

Highland Mountain Cabin – Local Events and Activities

Art Galleries, Artwork & Crafts:

Artwalk (~20 miles) – 9,500 square feet of beautiful art work and crafts featuring local, regional and national artists. There is original art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass work, wood work, stained glass, sculpture and more. Open Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. 611 W. King Street, Boone, NC. 828-264-9996

The Bob Timberlake Gallery at Blowing Rock (~30 miles southwest) - Gallery showcases Timberlake's artwork, personal memorabilia, and home furnishings. Located on Main Street in Blowing Rock, NC - 800-244-0095 or 828-295-4855

Blue Ridge Mountain Frescoes (~25 miles northwest) - Frescoe paintings by artist, Ben Long, St. Mary's Episcopal Church located in W. Jefferson, NC and Holy Trinity Church located in Glendale Springs, NC. Free. 336-982-3076

High Country Candles (~30 miles southwest) - refillable candles for all occasions, carved by the Ziegler family. Located in the Old Martin House, Main Street, Blowing Rock, NC. 828-295-9655

J & S Beaumont Pottery (~30 miles northwest) - created on site, visitors may view turning, glazing and decorating processes from a special area created just for them only a few feet away. Adjacent to the manufacturing rooms is the retail store, where many items can be purchased. Located in the Red School House behind Mast General Store, Hwy. 194, Valle Crucis. Open Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., 828-963-6399

Parkway Craft Center (~28 miles west) - at Moses Cone Manor, located on the Blue Ridge Parkway at MP 294. For nearly 50 years, the Southern Highland Craft Guild has showcased here, the best crafts from a nine-state region...weaving, basketry, pottery, woodcarving, glass and metal work. Open 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. May - October and 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. other months, call to verify. 828-295-7938

Upstairs Gallery (~30 miles southwest) – Fantastic gallery featuring artist/owner Kevin Beck and many other local artists. Located on the second floor of the historic Martin House in downtown Blowing Rock. Check hours. 828-295-6357

Wilcox Emporium Warehouse (~20 miles west) - art, antiques, collectibles, furnishings and food - over 180 vendors. Located in historical downtown Boone, NC at 161 Howard Street. 828-262-1221

ATV Riding:

Brown Mountain OHV area (~40 miles southwest) - Located near Colletsville, NC, Brown Mountain has the only public ATV trails in the Pisgah National Forest. ATV's, dirtbikes and some trails allow 4x4's. Some of the trails are one way because they are too narrow for two-way traffic. Off Hwy 181 take Brown Mountain Beach Road. (828) 652-2144.

Buck Mountain – Buck Mountain has its own network of ATV trails in the community. An information sheet and maps are contained in our cabin book, along with community regulations. Guest permits are required to ride the trails. Please be respectful of others in the community – they are our neighbors.

Boating and Water Recreation:

The New River (~25 miles northwest) – Proclaimed to be the "world's oldest river", the New winds through northwestern North Carolina. Swimming, tubing, and canoeing are popular. The New River State Park is located in Ashe County, near Jefferson, with numerous "drop-in" accesses. Call 336-982-2587 for information.

Watauga River (~30 miles west)- A popular tubing river with a bit of kayaking. Rising in Watauga County, North Carolina and crossing into Johnson County, Tennessee, the Watauga River is impounded by the Tennessee Valley Authority's Watauga Dam, creating Watauga Lake. Annual river festival occurs in Valle Crucis each August.

Watauga Lake - A short drive from Boone heading west on Hwy. 321. Swimming, fishing, water skiing, jet skiing, power boating and sailing. For more information contact Mallard Cove Marina - 615-967-5370 - located on Watauga Lake

W. Kerr Scott Dam & Reservoir (~15 miles southeast) - A beautiful mountain reservoir with numerous boat launching areas and fishing piers. There are also several swimming sights and an area for canoe launching. For more information contact the Resource Manager, P.O. Box 182, Wilkesboro, NC 28697 336-921-3750 or 336-921-3390.

Wildcat Lake (~40 miles west) - A tiny lake located near Lees-McRae College, in Banner Elk. A popular "day at the beach" retreat for families with young children. For more information contact the Avery/Banner Elk Chamber at 828-898-5605.

Canoeing & Whitewater Paddling:

Appalachian Adventures (~15 miles northwest)- River tubing, canoeing, kayaking and bicycling along the New River. Located on Railroad Grade Road in historic Todd, NC. 336-877-8800

Edge of the World Outfitters (~40 miles west)- Canoeing, rafting, rock climbing & rappelling and caving. Located in Banner Elk, NC. 828-898-9550

High Mountain Expeditions (~30 miles west)- White water rafting, family float trips, funyaking, and kayaking. Located in Blowing Rock, NC. 800-262-9036.

The New River (~25 miles west) – Proclaimed to be “*The world's oldest river*”, the New winds throughout northwestern North Carolina. Canoeing is popular along it. The New River State Park is located in Ashe County, near Jefferson, with numerous "drop-in" accesses. Call 336-982-2587 for information.

New River Outfitters (~25 miles west) - Tubing and canoeing the New River. Visit the New River General Store, the oldest continuously operating store in the area. Located in Jefferson, NC. 800-982-9190.

Roaring River Canoe Rentals (~25 miles east) - Johnny Alexander , 462 Cottonmill Road, Roaring River, NC 28669 (336) 696-6938

Wahoo's Adventures (~20 miles west)- Six locations in the mountains, serving nine rivers. Rafting, canoeing, inner-tubing, and caving. Located in Boone, NC. 800-444-RAFT

Wilderness Lodge, Canoe, Kayak & Mtn Biking (~25 miles east) - Robert Mittet 185 Edmiston Lane

Boomer, NC 28606 (336) 921-2277

Zaloo's Canoes (~25 miles northwest) - Canoe the New River, the world's 2nd oldest river. Located in Jefferson, NC. 800-535-4027.

The Yadkin River (~15 miles east) - The Yadkin flows through the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir and then runs between North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro, then south of Pilot Mountain. The Yadkin River Trail runs for 126 miles from the outflow of W. Scott Kerr Reservoir to York Hill access near the beginning of High Rock Lake. It is the longest river trail with developed access sites in North Carolina's trail system.

Wilson Creek (~40 miles southwest) -, the *Charlotte Observer*, aptly describes Wilson Creek's special resources. "Kayakers and canoeists plunge through Boatbuster and Thunderhole Rapids. Anglers probe the greenish pools for brook, brown and rainbow trout. Sunbathers stretch out on massive boulders after a dip in the chilly waters. Wilson Creek long has been an easy-to-reach mountain oasis in the Pisgah National Forest."

Country Stores & Shopping:

Mast General Store (~30 miles west) - Established in 1883, the Mast General Store is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as one of the best representations of an old country store. The historic site is in Valle Crucis - 828-963-6511, open Monday - Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Sunday 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. www.mastgeneralstore.com

Rogers Trading Post - (~20 miles west) on Hwy 321 South of Boone, heading towards Blowing Rock. Our porch furniture came from Rogers - great deals on locally hand built furniture and accessories, and they will deliver to almost *anywhere*... 276.614.0463 www.RogersTradingPost.net

Todd General Store (~20 miles northwest) - Established in 1914, recapture a time when life was simple and genuine. Authentic General Mercantile. Located 11 miles North of Boone off Hwy. 194, overlooking the South Fork of the New River on Railroad Grade Road, the most scenic bike route in NC. 828-877-1067

Fred's General Mercantile (~40 miles west) - located at 501 Beech Mountain Parkway, Beech Mountain, NC Open 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m., 828-387-4838

Charleston Forge Outlet (~20 miles west) - offering wrought iron furniture handcrafted in the mountains of NC. Unusual home accessories, fireplace accessories, and patio furniture. Located in Boone, NC on Hwy. 105 Extension - 828-262-0096

DeWoolfson Down (~40 miles west) - merchants of the finest down and silk bedding products. Located on Hwy. 105 in Banner Elk, NC. 828-963-4144 or 800-833-3696

The Cabin Store (~25 miles northwest) - rustic furnishings and accessories to compliment any mountain decor. Located in downtown W. Jefferson, open Mon - Sat. 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. 336-246-5647

Shoppes on the Parkway (~30 miles southwest)- 35 factory outlets located on Hwy. 321 in Blowing Rock, NC. 828-295-4444 or 800-720-6728

Wilcox Emporium Warehouse (~20 miles west)- art, antiques, collectibles, furnishings and food - over 180 vendors. Located in historical downtown Boone, NC at 161 Howard Street. 828-262-1221

Northwest Trading Post (~25 miles northwest) - mountain crafts, antiques, jellies, relishes, hams, and baked goods. Open April 15 - October 31, located on the Blue Ridge Parkway at MP 259, Glendale Springs, NC. 336-982-2543

Cabin Fever (~40 miles west) - a complete collection of log cabin and vacation home furnishings. Located at 915 Main Street, Blowing Rock, NC. 828-295-0520

Christmas in Blowing Rock (~40 miles west) - unusual gifts, exquisite ornaments, handcrafted collectibles, and scrumptious jams and jellies. Located on Main Street in Blowing Rock, NC. Open year round. 828-295-9696

Cycling:

Railroad Grade Road (~20 miles northwest) - Off Hwy. 194, overlooking the South Fork of the New River is Railroad Grade Road, that runs between Fleetwood and Todd, the most scenic bike route in NC, 20 miles of practically flat old railroad grade. 828-877-1067

Old U.S. 421 from Sugar Grove to Zionville (~25 miles east) - This is also a relatively flat ride through the beautiful western end of Watauga County. It's about 8 miles one-way from the post office at Sugar Grove where Old 421 forks off from 321 to the end of Old 421.

Sugar Grove to West Jefferson (~25 miles east) - Take Old U.S. 421 to Highway 421. Take a left and cross into Tennessee, where you'll soon take a right on Highway 67 (which will change names to Hwy 88 once you re-enter Watauga County). Hwy 88 will meet up with 194 to take you into West Jefferson in Ashe County. 50 miles out and back.

Valle Crucis Loop (~25 miles northwest) - From Valle Crucis School, take Hwy 194 to Banner Elk. Take Hickory Nut Gap Rd. to Newland, then Hwy 181 to Linville. Pick up Hwy 221 to Shull's Mill Rd., then to Hwy 105 and back to Broadstone Rd. in Valle Crucis. 50-mile loop. (Might want to pick up a map for this one!)

Blue Ridge Parkway Ride (~30 miles southwest) - From Blowing Rock, take the Parkway to Grandfather Mountain where you'll get on Hwy 221 and loop back to Blowing Rock for a scenic 40-mile ride.

Fishing:

Streams and lakes on the Blue Ridge Parkway are game fish waters under federal regulation. They are stocked annually and offer excellent fishing. Most mountain streams in the area are stocked with trout and also have native trout.

State fishing licenses or short - term permits are required for all fisherman 16 years old and up; state trout stamps are not required on Parkway waters. The Parkway fishing season, which runs in conjunction with the state's season, is from the first Saturday in April through the last of February (the month of March is used for stocking).

Appalachian Angler Fly Shop & Guide Service - Fly fishing guide service and full service fly shop. Located in Boone, NC. 828-963-5050

Grandfather Trout Farm - Trout fishing for the whole family in a stocked pond. A fishing license is not required for the trout farm and the charge is based upon the amount of fish caught. The trout pond season generally runs from the first Saturday in April through about mid November. Located on Hwy. 105, across from the entrance to town of Seven Devils, Banner Elk, NC. 828-963-5098

New River & Watauga River - Fly fish for small mouth bass, red-eye bass, catfish, and in some areas rather large muskies along with three varieties of trout on the New River which winds through Allegheny, Ashe, & Watauga Counties and also in the Watauga River.

Moses Cone Park - Bass Lake & Trout Lake - Bass and blue gill with Trout Lake designated as native trout waters.

Other High Country Streams - Streams and lakes known for their good fishing are Wilson Creek, Elk River (between Banner Elk and Elk Park on Hwy. 194), Howard's Creek (off Hwy. 194 north of Boone), Boone's Fork (off Watauga River above Hound Ears), the Globe section of the Johns River Gorge (eight miles south of Blowing Rock off US 321 on Globe Rd.), Anthony Creek, Johns River and Big Horse Creek (upstream from Lower SR 1361 bridge to the VA state line).

For further licensing information and regulations contact:

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27604-1188 or

General Information - 919-662-4381

Inland Fisheries Division- 919-733-3633

Enforcement Division- 919-733-7191

Gem Mining:

Greater Foscoe Mining Company - Find emeralds, rubies, sapphires, amethyst, garnet, topaz and many more, all yours to keep. Open 7 days, 9 - 6, full service jewelry store.

Located on Hwy. 105-S in Foscoe, NC, 7.7 miles south of Boone - 828-963-5928 or 828-963-8724

Golfing:

Stone Mountain Golf Club Bruce Watkins 155 Viewpoint Drive

Traphill, NC 28658 (336) 957-4422

Rock Creek Golf Course Fred Sebastian 825 Little Mtn Church Road

North Wilkesboro, NC 28659 (336) 696-2146

Hawksnest Golf Resort Located in Seven Devils, NC - 18 holes, yardage: 6,401, par: 72, lessons, packages. 800-822-HAWK

Boone Golf Club Located in Boone, NC - 18 holes, yardage: 6,401, par: 71, lessons. 828-264-8760

Mountain Aire Golf Club Located in West Jefferson, NC - 18 holes, yardage: 6,200, par:71, lessons, packages. 336-877-4716

Jefferson Landing Located in Jefferson, NC - 18 holes, yardage: 6,500, par 72, pro shop, lessons, packages. 800-292-6274

Magic Mountain Mini Golf Located in Boone, NC - family fun. 828-265-4653

Horseback Riding:

White Oak Stables Diana Albertson 348 C.C. Hayes Road Purlear, NC 28665 (336) 903-0016

Mountain View Riding Stables - Located in the heart of the Leatherwood Mountain Horse Community.

Open year round - weather permitting. Rides by appointment only - 24 hour notice. Morning, afternoon and evening rides offered. 1-866-MTN-TRAIL or 1-336-973-7340

Banner Elk Stables - Horseback Riding for the entire family, children welcome. Reservation Required. Open year round - weather and trail conditions permitting. Trail ride adventures originate at Banner Elk Stables at the end of Shomaker Road in Banner Elk. Located off Hwy. 194 in Banner Elk & Shomaker Road. 828-898-5424 (Accept MC/Visa/AMEX).

Smith Quarter Horse Farm Horseback riding and scenic mountain trails, suitable for beginners or advanced horseperson. Families welcome, reservations requested, open 7 days per week. Year round boarding facility.828-898-4932

Chadi Farm- Chadi Farms offers year round horseback riding on private mountain trails, horse drawn carriage rides in the Historic Valle Crucis, private riding lessons, fly fishing in trout stream, and kiddy hayrides. Located in Valle Crucis. 828-963-5399

Dutch Creek Trails Offering horseback rides on beautiful mountain trails. Wagon rides along the old Watauga River Road. Cookouts with music, singing and cowboy poetry on Saturdays. Horseback rides leave out every two hours starting at 10:00 a.m. - Mon - Sat. Located in Sugar Grove. 828-297-7117 or 828-297-1708

Hiking:

Easy Trails

Moses Cone Memorial Park (MP 294) - near Blowing Rock on the Parkway. The park offers 25 miles of easily graded paths also popular for cross-country skiing.

Julian Price Park (MP 297) - near Blowing Rock on the Parkway. Easy hikes include the Price Lake Trail that circles the lake and the Green Knob Trail, which is 2 miles long.

Linville Falls/Linville Gorge (MP 317) - on the Parkway. A number of trails lead to the head of the falls with views of the cataract and the Gorge Wilderness Area. The Parkway has a trail head leading to the Falls and another trail head just off the Kistler Hwy. Four miles down the highway is Wiseman's View Trail, with one of the most awesome views of the Gorge. Also a good place to see Brown Mountain Lights.

The Cascades on the Parkway (MP 272) - is a trail of about a half-mile to a series of cascading waterfalls. It is located about 3.5 miles north of the Parkway intersection with US 421 at Deep Gap.

The Beacon Heights Trail and Flat Rock Nature Trail (MP 305) - are both within 4 miles of Linville, on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Beacon Heights Trail is a 15-minute trail leading to fine views of Grandfather and the piedmont below. To the south, is the Flat Rock Nature Trail and Overlook which looks down into the Linville River Valley.

Intermediate Trails

Roan Mountain - on the NC/TN state line. At the last parking area on the Forest Service Road, the Cloudland Trail climbs to an observation deck with a 4,000 foot drop.

Mount Jefferson State Park - located in Ashe County, includes 4,900 foot summit of Mt. Jefferson, from where hikers can view North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

Summit Trail - beginning at the parking lot on Mt. Jefferson, the summit trail passes through the picnic ground and ascends .3 miles to the peak of Mt. Jefferson.

Rhododendron Trail - a moderate 1.1 mile trail that starts near the end of the summit trail.

Doughton Park Trails - located in Ashe County near Laurel Springs has over 30 miles of hiking trails, ranging from moderate strolls to day-long outings. Call 336-372-8877

Linville Gorge (MP 317) - on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Across the Gorge from Wiseman's View the trail climbs 1 mile to the Table Rock summit. Great views into the Gorge.

Julian Price Park (MP 297) - on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Boone Fork Trail is a 5 mile hike.

Grandfather Mountain - Black Rock Cliffs Cave Trail is 1.3 miles to a cave with great views. The Grandfather Trail Extension includes a 2.5 mile round trip to views of the valley. Crag Way and Daniel Boone Scout Trail form a view loop hike over rocky crags. A permit is required. Grandfather Mtn., Linville, NC 28646.

Wilson Creek Trails (~40 miles southwest) - in Pisgah National Forest near NC 181. About 6 trails in this area require an hour to hike and lead to views, waterfalls and cliffs.

Challenging Trails

Linville Gorge (MP 317) - on the Parkway. Several trails drop sharply into the Gorge, making the climb rugged. A permit is required and is available from the US Forest Service in Marion or at the Linville Falls Texaco on US 221.

Grandfather Mountain - The Grandfather Trail- begins at the Mile High Swinging Bridge and eventually hits all of Grandfather's three highest peaks. This 2.4 mile trail requires 5 hours to travel the full length. Extremely rugged, with wooden ladders making some sheer cliff faces accessible. For serious hikers only! A permit with a nominal fee is required. Grandfather Mtn., Linville, NC 28646

Wilson Creek Trails - in the Pisgah National Forest. Several trails near Linville Gorge are 4 to 6 hour hikes through vegetation with rugged rock formations to waterfalls.

Appalachian Trail - crosses Roan Mtn., Hump Mtn., and Yellow Mtn., all known for their large expanse of mountain-top meadows with distant views. Trail heads are in Elk Park and at Carver's Gap on Roan.

Mountain Biking:

Dark Mountain - W. Kerr Scott Reservoir - Near Wilkesboro Trails are being built through a partnership with The Brushy Mountain Cyclists Club and The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. For more information, visit <http://www.bmcc.us>.

Sugar Mountain - Back in 1993, Sugar Mountain Ski Resort started its mountain biking. Today, the Resort offers mountain bikers over 20 miles of maintained singletrack and doubletrack trails, free and open to the public. Lift service is also offered to the mountaintop. All trails rated intermediate to advanced. Vertical drop from peak to lodge area is 1,200'. Lift Service Operation: Weekends Only, July 1 - September 3, 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM (Weather Permitting) Rates: \$7 One Time Pass or \$20 All Day Pass (subject to change) For more information visit <http://www.skisugar.com>

Beech Mountain - Several trails, built and maintained by the Beech Mountain Bicycle Club, can be found near the ski resort community of Beech Mountain township. Information in the Beech Mountain Trail Information section can be found on the Beech Mountain Biking Trails brochure, which has maps, and is available by mail from the Beech Mountain Chamber of Commerce or from local bike shops.

Wilderness Lodge, Canoe, Kayak & Mtn Biking Robert Mittet 185 Edmiston Lane, Boomer, NC 28606 (336) 921-2277

Wilson Creek Area (~40 miles southwest)- The Pisgah National Forest offers some moderate to strenuous mountain biking trails.

Motorcycling:

There are great places to ride motorcycles all around the cabin – pretty much anyway you go. Our suggestion is to just get out and explore! The Blue Ridge Parkway is a blast in either direction, but watch your speed there. Go to the website <http://www.grouprider.com/jg.php?g=176>, and we have mapped out some suggested routes in the area.

Motorcycle Rentals - Action Cycle Sports - Boone, NC Motorcycle rentals by the day or week. Call 828-262-1558 for more information or to reserve your cycle while staying in the High Country of NC.

Cruising Routes

Blue Ridge Parkway (~10 miles) – Of course, the definitive driving road. You can't go wrong heading North or South from 421. The most quiet and scenic route is to the North, and the South takes you to all the attractions of Boone, Blowing Rock, Grandfather Mountain, etc.

Twisty Routes

Brushy Mountain Road (~15 miles southeast)- Take Hwy 421 through Wilkesboro, and then follow the signs. Nice twisty back road heading towards Hiddenite and Taylorsville, NC.

Hwy 268 (~15 miles southeast)- Take Hwy 421 through Wilkesboro, and then follow the signs. 268 heads southwest towards Lenoir. You can then pick up Hwy 321 into Blowing Rock, and the Blue Ridge Parkway or 221 back to 421 and the cabin.

Hwy 421 to Shady Valley, TN - Take Hwy 421 west 55 miles and you will hit the Shady Valley "Motorcycle Playground". Continue west into Bristol to finish this excellent twisty run. Go any direction out of Shady Valley and the roads are fantastic

Dual Sport & Off Road Routes

Brown Mountain OHV area (~40 miles southwest)- Located near Colletsville, NC, Brown Mountain has the only public ATV trails in the Pisgah National Forest. ATV's, dirtbikes and some trails allow 4x4's. Some of the trails are one way because they are too narrow for two-way traffic. Off Hwy 181 take Brown Mountain Beach Road. (828) 652-2144.

Music, Entertainment, and Festivals:

Merlefest – The American Music Festival at Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, NC. A bluegrass festival extraordinaire, people come from all over the East coast for this one! The festival each April features artists such as Alison Kraus, Blue Highway, Sam Bush, etc. 1-800-343-7857 <http://www.merlefest.org/>

High Country Round-Up - family nightspot with a 3 hour nonstop musical variety show, featuring country, bluegrass, oldies and gospel music. Dine on full BBQ & Chicken plates. Dinner, Show and Dancing. Open on Fridays and Saturdays. Located in Boone, NC - 828-265-4604

Mountain Music Jamboree - featuring genuine traditional music, dance and food. A place where children still dance with the old folks. Open Saturday 7 - 11 p.m. Located in Glendale Springs, NC - 800-803-4079 or 336-384-4079

Carolina in the Fall - Bluegrass Festival Fri & Sat., October 20 & 21, 2006 on the Shepherd Farm in North Wilkesboro, NC <http://www.carolinainthefall.com/index.php>

Singing on the Mountain – Held the last Saturday of each June on Grandfather Mountain in Linville, NC – 800-468-7325 - www.grandfather.com

Doc Watson MusicFest – Bluegrass festival held every July in Sugar Grove, NC. - www.covecreek.net

Wilkes Heritage Festival – Held each July in Wilkesboro, NC – www.wilkesnc.org

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games – Held 2nd weekend each July. - www.gmhq.org

Mountain Heritage Festival – Held each September in Sparta, NC. - www.sparta-nc.com

Brushy Mountain Apple Festival – Held in North Wilkesboro, NC 1st weekend each October. www.wilkesnc.org

Wooly Worm Festival – Held in Banner Elk, NC each 3rd weekend in October. www.banner-elk.com

Horn in the West – Outdoor entertainment held Mid June through August- 828-264-2120 – www.boonenc.org/saha

Rhododendron Festival – held each 3rd weekend in June at Roan Mountain State Park and Bakersville, NC

Tweetsie Railroad 4th of July Celebration – Blowing Rock, NC 800-526-5740 – www.tweetsie.com

State and Federal Parks:

Stone Mountain State Park 3042 Frank Parkway
Roaring Gap, NC 28668 (336) 957-8185

Rendezvous Mountain Educational State Forest 1956 Rendezvous Mtn Road
Purlear, NC 28665 (336) 667-5072

Moses Cone Memorial Park - North of Blowing Rock at MP 294 on the BRP, this is one of the chief Parkway recreation areas. The 3,600 acre park offers bridle paths, hiking trails, trout streams, two lakes and a craft center in the Manor House.

Julian Price Memorial Park - South of Blowing Rock, located at MP 297 on the BRP, this park features picnic grounds, boat rentals, fishing, and popular hiking trails like Boone Fork and Tanawha.

Doughton Park - At MP 241 on the BRP, this is the largest recreation area on the Parkway. It offers picnic areas, hiking, trails, fishing, a restaurant and gas station.

Linville Gorge Wilderness Area - This 7,600 acre tract has been preserved to provide a primitive natural environment. The steep walls of the Gorge enclose Linville River which descends 2,000 feet in only 12 miles. Access to Linville Gorge Wilderness Area is by foot trails via a Forest Service Road off US 221 at the Linville Falls Community exit. Look for MP 317.

Mount Mitchell State Park - At 6,684 feet, it's the highest peak in Eastern America. A short walk takes you to the observation tower on top. Picnicking, hiking, and nature study are available. Located at MP 355.

Mount Jefferson State Park - 539 undeveloped acres, picnicking, hiking and nature study available. Located off Hwy. 221 in Jefferson, NC.

Museum of North Carolina Minerals - Near Spruce Pine at MP 331. Exhibits feature more than 300 different kinds of rocks and minerals found in NC. There is choice prospecting for gems and minerals in the vicinity.

New River - Located in the Appalachian Mountains of Allegheny, Ashe and Watauga Counties, this 26.5 mile stretch of river has been named a national wildlife and scenic river. It's one of the few rivers in the world that flows north. Canoeing, rafting, tubing and fishing are popular here.

Pisgah National Forest - The Pisgah National Forest offers lake and stream fishing, as well as large and small game. Roan Mountain and the Linville Gorge Wilderness area are both located within this National forest.

Roan Mountain (~70 miles west) - Here you will find the world's largest natural gardens of crimson-purple rhododendron. Roan Mountain is near Bakersville in the Pisgah National Forest recreation area. Peak bloom occurs in mid-June and can be viewed on casual walks on a variety of trails.

Stone Mountain State Park (~35 miles northwest)-- This park is named for its 600 ft. high granite formation, three miles in circumference at the base. Fishing, hiking, and nature study are available in this virtually undeveloped park area. Stone Mountain is located in Allegheny and Wilkes Counties.

Restaurants:

Boone

Daniel Boone Inn-130 Hardin Street, Boone. 828-264-8657. Delicious home cooked meals served *family style* for over 40 years.

Blowing Rock

Crippen's Restaurant - "Best Restaurant in North Carolina," Greensboro News & Record. Certificate of Honor from James Beard Foundation. Appeared in Country Inns, Southern Living and New York Times. Daily changing menu. Creative appetizers, homemade pastas, fresh meats, game and seafood. All desserts made on premises. Full bar and extensive wine list. Dinner Only. Casually elegant country inn with fireplace and parlor. Reservations suggested. 239 Sunset Drive, Blowing Rock. 877-295-3487.

Six Pence Pub-British pub & restaurant in the heart of Blowing Rock. 176 Park Ave. 828.295-3155.

Deep Gap

Blue Ridge Diner - (~10 miles west) 5176 Old Hwy 421, Deep Gap. 828.265.1999

Wilkesboro

Banjos Mountain Eatery- Sandwiches, burgers and daily specials. 4803 Hwy 421, Wilkesboro. 336-973-0300.

Brushy Mountain Smokehouse & Creamery-201 Wilkesboro Blvd, North Wilkesboro. 336-667-9464.

Key City Grille- Food & Spirits. 211 10th Street, North Wilkesboro. 336-667-7878.

Phipps Market & Grill (family friendly—burgers & fries), Applebee's, Fire Mountain, plus many fast food including McDonald's, Taco Bell, Hardee's, Sonic, Subway—all located on 421 strip near Wal-Mart in Wilkesboro,

Other Areas

Stations Inn - Laurel Springs (~30 miles northwest)- Motorcycle-oriented diner off Hwy 18 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Retro 1950's gas station theme, with live entertainment on weekends

Skiing:

Sugar Mountain - located in Banner Elk, NC - elevation 5,300, 18 slopes, 8 lifts, lessons and ski rentals. 800-SUGAR MT

Appalachian Ski Mtn. - located in Blowing Rock, NC - elevation 4,000, 8 slopes, 6 lifts, lessons, ski rentals, and ice skating. 800-322-2373

Hawksnest Ski Resort - located in Seven Devils, NC - elevation 4,819, 12 slopes, lifts, ski/snowboard rentals, ski school, snow tubing - 8 lanes - 1,000 feet long, night skiing. 1-800-822-4295.

Ski Beech - located in Beech Mtn., NC - 14 slopes, 11 lifts, lessons, ski rentals, and ice skating. 800-438-2093

Theme Parks, Amusements, and Entertainment:

The Blowing Rock - An immense cliff 4,000 feet above sea level, overhanging Johns River Gorge 3,000 feet below. Views, trails and more, located on Hwy. 321 South, Blowing Rock, NC. 828-295-7111

Blue Ridge Parkway - One of America's most scenic drives with 469 toll free miles of awesome natural beauty. The most visited national park, with spectacular views and vistas as you drive along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Head 7 miles west on 421 and you will be there. Cascade Falls is just a few miles north in EB Jefferies Park.

Grandfather Mountain - Drive to the top, enjoy the nature museum, natural wildlife habitats, picnic areas, hiking trails, and cross the mile-high swinging bridge, located 17 miles south of Boone & Blowing Rock, US 221 & Blue Ridge Parkway milepost 305, Linville, NC. 800-468-7325

Horn in the West - Stage plays reliving the struggles of the early mountain settlers. Hickory Ridge Homestead - demonstrations of eighteenth century mountain life. Daniel Boone Native Gardens - a display of mountain flora, dedicated to the preservation of Earth's treasures. All located together in Boone, NC. Open mid-June thru mid-August. 828-264-2120.

Linville Caverns - North Carolina's only cavern, located on Hwy. 221 between Linville and Marion, 4 miles south of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open June 1 - Labor Day 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., April/May/September/October 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., November/March 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., December/January/February - weekends only. 828-756-4171

New River Zoo - The New River Zoo is home for over 60 species of animals from all over the world and offers visitors an up-close, fun and educational experience set amidst the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Ashe County. Open year round - December - March (call for hours). Admission price is used to care for the animals. Guided tours and special rates are available.

Mystery Hill - Scenic optical illusions and natural phenomena. Located on Hwy. 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock. Open all year. Summer - Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Winter - Monday-Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. 828-264-2792

Tweetsie Railroad - Wild West theme park, authentic steam engine train ride, fair rides, petting zoo and shows. Located between Boone & Blowing Rock on Hwy. 321. 800-526-5740

Waterfalls:

Buck Mountain Falls - 60 feet, close to the cabin, Staghorn Road, on the way to the community pavilion.

Cascade Falls - Great waterfall close to the cabin. A series of three cascading falls, 30 to 40 feet in height, at EB Jefferies Park, MP 272 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Self-guided nature trail of one-mile round trip leads from a picnic area.

Linville Falls - A series of two falls, upper at 12 feet and lower at 90 feet, plunge into the 2,000 foot deep Linville Gorge. Parking area at MP 316 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. A one-mile round trip hike leads to the Falls.

Elk River Falls - 85 feet, about 2 miles north of Elk Park on a secondary road. Also can hike in from SR 1308 near Heaton on NC 194 between Elk Park and Banner Elk

Laurel Creek Falls - 85 feet, just past Cove Creek/Sugar Grove on US 321 at Laurel Creek Road before Cove Creek joins the Watauga River. Can hike to it from US 321.

Boone Fork Trail Falls - 25 feet, on Boone Fork Trail leading from the picnic area at Julian Price Park, MP 295 on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Blowing Rock.

Glen Burney Falls - 75 feet, in John's River Gorge off the Globe Road below Blowing Rock.

Wineries & Cheeses:

Ashe County Cheese, Inc. - North Carolina's only cheese factory, free tour, founded in 1930; open daily 8:30 - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Saturday, located in W. Jefferson, NC. 336-246-2501.

Brushy Mountain Winery (~45 miles) - 125 W. Main Street, Elkin - 336.835.1313 - Opened October 2006

Buck Shoals Vineyards (~40 miles) - 6121 Vintner Way, Hamptonville - 336.468.9274 - (A Swan Creek Wine Trail Vineyard)

Cerminaro Vineyard (~25 miles) - 4399 Wilkesboro Blvd, Boomer (10 mi S of Wilkesboro) - 828.754.9306

Chateau Laurinda (~50 miles) - 690 Reeves Ridge Road, Sparta (20 mi NE of Elkin-Jonesville) - 336.372.2562

Elkin Creek Vineyard (~30 miles) - 318 Elkin Creek Mill Rd., Elkin, NC 28621 - 336-244-2190

Grassy Creek Vineyard (~50 miles) - off Klondike Road, State Road (Surry County) - 336.835.2458 - Opened August 2006

Hanover Park Vineyard (~45 miles) - 1927 Courtney-Huntsville Road, Yadkinville - 336.463.2875

Laurel Gray Vineyards (~40 miles) - 5726 Old Hwy 421, Hamptonville - 336.468.8463 - (A Swan Creek Wine Trail Vineyard)

Raffaldini Vineyards & Winery (~30 miles) - 450 Groce Road, Ronda - 336.835.9463 - (A Swan Creek Wine Trail Vineyard)

RagApple Lassie (~50 miles) - NC Hwy 67 at Rockford Rd, Boonville - 336.367.6000

Windy Gap Vineyards (~25 miles) - 837 Perdue Farm Road, Ronda - 336.984.3926 - (A Swan Creek Wine Trail Vineyard)