



Boone and Blowing Rock, NC

Boone and Blowing Rock, North Carolina have it all. Located in Western, North Carolina, these cities have a rich history, and have developed many attractions for visitors of all ages. In both counties, you may enjoy the quiet tranquility of the mountains or stay active with attractions such as theme parks, theatres and outdoor adventures.

Boone:

Located just 55 miles West of Johnson City, Tennessee and Boone, North Carolina, is the “Heart of the High Country,” a bustling university town with a variety of arts, entertainment and shopping, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 2005, Boone was named by travel journalists as being one of the four top ultimate outdoor adventure destinations by Adventure Sports Magazine. Between biking, mountain biking, kayaking, camping and any number of other great adventures, there is never an excuse for not finding something to do in Boone.

- **Tweetsie Railroad Theme Park:** A Wild West theme park complete with a 3-mile long train ride on an authentic steam engine named Tweetsie, the park offers live entertainment, crafts, rides, a gold panning site, a deer park and shopping. Tweetsie’s history dates back to 1866 when a railroad was granted for East Tennessee and Western North Carolina. After much trial and tribulation, Tweetsie Railroad became North Carolina’s newest attraction in 1957. Now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Tweetsie’s Theme Park continues to delight visitors of all ages.
- **Blowing Rock:** Created by weathering and erosion millions of years ago, Blowing Rock is said to be North Carolina’s oldest travel attraction, Blowing Rock’s 4,000-foot cliff, which overhangs John River Gorge, has been attracting attention since 1933, bringing in world-wide visitors through scenic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The rocky walls of the gorge forms a flume through which the northwest wind sweeps with a great force, this is why the gorge is called Blowing Rock.
- **Linville Caverns:** A treasure to be discovered, the Linville Caverns are located deep in Linville Valley, at the base of Humpback Mountain. The caverns offer many spectacular, naturally formed sights not to be missed. The caverns offer bottomless depths of underground pools, streams filled with trout, sleeping bats, and naturally designed shapes, textures and colors. Linville Caverns are the only publicly accessible caverns in the state of North Carolina offering guided tours after being open since 1939.

- **Horn in the West:** Take a step back in the past with an outdoor theatre presentation, sure to be the highlight of a family vacation. Since its' premiere in 1952, the act has become the nation's oldest Revolutionary War drama. The presentation brings to life the story of Daniel Boone, as well as the other frontiersmen who first settled in the Blue Ridge Mountain area seeking freedom and escape from British tyranny.
- **Grandfather Mountain:** Hike along any one of the mountain's 11 trails and take a step onto the Mile High Swinging Bridge, originally built to give visitors a way to access the 360-degree views from the mountain's peak. The 228-foot suspension bridge stands more than one mile in the air and crosses an 80-foot gorge. The area is home to seven different wildlife environmental habitats of animals, including black bears, bald eagles and cougars. These habitats differ from zoo-like environments as they allow visitors to engage more with the animals in their own natural environments.
- **Other Attractions:** Whitewater rafting and canoeing, rock climbing, snow skiing and snowboarding, hiking, caving, kayaking, fly fishing and shopping in a number of arts and crafts and antique shops.

Blowing Rock:

Located just 60 miles Southwest of Johnson City, TN, Blowing Rock, NC falls off the Blue Ridge Parkway into a picturesque village filled with upscale boutiques, unique attractions, performing arts and lots of outdoor adventure.

- **Blowing Rock Stage Company:** Located in the Mariam & Robert Hayes Performing Arts Center, this stage company produces a full season of musicals, comedies, mysteries and dramas and has been entertaining Blowing Rock visitors and locals since 1986.
- **Blowing Rock Equestrian Preserve:** Home to the Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show, America's oldest continuous running horse show, the preserve offers access to 26 miles of trails year-round. Located less than a mile from downtown Blowing Rock, the Blowing Rock facility contains 17 barns, a grandstand arena, a schooling arena, 45 campsite hook-ups with power and water for all visitors to enjoy.
- **High Mountain Expeditions:** Located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains High Mountain Expeditions offers adventure trips for all ages and abilities. The high country of Western North Carolina is one of the most geologically diverse regions in North America, this gives visitors the opportunity to experience a variety of outdoor activities such as rafting, hiking, mountain biking, and white-water rafting. High Mountain Expeditions tour three main whitewater rivers, Nolichucky, Watauga, and Wilson's Creek. Each whitewater trip will take you through fast moving water from class one rapids to class four rapids. Each adventure will show its guests beautiful scenery and wildlife along the way.

- **Mystery Hill:** Come explore science, optical illusion and natural phenomenon at Mystery Hill. Tours include the Hall of Mystery, Puzzle Room, Bubble-Rama and the infamous Mystery House, where stronger than average pull to the North defies basic laws of physics as guests can stand at a 45-degree angle and watch a ball roll up hill.

- **Pisgah National Forest:** The 192,000-acre Grandfather District of Pisgah National Forest stretches from near Black Mountain, along the east side of the Blue Ridge Parkway, to just south of Blowing Rock. Hiking trails, various recreation activities, camping, wildlife habitats and spectacular views encompass the Forest.

For more information, please visit www.visitboone.com, or www.blowingrock.com