle. Adjacent to Asheville Outlets and close to Biltmore. (828) 684-1486.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Contact

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Offices at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center
195 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, NC 28803



828-298-5330
www.blueridgeheritage.com

Learn about the beautiful and authentic natural and cultural heritage of the North Carolina mountains and foothills with a visit to the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center near Asheville, at Milepost 384. Here you can get personal guidance and information from both park rangers and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area's regional information desk.

The LEED certified gold building is worth a visit in itself, with museum-quality exhibits, a 22-foot interactive map of the entire Parkway, and a free, award-winning 24-minute movie in high definition with surround sound that will introduce you with stunning video to this remarkable region. The gift shop offers guidebooks, CDs, children's goods, souvenirs and products from the region.

The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area—protecting, preserving and celebrating one of the most beautiful regions on Earth and the cultural heritage of the people who shaped its history and traditions.

Start your journey through the lush green forests and mystical blue mountains of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center.

Hampton Inn Tunnel Rd - Exit Milepost 382.6, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Hotel is on the right. Free hot breakfast, cozy outdoor fire pit, and free area shuttle. Close to Downtown Asheville and Biltmore. www.ashevilletunnelroad.hamptoninn.com (828) 255-9220.

H&H Distillery - Locally owned, craft liquor. MP 387.4, free tours and tastings, local made liquor. 204 Charlotte Hwy. www.hhdistillery.com (828) 338-9779.

Hickory Nut Gap Farm - 9 miles east on 74A. Visit animals, pick berries, picnic, purchase meats, kitchen & butchery! www.hickorynutgapfarm.com (828) 628-1027.

Holiday Inn Biltmore East at the Blue Ridge Parkway - Exit one mile on US 70 East, hotel located on left. Mountain view rooms, pet friendly rooms, full service restaurant, fitness center, scenic seasonal outdoor pool. Only 7 minutes to Biltmore Estate and Downtown Asheville. www.biltmorehotels.com e-mail: hieastsales@biltmorehotels.com (828) 298-5611.

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites - I-26 exit 33. Free hot continental breakfast, 1 mile from Parkway, pool, indoor heated spa, fitness center. (828) 665-6519.

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Arden-Asheville Airport - Between Asheville & Hendersonville and moments from the Asheville Regional Airport. (828) 684-6000 or (800) 465-4329. www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/arden/avlar/hoteldetail

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Asheville-Biltmore Village Area - I-40 #50/50B near Biltmore Estate, downtown Asheville and walking distance to Historic Biltmore Village. (828) 277-0026 or (800) 465-4329. www.holidayinn.com/biltmorearea

Homewood Suites - Exit MP 382, go 3 mi. west on US 70. Full renovation in Spring 2017! All-suite hotel, free hot breakfast, evening social (M-Th), comp. area shuttle. Close to downtown Asheville and Biltmore. www.asheville.homewoodsuites.com (828) 252-5400.

Hominy Valley RV Park - From Blue Ridge Parkway, exit Hwy 191. Open yr round. From I-40 exit 44, FHU, WiFi, minutes to Biltmore house. Do not take Hwy 151 from Parkway. www.HominyValleyRVPark.com (252) 205-2772.



Stars Over Parkway | Photo courtesy of PARI

Log Cabin Motor Court - Cozy, historic log cabins 5 miles from downtown Asheville - 330 Weaverville Highway www.theashevillecabins.com (828) 645-6546.

Mama Gertie's Hideaway - MP 382.6, go east 6 miles on Hwy. 70. Turn right on Patton Cove Rd. Go 3/4 mi. uphill thru residential area. RV sites, tenting and cabins. Secluded, peaceful, unique setting and exceptionally clean. Open year round. www.mamagerties.com (877) 686-4258.

The Mountaineer Inn - 155 Tunnel Rd. 1½ miles from Parkway MP 382.6. Clean, quiet rooms away from traffic, cont breakfast. Coffee & refrigerators in rooms. 1 mile from center of downtown & mall. www.mtinnasheville.homestead.com (800) 255-4080.

North Lodge on Oakland - 84 Oakland Rd, six-room elegant Inn, private baths, downtown 1 mile North, Biltmore Estate 1 mile South, MP 389, 5% disc for AAA, AARP members, www.northlodge.com (828) 252-6433.

The Pines Cottages - Vintage cabins & cottages with modern amenities. 9 mi. from MP 376. 6 mi. to downtown Asheville. www.ashevillepines.com (828) 645-9661.

The Princess Anne Hotel - 1 mile to downtown Asheville. Charming historic hotel in a quaint neighborhood. www.princessannehotel.com (828) 258-0986.

Ramada Inn - 1/2 mile off Parkway at US 74 and I-240 Exit 8. 174 rooms, suites with kitchenettes and Jacuzzis. Playground area, pool, free continental breakfast. (828) 298-9141.

Shoji Spa & Lodge - Asheville's only Japanese outdoor hot tub spa. The Lodge, Loft and Studio at Shoji offer unique, luxurious and cozy accommodations surrounded by the majesty of nature overlooking the Pisgah National Forest and minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Serenity and scenery are paramount, yet only 8 minutes from downtown Asheville. Spectacular views and fireplaces in each unit make this the perfect couple's escape! Spa packages and lodging for large groups available. www.shojiretreats.com (828) 299-0999.

Sleep Inn West - I-40, Exit 44 left, Near Cracker Barrel. Biltmore Estate and Biltmore Village 6 mi. Blue Ridge Parkway 4 mi. Free wireless internet, free hot breakfast. Biltmore packages available. www.ashevillesleepinn.com (828) 670-7600 or (866) 901-1033.

SpringHill Suites by Marriott - 2 Buckstone Place. Exit Milepost 382, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Free breakfast, indoor pool, studio suites. Be sure to check out our Bike the Blue Ridge Package or ask about our special Blue Ridge Parkway discount rates. www.springhillsuitesasheville.com (828) 253-4666.

Sweet Peas Hostel - 23 Rankin Ave., Asheville. Beds starting at $28 - in the heart of downtown. Clean, comfortable, showers, kitchen, laundry, Wi-Fi/comp. www.sweetpeashostel.com (828) 285-8488.

Wingate Asheville Airport - New in 2017. Close to Biltmore Estate, Chimney Rock Park, DuPont Recreational Forest. Exercise room, indoor pool, free WiFi, business center. 155 Underwood Rd. Fletcher, NC 28732. (828) 684-4311.

RECREATION

Nantahala Outdoor Center - Visit Asheville's favorite outfitter now located at The Grove Park Inn. Shop the best brands in outdoor gear, apparel and accessories. Get outside and experience the mountains with family-friendly to high-adventure private guide services. Over 40 years' experience in whitewater rafting, kayaking, hiking, fly fishing, mountain biking and canopy tours. Custom tours also available. Open year round. Visit www.noc.com (800) 232-7238.

RomanticAsheville.com - Insider's Guide to Asheville & surrounding mountains, Biltmore, hiking, waterfalls, Parkway, packages. www.RomanticAsheville.com

388.8 **US 25 Access point.** North 5 mi. to Asheville.

393.6 **NC 191 Access point.** 6 miles north to Asheville. 20 miles south to Hendersonville.

FLETCHER, NC

Located on US 25, halfway between Asheville and Hendersonville. Exit at Milepost 388.8.

Foam & Fabric - Hwy 25, 6 miles south of Blue Ridge Parkway. Area's largest selection of dress, upholstery, and drapery fabric. Open six days 9:00 to 5:30. (828) 684-0801.

Smiley's Huge Flea Mkt & Yard Sale - Every weekend. Daylight to 2; over 1000 spaces. Free park/admission. 12+ food vendors; 100's of sellers, 1000's of buyers, 1,000,000's of items; antiques to produce. 5360 Hendersonville Rd, Fletcher, NC. www.smileysfleamarkets.com (828) 684-3532.

HISTORIC HENDERSONVILLE AND FLAT ROCK AREA, NC

Hendersonville is located 22 miles south of Asheville and Biltmore Estate. Escape from life's hectic pace to Flat Rock Playhouse - the State Theatre of NC, Carl Sandburg Home, and Dupont State Recreational Forest waterfalls. Venture to the many state and national forests with a variety of terrain for hiking or mountain biking. The area offers family activities for children of all ages. Historic downtown features interesting architecture, delightful shops, museums, and locally owned restaurants. Henderson County wineries, cideries, and breweries provide tours and tasting rooms. Henderson County is home to Sierra Nevada Brewing Company's east coast brewing operation. For a free Vacation Planner call (800) 828-4244 or visit www.visithendersonvillenc.org.

The Cascades Mountain Resort - Family resort-hotel with full service restaurant. Beautiful, 100 room, complimentary hot breakfast. Large indoor pool and 32-person hot tub. (828) 595-8155.

Elijah Mountain Gem Mine - Treasure Hunt of your Life. Keep what you find! Mine for ruby, emerald and more! Open year round. 2120 Brevard Rd. Hendersonville NC. www.ElijahMountain.com (828) 692-6560.

Mill House Lodge - Exit 53 I-26. 1-3 BR units, lake w/canoes, kitchens, cable, pool, WiFi, close to Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse. Open all year. www.millhouselodge.com (800) 736-6073.

Hendersonville, NC

Contact

Visitor Information Center:
Open 7 days - 362 days a year:
Mon - Fri: 9 - 5 • Sat, Sun & Holidays: 10 - 5
For more information & Free Vacation Planner
Call 828-693-9708 • 800-828-4244



800-828-4244
visithendersonvillenc.org

Hendersonville offers cool mountains and warm southern hospitality. Hendersonville is located, 22 miles south of Asheville, and 15 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway, on a plateau of 2200 feet above sea level.

Explore the waterfalls in DuPont State Recreational Forest, the Carl Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse, recreation, festivals, shopping and a variety of accommodations, and restaurants. Summer evening concerts showcase traditional mountain music and dancing Monday nights and oldies rock on Friday nights.

Historic downtown features interesting architecture, delightful shops, museums, and locally owned restaurants. Henderson County wineries and breweries provide tours and tasting rooms, to sample mountain grown selections. Henderson County is home to Sierra Nevada Brewing Company's east coast brewing operation.

Venture to the many state and national forests with a variety of terrain for hiking or mountain biking. The area offers family activities for children of all ages. Make memories in this charming mountain town.

It's easy to find year 'round activities for the entire family in Hendersonville, North Carolina!

POLK COUNTY, NC

First Peak of the Blue Ridge. I-26E, Exits 59 & 67. Explore gorges, hiking, birding, waterfalls, kayaking, scenic drives & historic small towns - Saluda, Tryon & Columbus. Enjoy horse shows, wineries, inspired shops/galleries, local restaurants & year-round events. Rejuvenate at historic inns, cozy cabins & hotels. www.firstpeakblueridge.org (800) 440-7848.

405.5 **Access point NC 151**. 15 miles north to Candler.

408.6 **Mount Pisgah**. Campground w/showers, picnic area, trails, (May-November). Mount Pisgah was part of the 100,000-acre estate bought in the late 1800's by George W. Vanderbilt. The first forestry school in America was established on the estate. A large part of the woodland, the first large tract of managed forest in this country, became the nucleus of Pisgah National Forest. For camping reservations www.recreation.gov

Pisgah Inn - "Peak of the Parkway", elevation 5,000 ft. Open April 1 - Oct 31. Mountain handicrafts. Delicious food. Featuring country ham and mountain trout. Delightful overnight accommodations, with panoramic view. Milepost 408.6 on Blue Ridge Parkway. www.pisgahinn.com (828) 235-8228.

411.8 **Wagon Road Gap.** US 276 **Access point**. South 18 mi. to Brevard, north 8 mi. to Cruso, 22 mi. to Waynesville.

417 **Looking Glass Rock.** So named because it reflects light brilliantly when water and ice are on the rock's granite face.

CANTON, NC

A few miles off the Parkway, exit at MP 412 or 423.2.

Laurel Bank Campground - 350 Campers Lane. Canton NC. 7 miles from MP 412 on pristine Pigeon River. Follow US 276 North. Full hookups & tent sites. Laundry & hot showers. Open May 1st - Oct 15th www.facebook.com/LaurelBankCampground (828) 235-8940.

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, NC

Enchanted forests. Exhilarating mountains. Ancient rivers. And more than 250 magical waterfalls. Escape to Brevard and Transylvania County for your next great vacation adventure. Request your free travel planner and waterfall map at www.visitwaterfalls.com or calling (800) 648-4523.

? DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world with about 100 varieties of trees, 1,600 plant species, 54 mammals, and 159 species of birds.

Transylvania County & Brevard, NC

Contact

Brevard/Transylvania
Visitor Center
175 East Main St.
Brevard, NC 28712



1-800-648-4523
www.visitwaterfalls.com

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway at Mile Marker 412 and discover the perfect spot to stay and play. Wind your way down US276 through Pisgah National Forest and enter some of Transylvania County's most iconic landscapes. Along the way, you'll pass the family-friendly Cradle of Forestry, Sliding Rock and Looking Glass Falls. The lush foliage and spectacular waterfalls may recall a storybook fantasy, but the opportunities for adventure and relaxation are very real and include world class mountain biking, hiking, climbing and camping. In all, Transylvania County is home to over 100,000 acres of public lands, encompassed by Pisgah National Forest, DuPont State Recreational Forest and Gorges State Park. Just beyond the forest is the charming historic city of Brevard, voted one of the "Coolest Small Towns in America," by Budget Travel. Here you'll find vibrant local art, culture, outstanding restaurants, the soaring melodies of the Brevard Music Center and a host of welcoming accommodations.

Land of Waterfalls!
Start your adventure today!

BREVARD AND PISGAH FOREST, NC

18 miles south of Parkway, exit Milepost 412.

Cradle of Forestry Historic Site - Enjoy our trails, hands-on exhibits, movie, programs, gift shop. Cafe serves lunch. Visit cabins, explore Adventure Zone. April-Nov. www.CradleofForestry.com (828) 877-3130.

Hampton Inn Brevard - 13 miles in Pisgah Forest. Free hot breakfast, pool, free WiFi, motorcycle park. www.hamptoninnbrevard.com (828) 883-4800.

Inn at Brevard - Lodging, dining, cocktails. Full country breakfast. 16 antique furnished rooms. Private baths. 315 East Main St., Brevard, NC. www.theinnatbrevard.com (828) 884-2105.

Pisgah Forest Gem Mine - Open year round. Rock and gift shop plus mining! Located near Brevard. Only a short scenic drive from Hendersonville and Asheville. Get free info on our nearby breathtaking waterfalls. www.pfgems.com (828) 367-8330.

Pisgah Visitor Center - 1001 Pisgah Hwy., Pisgah Forest, NC. Information on hiking, biking, camping and more, interactive exhibits, gift shop. (828) 877-3265.

The Sunset Motel - 523 S Broad St. (downtown area Kitschy remodeled retro motor court, 20 unique rooms. www.thesunsetmotel.com (828) 884-9106.

Trout House Falls Luxury Waterfront Vacation Rentals - "Waterfall Cabin," "Streamside Home," & "Riverfront Fishing Cottage" sleeps 14. www.TroutHouseFalls.com (704) 691-2131.

418.8 **Graveyard Fields Overlook**. Loop trail of moderate difficulty, 2.3 miles, to Yellowstone Falls.

422.4 **Devil's Courthouse Parking Area**. Strenuous 1/2 mile hike to "Courthouse" for 360 degree view. Sensitive habitat area. Please stay on trail.



Waterock Knob Sunset | Photo by William A. Bake

DUPONT

State Recreational Forest



DuPont State Recreational Forest contains 10,400 spectacularly beautiful acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Elevations range from 2,240 feet at Cascade Lake to 3,620 feet at the peak of Stone Mountain. Little River runs through the forest, with four major waterfalls along its course. The forest also contains five lakes. The largest is 99-acre Lake Julia. The forest has more than 80 miles of roads and trails that are shared by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

Habitats within the forest include Upland oak forests, cove forests, granite domes, riparian areas, mountain bogs, small wildlife openings, lakes, streams and the Little River.



The DuPont State Recreational Forest is located in Henderson and Transylvania Counties between the towns of Hendersonville and Brevard. The forest is open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.



For more information:
www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts/dsf.htm
or toll free at 828-877-6527.

LAKE TOXAWAY, NC

15 miles west of Brevard on US 64, exit at Milepost 423.2.

Cabins at Seven Foxes - 5 wildlife-themed, private, fully equipped cabins on 7 acres. Pet friendly. Open year-round. Fireplaces, porches, Jacuzzi. www.sevenfoxes.com (828) 877-6333.

Vacation Rentals - Premier vacation homes at the largest private mountain lake in NC. Kid/pet friendly, hiking, fishing. www.lake-toxaway.com (866) 966-4029.

423.3 **Beech Gap.** NC 215 **Access point**. North 24 miles to Waynesville, south 17 miles to Rosman.

ROSMAN, NC

50 miles west of Hendersonville via US 64.

Headwaters Outfitters - Intersection of Hwy 215 & 64. Fly shop & guide service, paddling, tubing & taproom. 20 minutes from Parkway. www.headwatersoutfitters.com (828) 877-3106.

PARI - Former NASA facility now active center for research and STEM education, open Mon-Sat. Campus tours, scenic views, hiking trails, space flight artifacts, meteorites, minerals. www.pari.edu (828) 862-5554.

FREE DOWNLOAD: Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App. Includes maps & works even without cell reception!

HIGHLANDS, NC

Highlands Visitor Center - 108 Main Street, Highlands, NC MP 423. Highlands, elevation 4118 ft., a mountain respite for over a century. Nestled in the Nantahala National Forest, it is a place to commune with nature or be pampered by the finest of vacation resort amenities. Highlands features world class spa facilities and is well known for its outstanding restaurants, several awarded Wine Spectator status. Accommodations range from quaint, historic bed & breakfasts, cabins and private home rentals to larger inns and hotels. www.highlandschamber.org (828) 526-2112.

Cliffside Lake - 13908 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Two picnic pavilions, fishing pier, & 7 trails. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Fire Mountain Inn & Cabins - Contemporary inn, private Treehouses, cabins with fireplaces, Jacuzzi's. Spectacular views, pet friendly. www.firemt.com (800) 775-4446.

Van Hook Glade Campground - 18 spacious campsites. 14014 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Near beautiful Cliffside Lake. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

431.0 **Haywood-Jackson Overlook**. 1 1/2 mile self-guided loop trail, of moderate difficulty, to summit of Richland Balsam.

431.4 **Richland Balsam Overlook.** Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway motor road. Alt. 6,047.

Highlands, NC

Contact

For more information, contact visitor@highlandschamber.org



866-240-2064
www.VisitHighlandsNC.com

People say something changes in you once you've experienced Highlands — a town perched atop an ancient rainforest plateau more than 4,000 feet above sea level. Wellness sojourners since the 1800s and second-home owners seeking a lifestyle of unaffected luxury have shaped a culture with an unusual blend of urbane refinement and down-home neighborliness.

Aficionados and artisans of every genre — including acclaimed chefs — find their muse here, giving rise to a main-street social scene filled with interactive art experiences, live music performances, carefully curated shopping, award-winning dining and world-renowned accommodations.

A widely-studied ecological wonder, the Highlands Plateau teems with rare species of flora and fauna. Its headwaters feed lakes, rivers and waterfalls, creating a natural playground for those that live and visit here. Experience life at another level. Elev. 4118—The Height of Happiness.

Aficionados and artisans of every genre — including acclaimed chefs— find their muse here.

HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC

Maggie Valley / Waynesville / Lake Junaluska / Canton / Clyde. Authentic Appalachian, pure and simple. Featuring 46 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, The Wheels Through Time Museum, Cataloochee Ski Area, locally crafted beers, U-Pick farms, local music, and so much more. For more information visit: www.visitncsmokies.com or call (800) 334-9036.

Haywood Cty Hotel & Motel Association - Lodging & dining within minutes of 4 BRP exits, MP 420-450. Quality rooms, cabins, great food. Let Your Adventure Begin! www.maggievalley.travel

WAYNESVILLE, NC

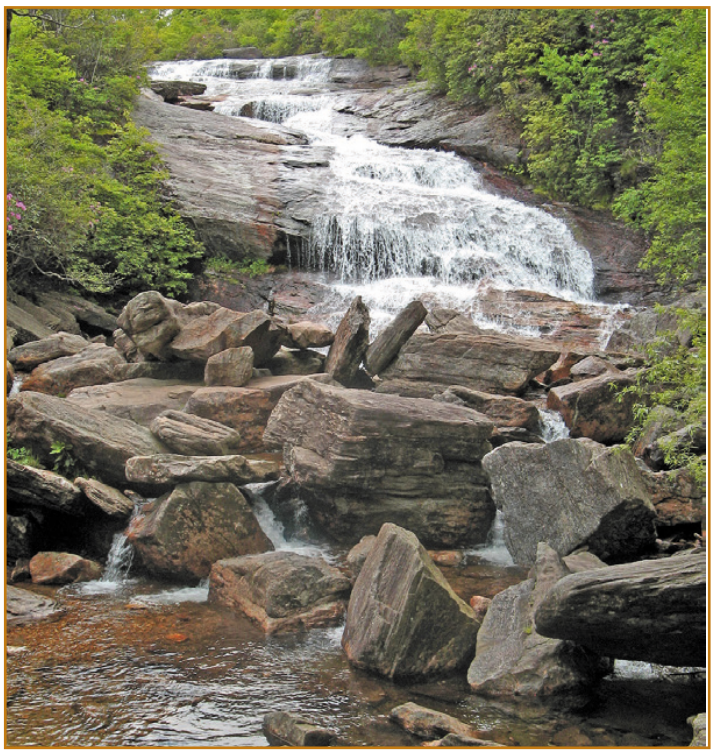
27 miles west of Asheville via US 19-23-74, or exit at Milepost 423.2 or 443.1.

Andon-Reid Inn Bed & Breakfast - 92 Daisy Ave. MP 440. Award-winning, mountain views, private baths, Jacuzzis, fireplaces, free WiFi, about ½ mile to downtown, 7 rooms. www.andonreidinn.com (828) 452-3089 (800) 293-6190.

Best Western - Smoky Mountain Inn - 130 Shiloh Trail, 4 mi. from Blue Ridge Parkway, Exit 98 off Hwy 23/74. Mountain views, free breakfast & WiFi, fridge/microwave in rooms. www.bwsmokymountaininn.com (828) 456-4402.

The Waynesville Inn Golf Resort & Spa - 176 Country Club Dr.; 5 min. from Pkwy, mountain views, restaurant & bar, 27 holes of golf, pool, spa, WiFi, MP 445. www.thewaynesvilleinn.com (800) 627-6250.

443.1 **Balsam Gap**. US 74-23 **Access point**. East 7 mi. to Waynesville, west 12 mi. to Sylva.



Second Falls at Graveyard Fields | Photo by William A. Bake



Milepost 451

WATERROCK KNOB

You've entered "high country" at the Parkway's southern end, and Waterrock Knob is one of the best examples of the rugged nature of the area. The Plott Balsam and Great Balsam ranges meet at Waterrock, rising in elevation to almost 6,400 feet. It is the second highest of all Parkway peaks and one of the highest in the eastern United States.

Waterrock Knob is known for its beautiful long range views of several major mountain chains in the Appalachians, including the Great Smoky Mountains, Pisgah Ridge, Nantahala, Cowee, and the Blue Ridge Ranges. With a nearly 360 degree vantage point, it is uniquely suited for viewing sunrises and sunsets, especially during the equinoxes in March and September.

The name Waterrock Knob comes from a spring located on the hillside at a place called "camp rock". Generations of explorers, hunters, and loggers have rested here and enjoyed the cool waters.

A small visitor center with interpretive displays introduces visitors to the area's rugged terrain and tremendous scenic qualities. Stories of black bear and elk are told here as well.

The 0.6 mile Waterrock Knob Trail takes you up to the summit, yielding even more spectacular views from the higher elevation.

BALSAM, NC

Just off Parkway on US 23-74, exit at MP 443.1.

Balsam Mountain Inn - Rest, read, ramble & romp in our mountains! The century-old Balsam Mountain Inn, a National Historic Place, welcomes travelers with 50 cheerful rooms, 100-foot porches, a large library and gracious dining. Breakfast, dinner and Sunday lunch available. At Balsam Gap, MP 443, turn R on US 23/74, drive 100 yds and turn L into Balsam. Follow signs to the Balsam Mountain Inn. www.BalsamMountainInn.net (800) 224-9498.

Moonshine Creek Campground - Cool & secluded, back to nature camping on beautiful rambling creek. FHU sites & cabins, campfires & hot showers. Off US 74/23 turn at Balsam Hwy sign. www.moonshinecreek.com (828) 586-6666.

SYLVA & DILLSBORO, NC

14 miles west on US 23-74, exit at Milepost 443.1.

Best Western Plus River Escape Inn & Suites - US 74 Exit 81. Spacious rooms overlooking Tuckasegee River available. WiFi, full breakfast, indoor pool, astounding views. www.bwriverescape.com (828) 586-6060.

Dogwood Crafters - Craft Coop, a showcase of handmade arts and crafts since 1976. 90 Webster St. Dillsboro, NC. Open 10-6 daily. www.dogwoodcrafters.com (828) 586-2248.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites - 26 Rufus Robinson Rd, Sylva 28779. US 23/74 exit 81. All non-smoking rooms, renovated 2012. Free hot breakfast bar, WiFi, heated indoor pool & spa. (828) 631-1111. www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/sylva/dsbnc/hoteldetail

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway reaches some of its highest points in the Waterrock Knob area, including Richland Balsam (highest point on the Parkway) and Waterrock Knob Visitor Center (highest visitor center on the Parkway).

Quality Inn - Hwy 74 East. Easy access to: Cherokee Indian Reservation, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Western Carolina University, Great Smoky Mountains Railroad. Pet-friendly. (828) 586-3315.

JACKSON COUNTY, NC

Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway is here! Free map to 10 trails & 19 waterfalls. 1400+ rooms, restaurants, and walk-about towns. Welcome Center, Main St., Sylva. www.mountainlovers.com (800) 962-1911.

Smoky Mountain Host of NC - ***The region boasts 300+ travel attractions & businesses and national treasurers: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherohala Skyway, and Nantahala & Pisgah National Forests. www.visitsmokies.org or (800) 432-4678.***

Appalachian Mural Trail - 30 minutes from Parkway. Beautiful historic murals telling the stories of Cherokee & local heritage. www.muraltrail.com (828) 293-2239.

Jackson County, NC

Contact

Jackson County Tourism
773 West Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779



1-800-962-1911
www.DiscoverJacksonNC.com

If you're ready to plan your great escape along the Blue Ridge Parkway, look no further than Jackson County. It's one big package of adventure. From epic single tracks and the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail, to cozy mountain towns and local breweries, Jackson County has it all. To complement the breathtaking landscapes, Jackson County's mountain towns are also home to historic resorts, award-winning restaurants and notable shopping. Seems there's always something going on here. The county's year-round events calendar features activities from craft festivals to Christmas parades. And changes in season only mean new opportunities—from teeing it up in summer to hitting the slopes in winter—to enjoy Jackson County. All you have to do is jump right in. It's all here and waiting, so come ready to Play On in the beautiful mountain towns of Cashiers, Cherokee, Dillsboro, Sylva, Cullowhee, Glenville and Sapphire.

Located 30 miles SW of Asheville, I-40 Exit 27 or Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost Exit 443.1

Hampton Sapphire - 43 miles west of Brevard, exit at MP 423.2 - rooms with views, breakfast, WiFi, indoor pool. www.blueridgemtnshotel.com (828) 743-4545.

451.2 **Waterrock Knob Visitor Center ? and Park Store - Parking overlook**. Comfort station. 4-state view including fine panorama of the Great Smoky Mountains. Trail, with pedestrian overlooks, to the Knob.

455.7 **Soco Gap,** US 19 **Access point**. 12 miles west to Cherokee, 5 miles east to Maggie Valley.



Parkway Tunnel | Photo by William A. Bake

MAGGIE VALLEY, NC

US 19, Eastern entrance to the Great Smokies. Fall in Love with Maggie. Maggie Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 279, Maggie Valley, 28751. www.maggievalley.org (800) Maggie1 or (828) 926-1686.

ATTRACTIONS

Wheels Through Time Museum - 62 Vintage Ln. Thurs.-Mon. 9am-5pm. 5 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Over 300 rare and historic machines back to 1903. www.WheelsThroughTime.com (828) 926-6266.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western Mountainbrook Inn - Hwy 19 - 4 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view. 15 miles from casino, outdoor pool & hot tub. Located in center of Maggie Valley. New rooms. Reservation (800) 528-1234.

Boyd Mountain Log Cabins - Seven restored antique hand hewn log cabins with 2-4 bedrooms on 140 acres with a Christmas tree farm. Open all year. MP 443 Waynesville or MP 455 Maggie Valley/Soco Gap, 10 min. off Pkwy. www.boydmountain.com (828) 926-1575.

Cataloochee Ranch - 5000' atop the Great Smokies. Direct entrance into Park. Rustic luxury in 2 lodges & 11 private cabins. Fireplaces, ranch-style meals, horses, tennis, fishing, hiking. Skiing in winter. (828) 926-1401 or (800) 868-1401.

Maggie Valley / Waynesville, NC

Contact

Instagram@VisitNCSmokies
Facebook.com/VisitNCSmokies
Twitter.com/VisitNCSmokies.com
#HayNow



800-334-0936
VisitNCSmokies.com

The best section of the Blue Ridge Parkway converge as the scenic road makes its final crescendo through the NC Smokies. Wildlife encounters of the elk kind, Appalachian heritage, outdoor adventure, quaint downtowns and culinary arts.

Explore the fine arts along the brick sidewalks of Waynesville and the shops lining the mountain-rimmed thoroughfare of Maggie Valley or enjoy a scenic walk around Lake Junaluska.

Kick up your heels at a mountain street dance, spread a blanket under the stars at the Maggie Valley Festival grounds or lounge by the river at Canton's Pickin' in the Park.

Pay homage to American transportation history at Wheels Through Time Museum or play a round of golf at one of our five signature courses. Toast to the spirit of the Smokies at Elevated Mountain Distilling Co. or sample our craft brewery scene and wine bars.

BLUE RIDGE HERITAGE TRAIL





As you travel along the Blue Ridge Parkway, you can find six of the 70 interpretive signs that are on the Blue Ridge Heritage Trail, a collection of special places throughout the North Carolina mountains and foothills that embody the remarkable history and culture of the region.

Words and photographs tell an illuminating story about each site and highlight aspects of the region's natural and cultural heritage including Cherokee, traditional music, agriculture, craft, and the natural scenic beauty of the NC Blue Ridge mountains.

On the Parkway, Blue Ridge Heritage Trail signs can be found at overlooks at Air Bellows Gap, MP 236.9; Moses Cone Park, MP 294; Lost Cove Cliffs, MP 310; Orchard at Altapass, MP 328.6; Looking Glass Rock, MP 413.2; and Qualla Boundary, MP 458.9.

Heritage Trail signs can also be found in communities adjacent to the Parkway and in cities, towns and rural areas throughout the region.

Download a trail map brochure and learn more at
www.BlueRidgeHeritage.com
The Blue Ridge Heritage Trail is a program of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Country Cabins - 5 mi off Pkwy in Maggie Valley with authentic log cabins. Peaceful mountain retreat. Fireplaces, porches, hot tubs. Open all year. Pet friendly. www.countrycabinsmv.com (828) 926-0612 or (888) 222-4611.

Jonathan Creek Inn and Villas - Picturesque creekside setting with gazebo and charcoal grill. Room types are Creekside, Fireplace, Hot Tub, and Creekside Rooms with Screened-in Porches. Enjoy use of the creekside hot tub and indoor heated pool. All villa rentals include fireplaces and private outdoor hot tubs. www.jonathancreekinn.com (800) 577-7812.

Maggie Valley Club & Resort - 1819 Country Club Drive, Maggie Valley, NC. Stay, play & dine. www.maggievalleyclub.com (828) 926-1616.

Mountain Joy Cottages - 3 miles off Pkwy. 1-4 bedroom cabins. Fireplaces, kitchens, porches, indoor pool, Jacuzzi cottages. Open all year. Pet friendly. Maggie's old homestead. www.mountainjoycottages.com (828) 926-1257.

458.2 **Heintooga Ridge Rd**. Spur to Mile High Overlook. 12 miles to Great Smoky Mtns. National Park Campground.

461.9 **Big Witch Overlook.**

469.1 **Access point Parkway and US 441.** 2 miles south to Cherokee, 29 miles north to Gatlinburg. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is located equally in North Carolina and Tennessee. The Park's 507,168 acres may be viewed from paved roads and many wilderness trails. Information bulletin board. Oconaluftee Visitor Center near Parkway & US 441.



Oconaluftee River in Cherokee | Photo by William A. Bake

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, located in the states of North Carolina and Tennessee, encompasses 815 square miles of which 95 percent are forested. World renowned for the diversity of its plant and animal resources, the beauty of its ancient mountains, the quality of its remnants of southern Appalachian mountain culture, and the depth and integrity of the wilderness sanctuary within its boundaries, it is one of the largest protected areas in the East. The park is open year-round. Visitor centers at Sugarlands, Oconaluftee, and Cades Cove are open all year, except December 25. There is no entrance fee due to restrictions in deeds that transferred state highways to the Park.

What to See and Do - Much of what the Smokies offers, including wildflowers, flowering trees, colorful fall foliage, mountain vistas, and historic buildings can be seen from your car. There are abundant opportunities for hiking, bicycling, and camping in the Park.

Cable Mill in Cades Cove - Open from late March - late November: 9:00-5:00. Located inside the park near the mid-point of the 11-mile, one-way Cades Cove Loop Rd. Exhibits - Water-powered grist mill.

Mingus Mill - Open From mid April - Late November: 9:00-5:00. Located inside the park, 2 miles north of Cherokee, NC, on US 441. Exhibits - Turbine-powered grist mill.

Camping - Reservations can be made at ***www.recreation.gov*** or (877) 444-6777.

Horse Camps - Open seasonally April - October. The reservations for both the horse camps and front country camping are made at ***www.recreation.gov*** or (877) 444-6777.



VISITOR CENTERS

(Open all year, with varying seasonal hours)

- **Cades Cove Visitor Center -** *Located inside the park near the mid-point of the 11-mile, one-way Cades Cove Loop Road.*
- **Oconaluftee Visitor Center -** *Located inside the park, 2 miles north of Cherokee, NC, on US 441.*
- **Sugarlands Visitor Center -** *Located inside the park, 2 miles south of Gatlinburg on US 441.*
- **Clingmans Dome Visitor Contact Station -** *Located near the parking area. Open seasonally April through November.*

For more information

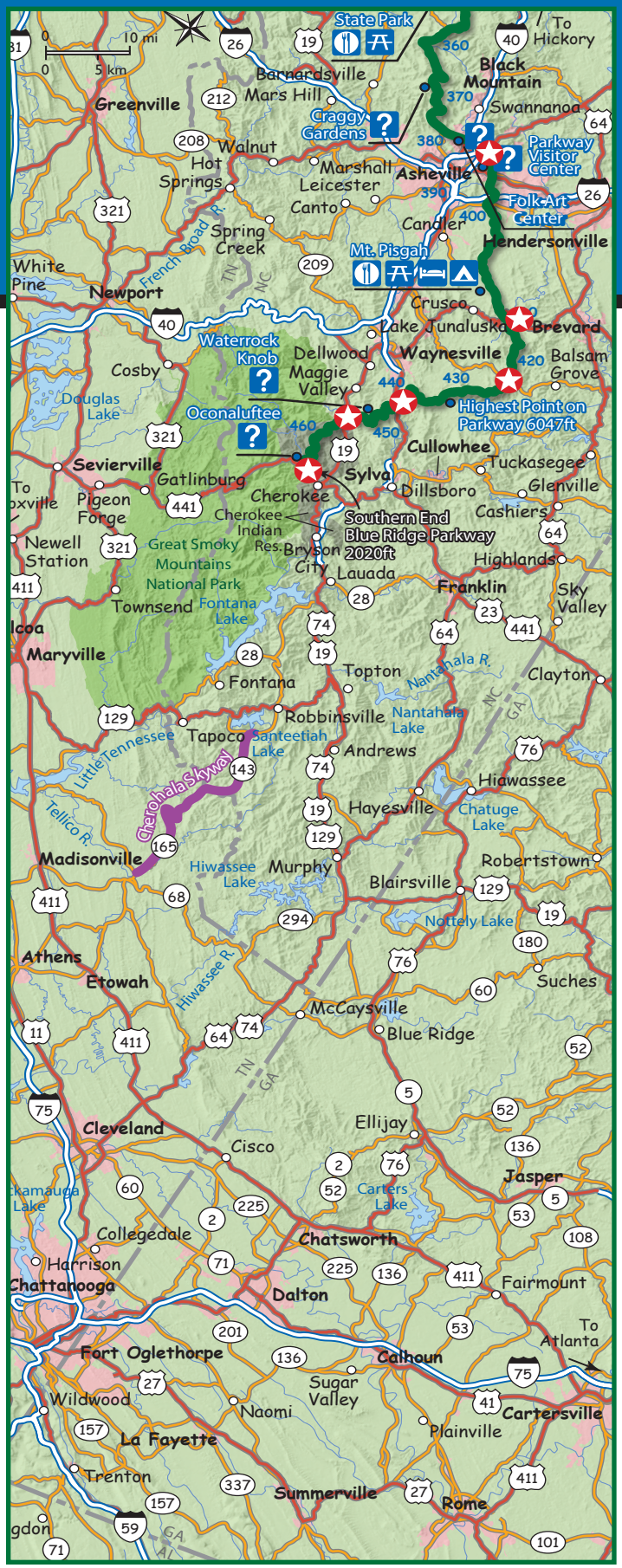
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road • Gatlinburg, TN 37738

www.nps.gov/grsm
Visitor Information Recorded Message:
(865) 436-1200

Ridge upon ridge of endless forest straddling the border between North Carolina and Tennessee, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the largest protected areas in the Eastern United States and attracts over nine million visitors each year. A part of the Cherokee homeland, the Smokies is a hiker's paradise with over 800 miles of trails.

Elevations in the park range from 800 feet to 6,643 feet and topography affects local weather. Temperatures are 10 to 15 degrees cooler on the mountaintops.

- ***Spring*** *brings unpredictable weather, particularly in higher elevations. Snow may fall in March, but by May daytime highs often reach the 80s. Nighttime temperatures vary from below freezing in March to the 50s in May. Rainfall is common during the season.*
- ***Summer*** *is hot and humid, but more pleasant in higher elevations. July and August highs reach the 80s and 90s. Evening lows are in the 60s and 70s. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are common.*
- ***Fall*** *has warm days and cool nights and is the driest period. Frosts occur starting in late September. Daytime highs are in the 70s and 80s during September, falling to the 50s and 60s in early November. By November, nighttime lows are usually near freezing and snow is possible.*
- ***Winter*** *is generally moderate, but extreme conditions can occur. It is not unusual to have warm temperatures in the low elevations and snow in the higher areas. Half the days in the winter have high temperatures of 50 degrees or more. Nighttime lows are normally at or below freezing, but can drop to -20°F at high elevation. In the lowlands, snows of 1" or more occur 1-5 times a year.*



Great Smokies Region:

Southern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Near Great Smoky Mountains National Park & Tennessee

CHEROKEE, NC

At the southern entrance/exit to Parkway. Home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Museums, cultural and family attractions, motels, campgrounds, restaurants, shops, famous outdoor drama "Unto These Hills" and Harrah's Cherokee Casino. Complete information at downtown Visitor Center, 498 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC 28719. www.visitcherokeenc.com Toll-free (800) 438-1601.

ATTRACTIONS

Oconaluftee Indian Village - Poses the question, "Is it actually Cherokee history if it's still happening?" Today you can transport back to an 18th century village full of authentic stickball demonstrations, dance, staged war reenactments—you name it. If it happened then, it's happening now. Season opens May 1st, and tickets and times are available at www.visitcherokeenc.com or (866) 554-4557.

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc. - Largest selection of authentic Cherokee weaponry, basketry, beadwork, finger weaving, wood & stone carving. www.quallaartsandcrafts.org (828) 497-3103.

"Unto These Hills." - Where Cherokee history comes alive, and drama is part of your adventure's DNA. This outdoor drama is the Cherokee story, as portrayed by the Cherokee themselves nightly from June 1–August 16, except Sundays. Performed in the newly renovated Mountainside Theatre. Tickets and reservations are available at www.visitcherokeenc.com or (866) 554-4557.

LODGING

Baymont Inn Cherokee - 1455 Aquoni Rd near the southern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway & the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. (828) 497-2102.

Chestnut Tree Inn - 154 rooms with free hot breakfast. Banquet & meeting facilities, outdoor pool, & guest laundry. Free Wi-Fi. www.chestnuttreeinncherokee.com (828) 497-9181.

MAP KEY:

- PICNIC AREA
- RANGER STATION
- CAMPING
- RECYCLING
- LODGING
- INFO
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- ACCESS POINTS

PARKWAY BOUNDARIES

The Parkway touches boundaries with state parks, four national forests, and five federally designated wilderness areas which expand visitors' opportunities for recreational activities including hiking, bicycling, boating, horseback riding, fishing, swimming and more.







To learn more, please visit:

NC State Parks
www.ncparks.gov

VA State Parks
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks

Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests (NC)
www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc

Jefferson and George Washington National Forests (VA)
www.fs.usda.gov/main/gwj/about-forest

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 100 rooms & suites across from Harrah's Casino on US 19 north. Continental breakfast, indoor pool, meeting space. (828) 497-0400.

Holiday Inn Express - Across the street from Harrah's. Free full breakfast, WiFi, DIRECTV & HBO, parking, close to all cultural attractions in Cherokee. (828) 497-3113.

FRANKLIN & MACON CO., NC

US 23, 441, 64, NC 28. Gem and ruby mines. Scenic waterfalls. For more information on accommodations and attractions, please write or call the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, 425 Porter Street, Franklin, NC 28734. (828) 524-3161 (800) 336-7829.

A Sapphire Inn - 761 E. Main St., Franklin, NC 28734. Downtown, restaurants & shops. www.sapphireinnfranklin.com - www.sapphireinnnc.com (828) 524-4406.

SWAIN COUNTY, NC

Have a big vacation in a small town! Enjoy pristine mountain beauty, whitewater rafting, Fontana Lake, trout fishing, horseback riding, hiking, scenic train ride, shopping or just relaxing. Rich Cherokee and Southern Appalachian history. Lodging includes inns, B&Bs, cabins, resorts, hotels, motels and campgrounds. Call (800) 867-9246 or visit www.GreatSmokies.com.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit go.nps.gov/brp-map

Cherokee, NC

Contact

Cherokee Welcome Center
498 Tsali Blvd.
Cherokee, NC 28719
Email: travel@nc-cherokee.com



800-438-1601
VisitCherokeeNC.com

How will Cherokee affect you?

In fun, yet profound ways. Take the Blue Ridge Parkway to the southern gateway of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and you'll find it drops you right into Cherokee. There, with your curiosity about ancient cultures close at hand, you'll find hundreds of authentic ways to interact with the Cherokee people, their stories, and their history. And if you like stunning outdoor beauty, Cherokee has that to spare. From the Oconaluftee Indian Village (pictured), to the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, to Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual, Inc. and the outdoor drama, "Unto These Hills," an overnight stay in Cherokee leaves a lasting impression. Go to VisitCherokeeNC.com to create your personalized itinerary.

Explore the mysteries of an ancient culture.



Spring Sunset on Clingman's Dome | Photo by Douglas Tate

BRYSON CITY, NC

10 miles west of Cherokee on US 19-74, exit at Milepost 469.1.

ATTRACTIONS

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad - 15 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway MP 469.1. Round-trip scenic excursions take you from historic depot through the beautiful countryside. Variety of train excursions & special event trains. Dine in First Class Cars or take it all in while riding in an open air gondola! Step on board for your next rail adventure! Seasonal schedule April-December. Information & reservations www.gsmr.com or (800) 872-4681.

LODGING

Fryemont Inn - National Register of Historic Places. Dinner/breakfast included. Open Spring to Thanksgiving. Pool. From $165/nt for 2. www.fryemontinn.com (828) 488-2159.

Hidden Creek Cabins - Great Smoky Mountains, creekside, mountain views, hot tubs, fireplaces, 27 unique cabins, rates starting at $99 per night. www.hiddencreekcabins.com

ANDREWS, NC

At the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, 40 miles southwest of Cherokee via US 19 and 74.

Fernwood Cottage - A special destination in Andrews, NC - just a few miles west of the Parkway. White water raft, hike, canoe, or relax. www.FernwoodCottage.com (828) 321-4442.

Bryson City, NC | Swain County

Contact

Visitor Center in the
Historic Courthouse
2 Everett Street
chamber@greatsmokies.com



800-867-9246
GreatSmokies.com

If you have high expectations for your next getaway, look no further than Bryson City - a small mountain town bordered by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Fontana Lake, and the Tuckasegee and Oconaluftee rivers.

Swain County has the highest peaks and some of the best rushing water in the Smokies, including Deep Creek's trio of waterfalls just outside Bryson City. Take a hike, a whitewater tube ride, fish for trout, have a picnic and splash in an old-fashioned "swimming hole."

From Nantahala River whitewater rafting, to world-class mountain biking, paddleboarding, zip-lines, scenic train rides, and drives along "The Dragon," Bryson City offers something for everyone.

After an active day, enjoy some downtime downtown with a free concert, eclectic dining or a hometown brew. Stroll through the shops, galleries, and studios of local artisans. Unwind at one of our comfortable B&Bs, cabins, motels or resorts. And get ready for another day of fun in the Smokies.

A great vacation destination that includes a scenic drive on The Parkway, "America's Favorite Drive".

FONTANA, NC

In the heart of the Smokies between Asheville & Knoxville.

Fontana Village Resort - Over 400 untouched acres offers the Lodge, 1-4 bedroom cabins, camping, meeting & wedding facilities, onsite catering, lazy river & pools, disc golf, hiking, biking, restaurants, lounges. Fontana Marina offers watercraft rentals, fishing guides, GSMP shuttles, scenic lake cruises & more. www.FontanaVillage.com (800) 849-2258.

MURPHY, NC

In the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, 57 miles southwest of Cherokee via US 19 and 74.

Murphy KOA - 2 miles east of Murphy, NC on Hwy. 19/74. Riverfront, FHU RV sites, & deluxe cabins. Next to Harrah's Casino. www.koa.com/camp/murphy (800) 562-9382.

GATLINBURG, TN

Amid the splendor of the Smoky Mountains, Gatlinburg embodies the simple goodness of small town life to millions of visitors yearly. Come see why; you've never been closer. www.gatlinburg.com (800) 766-5396.

ATTRACTIONS

Christ Museum & Gardens - Experience the greatest story ever told, realistic life-size scenes from the life of Christ. Rare gems and coins plus the awe-inspiring face of Christ sculpture. New - Book of Revelation exhibit and Bible collection. Come visit our gift shop! www.christinthesmokies.com (865) 436-5155.

Ober Gatlinburg - Ride the 120 passenger Aerial Tramway to indoor ice skating, Alpine Slide, scenic chairlift, Wildlife Encounter, Ski Mountain Coaster, winter skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing, dining, shopping & more! www.obergatlinburg.com (865) 436-5423.

Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies – Best U.S. aquarium! Big sharks, penguins & thousands of exotic sea creatures. www.ripleysaquariumofthesmokies.com (888) 240-1358.



Synchronous Fireflies in Great Smokies | Photo courtesy Romantic Asheville

LODGING

Mountain Rentals of Gatlinburg - More room, more fun & experiences you remember. Guest rewards, concierge, vacation deals. www.MountainChalets.com (877) 701-4278.

CHEROHALA SKYWAY

National Scenic Byway







The Cherohala Skyway was opened and dedicated in 1996. The road has been designated a National Scenic Byway. The road cost more than 100 million dollars to construct. The Cherohala Skyway crosses through the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee and the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina. The name "Cherohala" comes from the names of the two National Forests: "Chero" from the Cherokee and "hala" from the Nantahala. The Cherohala Skyway is located in southeast Tennessee and southwest North Carolina. The Skyway connects Tellico Plains, Tennessee, with Robbinsville, North Carolina, and is about 40+ miles long. The Cherohala Skyway is a wide, paved 2-lane road maintained by the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The elevations range from 900 feet above sea level at the Tellico River in Tennessee to over 5400 feet above sea level at the Tennessee-North Carolina state line at Haw Knob.

The Cherohala Skyway Visitor Center in Tellico Plains is a "must stop" before starting up the Skyway. Stop by for free maps, Skyway driving conditions and local area souvenirs and gifts. Picnic tables and spotless restrooms are available. A friendly staff will welcome you with important Skyway and area information

For more information visit: www.Cherohala.org
Toll Free: (800) 245-5428 or (423) 253-8010

PIGEON FORGE, TN

Variety of music, shopping, attractions, restaurants, and accommodations, plus Dollywood and the Great Smoky Mountains. Website: www.mypigeonforge.com Call 1-800-251-9100.

Asbury Cottage - Downtown Pigeon Forge, TN. "Family/ Biker Friendly" 3 Bedrooms/2 Baths, sleeps 8, deck & carport. www.asburycottage.com (304) 550-4161.

Christmas Place - At Bell Tower Square - 2470 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. The South's largest Christmas village. www.christmasplace.com (800) 445-3396.

Music Road Resort - Family friendly hotel, close to Pigeon Forge attractions. Indoor pool, free Wi-Fi, mini fridges. www.musicroadresort.com (855) 875-9100.

SEVIERVILLE, TN

Dolly's hometown, where shopping, entertainment, attractions, accommodations and mountain history come together in Sevierville to create an atmosphere that can't be found anywhere else in the Smokies. www.visitsevierville.com (888) 738-4378.

The Lodge at Five Oaks - Conveniently located near restaurants, attractions, & shopping! Farmhouse-themed lodge with lots of history & modern amenities. (865) 429-8300 www.thelodgeatfiveoaks.com

TOWNSEND, TN

25 mi. west of Gatlinburg via Rt. 321.

Tuckaleechee Caverns - 25 miles west of Gatlinburg on US Hwy 321 & Tenn. Hwy 73. One of the greatest natural attractions of the Great Smokies. Open March 15-Nov. 15 (March & Nov. 10am-5pm; Apr.-Oct. 10am-6pm). Rated a Diamond attraction by AAA. (865) 448-2274.

MARYVILLE, TN

West of Gatlinburg via Rt. 321, south of Knoxville.

Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson - Rider's Destination. Full service dealership - Open 7 days a week. Events/concert info. www.SMH-D.com (865) 977-1669.

NORRIS, TN

20 miles north of Knoxville, I-75 exit #122.

Museum of Appalachia - 20 miles North of Knoxville on I-75, exit #122. Smithsonian affiliate. Most authentic & complete replica of pioneer Appalachian life in the world. Open daily. www.museumofappalachia.org (865) 494-7680.

SWEETWATER, TN

North of Chattanooga on I-75, Exit 60.

Lost Sea - U.S. Registered Natural Landmark. Cavern tour and glass-bottom boat ride. Exit I-75 at Sweetwater. Open daily 9 a.m. Adults $19.95, Children 5-12 $10.95, 4 & under free. (423) 337-6616.

Sevierville, TN

Contact

Sevierville Convention
& Visitors Bureau
110 Gary Wade Blvd
Sevierville, TN 37862



888-738-4378
VisitSevierville.com

Located in the foothills of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, America's most visited national park, Sevierville, Tennessee is known for its high-end outlet shopping, exciting attractions and unique lodging options – including indoor water park hotels! Try zip lining (there are 14 courses in the area), indulge in down-home cooking, and spend time exploring historic downtown Sevierville.

While in Sevierville, be sure and see all things Dolly. Sevierville is Dolly Parton's hometown and many visitors stop for a photo with the singer's bronze statue in downtown Sevierville before making the five minute trip to her nearby Dollywood theme park, which offers award-winning rides, multiple live shows daily and traditional Appalachian arts, crafts and music.

From bucket-list worthy attractions like bi-plane flights and helicopter tours to fun-filled events and plenty of mountain moonshine, discover why Smithsonian Magazine named Sevierville one of its "20 Best Small Towns to Visit in 2015." Learn more at VisitSevierville.com.

Famous for its name brand outlet stores, flea markets, galleries and boutiques, Sevierville is known as the Shopping Capital of the Smokies. Find the best deals around by downloading Sevierville's Smoky Mountains app for free on iTunes and Google Play.

blue ridge MUSIC TRAILS of North Carolina



The Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina are nestled within the mountains and foothills of the state, a region known for its spectacular beauty, moderate climate, Cherokee heritage, handmade crafts, small family farms, and, of course, its rich musical traditions. The geographic footprint of the Blue Ridge Music Trails NC comprises twenty-nine counties in the western third of the state.

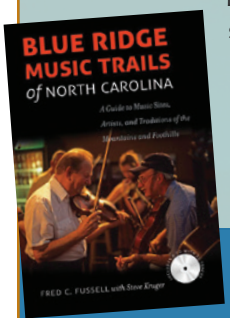
Western North Carolina has a national reputation as a music-rich region, and its traditions of old-time stringband music, ballad singing, and bluegrass are internationally renowned.

This region has been home to musicians whose artistry has shaped many forms of American music. Today young people in the region are learning these traditions and transforming them into new forms of roots music.





A popular guidebook, *Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina*, was created by the North Carolina Arts Council and published by UNC Press. It is available in gift shops along the Parkway. The book gives details of the history of the music, profiles of many of the artists and places where the music can be experienced.



BlueRidgeMusicNC.com
#BlueRidgeMusicNC

For more information you may contact these state tourism offices:

Visit NC
15000 Weston Parkway, Cary, NC 27513
800-VISITNC
www.visitnc.com

Virginia Tourism Corporation
901 E Byrd Street • Richmond, VA 23219
800-VISITVA
www.virginia.org

Tennessee Travel & Tourism
320 6th Avenue #500 • Nashville, TN 37243-7000
800-GO2-TENN
www.tnvacation.com



Moonlight over the Smokies | Photo by Douglas Tate

Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI)

If you are fascinated with science and the stars, the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI) makes for a unique visit while you are in the Asheville area. The PARI site was initially developed by NASA in 1962 as the east coast facility to track satellites and monitor manned space flights. Located in the half-million acre Pisgah National Forest near Brevard and about 30 miles southwest of Asheville, North Carolina, the PARI campus is a well-protected site for astronomy and should remain so for generations to come. The 200-acre campus contains 30 buildings.

Located in the half-million acre Pisgah National Forest near Brevard, off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 423.3 and about 30 miles southwest of Asheville, North Carolina, Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute is an impressive and unique not-for-profit facility dedicated to providing hands-on educational and research opportunities for a broad cross-section of users in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines. This world-class research center provides educational opportunities for all levels and ages of students. PARI has offered a hands-on working laboratory to young and seniors alike for more than ten years. Each year PARI excites the scientific imaginations of more than 20,000 people. Visitors to PARI have the opportunity to not only observe science, but to participate in scientific exploration.





Visiting PARI

PARI is open to the public, 9 - 4 Monday - Saturday. Visitors are welcome to take self-guided tours, hike three miles of secluded trails, enjoy unsurpassed scenic views from the Parks Observation Deck, picnic in Jo's Cove and visit the Exhibit Gallery with Space Shuttle artifacts, satellites, meteorites and rare gems and minerals. Docent-led campus tours are available Wednesdays and Saturdays, with reservations requested.

Complete information about PARI programs and events, reservations, and directions at www.pari.edu or 828-862-5554.



Visit **www.pari.edu**

Article courtesy of www.RomanticAsheville.com
Photos courtesy of PARI

Some nearby National Park Service Historical Sites to Visit



Overmountain Historic Victory Trail

On to Victory and Independence!

The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT) follows the Revolutionary War route of Patriot militia men from Virginia, today's eastern Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia to the battle of Kings Mountain, S.C., site of the Kings Mountain National Military Park. The OVNHT is part of the National Trails System. While there are hiking segments, the primary public access is by car over the commemorative motor route. The only trail marked portion is access from Old Hwy. 221/Linville Mountain Road.

Overmountain Victory NHT

2635 Park Road • Blacksburg, SC 29702

(864) 936-3477 • www.nps.gov/ovvi



Kings Mountain National Military Park

The turn of the tide of success

Explore the Visitor Center, which includes a 26-minute film, exhibit area and 1.5 mile battlefield trail, you will learn why the battle occurred, who the Overmountain men were and how the outcome of the battle helped to change the course of the Revolutionary War.

Kings Mountain NMP 45 minutes east of Charlotte and is free to enjoy! Check website for dates and event details.

2625 Park Road • Blacksburg, SC 29702:

(864) 936-7921 • www.nps.gov/kimo



Carl Sandburg Home – Connemara

A Poet of the People

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site offers keen insight into the memory and the many literary contributions of Carl Sandburg. Connemara, the 262-acre farm is available for visitors to explore and learn of this great American writer. The site consists of more than five miles of trails, historic buildings, and a small representative goat herd.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site

81 Carl Sandburg Lane (Mail address)

1800 Little River Rd. • Flat Rock, NC 28731

(828) 693-4178 • www.nps.gov/carl



Appomattox Court House

Beginning Peace and Reunion

On Palm Sunday (April 9), 1865, Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia signaled the end of the Southern States attempt to create a separate nation. It set the stage for the emergence of an expanded and more powerful Federal government. In a sense the struggle over how much power the central government would hold had finally been settled.

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Hwy. 24, P.O. Box 218 • Appomattox, VA 24522

(434) 352-8987 x 226 • www.nps.gov/apco



Guilford Courthouse

National Military Park

The museum exhibits provide visitors with information on the American Revolution, the battle, the campaign and the people involved. You will find displays of weaponry, military equipment, everyday items, musical instruments and information on soldiers, women, Quakers, commanders and the aftermath of the battle and the meaning of the War for Independence. Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway from Roanoke at Milepost 121.4 onto US 220 South. This last in yellow, only if you have room.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park

332 New Garden Road • Greensboro, NC 27410

(336) 288-1776 • www.nps.gov/guco/index.htm



Appalachian National Scenic Trail

The Appalachian Trail is a 2,180+ mile long public footpath, from Maine to Georgia, that traverses the scenic, wooded, pastoral, wild, and culturally resonant lands of the Appalachian Mountains. Conceived in 1921, built by private citizens, and completed in 1937, today the trail is managed by the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, numerous state agencies and thousands of volunteers.

Appalachian Trail Park Office

P.O. Box 50 • Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(304) 535-6278 • www.nps.gov/appa

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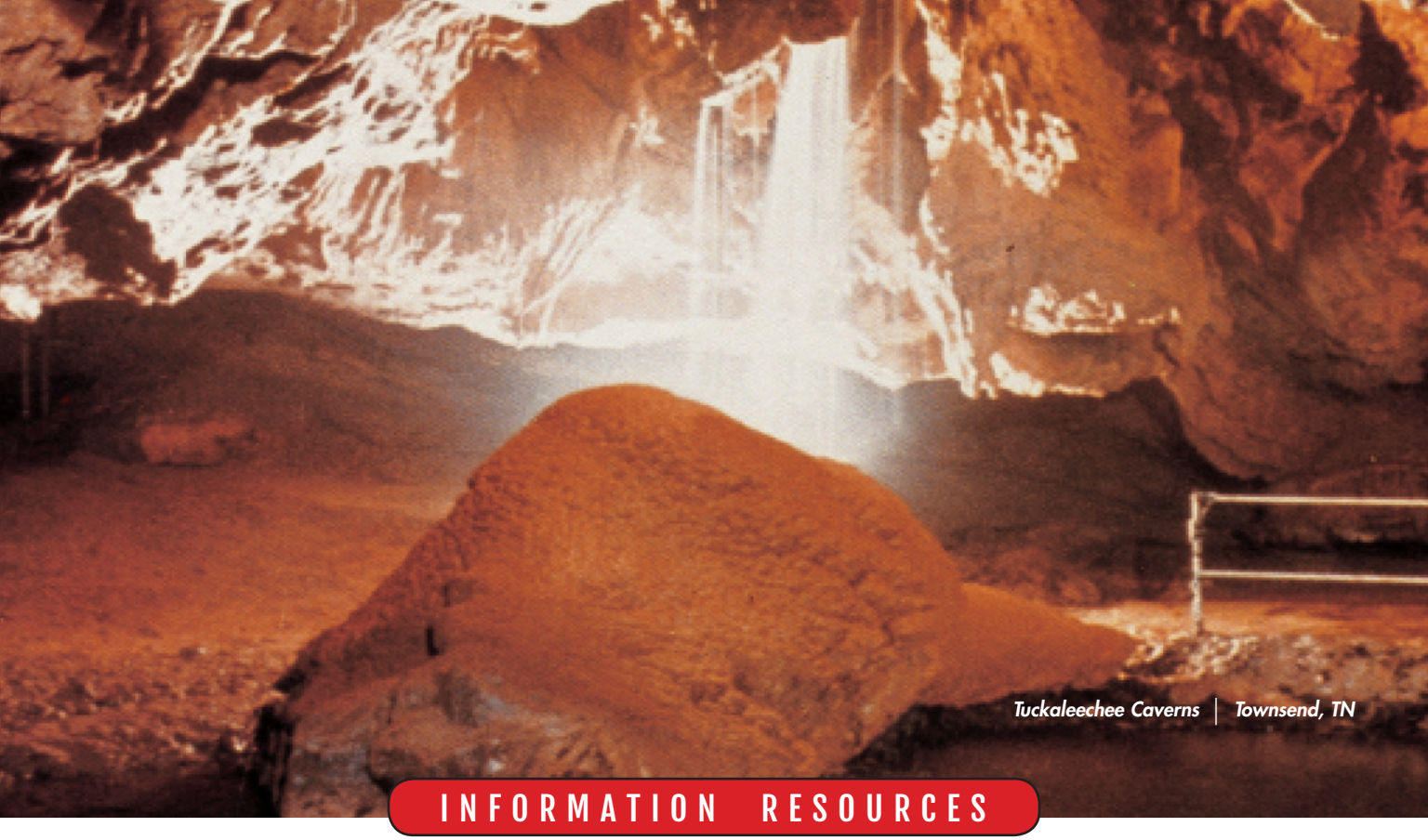
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Tuckaleechee Caverns | Townsend, TN

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Blue Ridge Country

Award winning magazine covering history, attractions & outdoor recreation. Great photos & travel tips. To learn more, go to *www.blueridgecountry.com*

Blue Ridge Parkway Golf Trail

America's newest golf trail. Included in all golf packages is lodging at your choice of upscale log homes, golf villas, or luxury hotels along with a selection of truly spectacular championship mountain golf courses. When you return home, you can tell your friends you played golf "up in the clouds." *www.brpgolftrail.com* (866) 650-6644.

BRPweather.com

Your source for Parkway weather. Don't get caught in the rain, fog, or snow! Know what lies ahead on all 469 miles. Accurate forecasts and local weather stations plus live Parkway weather cameras at *www.BRPweather.com*

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

Join our active group of Community Stewards, who work together to protect and enhance the Parkway. The Foundation supports:

The Blue Ridge Music Center (Milepost 213) - Visit the Roots of American Music Museum, take in live music and flatfoot dancing performances, explore the trails, and shop for gifts. *www.BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org* (276) 236-5309.

Kids in Parks - Explore TRACK Trails that dot the landscape with free self-guided brochures designed to introduce children to nature, turning ordinary hikes into fun-filled adventures. www.KidsInParks.com, (866) 308-2773, ext. 384.

For more information: *www.BRPFoundation.org* • **(866) 308-2773**

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway

MEMBERSHIP - VOLUNTEERISM - STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION - Non-profit 501(c)(3) Tax ID 58-1854404, membership organization dedicated to working with the National Park Service to preserve and enhance the Blue Ridge Parkway. FRIENDS aids the NPS in overlook and vista clearings, helps to fund programs for park visitors, educates and engages the next generation. FRIENDS provided almost $1.8 million of volunteer service to the Parkway in 2016. Help celebrate our 30th anniversary in 2018 by joining the growing number of FRIENDS members or by purchasing the VA Blue Ridge Parkway license plate. PO Box 20986, Roanoke, VA 24018. (540) 772-2992. *www.FriendsBRP.org*

Visitortips.com and FPIS Inc

The East Coast's premier brochure distributor, brings you an online virtual display. It allows users to access brochures before and during travel with links to websites & more. We are delivering the power of brochures to the internet. Visit *www.visitortips.com*.

VirtualBlueRidge.com

Your online guide to the Parkway, including a Virtual Tour of all 469 miles, photo galleries, information on natural and recreational opportunities, maps, and a travel directory. *www.virtualblueridge.com*

ALONG THE PARKWAY...

There are 469 miles of spectacular scenery from the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee.



Southern Highland Craft Guild, Moses Cone Manor
Milepost 294



Great Smoky Mountains Railroad
Bryson City, NC
Exit at Milepost 469.1





Folk Art Center
Asheville, NC
Milepost 382