



# Blowing Rock

NORTH CAROLINA



At the Blowing Rock

Located directly on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Blowing Rock is a small town with a big, wild backyard. The quaint village is laden with more shopping, dining, arts & entertainment, and lodging options than you'd ever expect. Unspoiled surroundings offer everything from fishing & stargazing to hiking & climbing. Come play!

**Helene Update:** The mountains are open! NC High Country towns have bounced back and are excited to welcome visitors for adventure and relaxation. The Blue Ridge Parkway is open to driving and exploration in the Blowing Rock area, from Bamboo Gap in Boone to Grandfather Mountain. Regional trails are open and all attractions are operating!

..... **2025 New & Coming Soon in Blowing Rock** .....

- **Ben Long Frescoes:** Blowing Rock is the new home of two frescoes by renowned artist, Ben Long. One is a depiction of the 23rd Psalm while the other depicts The Good Shepherd. Rescued from obscurity and near-destruction in their previous home, they were brought to Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church on Main Street. With this move, all of Ben Long's domestic frescoes are now in North Carolina. Public viewings are available on weekends with free docent tours. Private tours are available by reservation.
- **Blowing Rock Food & Wine Tours:** A new three-hour walking tour of downtown Blowing Rock, exploring local food, wine, art, & history! Guide Joanna is a foodie with a passion for Blowing Rock! Features include work by Elliott Daingerfield and food & drink at favorite spots like Bistro Roca, Blowing Rock Ale House, and Hellbender Bed & Beverage
- **Daingerfield's** is now open at Westglow Resort & Spa, offering fine dining from talented chef, Micheal Armes. The dining room is also a gallery of Elliott Daingerfield's ethereal work.
- **Embers Hotel**, a 36-room, full-service boutique hotel and restaurant, is now open in downtown Blowing Rock. With an excellent menu and bar program, the restaurant is already a local favorite.
- **Amenities Pass at Chetola Resort:** Blowing Rock's premier resort is now offering day passes for their amenities. Through ResortPass, visitors may purchase access to the indoor pool and sauna, water sports equipment on the lake, tennis & pickleball courts, fitness room, and more- even if they are staying at a different local hotel.
- **Middle Fork Greenway:** A beautiful section of about 2 miles is open from a new trailhead on Highway 321 to Sterling Creek Park, flowing past Tweetsie Railroad and Mystery Hill attractions. The Middle Fork Greenway will connect Blowing Rock to Boone with a pedestrian path along the river.
- **Green Park Inn Restoration:** Blowing Rock's grand Green Park Inn is being restored to its original glory. Work has begun with the demolition of the modern wings, which were added decades after the main structure. After thorough assessments, meticulous restoration will begin on the historic building.
- **New Hotel on Sunset Drive:** A new boutique hotel is under construction on Sunset Drive in downtown Blowing Rock. This is a local venture by the same family that built and operates The Manor and The Getaway, also in downtown Blowing Rock. Projected opening is late summer 2025.

..... **Story Ideas** .....

**Sustainability & NC Trail Towns: History walks to mountain hikes**

Blowing Rock is among the inaugural set of destinations in the [Outdoor NC Trail Town Stewardship Designation program](#). NC Trail Towns are dedicated to preserving the natural beauty and cultural heritage of their destination while fostering a strong sense of place. The Blowing Rock area is home to an incredible variety of trails, including those for **hiking, horseback riding, cycling, cultural walks, mountain biking, greenways, and waterfall viewing**. Stewardship is key, and local guides are naturally part of the effort. Becca Nenow of [The Speckled Trout Outfitters](#) joined the Outdoor NC Guide Summit to become a **certified Leave No Trace Instructor**. Becca was excited to meet other guides from across NC, and experience teaching scenarios to build confidence in passing along valuable Leave No Trace practices.

**Unique Places to Stay**

[Blowing Rock Brewing](#) has **inn rooms at their brewery** & restaurant in downtown Blowing Rock. [Meadowbrook Inn](#) has two suites that include a **private pool!** [Montainaire Inn](#) offers little **log cabins** tucked in a garden, right on Main Street. The top-floor **Treehouse Suite at the Inn at Ragged Gardens** features multiple skylights, bark siding along the walls, a **bathroom fireplace**, and a private balcony with a view of the grounds. *All of these are downtown, easy walking distance of shopping & dining.*

**Magical Experiences: Tweetsie Railroad and Holidays**

Tweetsie Railroad has been welcoming Halloween-lovers to **Tweetsie Ghost Train** for decades. During the fall season, the park becomes a spooky and exciting land of surprises and frights after dark. **Tweetsie Christmas** launched in 2022 to immediate success, selling out in its very first year and continuing to do so each holiday season. From Thanksgiving to Christmas, the park is open nights only, with festive lights illuminating a winter wonderland.

**Summer of Arts**

From the kickoff of the [Art in the Park](#) shows in May to the [Artists in Residence](#) series that runs daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day, summer is full of art and culture in Blowing Rock. Additional annual events include the [Woodfired Pottery Kiln Opening](#), [Symphony by the Lake](#), **Women's Art Show**, [Plein Air Festival](#) & Wet Paint Sale, and the [ARS POETICA Exhibition](#). Ongoing activities abound, too, like the [Blowing Rock History Walk](#), the [Blowing Rock Art & Sculpture Trail](#) (with the new Ben Long Frescoes), July's [Monday Night Concert Series](#), [Music on the Lawn](#), ever-changing exhibitions at the [Blowing Rock Art & History Museum](#), & more. All in a spot full of dining, shopping, lodging, and small-town charm!

*Good to Know*

**Annual Special Events:**

- Trout Derby: May 3
- Art in the Park: May 17, Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 16, Sept 6, Oct 4
- Artists in Residence: Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Charity Horse Show: Jun 6-9, Jul 22 - Aug 3
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival: Jul 5
- Symphony by the Lake: Jul 25
- Tour of Homes: Jul 25
- Women's Art Show: Jul 30 - Aug 2
- Plein Air Festival: Aug 19-23
- Tweetsie Ghost Train: Sept 19 – Nov 1
- Halloween Festival: Oct 25
- Christmas in the Park: Nov 28
- Tweetsie Christmas: Nov 29 – Dec
- Holiday Stroll: Dec 12
- WinterFest: Jan 22-25

**Local Attractions:**

- Blue Ridge Parkway
- Tweetsie Railroad
- The Blowing Rock
- Blowing Rock Art & History Museum
- High Gravity Adventures
- Sky Valley Zip Tours
- Blowing Rock Trail Rides
- Blowing Rock History Walk
- Mystery Hill
- Doc's Rocks
- Appalachian Ski Mountain
- Moses Cone Mansion (Flat Top)
- Grandfather Mountain
- Hawksnest Snow Tubing
- Westglow Spa
- & More

**Adventure Here!**

- Hiking, Fly Fishing, Skiing, Horseback Riding, Cycling, Ziplining, Rock Climbing, Mountain Biking, Rafting, Camping, Canoeing, Snowboarding, River & Snow Tubing...



Bolick & Traditions Pottery



Food & Wine Tours



*Blowing Rock*