



LOCAL INFORMATION & AREA ATTRACTIONS

Brevard, NC

Brevard is known as The Land of Waterfalls where more than 250 waterfalls are a part of the local mountain terrain. Along with outdoor adventures like hiking, horseback riding, fly fishing and more, the town is an art-lover's haven with art galleries, studios and craftsmen's work on display. There is shopping, dining and special events throughout the year.

Asheville, NC

This thriving mountain city features a funky and eclectic [downtown](#), 30-plus [art galleries](#) downtown alone, a burgeoning [culinary scene](#), a thriving live music scene and, the beautiful scenery of the Appalachian Mountains. Asheville also offers a wide diversity of [outdoor adventures](#).

Biltmore

The Biltmore House is the 8000-acre estate of George Vanderbilt. Mr. Vanderbilt created Biltmore as an escape from everyday life. Now, his descendants invite you to enjoy his legacy of hospitality. Your admission includes self-guided tours of the breathtaking [Biltmore House & Gardens](#) and the new [Antler Hill Village](#)—featuring the [Winery](#), [The Biltmore Legacy](#), [Village Green](#), and [Farm](#). You can enjoy an array of [outdoor activities](#), indulge in one-of-a-kind [shopping](#), and savor the [restaurants'](#) exceptional fare.

Gorges State Park

Plunging waterfalls, rugged river gorges, sheer rock walls and one of the greatest concentrations of rare and unique species in the eastern United States are found within Gorges State Park. An elevation that rises 2,000 feet in only four miles, combined with rainfall in excess of 80 inches per year, creates a temperate rain forest and supports a collection of waterfalls. About 1 mile from Buc Outdoor Center. Upper Bearwallow Falls and Bearwallow Over Look Trails area closed. Grassy Ridge Trailhead and trails to the Horsepasture River Area are open.

Address: NC 281 South, P.O. Box 100, Sapphire, NC 28774-0100
Phone: (828) 966-9099; www.ncparks.gov

The Horsepasture River

The Horsepasture River has a nice series of falls all in a short 1.5 mile stretch. The entire river is filled with rocks and cascades and is quite interesting. The Horsepasture River can be accessed from Gorges State Park which is located off NC-281 between US-64 and the SC border. The river is actually outside the park. Be sure you are correctly parked before you head off to explore. The trail is rough, rocky and steep at points. If you head right (upstream), you will reach Drift Falls. If you head left (downstream), you will reach Turtleback Falls, Rainbow Falls, and Stairway Falls.

www.ncwaterfalls.com/horse1.htm

WhiteWater Equestrian Center

Guided trail rides and gem mining will add flair to your visit to the mountains of North Carolina at the Equestrian Center located on NC Highway 281 South just a mile from the Buc Outdoor Center.

Address: 6420 Whitewater Road, Sapphire, NC 28774

Phone: 828 966-9646; www.funhorsebackriding.com

Whitewater Falls

Upper Whitewater Falls in North Carolina is the highest waterfall east of the Rockies. The falls plunge an amazing 411 feet! South Carolina's Lower Whitewater Falls drops another 400 feet. Because of the escarpment's difficult access and rugged terrain, much of the area receives few visitors and has remained wild and undeveloped over the years. In the cool, moist shade of steep slopes and rock cliffs, wildflowers and salamanders abound. This wild land is also a perfect haven for a rich array of ferns, mosses, and fungi. Enjoy the beauty of berries and blooms throughout the seasons. And it is just 4 miles from the Buc Outdoor Center on NC Highway 281 South.

<http://www.ncwaterfalls.com/white1.htm>

Signal Ridge Marina

Boat rentals on Glenville Lake with a Ships Store loaded with bait, fishing tackle, water skies, wake boards, tubes, knee boards, boating accessories, trailer supplies, jackets, T-shirts, sweat shirts, and much more. Renting Pontoons and Tritons from March through October each year, they are located on Hwy 107 about 5 miles north of Cashiers, NC

Address: Highway 107 South, Glenville, NC 28736

Phone: 828-743-2143; www.signalridgemarina.com

Hiking with Tony

If you would like to hike with a group then join Toxaway Tony on Friday mornings at 8:45 meet at Amore Café.

Address: Highway 64, Lake Toxaway, NC

Phone: 828-966-4260-ext 250; <http://toxawaytony.com/hikingpage2009.html>

Gem Mining at the Log Cabin

Fun for the whole family. Find sapphires, rubies and many other gem stones! No experience needed, equipment provided and they've made it easy to identify all the different gems you find!

Address: Highway 281 S, Sapphire, NC 28774
Phone: 828-966-4273

Sapphire National Golf Club

This 18 hole golf course with its scenic mountain views and surrounding lush forests, is truly breathtaking. And the Sapphire Mountain Brewing Company offers over 80 Micros, Imports/Belgiums and Domestic beers and wines piping hot Wood-Fired Pizza cooked in an 1800's Saloon setting. Enjoy a full menu including rustic pub and casual food, chef specials and daily specials while viewing the many TVs throughout the restaurant.

Located just off Highway 64 between the Buc Outdoor Center and Cashiers.

Address: 50 Slicers Avenue, Sapphire, NC 28774

Phone: 828-743-1174; www.sapphirenational.com

Red Bird Golf Links

The 9-hole "Red Bird" course at the Red Bird Golf Links facility in Sapphire, North Carolina features all the hallmarks of North Carolina golf. Designed by Reid Horne, the Red Bird golf course opened in 2001. It also has a driving range. Three miles from the center of Cashiers.

Address: 67 Cherokee Trail, Sapphire, NC 28774

Phone: 828-743-1991; www.yellowbook.com/profile/red-bird-golf-links

High Hampton Golf Course

The 18-hole "High Hampton" course at the High Hampton Inn & Country Club facility in Cashiers, North Carolina features 6,012 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 71. Designed by George W. Cobb, ASGCA, the High [Hampton](#) Golf Course opened in 1956. One mile from the center of Cashiers.

Address: 1525 Highway 107 S, Cashiers, NC 28717

Phone: 800-334-2551; <http://www.highhamptoninn.com/golf.aspx>

Ski Sapphire

The Sapphire Valley Ski slopes consist of two runs, one each for intermediate and beginner skiers, featuring runs up to 1600 feet in length and a vertical drop of 200 feet. Beginners receive the personal attention necessary to master the basics of downhill skiing or snowboarding, and seasoned veterans can hone their skills.

Address: 4350 Hwy 64 West, Sapphire, NC 28774

Phone: 828-743-7663; www.skisapphire.com

Headwater Outfitters

Headwaters Outfitters offers canoeing, kayaking and tubing river trips on the beautiful French Broad River in Western North Carolina. Their fly fishing program offers guided fly fishing trips in Western NC on the French Broad River or the Davidson River, near Brevard, Highlands and Cashiers! Licensed NC fly fishing guides can teach you to cast, lead you on a guided fly fishing trip for trout or smallmouth, or help you choose flies that will increase your success.

Address: PO Box 1057, Rosman, NC 28772

Phone: 828-877-3106; www.headwatersoutfitters.com

Western NC Fly Fishing Trail

A map and guide of 15 prime fishing stops along the trail in western North Carolina.

Phone: 1-800-962-1911; <http://flyfishingtrail.com/>

Nantahala Outdoor Center

Since 1972, Nantahala Outdoor Center has shared the outdoors with millions of guests on white water river rafting trips, with all varieties of kayak and canoe instruction. When visiting the Nantahala headquarters, you'll find a complete outdoor destination with lodging options, three restaurants, a pub, a fully-stocked Outfitter's Store, the Wesser General Store and Fly Shop and the Nantahala Welcome Center. Make them your destination for rafting adventures and more!

Address: 13077 Highway 19 W, Bryson City, NC 28713

Phone: 888-905-7238; 1-800-232-7238; www.noc.com

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad

With 53 miles of track, 2 tunnels and 25 bridges, the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad offers a variety of excursions that explore the amazing landscape of Western North Carolina. With the romance and mystique of an era gone by, guests on-board the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad will enjoy scenic train journeys across fertile valleys and through river gorges in a spectacular region near The Great Smoky Mountains.

Address: Bryson City, NC 28713

Phone: 1-800-872-4681; www.gsmr.com

Cradle of Forestry

Spanning over 100 years of forest conservation history, the Cradle of Forestry offers a snap shot of life at America's first school of Forestry along the Biltmore Campus Trail. You can also take a picturesque walk along the Forest Festival Trail complete with a restored 1915 logging locomotive, or take a ride with firefighters aboard a helicopter on their way to a roaring fire in the wilds of Idaho in the Forest Discovery Center Exhibit Hall. Come explore the sights and sounds, check out the events and activities, and plan your adventure at the birthplace of Forest Conservation in America – the Cradle of Forestry

Address: US 276 in Pisgah National Forest in Transylvania County

Phone: 828-877-3130; www.cradleofforestry.com

Cherokee, North Carolina

Cherokee offers a variety of interesting and fun attractions for visitors of all ages. There are many things to do - attend the breathtaking outdoor Mountainside Theatre for a performance of "Unto These Hills," visit the Museum, buy a handmade piece of history at the arts and crafts cooperative Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc., experience a working Village with blowgun demonstrations, mask carvings and more. Beyond the cultural attractions, you can experience the warmth of the Cherokee people by coming for the many events and festivals throughout the year.

And the landscape of Cherokee presents lots of options for spending time outdoors. Fish for trout, swim at Islands Park, bring your softball league to play at the new John Crowe Recreation Complex or spend your time hiking, biking, tubing, kayaking, camping and bird watching. nestled in just the right spot.

Address: Cherokee Visitor's Center, 498 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, NC 28719

Phone: 1-800-438-1601; www.cherokee-nc.com

Foothills Trail Conference

Whether you are looking for a long-distance backpacking trip or an exciting day-hike, the Foothills Trail offers an extraordinary opportunity to explore the Southern Appalachians. About 77 miles in length, the Foothills Trail is located along the Blue Ridge Escarpment in Upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina. The landscape is diverse, ranging from high rocky outcrops with views to the distant horizon, to quiet forests in deep valleys carved by bold mountain streams. Elevations along the trail range from 1,120 feet at Table Rock State Park to 3,560 feet atop Sassafras Mountain.

The [Eastatoee Creek Heritage Preserve](#) is a 375-acre preserve noted for its unique abundant wildflowers such as jack-in-the-pulpit and the rare and beautiful Oconee Bell, found naturally only in the river gorges along the Foothills Trail. Populations of black bear, bobcat, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, turkey, and grouse, along with a great diversity of amphibians and reptiles inhabit this area.

The [Chattooga River](#) designated by Congress in 1974 as a Wild and Scenic River.

Address: PO Box 3041, Greenville SC 29602

Phone: 864-467-9537; info@foothillstrail.org; <http://www.foothillstrail.org/index.php>