



Blue Ridge Parkway

DIRECTORY & TRAVEL PLANNER

Includes

The Parkway Milepost



The Natural Bridge of Virginia
Natural Bridge, VA
Exit at Milepost 63.9

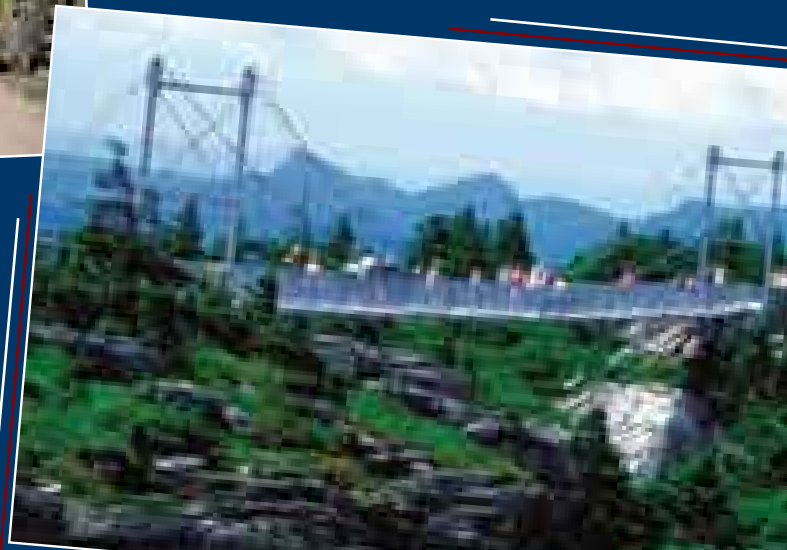
Grandfather Mountain
Linville, NC
Exit at Milepost 305.1



*Shenandoah National Park /
Skyline Drive, Virginia*



Luray Caverns
Luray, VA
Exit at Skyline Drive
Milepost 31.5



The North
Carolina
Arboretum,
Asheville, NC.
Exit at
Milepost 393



The 62nd Edition

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. BOX 2136, ASHEVILLE, NC 28802
(828) 670-1924

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PROMOTING TOURISM FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

This free Travel Directory is published by the 500+ member Blue Ridge Parkway Association to help you more fully enjoy your Parkway area vacation. Our membership includes attractions, outdoor recreation, accommodations, restaurants, shops, and a variety of other services essential to the traveler. All our members are included in this Travel Directory. Distribution of the Directory does not imply endorsement by the National Park Service of the businesses or commercial services listed.

When you visit their place of business, please let them know you found them in the Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Directory. This will help us ensure the availability of another Directory for you the next time you visit the Parkway area. Visit the Blue Ridge Parkway Association's website for even more information: www.blueridgeparkway.org

For a detailed Parkway map, ask at the Parkway Visitor Centers for the official "strip map".

The Blue Ridge Parkway Association, founded more than 60 years ago, is the officially designated marketing partner of the Blue Ridge Parkway, a majestic highland boulevard that winds through the Blue Ridge Mountains for 469 miles. BRPA members are businesses and organizations that serve visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway and the surrounding communities from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee to Shenandoah National Park in Virginia.

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 via email at info@blueridgeparkway.org or call (828) 670-1924

For recorded Blue Ridge Parkway information,
including road conditions or closings, please call
(828) 298-0398 or visit www.nps.gov/blri

For more information
you may contact the state tourism offices

north carolina
visitnc.com 1-800-VISIT NC

North Carolina Travel & Tourism
4324 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-4324
800 VISITNC. www.visitnc.com

Virginia 
is for Lovers[™]

Virginia Tourism Corporation
901 E Byrd Street
Richmond, VA 23219
800 VISITVA. www.virginia.org

TENNESSEE


Tennessee Travel & Tourism
320 6th Avenue #500
Nashville, TN 37243-7000
800GO2-TENN • www.tnvacation.com

I • N • S • I • D • E

NORTH CAROLINA

ALLEGHANY COUNTY	55
ANDREWS	85
ASHE COUNTY	57
ASHEVILLE	73
AVERY COUNTY	64
BALSAM	80
BANNER ELK	64
BEECH MOUNTAIN	65
BLACK MOUNTAIN	71
BLOWING ROCK.....	62
BOONE	60
BREVARD	78
BRYSON CITY.....	85
BURNSVILLE.....	71
CALDWELL COUNTY	60
CANTON	78
CHEROKEE COUNTY	86
CHEROKEE	83
CHIMNEY ROCK & GERTON	72
COLUMBUS.....	77
CROSSNORE	67
DEEP GAP.....	59
DOBSON	54
FLAT ROCK AREA	77
FLEETWOOD	59
FLETCHER	76
FONTANA.....	86
FRANKLIN & MACON COUNTY.....	80
GLADE VALLEY	55
GLENDALE SPRINGS	57
GREENSBORO	59
HAYWOOD COUNTY.....	79
HENDERSONVILLE	77
HIGHLANDS	79
JACKSON COUNTY	80
JEFFERSON	57
LAKE LURE	73
LAKE TOXAWAY	78
LAUREL SPRINGS	56
LINVILLE FALLS	67
LINVILLE	65
LITTLE SWITZERLAND	70
MAGGIE VALLEY	82
MARION.....	68
MARS HILL/MADISON COUNTY	71
McDOWELL COUNTY	68
MITCHELL COUNTY	69
MT. AIRY	53
NEWLAND	66
PENLAND	69
PILOT MOUNTAIN.....	54
PINEOLA	66
POLK COUNTY	77
ROARING GAP	55
RUTHERFORDTON	73
SALUDA.....	77
SAPPHIRE	79
SPARTA	56
SPRUCE PINE.....	69
SUGAR MOUNTAIN	65
SURRY COUNTY	54
SWAIN COUNTY.....	85
SYLVA & DILLSBORO	80
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	78
TRYON.....	77
VALDESE.....	59
VALLE CRUCIS	62
VILAS	62
WAYNESVILLE	79
WEAVERVILLE	71
WEST JEFFERSON	58
WILKESBORO	58
WILKES COUNTY	59
WINSTON-SALEM	59
BUENA VISTA	32
CARROLL COUNTY.....	49
CHARLOTTESVILLE	27
CHRISTIANSBURG	40
CROZET	28
CULPEPER	26
DANVILLE	48
FANCY GAP	50
FERRUM	41
FLOYD, VA & FLOYD COUNTY	41
FRANKLIN COUNTY	39
FRONT ROYAL.....	19
GALAX	51
GRAND CAVERNS.....	30
GRAYSON COUNTY	53
HARRISONBURG	26
HILLSVILLE.....	50
LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA	32
LOUISA.....	28
LOVE.....	31
LURAY-PAGE COUNTY	21
LYNCHBURG	35
MARTINSVILLE	48
MEADOWS OF DAN	47
MONTEBELLO	31
NATURAL BRIDGE	33
NELSON COUNTY	30
NEW MARKET	24
PAINT BANK	38
PATRICK COUNTY	47
PEMBROKE	40
PENNINGTON GAP	53
RADFORD	40
ROANOKE	38
SHENANDOAH COUNTY	19
SHENANDOAH CAVERNS.....	24
STAUNTON	28
STEELES TAVERN	31
VINTON.....	37
WASHINGTON	21
WAYNESBORO	30
WILLIS	46
WINCHESTER/FREDERICK COUNTY.....	18
WINTERGREEN	31
WOODSTOCK.....	19
WOOLWINE	46
WYTHEVILLE	52

SOUTH CAROLINA

LONG CREEK.....	82
-----------------	----

PENNSYLVANIA

GETTYSBURG, PA.....	18
---------------------	----

TENNESSEE

BRISTOL	53
DUCKTOWN	86
ELIZABETHTON.....	60
GATLINBURG	86
GREENEVILLE	60
HARTFORD	86
PIGEON FORGE	86
SWEETWATER.....	86
TOWNSEND	86

VIRGINIA

ABINGDON	52
AMHERST COUNTY	32
AMHERST	32
APPOMATTOX	35
ARARAT	49
BEDFORD.....	35
BUCHANAN	37

WEST VIRGINIA

HARPERS FERRY, WV.....	18
OAK HILL, WV.....	32

PARKWAY MILEPOST

UNTOLD STORIES



"African American CCC enrollees at attention" (location uncertain)
Photo credit: Cameron Montgomery

The Cherokee, African Americans, Italians and Spaniards...they are all part of the Parkway story.

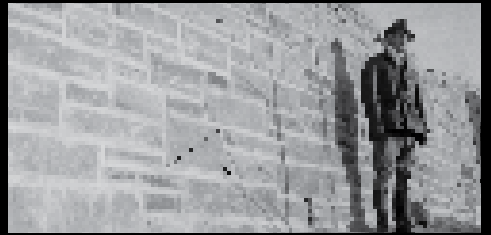
THE BLENDING OF CULTURES IN THE BLUE RIDGE

The history of Appalachia has often been over-simplified. Even the earliest visitors who wrote about the region in the late nineteenth century described the culture in stereotypical fashion. To many of these observers, all southern mountain residents fit into a common mold, looking, thinking, and acting in a certain way. Appalachia was portrayed with very little racial diversity or ethnicity – an almost entirely white, Anglo-Saxon environment. Americans read these stories, bought into these images, and began the regional stereotypes that hindered our understanding of Appalachia for generations.

But there is increasing evidence of minority populations and the resulting cultural blending that took place in many areas of the mountains. Research reveals a number of traditional African American

communities along the Parkway's route. And we now realize that the Cherokee nation once reached from Floyd, VA to Cherokee, NC along what is now the Parkway.

The most wide-spread cultural exchange took place with the original inhabitants of the region. As European settlers moved into the land of the Cherokee, tragic conflicts occurred in many places, but cultural exchange between American Indians and new settlers was sometimes common. Many elements of skills and crafts thought of as "typically" Appalachian are actually a result of cultural exchange. Herbal lore and the understanding of medicinal uses of native plants, some forms of basket making, and even Appalachian group dancing may reflect Cherokee influence.



A study of folk culture along the Blue Ridge Parkway found African American communities and strong church congregations with black mountain families having roots back to the days of slavery. African American and slave cemeteries are documented in a number of locations on or near the Parkway. At the Peaks of Otter in Virginia, an African American family farmed mountain slopes from 1905 to 1942 when their land was bought for the construction of the Parkway. The Hotel Mons at the Peaks of Otter, typical of other nineteenth century mountain resort hotels, used slave labor or employed African Americans to cater to hotel guests.

The story of Parkway construction itself also includes the fascinating role of minority and immigrant populations and their important contributions to park history.

When Nello Teer of Durham, North Carolina secured the first contract for building a section of the Parkway in 1935, he brought Italian and Spanish stone masons to the job. As the size and scope of this new parkway project became clear, these craftsmen encouraged friends and relatives with similar skills to come and work here.

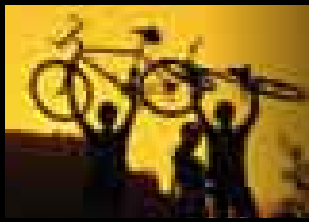
A landscape architect present at the first day of Parkway construction, recalled that these stonemasons worked rock in ways unknown to others. "You could look at their hands and it seemed as if they were born to lay rock," he marveled. For decades, names like Troitino and Vecellio were part of the Parkway story and some of their descendants still operate construction companies in the region.

Part of the benefit of building the Parkway was providing jobs for an economically troubled country. Camps of Civilian Conservation Corps workers were scattered throughout the region, landscaping and building picnic areas and campgrounds. A 1934 policy established segregated camps, allowing black enrollees to work within their own state of origin. One such camp, NP-29 near Galax, Virginia was considered "something in the nature of an experiment" in southwestern Virginia due to the "hostility" of some local residents. Camp records from 1941 indicate that landscaping along the Parkway was the primary task of NP-29 and that the educational and recreational opportunities for enrollees were the same as in other camps. You can still see the CCC boys' work in Parkway picnic areas and campgrounds.

In the 1930s, Federal policies mandated racially segregated facilities in national park units. At Pine Spur, milepost 143, separate cabins, camping, and picnicking areas were planned. Construction of the area was halted during WW II. Following the war, Park Service segregation policies were rescinded so construction was never completed at Pine Spur.

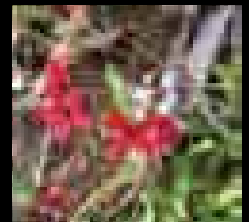
Racially and ethnically varied communities have been part of the regional legacy all along, but often overlooked or minimized. Today, as we find young African Americans embracing mountain string band music, or we encounter wonderfully authentic Italian recipes in mountain communities handed down from early stone masons, we are reminded and encouraged to seek out the cultural diversity that is part of the Blue Ridge legacy.





While most visitors travel the Parkway in an automobile, ever increasing numbers visit the park on two-wheels, via bicycle or motorcycle. Remember, spectacular views are best enjoyed at one of the Parkway's many overlooks.

Be aware of rapidly changing road character and environmental conditions, particularly when the roadway curves and descends at the same time. Please enjoy the views, but watch the curves.



General Driving Safety

Because of its unique design, the Parkway drive is different than most and this 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 so that the meadows or forest edges grow close to the pavement. This is, of course, 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 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 lie 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.

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.



Lodging & Dining

Lodges are located on the Parkway at **Peaks of Otter** (MP 86), **Doughton Park** (MP 241.1), and **Mt. Pisgah** (MP 408), with housekeeping cabins available at **Rocky Knob** (MP 175).



Pisgah Inn • Treetops

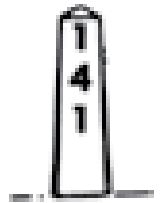
Restaurants, other facilities and services are available at a number of other locations, opening in mid- or late April. See chart on page 7 for details.

Check nps.gov/blri for availability of food and lodging during the 2011 season.

Special Information:

MILEPOSTS:

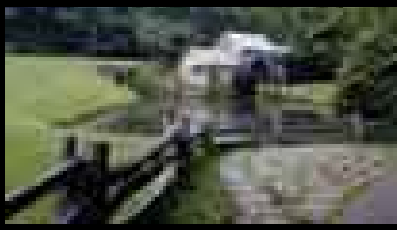
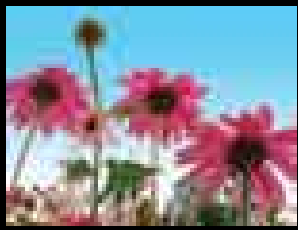
Along the Parkway, you will see numbered mileposts. The zero milepost marker is at Rockfish Gap immediately south of Shenandoah National Park. Each mile is numbered progressively southward on the Parkway to its southernmost entrance at Cherokee.



Our Symbol

The National Park Service arrowhead was authorized as the agency's official emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. Created in 1949 by Aubrey V. Neasham, a Park Service historian, the insignia was intended to represent several aspects of the mission of the National Park Service: Its shape and earth-brown background embody our nation's cultural heritage exemplified in the parks by archaeology and history. The bison and the sequoia tree (symbols from the first two national parks--Yellowstone and Sequoia) represent the diverse natural world of plants and animals included within the system. The snowcapped mountain and glacier portrayed on the insignia's horizon and the white of the water in its right foreground signify the all-important values of scenery and recreation. The symbol first appeared on a park road sign, then a ranger uniform in September 1952. The icon was registered as an official emblem of the Park Service on February 9, 1965, by the United States Patent Office.





Places to Pause along the Parkway...

Regulations By Recreational Activity

To help protect and preserve the Blue Ridge Parkway, yourself, and others, observe all park regulations. Be alert for uncontrolled fire, safety hazards, accidents and emergencies. Please report such conditions by calling **1-800-PARKWATCH (1-800-727-5928)**.

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.

CAMPING - Camping is permitted only in park campgrounds or designated back-country sites. See Camping information, page 8.

PETS - All pets must be on a leash 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.

LAKES AND 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 campgrounds by registered campers and in picnic areas until 9:00 PM.

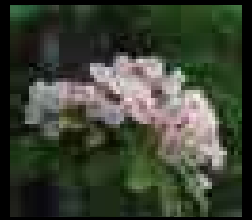
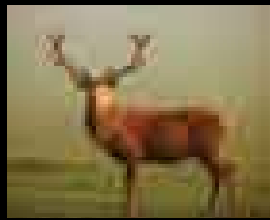
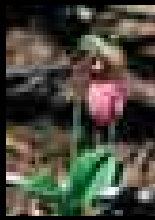
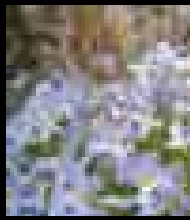
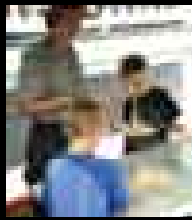
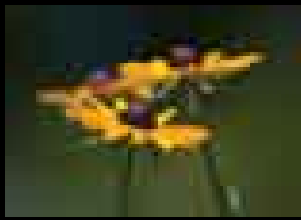
Accessibility:

Most Parkway facilities are wheelchair usable. Some facilities have minor slope and/or structural barriers. For more information about access, please contact The Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters, 199 Hemphill Knob Road, Asheville, NC 28803. Phone: **(828) 271-4779**.

Check nps.gov/blri for availability of food and lodging during the 2011 season.

	Milepost	Visitor Center	Camping	Exhibits	Programs	Restrooms	Picnic Areas
Humpback Rocks	5.8	H		H	HP	H	X
Otter Creek**	60.9		H		H	HP	
James River	63.8	HP		H		HP	X
Peaks of Otter*	86	H	H	H	H	H	HP
Explore Park VC	115	H		H		H	
Roanoke Mountain	120.4		H		H	HP	
Smart View	154.5					HP	H
Rocky Knob^	169	H	H		HP	HP	H
Mabry Mill **	176.1			HP	HP	HP	
Groundhog Mountain	189					HP	H
Blue Ridge Music Cntr	213	H		H	H	H	
Cumberland Knob	217.5					H	H
Doughton Park*	241.1		H	HP	HP	HP	HP
NW Trading Post	258.6					H	
Jeffress Park	272					HP	H
Cone Park	294.1	H		H	H	H	
Price Park	297.1		H		H	HP	H
Linn Cove Viaduct	304.4	H		H		H	
Linville Falls	316.4	H	H	H	X	H	H
Minerals Museum	331	H		H	H	H	
Crabtree Falls **	339.5		H		HP	H	H
Craggy Gardens	364.6	H		H		HPA	H
Folk Art Center	382	H		H	H	H	H
Parkway Visitor Ctr.	384	H		H	H	H	H
Mt Pisgah*	408.6		H		HP	H	HP
Waterrock Knob	451.2	H		H	H	H	

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



Camping

Of the Parkway's nine campgrounds, most have at least some sites that will accommodate sizeable recreational vehicles, and all offer restrooms, drinking water, picnic tables and grills. The settings are tranquil and scenic, and most offer ready access to miles of hiking trails for those who want to explore on foot. **Be sure to ask about Ranger talks and campfire programs that are given most weekends and occasionally during the week.** Most campgrounds are at elevations of more than 2,500 feet, which means that temperatures are usually cooler than in the surrounding area. Even in summer a sweater can come in handy.

Campgrounds are open early May through October, with a per night charge of \$16. Reservations may be made for some sites at the **Peaks of Otter, Rocky Knob, Price Park, Linville Falls** and **Mt. Pisgah** campgrounds. Showers facilities are only available at Mt. Pisgah campground. All other campgrounds and sites are "first come, first served." To make a reservation, visit www.recreation.gov on the Internet or call toll-free (877) 444-6777. Reserved sites are \$19 per night. As a general rule, demand is higher on weekends and holidays.

Group camping is available only at **Linville Falls Campground**. Call (828) 765-6082 for more information. In addition, limited backcountry camping is available via permit at **Basin Cove in Doughton Park** (336) 372-8568 and **Rock Castle Gorge** (540) 745-9661.

Camping outside of designated campgrounds or without a permit at backcountry sitest is prohibited.



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 and are posted at streamside. Remember that swimming is not allowed in park waters.



Bicycling

In North Carolina, helmets are required for all bicyclists under sixteen years of age. In Virginia, the regulations vary by county. Helmets are a highly recommended safety item when bicycling the Blue Ridge Parkway. High visibility clothing is recommended. Be sure to ride single file, well to the right-hand side of the road and obey the same traffic rules that apply to motor vehicles. Bicycles are not permitted on trails or walkways. Plan ahead, and be sure to take into consideration elevation changes that will require more time and, of course, more exertion.

Be A Good Guest In Bear Country!

Seeing bears can be the highlight of any visit to a national park. However, while visitors to the Parkway come and go, bears and other wildlife live here. Your actions can have a lasting impact on the behavior and health of these magnificent animals. Bears quickly lose their natural fear of people if fed human food, so do not feed them, crowd them or observe them too closely. Store all food, coolers, utensils or anything that may smell like food in locked vehicles. Place litter in garbage cans as soon as possible.

Restrooms

Restrooms are available at visitor centers, picnic areas and restaurants along the Parkway.

Ranger-led Programs



Rangers and park volunteers share their knowledge of the Parkway by presenting a variety of interpretive programs 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. The subject matter varies from one place to another and also may change from week to week. Schedules are posted at visitor centers, campgrounds, restaurants, and lodges and at www.nps.gov/blri.

Junior Ranger Programs

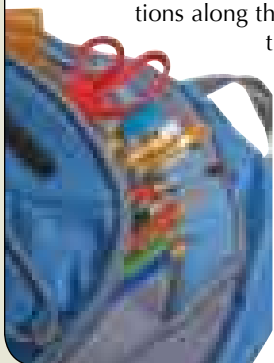
A Junior Ranger is someone like you who cares for and learns about America's national parks so that others in the future may enjoy them! Ask for a handbook at any visitor center and begin your journey to becoming a Parkway Junior Ranger. Any child can complete activities in the handbook, learn more about this National Park, what makes it special, and earn their own certificate and a Junior Ranger badge. Begin today!



Parks As Classrooms

Blue Ridge Parkway staff offers programs for students in their classrooms during the school year. The aim is to connect students with the natural world and the region's cultural heritage in ways that are real and meaningful, while meeting state curriculum standards.

In the spring and fall, Rangers offer programs at many locations along the Parkway. Teachers should contact the closest Parkway office from the list provided in the **"FOR TEACHERS"** section of www.nps.gov/blri as soon as possible to schedule field trips. Keep in mind that space is limited and programs are filled on a first come, first served basis. We know that our best hope for the future lies in educating today's children!



PARKWATCH: 1-800-PARKWATCH (727-5928)

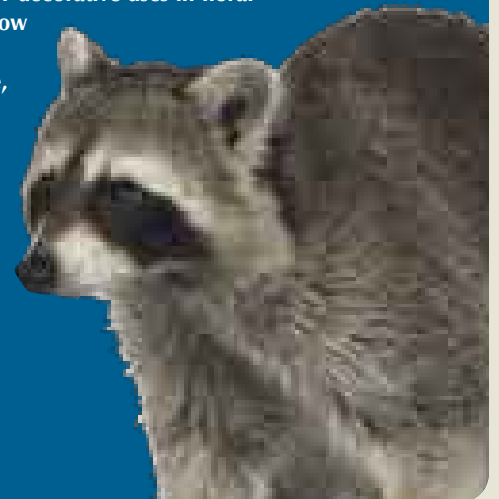
The Parkwatch program encourages visitors and park neighbors to actively protect and preserve this special place.

Please be alert and report any uncontrolled fires, emergencies, accidents, safety hazards, vandalism, or crime to a park employee. For general Parkway information, call (828) 298 0398.



"MAKING A DIFFERENCE" A RESPONSIBLE VISIT

- 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.
- The Parkway has unique habitats that support rare and endangered plants and animals. Many of these plants are threatened by foot traffic. The problem can be alleviated by the simple practice of staying on the trail. There are several especially sensitive areas, including the Tanawha Trail around Grandfather Mountain, the Craggy Pinnacle Trail at Craggy Gardens, and at Devil's Courthouse. Whether you suspect the presence of rare plants or not, please stay on the trail – if for no other reason than to protect all plants and to prevent erosion.
- 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 squirrel, chipmunk, or other animal comes close without your encouragement, it could be a sign of serious illness, please tell a ranger.
- All plants on the Parkway are protected. Many of our native wildflowers in the Blue Ridge are threatened by illegal harvesting. The large, round, shiny evergreen leaves of Galax have been gathered commercially in the southern Appalachian mountains for generations for decorative uses in floral arrangements. Now harvested on a much larger scale, they are being shipped to flower shops around the world.



THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

There will always be discussion and uncertainties with something as big and complex as our planet's climate. But climate change is happening and the vast majority of scientists agree that human activities are at least partially responsible. Clear trends of rising temperatures over the past two centuries coincide with the industrial revolution. These changes have consequences for all of us, and for our national parks. More intense storms, flooding, warmer streams, and more frequent droughts are among the changes that could impact all of us in the future.

What is climate change?

Many people confuse weather with climate, the difference being a measure of time. Weather is what we expect in the short-term, while climate is what we get in the long-term. Climate change can be defined as long-term, significant changes in the weather patterns of an area involving temperature, precipitation or wind.

How will it affect the region?

As one of the most biologically diverse regions on earth, the southern Appalachians are especially at risk from climate change. Although all species

are somewhat adaptable, their flexibility of adaptation varies and those with the smallest geographic range are the most at-risk. Reduced biodiversity of the region is almost certain with changes in climate.

Amphibian and reptile populations are especially sensitive to changes in air and water temperatures. Populations of birds are associated with various climatic variables, especially temperature. Cold water fish are especially vulnerable to the rise in water temperatures, so the native brook trout is susceptible.

What can we do?

"Thinking globally and acting locally" is not just a good bumper sticker or slogan – it is a good policy and choices made now may help avoid catastrophic impacts in the future. Many people are already beginning to make choices in their personal lives that will have long-term positive effects.

These may include recycling, carpooling, or walking or biking short trips. When visiting the Parkway, stay on trails to help keep ecosystems healthy.



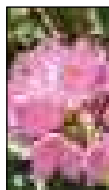
OTHER COMMON FLOWERS

- 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

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

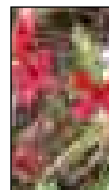
(*Kalmia latifolia*): A medium shrub with pink flowers. **June — July**



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**



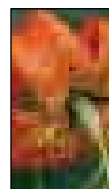
Goat's Beard

(*Aranucus dioicus*): 3-5 feet tall with flower plumes 3-5 inches wide and 6-10 inches long. **May — June**



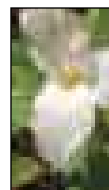
Bluets

(*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 feet tall with flowers 2-4 inches wide with a green star at center. The Carolina Lily (*L. michauxii*) is similar but lacks the green star and bears fewer flowers. **July-August**



Large-Flowered 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**

For a complete list of blooms, log onto: <http://www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/brochures.htm>

- 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.

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

Popular Hiking Trails of the Blue Ridge Parkway

Hiking maps are available at Visitor Center closest to the trail or can be downloaded at www.nps.gov/blri

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 * D
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

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

Finding The Best Of The Fall Colors



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 chances 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. Some years the color comes a bit early and other years it may be delayed a week or so. Many factors contribute to variations in when and where colors will peak, with moisture throughout the year and the colder temperatures being key factors.

The Parkway 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. As is always the case with outdoor viewing, early morning or late afternoon light tends to bring contrasts of shadows that will brighten colors.

Whether you come to the Blue Ridge with camera, palette and brush, or simply to take in the richness from an overlook, a little planning and patience in mid to late October will yield some of the pretty color that we're famous for.

North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail

The Mountains to Sea Trail (MST), when complete, will extend over 930 miles from Clingman's Dome, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, to Jockey's Ridge on the North Carolina Outer Banks. Much of the MST parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway with many trail access points along the Parkway.

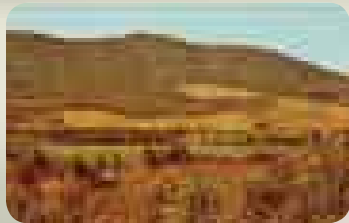
The Carolina Mountain Club maintains and builds trails from the Tanawha Trail to Stone Mountain (MP 305 - 236). To volunteer, contact:

Carolina Mountain Club
PO Box 10431
Raleigh, NC • 27605
www.ncmst.org



How can you help?

Contact the Western Virginia Land Trust www.westernvirginiatrust.org, the Conservation Trust for North Carolina www.ctnc.org, or Blue Ridge Forever www.blueridgeforever.info to be a part of the viewshed protection programs. These groups serve a vital mission in preserving open space in local communities as well.



N&W Overlook at Milepost 106.9. Top View 1950, Bottom View: 2005

The Parkway's most identifiable and notable feature becomes apparent as we unfold the map. It is long and narrow! This shape affects management of the park and the visitors' experience as well. Along the majority of the Parkway, the boundary remains close at hand, and the long, sweeping views that we enjoy from the ridgetops extend all the way to the horizon. Scores of adjacent communities identify themselves with the Parkway and work hard to preserve the views that our visitors enjoy.

During construction of the Parkway, local residents referred to

the overlooks as "balconies" and the Parkway remains today as something of a platform or a balcony for many visitors. People enjoy climbing up high and looking out into valleys and across distant mountain ranges, and into rural landscapes and local communities.

The vistas that the Parkway is known for go far beyond the physical boundary. This notion of the horizon being the park boundary created a sense of wilderness in the designers' minds. In essence, they felt that it provided "freedom from the impression of a boundary line."

This idea, the horizon as the boundary, also creates unique challenges today for those who manage the Parkway, since the park was designed to take full advantage of these scenic views. Decisions made outside the park boundary in the communities along the way affect the visitors' experience and, in a similar way, every decision made by Parkway management is done with the understanding that this can affect the neighboring communities. Through the 29 North Carolina and Virginia counties that the Parkway travels, a half-million acres of scenic views lie within a two-mile wide corridor. Two-thirds of the 1200 mountainside and rural farm landscapes we see are owned by private landowners and the other one-third are on national forest lands.

Four thousand adjacent park landowners have some reserved rights on park lands. Most have private road access and some have rights-of-way for utilities. All of these deeded rights and accesses are managed

by park staff. Almost 500 agricultural leases or scenic easements are a significant tool for managing Parkway

views. Another 500 permitted utility rights-of-way, 450 agricultural leases, and some 21,000 acres of scenic easements are managed by the park.

Parkway visitors spend over 2 billion dollars annually in communities adjacent to the Parkway - communities that are helping us celebrate this year. Those visitors surveyed indicate that the primary reasons they come here are for recreation and for viewing scenery. A 2002-2003 visitor survey found that 25% of visitor respondents said they would change where they visit the Parkway if scenic quality declined. Others said they would completely stop visiting affected sections of the Parkway. Such surveys suggest a direct relationship between changing land uses and reduced revenues in counties where the scenic quality of views is diminished.

Land-use changes in the 29 counties along the Parkway are dramatically altering the scenic quality as viewed from some 1,242 Parkway roadside and overlook vistas. Limited staff allows for addressing only the most drastic land-use changes on a case-by-case basis. In 28 of the 29 counties, there is no regular or routine contact to monitor activities or development on adjacent lands.

In addition to viewshed changes caused by human development along the parkway there are also natural resource issues that are impacting the views. Much of the parkway above 4500' is home to the endangered Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel and park managers are modifying how they treat some vistas in these areas to minimize impacts to the squirrels. Rather than the entire vista being clear-cut as occurs with typical vistas, in these areas some widely-spaced spruce and birch trees will be left standing to provide habitat while still allowing visitors to see distant scenery.

Additionally air pollution over the last 60 years has resulted in decreased viewing opportunities for parkway visitors with visibility in the Southern Appalachians decreasing 40% in the winter and 80% in the summer months. Not only does this affect how far a visitor can see but it also reduces the quality of what is seen, with views appearing washed out and many landscape features being obscured and no longer visible.

The Parkway may look simple on a map - a long, thin, blue line meandering down the mountains between Shenandoah and the Smokies. But keeping the magnificent views to the horizon as they were intended in the early days is a challenge that will continue for years to come.

More than Just a Road

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

AT ISSUE

Grassy Bald at
Craggy Gardens

Plant Species

1600 vascular plants
137 trees

(more than all of Europe)

Animal Species

74 mammals
115 nesting birds
40+ amphibians
35 reptiles

Ridge Parkway offers an exceptional glimpse of the regional flora and fauna. It is world renowned for its biological diversity.

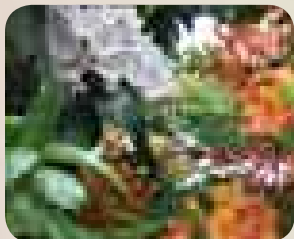
The Parkway covers a wide range of habitats along the Appalachian Mountains, so that the plants growing on a mountain summit at the northern end of the park may be quite different from those on a summit at the southern end. Some of these habitats are exceptionally rare. Rock outcrops at high elevations contain a fragile group of alpine species that were pushed southward during glacial times and eventually were left stranded on the southern mountains. Another unique habitat is the Grassy Balds, likely grazed by native animals such as bison and elk, but which now are maintained by park biologists.

Over 100 wetlands and high elevation bogs which are significant and globally rare ecological communities in the Southern Appalachians occur on lands administered by the Blue Ridge Parkway. In North Carolina alone, nearly 90% of the bog and fen habitats have been lost in the Southern Appalachian region and the Parkway contains many of the last remaining intact wetlands. These wetlands provide habitat for over 25 species of rare plants and animals, such as the federally listed Southern Appalachian Bog Turtle, Swamp Pink and Gray's Lily.

Along this route, visitors encounter an unsurpassed diversity of climate zones, vegetation zones, physiographic zones, and geological features. Within park boundaries are 600 streams (150 headwaters), 47 Natural Heritage Areas (areas set aside as national, regional, or state examples of

exemplary natural communities), a variety of slopes and exposures, and possibly 100 different soil types. With an elevation range of 5,700 feet, the Parkway provides a home for both southern species at the lower elevations and northern species on the mountaintops. Seventy five distinct

*Mountain laurel
and flame azalea*



Many millions of visitors enjoy the Blue Ridge Parkway each year. While many people think of it as just a motor road or a pleasant drive, the Blue Ridge Parkway is also a place of varied and significant natural resources. Spanning the southern and central Appalachians, the Blue

plant communities have been documented, including 24 considered globally rare or threatened.

The Parkway's tremendous diversity is also due to its large north-south geographic range, diverse geology, a variety of micro-habitats, and varying climates. Taking advantage of this diversity are 14 major vegetation types and about 1,600 vascular plant species, 50 of which are threatened or endangered. Nearly 100 species of trees grow along the Parkway, about as many as are found in all of Europe. Added to that are estimates of almost 400 species of mosses and nearly 2,000 species of fungi.

Because of this wide range in elevation, the park visitor can enjoy a tremendous variety of wildflowers throughout the spring, summer, and fall months. While the summer wildflowers are blooming in the valleys, the spectacular spring wildflowers are just beginning to bloom on the high peaks. The same environmental variability that leads to such spectacular bloom displays in the spring and summer also contributes to autumn leaf color. The first leaves to change are those of deciduous trees on the highest elevations, which change to vivid shades of orange, red, yellow, and purple. Throughout the month of October the leaf color changes gradually, beginning in the high mountains and concluding at the lower slopes and valleys.

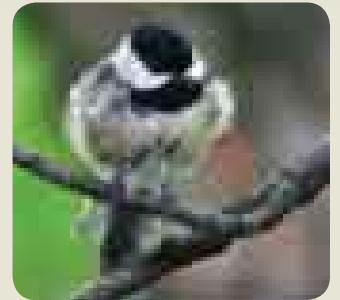
Not to be outdone by the plants, many species of animals make their homes along the Parkway. Seventy four different mammals including the federally endangered northern flying squirrel make their home along the Blue Ridge Parkway. More than 43 species of amphibians (including 33 species of salamanders) have been documented thus far along the Blue Ridge Parkway—the highest number of amphibian species of any National Park Service unit! Further the Parkway plays host to 35 species of reptiles! One hundred fifty-nine species of birds are known to nest here with dozens of others passing through during fall and spring migrations. A Parkway visit may seem incomplete without the glimpses of white tailed deer, wild turkey, and perhaps a chance to see the elusive black bear.

It may be thought of by many as just a road, a ride-awhile and stop-awhile winding, recreational trip linking Shenandoah and the Great Smokies. Along the way, however, the Parkway opens up the southern and central Appalachian Mountains and its wealth of plants and animals. This is, without a doubt, one of the most diverse places on earth.



What Can You Do?

Stay on the trail to avoid trampling fragile habitats. While tempting, don't share your lunch with the wildlife and dispose of food waste and food wrappers responsibly.



Chickadee

PLANT POACHING



Galax leaves visibly tagged to prevent illegal harvesting

The study of botany and its medicinal derivatives was a standard part of the training for physicians and pharmacists a century ago. It is little wonder that in our modern culture, herbal remedies have become popular for the treatment of many ailments ranging from the common cold to cancer.

The Blue Ridge Parkway, located in central and southern Appalachia, is world renowned for its biological diversity. As such a botanical cornucopia, the Parkway has become the focus of a growing problem with the illegal harvesting of plants (or “poaching”) that support the \$200 billion global natural products industry.

Traditional use of many plants in the forest is part of the culture of the mountains, dating back to Native American populations before European settlement. Families gathered plants for personal consumption, as traditional herbal remedies, and as cash crops. In the mid-1600’s, sassafras was second only to tobacco as an important export to Europe, where it was used extensively as a medicinal. For the past several generations, however, these traditional and family-oriented activities have steadily declined in the region. Harvesting of plants today often involves organized violators who are “employed” as part of criminal conspiracies to supply legal markets with medicinal plants. They do not practice the sustainable harvest that traditional gatherers did and tens of thousands of plants or leaves taken from Parkway lands have been confiscated from harvesters on a number of occasions.

Poaching of plants has a direct impact on biological communities, the potential for research, and on the visitors’ enjoyment. In the wild, plants often grow in isolated patches that can be easily devastated by poachers. When a population is reduced to only a few individual plants or colonies, the genetic diversity is reduced. In addition, a species that has been heavily poached is at risk in its ability to survive disease. Poaching activity

Throughout recorded human history, plants have been valued for their medicinal qualities. Today, about one quarter of all medicines come from derivatives or synthetic variations of plant compounds.

The study of botany and its medicinal derivatives was a

has been documented for decades, but recent investigation shows an increase in exploitation and a subsequent decrease in plant populations. Current levels of poaching could lead to complete loss of some plant species.

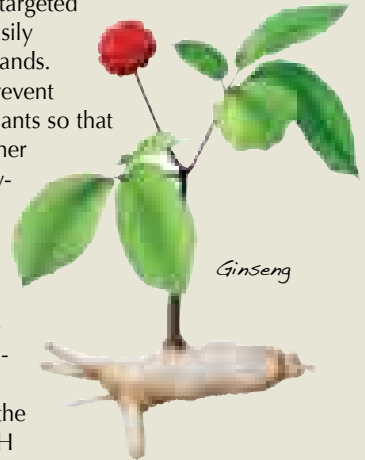
Three of the most often poached species in the park are galax, black cohosh, and ginseng. Recently the Parkway initiated a program of tagging such targeted plant species so that they can be easily traced back to their origin on park lands. The purpose of the program is to prevent the removal of illegally harvested plants so that rangers can spend more time on other visitor and resource protection activities. This tagging, through means visible and/or concealed, along with federal courts giving active jail time to offenders is leading to a decrease in plant poaching activities. Visitors witnessing illegal activities are asked to not confront the offenders but report the activity to the rangers through 1-800-PARKWATCH (1-800-727-5928)

The tremendous biological diversity of the forests along the Blue Ridge Parkway offers a wide variety of tempting other products as well. Edible plants such as ramps (gathered in large quantities to support the now popular ramp festivals) and mushrooms, plants with value as nursery products, and special woods prized for carving or in the making of musical instruments are all taken illegally from park lands. Although limited quantities of berries, fruits, and nuts may be gathered for personal consumption within the park (such gathering does not destroy the plant or hinder its reproduction), the role of the National Park Service is to protect the natural and historic objects of the park so that they will be available for the enjoyment of future generations. The growing amount of illegal harvesting on park lands is an issue that increasingly threatens the success of this role and robs future generations.

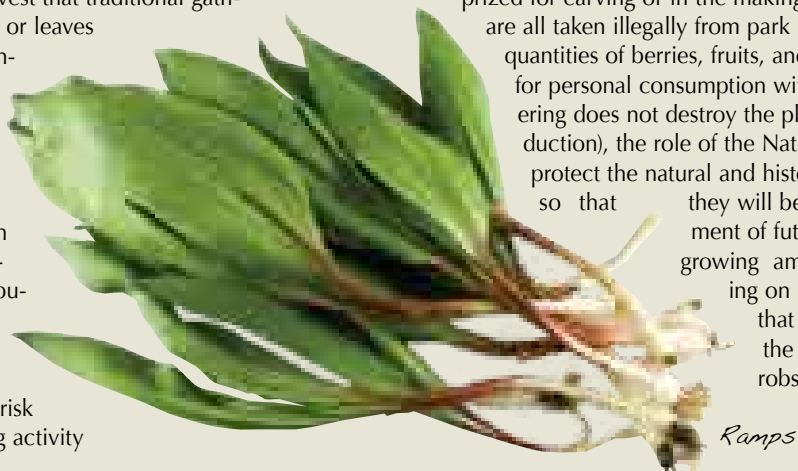


How can you help?

Visitors witnessing illegal activities are asked to not confront the offenders but instead, report the activity to the rangers through 1-800-PARKWATCH (1-800-727-5928)



Ginseng



Ramps

More than Just a Road

NON-NATIVE SPECIES

AT ISSUE

As visitors enjoy the Parkway, most of the plants and animals they see—a tremendous variety—are native to the Appalachians and Blue Ridge. But the Parkway also faces issues, as do all National Parks, of many non-native species that threaten native vegetation. But here on the Blue Ridge Parkway, one of the most ecologically diverse areas in world, the problem is magnified by its length and shape of the park. Resource managers and other park staff must work extra hard to keep the natural and native plants and animals of the Blue Ridge thriving.

The introduction of such non-native species is usually unintentional and is often the results of travel, immigration, or even global commerce. The wood used in packing crates has been the source of introduction of exotic insects. Produce, seeds, or nursery stock have been the culprits for introducing exotics as well. Automobiles and bicycles can carry exotics as can camping equipment or hiking boots.

Once established in a new area, the species can spread with devastating results. Some exotics even thrive or become invasive in their new habitat since the competition or natural enemies that once kept them in check are now absent. Without these controls, adaptation to the new region can lead to unmanageable levels.

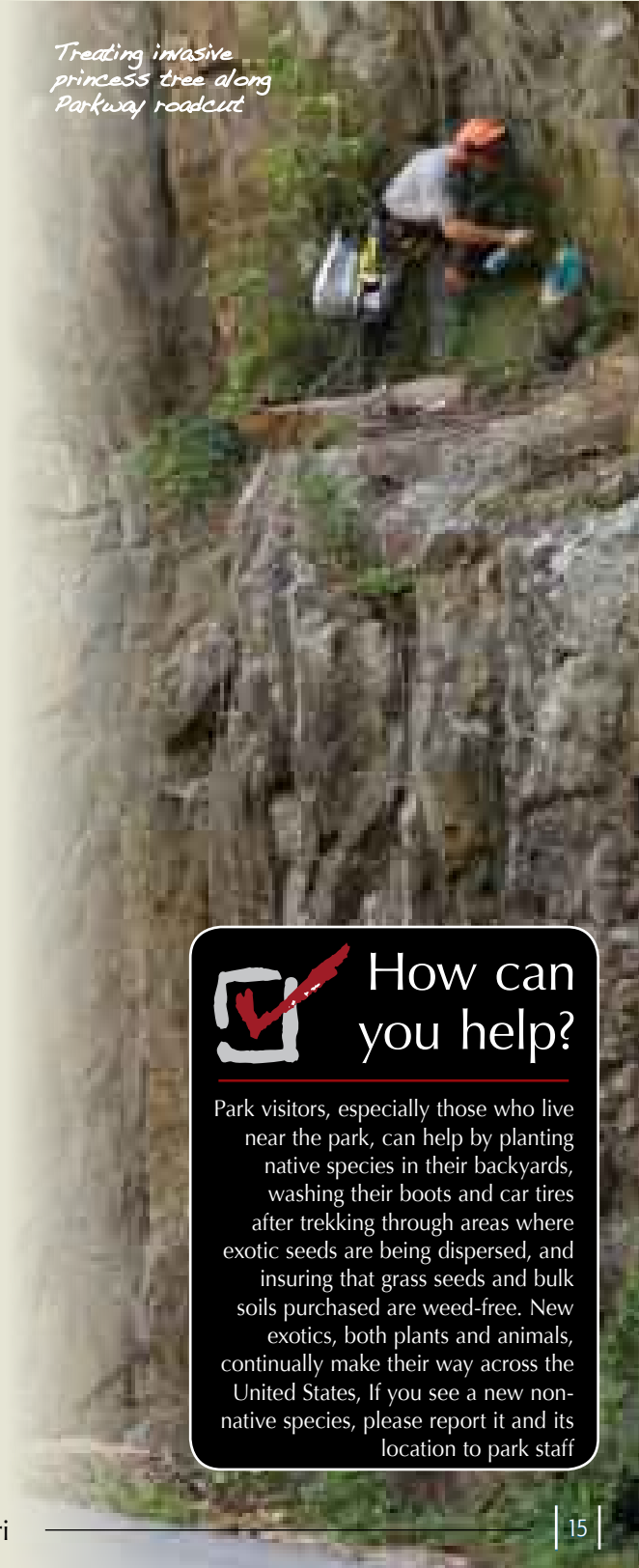
Preserving natural resources along a 469-mile ribbon of land with 1,200 miles of boundary further complicates the issue of controlling or stopping invasive species. Because of its linear character, the Blue Ridge Parkway is more susceptible than most parks to invasion by non-native plants and animals from adjacent lands.

“Disturbance” areas or habitats tend to enhance the growth of invasive species. The Blue Ridge Parkway has thousands of “cut and fill” slopes, more than 3,000 vista openings and more than 1,000 utility and roadway crossings, all of which offer opportunities for invasive plant species to grow. Control of this problem is a long-term commitment since non-natives are prolific seed producers and often become well established in an area within one or two years.

Several non-native animals can also pose problems to the native species of the southern mountains. Eastern bluebird populations dropped significantly as the more aggressive European starlings took over available nesting cavities. Introduced brown and rainbow trout have displaced the native brook trout from many streams, forcing the native trout to move further and further upstream. The list of nonnative species extends down to invertebrates, including earthworms and crayfish, and even fungi.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is set aside, as are all national park areas, to conserve scenery, wildlife, and the natural and historic objects within the park. One of the most serious threats to preservation of the natural resources is the invasion of non-native or exotic species. Invasive plants (princess tree, honeysuckle and kudzu), invasive insects (gypsy moth and hemlock wooly adelgid), or invasive pathogens (chestnut blight or dogwood anthracnose) have become established in the Appalachian region and affect the health of individual species, regional watersheds, and the overall diversity of the forest. Success in controlling these species is determined by the participation of all landowners in the region.

Treating invasive princess tree along Parkway roadcut



Gypsy Moth Caterpillar



How can you help?

Park visitors, especially those who live near the park, can help by planting native species in their backyards, washing their boots and car tires after trekking through areas where exotic seeds are being dispersed, and insuring that grass seeds and bulk soils purchased are weed-free. New exotics, both plants and animals, continually make their way across the United States. If you see a new non-native species, please report it and its location to park staff

Parkway Partners

Perhaps one of these groups has a place for you to help!

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION – For 60 years this association of chambers of commerce and travel businesses has provided information about accommodations and visitor services along the entire Parkway corridor, including this Directory & Travel Planner. This publication is distributed free at Parkway visitor centers and contains the most extensive listing of hotels and attractions in the region. www.blueridgeparkway.org.

THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION – Founded in 1997, this non-profit foundation is the primary fundraising organization for the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Foundation solicits donations and bequests from individuals, as well as grants and corporate support for a broad range of programs and activities that provide lasting benefits to the Parkway and its visitors. www.brpfoundation.org.

EASTERN NATIONAL – This nonprofit educational organization helps to staff visitor centers, providing information and selling books and other items that help you enjoy the Parkway and our Southern Appalachian region. Profits from these sales are returned to the park to support educational programs and research. www.easternnational.org.

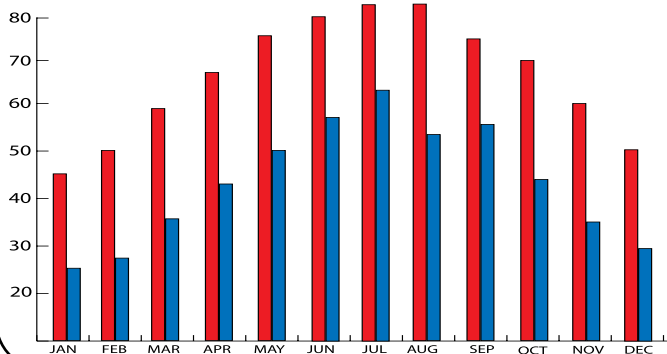
FRIENDS OF THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY – FRIENDS is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1988. They provide major support to the park's Volunteers in Parks program, the first Friends group to do so nationally by mobilizing and providing leadership for volunteers who assist with a wide variety of Parkway projects. www.blueridgefriends.org.

Normal Daily Maximum & Minimum Temperatures

Average Elevation of 2100'

For weather info call (828) 298-0398.

Parts of the Parkway may close to vehicles due to weather. For updated information, call (828) 298-0398 for list of closings. Always be prepared for rapidly changing weather and the difference that elevation change can make in temperature



World-famous scenery and outstanding opportunities for camping, hiking, and other recreational activities have made the Blue Ridge Parkway the most visited unit of America's National Park System. Funding has not always kept pace with increasing visitation, aging infrastructure, and the need to work with local communities on protection of adjacent land. Many people care deeply about the Parkway and its future. Through a variety of organizations, they are joining hands to protect and preserve this very special place and, beyond that, to enhance the quality of the park experience that so many visitors enjoy.

LAND & CONSERVATION TRUSTS – the Western Virginia Land Trust www.westernvirginialandtrust.org, the Conservation Trust for North Carolina www.ctnc.org, and Blue Ridge Forever www.blueridgeforever.info work to protect lands adjacent to the Blue Ridge Parkway. These groups serve a vital mission in preserving open space in local communities as well.

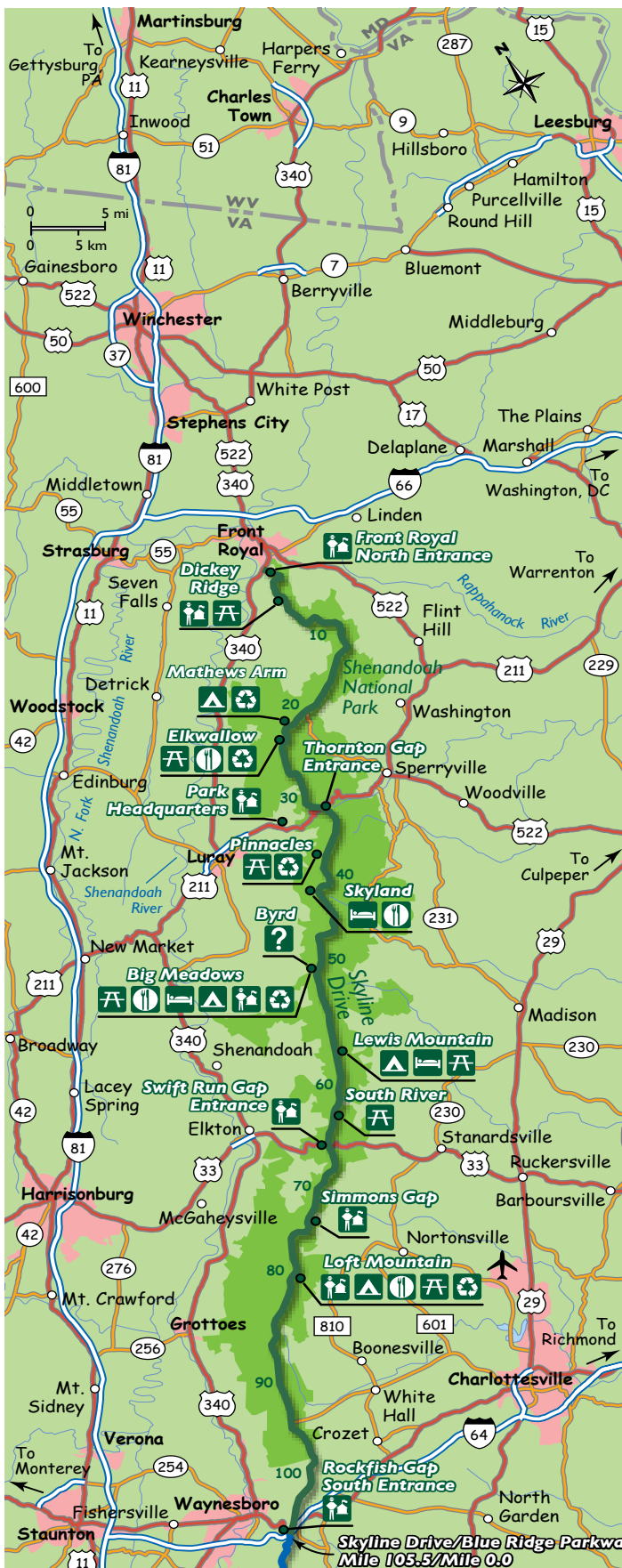
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE TRADITIONAL ARTS – For nearly 70 years, NCTA has produced and supported a variety of traditional arts programs in national park areas across the United States. By formal agreement with the Parkway, NCTA supports the Blue Ridge Music Center at Milepost 213 near Galax, VA by providing a summer concert series and working toward permanent museum exhibits that chronicle the history of our region's musical heritage. www.ncta.net.

BLUE RIDGE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA - Established by Congress in November, 2003, this organization promotes the natural abundance and richly varied cultural history of the North Carolina mountains and is charged with the preservation, interpretation, and development of heritage resources in the state's 25 westernmost counties and the Quallah Boundary. www.blueridgeheritage.com

SOUTHERN HIGHLAND CRAFT GUILD – The Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center at Milepost 382 in Asheville and the Parkway Craft Center at the Moses Cone Memorial Park at Milepost 294 in Blowing Rock are home to the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Free programs, includes regional and national exhibitions of contemporary and traditional crafts, helping the Parkway promote regional cultural heritage. www.southernhighlandguild.org.

Of Special Note

While the Parkway is closed to commercial traffic, tour bus/motor coach touring is permitted, and no permit is required. Motorcycles and RVs are also welcome. In fact, the Parkway is a premier destination for both. Beware, some curves can be tricky for motorcyclists and caution is advisable over daring. RVers should note that campgrounds do not offer hook-ups, but potable water and dump stations are provided. All offer at least some sites that will accommodate larger RVs. Most tunnels provide plenty of clearance, although several near Cherokee have a minimum height of less than 11 feet at the road's edge and drivers of especially tall vehicles should favor the centerline!



1

Harpers Ferry through Shenandoah National Park to Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 0

Blue Ridge Parkway

Virginia and North Carolina

The Blue Ridge Parkway is the very scenic highway that connects Shenandoah National Park and the Skyline Drive in Virginia, with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee. The whole trip along the Parkway, which traverses Virginia and western North Carolina, encompasses a 469 mile drive that can take up to a leisurely 10 days, including stops to explore along the way.

It's a highway and a journey surrounded by natural beauty. The majority of the Parkway in Virginia runs through the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and into North Carolina along mountain crests. The road itself is a two lane highway with a 45 mph speed limit, but for travelers who enjoy "driving trips," traveling the Parkway can be a very special experience.

The attractions along the Virginia portion of the Parkway differ slightly from those on the North Carolina side. In Virginia, the recreated mountain farm near Humpback Rocks at the beginning of the Parkway and Mabry Mill, further south, give visitors a glimpse of traditional mountain life in the early days of settlement. In North Carolina, Linville Falls, the Cradle of Forestry, and other natural wonders, feature the natural environment. In addition to the stops right along the Parkway itself, the road is next to historic towns from top to bottom, making for fascinating exploration of the heritage and culture of the region along the way. The headquarters of the Blue Ridge Parkway is located in Asheville, North Carolina, a city well known to literary figures including Carl Sandburg, Thomas Wolfe and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Exploration of their homes and haunts in the Asheville area presents an interesting side trip and a one or two day break from driving.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

	PICNIC AREA		RECYCLE AREA
	RANGER STATION		LODGING
	TENT AREA		INFORMATION
	FOOD		AIRPORT

GETTYSBURG, PA

Relive the history, experience the passion. Discover the new Gettysburg museums, tours, Pres. Eisenhower's home, wineries, farm markets, shopping and more. Visit www.gettysburg.travel or call 800-337-5015 for a free travel guide.

HARPERS FERRY, WV

HISTORY - John Brown, Washington Heritage Trail, Civil War, Lewis & Clark. **EXCITEMENT** - white water rafting, car & horse racing, slots. **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES** - hiking, biking, fishing, tubing. There's even more! Contact us now. www.hello-wv.com. E-mail: visitors@hello-wv.com. Call 1-866-HELLO-WV.

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 Convention and Visitors Bureau 1400 S. Pleasant Valley Road Winchester, VA 22601 www.visitwinchesterva.com (877) 871-1326.

MOUNTAIN MEMOS

VIRGINIA'S SHENANDOAH VALLEY

Do you know which way is "up" in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia?

For most residents of the United States, when looking at a map of our region, north is "up" and south is "down." But for native residents throughout western Virginia, however, this explanation isn't always true, especially when speaking of "The Great Valley." Elevation plays a greater role in defining "up and down" in the Valley of Virginia. Since the northern end of the valley is generally lower in elevation than the southern end, going south is often referred to as "up the Valley." Likewise, heading north is called going "down the Valley." This all makes perfect sense to those whose lives have intertwined with this region for generations.

Ask some old-time Valley residents, and they will let you know which way is up!

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the Blue Ridge Parkway is the most visited unit of America's National Park System?

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.

Harpers Ferry, WV

West Virginia
Wild and Wonderful

"Discover It All" in West Virginia's Eastern Gateway.

Only a few hours north of the Parkway, you can pursue your passion here - be it history, outdoor activities, the arts, or racing and gaming.



photo by Marsha Wassell/HP NPS

Discover it All!

A super abundance of history from George Washington and his family to John Brown's Raid and the Civil War with everything in between exists here. You will be fascinated with events and sites, like the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Even our racing and gaming were historical past times of our local gentlemen. Follow their footsteps today at the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races.

The scenic beauty of the area can be viewed as you white water raft, tube, canoe, kayak, fish, bike or hike. With historic Rivers like the Potomac and Shenandoah and the Blue Ridge Mountains, the outdoor enthusiast has plenty to enjoy.

Jefferson County
Convention &
Visitor's Bureau
37 Washington Court
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

If the arts appeal to your nature, take in a play or take pleasure in a music or craft festival. Visit our quaint shops, antiques vendors, flea markets, and farm markets or enjoy our towns' walking tours. There's always something happening. Come and Discover It All!

866-hello-wv • www.wveasterngateway.com

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

Whatever the season you will love Shenandoah County! Golfing, skiing, history, antiques, wineries, historic towns, festivals and caverns. Come visit and let us show you our natural beauty, great hotels & friendly hospitality! www.shenandoahtravel.org (888) 367-3959.

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.hamptoninnwoodstock.com (540) 459-7111.

Points to Ponder

THE HORIZON

The Blue Ridge Parkway is confined to a narrow corridor for most of its route, but vistas stretch as far as the eye can see.

The horizon becomes the boundary, and serves as a vivid reminder that this park is a vital part of regional environmental issues and responsible planning.

FRONT ROYAL, VA

Located at Milepost 0, Front Royal is the stepping on and off point for a wonderful and spectacular Skyline Drive tour through the Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. (800) 338-2576. www.discoverfrontroyal.com

ATTRACTIONS

Skyline Caverns - US 340, 1 mile south of Front Royal. Open all year. Miniature train, gift shop, fast food, country store, rock shop. Unusual anthodite formations. www.skylinecaverns.com. (800) 296-4545.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Front Royal RV Campground - 2 miles south from N. entrance of Shenandoah National Park www.frontroyalrvcampground.com email: FRRVCampground@aol.com (540) 635-2741.

Holiday Inn & Suites - 111 Hospitality Dr, 2 miles N of I-66 Exit 6. Covered motorcycle parking, 32" flatscreen TV's w/ HBO, fridges, indoor pool, Houlihans Restaurant, free WIFI. www.holidayinn.com/frontroyalva (540) 631-3050.

RECREATION & SHOPPING

Front Royal Canoe Co. - Canoe, tube, raft, & kayak trips on the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. Located 3 mi. south of Front Royal on Rt. 340. Open Daily, 9-6 weekdays, 7-7 weekends. (540) 635-5440.

Winchester-Frederick Co., VA

We are 18 miles north of the Skyline Drive, via US 522 and I-81 Exit 313 (313 B if heading south).

Get a better view of history in Winchester-Frederick County - Virginia's Gateway to the Shenandoah Valley. Discover the nature, countryside, architecture, culture, and charm of a city and county just 72 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., and 86 miles southwest of Gettysburg, PA.

As the oldest city west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Winchester-Frederick County is home to dozens of historical points-of-interest including battlefields, an antebellum courthouse, 200-year-old Belle Grove Plantation, a National Historical Park, George Washington's Office Museum, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, and much more.

With seven major roadways converging in Winchester, the area has always been an important crossroads. During the American Civil War, Union and Confederate forces fought for control of the area, and the town changed hands 72 times, 13 times in one day!

Call us for a free visitor guide!

Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center
1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Winchester, VA 22601

Shop and dine in Old Town Winchester, Kernstown, Stephens City and Middletown – charming towns along the Old Valley Pike/Wilderness Road – Virginia's Migration Route – now Route 11. Make the Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center your first stop. Helpful travel counselors, maps, a Civil War Orientation Center, gift shop, ample parking, discount magazines and more await your visit!



877-871-1326 • www.visitwinchesterva.com



Shenandoah Valley

0 **Junction 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 this side and the north fork on the far side. The two forks meet north of Front Royal.

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

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

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.

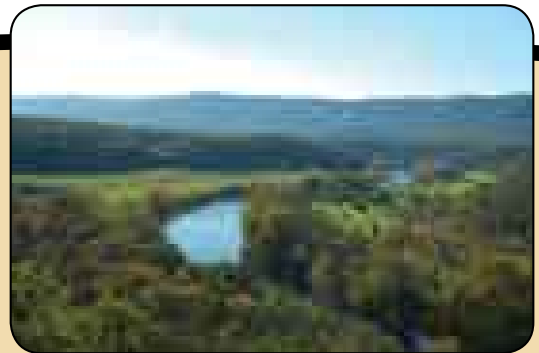
Front Royal, VA

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

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.



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

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.

Call (800) 338-2576 • www.discoverfrontroyal.com

24.1 Elkwallow. Picnic grounds with tables, fire places, water and comfort station

WASHINGTON, VA

12 miles east of Skyline Drive on US 211.

Caledonia Farm B&B - 1812-Historic landmark. Adj. Shen. Pk. Romantic honeymoon suite & 2 rooms. AC/fireplace/hot tub/full breakfast/hospitality. www.bnb1812.com (800) BNB-1812.

28.5 Beahms Gap provides access to the Appalachian Trail and shorter Trails.

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.LurayPage.com or (800) 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 - 100+ unique cabins or B&Bs. 1-10 bdr. sleep 2-30 guests. In Luray, near Caverns, Skyline Drive, Mountain Views, Riverfront, Fireplace, Hot Tub, Jacuzzi, Kitchen, Open yr. round, Pets welcome. www.allstarlodging.com or Toll Free (866) 780-7827.

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

The Mimslyn Inn - Circa 1931. Comfortable, inviting, and ready for you to experience. 401 W. Main St. www.mimslyninn.com or (540) 734-5105.

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 (800) 420-6679.

The Land of Shenandoah

Historic
Culture

Friendly
Atmosphere

Natural
Beauty

Page County, Virginia, home to both Luray Caverns and Shenandoah National Park, is 'The Land of Shenandoah.' Bordered by two mountain ranges – the Blue Ridge and the Massanutten, and bisected by the majestic Shenandoah River, this verdant valley is unspoiled, yet offers a variety of attractions for visitors.

Skyline Drive provides unparalleled vistas and access to ancient granite summits and miles of inviting trails. The area offers world-class diversions, from canoeing or tubing along the river to hiking or cycling on miles of trails or visiting the famous caverns. Enjoy these natural wonders as well as history, heritage and the talents of our people – visit our quaint towns, shops, historic sites, concerts, festivals and fairs to see, hear, taste and savor the richness of our bounty. Leave the stress of city life and see working farms, where you can buy locally-grown products.

Visitors

Center hours:
9am-5pm daily

18 Campbell St.
Luray, VA 22835

Dine in a fine Jazz Age-era hotel or a gracious Victorian home or a charming, renovated hardware store. A variety of menus and cuisine will tempt every palate. Our accommodations are as varied as the landscape; whether you prefer elegant B&Bs, fine hotels, rustic cabins or scenic campgrounds. Virginia's official Cabin Capital is the perfect place to refresh, relax and recharge.

www.LurayPage.com

Call for your free complete getaway planner: 1-888-743-3915 • www.CabinCapital.com



Shenandoah National Park Begins

75 Anniversary

2011 promises to be an exciting year in Shenandoah and its neighboring communities. Following in the tradition of the Blue Ridge Parkway's celebration in 2010, Shenandoah invites you to explore the rich region of the mountain, valley, and Piedmont. From vineyards to Civil War battlefields to the quietude of the Appalachian Trail—from fine dining to rustic camping, the “to do” list is endless. This year make your destination a journey to and through Shenandoah National Park!

2011 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Dedication of Shenandoah National Park. On July 3, 1936 President Franklin D. Roosevelt traveled to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia to dedicate the new Shenandoah National Park “to this and succeeding generations of Americans for the recreation and the re-creation which we shall find here.”

The idea for a national park nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains was born more than a decade earlier. Stephen Mather, then director of the National Park Service, had experienced great success in getting people to the western parks by creating a relationship with the railroads. In the early 1920s he switched his focus to bringing the parks to the people of the more heavily populated east saying, “I should like to see additional national

parks established east of the Mississippi.” Several regions responded by promoting areas for consideration and in 1926 a bill was passed authorizing Great Smokey Mountains National Park and Shenandoah National Park. In 1933, the Department of the Interior approved the construction of the scenic roadway that would connect the two: the Blue Ridge Parkway. Supporters hoped to create a positive economic impact while protecting the incredible scenery of the Appalachian region.

Among the treasures that have drawn millions of visitors to Shenandoah in the years since its dedication is the spectacular and world-famous Skyline Drive. Begun before the park was even established, Skyline Drive was to be the new park’s “greatest single feature.” Today, the Drive originates at the park’s northern most point, Front Royal, Virginia and gently winds through Shenandoah 105 miles along the crest of the mountain to Afton, Virginia. There, Skyline Drive connects to the beautiful, pastoral Blue Ridge Parkway. Motorists can then follow the Parkway another 469 miles to Great Smokey Mountains National Park.

Today, Shenandoah stretches over 197,000 acres, all waiting to be explored and experienced.

Enter the park at one of four entrances: Route 340 in Front Royal, Route 211 near Luray, Route 33 near Elkton, or Route 250 and 64 near Waynesboro. A meander along Skyline Drive, a National Historic Landmark, reveals seventy-five overlooks affording travelers incredible views of the Shenandoah Valley and the Virginia Piedmont.

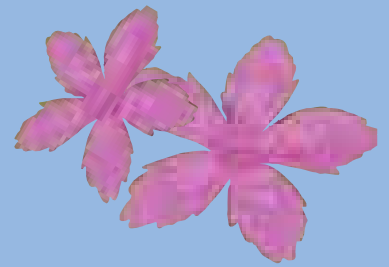
Skyline Drive is your portal to the ultimate Shenandoah experience. Step into the forest by way of one of the park’s 500 miles of trails to experience nature at its most natural. The famous Appalachian Trail runs for 101 miles through the park. Other trails lead to peaks with amazing views, cascading waterfalls, and through dense verdant forests. Many types of wildlife call the forest home, including black bear, white-tailed deer, bobcats and more than 200 resident and transient bird species.

In addition to a natural showplace, Shenandoah preserves several important cultural sites. Visit Rapidan Camp, the summer White House of President Herbert Hoover. The President’s cabin has been restored to its 1929 appearance and a nearby cabin houses an exhibit about the site. Buildings are open from Memorial Day weekend through October. Massanutten Lodge, a 1911 cottage was the home of Addie Pollock, proprietress of Skyland Resort, a haven for weary urbanites during the 1920s and the centerpiece of the national park establishment movement. Addie’s cottage has been historically refurbished and also features an exhibit.

Programs led by rangers are available from spring through fall and include easy walks, challenging hikes and traditional campfire talks designed to inspire and call your attention to the wonder and beauty of the park. The staff members at the Dickey Ridge and Byrd Visitor Centers are ready to help plan your visit and answer your questions. Dickey Ridge at milepost 4.6 orients visitors to their Shenandoah experience with exhibits and a film, as well as maps, guides and other helpful literature. An interactive exhibit and films at Byrd Visitor Center at milepost 51 tell the stories of Shenandoah’s establishment and development, including the controversial acquisition of privately-owned land, the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the little known story of desegregation in the 1930s and 40s.



Celebration



Facilities and Services

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

- All facilities and services are available mid-May through late October.
- Some are also available April, May, and November. Plan to obtain all food, gas, and lodging outside of the park in December, January, February, and March.
- Telephone (540) 999-3500 for the most current information.



www.nps.gov/shen

A LITTLE HISTORY

In 1926, U.S. Congress authorized Shenandoah National Park. Today 197,000 acres of eastern deciduous forest are a sanctuary for more than 100 varieties of trees, 200 bird species, and 1,100 flowering plants.

Lands were gradually purchased using private donations and through condemnation using state funds. 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 1.1 million visitors come to Shenandoah each year to enjoy this natural wonder. 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.

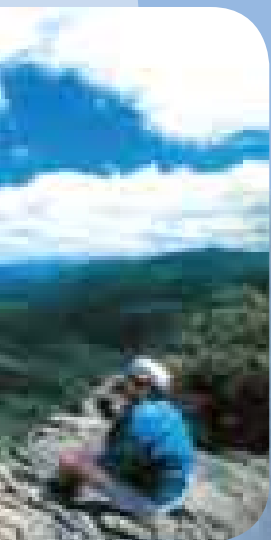
ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Visitors can participate in ranger-guided activities, view audio-visual programs or exhibits at visitor centers, fish, enjoy the panoramic views from overlooks, hike to peaks and waterfalls, 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, ARAMARK, the park's concessioner offers a variety of activities for visitors in spring, summer, and fall.

Participation in these activities is 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 their website at www.visitshenandoah.com.



SHENANDOAH CAVERNS, VA

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

Shenandoah Caverns - Thrilling visitors from around the world, Shenandoah Caverns is the only cavern in Virginia with elevator service. Explorers of every age and ability will discover an underground world of wonder. With level walkways and no stairs, only our sights are breathtaking! Four attractions, one low price. American Celebration on Parade, Main Street of Yesteryear and the Yellow Barn. Open all year. www.shenandoahcaverns.com. Toll free: 888-4CAVERN.

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 1040, New Market, VA 22844.

NEW MARKET, VA

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

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

Quality Inn/Johnny Appleseed Restaurant - I-81 Exit 264. AAA 3 diamond, int. corridors, full service restaurant, gift shops, pool, HBO. www.qualityinn-shenandoahvalley.com (540) 740-3141.

Points to Ponder

PARKWAY OR SKYLINE DRIVE?

The Skyline Drive is the 105 mile long roadway through Shenandoah National Park, a traditional national park with a large land base. There are six entry points and an entrance fee to visit Shenandoah NP. The Parkway, also a unit of the National Park System, is a landscaped corridor with a few areas of large acreage, designed as a recreational motor road connecting Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks.

31.5 Panorama Junction 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 question and give other assistance. Park Headquarters is four miles west on US 221.

32.4 Mary's Rock Tunnel built in 1932, goes through 600 feet of rock with a 14-foot clearance

Culpeper, VA

Small town charm and world-class shopping and dining in the crossroads of Virginia's history.

Just a short drive from the Parkway via Routes 211 and 522, Culpeper is where history and hospitality meet. Culpeper's Downtown is filled with world class restaurants and classic diners, art and antiques, gift shops, a Victorian tea house, and more. Enjoy classic movies as they were meant to be seen: on the big screen at the beautiful art-deco Library of Congress Packard Campus Theater.

During the Civil War, more than 160 skirmishes occurred in and around Culpeper. Learn the story of Brandy Station at the Graffiti House, where recuperating soldiers amused themselves by writing on the walls. Find peace and natural beauty at the preserved battlefields at Cedar Mountain and Brandy Station and the crossing at Kelly's Ford. Visit the Museum of Culpeper History for a look at Culpeper's history from pre-historic times through the 21st century.

Enjoy the outdoors hiking, biking, canoeing, fishing, and horseback riding. Historic homes and Colonial era churches complement miles of scenic byways. Treat yourself to a glass of fine Virginia wine at one of our award-winning wineries, or visit Virginia's only legal moonshine distillery farm. Join us for annual events like Culpeper Fiesta, Culpeper Day, the 4th of July Celebration, summer concerts, Harvest Days Farm Tour, Air Fest, and the Taste of Culpeper.



Culpeper
Department of Tourism
540-727-0611

Culpeper
Visitors Center
111 S. Commerce St.
1-888-CULPEPER

www.visitculpeperva.com



Picnics are better in the mountains!

- 36.7** **Pinnacles.** Picnic grounds with shelter, tables, fireplaces, water and comfort station. Alt. 3,350. Access to Appalachian Trail
- 38.6** **Stony Man Peak** is straight ahead as you enter the overlook from the north. 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.
- 41.7 & 42.5** **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 Lodge - Located in the Shenandoah National Park at MP 41.7. Open from March 31 - noon Nov 27, 2011. Features 177 lodge rooms and cabins, full service restaurant, a gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts, & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Gift shop and horse rides & scheduled ranger activities. Call (800) 999-4714.

- 42.6** **Whiteoak Canyon** has six waterfalls. A trail 4.6 miles round trip, leads to the first waterfall and passes the Limberlost Trail in an area of large old hemlocks.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the Parkway accounts for about two billion dollars per year to the economies of North Carolina and Virginia?

- 43** **Limberlost Trail** (accessible), a 1.3 mile loop, passes through an old orchard and a grove of ancient hemlocks. It is an accessible trail (with assistance), with a crushed greenstone walkway, wooden boardwalk and bridge, and many benches.
- 44.4** **Crescent Rock Overlook** 25 yards from the Skyline Drive, provides the best view of Hawksbill Mountain. Another trail leads to Bettys Rock, 0.6 mile round trip.
- 45.8** **Hawksbill Gap Parking Area** trails lead to Hawksbill Mountain, at 4,051 feet the highest point in the park.
- 50.7** **Dark Hollow Falls**, the waterfall closest to the Drive, cascades 70 feet over greenstone. Round trip from the parking area is 1.5 miles
- 51 & 51.9** **Big Meadows** offers a multitude of activities and services at three sites, all connected by a network of trails. Byrd Visitor Center, entrance at milepost 51, is one of the park's three major information facilities, providing exhibits on the area's human and natural history; film and ranger programs; sales outlet for publications, slides, and maps; conducted hikes; and self-guiding nature trail. The wayside facilities at milepost 51.3 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, self guiding nature trail, picnic ground and the summer campfire program. 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. Please call the park for current information of if you plan to visit in winter. (Shenandoah National Park Headquarters - (540) 999-3500.)
- Big Meadows Lodge** - Located in Shenandoah National Park at MP 51. Open from May 19 - noon Nov 6, 2011. Features 97 lodge rooms and cabins, full service restaurant & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts. Call (800) 999-4714.
- 56.4** **Bearfence Mountain summit** provides a 360 degree view. The round trip from the parking lot is only 0.8 mile but part of it is a rock scramble and can be difficult, especially if wet. Wear sturdy shoes.



To report accidents & other emergencies,

**Call 1-800-PARKWATCH
(1-800-727-5928)**

57.5 **Lewis Mountain** is open from April 8 - noon Nov 6, 2011. Facilities and services include cabins, campground with tent and trailer sites, camp store, picnic ground and campfire facilities. Alt. 3,390.

62.8 **South River** is a fine place to stop for a picnic and then take a hike to South River Falls, 2.5 miles round trip.

CULPEPER, VA

Just a short distance from Skyline Drive via Rt. 211 and 522. Civil War battlefields, miles of scenic byways, country inns, wineries, and unparalleled shopping and dining. www.visitculpepera.com Call 888-CULPEPER.

65.7 **Swift Run Gap.** . Junction 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.

Massanutten Resort - 20 min. from Skyline Dr., Swift Run exit. Indoor waterpark, spa, skiing, dining, golf, retail and more. Visit www.massresort.com or (540) 289-9441.

HARRISONBURG, VA

Harrisonburg Tourism and Visitor Services - 23 miles from Skyline Drive, 33 West to visit us for shopping, museums, and local eateries. Plan your adventure in historic Harrisonburg by visiting the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, the place where history and hospitality meet. 212 S. Main St. Open daily 9am-5pm www.HarrisonburgTourism.com. (540) 432-8935.

ATTRACTIONS

Rockingham County Fair - US 11 off I-81 between exits 240 & 243. Virginia's County Fair with big name entertainment. August 15-22, 2011. RCF. 4808 S Valley Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22801 www.rockinghamcountyfair.com (866) 496-7050.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western Harrisonburg Inn - Rt 33 & I-81 Exit 247-A. Clean, comfortable rooms, indoor pool, Jacuzzi, sauna. Cable TV, non-smoking rooms. Shoney's Restaurant adj. (540) 433-6089.

Harrisonburg/Shenandoah Valley KOA Campground - I-81 exit 257, 11N to Rt 608, 4 mi to our door. Big pull-thrus, cabins, tent, pool, minigolf, hike, fish, WI-FI, propane, firewood, yr round, clean bathrooms. www.koa.com/where/va/46140 (540) 896-8929.

Harrisonburg, VA

From Skyline Drive/ Shenandoah National Park MP 65.5 take 33 West into Harrisonburg and follow the Visitor Center information signs.

Plan your adventure in Harrisonburg, VA

Just minutes from Skyline Drive and Shenandoah National Park, this historic town is a vibrant place for great events, diverse dining, unique lodging and varied shopping. You can stroll through gardens at the Edith. J. Carrier Arboretum or visit the White Oak Lavender Farm. Try some local wine at CrossKeys Vineyard or find time to do downtown, try a local eatery, get connected to the arts and discover some local music. If you want to get outdoors, we have the guides and services to get you hiking, biking, climbing, caving and canoeing, or play golf surrounded by mountains views. From daytrips to weekend getaways and group outings, enjoy the variety and comfort Harrisonburg as to offer. Visit the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, the place where History and Hospitality Meet, located in downtown Harrisonburg.



Visit the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, the place where History and Hospitality Meet, located in downtown Harrisonburg.

Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services
212 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 432-8935
www.HarrisonburgTourism.com

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! An Affordable, Inspected 3-Diamond Green B&B. Top rated by TripAdvisor & B&B.com. Read our guest reviews! Downtown Historic District. 23 mi. from MP 0, 15 mi. from Skyline MP 65.7. www.StonewallJacksonInn.com (800) 445-5330.

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, micro-wave & refrigerator. AAA 3 Diamond. Family owned for 3 generations. www.thevillageinn.travel. (540) 434-7355.

66.5 Hightop Mountain Parking, at an elevation of 2,637 feet, is on the west side of the Drive near a crossing of the Appalachian Trail.

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

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

78.2 Rockytop Overlook provides a good view of the wild canyon country of the Big Run watershed.

79.8 Loft Mountain. Provides information and exhibits and sells publications and maps. Loft Mountain Campground has both tent and trailer sites, a trailer sewage disposal station, service station, wayside facility with a camp store, gift shop, picnic ground, showers, laundry, ice, firewood, a self-guiding nature trail, and conducted 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, 2.7 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.

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

98.9 Calf Mountain Overlook provides a spectacular 360 degree view.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Follow signs toward Downtown to the Visitor Center (610 E Main Street) to get travel information, same-day lodging assistance and more! Open daily. www.visitCharlottesville.org.

Toll free (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.barboursvillewine.com Reservations (540) 832-3824.

Monticello, Home of Thomas Jefferson - 2 miles SE on Rt 53 off Rt 20 & I-64. Guided house tours daily. Gardens & plantation community tours available mid-April thru Oct. Museum shop. 931 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville VA. www.monticello.org (434) 984-9822.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

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.stayHGI.com (434) 979-4442.

Super 8 Motel - Jct US 29N & US 250 bypass. Continental breakfast. Cable TV HBO. Interior corridors. 390 Greenbriar Dr. Charlottesville, VA 22901. (800) 800-8000 or (434) 973-0888.



Pink Rhododendron

LOUISA, VA

52 miles east of Parkway, Exit Milepost 0

Small Country Campground - 20 miles E of Charlottesville @ exit 136 off I-64. Open year round. Wi-fi/TV, 50 amp. Lake, pool. www.smallcountry.com (540) 967-2431.

CROZET, VA

10 miles East of Parkway, Exit Milepost 0

Montfair Resort Farm - 12 miles from Parkway. 9 miles N. of Crozet. Eco-friendly Vacation Cottages by lake, Pets Welcome, hiking, fishing, canoe, mtn. bikes, www.montfairresortfarm.com Call: (434) 823-5202.

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.

VisitStaunton.com (540) 332-3972.

ATTRACTIONS

Blackfriars Playhouse - World's only re-creation of Shakespeare's original indoor theatre. Year round performances & tours. www.americanshakespearecenter.com (540) 851-1733.

Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum - 18 N. Coalter. Birthplace tours, World War I trench exhibit, Kids' Corner, historic gardens. www.woodrowwilson.org. (888) 496-6376.

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, pool. (540) 886-7000.

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

104.8

Rockfish (South) Entrance Station is staffed by the Park Service.

105.4

Rockfish Gap. Junction 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.

Staunton • Waynesboro • Augusta County

Unwind at an intimate bed & breakfast, cabin, or perhaps opt for a well-appointed hotel.

Located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley where the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive converge – Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County offer the perfect base for exploring the Valley.

Enjoy a night of theater at the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse, the only re-creation in the world of Shakespeare's legendary indoor theatre. Take a tour of the P. Buckley Moss Museum and enjoy the works of one of America's most recognized artists. History buffs will appreciate the rich history of the area at the Frontier Culture Museum, Waynesboro Heritage Museum, Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, and the R.R. Smith Center for History and Art.

Don't miss our Farmer's Market, which is a bustling, colorful affair, often with live music and the occasional chef demonstration. Sip a glass of Virginia wine at the area's first winery, Barren Ridge Vineyard. The natural wonders of this area will inspire you from the rolling hills and pristine countryside of Augusta County to Grand Caverns, America's oldest show-cave. In the evening, take in a performance by local and nationally renowned musicians at one of our many music venues.



(540) 332-3971 • www.VAValley.com

THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

Many visitors want to know how to have the maximum experience on the Blue Ridge Parkway. In this 75th Anniversary year, that may be an appropriate topic of discussion. Certainly, the opinions would vary considerably. Some folks like the first warm days of spring with ample wildflowers in bloom while others like the crisp days of fall under the golden canopy of tulip poplar trees. Some would maximize their Parkway experience on motorcycles or bicycles, while others are content with the automobile, although perhaps with the top down. Some enjoy staying in the car as much as possible while others venture onto the paths and trails, away from the motor road.

Without a doubt, however, the Parkway experience is a unique one and very different from our day to day experiences. In this day

and age, people are busy and time is valuable. People are inundated with information and want to be “connected” to their sources of information as much as possible. Increasingly, people are also satisfied with getting their experiences from secondary sources, rather than the real thing. A Parkway experience defies all of these trends. At its best, a Parkway experience needs to be just the opposite... slow and relaxed, unconnected from the rest of the world’s hectic information, and real... lots of sunshine, wind, and close-up views of the cultural and natural world of the Blue Ridge.

This special road hugs the crest of the world’s oldest mountain range and winds through the coves and forest slopes that make up so much of southern Appalachia. That kind of experience tends to stamp an impression on your mind... it should be an experience that is unforgettable.

During your Parkway experience, keep in mind the pride, enjoyment, and responsibility that go along with it. Your pride in this place, whether you are a neighbor enjoying an afternoon drive or here from outside the region for the first time, is important and helps in protecting the Parkway. Your enjoyment may come from the streams, trails, wildlife, and historic structures, or from the intangible things like cool air, vistas, or the absolute serenity of the place. Your responsibility comes in the stewardship that is required of all visitors to all National Park sites. This place cannot stay the way we know it without community, regional, and individual help.

It has been noted that “too many places we see in America today look like too many places we see in America today.” Interstates, inner cities, subdivisions... all look very much alike no matter where you are in our country. But America’s national parks aren’t like that. They are places where visitors have unique experiences, remarkable experiences, and experiences that are unattainable anywhere else.

However you choose to “maximize” your Parkway experience this year, do it thoughtfully, do it safely, and take full advantage of all that this special place has to offer.



At each Parkway entrance a directional sign indicates ‘north’ or ‘south’. North, toward the north end of the Parkway, leads to Shenandoah National Park. South, toward the south end of the Parkway, leads to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Outstanding scenery and recreational opportunities make the Blue Ridge Parkway one of the most popular units of the National Park System. “America’s Favorite Drive” winds its way 469 miles through mountain meadows and past seemingly endless vistas. 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 parks within the Parkway have visitor centers, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails and, in many instances, concessioner-operated lodges, restaurants and other facilities.

Building the Parkway through mountainous terrain was a monumental labor. Authorized in the 1930s as a Depression-era public works project, the Parkway was more than a half-century in the making. It was the nation’s first, and ultimately longest, rural parkway, connecting Shenandoah National Park in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina. Enduring standards for parkway engineering and design were pioneered here.

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:

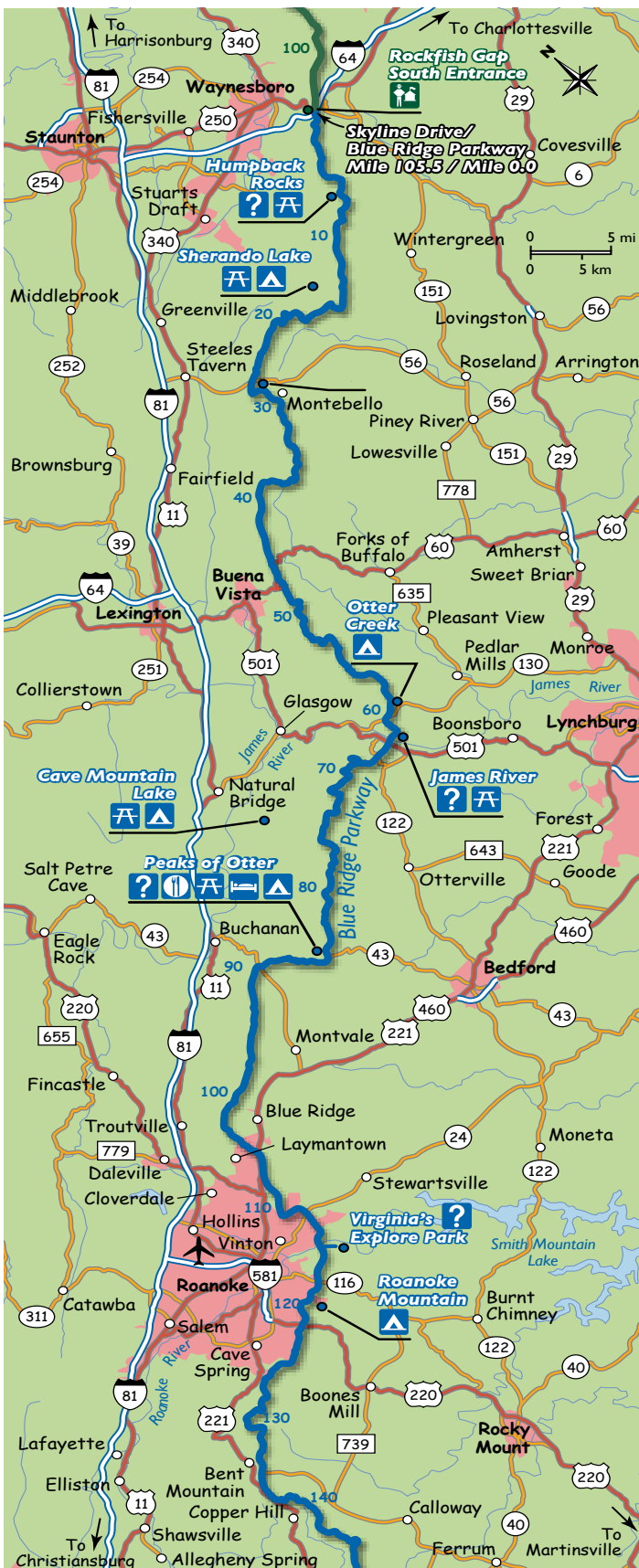
Virginia

US 250 —MP 0
US 60 —MP 45.6
VA 130 —MP 61.6
US 501 —MP 63.9
US 460 —MP 106
VA 24 —MP 112.2
US 220 —MP 121.4
US 58 —MP 177.7
US 52 —MP 199.4
VA 89 —MP 215.8

North Carolina

US 21 —MP 229.7
NC 18 —MP 248.1
NC 16 —MP 261.2
US 321 —MP 291.9
NC 181 —MP 312
NC 226 —MP 330.9
US 70 —MP 382.4
US 74A —MP 384.7
US 25 —MP 388.1
NC 191 —MP 393.6
US 276 —MP 411.9
US 74/23 —MP 443.1
US 19 —MP 455.7

The Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 0, I-64 & US 250 to Milepost 140



0

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

Rockfish Gap Tourist Information Center - US 250 at Parkway Access, Milepost 0. Open 9-5 daily. Exhibits. All services free. E-mail at yourway@visitwaynesboro.net or call (540) 943-5187.

NELSON COUNTY, VA

From MP 0, 13.5, 16 or 27, explore 471 miles of wineries, breweries, unique lodging, restaurants and shopping. Info: Nelson County Dept of Tourism, PO Box 636, Dept. BRPA, Lovingson, VA 22949. www.nelsoncounty.com. For free travel and event information e-mail: info@nelsoncounty.org (800) 282-8223.

GRAND CAVERNS, VA

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

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

WAYNESBORO, VA

4 miles west of Parkway via US 250 or I-64. I-64 exits at 94, 96 & 99. For more information: www.VisitWaynesboro.net or call (540) 942-6512.

ATTRACTIONS

P. Buckley Moss Museum - Exhibiting works by internationally renowned artist P. Buckley Moss. Free admission. Guided tours. Gift Shop. I-64 at Exit 94 in Waynesboro (US 340 South). Open Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information: www.pbuckleymoss.com or (800) 343-8643

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western Waynesboro - I-64, Exit 94. Opened in 2007, our modern hotel & conference center is conveniently located 5 miles from the Parkway! Beautiful mountain views, hot breakfast buffet, indoor saltwater pool & numerous restaurants nearby. www.bwwaynesboro.com (540) 942-1100.

MAP KEY: Refer to page 17 for explanation of symbols

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.

5-9.3 Humpback Rocks. 800 acres. Visitor Center and mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), Picnic area, comfort station (Milepost 8.4)

8.8 Greenstone Parking Overlook. Self-guiding nature trail.

13.5 Reeds Gap. Route 664.

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

1 mile east on Route 664, exit at Milepost 13.5.

Wintergreen Resort - Lodging, fine dining, 45 holes of golf, tennis, pools, skiing, spa, hiking, horseback riding, mtn biking, fishing, massages. (434) 325-2200. (800) 266-2444. www.wintergreenresort.com

16 VA 814 to Sherando Lake. (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, Weddings - "Come in Love. Stay in Love. Leave in Love." Experience Love in our 9 cabins and 3 large chalets with mtn. views, fireplaces, hot tubs, equipped kitchens, Free WiFi, TV/VCR/DVD. Open year round. www.vacabins.com (800) 410-0627.

27 Tye River Gap. Rt. 56 Crossover, 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 (540) 377-6455. www.osceolamill.com

DID YOU KNOW

The Appalachian Trail parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia and north of Roanoke.

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 or hot tub. Wood burning fireplaces in every room. A Full Country Breakfast is included; Gourmet Dining is available with 24 hours advance reservation. www.sugartreeinn.com (800) 377-2197.

MONTEBELLO, VA

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

Dutch Haus B&B - Log House B&B, Exit MP27 - Rt 56E 3 mi., turn L onto 667. Cozy rooms, TV & pvt. bath, free Wi-Fi, \$75 per couple includes full breakfast. www.dutchhaus.com (540) 377-2119.

Montebello Resort - Cabins, Camping, Fishing, & Country Store. Exit MP27 - Rt. 56 East, 3 miles. Full service campground: RV, trailer, & tent. Easy access, shaded pull-thru sites. 4-acre lake, pedal boats, kayaks, laundry. Country store (fuel, groceries, gifts), cabins, trout fishing available all year. VCOA, ARVC. www.MontebelloVA.com For reservations: (540) 377-2650.

34.4 Yankee Horse Parking Area. Logging Railroad Exhibit.

MOUNTAIN MEMOS

SHARP TOP MOUNTAIN

Do you know about Sharp Top Mountain in Virginia?

With its distinctive shape and dominant height relative to the surrounding landscape, this Virginia peak has long been recognized as a distinctive landmark of the region. Along with Flat Top and Harkening Hill, these "Peaks of Otter" were a popular gathering spot for prehistoric Indians, a stopover for troops during the Civil War, and an early Blue Ridge tourist destination.

Thomas Jefferson wrote about the Peaks in "Notes on the State of Virginia," his only published book. "The height of our mountains has not been estimated with any degree of exactness," he admitted, but nevertheless described them as perhaps the highest mountains in North America. Jefferson obviously was not aware of many other much higher peaks scattered throughout just the Appalachians. Robert E. Lee rendezvoused here with his daughter for a vacation in 1867 during his time as president of nearby Washington College, now Washington & Lee University.

A climb to the summit of Sharp Top from the Parkway north of Roanoke gives a commanding view of the mountains and the rolling Piedmont of the Old Dominion.

HUMPBACK ROCKS



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 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, 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. The activities here are designed to paint a picture of one style of family life in the mountains and reveal the difficulties of subsistence farming in the nineteenth century.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that about twenty million visitors come to the Parkway in an average year?

AMHERST COUNTY

From the Blue Ridge Mountains to the James River, so many ways to relax. So much to see and do - Come visit, you'll LOVE IT TOO! Play golf, hike, have dinner; buy antiques or visit a museum - Come fall in love with Amherst, VA., the Beauty of the Blue Ridge. www.countyofamherst.com (434) 946-9366.

AMHERST, VA

20 miles east of Parkway via US 60, exit at Milepost 45.6.

Hardings Clocks & Music Boxes - Rt. 130 E to traffic light US 29 N. Business. 5 Miles on right. Over 1000 clocks and musicals. Low prices. We ship and engrave. www.hardingsclocks.com (434) 946-7386.

45.6

US-60 Crossover. East to Amherst, West to Buena Vista and Lexington.

BUENA VISTA, VA

Milepost 45.6 - US 60 Crossover 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.

OAK HILL, WV

Located in the middle of West Virginia whitewater rafting country.

River Expeditions - Visit West Virginia's New River Gorge - adventure, nature, history, and culture await. River Expeditions offers rafting, cabins, camping & more. (800) 463-9873.



Peaceful driving on meandering roads

LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA & ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

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. (877) 453-9822.

ATTRACTIONS

Stonewall Jackson House - 8 E. Washington St. Discover the man who became a legend. Guided tours, garden and museum shop. www.stonewalljackson.org. (540) 463-2552.

FOOD & LODGING

Economy Inn - 65 Econo Lane, Lexington. 8 miles from Parkway, MP 30. Great rates and views! www.economyinn.com Toll Free (866) 998-8650.

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. Restaurant, campground, gift/craft shop.

61.6 Rt 130 Crossover East to Lynchburg 20 mi. West to Glasgow 9 mi. and Natural Bridge 15 mi.

63.7 Visitor Center and exhibits. Self-guiding nature trail.

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

The Natural Bridge - 20 stories of solid rock, carved by the fingers of nature - Virginia's Natural Bridge. Gentle breezes whisper stories of America's origins. Walk the beautiful Cedar Creek trail. Visit an authentic Monacan Indian Village. Feel the presence of legends - Washington, Jefferson, the Civil War men of the blues and grays. Bridge, Caverns, and adjacent museums provide a full day of adventure. Just North of Roanoke off I-81. www.naturalbridgeva.com (540) 291-2121.

Natural Bridge Zoological Park - Discover the largest & most complete collection of birds & animals in the state of Virginia. Ride on an elephant, stand next to a giraffe, see a huge white tiger, hug baby llamas & donkeys. Enjoy monkeys, gibbons, & mandrill baboons. See Himalayan bears, pink flamingos, colorful macaws, huge alligators. Feed, pet, & photograph tame animals in Virginia's largest petting area. Safari gift shop, free picnic areas. Off I-81 between exits 175 & 180. 15 minutes off Parkway. Daily 9-6pm. www.naturalbridgezoo.com. (540) 291-2420.

Nelson County, VA

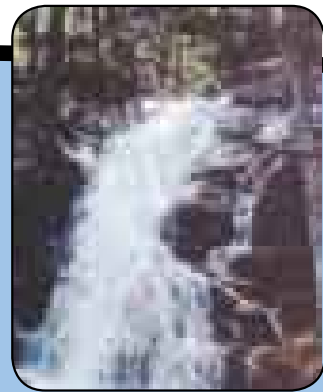
Nelson County is an easy drive to many celebrated sites - the home of four U.S. presidents, among them Thomas Jefferson's beloved Monticello.

Explore Nelson County, Virginia – On the Sunrise Side of the Blue Ridge

Nelson County is best known as a destination to enjoy the great outdoors. Hike, bike, canoe or kayak your way around our 471 square mile playground of natural beauty. There is abundant fresh water fishing on the Tye River, James River, Piney River and Lake Nelson for all levels of experience. Nelson County has eleven watchable wildlife loops listed with the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail program.

Nelson County has ten wineries, three breweries, a hard cidery and single malt whiskey distillery – each with award winning offerings and unique, scenic settings. More than 44 lodging facilities offer a place for a restful getaway. Nelson County is also home to Wintergreen Resort – a four season destination, with skiing, golfing, mountain biking, spa and family entertainment. Hike Crabtree Falls, the highest cascading waterfall east of the Mississippi River. Visit Waltons Mountain Museum in Schuyler, boyhood home of Earl Hamner, creator of "The Waltons."

More than forty varieties of apples and peaches are grown in eight orchards – spring apple blossoms paint the mountainsides pink and white, while every weekend in the fall, harvest festivals celebrate nature's bounty. Orchards offer tours, pick your own experiences and other farm products.



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

www.nelsoncounty.com

For free travel and event information: email: info@nelsoncounty.org or call: 1-800-282-8223

Virginia Safari Park - 180 acre drive-through zoo. Hundreds of free-roaming animals in very natural setting. 3 miles of winding safari roads through fields & woodland. Drive through & feed deer, elk, zebras, antelope, camels, giraffe, bison & many more. 4 mi. N of Natural Bridge on Rt. 11. Left @ NB KOA. Open March-Nov. www.virginiyasafaripark.com (540) 291-3205.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Natural Bridge Hotel & Conference Center - Nestled in the hills of the Blue Ridge, Natural Bridge Hotel has accommodations to fit any vacation budget. Colonial Dining Room, Red Fox Tavern, Suites, Cottages, and Heritage rooms. Just North of Roanoke off I-81. www.naturalbridgeva.com (540) 291-2121.

Natural Bridge KOA Campground - Rt. 130 west to The Natural Bridge, Rt. 11 North 4.5 miles, RV-tent-kabin. Mar-Nov. www.naturalbridgekoa.com (800) 562-8514.

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park - 8 miles from Parkway MP 61.6 via Rt 130 West. Full service family camping. Tent, RV, cabins, beautiful views, riverfront, swim lake, pool, fish, new water slide and spray playground. Mid March-Nov. www.campnbr.com (800) 258-9532.

63.7 **US 501 Crossover** West to Natural Bridge 15 miles. East to Lynchburg 22 miles. Alt. 670.

Points to Ponder

DIVERSITY

The Blue Ridge Parkway is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world with a tremendous variety of plant and animal species. About 100 varieties of trees, 1,600 plant species, 54 mammals, and 159 species of birds call the Parkway their home. The Black Bear is the largest mammal. Secretive and elusive, it finds itself at home in this steep mountain terrain.

NUTS & BERRIES

On Parkway lands, you can pick up to a gallon of nuts, berries, fruit, and mushrooms per day for personal consumption. All other natural features in the park are protected for your enjoyment and for the enjoyment of other visitors coming after you.



Buena Vista, Lexington & Rockbridge County

From Blue Ridge Mountain scenery to vibrant living history, Buena Vista, Lexington and Rockbridge County has something for everyone

Visitors to Buena Vista can't help but enjoy the outdoors with several pocket parks, a river walk along the Maury River, and the 600-acre Glen Maury Park with hiking trails, fishing, music festivals and The Vista Links 18-hole championship golf course.

A picturesque college town founded in 1777, Lexington is home to Washington & Lee University and Virginia Military Institute. Here you will also find Lee Chapel, Stonewall Jackson House, VMI Cadet Museum, George C. Marshall Museum, Theater at Lime Kiln and a downtown filled with wonderful specialty shops and fine restaurants.

Rockbridge County's namesake, the Natural Bridge, is located just twelve miles south of Lexington. A tour of the Bridge provides a breathtaking experience of one of Virginia's most cherished natural wonders. The Monacan Indian Village further offers a glimpse of the history surrounding the Bridge.



Call the Visitor Center toll free to request a free travel guide 1-877-453-9822 or visit our web site: www.lexingtonvirginia.com

LYNCHBURG, VA

"Discover History, Natural Beauty, Arts and Culture in Every Direction!" Lynchburg offers Six Historic Districts and many historical, cultural, and natural attractions located near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Specialty shopping, antiques, fine restaurants, and more than 2,200 guest rooms, including Bed & Breakfasts. Stop by our Visitor Information Center located at 12th & Church Streets. www.DiscoverLynchburg.org E-mail: tourism@lynchburg-chamber.org. (800) 732-5821 or (434) 847-1811.

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.

APPOMATTOX, VA

"Where our Nation Reunited" ... featuring civil war sites, beautiful architecture, antiques, outdoor recreation, and so much more. www.tourappomattox.com. (877) BLU-GREY.

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) HI-PEAKS or (540) 587-5681.

ATTRACTIONS

Bedford Welcome Center - 816 Burks Hill Road (Hwy 460 & 122 - near the D-Day Memorial), Bedford, VA 24523. Toll free 1-877-HI PEAKS, (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.

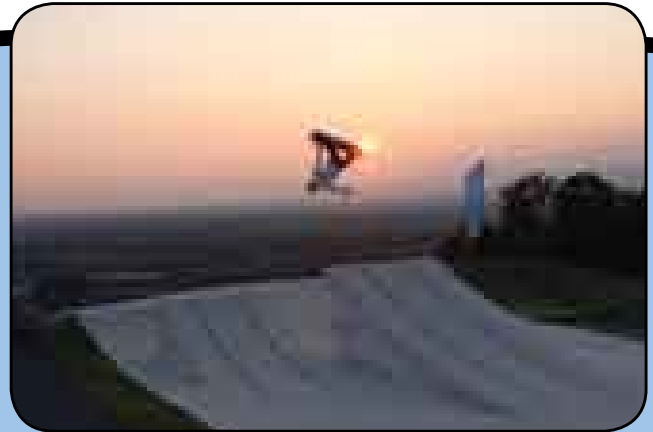
Peaks of Otter Winery & Orchards - Seasonal or by appt. Free tours, tastings & animal visits. Farm vacation rental house. Website: www.JohnsonsOrchards.com. (540) 586-3707.

Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest - Designed, built by Jefferson as his retreat. Open March 15 - December 15, 7 days a week. 10-4. Restoration/archaeology in progress. Located near Lynchburg. www.poplarforest.org. Call (434) 525-1806.

Lynchburg, VA

We
invite you
to discover
Lynchburg.

Here's your opportunity to see the Blue Ridge Mountains from a totally unique viewpoint—from the Liberty Mountain Snowflex Centre. The Snowflex Centre, the first of its kind in North America, features year-round skiing, snowboarding, and tubing on a synthetic ski slope. Open to the public, you can rent equipment and challenge the slope or relax in the ski lodge by a roaring fire. Lynchburg also offers an abundance of historical landmarks like Historic Sandusky and Point of Honor, as well as Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and the National D-Day Memorial. You are encouraged to experience a wide variety of cultural events and other recreational activities in and around the city. We invite you to discover Lynchburg.



Lynchburg Regional Convention & Visitors Bureau
12th & Church Street
800-732-5821

www.DiscoverLynchburg.org
Visit us on Facebook,
Youtube, and Twitter

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Days Inn of Bedford - 921 Blue Ridge Ave. Bedford, VA. Beautiful views of the Peaks of Otter Mountains. 11 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. (540) 586-8286.

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.

Otter's Den B & B - Rt 43S 2 mi. from Parkway MP 86. 1797 log cabin. Open all year. AC, fireplace, hot tub, full breakfast. www.ottersden.net Please call (540) 586-2204.

Vanquility Acres Inn - Rt 43S 8 mi. New country B & B. 10 acres, beautiful views of mountains, lake, AC, cable TV, WI, suites w/priv. baths, full breakfast. www.vanquilityacresinn.com (540) 587-9113.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Bedford Hardware - 126 S. Bridge St. Centertown Bedford. Authentic old hardware store - all you'd expect plus local art, knives, more! (540) 586-8811.

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. Open Year round. U-pick or U-select. Apple Festival 3rd Sat. in Oct. (540) 586-2436.

Points to Ponder

OFF-TRAIL USE

All sections of the Parkway are special and unique in their own way. A few areas, however, such as Devil's Courthouse (Milepost 422), Rough Ridge (Milepost 303), or Craggy Gardens (Milepost 365) support such unique ecosystems that special efforts are made to keep hikers on the trail in order to minimize the possibility of trampling plants.

86

VA 43 East to Bedford 10 miles and Smith Mountain Lake via VA 43 and VA 122.

Peaks of Otter Lodge - Motel and restaurant on the Parkway at Milepost 86. Open year-round. Special buffets on Friday nights and Sundays. Rooms have two double beds, private bath and breathtaking views. Gift Shops & Country Store open May-October. Write P.O. Box 489, Bedford, VA 24523 for information or reservations. www.peaksofotter.com (540) 586-1081.

90.9

Bearwallow Gap. VA 43, 4 miles to Buchanan. Alt. 2,258.

Bedford, VA

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

Just minutes away from the legendary Peaks of Otter, Bedford offers delightful diversions from your travels along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Five 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 City/County 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.



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

Toll Free: 1-877-447-3257 • www.visitbedford.com

BUCHANAN, VA

Town of Buchanan 4 miles from Parkway milepost 90.9. Shop, Stroll & Dine in downtown Buchanan! Explore our downtown historic district with structures dating from 1750 - 1950. Enjoy shops filled with Antiques, B&B's Art, Furniture, Collectibles, Restaurants and more! Walk our Swinging Bridge or paddle the James River. Discover Buchanan's 4 VA Civil War Trail Sites. Enjoy our Civil War Weekend April 29 - May 1 & Fall Festival on Saturday, October 1st. www.townofbuchanan.com. buchananva@verizon.net or (540) 254-1212.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Middle Creek Campground - Exit VA 43N, R on Rt 11, R on Arcadia Rd, 6.3 mi. Pool, swim pond, hiking, fishing, RV, tent cabins, LP, Laundry Apr 1- Nov 30 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.

106 Junction Parkway and US 460. 9 mi. southwest to Roanoke, VA. 21 mi. northeast to Bedford, Lynchburg and Appomattox, VA.

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.

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

Booker T. Washington National Monument - 20 mi from MP 121. Birthplace of noted educator & founder of Tuskegee Institute. Rte. 220S, left on Rte. 697. Left on Rte. 122N. (540) 721-2094.

Westlake Waterfront Inn - Loc @ Smith Mtn. Lake, MP 121. All rooms waterfront. Scenic/clean/private. Mar-Nov, Free internet. www.westlake-waterfront.com (540) 721-3307.

114.9 Roanoke River Overlook. Trail.



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 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 successively, 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.

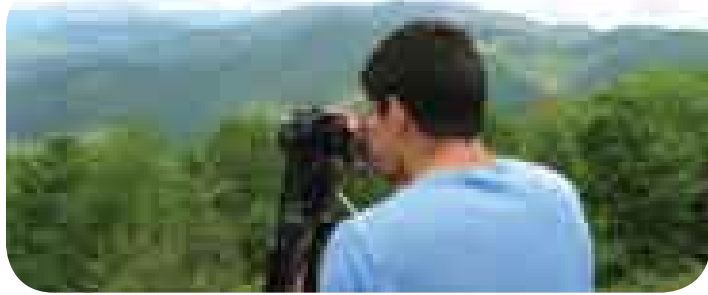
Natural history also abounds at the Peaks of Otter, an area that is representative of the hardwood forests common along the mid range elevations of the Parkway. The area is also home to rare plants and animal species and an extensive trail system offers visitors access to these areas. A hike to the top of Sharp Top, one of the three "peaks", is a long standing tradition dating back over a century. The Parkway's only year-round overnight lodging and food service makes the Peaks especially attractive for those wanting to avoid the crowds of summer.

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.

Points to Ponder

A RAILROAD TOWN

Roanoke, Virginia began as a railroad town in the late nineteenth century and is now the largest city along the Parkway with a population in the greater metropolitan area of almost 300,000.



Scenic picture taking opportunities abound!

115 **Visitor Center**, gift shop, public restrooms, and a media center with videos on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Exhibit area with historic information and features of the Roanoke Valley. The center piece of the exhibit area is a large scale topographical map of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Picnic areas are available along with a short walking trail and mountain biking trails.

120 **Mill Mountain Discovery Center**- Located on top of Mill Mountain, exit Milepost 120. An environmental education and regional information center providing nature programs, hands-on exhibits, and visitor information. Open 7 days a week year round. (April-October: Monday-Saturday: 10am-6pm, Sunday 1pm-5pm) (November-March: Monday-Friday Noon-4pm, Saturday 12-5, Sunday 1pm-5pm). (540) 853-1236.

120.3 **Roanoke Mountain Loop Rd.** 4 mi. one way road, around Mountain. Steep grades. Impressive views from summit. No trailers.

120.4 **Roanoke Mountain.** Campground 1.3 mi. on spur road to Mill Mountain, trails.

PAINT BANK, VA

35 miles west of Roanoke via Rt 311

Depot Lodge B&B - Swinging Bridge Restaurant, retail, Hwy 311, Paint Bank, VA. Restored depot, cabin on the creek, & caboose. www.thedepotlodge.com (800) 970-3376.

ROANOKE, VA

The Roanoke Valley, known as the "Capital of the Blue Ridge," is the largest metropolitan area along the Parkway in Virginia. Take a short drive off the Parkway to see our Historic Farmers' Market district, Transportation Museum, Zoo, Taubman Museum of Art, Caverns, Unique shopping and much more. Address: RVCVB, 101 Shenandoah Ave., NE, Roanoke VA 24016. www.VisitRoanokeVa.com (800) 635-5535 (540) 342-6025.

ATTRACTIONS

Virginia Museum of Transportation - Downtown Roanoke. Trains, vehicles, 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.

Virginia's Roanoke Valley

Capital of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains

It's a Blue Ridge Day!

The Roanoke Valley is the perfect choice for your mountain vacation getaway. The Valley is the largest community along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia offering amenities for everyone. Discover our family friendly attractions and railroad heritage from rail photography to the full-scale steam engines. Experience a vibrant arts scene with our newest attraction, the Taubman Museum of Art, for a glimpse of modern and regional art exhibits. Take a stroll through our downtown shopping district to find a treasure out of the ordinary. Find a tasty treat to complement your visit at any of our dining options ranging from the traditional southern cuisine to elegant fine dining.

Sign up to receive our monthly e-newsletter at info@visitroanokeva.com

Roanoke Valley Visitor Information Center (Parkway Milepost 120)
101 Shenandoah Ave., NE
Roanoke VA 24016

Stop by our Visitor Information Center open daily 9am – 5pm. Follow directional signs from Parkway Milepost 120. A Visitor Services staff member will help you plan your perfect "Blue Ridge Day". Ask for your FREE Discount Card.

(800) 635-5535 • www.VisitRoanokeVA.com



Bent Mountain Lodge B & B - MP 136. 10 suites/ all with pri. baths, 20 min. to Floyd, Va./20 min. to Roanoke, Va. Non-smoking rooms. cont. breakfast. 15K sq. ft. lodge. (540) 651-2525.
www.bentmountainlodgebedandbreakfast.com

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.

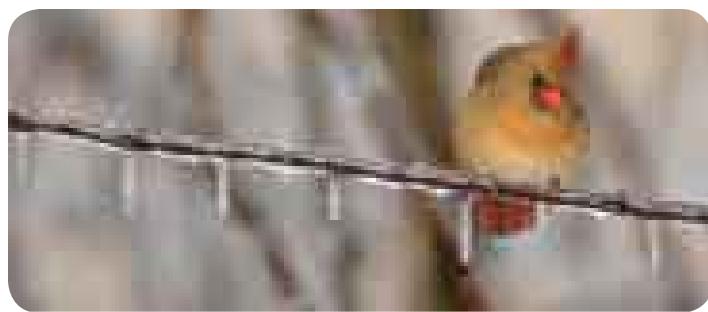
Colony House Motor Lodge - 3560 Franklin Rd. Roanoke. 2 mi off Parkway on US 220. Suites available. HBO, ESPN, pool, Free Continental Breakfast. Meeting Room available. Shopping and good restaurants nearby. (540) 345-0411 or (866) 203-5850.

Holiday Inn Tanglewood - Roanoke, 4468 Starkey Rd., 2 M from MP 121. Best Views in the Valley. Renovated 2009. Micro, fridges, Restaurant, Lounge. (540) 774-4400.

Holiday Inn Valley View - 3315 Ordway Dr. 6 miles from BRP MP 121. 154 rooms, restaurant, meeting rooms. Rt. 220N/581 to exit 3W. (540) 362-4500 or (888) 465-4329.

Quality Inn - 220 North, Milepost 121. Free breakfast, cable TV, HBO, restaurants nearby, free HSWI. 3816 Franklin Road, Roanoke VA 24014, Tanglewood Mall. (540) 989-4000.

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.



A female northern cardinal sitting on ice covered barbed wire fence.

Sleep Inn - Tanglewood Mall - Easy access from Parkway @ MP 121; 1.5 miles take US 220 north to Route 419 west; on left. Suites available. Ample shopping & rest. nearby. (540) 772-1500.

121.4 Junction 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

Choose from a diverse selection of attractions: outdoor adventures-boating, camping, & hiking; cultural & historic experiences. Franklin County Tourism www.visitfranklincountyva.org (540) 483-9293.

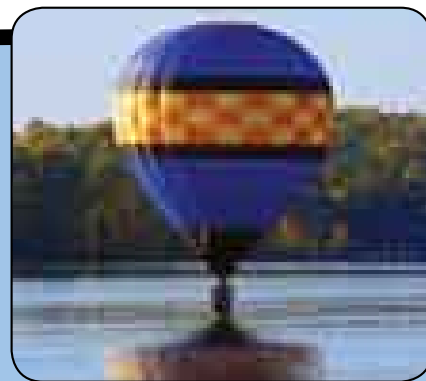
129.6 Roanoke Valley Parkway Overlook.
Fine View of Roanoke.

Franklin County, VA

Whether on foot, boat, horseback, or bike, we have outdoor adventures for everyone in Franklin County.

Outdoor adventure, arts and plenty of home grown music! This is just a sampling of what Franklin County Virginia is all about. Enjoy hiking or biking the many rugged trails, bird watching or kayaking down one of the 70 miles of blueway trails. If fishing is your thing then you don't want to miss your opportunity to try your luck on the two lakes that border the county, Philpott and Smith Mountain Lake which has hosted three televised Bassmaster Elite programs on ESPN.

After a day's activities are over, stroll along the streets of Historic Rocky Mount, a town that embodies the charm of traditional small-town America in its friendliest form. No journey to Franklin County is complete without a visit to the Booker T. Washington's National Monument which is the birthplace of famed orator Booker T. Washington and the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum at Ferrum College where you will learn about life in the Blue Ridge Mountains in years gone by.



To access the many adventures in Franklin County, simply exit the Blue Ridge Parkway at MP 151 and follow Five Mile Mountain Road (State Route 640) to Turner's Creek Road (State Route 748) to Ferrum then follow State Road 40 to the Town of Rocky Mount.

Franklin County
Commerce
and Leisure Services
2150 Sontag Road
Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151

(540) 483-9293 • www.franklincountyva.org



Milepost 140 to Milepost 276.4 at Deep Gap, NC US 421

144 Devils Backbone Parking Overlook. Fine view.

144.8 Pine Spur Parking Overlook. Named for the white 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.

CHRISTIANSBURG, VA

Located 20 miles north of Parkway via Rt. 8, exit at Milepost 165.2. 20 miles south of Roanoke via I-81, exits 114 & 118.

Budget Inn - Rt 8, 304 W Main St. Christiansburg downtown. Exit 114 off I-81. Nice & clean, WIFI, restaurants nearby. www.mybudgetinn.com (540) 382-6625.

The Farmhouse Restaurant - 285 Ridinger Street, NW Christiansburg, VA. Let us entice you with our slow roasted prime rib. Call (540) 382-4253.

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

Located 20 miles north of Parkway via Rt. 8, exit at Milepost 165.2. 25 miles south of Roanoke via I-81, exits 105 & 109.

Radford Visitor's Center - Rt. 8 to I-81 Exit 109. "Find it in Radford" - biking, birding, kayaking, tubing, and living history at Ingles Farm and Glencoe Museum - all in & along the New River! Also home to unique shops, restaurants, the Civil War Trail, Radford University and the Highlanders. www.visitradford.com. (540) 267-3153.

PEMBROKE, VA

40 miles west of I-81 from Christiansburg via Rt US 460

Mountain Lake Hotel - The hit movie "Dirty Dancing" was filmed at this unique mountaintop retreat! Hiking, boating, fishing, tennis, entertainment, mountain bikes, gift shop, and more! For a great family vacation, have the time of your life at Mountain Lake! www.mountainlakehotel.com. (800) 346-3334.

MAP KEY: Refer to page 17 for explanation of symbols

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 Saturday 10-5, Sunday 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.

165.2 Tuggle Gap. VA. Rt. 8 Crossover. 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.

FLOYD, VA & FLOYD COUNTY

Welcome to Floyd! Enjoy mountain music, handmade arts and crafts, local foods and shops. **Floyd County Chamber, P.O. Box 510, Floyd, VA 24091** or www.visitfloyd.org. (540) 745-4407.

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, sales, gift shop Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch and dinner with seasonal hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com (540) 593-2865.



Floyd County, VA

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

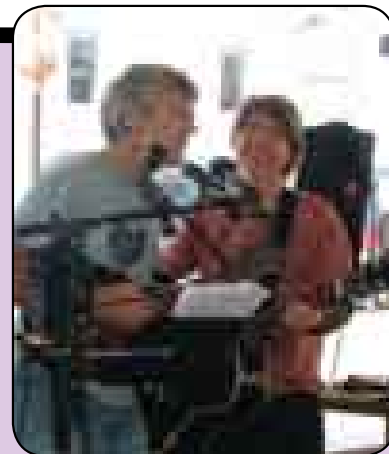
FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

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

Floyd County, VA

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

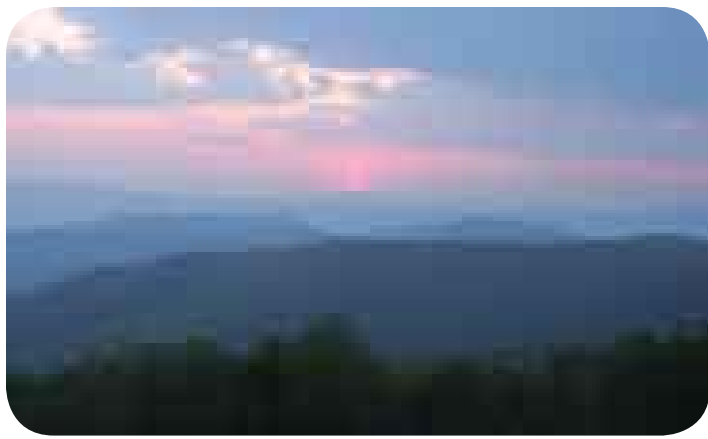
Our hills are alive with music, vivid landscapes, beautiful works of art, and great dining experiences, not to mention unique one-of-a-kind shopping opportunities. Come see for yourself. On our 40 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, enjoy historic Mabry Mill, Rocky Knob, Smartsview and Rock Castle Gorge National Recreation Trail. Visit nearby wineries and travel scenic byways. Then, at Milepost 165, head to Floyd and its art studios and galleries, colorful specialty shops, popular restaurants, fresh local foods, and music venues with live mountain and roots music from Wednesday to Sunday.



For history buffs, Floyd evokes simpler times with old mills, rock churches and historic cemeteries. Hike to the top of Buffalo Mountain, one of the most biologically unique habitats in Virginia and take in the panoramic view from nearly 4,000 feet.

Plan your day or long weekend in Floyd County, part of The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail. Settle in for a restful evening at a local B&B, hotel, lodge or campground.

866-787-8806 • www.floydcova.org/visitors



Virginia's Blue Ridge

Blue Ridge Restaurant - Across from the courthouse in Floyd, VA. 6 miles from Parkway Milepost 164. Open 7 days a week. Good homestyle cooking, delis, breakfast every morning, daily specials, real mashed potatoes, and desserts prepared daily. Come by and enjoy the small town atmosphere and good food at the Blue Ridge Restaurant. (540) 745-2147.

Buffalo Mountain Cottage - King pillow top bed, kitchen, gas fire logs, Jacuzzi, satellite TV @ MP 174.2, 4 mi. from Mabry Mill & Chateau Morrisette. www.brpk.com/cottage. (540) 593-4107.

Hotel Floyd - 120 Wilson St. Downtown Floyd, 6 miles off MP165.2. Green hotel, 14 unique rooms themed after Floyd's character. www.hotelfloyd.com. (540) 745-6080.

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. No credit cards. 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. www.stonewallbed.com. (540) 745-2861.

Stoney Meadow Inn B&B - 0.7 mile from Parkway. MP151 Spacious rms, excellent food. 25 acres woods & pond. Open year round. M/C, VISA, Discover. www.stonemeadowinn.com 1-877-344-1088.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Floyd Artists Association - 203 S Locust St, across from Floyd Country Store. Co-op gallery featuring local artists, paintings, jewelry, more. www.floydartists.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.

Patrick County, VA

Pursue
your Passion

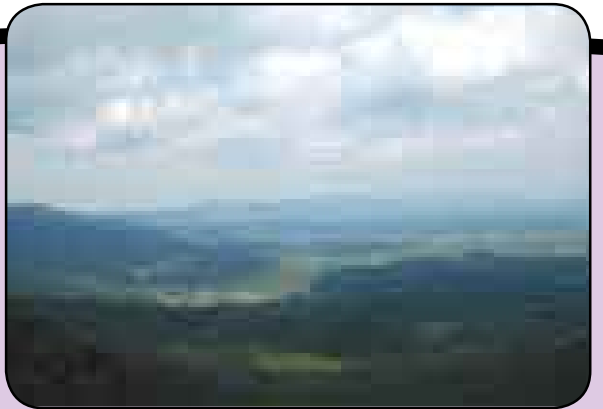
For a 30 mile stretch, between Mileposts 162.9 to 192.5, the Parkway weaves through Patrick County, nestled in the shadows of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Whether you're searching for an adrenaline rush or escaping the rush of the every day, there's a destination awaiting you. From kayaking the Dan in Kibler Valley to trout fishing in our cool mountain streams, from rugged mountain hikes at Rock Castle Gorge to evening strolls along the beach at Fairy Stone State Park from banjo pickin' at our many jam sessions along The Crooked Road to reliving yester-year at our covered bridges, Patrick County abounds with opportunities to satisfy your desires.

After a fun-filled day, renew yourself at a cozy B&B, campground, cabin, motel or luxurious resort. While you're here, enjoy one of our many events such as the Covered Bridge Festival held the 3rd Saturday in June.

Call our office or
visit our website
for a free brochure.

Patrick County
Tourism Office
106 Rucker Street,
Room 218
Stuart, VA 24171

276-694-8367 • www.visitpatrickcounty.org



Martinsville-Henry County, VA

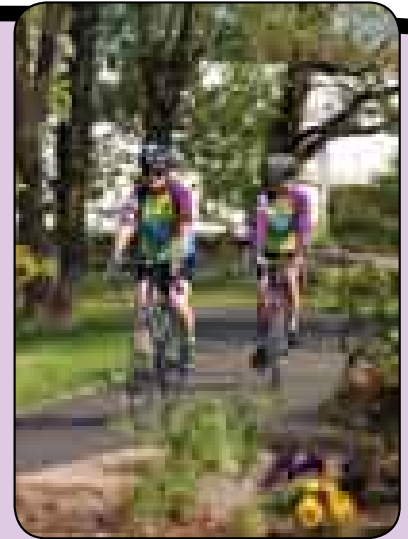
You'll
love the
pace!

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Martinsville-Henry County, Virginia boasts the ultimate outdoor playground. Enjoy kayaking or trout fishing on the Smith River, take a hike on more than 16 miles of trails or borrow a free bicycle to ride. Take in a game at our state-of-the-art Smith River Sports Complex, walk a lap around Martinsville Speedway or enjoy a leisurely day of swimming and boating on Philpott Lake, the possibilities are endless!

There's just something about Martinsville-Henry County, where a visit is a vacation. This area is deeply rooted in a rich foundation of incredible history. Explore the Virginia Museum of Natural History or find the roots of your family tree at the Bassett Historical Center.

Take in an evening of live music, comedy or drama at the Historic Spencer Penn Centre, Rives Theatre and TheatreWorks. Observe local artists at work or sign up for a class to craft your own creation at the Southern Virginia Artisan Center and Studio 107. Treat yourself to an afternoon of shopping, dining and pampering in Uptown Martinsville. You'll love the pace here!

Martinsville-
Henry
County
Tourism and
Film Division



1-888-PACE-4-YU • VisitMartinsville.com

Milepost 176

MABRY MILL & ROCKY KNOB

The cultural sites, facilities, and adjacent farms throughout the Rocky Knob area speak to us of a settled landscape. Farming has been a way of life in southwest 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 here 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 height of the rosebay rhododendron bloom, or during the combination of fall harvest and fall leaf color along the plateau.

Ed and Lizzy Mabry's nearly century old gristmill 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 early fall at the nearby blacksmith shop and Matthews Cabin. 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 daily 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.

The LCF Help Desk & Community Amateur Radio Station

- Promoting "All Things Floyd" Stes 8&9, Village Green.

www.floydcountyvirginia.org (540) 808-2880.

167 Rocky Knob, 4,800 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, campground, visitor center (Milepost 169). 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

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

Rocky Knob Cabins - MP 174 off Rock Church Rd. Near Mabry Mill. Historic, rustic cabins tucked in a secluded glade. Equipped with stoves, refrigerators, kitchenettes, dishes & a centrally located bath house. Perfect for retreats and reunions. May-Oct. (540) 593-3503.

WILLIS, VA

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

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 - Rt 8 to Floyd, L on 221, R on 750, L on 730, R on Mystic Lane (319). One of the loveliest views in all of Floyd County. Come and see! (540) 789-3000.

Points to Ponder

HIGHS & LOWS

The Parkway varies in elevation from about 649 feet at Virginia's James River to 6,047 feet at Richland Balsam south of Asheville.

WOOLWINE, VA

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

Dutchies View B&B - 6 miles from BRP on Route 8, MP 165, 10448 Woolwine Hwy. 6 lrg rms w/pvt baths. Million dollar view. www.dutchiesview.com (276) 930-3701.

Mountain Rose Inn - Rt 8 MP 165/ 6 mi. South to Rt 40. Left 2 mi. Award-winning Victorian B&B circa 1901. 5 large rooms w/ baths, A/C, antiques, fireplaces, porches. Pool, trout stream, private 100 acres with hiking. Gourmet 4-course breakfast. www.mountainrose-inn.com. (276) 930-1057.

176.1 Mabry Mill - Self-guiding features restored mill and exhibits on rural life in Appalachia. Mabry Mill Restaurant & Gift Shop: MP 176. Enjoy the Restaurant's renowned buckwheat cakes & country ham during your visit to the most famous attraction on the Parkway and choose a special remembrance of your visit at the Gift Shop. (276) 952-2947. May-Oct.

Danville, VA

Outdoor
adventure
or restful
retreat...
Danville
offers just
what you
are looking
for.

Adventure in the Heart of Southern Virginia.

All the elements that make your visit unforgettable are right here in Danville, Virginia.

Our natural setting along the Dan River makes our parks the perfect choice for outdoor exploration. Discover 600 acres of luscious parkland. Run, bike or stroll along the 8.5 miles of Riverwalk trail. Challenge the 20 miles of mountain bike trail, or peacefully fish and canoe on the water. The less adventurous will also be right at home hunting in our boutiques, shops and restaurants.

The easy access to Danville from all major roads makes it easy to plan your next visit. Uniquely situated at the crossroads of Route 29 and Route 58, Danville offers access to all areas of the Southern Virginia racing region. Be sure to start your journey at the Danville Welcome Center for a map, a friendly smile and learn why Danville is the Heart of Southern Virginia.



Danville
Tourism Division
645 River Park Dr.
Danville, VA 24540

434.793.4636 • www.visitdanville.com



Rocky Knob Visitor Center

MEADOWS OF DAN, VA

Just off Parkway on US 58, exit at Milepost 177.7

Blue Ridge Visitor Center - at Parkway exit Meadows of Dan MP 177.7. Maps, brochures, travel guides, lodging. www.patrickchamber.com (276) 694-6012.

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, sales, gift shop Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch and dinner with seasonal hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com. (540) 593-2865.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Blue Ridge Motel - Adjct Parkway. 75 yds West on US 58 Milepost 177.7. Color TV, elect. heat, AC, carpet, tubs & showers. Lovely lg rooms, low rates. Clean and quiet. VISA-MC. Open all year. (276) 952-2244.

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

177.7 US 58 Crossover. 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.co.patrick.va.us (276) 694-8367.

Carroll County, VA

Exit

Parkway at
MP 199.4

Fancy Gap

Carroll
County's
Gateway

Carroll County Welcomes You!!!

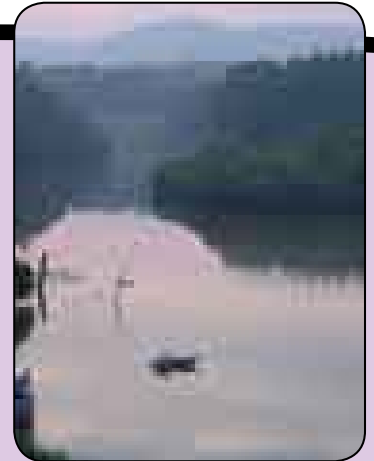
Located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Plateau and in the middle of Virginia's music heritage trail "The Crooked Road", we are a region steeped in traditions: music, crafts, history, and plenty of outdoor splendors.

Whether you are looking for an adrenaline rush or escaping the rush from the every day, there is a destination awaiting you in beautiful Carroll County, Virginia.

We offer 36 miles of spectacular scenery along the Blue Ridge Parkway including some of the most popular venues along all the parkway; "Ground Hog Mountain Overlook", "Orleana Puckett Cabin", "The Blue Ridge Music Center" just to name a few.

Exit off of the parkway at MP 199.4 Fancy Gap and head toward the Town of Hillsville to experience many more of Carroll County's Treasures: Southwest Virginia Regional Farmers Market, Historic Downtown Hillsville, The New River Trail State Park, Crooked Creek Fee Fishing and Wildlife area, The Devil's Den Nature Preserve and many more treasures await you in beautiful Carroll County Virginia where many say "Visit for a day. Stay for a lifetime."

Carroll County
Office of Tourism
Blue Ridge Plateau
Regional Visitor Center
235 Farmers Market Dr.
Hillsville, VA 24343



888-785-2781 • It'sOurStyle.com



Blue Ridge Music Center

Primland Resort - Meadows of Dan, VA. 4 miles from Parkway MP 177. Luxury lodge & conference center, restaurants, cottages, golf, wing shooting, fly fishing, sporting clays, horseback riding, etc. 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

Meadows Mercantile - and Christmas In The Meadows - Unique gifts/ornaments, T-shirts/Hats, candles, quilts, books, cards & toys. US 58 & Parkway. www.meadowsmercantile.com (276) 952-6282.

Poor Farmers Farm - Largest & most unique Country Store. Gifts, Heritage Lace & Quilts, Free samples of Joyce's Homemade Fudge & homegrown produce. 5 miles East on US 58 from Parkway MP 177.7. Open all year! www.poorfarmersfarm.net (276) 952-2560.

MARTINSVILLE, VA

30 miles east of MP 177.7 on US 58, You'll enjoy: Virginia Museum of Natural History, Trout Fishing, Discount Furniture Outlets, Philpott Lake, Motorsports, Art Galleries and Hiking/Biking Trails. Find your pace at www.VisitMartinsville.com (888) PACE-4-YU.

DANVILLE, VA

The Heart of Southern Virginia. Danville Welcome Center, Crossing at the Dan, Sutherlin Mansion, Millionaires Row, AAF Tank Museum, Riverwalk Trail, Old 97 Mural, Civil War Sites, Danville Tourism Division, 645 River Park Dr. www.visitdanville.com. (434) 793-4636.

DID YOU KNOW

Q: Is bicycling allowed on the Parkway?

A: Yes- But because the Blue Ridge Parkway was designed for motor travel bicyclists should exercise caution, have reflectors and riders should wear high visibility clothing and helmets.

Galax, VA

Dubbed one of the 10 Best Driving Vacations by USA Today.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and just 7 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway, via Rt. 89 exit at MP 215, Galax is close enough for a leisurely drive from several metropolitan areas, but far enough to escape the toil and turmoil of urban living.

Once a furniture and textile town, Galax has evolved into an eclectic blend of small businesses offering unique shopping, enticing dining, and a musical heritage unlike any other. This hamlet is a preeminent destination on the Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, dubbed one of the 10 Best Driving Vacations by USA Today. Be it Bluegrass and Old Time music in the Spring, BBQ and Beach Music in July, or the World's Oldest and Largest Old Fiddler's Convention in August, you'll have a toe tappin' knee slappin' good time during our special events. Whether a day trip for a fun adventure or a weekend stay to explore all that Galax has to offer, visitors find themselves enchanted with the area and wanting to return again and again, and we welcome it.



The Historic Rex Theater - Downtown Galax

Galax Visitor's Center
110 East Grayson St.
Galax, VA 24333

www.visitgalax.com • 888-217-8823 • 276-238-8130

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 Orelena Hawks Puckett, storied local midwife. Alt. 2,850.

ARARAT, VA

5 miles south of Parkway, exit at Milepost 192.

Wolf Creek Farm - Exit MP 192, VA 771 Willis Gap Rd. Lt. @ The Hollow, Rt. @ Rabbit Ridge to Gid Collins. Children Welcome! Fishing lake, pool, play area. Campfire, hayride, Privacy! (800) 416-9653. www.wolfcreekfarmva.com

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, 605-1 Pine Street, Hillsville, VA 24343, www.VisitTheBlueRidge.com (276) 730-3100 or Toll Free: (888) 785-2781.

Blue Cat on the New - Offering tipi & primitive camping, canoe, kayak, bike & tube rental. Guided fishing & wildlife trips. Bike & boat shuttle service. Two locations. (276) 766-3729.



Puckett Cabin • Milepost 189.9

Lake Ridge RV Resort - 8736 Double Cabin Road, Best kept secret in Va. Enjoy waterslides, mini golf, pools, peaceful, cabin, RV, tent, M/C, Visa. (276) 766-3703.

199.5 **Fancy Gap**, US 52 Crossover, 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.

Wytheville, Va

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

Wytheville Convention & Visitors Bureau
975 Tazewell Street
Wytheville, VA 24382

When you discover all that Wytheville has to enjoy, you'll see why it's called a "Small Town with a Big Experience." 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 a 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 round of golf or shopping, there's something for the entire family. Accommodations range from all-suite hotels to budget motels, luxurious bed & breakfasts and cabins as well as numerous campgrounds.

Over 60 restaurants offer a variety to dining choices with local flavor and national chains. Come and experience the beauty, history and variety that make this small town unique.



Toll-free: 877-347-8307 • www.VisitWytheville.com • cvb@wytheville.org

Blue Ridge Host Incorporated (Heritage Organization in Support of Tourism) A Regional Resource center providing information on local businesses and tourism. A Visitor's Center is located at (MP 199.5/Highway 52) - 8065 Fancy Gap Highway in Fancy Gap, Virginia, just off Highway I-77 (Exit 8). We support businesses and tourism from MP 171 south to the North Carolina border. Contact us at www.blueridgehost.com or (276) 728-2652 about our little piece of heaven on the Blue Ridge Parkway and the surrounding area.

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.

FANCY GAP, VA

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

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Days Inn - 1 1/2 mile from Parkway at Exit 8 I-77. 60 new rooms, HBO, ESPN, remote control TV. Restaurants, antique & craft shops, golf nearby. AARP & corp. rate. (276) 728-5101 or (800) DAYS INN.

Fancy Gap/Blue Ridge Parkway KOA - 47 Fox Trail Loop, Milepost 199.5, 1/2 mile from Parkway entrance. Free cable TV, Wi-fi and swimming pool. Open March 1 - Nov. 15. (800) 562-1876.

Fancy Gap Cabins and Campground - Parkway frontage Motel rooms with scenic views. Sewered RV sites. Camping cabins. MC/Visa. Pet friendly. (276) 728-7664.

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

The Inn and Cottages at Orchard Gap - MP 195 overlooking the Blue Ridge Parkway. A Bed and Breakfast in the tradition of a classic Virginia Inn. Relax with a massage on site or just enjoy the breathtaking views from our front porch rocking chairs. Plan a romantic get-away with your spouse. www.innatorchardgap.com (276) 398-3206.

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 Call (276) 398-3332.

Mountain Top Motel - Hwy 52/Blue Ridge Parkway, Mile marker 208. Fancy Gap, VA. A restaurant adj., wireless internet. Only a mile from I-77. (276) 728-9414.

RECREATION

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



Music seems to be a natural part of these mountains – practically inseparable from those who call this special place home. No where 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. The 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.

Some of the music here is very similar to the nineteenth century styles dominated by fiddle and banjo, reminiscent of the "marriage" of these two instruments on the new American frontier. It is a mistake, however, to think that the music of these mountains has been stagnant and unchanging for all of the years people have lived here playing and listening to it. It was brought to the mountains with the early settlers but in many cases, became uniquely American, with a blended style resulting from varied influences.

The Blue Ridge Music Center is managed cooperatively by the National Park Service and The National Council for the Traditional Arts, (a non-profit organization). Its purpose is to honor and preserve the rich musical traditions of the Blue Ridge.

Concerts take place in the outdoor amphitheater on weekends during the summer season and indoors in the fall.

In 2011, the Blue Ridge Music Center is pleased to announce the opening of their new, permanent exhibit called, The Roots of American Music.

Please join us for Mid-day Mountain music in the breezeway of the Visitor Center. Local musicians volunteer to perform most days. Call for information as times vary. Free admission.

*SO RELAX, ENJOY THE MUSIC, CONCERTS
AND MORE AT THE BLUE RIDGE MUSIC CENTER,
A PLACE WE THINK YOU WILL AGREE, IS NEAR TO THE
HEART OF AMERICA AND ITS MUSIC.*

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Fancy Gap Dress Shop - Name brands, discount prices for whole family: dresses, sportswear, golf apparel, nurses' uniforms, jewelry, accessories. Open Monday-Saturday 9-5. (276) 728-7130.

Fancy Gap Outfitters - 160 N. Main St. Mt Airy, NC. Performance equip, hike, camp, kayak, fly fish, run, ski. Marmot, The North Face, Columbia, Keen, Chaco, MSR, Petzl, Thermarest, Deuter, Osprey, Fish Pond, Kelty, Vasque, Rainbow Sandals, Sanuk, Under Armour, Brooks, Leki, Ross Reels, Temple Fork Fly Rods, Spyder, Scott USA. Kayak rentals and fishing guides.
www.fancygapoutfitters.com (336) 719-1695.

Peaceful Heart Alpacas & Farm Store - On Pkwy, MP 204. Meet our alpacas. Luxurious alpaca clothes, fiber, yarn & handcrafts. Fiber art classes: spin, weave & more.
www.peacefulheartalpacas.com (276) 728-4950.

Treasure Potts Antiques and Garden Shoppes - Int. of Hwy. 52 and BRP at MP 199.5. Period furniture, pottery, clocks, lamps, china. Plants and garden accessories. Make sure and visit the Gap Deli (276) 728-3880.

213 Blue Ridge Music Center - Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled seasonal performances (June-September) of old-time and blue-grass music. (276) 236-5309. Visit www.blueridge-musiccenter.net on the Internet for concert schedule. Visitor Center open daily Summer-October.



Chestoa View

215 VA 89 Crossover. 7 mi. North to Galax.

GALAX, VA

Exit 215 - 7 miles N on Rt 89. Live radio show each Friday night from the Rex Theater. Downtown shops, area museum, New River Trail. www.visitgalax.com (276) 238-8130.

Deer Creek RV Resort - 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, bathroom, laundry, Rally Center. Clubs Welcome. Free Wi-fi & cable TV. Open Year Round. www.deercreekrvresort.com Toll Free (866) 342-0300.

Abingdon, VA

We've been entertaining folks for over two hundred years—let us entertain your senses!

Abingdon, Virginia— Let us "Entertain Your Senses". Wake up here real soon and we will make your dreams come true. Founded in 1778, Abingdon is home to the world-famed Barter Theatre, the William King Museum & the Arts Depot. The Historic District hosts Sinking Spring Cemetery tour, Main Street's antique shops and galleries. Enjoy music under the stars at the town's many concerts, featuring world famous musicians. Each August the Virginia Highlands Festival voted one of the Nation's Top 100 Events showcases antiques, arts, crafts, and more. Other Abingdon events include Plumb Alley Day, the Highlands Jazz Festival and Overmountain Victory Trail's Annual September Revolutionary War Reenactment. Outdoor enthusiasts will love the Virginia Creeper National Recreation Trail, and the nearby Mount Rogers National Recreation Area. NASCAR fans will find the Bristol Motor Speedway only a few minutes away. Abingdon has accommodations in every price range, superb dining, shopping—including items from around the world—and so much more!



Visitors Center
open
9:00 to 5:00
Daily

Abingdon Convention & Visitors Bureau
335 Cummings Street • Abingdon, VA 24210
1-888-489-4144 • 276-676-2282 • 276-676-3076 Fax

www.abingdon.com



Low Gap Bridge, VA

Fiddler's Roost Bed & Breakfast Cabins - MP 214 next to Blue Ridge Music Amphitheatre. Breathtaking mountain views! Couples hot tubs. www.FiddlersRoostCabins.com (276) 236-1212.

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

Something for everyone including Animal Park, Dinner Theatre, wineries, interesting trails, Indian Village, Outdoor Recreation, Shopping, Motels, Cabins, B&Bs, over 60 Restaurants & More! www.VisitWytheville.com. 1-877-347-8307.

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. www.scenicbeauty-va.com. (276) 663-4016.

ABINGDON, VA

I-81 Exits 14, 17, 19. "Entertain your Senses!" In the great Virginia tradition, Abingdon, chartered in 1778, offers something for everyone! Information: Abingdon Convention & Visitor's Bureau, 335 Cummings St, Abingdon, VA 24210. (276) 676-2292 or (800) 435-3440.

Barter Theatre - Professional live theatre - 18 productions, two historic stages, one great experience. 127 W. Main St., Abingdon, VA. I-81 exit 17. For tickets call (276) 628-3991 or 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) 492-2085.

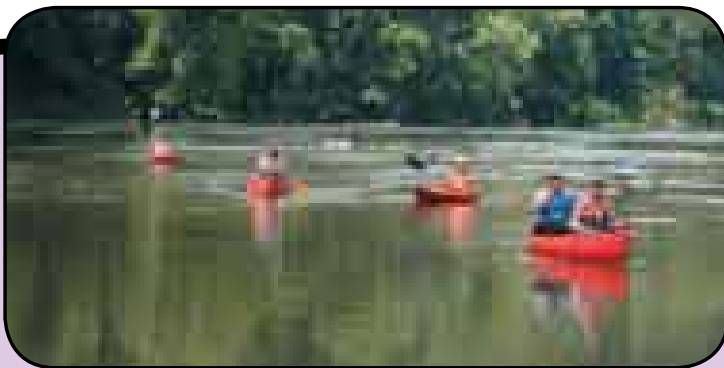
William King Museum - 415 Academy Dr., Abingdon. Museum galleries, arts education, outdoor sculpture garden, museum store. www.williamkingmuseum.org. (276) 628-5005.

Grayson County, VA

Grayson County . . .
Discover the
Best Kept
Secret!

Nestled in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Southwestern Virginia, Grayson County features the highest points in Virginia on Mount Rogers and Whitetop Mountains... from the Blue Ridge Parkway to Grayson Highlands State Park, Mount

Rogers National Recreation Area, New River Trail State Park, the Appalachian Trail, the New River, and the Virginia Creeper Trail, Grayson County is 460 square miles of adventure with beautiful mountains, scenery and trails featuring hiking, biking and horseback riding! Explore Grayson County's musical heritage on the Crooked Road through annual bluegrass and oldtime festivals and weekly jam sessions. Grayson County . . . Discover the Best Kept Secret!



Grayson County
Tourism Department,
PO Box 217,
Independence, VA 24348.

www.graysoncountyva.com.

Free Visitor Guide (276) 773-2000,
tourism@graysoncountyva.com.

GRAYSON COUNTY, VA

Perfect place to enjoy the stunning mountain beauty & home to the highest mtns in Virginia. Call or visit the website for a free Visitor's Guide. www.graysoncountyva.com. (276) 773-2000.

BRISTOL, VA/TN

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

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.

PENNINGTON GAP, VA

40 miles west of Kingsport, TN via Rts. 23 & 58.

Old VA Hand Hewn Log Homes - Mfg. authentic hand hewn log homes of 6"x12" with dovetail corners; optional chink joint or on log. New 8"x8" planed round or D log with dovetail corner. Hqts. & Sales Office US Hwy 58 near DOT, Pennington Gap, VA 24277. Company owned log guest cabin available for overnight lodging. Call for Reservations. (276) 546-5647.

DID YOU KNOW

Three versions of the "America the Beautiful" Pass are available to U.S. citizens over 62 years of age, U.S. citizens with permanent disabilities, or to the general public. Check the National Park Service website, nps.gov, for details.

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 and homeplace, Pilot Mountain State Park, historic homes & the world's largest open-face granite quarry. Bluegrass shows/jams weekly. (800) 948-0949 or check out www.visitmayberry.com for visitor information.

ATTRACTIONS

Good Life Outfitter - 248 N. Main Street, Mount Airy, NC, Good Stuff for the Outdoors. Enjoy the Good Life, The North Face, Carhartt. www.GoodLifeOutfitter.com (336) 786-6856.

Historic Gertrude Smith House - 708 N Main St., 2 blocks north of downtown business district. Tourist information, exhibits, guided tours. Follow signs and experience hometown hospitality. Hours: Mon-Sat: 11-4, Sun by appt. www.visitmountairy.com (336) 786-6856 or (800) 948-0949.

Main · Oak Emporium - Outdoor gear, unique gifts, gourmet foods & wine. Restaurant, historic renovation. Corner of Main & Oak & City Hall Streets. Open 7 days. www.mainoakemporium.com (336) 789-2404.

Mt. Airy Museum of Regional History - Featuring over 30,000 sf. of exhibit space including Andy Griffith, Siamese twins, & Donna Fargo. Open Tues-Sat. Admission is charged. www.northcarolinamuseum.org (336) 786-4478.

Surry County, NC

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

Elkin - Mount Airy - Dobson - Pilot Mountain

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.



www.verysurry.com
1-877-SAVOR-YV

Points to Ponder

A LONG ROAD

The Parkway was the longest road ever designed as a single unit at the time construction began in 1935.

Round Peak Vineyards - MP 215, NC 89, Lowgap, 765 Round Peak Church Rd. 9 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway or I-77, Exit 100, Rt 89. Open daily Sun to Fri 12-5; Sat 11-6. Jun.-Aug. open Saturdays until after sunset. (336) 352-5595.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Hampton Inn - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74 exit 11 to US 601 North. 1 1/2 mile on right. Award winning hotel! Email address: mtanc_hampton@hilton.com. Call (336) 789-5999. (800) 565-5249.

Knights Inn - Exit 100 off I-77. Right (Hwy 89 East) 6 miles straight, 2nd light right (52 Bypass N). 1/4 mile on left. Free breakfast. www.knightsinn.com (336) 786-8387.

Mayberry Motor Inn - Exit off I-77. Right (Hwy 89 East) 6 miles straight, 2nd light right (52 Bypass N) 1/2 mile on left. Gazebo, tastefully decorated. (336) 786-4109.

SURRY COUNTY, NC

Visit Surry NC, S of the Parkway on Hwys. 21, 18, 89 and 52. Lodging, Restaurants, Shopping, Wineries, Outdoor Recreation, and more! www.visitsurrync.com (877) 999-8390.

DOBSON, NC

21 miles south of Parkway via I-77S. Exit Milepost 199.5 or 215

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. www.sheltonvineyards.com. (336) 366-4724.

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.



To report accidents & other emergencies,

Call 1-800-PARKWATCH

(1-800-727-5928)

Mount Airy, NC

Visit Andy Griffith's hometown, the ideal town that was the inspiration for Mayberry.

Located in the Yadkin Valley Wine Region- Home to over 27 Wineries!

NC Exit Parkway at Milepost 199.5, Hwy 52 South. 12 miles south of Fancy Gap, VA. Visit Andy Griffith's hometown, the ideal American town that was the inspiration for Mayberry. You'll find some things that the television show captured, some great entertainment, shopping, dining, wineries and a peaceful, scenic setting.



Wonderful shopping downtown and at Colonial Mayberry Mall.

It's Like Coming Home Again.

www.visitmayberry.com

Visit the Andy Griffith Museum located at The Andy Griffith Playhouse. Also include Wine Tastings and Tours at The Old North State Winery and tours at The Mount Airy Museum of Regional History. Other Mayberry Attractions include Squad Car Tours, Wally's Service Station and Floyd's Barbershop.

Also featuring a Summer Concert Series at the Blackmon Amphitheatre. Bluegrass shows and jams weekly in downtown Mount Airy.

Visit the Mount Airy Visitor's Center located at 200 N. Main Street next to Barney's Restaurant. Open 7 Days a Week:
Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5pm • Sat: 10am-4pm • Sunday: 1pm-4pm



4

Milepost 199.5 US 52 at Fancy Gap, VA to Milepost 355.4, NC 128 to Mount Mitchell State Park

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

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. 10 minutes by trail to the Paradise, where old-time hunters listened to their hounds. Alt. 2,805.

PARKWAY DETOURS POSSIBLE

Ongoing Historic Stone Guardwall Reconstruction involves 28 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway (Milepost 217 - 245), containing 32,000 linear feet of historic rock masonry walls. Project completion is scheduled for the summer of 2012. The short detours permit visitors to experience Parkway community life and scenic beauty of the surrounding countryside.

229 **US 21 Crossover.** 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) 376-5473.

GLADE VALLEY, NC

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

Blue Ridge B and B - at MP 225/226, 5905 Mtn View Rd. 28627 zip. Homestyle feel, comfortable rooms, queen size beds, full breakfast, internet, satellite TV, VI/MC. www.blueridgebandb.net (336) 657-3000.

Glade Valley B & B - 1.5 miles from MP 229 at Rt. 21. A new log home w/private baths, views & great country breakfast. www.gladevalley.com or call (800) 538-3508.

ROARING GAP, NC

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

High Meadows Inn & Nikolas Restaurant - 10486 Hwy 21S. 3.5 miles south of Parkway MP 229. 38 clean spacious rooms with good views. Restaurant adj. Cable TV. Inn guests receive 10% off at adjacent restaurant. www.nikolas-highmeadowsinn.com. (800) 585-6309.

MAP KEY: Refer to page 17 for explanation of symbols

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 60+ Chan, Guest laundry - Restaurant on site. Reserve online: www.AlleghanyInn.com or (888) 372-2501.

Blue Ridge Gallery of Fine Art & Joe Edwards Christmas Tree Farm - Mahogany Rock Rd. L on Pine Swamp, L on Gallery Lane. Wine Tasting, Wire-Wrapped Jewelry, Paintings, Pottery, Ornaments, Photography and Trees. www.blueridgefineart.com (336) 372-1711.

238.5 Doughton Park, 7,000 acres - Picnic area (Milepost 241), campground (Milepost 239), trailer sites, comfort stations, drinking water, 30 miles of trail. At Milepost 238.5 is the picturesque Brinegar Cabin. Be sure to visit Wildcat Rocks (Milepost 241.1), to view the Caudill House, a survivor from a community largely destroyed by an early 20th century flood.

Bluffs Lodge and Restaurant - MP 241 in Doughton Park. Charming hillside Lodge with comfortably furnished rooms. Restaurant serving homemade Southern Highland specialties. Stop by and pick up a souvenir for family or friends at our gift shop located by the Restaurant. May-Oct (336) 372-4499.

248.1 NC 18 Crossover 2 Mi. west of Laurel Springs. 24 mi. east to North Wilkesboro, NC.

PARKWAY DETOURS POSSIBLE

Ongoing Historic Stone Guardwall Reconstruction involves 28 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway (Milepost 217 - 245), containing 32,000 linear feet of historic rock masonry walls. Project completion is scheduled for the summer of 2012. The short detours permit visitors to experience Parkway community life and scenic beauty of the surrounding countryside.

LAUREL SPRINGS, NC

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

Cabins on Laurel Creek - 2900 S Laurel Fork Rd. MP 250. 3 Pet Friendly Cabins in peaceful location overlooking pond & pastures. www.cabinsonlaurelcreek.com. (336) 207-7677.

Freeborne's Eatery & Lodge - Hwy 18 S Laurel Springs, MP 248. 18 rooms with full service restaurant, bar, store, MC & Visa. Reservations call (336) 359-8008.

Miller's Camping - 1 mile N of Hwy 18 on Parkway Milepost 247. Full hook-ups, store, mountain-made crafts, hot showers, & laundry. (336) 359-2828.

Station's Inn Motorcycle Resort - 17 room motel Restaurant lunch & dinner. Bar, cold beer, wine Store: Motorcycle gifts, boots, maps, stickers, Info. www.stationsinn.com or call (336) 359-2888.

Thistle Meadow Winery - tours, tasting, lunch by reservation only. 50+ wines, most variety in NC. Allow 1 hr please. MP 246. 294 Elk Knob Rd, if lost call (800) 233-1505.

Alleghany County, NC

NC 18 offers an alternative route for Parkway travelers through the Alleghany countryside and the town of Sparta. Leave and return to the Parkway at Mileposts 217.3 and 248. Sparta is also accessible via US 21 at Milepost 229.6.

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

There is still a place where you drive lazily along 2-lane country roads. Where forever stretches out from scenic vistas. Where creeks teem with wild trout. Where stars shine bright in a dark sky and summer sleepers snuggle under blankets during cool mountain nights.

Discover the land where the Blue Ridge Parkway began. Take a back road along pastures of grazing cattle and Christmas tree fields. Brake for wild turkey and deer.

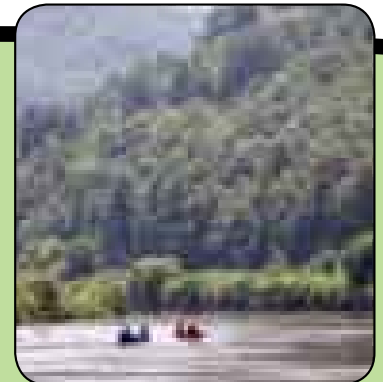
Discover the world's second oldest river — the New River. Navigate a canoe or float downstream and let it take you where it will. Stalk the elusive small-mouth bass and musky that inhabit its waters.

Discover the sound of mountain music. Tap your foot to a fiddle tune. Swing your partner at a Saturday barn dance.

Discover small-town life where folks still wave to strangers and where you are always welcome.

Discover a new perspective.

Discover Alleghany County and Sparta, North Carolina.



1-800-372-5473
www.CoolSparta.com

Wild Woody's Campground & Antique Store - 1 one block off Parkway Hwy 18. Campground on trout stream, showers, beer, snacks. Ice cream, antiques, rare records, candles. Must see to believe. Buy, sell, trade, and rent Campers. Open May-Dec. 11am-7pm Thurs-Sun or call for appt. (336) 359-8432 (h) (336) 984-8088 (c).

ASHE COUNTY, NC

Fiddle around in Ashe County! Scenic views, attractions, crafts, shopping, golf, canoeing and lodging. For lodging and information contact Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 31, West Jefferson, NC 28694. (336) 846-9550 or toll-free (888) 343-2743.

259 **Northwest Trading Post** offers crafts and packaged food gifts from North Carolina's northwestern counties.

GLENDALE SPRINGS, NC

100 yards west of Northwest Trading post, MP 259.

ATTRACTIONS

Northwest Trading Post - MP 259 50+ years this charming country gift shop has featured "HAND MADE IN THE USA" timeless craftsmanship in one magical historic venue. (336) 982-2543.

World Famous Frescoes - The Last Supper, Mary Great with Child, Mystery of Faith & others. Episcopal Churches always open. Milepost 259. www.churchofthefrescoes.com (336) 982-3076.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Mountain View Lodge - MP 256, Eight new cabins & one beautiful lodge, perfect for both small and large groups. Cabin amenities include kitchens, bedroom with king and queen size bed, large loft, cable TV, VCR/DVD, Jacuzzi tubs, fireplace, and decks with rockers and swings. www.mtnviewlodge.com (336) 207-7767.

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

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

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

Zaloo's Canoes - Cool off! The kids will love it. 5 minutes off Parkway. Safe - Scenic 1-5 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.zaloo.com. (800) 535-4027.

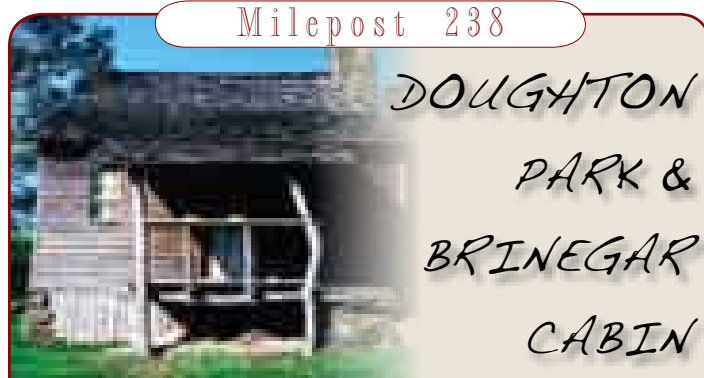
261 **NC 16 Crossover.** West 12 mi. to Jefferson, 14 mi to West Jefferson, 26 mi to Grassy Creek. East 20 mi. to North Wilkesboro.

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.

Best Western Eldreth Inn - Hwys. 221 & 88. AAA/3 Diamond. Comfortable country hospitality. Take NC 16 to US 221 south to Jefferson. Kings, queens, x-long double beds, & non-smoking rooms available. Cable TV/HBO. Rocking chairs on balconies. View of Mt. Jefferson; next to the shopping center; near New River canoeing, frescoes, cheese factory. Open all year. For reservations & information, call (800) 221-8802 or (336) 246-8845.



Rolling ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides characterize the Doughton Park area. Remote places in the mountains like this were settled in the mid to late 1800s by expanding families seeking more land and moving farther up the mountain creeks and valleys, yet still remaining close 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 a torrential flash flood and mud slide, cascading down the valley, destroyed all but one home and killed several people. The community was never rebuilt.

Today, Parkway visitors can experience the ruggedness and beauty 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.

Jefferson Landing - Hwy 16/89, 2 miles from parkway MP 261. Championship golf, restaurant w/delightful accommodations overlooking Mt. Jefferson. www.jeffersonlandingclub.com (800) 292-6274.

WEST JEFFERSON, NC

West Jefferson may be best known for its arts district which is located in the middle of a beautiful historic downtown. The 15 murals create a walking tour through the downtown reflecting the area's history and unique mountain character. Nearby is the New River, one of the area's natural wonders, ideal for canoeing, kayaking, fly fishing and tubing. www.visitwestjefferson.org. (800) 801-3441.

Hampton Inn - New hotel. Indoor pool, hot tub, exercise center. Turn N on Hwy 16 towards Glendale Springs, go 1/2 mi., turn L on Hwy 163, go 7 miles. We are on the left just past the McDonald's. MC/V/AMEX. (336) 846-4000.

Mountain Aire Golf Club - Beautiful 18 hole public golf course. Great condition, reasonable rates. Exit Parkway at Glendale Springs or Deep Gap. 1104 Golf Course Rd, West Jefferson, NC 28694. www.mountainaire.com (336) 877-4716.

Mountain Aire Seafood & Steak - Jct. 16 & Milepost 261. Go 1/2 mile N on Hwy 16. Locally owned & operated. Credit cards accepted. www.mountainaireseafood.com (336) 982-3060 FAX (336) 982-3043.

Nation's Inn of Ashe County - 9 miles from Parkway. MP 261. Continental breakfast, Ashe County hospitality. M/C, VS, DS, AX. www.nationsinn.com (336) 246-2080 or (800) 801-3441.

Sally Mae's Emporium - 10 miles from Parkway MP 261. 7000 sq. ft of antiques, pottery, local art & gifts. (336) 846-9069. www.sallymaesemporium.com.

268 **Benge Gap.**

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

WILKESBORO, NC

20 miles southeast of Parkway via US 421 exit at Milepost 276.4.

Addison Inn - Hwy 421N in Wilkesboro, NC 20 miles SE of Parkway. Complimentary cont. breakfast, pool, free HSIA, pet friendly. 115 units. www.addisoninn.com. (336) 838-1000. (800) 672-7218.

Holiday Inn Express - Hwy 421, 20 miles from Parkway. Newly Renovated Hotel, Hot Breakfast, Pool, HSIA. www.hiexpress.com/wilkesboronc Call (336) 838-1800.

Wilkes Heritage Museum - Includes Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame. 100 E. Main St. Tues-Sat 10-4. Guided & self-guided tours, Special events. Admission charged. www.wilkesheritagemuseum.com (336) 667-3171.

Wilkes County, Nc

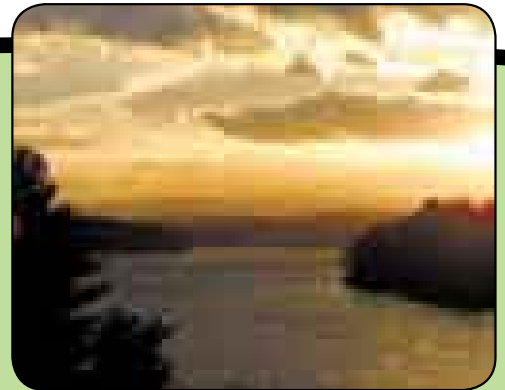
Visitors will relish the fruits of our harvest produced from the river fed soils at our local orchards and enjoy touring acres of vineyards and tasting the palate-tempting wines.

Wilkes County, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains is filled with the sweet sounds of Americana music and heritage drama featured at the many concerts and festivals in the region. Visitors will relish the fruits of our harvest produced from the river fed soils at our local orchards and enjoy touring acres of vineyards and tasting the palate-tempting wines.

Discover the wonderful recreational opportunities such as W. Kerr Scott Reservoir's camping, boating, bird watching, hiking and mountain biking the seven-mile Dark Mountain Trail. If you're adventurous, test your strength at mountain climbing or your endurance with trout fishing the cool streams at Stone Mountain State National Park. If relaxed atmosphere is your choice, spend time with wildlife as you canoe down miles of rippling waters on Yadkin River.

If you want to spend some time here, there are beautiful quiet, private and very affordable accommodations available. "Explore Wilkes" — you may decide to stay!

Funded by
Wilkesboro Tourism Development
Convention and Visitors Bureau.



Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659
336-838-8662 • www.ExploreWilkes.com

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 Crossover. W. 11 mi. to Boone. E 26 miles to North Wilkesboro.

DEEP GAP, NC

11 miles east of Boone on US 421, exit Milepost 276.

Fall Creek Cabins - Secluded log cabins, hot tubs, fireplaces, picnic areas, hiking trails, waterfalls, trout stream. 5 miles from Parkway. Open all year. www.NorthCarolinaLogCabins.com (336) 877-3131.

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, with lakes, streams, nature trails, tennis. Chalets for rent. Real estate for sale. Open all year. 9 1/2 miles NW of Parkway off Hwy. 221 on State Road 1106. For information and reservations: 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 15 buildings; decorative arts, antique toy and children's museums; shopping, dining, picnic tables. 1 1/2 hours from Parkway. 9:30-4:30 Mon-Sat; 1:30-4:30 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.

VALDESE, NC

Historic Valdese, founded in 1893 by the Waldenses, provides a relaxing and enjoyable day anytime. Visit our museums, art galleries, antique shops, outdoor drama, and the Waldensian Winery. Go to www.visitvaldese.com or call (828) 879-2126.

Waldensian Heritage Wines - Valdese, NC. Fruity tasting wines. "Life is short, drink good wine." E-mail: waldensianheritagewines@embarqmail.com. (828) 879-3202.

Elizabethton/Carter County, TN

Create,
Discover, and
Experience
an
Unforgettable
Moment!

Get lost in beautiful picturesque landscapes of Roan Mountain State Park and the Cherokee National Forest, or dare to explore the Watauga River with trophy trout fishing, flat water kayaking, or white water rafting. Challenge yourself to an easy-to-moderate hike on the Appalachian Trail, or enjoy a family picnic on Watauga Lake with water activities in abundance. Discover your new favorite bed& breakfast, or share the stars with nature and take advantage of the many available RV Parks and campgrounds. Experience history as it



comes to life in Liberty! Tennessee's Official Outdoor Drama. Find the hidden gems that are exclusive to historic Elizabethton/Carter County.

Your unforgettable moment starts now!

Annual events

Native American Festival June 5-6

www.sycamoreshoalstn.gov

45th Annual Covered Bridge Celebration June 9-11

www.elizabethtonchamber.com

Rhododendron Festival June 19-20 June 19-20

www.roanmountain.com

"Liberty! Saga of Sycamore Shoals July 14-16, 21-23, 28-30

Tennessee's Official Outdoor Drama, depicting the early events in NE TN

Antiquing; Exclusive local dining and restaurants; Numerous cabins and hotels are available.

For more Info:

www.tourelizabethton.com

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC

Home to 20 miles of furniture stores located along U.S. 321, which is a required destination for any serious shopper looking for furniture bargains. Visit downtown Lenoir filled with sculpture, eateries and shops. Located thirty minutes south of Blowing Rock at Milepost 294. www.explore Caldwell.com (800) 737-0782.

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 health retreat from the rigors of his business empire and as a way to showcase his new-found wealth. 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."

Today the manor and the entire estate are one of the most heavily used areas along the Parkway and home to the Parkway Craft Center. Carriage roads are popular for hiking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing, especially by residents of the Boone/Blowing Rock area. While adjacent development has degraded some views from the estate, overall it retains most of the elements and the atmosphere of the premier county estate that it was. During the summer and fall, National Park Service staff provides frequent tours of the house. They also offer guided walks to the Cone Cemetery and occasional short talks on the manor porch. 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.

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.tourelizabthton.com. (423) 547-3850.

GREENEVILLE, TN

A city rich in historical beauty and a vacation destination. Home of President Andrew Johnson. A small community feel in the midst of Tennessee's second oldest town. For more information www.greenecountypartnership.com or call (423) 638-4111.

291.9 US 221/321 Crossover. 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.exploreboonearea.com.

ATTRACTIONS

An Appalachian Summer Festival - Annual multi-arts festival featuring music, dance, theatre and visual arts at Appalachian State University. Annually during July. For information on events call: (800) 841-ARTS.

Horn in the West & Hickory Ridge Homestead - 591 Horn in the West Dr. 3 miles N on Hwy 321 off MP 291.9. The oldest Revolutionary War Drama. Call (828) 264-2120.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western Blue Ridge Plaza - Hwy 421 Boone. 5 miles from the Parkway. Indoor pool, gift shop, micro-fridge & coffee maker in every room, continental breakfast, suites with fireplace/Jacuzzi. www.bestwesternboone.com Call (888) 573-0408 toll free.

The Boone-Blowing Rock Area Lodging Association - Please visit our website www.highcountrylodging.com for lodging choices and information about the High Country Area around Boone and Blowing Rock.

Broyhill Inn - 775 Bodenheimer Dr. In scenic Boone, 6 miles from MP290. Spacious Retreat, Leisure & Mtg. Inn w/ Restaurant. www.broyhillinn.com (800) 951-6048.

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

Country Inn and Suites - Hwy 421 Boone. 5 miles from the Parkway. Brand New! Indoor pool, Jacuzzi, fitness center, continental breakfast, 2-room suites available. (828) 264-4234.

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.

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 - Log rooms and cabins, cottages, regular motel rooms, pool (outdoors), TV, phones, some with fireplaces, kitchens, balconies, Jacuzzi, honeymoon suites. (828) 264-2277. For reservations only (800) 948-5276.

Holiday Inn Express - 6 mi. from Parkway. Complimentary hot breakfast. Suites, Jacuzzis, fireplace. Pool. Award winner. 1943 Blowing Rock Rd. www.expressboone.com (828) 264-2451.

Honey Bear Campground - MP 294, 2 miles south of Boone off Hwy 105. 229 Honey Bear Campground Rd. 80 beautiful sites w/ primitive to full hook-ups. www.honeybearcampground.com (828) 963-4586.

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.

LaQuinta Inn & Suites - New Hotel with several suites that have Jacuzzi tubs, fireplaces, free cont. breakf. Indoor pool and hot tub, conference space. All major credit cards accepted. (828) 262-1234.

Lovill House B & B - AAA 4 Diamond B&B in Boone on 421N. 6 Rooms/private baths/porch/11 acres. Full hot breakfast. www.lovillhouseinn.com (800) 849-9466.

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. Live entertainment every Fri. and Sat. in our new bar. www.peppers-restaurant.com. (828) 262-1250.

Sleep Inn - Beautiful new hotel with outdoor heated pool, game room, free cont. breakfast. All major credit cards accepted. Call (828) 262-0020.

Willow Valley Resort - 3 miles on Hwy 105 from Boone. Eff. 1 br/2 br/3 br cabins & condos. Fully furn. Golf, tennis, pool, fireplaces. Excellent getaway. (828) 963-6551.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Foscoe Fishing Co. - 8857 Hwy. 105 South - Come visit our new hand hewn log building located on the banks of the Watauga River. Stop in for gear, advice or book a guided fly fishing trip or instructional school. www.foscoefishing.com. (828) 963-6556.

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

North Carolina High Country Host - A comprehensive source for vacation information on NC's Northwest Mountains. Contact for help in planning lodging, attractions, events, restaurants, and recreation in the High Country-Boone-Blowing Rock, Beech Mtn., Banner Elk, Linville, Sparta, West Jefferson, the Wilkesboros, and other communities. Visitor Center - NC High Country Host, 1700 Blowing Rock Rd., Boone, NC 28607. www.mountainsofnc.com, e-mail: info@highcountryhost.com, (800) 438-7500.

Boone, NC

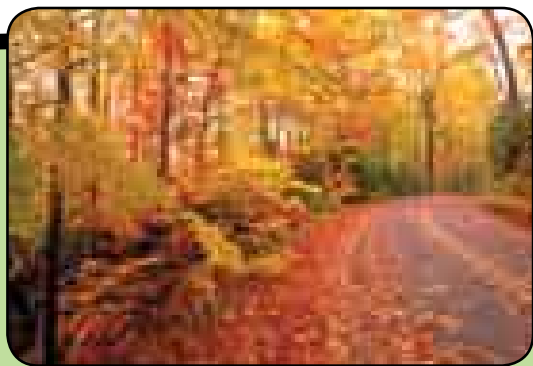
Here in the highest part of the Appalachian mountains, Daniel Boone once explored mountain trails.

Enjoy some of the most stunning views, thrilling outdoor activities, arts, family attractions and more along the Boone leg of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Each season has its own natural attractions, its own outdoor adventures and its own festivals and celebrations. Bike a country road, hike a scenic trail, fish a remote stream, or take a ride on an authentic narrow-gauge steam locomotive. With beautiful fall colors, three winter ski resorts and average summer temperatures in the 70s... our mountains are always in season!

Boone is the perfect place to spend the night. From relaxing bed & breakfasts to reliable hotel brands to resorts and spas, it's all here in the Heart of the High Country.

Come and see why Boone, NC has been a favorite parkway destination for 75 years!



Boone, NC
Exit at Milepost 291.9

E-mail: info@VisitBooneNC.com

(800) 852-9506 • www.VisitBooneNC.com

VALLE CRUCIS

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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

The Mast Farm Inn - 5 mi south of Boone off Hwy 105, where rest, relaxation & romance are always in season. Private rooms & cottages, porch swings, bountiful gardens, fireplaces, & creative Southern cuisine. www.MastFarmInn.com. (888) 963-5857.

VILAS, NC

7 miles southwest of Boone, via Rts US 421N or NC 194

Vanderpool Campground - 7 miles west of Boone, just off Hwy 421, right on Vanderpool Rd. Open year-round. Full hook-ups, level ground. Pull-thrus for big rigs, WiFi, propane, peaceful, natural setting, many trees, birds, small creek, laundry, bath house. 17 mi. to Mountain City, TN. (828) 297-3486

BLOWING ROCK, NC

Charming village on the Parkway. Exit Hwy 221 & 321. Lodging, dining and shops. Near attractions. Information: Blowing Rock Visitor Center, 7738 Valley Blvd or PO Box 2445, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.BlowingRock.com (828) 295-4636.

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.

Mystery Hill - Family fun center! Feel the strange pull. See water flow uphill. Hall of Mystery. 40 challenges. Heritage & Artifact Museums. Open all year. Hwy 221/321 North Blowing Rock. www.mysteryhill-nc.com. info@mysteryhill-nc.com. (828) 263-0507.

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 in May. Memorial Day 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 mile post 291, Boone exit. For more information call (800) 526-5740 or visit our web site: www.tweetsie.com.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpen Acres Motel - 1/4 mi. N. of Blue Ridge Parkway on Hwy 321 - scenic hilltop. Heated pool, free wireless, cont. breakfast. Chalet for 2. AAA. www.alpenacres.com (888) 297-7981.

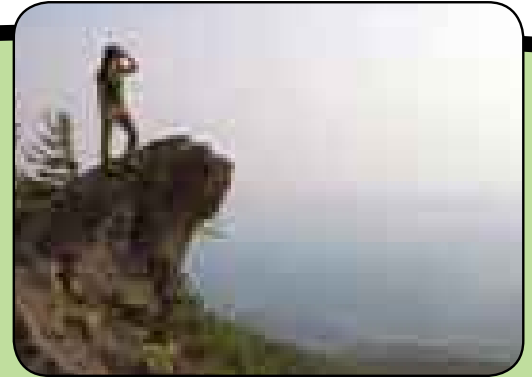
Blowing Rock, NC

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.

High in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina, Blowing Rock has been a destination for travelers seeking a place to rest and rejuvenate since the 1800s.

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.

Just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, the village is a place where time-honored charm and tradition meet modern style and sophistication. With an array of shops and restaurants, the village offers something for all tastes and a wealth of hidden treasures along the way. And, visitors can enjoy year-round festivals and attractions, as well as a wide array of outdoor adventures from horseback riding to skiing.



Blowing Rock — Crown of the Blue Ridge

For more information on Blowing Rock, call 877-750-INFO (4636) or visit www.BlowingRock.com

Alpine Village Inn - 297 Sunset Dr. Quaint cozy rooms & suites in the heart of town. AC, CCTV, & phones, Wi-Fi complimentary. Some fireplaces & Jacuzzi. Pet friendly rooms. www.alpine-village-inn.com (828) 295-7206.

Chetola Resort - Magnificent views, 87 acres, lodge, condos, Bob Timberlake Inn. Fitness center, restaurants, Orvis Endorsed. N. Main St., Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.chetola.com (828) 295-5500 or (800) 243-8652.

Cliff Dwellers Inn - 1 mile south of Parkway off Hwy 321. Big rooms, you'll love the views. Ref/coffee maker. www.cliffdwellers.com (800) 322-7380 or (828) 295-3121.

Gideon Ridge Inn - 202 Gideon Ridge Rd. Beautiful stone Inn with great views & gardens. B&B 10 rooms & suites. \$150-\$330. www.gideonridge.com (828) 295-3644.

Hemlock Inn & Suites - "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 with featherbed, queens, doubles and two room-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 with sitting area and fountain. www.hemlockinn.net (828) 295-7987.

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

MOUNTAIN MEMOS THE NEW RIVER

Do you know about the New River?

It may surprise you to find out that, with a name like the "New River," this is actually one of the world's oldest rivers. It carves a distinctive path through northwestern North Carolina and southwest Virginia, defining much of the area's geology and geography.

Especially on a map of Virginia, this river's most distinctive characteristic is readily apparent. Coming out of its headwaters in western North Carolina, the New flows north and west through the Blue Ridge and Alleghenies toward the Ohio River, eventually joining the Mississippi and emptying into the Gulf of Mexico. The course of this backwards-flowing river was apparently determined long before the Appalachian Mountains rose up around it.

The New River and the New River Valley form a distinct cultural and geological section of southwest Virginia and North Carolina.

It may be called the "New," but it's literally "older than the hills!"

NC High Country

The North Carolina High Country: Home of the first and last link of the Blue Ridge Parkway

You might say the Parkway began and ended in the High Country. Our beautiful section of the Parkway begins at the Virginia/North Carolina border and includes Cumberland Knob, the area where construction first began, and the last link of the Parkway, Linn Cove Viaduct.

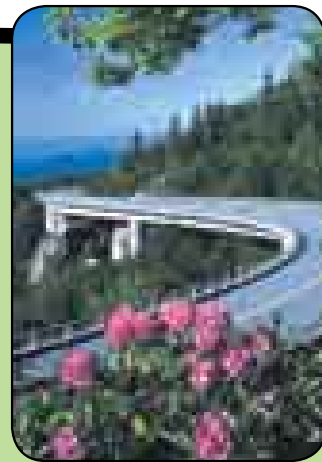
One of the most photographed, most celebrated sections of the Parkway, the High Country is also the home to many attractions and points of interest. High Country Host, the visitor welcome organization in the High Country, has compiled mile-post itineraries that begin at the VA/NC line and extend nearly to Mt. Mitchell. These itineraries are available at www.highcountryparkway.com.

Call for a free Mountain Vacation Planner!
(800) 438-7500

Some of the interesting attractions you will see along our leg of the Parkway include: Doughton Park, Mountain Music Jamboree, Northwest Trading Post, Churches of the Frescoes, Mast General Store, Moses Cone Manor, Tweetsie Railroad, Julian Price Park and Price Lake, Grandfather Mountain, Linville Caverns, Emerald Village and The Orchard at Altapass. Spectacular views, great hiking trails, bird watching, shopping, outdoor adventure, and our famous Blue Ridge hospitality awaits you!

1700 Blowing Rock Rd. • Boone, NC
www.mountainsofnc.com

ExploreBooneArea.com



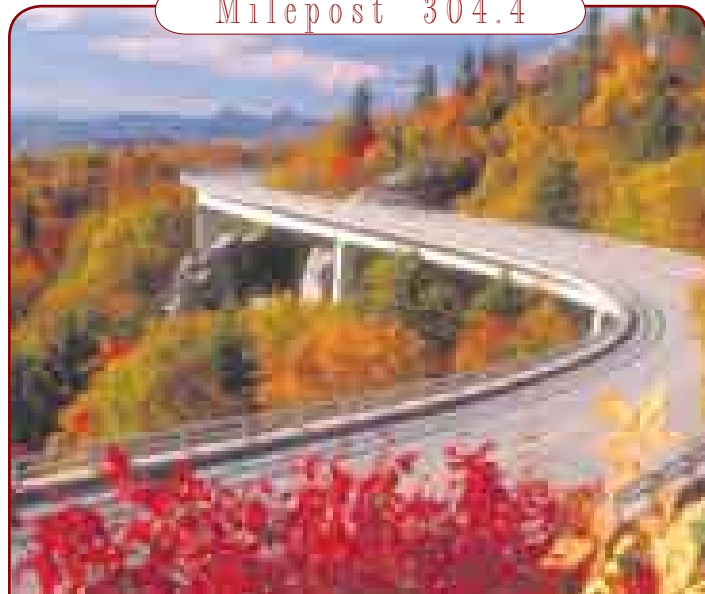
Jenkins Rentals - The finest rental condos, log cabins, & chalets in the Blowing Rock area. Hwy 321 & Sunset. www.jenkinsrentals.com (800) 438-7803.

Meadowbrook Inn - 711 Main Street - Spacious rooms & suites w/fireplaces & Jacuzzis. Restaurant, indoor pool, fitness center & Complimentary Breakfast. www.meadowbrook-inn.com or (800) 456-5456.

Riverside Log Cabins - 129 Mystery Hill Ln. Blowing Rock, NC 28605. 1 & 2 bedroom units. Open all year. Close to attractions. www.riversidelogcabins.com (828) 263-0507.

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 (828) 295-3001.

Milepost 304.4



LINN COVE VIADUCT

A seven mile unfinished section of the Blue Ridge Parkway was delayed for twenty years as environmentalists, adjacent land-owners, 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.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Footsloggers - Sharing in your outdoor adventures for over 30 years. Hiking & climbing equipment, men's & ladies outer wear, footwear, paddle sports, eyewear. Come climb our 35' climbing tower - fun for all ages. Blowing Rock. (828) 262-5111. (828) 295-4453.

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. parkwaycraft@bellsouth.net (828) 295-7938.

Park Service Bookstore and Information Center - Located in the Moses Cone Manor, Milepost 294 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open late April/early May to October/early November, 9-5. Closed Thanksgiving. (828) 295-3782.

292.7 Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, 3,600 acres. Many miles of horse and carriage trails, hiking, fishing.

294 Historic Flat Top Manor House; Parkway Craft Center; comfort station; visitor information, publications.

295 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. Visitor information, comfort station, publications. Trail access viaduct. Alt. 4,000.

305.2 Junction Parkway and US 221. 3 mi. west to Linville.

EVERY 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 9-4 and Saturday & Sunday from 12-4. Website: www.averycounty.com. (800) 972-2183.

BANNER ELK, NC

10 miles north of Parkway on NC 184/194, exit at Milepost 305.2

Banner Elk Winery & Inn - Join us for wine tasting and tours Tuesday-Sunday from noon until 6:00. Enjoy our award-winning wines crafted from grapes grown in the High Country. You can stay for an afternoon with a picnic overlooking our pond, vineyards, and chipping & putting golf hole or for a weekend or longer at our exquisite estate inn located at the Winery. We look forward to your visit and are easily located 1 1/2 miles from the stoplight in Banner Elk. www.bannerelekwinery.com. (828) 260-1790, (828) 898-9090.

Best Western Mountain Lodge at Banner Elk - Located on Hwy. 184 only 7 miles from Milepost 304. Full service hotel. Seasonal packages. www.bestwesternbannerek.com or call (877) 877-4553.

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 and DVD players. Heated indoor pool, saunas, Jacuzzi and cable TV. www.smoketree-lodge.com (800) 422-1880.

SUGAR MTN., NC

Visit Sugar Mountain for four-season fun. Enjoy skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing, ice skating, hiking-biking, golf & tennis. Experience a Bavarian weekend at the annual Oktoberfest and a weekend of winter fun at December's SugarFest. For information on special events and accommodations on the mountain, go to www.seesugar.com (828) 898-9292 or 866-797-8427.

Sugar Mountain Accommodations Center - Located off Hwy 184 at the main entrance of Sugar Mtn. We offer delightful vacation chalets & condos all over Sugar Mtn. All properties are fully furnished & equipped including fireplaces & kitchens. Call 800-545-9475 for friendly assistance or book online anytime at www.staysugar.com.

Sugar Mountain Resort Accommodations - 3390 Tynecastle Hwy 184 at Sugar Mountain. Fully equipped homes, condos, cabins, on Mtn. Rent by day/wk/mo. Real estate sales. MLS. Book online 24/7. www.staysugarmountain.com. (800) 438-4555.

BEECH MTN., NC

Highest town in eastern US. Alt. 5506'. Temperatures rarely climb above 75 degrees. Enjoy golf, tennis, hiking and biking in Summer and the finest skiing, tubing and snowboarding in the Southeast in Winter. Country inns, chalets, condos, restaurants, shops and a general mercantile that serves as the center of town life. Beech Mtn. Chamber of Commerce, 403A Beech Mountain Parkway, Beech Mountain, NC 28604. www.beechmntn.com (800) 468-5506 or (828) 387-9283.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Banner Elk/Beech Mountain Rentals - Fully furnished homes by day/week or month. 1 to 6 bedrooms. Golf, tennis, pool. 3455 S. Beech Mountain Parkway. (828) 387-4291.

Beech Mountain Chalet Rentals - Furnished chalets. Golf, tennis, pool, ski. 1-6 Br. 405 Beech Mtn. Parkway, Beech Mtn. NC 28604. www.skibeechmountainnc.com (828) 387-4231, (800) 368-7404.

LINVILLE, NC

3 miles from Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 305.1.

ATTRACTIONS

56th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - July 7-10, 2011. 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 8 am to dusk (weather permitting in winter). www.grandfather.com Phone (828) 733-4337 or (800) 468-7325.

Milepost 297



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 5,964 feet, is the highest peak in the Blue Ridge and 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.

During the summer, rangers present programs on various topics at the amphitheater located in the campground. 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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Pixie Motor Inn - Intersection of NC 105 and US 221. 25 Grade A units. Electric heat. Grade A Cafe nearby. Color television. Free ice for cooler. Air conditioned. (828) 733-2597.

The River Dog Coffeehouse & Cafe - World-class coffee and espresso, gourmet sandwiches, salads, beer, & wine served in Old Linville lodge atmosphere. B'fast, lunch, dinner. Wireless internet. Linville Village, 3.8 mi. frm Pkwy, U.S. 221 S. (828) 733-9333.

The Tartan Restaurant - Located at the intersection of NC 105 & US 221. Open daily year round. Country breakfasts, great sandwiches and daily specials. (828) 733-0779.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Everything Scottish - 3 miles on 221. Open every day all year. Scottish imports with bagpipes, kilts, jewelry, books, music & more. www.everythingscottish.com (888) 606-KILT.

DID YOU KNOW

The acclaimed 2003 motion picture of Charles Frazier's best-selling novel *Cold Mountain* was actually filmed in Romania where the mountain scenery is very similar to the real Cold Mountain area.

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. 30 & 50 amp full hook-ups, children & pets welcome, level & spacious sites. (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. Mile Marker 312 Morganton - Pineola Exit. (828) 733-3353.

Down by the River Campground - 292 River Campground Rd, 4 mi south of Linville; 1 mi north of Parkway. 30 & 50 amp service, hot showers, level sites, laundry. (May-Oct.) (828) 733-5057.

Pineola Inn - US 221 3 mi. S of Linville. 1.5 mi off Milepost 312. 40 rooms, clean, reasonable rates, AC, CATV, microfridges, log cabin, honeymoon suites with Jacuzzis, cross country skiing, sales & rentals. www.PineolaInn.com (828) 733-4979 or 733-2008.

312 NC 181 Crossover, 32 miles southeast to Morganton, 2 mi. north to Pineola.

Avery County, NC

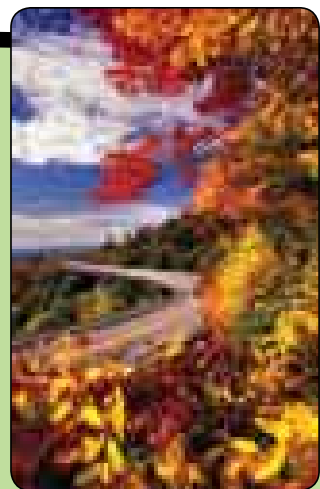
The Centennial Year makes Avery County the place to visit!

Avery County—A Mountain Paradise for All Seasons

North Carolina's, 100th and youngest county is turning 100 and we're inviting everyone! From Beech Mountain to Seven Devils, from Banner Elk to Newland, from Crossnore to Linville Falls, our mountains will ring with the music, art, and dance of the mountains during our 100 Days of Summer celebration. Avery County has big plans because both Avery County and The Town of Banner Elk are celebrating 100 years of rich heritage with more reasons than ever to visit the High Country's Balcony to the Blue Ridge. As always, Grandfather Mountain's Highland Games and Singing on the Mountain, Sugar Mountains, Oktoberfest; Beech Mountain's Autumn at Oz and Ol' Timey picnic on the Lawn; and Banner Elk's Woolly Worm and Art Festivals; anchor the mountain season. The curtain rises in Newland, eastern America's highest county seat, June 5th at The Heritage Festival followed by the three day Centennial Celebration July 29, 30, & 31, and caps off during ski season with Sugarfest on Sugar Mountain.

For a schedule of centennial events, information, and accommodations, log onto www.averycounty.com or call 1-800-972-2183

www.townofbannerelk.org • www.sevendevils.net • www.beechmtn.com • www.seesugar.com



5

Milepost 305.2, US 221 at Grandfather Mountain to Milepost 412.2

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. (800) 374-4660. www.crossnoreweavers.org

316.3 Linville Falls. Visitor Center. Campground and picnic area. Trail to overlooks of falls and gorge. For more information on Linville Falls, click here. For camping reservations 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.

317.4 South 1 mi. to Linville Falls community.
24 mi. To Marion.

LINVILLE FALLS, NC

1 mile south of Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 317.4.

ATTRACTIONS

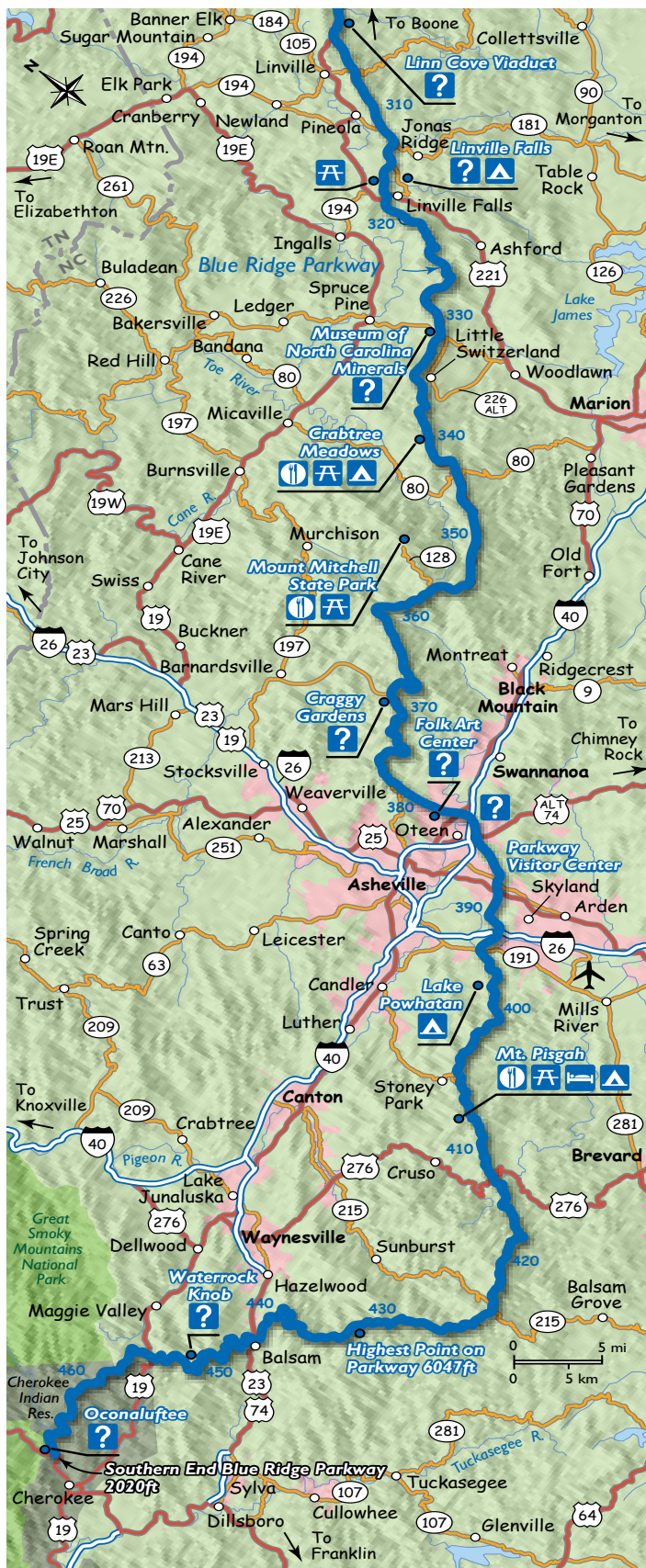
Linville Caverns - North Carolina's only show caverns. Open daily March thru November, Dec.-Jan.-Feb. weekends only. Courteous, experienced guides, outstanding gift shop. Located on US 221 between Linville and Marion, just 4 miles south of the Parkway-Exit Parkway at Milepost 317.4. Turn left on US 221 toward Linville Falls and Marion. Email: info@linvillecaverns.com (800) 419-0540. www.linvillecaverns.com

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cross Creek Cabins - 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. 1 and 2 bedroom log cabins. Fully furnished, TV, satellite, firepits, M/C, Visa. Call (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. www.theinnatblueridge.com (828) 756-7001 toll free (866) 756-7001.

Linville River Cottage - MP 317.4. North on US 221 - 3 miles, on Linville River. Full kitchen, washer & dryer, Sat TV w/DVR, fireplace. Sleeps four. www.LinvilleRiverCottage.com. (828) 733-4984.



MAP KEY: Refer to page 17 for explanation of symbols

Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages - MP 317.4, US 221S 1 mile to Rt. 183, left. Restaurant (ABC permit), Walk to falls & gorge. www.linvillefallslodge.com (800) 634-4421.

Linville Falls Trailer Lodge & Campground - Milepost 317, left (south) on US 221, 500 ft. Beautifully shaded, full hookup sites. Separate wooded tent area. Cabin, trailer rental. Hot showers, playground, laundry. May 1-Nov. 1. www.linvillefalls.com (828) 765-2681.

Parkview Cabin - Romantic getaway two bedroom cabin with fireplace, & Jacuzzi. Full kitchen. Private mountain location. Wrap around deck with scenic views. (800) 849-4452.

Parkview Lodge - Milepost 316.4, 500 ft. south of Parkway on US 221. Private guest rooms, 1 bedroom suite, & secluded cabins available. TV, swimming pool, crafts, wine & beer shop. Free continental breakfast with guest room. Open all year. www.parkviewlodge.com. (828) 765-4787 or (800) 849-4452.

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.

MARION, NC

24 miles from Parkway via US 221, exit at Milepost 317.4.

Buck Hill Campground - Hwy 19E, 8 miles from Parkway on Toe River, panoramic mountain views, hiking, fishing, Wi-Fi, TV Room, laundry, arcade, bath house. (828) 766-6162.

McDOWELL COUNTY, NC

You'll feel a change the minute you arrive in McDowell County. Our down-home southern welcome can bring a smile to even the most stressed out face. Our winding roads and mountain vistas are renowned for untying the knots in over-worked shoulders and we've yet to meet a pair of feet that could resist the toe-tapping sound of our mountain music. In McDowell County you won't find tourist glitz or big city sprawl. Just real people, real beauty and real fun. www.McDowellNC.org or (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.

331 NC 226 Crossover. 6 mi. north to Spruce Pine. 14 mi. south to Marion.

DID YOU KNOW

Large RVs can travel and enjoy The Blue Ridge Parkway and that there is adequate parking at Parkway scenic views and attractions? Check Tunnel heights at www.nps.gov/blri



The colonial 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 "Eeseeh" 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.

331

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 fine contemporary crafts and information about area studios. Open Tues-Sun from early March to mid-Dec. Exit Parkway at US 226; follow 226N 7.5 miles; turn onto Penland Rd; follow signs to Penland School. Call (828) 765-6211.

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.

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.

SPRUCE PINE, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via NC 226, exit at Milepost 331.

ATTRACTIONS

Museum of North Carolina Minerals - Junction of Parkway & NC 226. Features minerals found in North Carolina and regional geology. County Chamber of Commerce Office. Restrooms. Open daily year around.

Gem Mountain - 13780 Hwy. 226S 1 mile from Parkway MP 331. Open March-December Monday-Saturday. As seen on the Learning and Travel channels. Gem mine rain or shine. www.gemmountain.com Call (888) 817-5829.

Plumtree Zipline Canopy Tours - off the Parkway at MP 331 near Spruce Pine. Fly through the trees on a 2.5 hour tour plus exceptional lunch. www.plumtreecanopytours.com (866) 699-2408.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Pinebridge Inn - 207 Pinebridge Ave. Former Harris schoolhouse, built in the early 1900's. Modern amenities with historic charm. Gem mining and choose & cut Christmas tree packages. www.pinebridgeinn.com (800) 356-5059.

Pine Valley Motel - Clean, modern, rooms, apt. 42 unit - all first floor, micro/fridge in rooms. Free local calls. 2 Diamond AAA. 4 mi on NC 226N from MP 331 - Mineral Museum. Laundromat on site, wireless internet. Open all year. www.pinevalley.com (866) 671-2246.

McDowell County, NC

Hidden treasures between Crabtree Falls and Linville Falls.

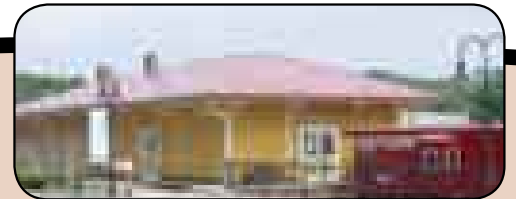
Leave the glitz and glitter of the big city to experience a place with no boundaries and no traffic jams! Less than 2 hours from Winston Salem, Charlotte or the Greenville/Spartanburg region.

Where Main Street Meets the Mountains, best describes the county seat of Marion with picturesque Mt. Ida framing the downtown streetscape. Arts, crafts, antiques, coffees, tea and cheesecakes are a few specialties on Main Street.

Old Fort was the furthestmost western outpost in North Carolina, until the train came to town. The Old Fort Train Station and Railroad Museum displays period artifacts and photographs plus a map of the amazing 13 miles of track ascending the Swannanoa Gap. A block away, Mountain Gateway Museum interprets the pioneer era and Friday nights are filled with local musicians performing FREE at Old Fort Mountain Music.

Find the century old resort community of Little Switzerland at Parkway Milepost 334. Treat yourself to the general store, shops, restaurants, and distinctive lodging! Travel north to Milepost 328.3 to take in the Historic Orchard at Altapass with hayrides, stories and one of a kind musical performances.

Stop by our visitor center at 25 West Main Street in the Old Fort Train Depot and Railroad Museum.



McDowell Visitor Center & Old Fort Railroad Museum

Don't Miss:

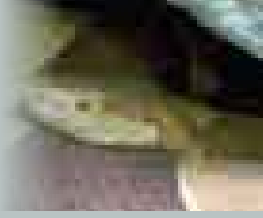
- Linville Caverns
- Crabtree Falls to Linville Falls
- Curtis Creek Recreation Area
- Historic Carson House
- South Creek Vineyard
- Catawba Falls
- Point Lookout Trail (Bike or Hike)
- The Diamondback™
- Pristine Trout Streams
- Lake James - 6,510 acres

877-377-6754 • www.blueridgedrives.org

Points to Ponder

SNAKES

Like all wild animals, snakes tend to shy away from humans. They play an important role in the ecosystem, feeding on small rodents and helping to keep those populations in balance. In these mountains, we have only two types of poisonous snakes, Copperhead and Timber Rattler. Chances are that you will not see any snakes while walking Parkway trails. On cool summer mornings or evenings, snakes will look for the warmest places such as rocks, pavement, or any place where the sun is beaming down through the canopy. Be aware, be alert, and stay on the trails!



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.

Spruce Pine Campground - MP 331, NC 226N to Woody's Chair Shop, Dale Rd. left 1 mi. May 1-Oct full hook-ups, hot showers. PO Box 354, Spruce Pine, NC. www.sprucepinecampground.com e-mail: spcamp1@juno.com (828) 765-7007.

Spruce Pine Motel - Mineral Museum Exit. 226 N cross 19 E to downtown Spruce Pine, then R on Oak Ave. Clean and comfortable rooms at an affordable rate. 3 nt. special, DSL, pets w/fee, fridge/micro. (828) 765-9344.

Woody's Cottages - MP331, NC 226N. Approx 3 mi to Woody Ln, Left 1 mi. Fully furnished. Open Apr-Nov. Tranquil wooded setting for rest & study. www.woodyscottages.com. (828) 765-2418.

SHOPPING

Blue Ridge Soap Shed - See Soap Made. Enjoy 130 Varieties of Handmade Soap in Retail Shop. Open 10-5 daily, April-December. 6/10th Mi from Parkway MP 331 on NC 226N toward Spruce Pine@179 Meadow View Rd. Web orders welcome year round. Visit www.soapshed.com or call (828) 765-6001.



Mount Mitchell Observation Platform

334 NC 226A Crossover to Little Switzerland.

LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NC

Just off Parkway on Rt. 226A, exit at Milepost 334.

ATTRACTIONS

Emerald Village - 3 miles from Little Switzerland (follow signs). Open 7 days April-October & weekends in November. Gem mining in a real mine! Underground museum, waterfall, & shops. Fun for the entire family! www.emeraldvillage.com (828) 765-6463.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpine Inn - Authentic mountain inn, estab. in 1929, with unsurpassed views. Sunrises. Quaint cozy rooms, all with views and balconies from most. All with private baths. Breakfast optional. Open late Apr.-early Nov. Reasonable rates! Exit at Little Switzerland from Parkway. Right on 226A, one mile. P.O. Box 477, Little Switzerland NC 28749. www.alpineinnnc.com (828) 765-5380.

Big Lynn Lodge - An old fashioned Mountain Inn that gives you home cooked dinner and breakfast in the price of your stay. Breathtaking view at 3100' elev. Golf, horseback riding, hiking, and gem mines nearby. Take the Spruce Pine exit, go left for 1 1/2 miles to the lodge. Open early April to the end of October. 42 units. Hwy 226A, Little Switzerland, NC 28749. E-mail: info@biglynnlodge.com. Reservations (800) 654-5232, Office (828) 765-4257. Web site: www.biglynnlodge.com

La Petite Chalet - A Bed & Breakfast lodging choice of excellence. Experience the charm of the village center. Across from the Switzerland Café. Book one or both rooms and have your own private upscale pied-a-terre. www.lapetitechalet.com (888) 828-1654.

Little Switzerland Books and Beans/Couture Boatworks - MP 334. Open 7 days 8-5ish. Used books, gifts, local art. Espresso, coffee! Model boats, canoes. (828) 765-9070.

Switzerland Cafe & General Store - Hwy 226A, Milepost 334. Open 7 days. Breakfast, lunch & weekend dinners. 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, shuffleboard, unique shops on property. Milepost 334. PO Box 399, Little Switzerland, NC 28749. www.switzerlandinn.com. (828) 765-2153 (800) 654-4026.

Timberline Vacation Rentals - 2-12 guests. Near Blue Ridge Pkwy. Golf or lakeside. Fully furnished. Pets Welcome. www.TimberlineNC.com (800) 321-4342.

339.5 Crabtree Falls. 250 acres. Hiking, picnic area, camping, comfort station, drinking water. 40 minute walk to Crabtree Falls.

Crabtree Falls Convenience Store And Gift Shop - Stop and stretch your legs. Take a beautiful hike up to 70-ft. tall Crabtree Falls. Enjoy a wide variety of fresh sandwiches, soups, and drinks at our snack bar. Enjoy the incredible views of the Black Mountains from our indoor/outdoor seating area. Linger in our large gift shop featuring a great selection of native crafts and art. May-Oct. (828) 675-4236.

340.3 Crabtree Falls, campground.

344 Buck Creek Gap, NC 80 Crossover. North 16 mi. to Burnsville, south 16 miles to Marion.

BURNSVILLE, NC

Enjoy small town charm with bed & breakfasts, inns, hand-made crafts, shops, summer theatre, golf, hiking, camping, musical events & festivals on Burnsville's Town Square.
www.yanceychamber.com (800) 948-1632.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

A Farmhouse on the Cane - Milepost 331 - Restored historic farmhouse on 18 acres, steps to the Cane River with 1.5 miles of river frontage. Great for fishing, tubing, swimming. Cooks Kitchen, large flat screen TV's, wireless internet. www.farmhouseonthecane.com (828) 682-2329.

Clear Creek Guest Ranch - Horseback riding, home cooked meals, cook-outs, pool & hot tubs. Fishing, tubing, golf, & whitewater. www.clearcreekranch.com (800) 651-4510.

The Historic Nu Wray Inn - MP 331, a unique stay established in 1833. Join famous travelers Mark Twain, Elvis Presley and others. www.TheNuWrayInn.com (828) 682-2329.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

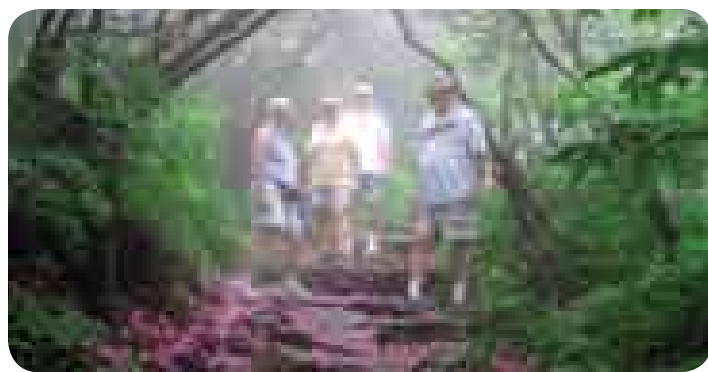
Mount Mitchell Golf Club - 18 hole public course. Full service clubhouse. 2 mi from Pkwy MP 344. Vacation rentals. www.mountmitchellgolfresort.com. (828) 675-4923.

Something Special Gift Shop - Downtown Burnsville. A unique shop in a country store setting. Mon.-Sat. www.somethingspecialgiftshop.com. (828) 682-9101.

355.4 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).



Crabtree Falls



Craggy Gardens

364.4 Craggy Gardens Visitor Center. Information, exhibits, publications. (May-October) Trails.

MARS HILL/MADISON COUNTY, NC

North of Asheville, via I-26/ US 25 & 70/US 19 & 23

Nantahala Outdoor Center - Whitewater rafting trips on 7 rivers near Asheville and Cherokee, NC. Family friendly to high adventure! March-Nov. (800) 232-7238.

Wildwater Rafting - High quality adventure trips since 1971. Raft 5 rivers, unique lodging, jeep tours, canoe, kayak, more! www.wildwaterafting.com (866) 319-8870.

367.6 Spur to Craggy Gardens. Picnic area, Comfort Station, trails.

376.6 NC 694, Ox Creek Road. Scenic Elk Mountain Highway. 8 miles to Weaverville. 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/blue (800) 839-3899.

Ox-Ford Farm B&B Inn - Original working mountain farm. Cattle, sheep, poultry. Very private, beautiful location. Great breakfast. 2 mi. MP 375 (828) 658-2500. www.ox-fordfarm.com

377.4 NC 694. Mountain Town Road. 7 Miles to Asheville.

Crooked Oak Mountain Inn - 217 Patton Mountain Rd, Asheville 4 mi. from Parkway - Milepost 377.4, Hwy 694. www.crookedoakmountaininn.com. (877) 252-9219.

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

"The Front Porch of WNC." Unique craft shops, large antique malls, Old Depot Craft Center, Bed & Breakfasts, variety of restaurants. Hiking, biking trails, camping, festivals, nightly music clubs. Chamber of Commerce, 201 E. State St. (828) 669-2300.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Mama Gertie's Hideaway Campground - MP 382.6 Go East on Hwy. 70, Six miles to Patton Cove, turn right. Go 1/2 mile thru residential area. RV sites, tenting, cabins, exceptionally clean, open all year. www.mamagerties.com (877) 686-4258.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Carolina Foam Fabric & Home Decor - I-40 Exit 64, 5 miles east of Parkway on I-40. Area's largest selection of dress, upholstery and drapery fabric. (828) 669-2400.

Town Hardware & General Store - Three historic buildings full of old-fashioned tools, toys and housewares plus lots more. Open 7 days/wk. 103 W. State Street, Black Mountain. www.townhardware.com (828) 669-7723.

Tyson Furniture - More than 300 lines of fine furniture & accessories. Discounted prices. Nationwide delivery. 9-5:30 Mon-Sat. I-40 exit 64 Black Mtn. www.tysonfurniture.com (828) 669-5000.

382.0 Southern Highland Folk Art Center - Parkway information station, publications. Headquarters of Southern Highland Handicraft 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).

382.6 Junction Parkway and US 70. West 1 mi. to Oteen, 5 mi. to Asheville. East 10 mi. to Black Mountain.

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) 298-0389. Detailed information may be found on the National Park Service's Parkway Web Site at www.nps.gov/blri Brochures also available in French, German & Spanish.

384 Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center - Information desk, 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 Crossover. 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

Bubba O'Leary's General Store & Outfitters - Visit Bubba the dog at his charming, old-timey store. Play checkers or enjoy a little coke, penny candy, and 10¢ coffee. Downtown Chimney Rock. www.bubbaolearys.com (828) 625-2479.

Chimney Rock Park - incredible 75-mile views of Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure. Something for everyone from the family-friendly Great Woodland Adventure to the adventurous Four Seasons trail. Stroll the Hickory Nut Falls trail to stand under our 404' falls. Pet friendly. Seasonal hours. 40 min. from Asheville. www.chimneyrockpark.com (800) 277-9611. Note: The Park is undergoing trail upgrades to improve accessibility for this and future generations. Visit chimneyrockpark.com/progress for important information.

Milepost 364



The name here is appropriate - Craggy Gardens. Twisted, jagged, rocky "craggs" 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.

FOOD, LODGING, & RECREATION

Chimney Rock Inn - Cozy rooms, private cottages with full kitchens. Jacuzzis, fireplaces, heated pool, beautiful gardens riverside. www.chimneyrockinn.net (800) 625-2003.

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.

Mountain Village Chalets - Cabin/Chalet Rentals for 2 to 70 people. One & two bedroom cabins. www.mtnvillagechalets.com. Call (828) 625-9783 for more info.

Valley Court Riverside Motel - King beds, A/C, heat, ceiling fans, private balcony over river and view of Chimney Rock Park. www.valleycourt.net. (828) 625-4166.

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. (866) 469-8222.

Lodge on Lake Lure - 17 rooms with lake views, private balconies, fireplaces. Includes a full breakfast each morning. www.lodgeonlakelure.com (800) 733-2785.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC

Chimney Rock, Lake Lure, Rutherfordton, Forest City, Spindale-Small town America. Scenic mountain beauty in rural setting. Golf, tennis, hiking, swimming, camping, shopping. Lodging information call (800) 849-5998. www.rutherfordtourism.com

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 am to 5:30 pm M-F and 9-5 Sat. & Sun. www.exploreasheville.com (828) 258-6101.

ATTRACTIONS

Biltmore Estate - Enjoy once-in-a-lifetime experiences at Biltmore in Asheville, NC. Explore our refuge from the everyday at America's largest home®, magnificent gardens, winery, farm, restaurants, and shops. For a complete escape, relax in luxurious comfort at our Four-Star Inn on Biltmore Estate®, the only accommodations on estate grounds. Open daily. Annual events include: Festival of Flowers; Summer Evening Concerts; Flower Carpet; Christmas at Biltmore; and Candlelight Christmas Evenings. Located on US 25, just north of the Parkway and I-40. Plan your getaway online at www.biltmore.com or call 1-877-BILTMORE.

The North Carolina Arboretum - Entrance at MP 393. Enjoy gardens that reflect the southern Appalachian culture, trails, and bonsai collection. www.ncarboretum.org (828) 665-2492.

WNC Farmers Market - 570 Brevard Rd. Asheville Exit 47 I-40. Open daily. Come enjoy local produce, crafts, plants and restaurant. FREE. www.wncfarmersmarket.org (828) 253-1691.

Asheville, NC

Discover a destination with a style and rhythm all its own. Asheville. Any way you like it.

This is no ordinary mountain vacation. Here, surprises wait around every corner, filling your senses with art, architecture and cuisine that mix mountain with modern, classic with country, elegant with unexpected. It's a place of beauty, both natural and man-made, both of which will inspire you. In Asheville, you'll discover a destination with a style and rhythm all its own, inviting you to enrich your life with a vacation experience of your own design.

Make your first stop the Asheville Visitor Center at 36 Montford Ave., where you can take advantage of a visitor concierge service to help you book your room, purchase Asheville souvenirs, hop aboard a trolley for a historic guided tour of the Asheville area or ride around downtown on a Segway.

Asheville invites you to experience something more here – something as unique as you are. It's a place unlike any other on earth. Let us share who we are with you. It's pure Asheville. Any way you like it.



877.GO.TO.AVL • ExploreAsheville.com

WNC Nature Center - MP 382.6, 75 Gashes Creek Rd. 60+ native species of the Southern Appalachians. Bears, otters, red wolves & more! Open daily 10-5. www.ashevillezoo.org (828) 298-5600.

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

Bellagio - 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; e-mail: bellagioart2wear@bellsouth.net (800) 933-4438.

Blue Spiral 1 - presents contemporary Southeastern fine art and crafts through over 30 annual exhibitions in a stunning three-level, 14,00 sq. ft. setting. The gallery features the work of nearly 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. www.bluespiral1.com. E-mail: info@bluespiral1.com. For more info (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. Web site: www.southernhighlandguild.org (828) 298-7928.

Grand Bohemian Art Gallery - This unique gallery showcases over 100 works of art by local, regional & internationally recognized artists designed to inspire the collector in all of us. Located in Biltmore Village. (888) 717-8756.

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 388.85. www.newmorninggallerync.com; e-mail: newmorning@bellsouth.net. For more info: (800) 933-4438.

Stuart Nye Hand Wrought Jewelry - World famous handcrafters of sterling, copper & brass jewelry. Visitors may see craftsmen at work Monday thru Friday 8:00-11:30 & 12:30-3:30. 1 mile west of Parkway on US 70 at 940 Tunnel Rd. No charge. Web: www.stuartnye.com

Blue Ridge Heritage 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. Offices at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center 195 Hemphill Knob Road • Asheville, NC 28803 www.blueridgeheritage.com • (828) 298-5330.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Asheville Cabins of Willow Winds - 25 Luxury cabins, 38 acres adjacent to B.R. Parkway & Mountain to Sea Trail. www.ashevillecabins.com (800) 235-2474.

Asheville East KOA Campground - 6 1/2 miles from Parkway. Go east on Hwy 70. Camping Kabins, lodges, RV & tent sites. 2 fishing lakes, pool, trout stream on 55 acres. Open all year round. www.ashevilleeastkoa.com (828) 686-3121 or (800) 562-5907.

Asheville West KOA - New Owners, New Attitude, New Fun! I-40 Exit 37, Minutes to Biltmore House, Gem Mining, River Rafting, Music, Arts & Crafts - Full Hookups, Tents & Kabins. (800) 562-9015.

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. (828) 274-2022 or toll free (877) 229-6668.

Bear Creek RV Park & Campground - Exit Rt. 191 from Parkway; I-40 Exit 47; or I-26 Exit 2. 3 miles north of Parkway off Rt. 191. 5 mins. Biltmore House. 90 full hookups, paved sites, pool, laundry. Open year round. 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. (828) 654-9040.

Campfire Lodgings - 7 mi. from dtn Asheville. Mtn top camping, full service RV sites, yurts & cliff house. Open all year. www.campfirelodgings.com (800) 933-8012.

Chestnut Street Inn - 176 East Chestnut Street. 1905 Grand Colonial Revival home is only a 5 block walk to downtown Asheville's many restaurants and shops, minutes from the Biltmore Estate and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Indulge yourself in our most distinctive, fully restored homes. Its architectural charm, Award Winning, with accents of the original staircase, "courting bench," mantles, & beautiful large outdoor porches. Each guest room offers queen and King bed, private bath, antiques, luxury linens, soaps, custom robes and our homemade 3-course gourmet breakfast. www.chestnutstreetinn.com (828) 285-0705.

Country Inn & Suites - 199 Tunnel Road. 3 miles from Parkway. 100% non-smoking, indoor pool & spa, free hot breakfast, 1 mile from downtown. (828) 254-4311.

Country Inn & Suites - I-26 Exit 33. 1 mile from Parkway. Free deluxe continental breakfast. Close to Biltmore Square Mall & Biltmore Estate. Outdoor heated pool, 2 room suites, some w/whirlpool. (828) 670-9000.

Courtyard by Marriott - 1 Buckstone Place. Exit Milepost 382, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Breakfast buffet, indoor pool, spa, fitness center. www.courtyardasheville.com (800) 321-2211 or (828) 281-0041.

Crowne Plaza Resort Asheville - 1 mile from downtown Asheville exit 3A, 5 minutes from Parkway. Golf, tennis, restaurant, HBO, outdoor pool, lounge and wireless internet. In room "Sleep Advantage." www.crowneplaza.com/asheville (800) 733-3211.

Econo Lodge-Airport - Located at I-26 exit 40. Minutes to Blue Ridge Parkway, Biltmore House, airport, & WNC Agriculture Center. DSL wire & wireless. Cable TV. (828) 684-1200.

Econo Lodge Asheville - 190 Tunnel Rd M.P. 382.6 go 2.5 miles West on US 70. Motel is on right. MicroFridge. Wireless internet. Close to Asheville Mall, Biltmore Estate & Civic Center. Restaurant adj. (828) 254-9521.

Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville - Located in Biltmore Village just steps away from the Biltmore Estate. 11 Boston Way, 3 miles from Parkway. Red Stag Grill, Spa & Art Gallery. (888) 717-8756.

Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa - 290 Macon Ave. via Charlotte St. Exit from downtown I-240. Historic inn on 140 acres. (828) 252-2711. Reservations: (800) 438-5800.

GuestHouse International Inn Biltmore - I-40 to exit 50 or exit 50B. Nearest to Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village. 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Outdoor pool, deluxe Cont. breakfast. (828) 274-0101 or (800) 465-4329.

Hampton Inn Biltmore Square - Exit Milepost 393.6, go 2.5 miles north on Highway 191. Free Breakfast, indoor pool, spa. Close to Biltmore Square Mall and Biltmore Estate. www.ashevillehamptoninns.com (828) 667-2022.

Hampton Inn Tunnel Rd - Exit Milepost 382.6, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Hotel is on the right. Free breakfast bar, indoor pool, spa, fitness center. Close to Asheville Mall and Biltmore Estate. www.ashevillehamptoninns.com (828) 255-9220.

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: hieast@ioa.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.

Homewood Suites by Hilton - 88 Tunnel Rd - Exit milepost 382.6, go 3 miles west on US 70. Hotel is on right. Free Full breakfast, spacious suites, indoor pool. Close to Asheville Mall and Biltmore Estate www.ashevillehomewoodsuites.com (828) 252 5400.

The Mountaineer Inn - 155 Tunnel Rd. 1½ miles from Parkway MP 332.6. 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, MP389, 5% disc for AAA, AARP members, www.northlodge.com (800) 282-3602.

Ramada Inn - 1/2 mile off Parkway at US 74 and I-240 Exit 8. 178 rooms, suites with kitchenettes and Jacuzzis. Playground area, pool, free continental breakfast. (828) 298-9141.

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.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

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.

Two Great Ways to Explore the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Located just outside Asheville, N.C., at Parkway Milepost 384, the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center features two information desks, museum-quality exhibits, a 22-foot interactive map and an award-winning 24-minute movie about the Parkway and the unique culture of the Western North Carolina mountains. Kiosks and a gift shop also welcome visitors to learn more about the many things to see and do in the Blue Ridge.

Expand your journey with the purchase of the Go Blue Ridge Card. This multi-attraction pass, available at the Visitor Center, can save you up to 35% over individual ticket prices at more than 30 of the area's top attractions.

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.



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



Folk Art Center • Asheville, NC

Vacation in Asheville - Vacation rentals including B&B's, cottages, & cabins. Close to downtown & Parkway. www.VacationInAsheville.com. Toll-free (866) 858-0863.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Rug & Home - Over 50,000 Oriental Rugs & Home Accessories. Featured in Southern Living, Rug News, Rug Insider and voted National Rug Retailer of the Year. 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. Located at I-26 exit 33 behind Ethan Allen. Open 7 days. Exceptional quality! Superb selection! Lowest prices! (828) 667-4585. www.rugandhome.com Toll Free 1-888-881-RUGS.

Shoji Spa & Lodge - Relax at Asheville's only outdoor hot tub spa. Reap the benefits of the cold plunge, unwind in our sauna and rest in the Lodge. Specializing in couples massage. 2500 ft. above stress level. www.shojiretreats.com. By appt. only. (828) 299-0999.

388.8 US 25 Crossover. North 5 mi. to Asheville.

393.6 NC 191 Crossover. 6 miles north to Asheville. 20 miles south to Hendersonville.

Blue Ridge Mountain Host - Free comprehensive guide to the heart of NC's Blue Ridge Mountains - what to see and do, where to stay and eat, and more. Go to www.ncblueridge.com or Call (800) 807-3391.

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.

Rutledge Lake RV Park - Exit 40 off I-26. 2 miles from Asheville airport. 170 Rutledge Rd. Go to www.rutledgelake.com, e-mail us at rutledgelakepark@bellsouth.net, or call (828) 654-7873.

Hendersonville, NC

It's easy to find year 'round activities for the entire family in Hendersonville, North Carolina!

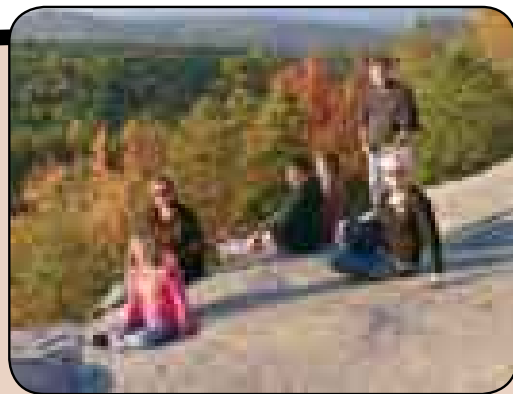
Historic Hendersonville & Flat Rock area offers Cool Mountains and Warm Southern Welcomes. The ideal retreat, and a great family vacation value, features many attractions with free admission for all ages and interests - a quality destination for multi-generational reunions, weddings, meetings and special occasions.

Festivals, outdoor recreation, historical sites, golf, children's activities, historic districts, dining, and a variety of lodging choices will make your visit memorable. Escape from life's hectic pace to Flat Rock Playhouse - the State Theatre of NC, Carl Sandburg Home NHS and DuPont State Forest waterfalls. Enjoy our summer evening concerts series downtown showcasing traditional mountain heritage music, square and clog dancing Monday nights and beach, oldies and rock 'n roll dance party Friday nights. We invite you to experience our charming and historic mountain city.

Visitor Information Center:
Open 7 days -
362 days a year:
Monday - Friday: 9 - 5
Saturday, Sunday &
Holidays: 10 - 5

Visitor Information Center
201 S. Main Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792

For more information and Free Vacation Planner
Call 828-693-9708 • 800-828-4244
www.historichendersonville.org



HISTORIC HENDERSONVILLE AND FLAT ROCK AREA, NC

Carl Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse, Historic Main Street, Village of Flat Rock, Farmers Curb Market, Historic Depot & Model Railroad, WNC Air Museum, Historic Johnson Farm, Waterfalls, Mineral Museum, three NC State Forests, golf, hiking, fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding, camping, shopping, antiques, summer camps, and historic sites. Near Chimney Rock Park, Lake Lure, and Biltmore Estate. Events: Garden Jubilee and Carl Sandburg Music Festival on Memorial Day Weekend; July 4th Celebration; NC Apple Festival on Labor Day weekend; Summer evenings Music on Main Street, Street Dances. Visit us on the internet at www.historichendersonville.org. Call (800) 828-4244 for FREE 52 page MOUNTAIN SEASONS VACATION PLANNER.

Inn on Church - 201 3rd Ave W D'town Hendersonville. Historic, Select Registry B&B, Award Winning Restaurant, Open all year www.innonchurch.com (828) 693-3258.

Mill House Lodge - Exit 53 I-26, Flat Rock, NC. 1-3 BR units, lake with canoes, kitchens, cable, pool, close to Carl Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse. Open year round. www.millhouselodge.com. (800) 736-6073.

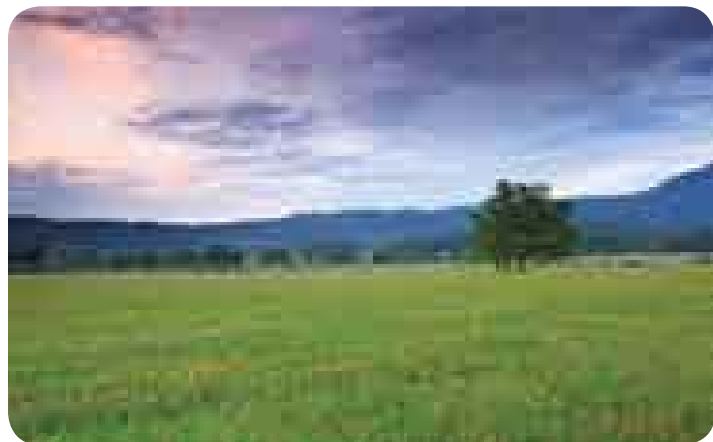
Mountain Fresh Orchards - I-26 Exit 49a, Hwy 64E, 2 mi on left. Open late Aug-mid Nov. Apples-Cider-Bakery-Jelly-Honey www.mtnfreshorchards.com. (828) 685-7606.

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.

COLUMBUS, NC

I-26E, Exit 67 or Hwy 74, Exit 163. Foothills town: restaurants, Sat. farmer's mkt at Historic Courthouse Apr-Nov, Civil War marker, County History Museum, hiking, parks, hotel. Annual events: July 4th & Fall Farm Fest. www.columbusnc.com or call (800) 440-7848.



Cades Cove at Sunset



Looking Glass Falls, NC

SALUDA, NC

I-26 East to Exit 59. A storybook mountain town unchanged by time. Tree-lined Main St. has 100 year-old general stores, delicious restaurants, antique shops, unique galleries, outdoor guides/outfitters, & historic B&Bs. Stunning views, waterfalls, hiking, game lands, & Green River tubing/kayaking. Events: Arts Fest 3rd Sat. in May, Coon Dog Day 1st Sat. after 7/4. www.saluda.com, info@saluda.com, (800) 440-7848.

TRYON, NC

South of Asheville/Hendersonville & convenient to Biltmore Estate, experience unspoiled parks, hiking trails, & waterfalls, extensive arts & antiques shopping, cycling, fishing, & equestrian events. Historic Country Inns, fine dining, Blue Ridge BBQ Festival, Nina Simone. www.ExploreTryon.com (877) 44-TRYON

405.5 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., Milepost 408 on Parkway. Open March thru early November. Mountain handicrafts. Delicious food. Featuring Country Ham and Mountain Trout. Delightful overnight accommodations, with panoramic view. P.O. Drawer 749, Waynesville, NC 28786. (828) 235-8228.

412.2 **Wagon Road Gap.** US 276 Crossover. 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.

6

Milepost 355.4, NC 128 to Mount Mitchell State Park to Great Smoky Mountains National Park

CANTON, NC

A few miles off the Parkway, exit at MP 412 or 423.2.

Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground & Cabins - 6 miles north of Blue Ridge Parkway on the Pigeon River. Heated cabins, tent camping, great food, & more. www.blueridgemotorcyclecamp.com (828) 235-8350.

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, NC

Enchanted forests, exhilarating mountains, adventurous rivers, & more than 250 magical waterfalls. Escape from the world in a cool, quiet wonderland. It's only natural for your family vacation. www.visitwaterfalls.com Call (800) 648-4523.

BREVARD, NC

18 miles south of Parkway, exit Milepost 412.

Inn at Brevard - Lodging, dining, cocktails. B and B. European cuisine. 15 antique furnished rooms. Breakfast. 315 E. Main St., Brevard, NC 28712. www.theinnatbrevard.com (828) 884-2105. fax: (828) 885-7996. Email: brevard@theinnatbrevard.com.

The Pines Country Inn - Truly a country inn where guests are treated like family at Grandma's house. Full breakfast served every day. Located between Brevard & Hendersonville off Hwy 64. 1780 Hart Rd. Pisgah Forest, NC 28768. Open May thru Oct. Make reservations early. (828) 877-3131.

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.

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.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the Parkway borders on five designated U.S. Wilderness Areas?



MAP KEY: Refer to page 17 for explanation of symbols

Blue Ridge Mountains Motorcoach Resort - Class A only. In the land of lakes, waterfalls & majestic trails. www.orarealty-brm.com. www.outdoor-resorts.com/blueridge. (888) 466-9350.

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.

SAPPHIRE, NC

20 miles west of Brevard on US 64, exit at Milepost 423.2.

Woodlands Inn - 14 themed guest rooms & suites, full breakfast, Jacuzzi, private baths, pet friendly. Year round. www.woodlandsinn.net. (828) 966-4709.

423.3 **Beech Gap.** NC 215 Crossover. North 24 miles to Waynesville, south 17 miles to Rosman.

HIGHLANDS, NC

Highlands Visitor Center - 269 Oak St. Highlands NC, MP 450. *Highlands has been a mountain respite for over a century allowing our visitors to unwind while being treated to the finest amenities. We feature several spas for those requiring attention. Our accommodations range from historic and quaint bed and breakfasts to hotels and cabins. For your dining experience you may sample various culinary cuisines from over 20 restaurants.* www.highlandschamber.org. (828) 526-2112.

Fire Mountain Inn & Cabins - Highlands NC. One of the most unique and spectacular hideaways in America. Fantastic views, fireplaces, Jacuzzi's, pet friendly. www.firemt.com (800) 775-4446.

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.

HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC

Maggie Valley/Waynesville: Your Smoky Mountain Vacation Destination in Western North Carolina. For information visit: www.visitncsmokies.com or call (800) 334-9036.

WAYNESVILLE, NC

27 miles west of Asheville via US 19-23-74, or exit at Milepost 423.2 or 443.1. See Map #6.

FOOD, LODGING & CAMPING

Andon-Reid Inn Bed & Breakfast - 92 Daisy Ave. MP 440. Waynesville's Finest. Breathtaking mountain views, Jacuzzis, fireplaces, WIFI, 5 rooms. www.andonreidinn.com. (800) 293-6190.

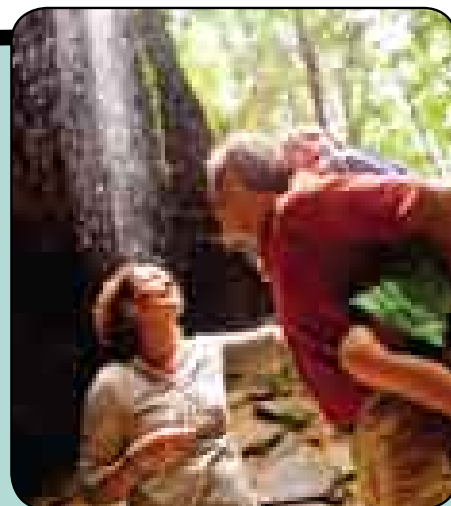
Best Western-Smoky Mountain Inn - 130 Shiloh Trl, 4 miles from Parkway. Exit 98 off Hwy 23-74. Panoramic Mountain view, comp. cont. breakfast. Ref/Mwave in rooms. Free HSA. www.bwsmokymountaininn.com (800) 218-2121.

Transylvania County/Brevard

Land
of
Waterfalls

There are few places on earth that can be aptly compared to a fairy tale. In Transylvania County, it's a pretty regular occurrence. Rare is the place where the only thing separating the roar of a spectacular waterfall from an exquisite performance by a world-renowned musician is a short trek through the woods. Amid Transylvania County's exquisite scenery, you will find a host of exciting destinations, many just minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. These include Pisgah National Forest, DuPont State Forest and Gorges State Park. Here you can enjoy hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, camping, fishing and the largest concentration of waterfalls in the U.S. Brevard, just voted one of the "Coolest Small Towns in America" by Budget Travel, is home to dozens of studios and galleries, and the renowned Brevard Music Center.

In this friendly region, you can expect to discover white squirrels, a temperate rain forest, a rich culture and, quite possibly, your sense of childlike wonder.



Start your adventure today at visitwaterfalls.com or by calling 1-800-648-4523.

Creekwood Farm RV Park - 4696 Jonathan Creek Rd. 10 miles from Parkway MP 443. Great RV park beside Jonathan Creek. www.creekwoodfarmrv.com (800) 862-8110.

The Waynesville Inn Golf Resort & Spa - MP 445, 5 min. from Pkwy - Beautiful rooms, 27 holes of golf, restaurants, & spa services. www.thewaynesvilleinn.com (800) 627-6250.

443.1 Balsam Gap. US 74-23 Crossover. East 7 mi. to Waynesville, west 12 mi. to Sylva.

BALSAM, NC

Just off Parkway on US 23-74, exit at MP 443.1.

Balsam Mountain Inn - Turn right from Parkway exit. Stay a night, a week, or just come & look; Hall gallery presents local artist & artisans' works. www.BalsamMountainInn.com. (800) 224-9498.

Moonshine Creek Campground - Cool & secluded, back to nature camping on beautiful rambling creek. RV & tent, camping cabins, campfires & hot showers. Off US 74/23 turn at Balsam Hwy sign, follow signs to campground. www.moonshinecreekcampground.com. (828) 586-6666.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that Grandfather Mountain is an International Biosphere Reserve?

SYLVA & DILLSBORO, NC

14 miles west on US 23-74, exit at Milepost 443.1.

Best Western River Escape Inn & Suites - US 74 Exit 81. Spacious rooms overlooking Tuckasegee River available. Wi-Fi, 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. www.dogwoodcrafters.com (828) 586-2248.

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.

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.

Fun Factory In the Smokies - Hwy 441 S, Franklin, NC. Monday - Saturday. Fun Factory is 56,000 square ft. of fun for everyone! www.thefactory.bz (886) 482-2386.

Highlands, NC

Find bliss in our well-appointed spas and rest in our historic inns, quaint bed and breakfasts, hotels, and cabins.

Come for a visit - Stay for a while.

For over a century, Highlands, NC has been a place to unwind.. a place to experience the finest amenities.

Find bliss in our well-appointed spas and rest in our historic inns, quaint bed and breakfasts, hotels, and cabins.

Sample culinary cuisines from over twenty restaurants - six of which have been awarded the coveted Wine Spectator Award of Excellence. Our Annual Culinary Event and Motoring Festival are events not to be missed.



To find out more contact the Visitor's Center at visitor@highlandschamber.org.

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 Christmas Day. There are 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 March 15 through the Sunday following Thanksgiving 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 March 15 through the Sunday following Thanksgiving 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

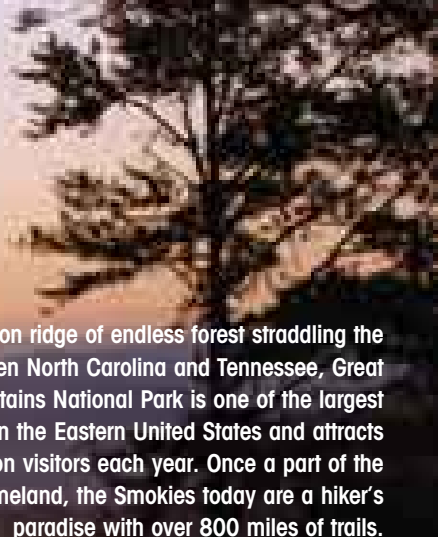
Horse Camps - Open from 4/1/11 through 11/13/11. The reservations for both the horse camps and front country camping are made at www.recreation.gov or (877) 444-6777.

**For More information contact: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 107 Park Headquarters Road Gatlinburg, TN 37738
Phone (865)436-1200 www.nps.gov/grsm.
Visitor Information Recorded Message - (865) 436-1200**

Elevations in the park range from 800 feet to 6,643 feet and topography affects local weather. Temperatures are 10 to 20 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.



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. Once a part of the Cherokee homeland, the Smokies today are a hiker's paradise with over 800 miles of trails.

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.

Gatlinburg Welcome Center - Located 2 miles outside of Gatlinburg on 441 South

Gatlinburg Welcome Center at the Aquarium - Located at Ripleys Aquarium of the Smokies

Sevierville Visitor Center - Located on TN 66, 1 mile south of I-40. Exit 407.

Towsend Visitor Center - Located in Townsend, Tennessee, on US 321.

Clingmans Dome Visitor Contact Station - Located at the Observation Tower Parking Lot open April 1 through November 31

■ **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.

LONG CREEK, SC

Southeast of Franklin, via US 441S to US 76

Wildwater Rafting - High quality adventure trips since 1971. Raft 5 rivers, unique lodging, zipline canopy tours, canoe, kayak, more! www.wildwaterafting.com (800) 451-9972.

451.2 Waterrock Knob Parking Overlook. Visitor Information Center, 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 Crossover. 12 miles west to Cherokee, 5 miles east to Maggie Valley.

MAGGIE VALLEY, NC

US 19, Eastern entrance to the Great Smokies and a wonderland of scenic beauty. Please contact the Maggie Valley CVB/ Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 279, Maggie Valley NC 28751. (2961 Soco Road). Email cmaggie@maggievalley.org. Web page: www.maggievalley.org (800) Maggie-1 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

A Holiday Motel - 4 mi from Pkwy, walk to eat, shop & entertain. Clean & comfy rooms with friendly hospitality. WI-FI/Coffee/Fridge. Pool/Grills/Picnic/Rocking chairs. www.holidaymotel.net (877) 686-4386.

Abbey Inn Motel - Closest Maggie motel to Pkwy & Cherokee. 5 mi. Smoky Mtn. views from 4,200' high. FREE in-room coffee, phone, fridge, HiWi/cable TV/HBO. Some kitchens. Picnic area, grills. Quiet & secluded on 2 wooded acres. Near all attractions. Pets possible. V, MC. www.abbeyinn.com. (800) 545-5853.

Best Western Mountainbrook Inn - Hwy19 - 4 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view. 15 miles from casino, outdoor pool & hot tub. New rooms. Reservation (800) 213-1914.

Boyd Mountain Log Cabins - Secluded on 130 acres near Maggie Valley, with full kitchens, central heat & AC, fireplaces, Cable TV & WiFi. Offering fishing, hiking, fire pits, volleyball and a Christmas Tree Farm with Choose 'N Cut on premises. Open all year. www.boydmountain.com. (828) 926-1575.

Cabins at Twinbrook - 230 Twinbrook Lane, MV 28751. 1 to 4 bedroom creekside cabins over 19 wooded acres. htd pool/hot tub/playground. www.TwinbrookResort.com (800) 305-8946.

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.

Jackson County, NC

Located 30 miles SW of Asheville, I-40 Exit 27 or Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost Exit 443.1.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge, Balsam and Smoky mountains, Jackson County is a scenic wonderland. Enjoy fine resorts, delightful historic inns, and friendly B&Bs. Explore the mountain arts and craft galleries in Dillsboro and Sylva. Browse for antiques in Cashiers. Listen to waterfalls. Take in a round of golf. Try fly-fishing. Gaze at the breathtaking views. Visit the mountain heritage museums and sites. Wade in a creek. Raft or tube down a river. With a variety of family oriented special events and festivals each season there is something for all ages to enjoy. Mountain lovers love Jackson County.

Call for a new Visitors Guide, with lodging information and map with directions to 20 waterfalls, 10 hiking trails, scenic mountain golf, rafting and outdoor fun. Or, come by the Jackson County Travel & Tourism Authority, located in the historic Hooper House, 773 West Main Street, Sylva, NC 28779

800.962.1911



www.Mountainlovers.com

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.

Maggie Valley Area Lodging Association - Affordable motel rooms, cabins, cottages and vacation rentals. Visit our web site www.visitmaggie.com to find your perfect home away from home in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina.

Jonathan Creek Inn and Villas - Beautiful creekside setting with spectacular mountain views. Creekside, whirlpool and fireplace rooms. Creekside villa rentals w/fireplace & private hot tub, Indoor heated pool, hot tub, playground. The only AAA three diamond property in Maggie Valley. www.jonathancreekinn.com. (800) 577-7812.

Maggie Valley Club - 1819 Country Club Drive, Maggie Valley. Luxury accommodations, golf, on-site dining, swimming pool, hot tub, tennis, hiking trails. www.maggievalleyclub.com (800) 438-3861.

The Mountaineer Rest. & Fireside Cottages - Open all year. Serving breakfast, lunch & dinner. Cozy cabins sleep 6, with fantastic view, kitchen, fireplace, cable TV, front porch. Located 1.4 mi from Parkway, close to attractions & Cherokee. (828) 926-1730.

Mountain Joy Cottages - 3 miles off Parkway in Maggie Valley. 1-4 bedroom cabins w/fireplaces, full kitchens, porch w/rockers, indoor pool, romantic cottages w/Jacuzzi. Across from Maggie's old homestead. www.mountainjoycottages.com (828) 926-1257.

Pioneer Village - 3 mi. off BRP on Campbell Creek, Maggie Valley. Hand-hewn log cabins w/stone fireplaces, porches, rocking chairs, kitchens. www.pioneervlg.com (828) 926-1881.

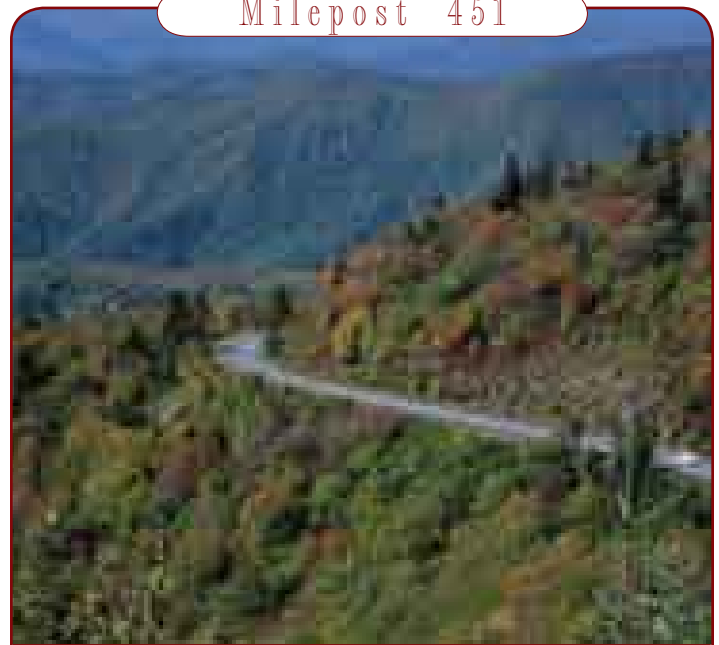
Ramada Limited - Hwy 19, 3 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view-creekside rooms. 1/2 mile from Ghost Town. New Rooms, Dlx Breakfast, Reservation (828) 926-7800.

458.2 Heintooga Ridge Rd. Spur to Mile High Overlook. 12 miles to Great Smoky Mtns. National Park Campground.

461.9 Big Witch Overlook

Cherokee Smokies Chamber - Entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway, Shops, Casino, Museums, Lodging, Culture Events and Crafts. www.CherokeeSmokies.com (828) 497-6700.

469.1 Junction 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 viewed from paved roads and many wilderness trails. Information bulletin board. Oconaluftee Visitor Center near Parkway & US 441.



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 6,292 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 the endangered fir trees are told as well.

Ranging from moderate to strenuous, the .6 mile Waterrock Knob Trail takes you up to the summit, yielding even more spectacular views from the higher elevation.

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, PO Box 460, Cherokee, NC 28719. Web Page: www.cherokee-nc.com Toll-free (800) 438-1601.

ATTRACTIONS

Oconaluftee Indian Village - US Hwy 441, Cherokee Indian Reservation. A replica Indian Village of the 1750 period. Guided tours and lectures. Live demonstrations of Cherokee crafts and skills. View the Seven-sided Council House replica, as well as typical 18th century Cherokee homes. Open daily May thru late October. Admission charged. Reservations available online via website, Visit: www.cherokee-nc.com. Toll Free: (866) 554-4557.

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc. - The most outstanding Indian owned and operated arts and crafts cooperative in the United States. Open Daily. Highway 441 North of Cherokee, NC. (828) 497-3103.

Santa's Land - Family fun with a Christmas theme. Rides, zoo, entertainment, Santa, gift shops, food, playgrounds, old-time crafts. www.santaslandnc.com (828) 497-9191.



Enjoy white water rafting

Unto These Hills - An outdoor drama portraying the history of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians documenting their infamous "Trail of Tears" removal to the West. In its 62nd season, performed nightly, except Sundays, in the beautiful outdoor Mountainside Theatre. June thru August, 2011. US Hwy 441 Cherokee, NC 28719. Admission charged. Reservations available online via website, Visit: www.cherokee-nc.com. Toll Free: (866) 554-4557.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Baymont Inn Cherokee - 1455 Aquoni Rd near the southern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway & the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. (828) 497-2102.

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 100 rooms & suites across from Harrah's Casino on US 19 north. Continental breakfast, indoor pool, meeting space. www.hgmhotel.com (828) 497-0400.

Great Smokies Inn - 152 rooms, excellent restaurant, gift shop. Located at 441 North & Acquoni Rd. near entrance to Blue Ridge Parkway. (828) 497-2020.

Microtel Inn and Suites - 3 story interior hotel on 441 Bus. Only 1/2 mi. from Harrah's and historic downtown. Free breakfast bar, pool, restaurants adj. Winner 2010 top 20 Microtel Award. www.microtelinn.com. Call (828) 497-7800 or (888) 771-7171.

Mountaineer Motel - "Best Lil' Motel in Cherokee!" 8 very clean rooms. All w/ m/w & ref. sat. TV, pool. Friendly & quiet. Low rates. Native owners. US441S (828) 497-2453.

Cherokee, NC

We're
looking
for you.

**Find yourself a world away in Cherokee,
the original homeland of the Cherokee Indians
dating back 11,000 years.**

At the southern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, discover the history, culture and traditions of a civilization older than the Inca, Maya, Egyptians and Romans through song, legend, art, dance, ceremony and period regalia. Cherokee presents some of the most significant and culturally authentic Native American events in the U.S. including the annual Festival of Native Peoples.

Visit cultural sites and enjoy cultural festivals, camping, tubing, hiking, biking, birding, waterfalls, water mills, a pioneer village, cultural attractions, nostalgic shops and motor lodges, art galleries, quality campgrounds, family fun parks, more than 30 miles of untamed trout waters, the new 18-hole Robert Trent Jones II golf course and Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel. Several local restaurants offer hungry travelers traditional Cherokee Indian dinners. For a full list of free things to do in Cherokee, visit www.cherokee-nc.com/free.

Cherokee
Welcome Center
498 Tsali Blvd.
Cherokee, NC 28719



1-800-438-1601 • www.cherokee-nc.com
Email: travel@nc-cherokee.com

Panther Creek Cabins - Premier creekside cabins, fireplace, rocking chairs, Jacuzzis, kitchens, hiking trails & picnic areas. Wright Creek Rd. www.PantherCreekResort.com (828) 497-2461.

Quality Inn - 121 queen/king rms. Private balconies on the Oconaluftee River. Riverfront and whirlpool suites available. Free cont. breakfast & casino shuttle. (828) 497-4702.

Yogi™ in the Smokies - 317 Galamore Bridge Road, Enjoy being a kid with your kids. Cabins, RV, and tent sites, pool, fun activities, Yogi hayrides. We are right on the Raven Fork River which is stocked with trout regularly by the Cherokee Tribe! M/C, Visa. (828) 497-9151.

SWAIN COUNTY, NC

Your base camp for family adventure. Enjoy pristine mountain beauty, white water rafting, Fontana Lake, trout fishing, horseback riding, excursion train, shopping or just relaxing. Rich Cherokee and Southern Appalachian history. Accommodations include inns, B&Bs, cabins, motels and campgrounds. Call (800) 867-9246 or visit www.greatsmokies.com.

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 the BRP. Round-trip scenic excursions. Seasonal schedule April-December. Information & reservations www.gsmr.com or (800) 872-4681.

Nantahala Gorge Canopy Tours - off the Parkway at terminus to Bryson City. Experience a soaring adventure through the trees with ziplines and sky bridges. River rafting also available. www.nantahalagorgecanopytours.com (877) 398-6222.

Wildwater's Nantahala Gorge Adventures - River rafting, train & raft packages, scenic Jeep tours, zipline canopy tours, unique lodging, canoe, kayak! www.wildwaterrafting.com (800) 451-9972.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Sleep Inn - US-74 Exit 67. Near Great Smoky Mountains Railroad and Nantahala Whitewater Rafting. Free cont. breakfast and hi speed wireless internet. Seasonal outdoor pool. www.sleepinnbrysoncitync.com. (866) 939-0998.

Fryemont Inn - 245 Fryemont St., Bryson City, NC. National Register of Historic Places. All rates include dinner & breakfast. Open mid-April to Thanksgiving. From \$125/nt for 2. (800) 845-4879.

ANDREWS, NC

25 miles from Parkway via US 19/74, exit at MP 469.1.

Cherokee County Cycles - 14660 Hwy 19/74, MM 35, Andrews NC 28901. 30 miles from the entrance to the BRPkwy. Rental motorcycles, parts, apparel, service, & much more - stop in to see us for a free map & coffee. www.cherokeecountycycles.com (828) 321-0499.

Cherokee County, NC

Plan to stay in Cherokee County the night before you start your trip across the Blue Ridge Parkway or finish your trip by staying in Cherokee County before you head back to your home. Call us or check our website for accommodation information.

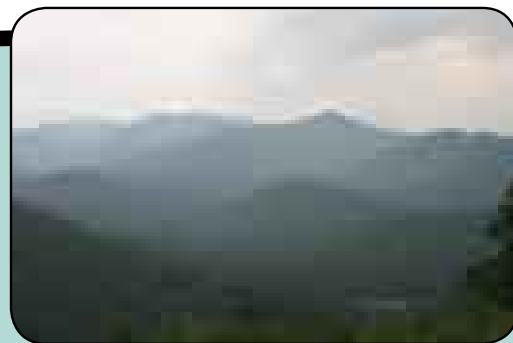
Experience Cherokee County, North Carolina Murphy, Andrews and Brasstown

Cherokee County is a special place in the southwestern corner of North Carolina where the forested mountains touch the sky, the lakes sparkle, the air is crisp and clean, and the charm of small town America still exists.

Cherokee County is a place where you and your family can enjoy your "peace" of the mountains - filling your time with fun, beauty, recreation, and rest while you enjoy peace of mind and a renewed spirit.

From its eastern edge to its western border, Cherokee County features a delightful mix of tradition and history. Visit the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown where Appalachian crafts are taught and where the entire campus is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or browse the quaint one-of-a-kind shops in Murphy and Andrews, or let your eyes roam over the beautiful Andrews Valley between the two towns.

Cherokee County Chamber of
Commerce and Welcome Center
805 West US 64, Murphy NC



828-837-2242
www.cherokeecountychamber.com

CHEROKEE COUNTY, NC

For information on Western North Carolina's western-most county, contact the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce, 805 W US64, Murphy, NC 28906. Website: www.cherokeecountychamber.com (828) 837-2242; FAX (828) 837-6012.

FONTANA, NC

Located in the heart of the Smokies, between Asheville and Knoxville.

Fontana Village Resort - Great Smoky Mountain Destination. Cabins, lodge rooms & camping. Conference space, pools, horse-back riding, hiking, biking, restaurants, boat rentals @ Fontana Lake Marina & more. www.FontanaVillage.com (828) 498-2211.

DUCKTOWN, TN

25 miles west of Murphy, NC on US 64/74.

Wildwater Rafting - High quality adventure trips since 1971. Raft 5 rivers, unique lodging, jeep tours, canoe, kayak, more! www.wildwater rafting.com (800) 451-9972.

GATLINBURG, TN

Gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and a one-stop destination to enjoy four-season fun. Gatlinburg & the Great Smoky Mountains feature a beautiful spot of pampered civilization nestled in one of the last tracts of unspoiled wilderness in the eastern United States. Gatlinburg...the place that puts a smile on your face. www.gatlinburg.com or call (800) 343-1475.

ATTRACTIONS

Christ in the Smokies - Experience the greatest story ever told, realistic life-size scenes from the life of Christ. Rare gems & coins plus the awe-inspiring face of Christ sculpture. www.christinthesmokies.com (865) 436-5155.

Ober Gatlinburg - Ride the 120 passenger Aerial Tramway to indoor ice skating, Alpine Slide, scenic chairlift, black bear habitat, otters, water rides, shops & more! www.obergatlinburg.com (865) 436-5423.

Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies - America's most fun aquarium! Big sharks and over 10,000 sea creatures. www.ripleysaquariumofthesmokies.com (888) 240-1358.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Brookside Resort - Streamside rooms, pillow top beds, whirlpool tubs, pool with waterfall. Near Aquarium. www.brooksideresort.com or e-mail: info@brooksideresort.com. (800) 251-9597.

Comfort Inn - On the river between #1 & #2 traffic lights on the Parkway. 4 blocks before Ripley's Aquarium. All rooms have private balconies on river. Free continental breakfast. (865) 436-5047.

Mountain Laurel Chalets - Over 100 chalets in the mountains near the National Park entrance. One to 12 bedrooms, many with pool table, hot tub, view. Clubhouse privileges with swimming, tennis. Website: www.mtnlaurelchalets.com. (800) 626-3431.

Rocky Top Village Inn - 89 units, outdoor heated pool, microwaves, refrigerators, free continental breakfast & free high speed wireless internet. 1 block from main Parkway. (800) 553-7738.

Ski Mountain Chalet & Condo Rentals - 1-12 bedrooms, Fully furnished, tls, linens, kitchens, fireplaces. Some units have hot tubs, saunas, whirlpools & pool tables. All have access to recreational areas with Tennis Courts & Pools in season. 416 Ski Mtn Rd., Gatlinburg, TN 37738 www.skimtnchalets.com (865) 436-7846 or (800) 824-4077.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

G. Webb Gallery - Watercolours & prints that tell the story of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Located in a 1910 homeplace. Open year round. www.gwebbgallery.com. (865) 436-3639.

PIGEON FORGE, TN

Variety of music, shopping, attractions, restaurants, and accommodations, plus Dollywood and the Great Smoky Mountains. Web Site: www.mypigeonforge.com Call 1-800-251-9100.

Christmas Place - at Bell Tower Square - 2470 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. The South's largest Christmas village. www.christmasplace.com (800) 445-3396.

HARTFORD, TN

Exit I-40 exit #447, near the NC/TN state line.

Pigeon River Gorge Zipline Canopy Tours - off the Parkway MP 443 to Hartford, TN. Fly across the river & thru the trees. River rafting services also available with Wildwater Rafting. www.pigeonrivercanopytours.com. (888) 482-7328.

Wildwater Rafting - High quality adventure trips since 1971. Raft 5 rivers, unique lodging, zipline canopy tours, Hummer tours, more! www.wildwater rafting.com. (800) 451-9972.

TOWNSEND, TN

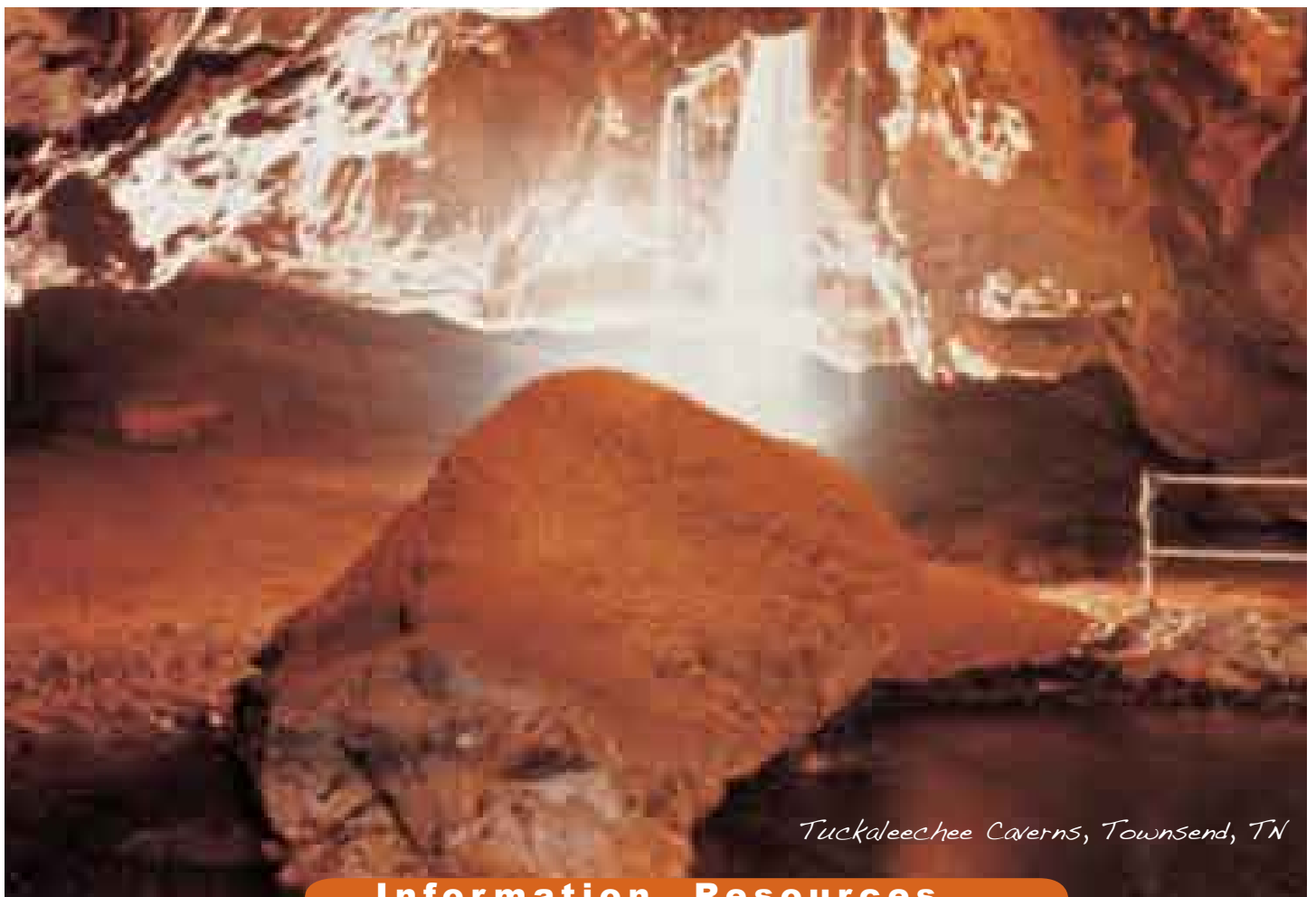
25 mi. west of Gatlinburg via Rt. 321.

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) 9am-5pm (March & Nov. 10am-5pm). Rated a Diamond attraction by AAA. (865) 448-2274.

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 \$16.95, Children 5-12 \$7.95, 4 & under Free. (423) 337-6616.



Tuckaleechee Caverns, Townsend, TN

Information Resources

VirtualBlueRidge.com.

An online guide dedicated to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Available information includes interactive maps, news & events, travel planning tools, and a virtual tour of the entire Parkway. www.virtualblueridge.com.

Blue Ridge Digest.

Travel Guide to the Blue Ridge & Great Smoky Mountains area with map, calendar of events, informative articles and more! Available at information centers, attractions and motels. Blue Ridge Digest, P.O. Box 1758PD, Asheville, NC 28802. www.blueridgedigest.com.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation is the primary and professional fundraising organization for the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Foundation provides private support for vital enhancement projects of the National Park Service and assures that the traditions, beauty, vision, and promise of the Blue Ridge Parkway are nurtured today and for future generations. 717 South Marshall Street, Suite 105-B, Winston-Salem, NC 27101. (336) 721-0260. www.brpfoundation.org.

BlueRidgeBookStore.com.

The official online store for the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation. 60% of the profits go directly to support Foundation programs and benefit all Parkway visitors. Find BRP logo products, maps, books, videos, and more to help plan your Parkway trip. www.blueridgebookstore.com.

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

A membership and fundraising organization dedicated to preserve & protect the Parkway. With over 8,000 members join FRIENDS for \$25 or volunteer to help plant trees to restore views - don't just visit the Parkway... make a difference on the Parkway! PO Box 20986, Roanoke, VA 24018, (800) 228-7275. www.blueridgefriends.org.

Blue Ridge Country.

Award winning magazine covering the history, attractions and outdoor recreation. Call for a free trial issue. (800) 548-1672. Mention code DBRPA.

Go Blue Ridge Card.

Sold at Visitor's Center, MP 384. A multi-attraction pass that grants admission to the best Western NC attractions at one low price. (800) 887-9103. www.goblueridgecard.com.

America Rides Maps.

The most comprehensive motorcycle pocket maps of the roads and attractions surrounding the Parkway. Thousands of miles of paved two-lane back roads. See waterfalls and sights others miss – order online www.americaridesmaps.com.

Blue Ridge Views Scenic Images.

Bring mountain beauty into your home or office with our striking images. Learn more. Visit www.blueridgeviews.com.

**INCLUDES
THE PARKWAY
MILEPOST**



ALONG THE PARKWAY

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

*Parkway Craft Center
at the Moses Cone Manor
Milepost 294*

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



*Chimney Rock Park, NC
Exit at Milepost 384.7*



*Folk Art
Center
Asheville, NC
Milepost 382*



**AMERICA'S
BYWAYS™**