

Virginia Highlights 5 to 9.3 Humpback Rocks has a small visitor Mile 0 Northern End of the Blue Ridge Park-

parks—Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains.

of the Southern Appalachians and links two eastern national

way begins in Virginia at Rockfish Gap near Waynesboro. U.S. 250 and I-64 take you to

parkway

Trees, trees, trees are nearly everywhere. And come autumn, many of them burst into color.

Major points of interest along the parkway are listed at right by mileage from Virginia into North Carolina. Below, in the left column and between

the Virginia and North Carolina Highlights, are

some informational notes pertaining to the whole

into Skyline Drive, which winds for 105 miles through Shenandoah National Park. white pine Dogwood, sourwood, and blackgum turn deep red

Charlottesville on the east and Staunton on

the west. To the north the parkway runs directly

0.75 mile to The Rocks, whose humped appearance gives the area its name. Picnic area (8.4), Greenstone self-guiding trail (8.8).

58 to 63.6 Otter Creek runs 10 miles down

the Blue Ridge to the James River. Otters don't play here anymore, but people do. Camp-

ground, restaurant, gasoline (60.8). Otter Lake

(63.1), fishing, trail. Exhibit shelter (63.6) interprets James River and Kanawha Canal: foot-

bridge across James to restored canal lock; self-guiding trail from shelter along river bluff.

center and a self-guiding trail through a

reconstructed mountain farmstead. A hiking

trail from the parking area (at mile 6.1) leads

in late September. Tulip-trees and hickories turn bright yellow, sassafras a vivid orange, and red maples add their multi-colored brilliance. Finally various oaks put on a dash of russet and maroon Evergreen trees include Virginia pine, white pine hemlock, spruce, and fir.



Restaurant, gasoline.

rhododendron

from the parkway via Va. 814. Swimming, picnicking, camping. 29 Whetstone Ridge provided many a moun-

tain man with a fine-grained sharpening stone.

34.4 Yankee Horse supposedly is where a hard-riding Union man's horse fell and had to be shot. See a reconstructed spur of an old logging railroad by taking a short walk to Wig-

day lily mountain laurel



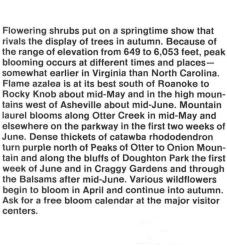




the dogwoods bloom.

black-eved susan

Petites Gap is named for a local family. Road to the west goes to Cave Mountain Lake, 7 miles away, in Jefferson National Forest. Swimming, picnicking, camping. 79.7 Onion Mountain's short loop trail takes you through rhododendron and mountainlaurel, which bloom in early June. flame azalea



Ask for a free bloom calendar at the major visitor centers. The stories of the independent mountain people and their make-do ways are told at many overlooks and facilities along the parkway, including Humpback Rocks, Peaks of Otter, Mabry Mill, Brinegar Cabin, Northwest Trading Post, and the Parkway Craft Center at Moses Cone Memorial Park. In the Asheville area, be sure to stop at the Folk Art Center for craft demonstrations and sales and for general parkway information and trip planning.

114.9 Roanoke River Gorge opens before you at overlook at end of 10-minute walk. 120.3 Roanoke Mountain is a 3.7-mile side

trip. One-way loop road takes you over the

mountain for impressive views. Steep grades;

83.4 Fallingwater Cascades can be seen

84 to 87 Peaks of Otter is a destination for

many travelers. Here are a lodge and restau-

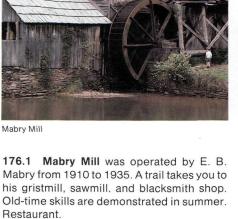
rant (85.6), plus a visitor center with exhibits

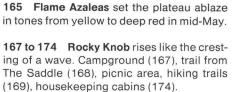
(86). Gasoline, campgrounds, picnic area,

along a 1.6-mile loop trail.

shuttle bus to Sharptop, trails.

towed vehicles prohibited.





129.6 Roanoke was a small town until the

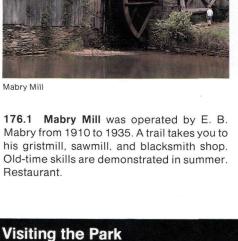
late 1880s when the railroad came. Now it is

154.5 Smart View is just that; go to the Trail

Cabin built in 1890s and you'll see "a right

smart view," especially in early May when

the largest community along the parkway.





5.8 Humpback Rocks Whetstone Ridge 29.0

Otter Creek

60.9

86.0

impaired. A brochure listing the places and types of facilities may be obtained at the visitor centers. Gasoline, Food, and Lodging. These services are provided along the parkway from May through October, except at Peaks of Otter Lodge, which is open all year. Reservations for lodging are advis-able: Peaks of Otter Lodge—Virginia Peaks of Otter Co., Box 489, Bedford, VA 24523; Rocky Knob Cabins (June through Labor Day) Park Concessions, Inc., Meadows of Dan, VA 24120; Bluffs Lodge, Doughton Park—National Park Concessions, Inc., Laurel Springs, NC 28644; and Pisgah Inn—Drawer 749, Waynesville, NC 28786. A wide range of accommodations also is available in nearby communities.

Walks and Talks. You are invited to attend campfire programs and conducted-walks at points of interest. These activities are listed on the Visitor Activities bulletin boards and in the parkway newspaper, "The Milepost," available free at any visitor center Camping. The nine campgrounds are fully open May through October. Facilities are limited in designated campgrounds, and sites may not be reserved. Drinking water and comfort stations are provided; shower and laundry facilities are not. Sites in each campground are designated for trailers, but none is equipped for utility connections. Most parkway campgrounds have sanitary dumping stations. Each campsite has a table and fireplace. Limited supplies may be purchased at most parkway gasoline stations and camp stores Trails. The hiker symbol under an overlook-ahead others take 30 minutes or an hour. Self-guiding nature trails are indicated by a squirrel-rifle-andlachian Trail roughly parallels the parkway from Mile 0 at Rockfish Gap to Mile 103.

The Blue Ridge Parkway, designed for motor recreation, is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, with headquarters at 700 Northwestern Bank Building, Asheville NC 28801. The emblem, right, along the parkway identifies areas that may contain visitor

centers, campgrounds, picnic grounds, trails, exhibits, lodges, or food and gasoline services. The

table, right, lists facilities and services for 19 primary sites. Services are provided at camp-grounds, picnic grounds, and other accommoda-

tion sites from May 1 through October. Limited

campground facilities are open in winter, but sections of the parkway may be closed by snow or ice. Many sites have special facilities for the physically

winter. Fees are charged and camping is limited to 14 days in summer. Camping is permitted only in sign is your invitation to leave your vehicle for a walk through the woods. Some trails are short leg-stretchers and take only 10 minutes roundtrip; powder-horn symbol. Many miles of excellent trails are at Peaks of Otter, Rocky Knob, Doughton Park, and Cone and Price Memorial Parks. The Appa-Picnic grounds. Along the parkway are several picnic grounds with tables, fireplaces, drinking water, trash cans, and comfort stations. A number of parking overlooks also have picnic tables. To help protect the parkway, and yourself, please observe these regulations:

Drive carefully. The maximum speed limit is 45

ranger. Commercial vehicles are not permitted on

Prevent forest fires. Fires are permitted in camp-

Protect wildlife. Watch for animals as you drive.

Keep pets on a leash or otherwise under physical control. No animals may be turned loose on

Do not throw trash from vehicles. Please use

facilities are available in nearby U.S. Forest

Lake but not on other parkway waters.

receptacles at parking and picnic areas.

Do not swim in parkway lakes and ponds. They

are for fishing and scenic beauty only. Swimming

Service recreation areas, State parks, and moun-

Boats without motor or sail are permitted on Price

The parkway follows the Appalachian Mountain chain and provides seemingly endless views of many parallel ranges connected by cross ranges and scattered hills. From Shenandoah National Park the parkway follows the Blue Ridge Mountains, eastern rampart of the Appalachians, for 355 miles. Then, for the remaining 114 miles, it skirts the southern end of the massive Black Mountains, weaves through the Craggies, the Pisgahs, and the Balsams, and ends in the Great Smokies.

miles per hour. Report any accident to a park

grounds and picnic areas only.

Hunting is prohibited.

parkway land.

Peaks of Otter 120.4 **Roanoke Mountain** 154.5 **Smart View** 169.0 Rocky Knob 176.1 **Mabry Mill North Carolina Cumberland Knob** 217.5 241.1 **Doughton Park** 272.0 E. B. Jeffress Park 294.1 Moses H. Cone Mem. Park 297.1 Julian Price Mem. Park 316.4 Linville Falls 331.0 Museum of N.C. Minerals 339.5 Crabtree Meadows 364.6 **Craggy Gardens** 382.0 **Folk Art Center** 408.6 Mount Pisgah Self-guiding Trails Visitor Center Picnicking The Blue Ridge Parkway crosses the North Carolina and Virginia state line at mile 216.9. The 1749 party that surveyed the boundary included Peter Jefferson, father of Thomas. North Carolina Highlights 260.6 Jumpinoff Rocks, at the end of a short Mile 217.5 Cumberland Knob, at 2,885 feet, woodland trail, offers a beautiful vista is a delightful spot to walk through fields and woodlands. Information station, picnic area, 264.4 The Lump provides sweeping views of the forested foothills. 218.6 Fox Hunters Paradise, a 10-minute 272 E. B. Jeffress Park has a self-guiding

hounds baying in the valley below. 285.1 Boone's Trace, which Daniel Boone 238.5 to 244.7 Doughton Park features trails, blazed to the west, crosses here. and weaving demonstrations at Brinegar Cabin. Lodge, restaurant, gasoline, and trail 292.7 to 295 Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, to Wildcat Rocks (241.1). a former estate, is now the Parkway Craft Center. Hiking, two lakes, 25 miles of car-258.6 Northwest Trading Post carries home

walk, is where hunters could listen to their

products made in nearby North Carolina com-

munities

trail to the Cascades. Old cabin, picnic area.

295.1 to 298 Julian Price Memorial Park, Crabtree Meadows turn pink in May. 339 Walk to Crabtree Falls. Gasoline, restaurant former retreat of an insurance executive, offers (339.5), picnic area (340.3). hikers a variety of short trails. Lake and camp-342.2 Black Mountains, named for the dark green of spruce and fir, contain Mount 308.3 Flat Rock, a quartzite outcrop, is worth

Mitchell, highest in the East.

area and trails (367.6).

of Southern Highlands.

tower.

355.4 N.C. 128 goes to Mount Mitchell State

Park, which has a picnic area and lookout

363.4 to 369.6 Craggy Gardens seem cov-

ered with purple rhododendron in mid-June.

Craggy Pinnacle Trail (364.1), visitor center

and self-guiding trail (364.6), road to picnic

382 Folk Art Center displays traditional crafts

way by John D. Rockefeller. Picnic area, campground, trails to overlooks of falls. The gorge is a Wilderness System area.

the walk for a superb view of Grandfather

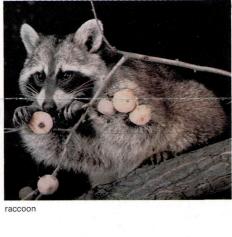
316.3 Linville Falls roar through a dramat-

ic, rugged gorge, an area donated to the park-

ground (297.1), picnic area (296.6).

Mountain, Linville Valley.

320.7 Chestoa's View trail provides spectacular scenery 331 Museum of North Carolina Minerals interprets the State's mineral wealth



408.6 Mount Pisgah was part of the George Vanderbilt estate and became home of first

mile-high overlook 1.3 miles from parkway and, in 7.3 miles, to campground and picnic area at Balsam Mountain in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Cherokee eagle killers. Mile 469 Southern End of the Blue Ridge

Wildlife is a delight to see along the parkway.

When the sun is high, woodchucks sit erect and chipmunks and squirrels chitter and chat. At night,

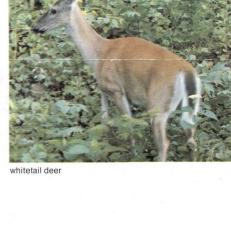
skunks, bobcats, foxes, opossums, and raccoons

may be seen along the roadsides. Whitetail deer and black bears are present but seldom seen.

Look for them in early morning or evening. More than 100 bird species can be seen during the

spring migration season. Protect all wildlife, and

please do not disturb dens or nests.





Parkway intersects with U.S. 441 in Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Cherokee Reservation

station.

☆ GPO: 1982-361-578/144

U.S. forestry school and nucleus of Pisgah National Forest. Campground, picnic area, trails, inn, restaurant, gasoline. 431 Richland Balsam's self-guiding trail takes you through a remnant spruce-fir forest. Highest point on the parkway, 6,053 feet. 451.2 Waterrock Knob provides a panorama of the Great Smokies. Trail, exhibits, comfort

