



## Asheville, NC

Located just 60 miles from Johnson City, Asheville is a destination for thriving art, outdoor adventures and landscapes, historic and architectural attractions, fine dining and unique shopping, bringing visitors year-round opportunities for the entire family to enjoy. Frommer's, the highly popular travel guide series, named Asheville, NC as one of the top twelve world travel destinations in 2007 because of its art-filled culture, music scene, historic sites and excellent outdoor adventure opportunities. Once a frontier town, today, Asheville blends big city amenities with small town historical heritage.

- **Biltmore Estate and Grounds:** The Biltmore Estate, a 175,000 square foot home made up of 250 rooms, a bowling alley and a swimming pool, is the nation's largest private residence, built in the 1890s by George W. Vanderbilt. The 8,000 acres that make up the grounds of the Estate are also home to beautiful gardens, a Farm Village and winery. Visitors can browse through the Estate's gardens, shop in the historic Biltmore village or enjoy a glass of wine from the award-winning Biltmore winery.
- **Basilica of St. Lawrence:** Completed in 1909, this Catholic Church was designed by Rafael Gustavino and Richard Sharpe Smith, the renowned architects of the Biltmore House. The church also encompasses the largest freestanding elliptical dome in the country.
- **Smith-McDowell House-Museum:** Take a tour of Asheville's oldest house, built in 1840 on a plantation South of Asheville. Also found on the grounds of this home is the Buncombe County Civil War Memorial, honoring soldiers who served in both the Confederate and Union militaries.
- **Shopping:** Grove Arcade, located in downtown Asheville, is one of Western North Carolina's most historic buildings and is home to local craft vendors, fresh food markets and a variety of restaurants representing the distinct mountain heritage of the area. The historic Biltmore Village also includes more than 40 shops, galleries and restaurants to choose from.
- **Asheville Tourists:** After a day of site seeing, stop being a tourist and go out to watch the real Asheville Tourists, a single-A minor league baseball team affiliated with the Colorado Rockies, named by USA Today as one of the most historic ballpark's in the

nation. The Tourists, members of the South Atlantic League, play home games at McCormick Field, which was built in 1924. The Tourists' season runs from April to September.

**For more information, please visit [www.exploreashville.com](http://www.exploreashville.com).**