



Blowing Rock

NORTH CAROLINA

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!

At the Blowing Rock

Blue Ridge Parkway Update: The final phase of work is underway to repair over 75 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway. This work will require closures near Blowing Rock, but they will be staggered in a way that **maintains continuous access** to popular Parkway attractions and trailheads. Complete in fall 2026.

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

- **Recent accolades** for Blowing Rock include: One of the [South's Best Small Towns](#) in Southern Living's 2026 South's Best Awards, Named [Best Main Street](#) in Blue Ridge Outdoors' 2026 Best of the Blue Ridge Awards, Named [NC's Finest Downtown](#) in Carolina Country's 2025 Carolina's Finest Awards.
- [Embers Hotel](#) is one of the [South's Best New Hotels](#) in Southern Living's 2026 South's Best Awards.
- [Chetola Resort](#) named among [USA Today's 10 Best Fishing Lodges](#) in June 2025
- [Bistro Roca @ Hellbender Bed & Bev](#) is a collaboration to keep a local favorite restaurant alive. Bistro Roca suffered a tragic fire in January 2026. A rebuild and 2027 reopening is planned. In the meantime, diners can get their Roca fix at sister restaurant Hellbender.
- [Bubba's](#), a new gas & grill diner, was opened by a father and son with 3rd and 4th generation Blowing Rock roots. Built for locals, it's already a contender for best burger in the High Country, according to many. This same family brought the area the sweet staple Blue Deer Cookies.
- [The Windmoor Hotel](#) is now open on Sunset Drive in downtown Blowing Rock. A local venture by the same family that built and operates The Manor and The Getaway in town. Features upscale king and queen bedrooms and suites, ideal for couples getaways and steps from shopping and dining.
- [Blowing Rock Food & Wine Tours](#): A three-hour walking tour of downtown Blowing Rock, exploring local food, wine, art, & history! Features include work by Elliott Daingerfield and food & drink at favorite spots.
- [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.
- [Ben Long Frescoes](#): Blowing Rock is home to two frescoes by renowned artist, Ben Long. Rescued from obscurity and near-destruction in their previous home, they were brought to Ruple Memorial Presbyterian Church on Main Street. With this move, all of Ben Long's domestic frescoes are now in North Carolina. Public viewings available on weekends with free docent tours. Private tours are available by reservation.
- [Middle Fork Greenway](#): A section of about 2 miles is open, flowing past Tweetsie Railroad and Mystery Hill attractions, with a **stunning new culvert mural by a local artist**. The Middle Fork Greenway will connect Blowing Rock to Boone with a pedestrian and cycling path along the river.
- **Green Park Inn Restoration:** Blowing Rock's grand Green Park Inn is being restored to its original glory. Work began with careful demolition and some new construction is already in progress.

..... **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: [Meadowbrook Inn](#) has two suites that include a private pool! [Mountainaire 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 room 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 Ghost Train & Christmas

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.

Holiday Glow Time: A whole month of winter celebration

From Thanksgiving to the New Year, Blowing Rock transforms into a festive, glowing holiday village! The twinkling lights and heartfelt welcome warm the spirit as folks join in Christmas events, holiday celebrations, and seasonal activities. **Feature events include:** [Christmas in the Park & Lighting of the Town](#), [Blowing Rock Christmas Parade](#), [The Holiday Stroll](#), New Year's Eve Fireworks at [App Ski Mountain](#), [WYN's Festival of Trees](#), the annual [Wood Kiln Opening at Traditions Pottery Studio](#), and the local [Holiday Market at Mustard Seed](#). **Ongoing seasonal activities include:** the [Festival of Lights](#) at Chetola Resort, [Tweetsie Christmas](#), [Crazy Christmas](#) at Mystery Hill, [Choose & Cut Christmas Trees](#), Saturdays with Santa at [the Blowing Rock](#), & [Winter Sports & Snow Tubing](#) at local slopes.



Holiday Glow Time in Blowing Rock



Food & Wine Tours

Good to Know

Annual Special Events, 2026 dates:

- WinterFest: Late January
- Trout Derby: May 2
- Art in the Park: One show each month, May-Oct
- Artists in Residence: Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Charity Horse Show: Jun 4-7, Jul 21 - Aug 2
- Wood-fired Kiln Opening: June 27
- July 4th Festival: Jul 4
- Symphony by the Lake: July 17
- Tour of Homes: July 24
- Plein Air Festival: Sept 16-19
- Tweetsie Ghost Train: Sept 25 – Oct 31
- Halloween Festival: Oct 31
- Christmas in the Park: Nov 27
- Tweetsie Christmas: Nov 27 – Dec
- Holiday Stroll: Dec 11

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...



Blowing Rock