

NORTH CAROLINA *Byways*

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FIFTH EDITION

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SCENIC BYWAYS
FIFTH EDITION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation Scenic Byways Program identifies and highlights scenic roads with unusual, exceptional, or unique intrinsic qualities for public viewing and enjoyment.

Education Tourism Preservation Sustainability

This book has been designed to be used in conjunction with the N.C. State Transportation Map. Copies are free of charge and may be requested by calling 800-VISITNC or by visiting www.VisitNC.com. Copies are also available at welcome centers and rest areas across the state.

This booklet was prepared by the NC Department of Transportation's Roadside Environmental Unit and Design Workshop. Photos provided by NCDOT and Design Workshop unless otherwise credited. Printing and development of this booklet was made possible by a Scenic Byways Grant from the Federal Highway Administration. North Carolina Byways is furnished free of charge and is not to be sold or used for promotional, commercial, or political purposes.

2021



Introduction

The N.C. Department of Transportation has designated 62 scenic byways to give visitors and residents a chance to experience North Carolina's history, geography, and culture, while also raising awareness for the protection and preservation of these treasures. Byways are carefully selected to portray the diverse beauty and culture of the Tar Heel State and provide travelers with safe and interesting alternate travel routes. These byways are intended as an alternative to the faster-paced traffic and commercial areas found along our state's major highways and interstates. Following the byways, motorists will see some of North Carolina's most breathtaking scenery, from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the fertile plains of the Piedmont to the crystal blue shores of the coast.

The routes are clearly marked with N.C. Scenic Byways signs (shown below). Please follow the maps and route descriptions carefully and understand that *the maps on each byway page are not to scale and are given as a general guide only*. For this reason, an N.C. State Transportation Map is recommended for use in conjunction with the maps and directions in this book. Portions of some routes are not suitable for various types of vehicles. Notes have been created in the text to draw attention to these restrictions. Alternate routes are noted when available. A few routes may be briefly interrupted by commercial or municipal areas. In such cases, the scenic byway may temporarily end, but directions are given to help drivers resume the route. Please allow extra time to visit some of the specific sites referenced in the byway descriptions. N.C. Scenic Byways vary in length from 1.5 to 170 miles and in character from curvy mountain roads to ferry rides across coastal sounds. If following the byways in reverse order from the descriptions given, please keep in mind that the directions will be used in reverse order as well.

ENJOY EXPLORING NORTH CAROLINA'S LESS TRAVELED ROADS.

NCDOT - Scenic Byways Program
1557 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1577

Visit our Web site at www.ncdot.gov/scenic



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT	1	Little Parkway	92
NCDOT Programs	4	New River Valley Byway	96
Rules of the Road	6	US 421 Scenic Highway	100
Cultural Resources	9	Big Horse Creek Byway	102
Scenic Byways State Map	10	Upper Yadkin Way	106
Blue Ridge Parkway	12		
MOUNTAINS	17	PIEDMONT	111
Waterfall Byway	18	Crowders Mountain Drive	112
Cherohala Skyway (NSB)	22	Yadkin Valley Scenic Byway	114
Nantahala Byway	26	The College Town Ride	118
Fontana Byway	30	McAuley Road Scenic Byway	122
Newfound Gap Road Scenic Byway (AAR)	34	Mill Bridge Scenic Byway	124
Whitewater Way	38	Uwharrie Scenic Road	128
Appalachian Medley	42	Sauratown Mountains Scenic Byway	132
Forest Heritage Scenic Byway (NSB)	46	Rolling Kansas Byway	136
French Broad Overview	50	Pee Dee Valley Drive	138
Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway	52	Grassy Island Crossing	142
Interstate 26 Scenic Highway	56	Sandhills Scenic Drive	144
Drover’s Road	60	Flint Hill Ramble	146
Mount Mitchell Scenic Drive	64	Birkhead Wilderness Route	148
Pacolet River Byway	68	Indian Heritage Trail	150
Black Mountain Rag	72	Colonial Heritage Byway	154
Highlands of the Roan	76	Pottery Road	160
South Mountain Scenery	80	Football Road	164
Pisgah Loop	84	Devil’s Tramping Ground Road	168
Mission Crossing	88	East Connecticut Avenue	170
		Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway	174

TABLE OF CONTENTS

North Durham Country Byway	176
Averasboro Battlefield Scenic Byway	180
Clayton Bypass Scenic Highway	182
COASTAL PLAIN	185
Green Swamp Byway	186
Carolina Bay Lakes Byway	190
Lafayette's Tour	194
Blue-Gray Scenic Byway	200
Turkey Creek Byway	204
Tar Heel Trace	206
Brunswick Town Road	210
Cape Fear Historic Byway	214
Airlie Road	218
Pamlico Scenic Byway	220
Edenton-Windsor Loop	224
Perquimans Crossing	228
Alligator River Route	230
Roanoke Voyages Corridor	234
Outer Banks National Scenic Byway (NSB)	236
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
State Parks & Recreation Areas	244
Historic Sites	246
Byway Index	253
Bibliography	254



NCDOT PROGRAMS

Highway Beautification

The NCDOT Wildflower Program creates colorful landscapes along the state's roadsides with flower plantings. The department's 14 highway divisions maintain 1,500 acres of wildflower seedbeds. The program is supported through citizen donations and proceeds from personalized license plates. Visit: www.ncdot.gov/dmv/title-registration/license-plates/Pages/personalized-plates.aspx

Motorists will also travel along thousands of miles of litter-free highways maintained by some 5,000 groups in North Carolina's Adopt-A-Highway Program. The groups pick up about 2 million pounds of litter from 10,000 adopted roadside miles, saving taxpayers nearly \$5 million annually in roadside cleanup costs. Show support for the state's anti-litter efforts by purchasing a "No Litter" license plate through NCDOT's Division of Motor Vehicles. For more information about our highway Litter Management Program, call 1-800-331-5864. Or visit: Apps.ncdot.gov/LM

Aviation

With more than 300 privately owned and 72 publicly owned airports, heliports, and other landing areas, aviation is a vital part of the state's economy. More than 50 million passengers fly to and from North Carolina each year. North Carolina's public airports annually contribute about \$52 billion to the state's economy, supporting 307,000 jobs that generate \$12.6 billion in personal income and \$ 2.2 billion in state and local tax revenues. For more information on aviation in North Carolina, visit: www.ncdot.gov/aviation/

Ferry

The ferry system includes more than 20 ferries that operate 365 days a year on seven routes along the coast. Ferries provide a vital link to many coastal residents and take

visitors to unforgettable attractions such as lighthouses, pristine beaches, world-class fishing, romantic getaways, historic sites, kayaking, windsurfing, and more. Reservations are available on several routes. For more information, call 1-800-BY-FERRY (293-3779). Or visit: www.ncferry.org

Public Transportation

Getting North Carolinians where they want to go is the mission of the state's public transportation systems. Urban, rural, and regional public transit systems provide mobility for citizens without a vehicle and for those who prefer to let someone else do the driving. At work in all 100 counties, public transportation provides access to employment, education, medical services, shopping, and recreational activities. Safe and efficient public transportation means better mobility, continued economic growth, a cleaner environment, and improved quality of life. For more information, visit: www.ncdot.gov/divisions/public-transit/

North Carolina's Amtrak Service

With six passenger trains providing daily service to 16 stations, North Carolina's Amtrak is your connection to Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte, and many towns in between. Local transit is available in most cities along the route. For the best fares, be sure to book early. For train schedules, fares, and ticket information, call 1-800 BY TRAIN (1-800-298-7246). Or visit: www.ncbytrain.org

Bicycle and Pedestrian

North Carolina has an extensive system of more than 3,000 miles of state and regional bicycle routes. These routes connect the state's towns and cities, as well as other points of interest. Call (919) 807-0777 or check the list of available maps at: www.ncdot.gov/divisions/bike-ped/

Governor's Highway Safety Program

NCDOT's Governor's Highway Safety Program oversees initiatives related to highway safety, such as seat belt use, driving while impaired, speeding, and work-zone safety. The office works closely with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, N.C. State Highway Patrol, and numerous other state and local agencies. GHSP is best known for its public awareness campaigns, including "Click It or Ticket" and "Booze It & Lose It." For more information about GHSP and North Carolina's highway safety initiatives, visit: ghsp.nc.gov

Rest Areas

Open 24 hours a day, every day, North Carolina's highway rest areas offer opportunities for convenient, brief stops and provide easy roadside access to public restrooms and drinking water. Most also have vending machines. Visitor centers and welcome centers are open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and offer travel information about that specific interstate corridor. For information about North Carolina's rest areas, including photos, directions, and amenities, visit: www.ncdot.gov/travel/restareas/



RULES OF THE ROAD

Move Over/ Fender Bender Laws

Under the “Move Over” law, motorists are required to move over one lane, if possible, or reduce speed for stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights on the shoulder of the highway, including public service vehicles with amber lights. The “Fender-Bender” law requires motorists to move their vehicles to the shoulder of the road following minor, non-injury crashes. Failure to abide by the “Move Over” law could result in a fine of \$500. Violation of the “Fender-Bender” law could result in \$110 in fines and court costs.

Cell Phone Use

Drivers under 18 are prohibited from using a mobile phone or technology associated with a mobile phone while driving except in emergencies or when talking to a parent or spouse. Violators pay a \$25 fine but receive no driver license points, insurance surcharge or court costs.

Texting

All drivers are prohibited from reading or writing text messages or emails while the vehicle is moving.

Headlights

Motorists must use headlights from sunset to sunrise when light conditions restrict visibility to 400 feet or less; or when using windshield wipers during inclement weather.

Helmets

Helmets are required by law when riding on a motorcycle or moped. Children up to age 16 are required to wear a helmet while riding a bicycle.

Safety Belts and Child Passenger Restraints

All vehicle occupants including those in the back seat are required to wear seat belts. Front seat passengers who violate the law will receive a \$25 fine and back seat passengers will receive a \$10 fine. Children under the age 8 and weighing less than 80 pounds must be secured in a safety seat while riding in a vehicle. Older children must transition to booster seats before graduating to an adult safety belt. Drivers who fail to properly secure their children face \$125 in fines and court costs, as well as a two-point penalty on their driving record. For more information about seat belts and child restraints, visit: www.buckleUpNC.org

Traffic Crashes

Traffic crashes involving death, personal injury, or property damage of \$1,000 or more must be reported to the nearest law enforcement officer or agency. Failure to make this report may result in prosecution or driver license suspension.

Driving While Impaired

Motorists with a blood alcohol concentration at or greater than 0.08 percent are charged with driving while impaired. Minimum punishment is a possible fine of up to \$200 and a possible term of imprisonment ranging from 24 hours to 30 days. Maximum punishment is a possible fine of up to \$4,000 and a possible term of imprisonment ranging from 30 days to two years. A person convicted of DWI will also have his or her license suspended by NCDOT's Division of Motor Vehicles for at least one year.

Work Zone Safety

Everyone plays a role in work zone safety, from professional truck drivers, officers enforcing traffic laws, and everyday motorists to the workers on the roadway. As partners on the highway, NCDOT reminds motorists to drive smart when traveling through the state's work zones. It is important to remember that driving hazards may be present in work zones even if workers are not. As conditions in a work zone can change quickly, it is especially important for motorists to pay attention and reduce speed through these areas. In North Carolina, the penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$250.

Following these work zone safety driving tips can help save lives, including your own:

- Stay alert
- Pay close attention
- Don't tailgate
- Don't speed
- Minimize distractions
- Expect the unexpected
- Don't drink and drive

Travel Information

Motorists can dial "511" for travel information 24 hours a day, seven days a week for an easy-to-use, voice-activated system. The toll-free service is available from landline and cellular phones anywhere in North Carolina. The system may also be accessed by dialing 1-877-511-4662. The 511 service provides information on road construction, major traffic accidents, and weather-related travel. Travel information including road conditions, NCDOT traffic cameras, rail, transit and aviation links, and weather updates are also available online at: www.ncdot.gov/travel-maps/traffic-travel/

Mile Markers

Mile markers are a valuable tool when referencing specific locations on North Carolina's highways. The small green signs with white numbers are located on highway shoulders. Most often, they are located at each mile along the highway, though in some urban areas they are posted every tenth of a mile.

On north-south routes, mile markers begin at 0 at the furthest point south and increase heading north. On east-west routes, mile markers begin at 0 at the farthest point west and increase heading east. Exit numbers also correspond to the nearest mile marker to help motorists judge distance.

NC State Highway Patrol

To contact the N.C. State Highway Patrol while on the road, dial *HP (*47) from any cell phone. For more information, visit: www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/law-enforcement/state-highway-patrol/

Incident Management Assistance Patrol (IMAP)

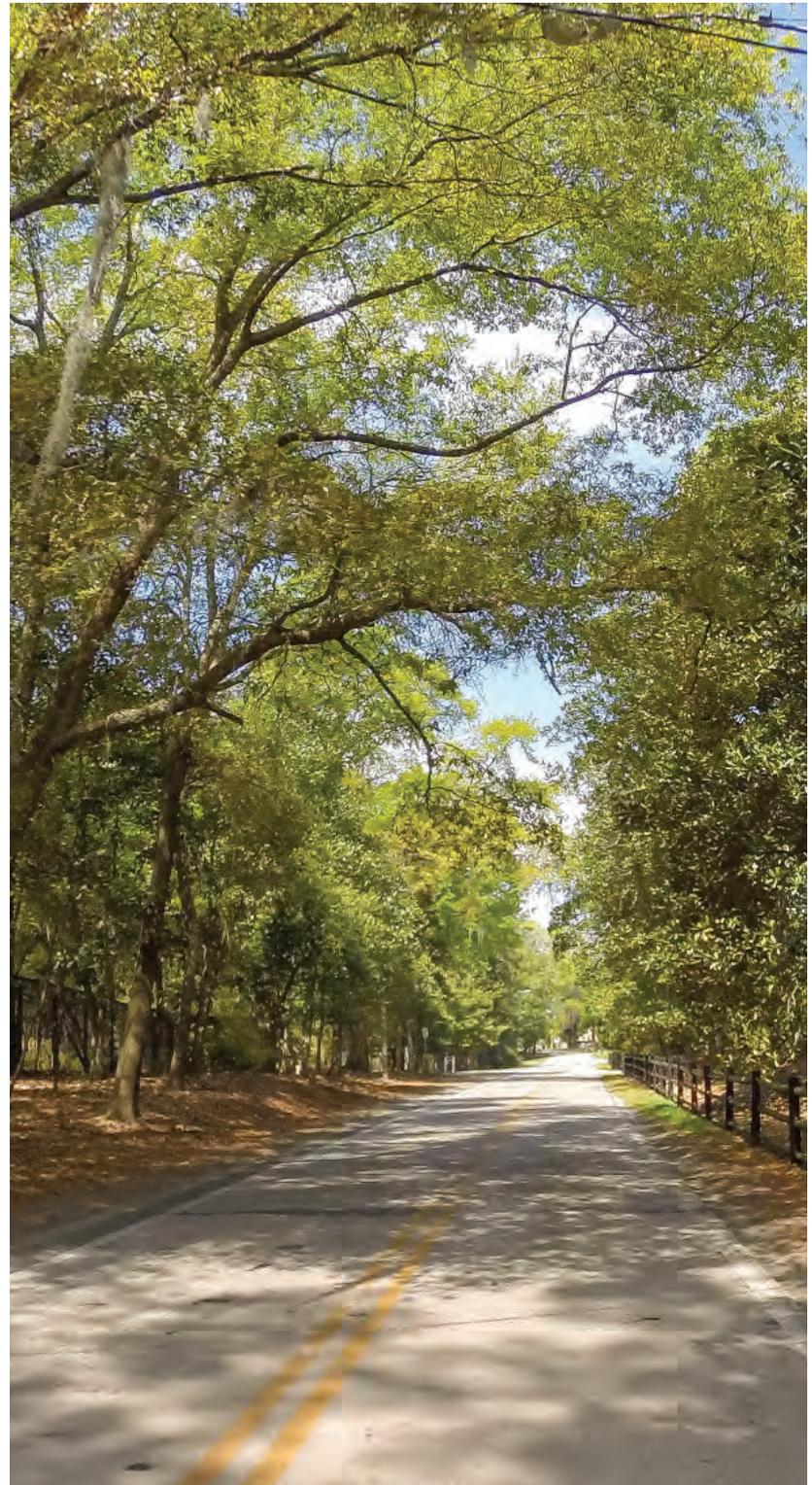
NCDOT sponsors the Incident Management Assistance Patrol, a statewide fleet of 70 trucks that monitor North Carolina's most heavily traveled corridors, assisting stranded motorists and helping clear incidents on the highway. IMAP drivers are trained to respond to a variety of needs such as changing flat tires, providing gasoline, and moving stalled vehicles out of travel lanes. IMAP assists disabled motorists but also provides a greater service to the traveling public by preventing minor incidents from causing major congestion and delays, reducing the chance of secondary crashes.

NC Amber Alert System

The N.C. Amber Alert System is a cooperative effort between law enforcement, criminal justice, transportation, and broadcast agencies. The system enlists the aid of the public to provide information to law enforcement officials that may result in the safe recovery of an abducted or endangered child. When the Amber Alert System is activated, information about the child, abductor and/or the abductor's vehicle can be distributed via radio, television, and electronic highway signs as well as through 511, North Carolina's travel information line. People with information that might help with the recovery of the child are instructed to dial *HP (*47) to reach the State Highway Patrol.

NC Silver Alert System

To help protect an increasing population of individuals that suffer from dementia or other cognitive impairment, North Carolina developed the Silver Alert program to quickly locate missing persons who may be endangered. The Silver Alert program was designed to quickly disseminate descriptive information about the missing adult, so that citizens in the affected area can be on the lookout for the endangered person and notify local law enforcement with any relevant information. The program is a cooperative effort among local and state law enforcement and the NC Center for Missing Persons with voluntary participation by radio and television broadcasters and NCDOT.



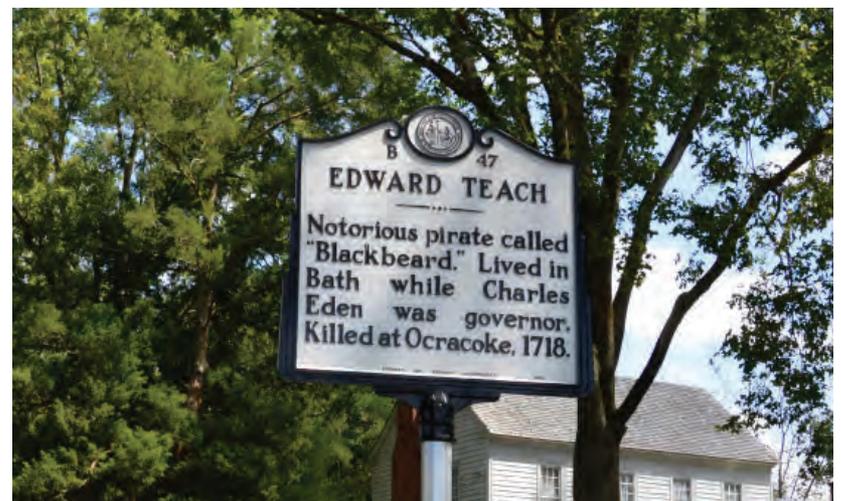
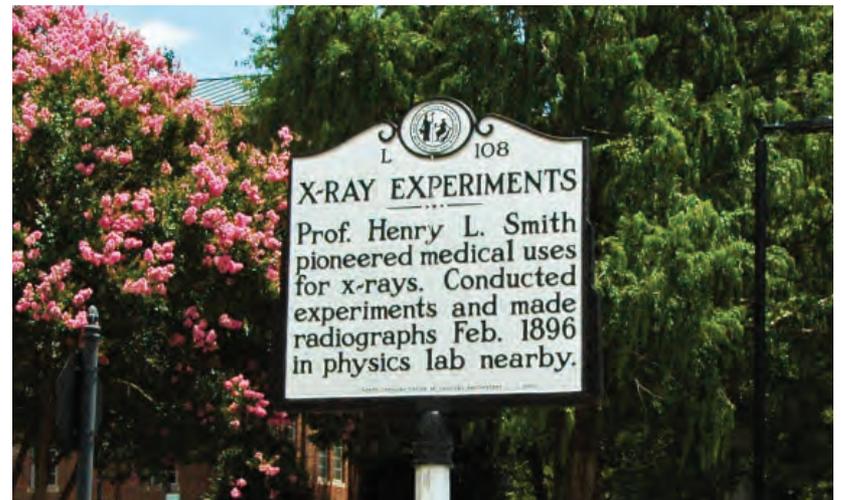
CULTURAL RESOURCES

Historical Markers

Throughout the state, more than 1,500 silver and black state highway historical markers describe important stories about North Carolina including the history behind duels, libraries, churches, railroads, Native American tribes, Civil War battles, the civil rights movement, and more. The first marker was erected in 1936 in Granville County, and there is at least one marker located in every county.

NC Arts and Culture

It is easy to combine arts and culture while traveling. A great place to start is "Exploring Cultural Heritage Online," at www.nclive.org. The Web site is managed by the State Library of North Carolina. While traveling through North Carolina, look for brown highway signs that lead to 27 state historic sites and eight history museums. For more information on history, the arts and cultural travel, visit the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources Web site at www.ncdcr.gov. For interesting side trips off of the NC Byways, consider visiting the cultural trails listed on the Cultrural Resources website at: <https://www.ncdcr.gov/things-to-do/cultural-trails/>



NORTH CAROLINA BYWAYS

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

This book follows the three distinct regions in North Carolina, from the mountains to the coast, to aid you in planning your exploration of the byways. Whether it is a day trip to a certain region, a pass through on the way elsewhere, or an extended stay, you can plan the perfect byways journey.

Getting There

Each byway section includes step-by-step instructions for accessing and traveling the route.

Points of Interest

Each section also includes a summary of cultural, historical, natural, and recreational destinations along the route.

At the end of the book, the State Parks and Recreational Areas, Historic Sites, and Byway Index offer additional resources for planning your trip, helping you to quickly locate the types of features that most interest you.



MOUNTAINS

①	Waterfall Byway	18
②	Cherohala Skyway (NSB)	22
③	Nantahala Byway	26
④	Fontana Byway	30
⑤	Newfound Gap Road Scenic Byway (AAR)	34
⑥	Whitewater Way	38
⑦	Appalachian Medley	42
⑧	Forest Heritage Scenic Byway (NSB)	46
⑨	French Broad Overview	50
⑩	Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway	52
⑪	Interstate 26 Scenic Highway	56
⑫	Drover's Road	60
⑬	Mount Mitchell Scenic Drive	64
⑭	Pacolet River Byway	68
⑮	Black Mountain Rag	72
⑯	Highlands of the Roan	76
⑰	South Mountain Scenery	80
⑱	Pisgah Loop	84
⑲	Mission Crossing	88
⑳	Little Parkway	92
㉑	New River Valley Byway	96



Federal Highway Administration Nationally Designated Byways:
 (AAR) All-American Road (NSB) National Scenic Byway



22	US-421 Scenic Highway	100
23	Big Horse Creek Byway	102
24	Upper Yadkin Way	106

PIEDMONT

25	Crowders Mountain Drive	112
26	Yadkin Valley Scenic Byway	114
27	The College Town Ride	118
28	McAuley Road Scenic Byway	122
29	Mill Bridge Scenic Byway	124
30	Uwharrie Scenic Road	128
31	Sauratown Mountains Scenic Byway	132
32	Rolling Kansas Byway	136
33	Pee Dee Valley Drive	138
34	Grassy Island Crossing	142
35	Sandhills Scenic Drive	144
36	Flint Hill Ramble	146

37	Birkhead Wilderness Route	148
38	Indian Heritage Trail	150
39	Colonial Heritage Byway	154
40	Pottery Road	160
41	Football Road	164
42	Devil's Tramping Ground Road	168
43	East Connecticut Avenue	170
44	Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway	174
45	North Durham Country Byway	176
46	Averasboro Battlefield Scenic Byway	180
47	Clayton Bypass Scenic Highway	182

COASTAL PLAIN

48	Green Swamp Byway	186
49	Carolina Bay Lakes Byway	190
50	Lafayette's Tour	194
51	Blue-Gray Scenic Byway	200
52	Turkey Creek Byway	204
53	Tar Heel Trace	206
54	Brunswick Town Road	210
55	Cape Fear Historic Byway	214
56	Airlie Road	218
57	Pamlico Scenic Byway	220
58	Edenton-Windsor Loop	224
59	Perquimans Crossing	228
60	Alligator River Route	230
61	Roanoke Voyages Corridor	234
62	Outer Banks National Scenic Byway (NSB)	236

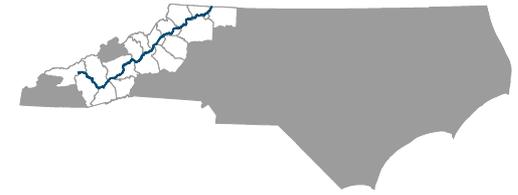
BLUE RIDGE

Parkway



AMERICA'S
BYWAYS®

The Blue Ridge Parkway is often referred to as the original "scenic byway." The parkway's 252 miles in North Carolina are recognized as an "All American Road" by the Federal Highway Administration. The route provides spectacular mountain and valley vistas, quiet pastoral scenes, sparkling waterfalls, and colorful flower and foliage displays. Construction began in 1935 under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program. During President Ronald Reagan's administration, the last mile was completed around Grandfather Mountain. An effort of 52 years, nine presidents, and \$130 million resulted in the 469 miles that connect the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina.



Counties: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, McDowell, Mitchell, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey

Total NC Parkway Distance: 252 miles

Drive Time: 6 hrs 55 min

* This is the North Carolina portion of the Parkway. It continues into Virginia for another 217 miles.

About the Parkway

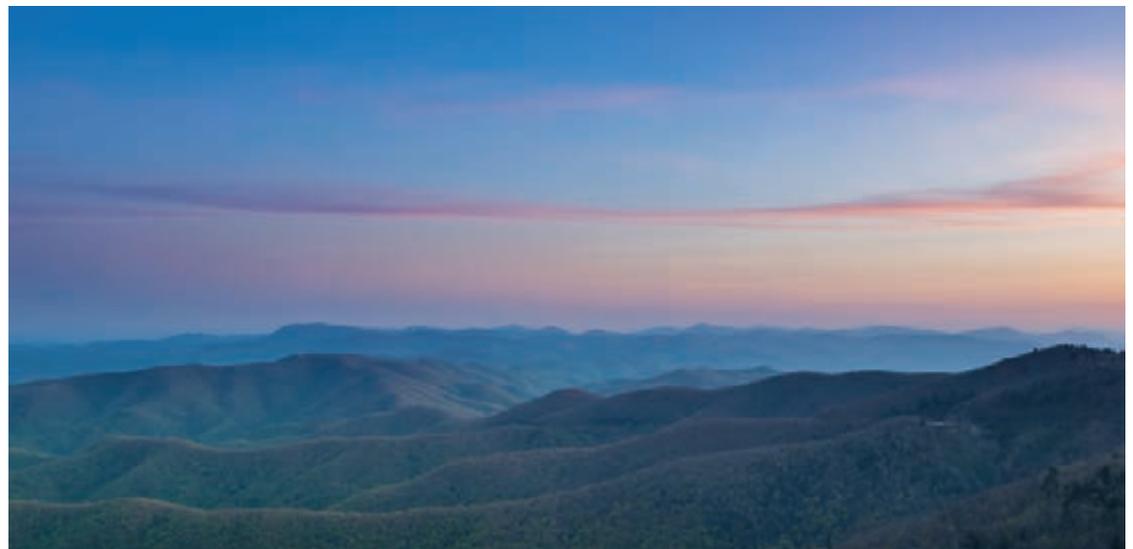
Visitors from around the world enjoy the parkway's leisurely drive and scenic views that provide a temporary escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The parkway offers various cultural, natural, historic, and recreational opportunities. The internationally recognized drive blends landscape architecture and engineering, while protecting and proclaiming mountain culture. Activities such as camping, picnicking, hiking, boating, fishing, and sightseeing are available along the route. Along the way are five campgrounds for overnight visitors, as well as 72 trails and 26 tunnels for exploring. The parkway's highest elevation is at Richland-Balsam Gap, more than 6,000 feet above sea level.

For more information on the Blue Ridge Parkway, contact the National Park Service's

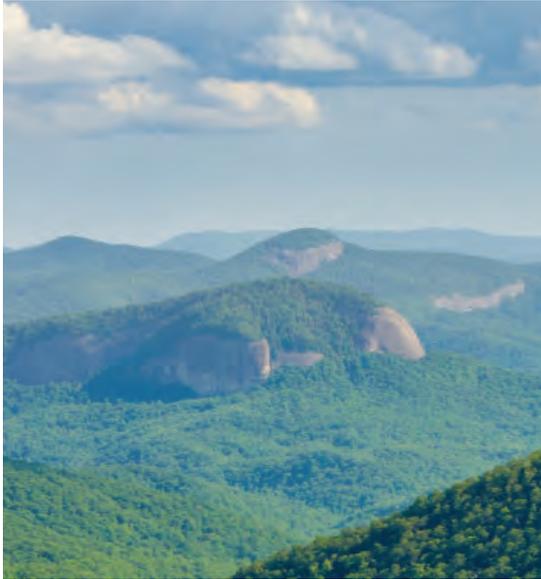
Blue Ridge Parkway Office at (828) 298-0398. Or visit: www.nps.gov/blri/

To find out more about the nation's other All-American Roads and National Scenic Byways, visit: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/>

BELOW: Sweeping panoramic views are a signature of the Parkway







OPPOSITE: Sunset over the Parkway

TOP: Lin Cove Viaduct along the drive

LEFT: Looking Glass Rock

RIGHT: One of the 26 tunnels along the way

“The mountains are calling and I must go.”

John Muir



MOUNTAIN REGION

Byways

WATERFALL

Byway



The Waterfall Byway winds 98 miles through five of the state's western-most counties and earns its name from the 200 waterfalls that surround the route. In fact, Transylvania County, where the byway begins, is known as the "Land of the Waterfalls" for the numerous waterfalls and trout streams that occur in the area. But this byway not only offers striking views of pristine mountain forests, lofty mountain ranges, and dramatic waterfalls, it also encompasses a vast amount of North Carolina's rich heritage and history throughout several quaint mountain towns.



Counties: Cherokee, Clay, Jackson, Macon, and Transylvania

98 Miles

Drive Time: 2 hrs 30 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

OPPOSITE: Cullasaja Falls



Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 64 and NC 215 (Parkway Rd) just west of Rosman.

- Follow US 64 W for 19.3 miles over Toxaway Falls and through the Sapphire Valley community to Cashiers.
- Continue straight across at the traffic signal in Cashiers and follow US 64 W for 10.2 miles to the intersection with Main St. in Highlands.
- Turn right at the traffic signal onto US 64 (Main St) and travel west for 17.2 miles where you will pass Lake Sequoyah, Bridal Veil Falls, and Dry Falls. You will travel through the Cullasaja Gorge and through the Gneiss and Cullasaja communities and into Franklin. At the US 64/NC 28 and US 23/US



441 Bypass interchange in Franklin, turn left onto the ramp to continue on US 64 W.

- Continue on US 64 West for 41.9 miles past Chatuge Lake to the intersection of Settawig Rd (SR 1135) and turn left.
- Travel 2.4 miles to the community of Brasstown where Settawig Rd ends.
- Turn right onto Old Hwy 64.
- From here, you can continue on the main byway route by making an immediate left onto Brasstown Rd or you can take an extension route by continuing straight on Old Hwy 64 W.

Extension Route:

- If you choose to take the extension route, continue on Old Hwy 64 for 1.8 miles to US 64. Turn left onto US 64 and follow it for 4.1 miles to US 74. Turn left and travel 0.4 miles to Hiwassee St where the byway ends.
- If you choose to continue on the main byway route, make an immediate left onto Brasstown Rd (SR 1564).
- Follow Brasstown Rd for 0.3 miles.
- Turn right onto Harshaw Rd (Hampton Church Rd) (SR 1558) and follow it for 6.4 miles to the intersection with US 74/19/129

ABOVE: Dry Falls

in Murphy where the byway ends. (Harshaw Rd becomes Hiwassee St in Murphy.)

Points of Interest

 Pronounced cash-ers by locals, the town of Cashiers is one of the oldest resort communities settled by Low Country South Carolinians who wanted to get away from the coastal summer heat and humidity. (Elevation 3,484 feet)

Start



Cashiers



Highlands



Bridal Veil Falls



Dry Falls

 Founded in 1875, Highlands is located within the winding roads of the Blue Ridge mountains where the average temperatures in the summer only reach 76 degrees. Popular for its restaurants and boutiques, it has become a center for arts and culture. (Elevation 4,118 feet)(27)

 Bridal Veil Falls, which can be found right outside of Highlands, is a 45 foot tall waterfall that sits a mere 20 feet from US-64.

 The nearby Dry Falls, so named because visitors can walk underneath the roaring water without getting wet, provides visitors with the opportunity of experiencing a waterfall from underneath with its unique overhanging rock formation.

 The Cullasaja River formed the Cullasaja Gorge as it flowed west into the Little Tennessee River and has an impressive cascade that drops 310 feet over a half mile. The drop may be difficult to see, so look carefully behind the trees toward the lower part of the gorge. While in the gorge, catch a glimpse of the Cullasaja River below as well as views of the Nantahala national forest. Observant visitors may even be able to spot falcons, which are known to inhabit the trees along the gorge.

 Franklin, a town nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and enriched with Scottish history, is best known for the treaty council held here between Sir Alexander Cuming and the Cherokee in 1730

at Nikwasi Mound, which still stands along Main St. today.

 Brasstown offers a unique opportunity for visitors at the John C. Campbell Folk School, where visitors have the opportunity to learn trades such as pottery, weaving, and blacksmithing.

 Murphy is the site of Fort Butler, a frontier fort in the early 1800s and a temporary stockade for Cherokee along the "Trail of Tears." Located at the junction of the Hiawasee and Valley rivers, the town was also an early trading post. Additionally, it serves as the southern terminus of the Great Smoky Mountain Railway. Don't miss Murphy's marble courthouse, one of the area's best-known landmarks made entirely out of marble from a local quarry. The bridge that spans the second river crossing east of Murphy is the largest single steel span bridge ever built in North Carolina, measuring 331 feet across.



ABOVE: Cherokee County Courthouse

BELOW: Bridal Veil Falls



**Cullasaja
River**



Franklin



Brasstown



Murphy

End

CHEROHALA

Skyway



AMERICA'S
BYWAYS®

Designated as a National Scenic Byway shortly after it opened in 1996, the Cherohala Skyway is often compared to the Blue Ridge Parkway because of its scenic attractions and natural topography. Taking more than three decades and \$100 million dollars to complete, the skyway serves as a connector between the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee and the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina, thus the name Cherohala. The byway ranges in elevation from 900 feet at the lowest point in Tellico Plains, Tennessee to 5,400 feet at its highest point at the Tennessee/ North Carolina State Line. (5) The byway is probably best known by avid motorcycle riders for its stimulating curves and sweeping mountain views. But excitement along the byway isn't merely limited to a vehicle, as it provides world class hiking, unobstructed scenic views, and exhilarating waterfalls for visitors on foot.



Counties: Graham
Total NC Byway Distance: 17.8 miles
Drive Time: 30 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses. Motorists should be alert for both pedestrians and bicyclists along the route.

Getting There

To access the byway take NC 143 at the intersection with US 129 in Robbinsville. Follow NC 143 (Cherohala Skyway) for 10.3 miles to the beginning of the byway at Santeetlah Gap (Santeetlah Rd).

- Follow NC 143 (Cherohala Skyway) west for 17.8 miles to the NC/TN state line where the North Carolina portion of the byway ends.

**The Skyway continues into Tennessee for another 23 miles to TN 68 in Tellico Plains, Tennessee where the byway ends.*

OPPOSITE: View of the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee

RIGHT: Joyce Kilmer Slickrock Wilderness Sign





Points of Interest

 Native Americans first occupied Graham County, where the byway is located, before the progression of settlers reached the territory in the early 1830s. Early homesteaders followed game trails and Native Americans' paths into this land.

 At the Santeetlah Gap overlook, where the byway begins, motorists can find an informational kiosk that offers an opportunity to enjoy a tranquil vista while learning about the development of the skyway and its recreational opportunities.

 The next overlook provides visitors with a view of the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, which was dedicated on July 30, 1936, to the late author of the poem "Trees." This pristine forest, one of the finest stands of its type in the United States, includes poplar, hemlock, and oak trees. Some of these tulip-poplars have grown in excess of 100 feet high and 20 feet in circumference. More than 100 species of trees can be seen here while hiking on more than 60 miles of trails. Contact the US Forest Service or the Cheoah Ranger Station for further information on the forest, the adjoining Slickrock Wilderness Area, and nearby Lake Santeetlah.

 Hardwood and coniferous trees abound throughout these mountains thanks to the US Forest Service. Following the Civil War, large lumber companies moved in and systematically cleared large swaths of forest. In 1911, the federal government began to

Start



Native American
Heritage



Santeetlah Gap



View to Joyce Kilmer
Memorial Forest

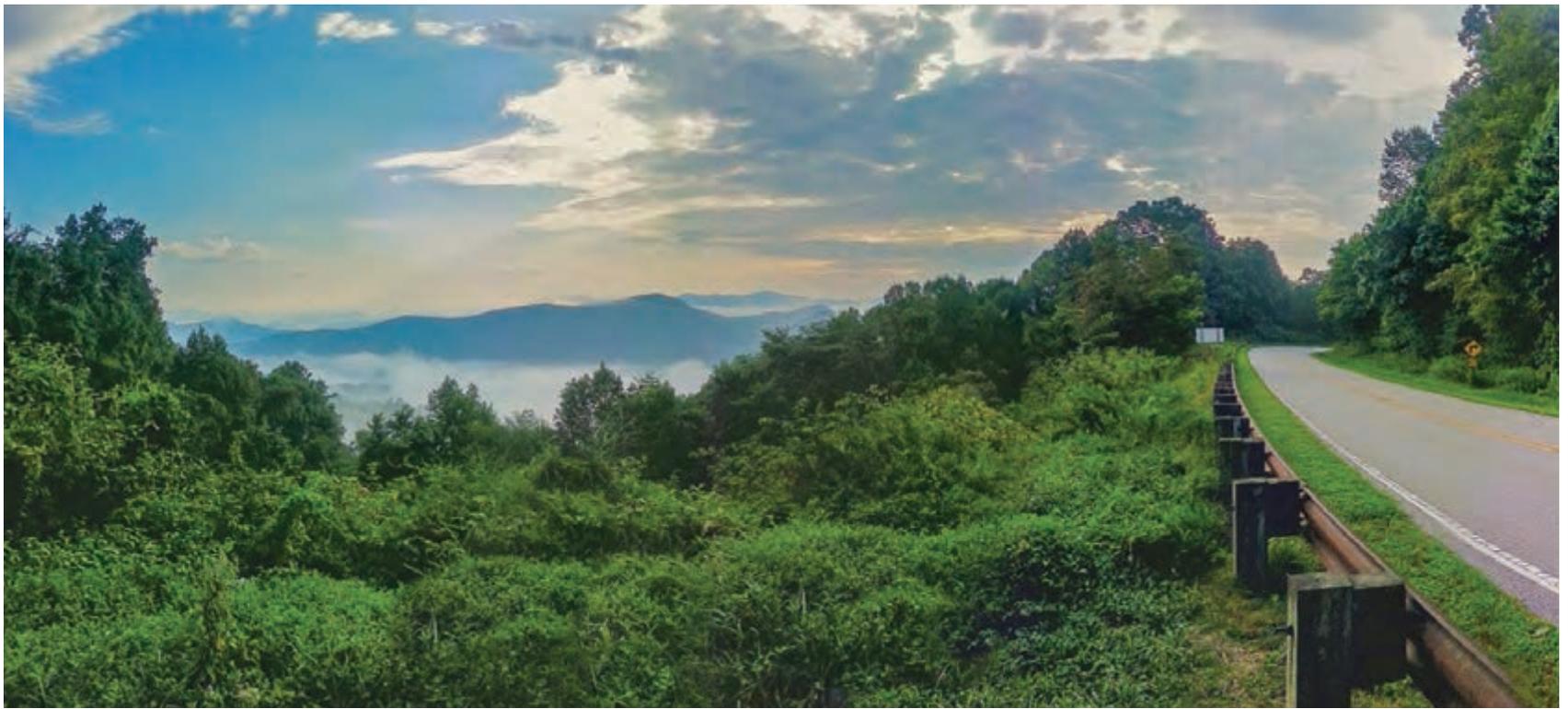


US Forest
Service Land



Hooper's Bald

End



acquire and protect these lands. The forests' destruction is evidenced by the number of balds along the route. These bare, grassy, rocky and partially barren knobs mark some of the highest points along the byway.

 Hooper's Bald, the highest point along the skyway at 5,429 feet, was once the location of a private hunting preserve stocked with buffalo, wild boar, elk, mule-deer, bear, wild turkeys, and pheasants. The game land preserve failed, but the wild boars still in the area attest to its presence.

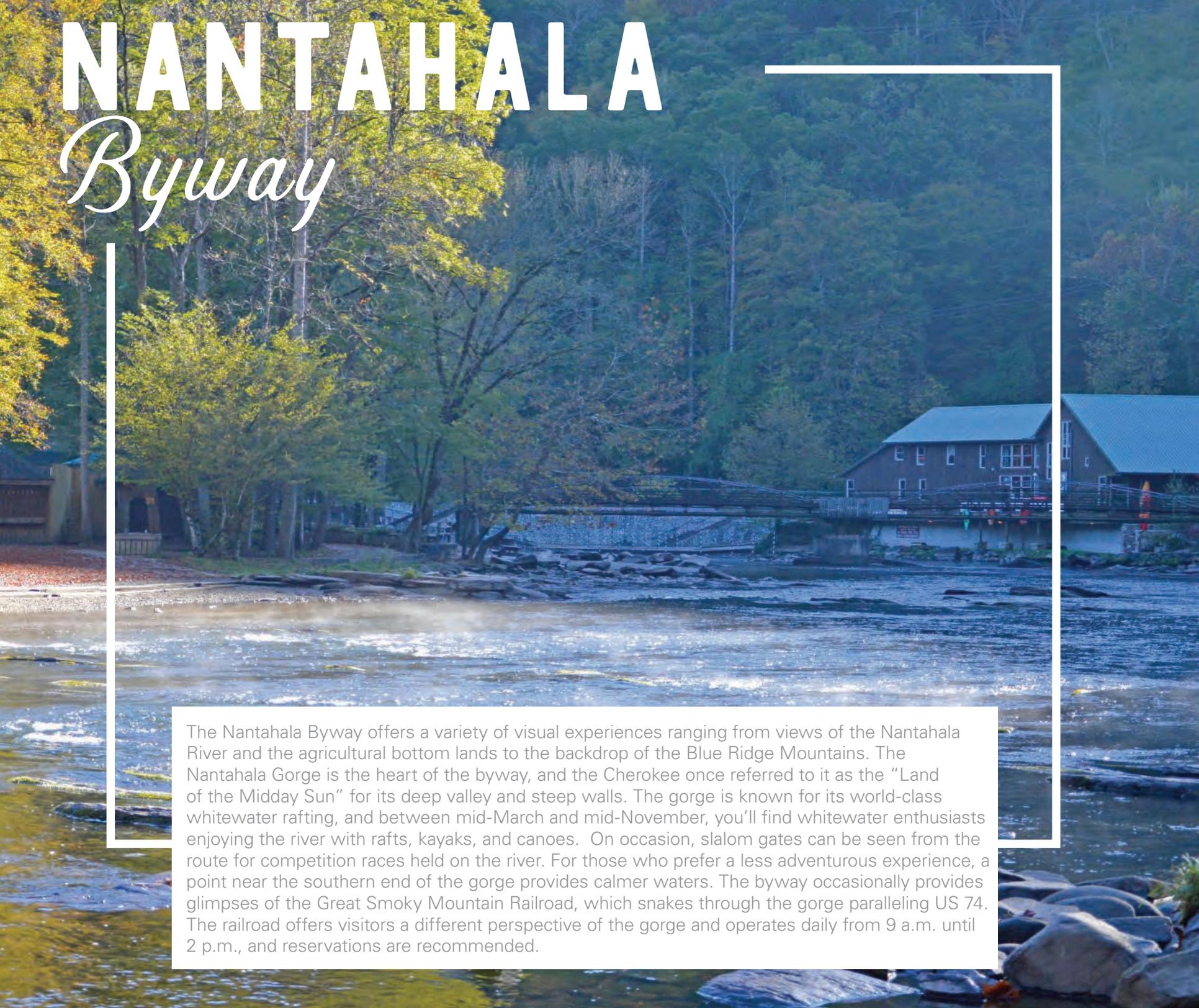
OPPOSITE: Long range mountain views are signatures of the Cherokee Skyway

ABOVE + RIGHT: Sweeping panoramic views of the pristine hardwood forests provide motorists with a beautiful drive



NANTAHALA

Byway



The Nantahala Byway offers a variety of visual experiences ranging from views of the Nantahala River and the agricultural bottom lands to the backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The Nantahala Gorge is the heart of the byway, and the Cherokee once referred to it as the “Land of the Midday Sun” for its deep valley and steep walls. The gorge is known for its world-class whitewater rafting, and between mid-March and mid-November, you’ll find whitewater enthusiasts enjoying the river with rafts, kayaks, and canoes. On occasion, slalom gates can be seen from the route for competition races held on the river. For those who prefer a less adventurous experience, a point near the southern end of the gorge provides calmer waters. The byway occasionally provides glimpses of the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad, which snakes through the gorge paralleling US 74. The railroad offers visitors a different perspective of the gorge and operates daily from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., and reservations are recommended.



Counties: Cherokee, Jackson, Macon, and Swain

Total Distance: 47.2 Miles

Drive Time: 1hr 10 min

OPPOSITE: Nantahala Outdoor Center is a popular spot for water sports

BELOW: Downtown Andrews, NC

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 74/US 19/US 129 and NC 141 at Marble.

- Follow US 74 E/US 19/US 129 N for 5.3 miles.
- Turn right onto US 19 Bus (Main St) and follow for 2.8 miles through Andrews.
- Turn right to get back onto US 74 E/US 19/US 129 N. After traveling 6.9 miles in Topton, continue following US 74 E/US 19 N for another 22.6 miles to take Exit 67 to Spring St in Bryson City.
- From the exit ramp, turn left and follow Spring St (SR 1159), which becomes Veterans Boulevard, for 0.7 miles to the traffic signal at Main St and School Dr.
- Continue 1 block straight through the intersection to follow US 19 Bus S to the next traffic signal and continue straight onto Slope St (SR 1323).
- Stay on Slope St for 0.2 miles. After crossing the Tuckasegee River and the railroad tracks, turn right onto Bryson Walk (SR 1321).
- Follow Bryson Walk for 0.2 miles (1 block) and turn right onto Everett St (SR 1364).
- Follow Everett St for 0.3 miles (You will cross the Great Smoky Mountain Railway tracks and the Tuckasegee River again).
- Turn left at the traffic signal back onto US 19 North (Main Street).
- Follow US 19 N (Governor's Island Rd) for 2.0 miles and veer right onto Walker Woody Rd (SR 1168).



- Follow Walker Woody Rd for 1.3 miles and turn left onto Hyatt Creek Rd (SR 1190).
- Follow Hyatt Creek Rd for 1.6 miles.
- After crossing the Tuckasegee River turn right at the intersection onto US 19 N (Ela Rd) and travel 0.7 miles.
- Turn right onto Highway 19A. Travel 2.1 miles to the intersection with US 74 (Great Smoky Mountains Expressway) where the byway ends.



Points of Interest

 The town of Marble, founded in 1911, is so named because of its location near the state's largest marble deposit. This marble, in addition to other mineral resources found in this area, is of such high quality that it's used extensively throughout Arlington National Cemetery.

 Andrews, an early 20th-century mountain town named for Alexander Boyd Andrews, played a critical role in the completion of the Western North Carolina Railroad in the 1880s, finally connecting the

western portion of the State to eastern ports. (42)

 Bryson City, founded in 1887, sits in a bowl formed by the Tuckasegee River and the Cowee Mountain Range. In Bryson City, notice the monuments for Tsali, a Cherokee warrior who was executed in 1838 for resisting the removal of his Cherokee people from the Southern Appalachian Region, and Yonaguska, the chief of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee who lived here in 1839.

 On the northern end of the route, the byway passes through portions of the tribal lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, also called the Qualla Boundary.

Established in 1838, it is the largest reservation east of the Mississippi River with more than 63,000 acres.

ABOVE: Mountain farms dot the landscape along the byway

OPPOSITE: Nantahala River

Start



Marble



Western North
Carolina Railroad



Bryson City



Qualla Boundary

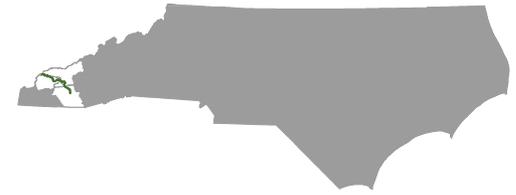
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FONTANA

Byway

Fontana Byway weaves in and out around the base of the Great Smoky Mountains along Cheoah Lake which is part of the Little Tennessee River. Used for centuries by the Cherokee and their predecessors, in 1540, the Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto was the first European to see the river, the first tributary of the Mississippi River. Although the byway is in a remote part of the state, there are many elements to discover along the route from the grand views of Fontana Lake and the engineering prowess of Fontana Dam to the pastoral rolling hills and farmland of the lower valleys. As you travel along the byway, watch for large pipes shooting up the sides of mountains around the Stecoah community. These surge pipes take water overflow up the mountain for storage when overflow gates are closed at the hydroelectric dams seen along the route. When water levels are low, water in the surge pipes is released and flows down the mountains to turn turbines in the dams' generator houses. Along the 23-mile stretch, take advantage of the many overlooks with views of rural western North Carolina and the abundance of parking for roadside picnics.



Counties: Swain, Graham, and Macon

Total Distance: 54.2 Miles

Drive Time: 1hr 20 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

Getting There

The Fontana Byway begins at the intersection of US 129 and NC 28 at Deals Gap near the Tennessee and North Carolina State Line.

- Follow NC 28 South for 10.6 miles.
- Veer right to continue following NC 28 (Fontana Road) for another 21.3 miles to the intersection of NC 28 and US 19/US 74.
- Turn left and continue on NC 28 South/US 19 N/US 74 E for 3.1 miles.
- Turn right onto NC 28 and travel south for another 19.2 miles to the intersection of NC 28, Bryson City Road, Baldwin Lane, and Riverview Street (SR 1323) near the Franklin city limits where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 "Tail of the Dragon," as it's known locally, is a famously curvy stretch of road that is a favorite destination for motorcycle enthusiasts because of its serpentine shape. Use caution as you navigate the sharp,

OPPOSITE: Late afternoon at Cheoah Lake

BELOW: Fontana Lake





hairpin turns found along the first part of the byway.

 Fontana Dam, completed in 1945, was the fourth highest hydroelectric dam in the world and the highest in the eastern United States at the time. The dam was built by the Tennessee Valley Authority in response to the federal government's need "for aid in the development of atomic power." Fontana Lake is the largest of the TVA lakes, covering 10,530 acres. This remote body of water is a popular spot for fly fishing, swimming, and boating.

 Fontana Village, a present-day resort community, was originally built for the 6,000 workers who constructed the Fontana Dam in the early 1940s. There have been two other Fontana villages near the existing site. The first was built as a logging camp in the 1800s and is now buried by Fontana Lake and the second was built for copper miners at the turn of the 20th century.

 Needmore Tract is a 4,500-acre state-owned property that houses the southern Blue Ridge Mountains' most intact eco-

system and features a series of stunning vistas.

 The town of Cowee was the principal commercial and diplomatic center of the Middle Cherokee in the 18th century.

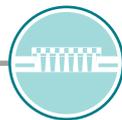
ABOVE: Construction on Fontana Dam was complete in 1945

OPPOSITE RIGHT: Chehoa Lake

Start



Tail of the Dragon



Fontana Dam



Fontana Village



Needmore Tract



Cowee

End

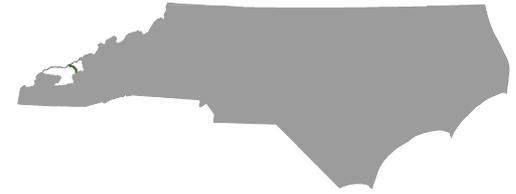
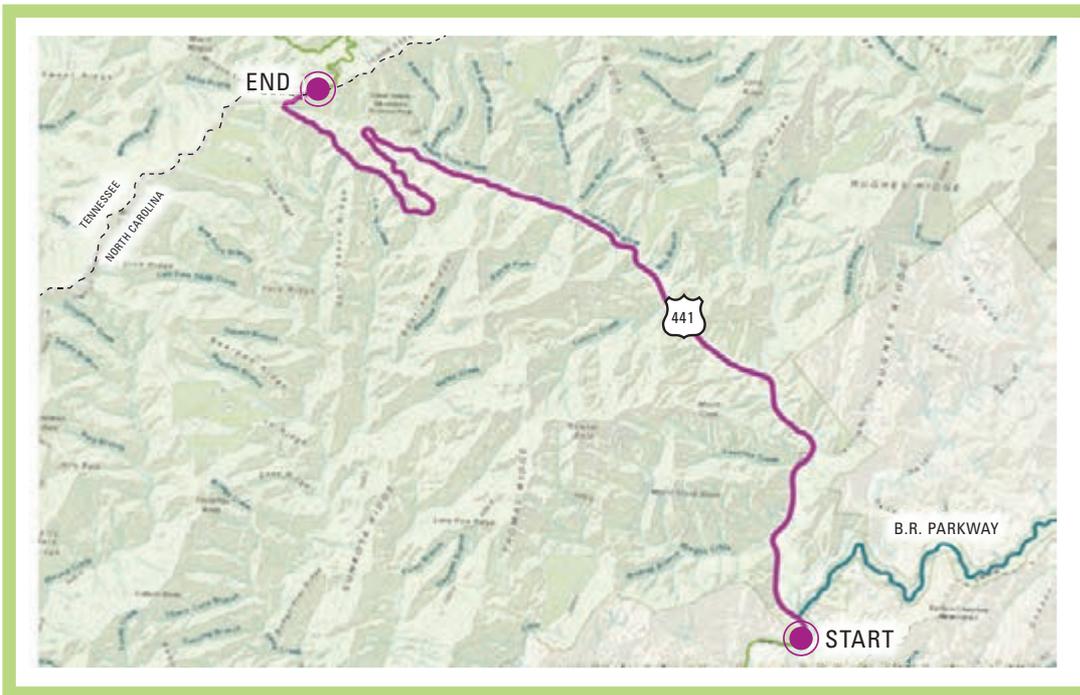


NEWFOUND GAP ROAD SCENIC



Byway

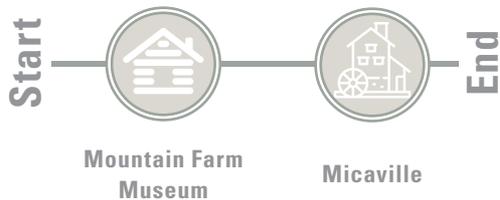
Newfound Gap Road, a nationally designated All-American Road, presents visitors with a unique driving experience through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The nation's most-visited national park is renowned for its diverse plant and animal life, and a trip along the byway puts visitors in close proximity to some of North Carolina's most captivating wildlife. Historic landmarks along the byway also provide a glimpse of the Southern Appalachian pioneer culture that once dominated the area. As travelers pass Mingus Mill, the byway starts its ascent through a cove of hardwood, pine-oak, and northern hardwood forest into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park between North Carolina and Tennessee, bisecting the park in an unbroken chain that rises above 5,000 feet for 36 linear miles. The more than 800 square miles that encompass the park are home to 19,000 species of known wildlife, and scientists estimate as many as 100,000 additional species may reside here. The byway culminates less than a mile away at Newfound Gap, an evergreen spruce-fir forest that straddles the border of North Carolina and Tennessee. It was here that President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially dedicated the park in 1940. The location is now the site of the Rockefeller Memorial, built to memorialize the support and five million dollars donated by the Rockefeller family to help establish the park.



Counties: Swain
Total NC Byway Distance: 16.5 Miles
Drive Time: 30 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

OPPOSITE: Clingmans Dome at sunset

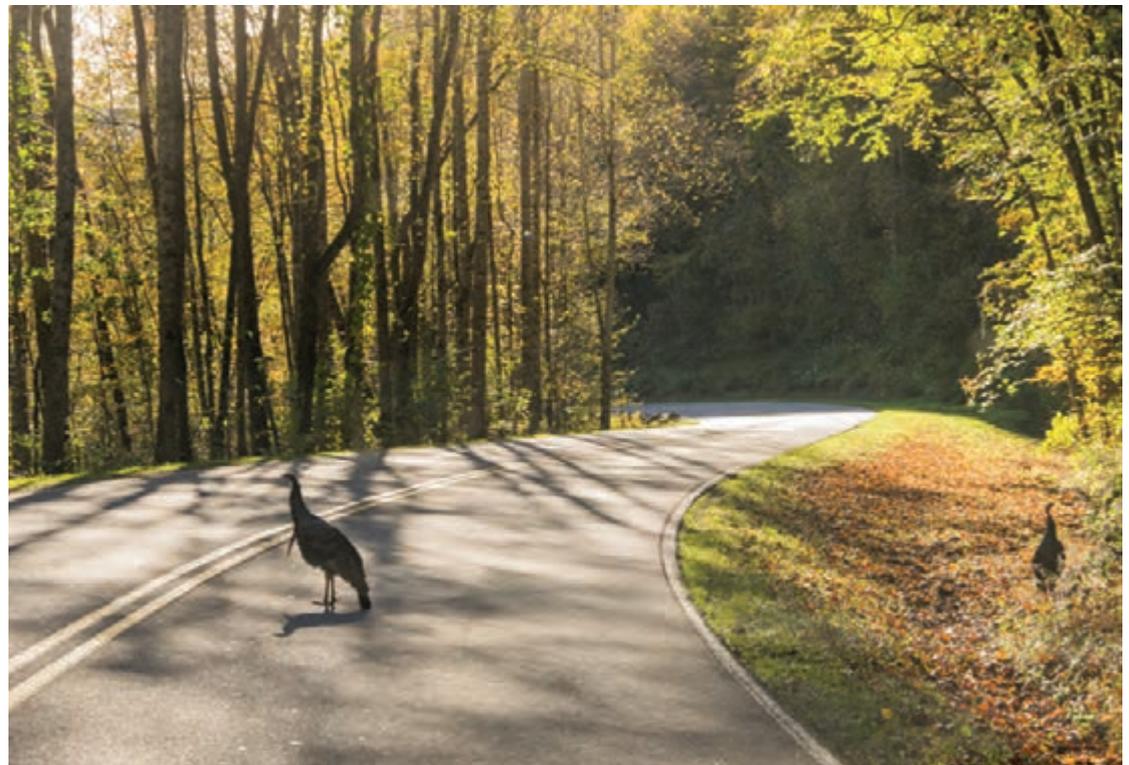


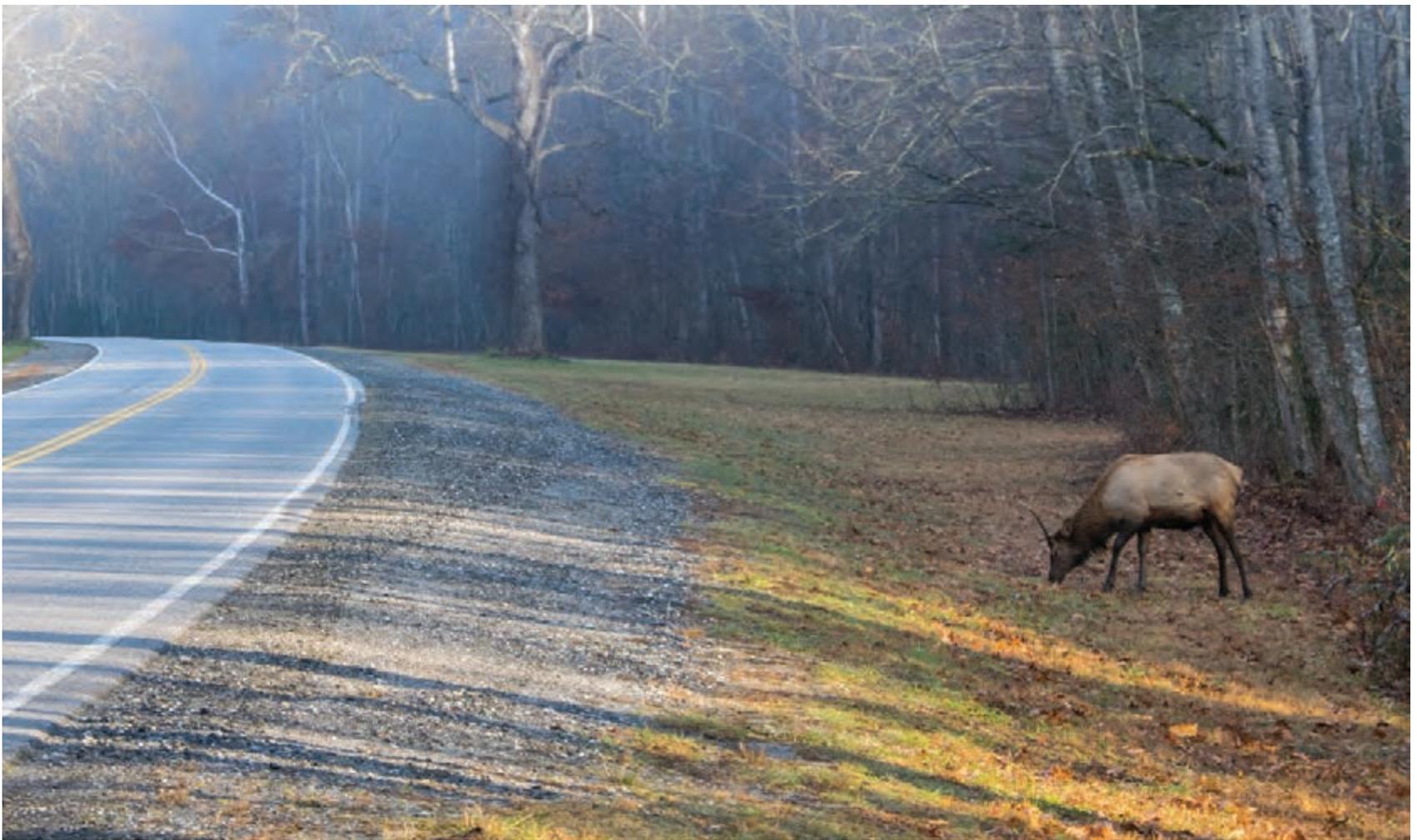
Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 441 (Newfound Gap Road) and the Blue Ridge Pkwy 2.6 miles north of Cherokee near the Qualla Boundary of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Reservation.

- Follow US 441 (Newfound Gap Rd) for 16.5 miles to the North Carolina and Tennessee state line at Newfound Gap where the North Carolina portion of the byway ends.

**The byway continues into TN for another 14.5 miles where it ends in Galintburg, TN.*





Points of Interest

 The Oconaluftee Visitor Center, located a half-mile from the intersection with the Blue Ridge Parkway, features a bookstore and exhibits dedicated to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The center gets its name from the scenic Oconaluftee River that parallels part of the byway. The river is a popular spot for fishing with brown and rainbow trout in abundance. Next door to the visitor center is the Mountain Farm Museum, comprised of pioneer buildings moved

from throughout the park and permanently preserved at this location.

 Mingus Mill, about a half mile from the visitor center, is an 1886 turbine mill that ground corn and wheat for the Mingus community for more than 50 years. The National Park Service rehabilitated the mill in 1968, and it is operated during the summer months as a historical exhibit.

ABOVE: Native elk along the byway

RIGHT: The Oconaluftee River



WHITEWATER

Way

Whitewater Way provides motorists with access to some of the most beautiful waterfalls in the eastern United States. The route gets its name from Whitewater Falls, which at 411 feet, is the highest waterfall east of the Rocky Mountains and is a short easy trek from the byway. The descending, curvy, densely forested route passes by Gorges State Park, a highly recommended stop, and Upper Whitewater Falls before ending at the South Carolina state line. Also, while hiking the trails and viewing the waterfalls, close observers may spot a rare and beautiful plant called *Shortia galacifolia* (Oconee Bells), which is only found in the Appalachian Mountains and Japan. It grows from a slender single stem and blooms white or pink in late March to early April.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 64 and NC 281 at Sapphire.

- Follow NC 281 south for 8.7 miles to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line where the byway ends.

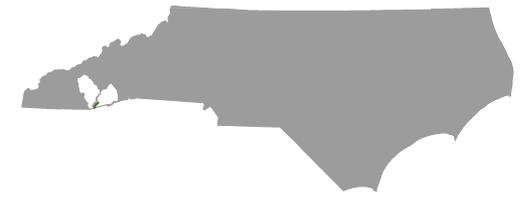
Points of Interest

 Sapphire is a quaint mountain town named for the intense blue sky and water observed here, as well as for the gems found in this area. Known for its recreational activities on and around its many lakes, Sapphire also offers some of the most unique golf courses in the state.

  Located in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, Horse Pasture River on the eastern section of the byway contains many of the waterfalls that call this byway home. At the access area, trails lead visitors along the river to a series of falls including Turtleback Falls, Rainbow Falls, Stairway Falls, and Mist Falls. Turtleback Falls is a popular local sliding rock and swimming hole to take a plunge on a hot summer day. It is not recommended for younger children because of the strong currents and rope access to the top. (46) Parents with younger children should opt for Sliding Rock on the Forest Heritage Byway. Rainbow Falls, a 150 feet tall waterfall, has a back spray of mist that shows a rainbow when illuminated by the sun. Stairway Falls has seven steps averaging 10 feet each, while Windy Falls is known as an ominous place of swirling spray. Footings can become treacherous near these falls and along the trails, so visitors are urged to pay close attention and be careful.



 The Nantahala National Forest, first established by Congress in 1911, contains nearly 1.4 million acres of western North Carolina. Large stands of hemlock and spruce are found along this portion of byway, and during the spring, native azaleas, rhododendrons, and mountain laurels light up the understories of these trees. Some privately owned land lies along the route where a mix of homes, farms, and craft shops can be seen.



Counties: Jackson and Transylvania

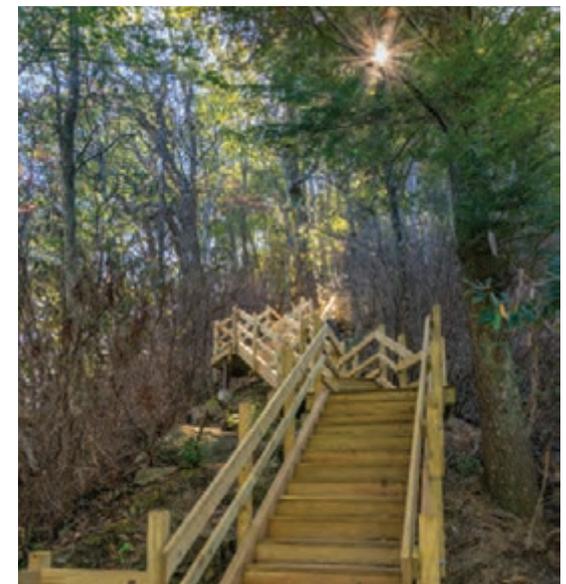
Total Distance: 8.7 Miles

Drive Time: 15 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

LEFT: One of the many waterfalls seen along the Whitewater Byway

RIGHT: Access to a waterfall viewing area





Start



Sapphire



Horse Pasture
River



Turtleback, Rainbow,
Stairway and Mist Falls



Nantahala National
Forest

End

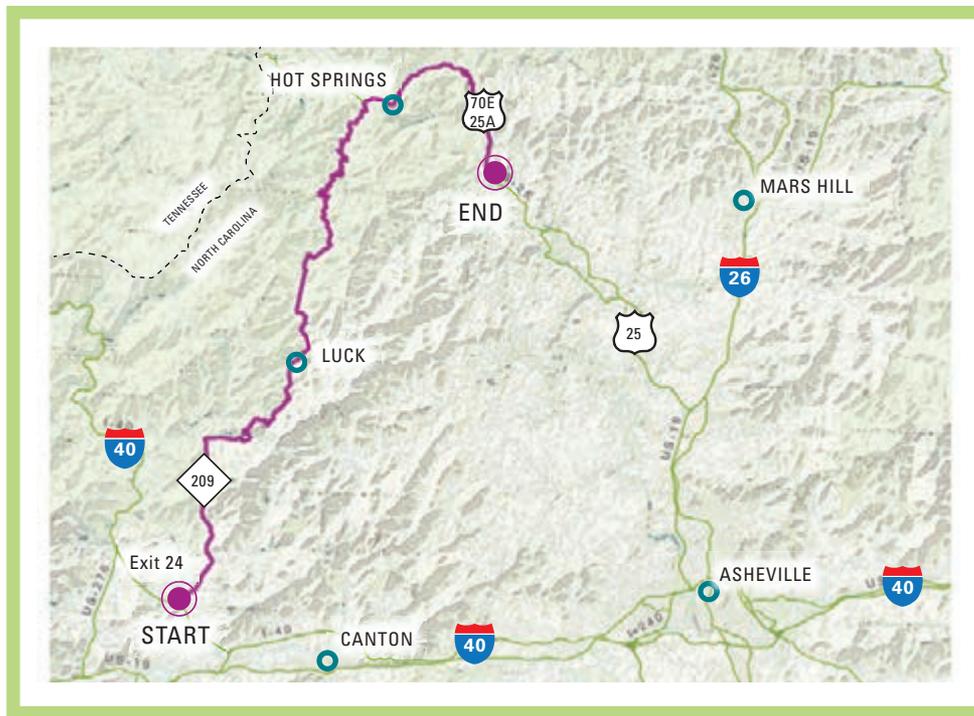


APPALACHIAN

Medley



The Appalachian Medley byway engages the senses and recalls the past through its rich history of local music, which is illustrated by the rhythm and flow of the beautiful hills along the byway—a melody of the greatest proportions. The route is closely bordered by the Pisgah National Forest, which covers 12 counties and more than 500,000 acres in North Carolina. It is also the home to the first school of forestry in the United States which is now preserved at the Cradle of Forestry historic site. (35) As you work your way through the forests and the many coves, eventually the landscape opens to a picturesque valley.



Counties: Haywood and Madison

Total Distance: 43 Miles

Drive Time: 1hr 15 min

OPPOSITE: French Broad River in Hot Springs

BELOW: Elements constructed by the Youth Conservation Corps can be found along the byway

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 209 and I-40 at Exit 24 near Waynesville and Lake Junaluska.

- Follow NC 209 (Crabtree Rd/Rush Fork Rd) north for 8.1 miles.
- Turn right to follow NC 209 (Betsy's Gap Rd) for another 24.7 miles into Hot Springs.
- Continue straight onto US 70 East/US 25 South and travel 5.1 miles.
- Turn right to continue following US 70 East/US 25 South for 5.1 miles.
- The byway ends at Walnut Dr in the community of Walnut.

Points of Interest

 Pigeon River, which derives its name from the large flocks of pigeons that once lived along its banks, is now a whitewater rafter's paradise.

 Local folklore says that Fines Creek's name derived from an incident in the late 1700s, when a man named Vinette Fine was killed in a skirmish with some locals. Since there was no time to dig a grave in the snowy conditions, his brother placed his body in the nearby river through a hole in the ice, intending to retrieve it later. When the brother returned, the body had been washed away by the currents, never to be seen again. (21)





 At Betsy's Gap, Hebo Mountain can be seen to the south and Pug Knob to the north. From this point north, the byway is steered by Spring Creek.

 The community of Luck is a few miles up the road from Betsy's Gap, and as the locals say, "with Luck comes Trust." Trust, a small community with a general store and cafe, is just a mile or so past Luck. Stop by the charming St. Jude's Chapel of Hope in Trust that was built by a local woman after miraculously beating a terminal illness. (44)

 Hot Springs was first discovered by Native Americans. Then, in 1778 two advance scouts for American settlers, Henry Reynolds and Thomas Morgan, were the first European-Americans to discover the springs. Hot Springs then became a main stop for drovers who led cattle, hogs, and horses to markets in South Carolina and Georgia. In those days, the area had a rough reputation and was known for lawlessness. Toll roads with regular stagecoach traffic and private carriages slowly changed the character of towns such as Hot Springs, and the drovers' stands were converted to accommodate a higher clientele seeking the healing waters

of the springs. This area was the site of the first golf course in the Southeast, as well as an internment camp built to hold German merchant sailors during World War I. It also was a key site in the development of the Appalachian Trail, which now runs through the town. While in Hot Springs, take a side trip to see the area's best-known landmark: a sheer rock face on which early settlers found early painted images of humans and wild animals. Look for the Paint Rock historical marker.

ABOVE AND OPPOSITE: Barns and views along the byway

Start



Pigeon River



Fines Creek



Hebo Mountain



Luck



Hot Springs

End



FOREST HERITAGE SCENIC

Byway



AMERICA'S
BYWAYS®

The Forest Heritage Byway, a National Scenic Byway, allows travelers to explore some of North Carolina's richest forestlands by winding their way up and over the Blue Ridge Mountains, through the Pisgah National Forest, and along the French Broad River valley. Throughout the drive, visitors will encounter cascading waterfalls, stunning mountain views, fly fishing locals, and many of the animals that inhabit the western region of the state. As the byway winds its way back through the mountains towards the route's end, travelers will encounter the many coves and gaps that make this byway unique. This area is especially popular for avid bicyclists because of the quick turns and steep grades, so be sure to pay attention when driving the route.

Getting There

The byway begins at the US 64, NC 280, and US 276 intersection about 3.4 miles east of downtown Brevard.

- Follow US 276 (Pisgah Hwy) north for 29.4 miles to the community of Woodrow. (US 276 becomes Cruso Rd after passing beneath the Blue Ridge Parkway.)
- Turn left onto NC 215 S (Love Joy Rd) and travel 2.9 miles.
- Turn left to continue following NC 215 S (Lake Logan Rd) eventually becoming Parkway Road. Follow for 32.1 miles to the intersection with US 64 (Roseman Hwy) just west of Rosman where the byway ends. (This is about 12 miles west of the byway's beginning.)

Points of Interest

 Brevard, established in 1861 and named for Ephraim Brevard who drafted the Mecklenburg Resolves of 1775, has become a haven for fans of the outdoors, the arts, and bluegrass music. As a side trip, venture over to the local Brevard College and try to sneak a glimpse of the famous white squirrels that live there.

 At the beginning of the byway visitors will see a pair of stone pillars built to honor Transylvania County residents who served in World War I. They also mark the entrance to the Pisgah National Forest, which was established in 1916 and encompasses more than 500,000 acres. (35) A US Forest Service information center with information on the historical and recreational activities that the forest provides is located about two miles from the pillars.



 The Pisgah Forest National Fish Hatchery, just west of the information center, raises thousands of trout to be released into and replenish local mountain streams. The hatchery also offers educational opportunities for all ages as well as an interpretive walking trail that helps to explain the processes of the program.

 Looking Glass Falls is a powerful 60 foot waterfall that sits right off the byway route. It is named after Looking Glass Rock, a monolithic granite face that gleams like a mirror from the water seeping out of the mountain across the stone. A pull-off is provided for visitors to safely enjoy the view of the falls.

 Sliding Rock Falls provides the opportunity for visitors to enjoy a cool slide down a gradually sloping rock face into a deep pool. During the summer months, hundreds of locals and tourists flock to the



Counties: Haywood, Jackson, and Transylvania

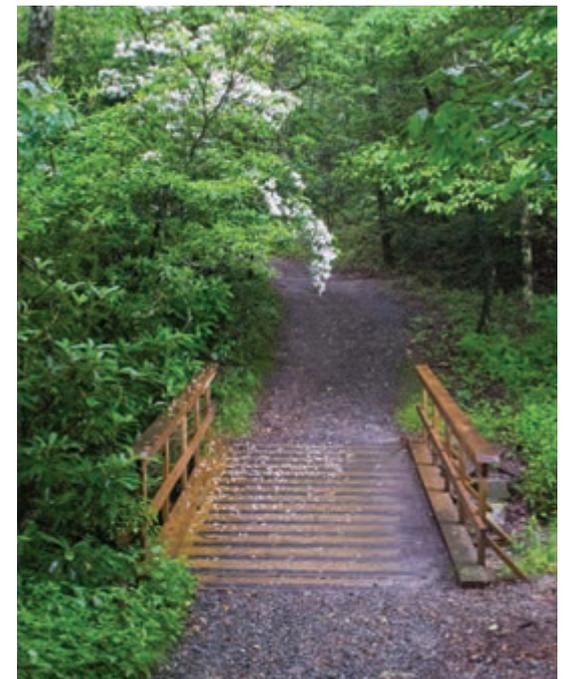
Byway Distance: 64.4 Miles

Drive Time: 1hr 50 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

OPPOSITE: Cabin at the Cradle of Forestry

BELOW: Blooming native shrubs and trees at Pink Beds.





falls to enjoy the water. A bathhouse is provided for a place to change clothes.

 The Cradle of Forestry, just up the road from Sliding Rock, is the birthplace of scientific forestry and forestry education through the work of Dr. Carl A. Schenck in 1898. Dr. Schenck was the forest supervisor for George Vanderbilt's 100,000-acre Biltmore Forest and founded the first forestry school in the United States at the Biltmore Estate near Asheville.

 Another gem of the byway is the Pink Beds, an upland bog with a dense growth of pink blooming rhododendrons and laurels that is a stunning display to see during the early summer.

 Lake Logan, an 80-acre reservoir, is a mountain treasure with its shimmering waters spreading around the sweeping Pisgah Forest. The community of Sunburst, located along its shores, gets its name from the swiftness of the sun as it rises over Cold

Mountain to announce the morning. This is the fictional setting of the book and movie *Cold Mountain*.

 The French Broad River (North Fork section), named for the 18th-century French inhabitants of the territory west of the Blue Ridge where the river drained, can be found today with its banks filled with fly fishermen trying to angle the next trout or locals looking to take a refreshing dip in the cold waters. (23)

Start



Brevard



WWI Memorial



Pisgah National Fish
Hatchery



Looking Glass
Falls



Sliding Rock



OPPOSITE LEFT:
Bethel

OPPOSITE RIGHT:
Sunburst Falls &
Cascades off of
NC 215

ABOVE: Looking
Glass Falls off of
US-276

RIGHT: Lake Logan
along NC 215



**The Cradle of
Forestry**



Pink Beds



Lake Logan

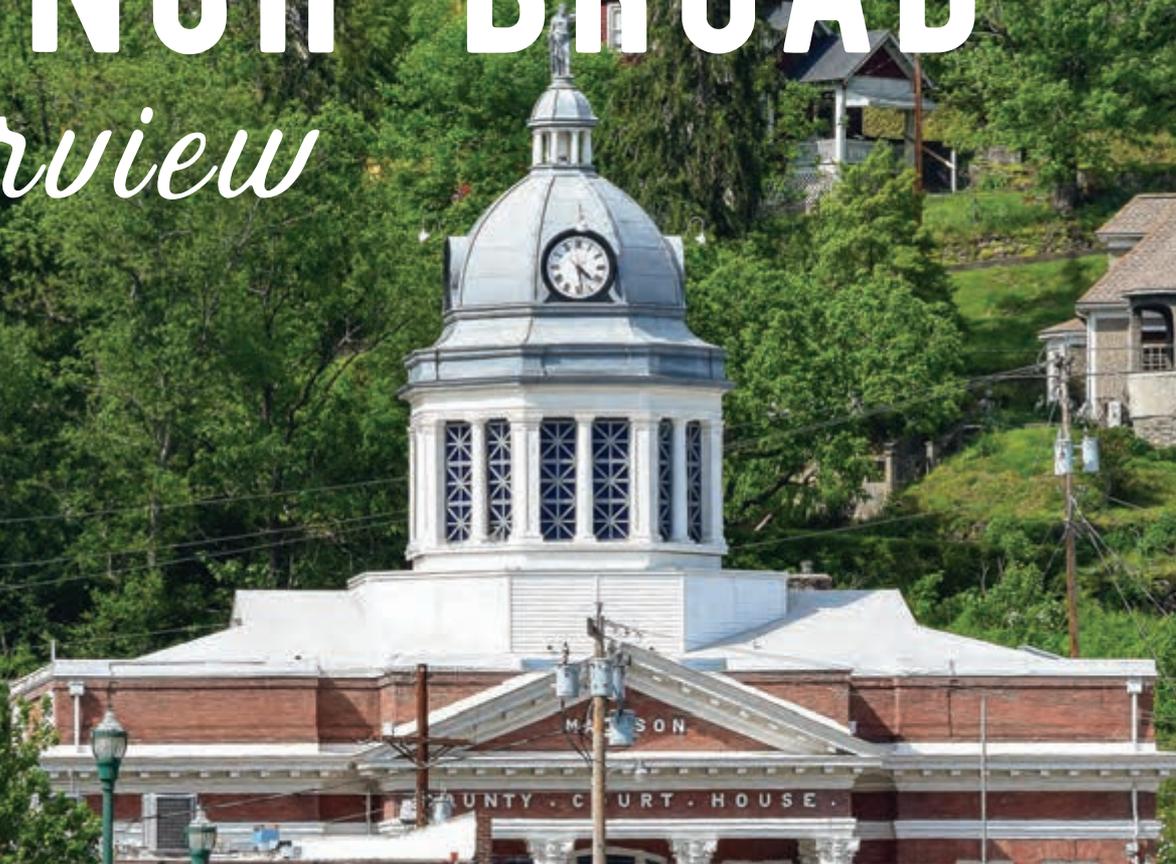


**North Fork of the
French Broad River**

End

FRENCH BROAD

Overview



The French Broad Overview meanders its way west from Weaverville to Marshall along the active banks of the French Broad River. The French Broad River is the longest free flowing river in the state. Although the river was originally used to transport goods, it is now used as a recreational playground with locals and tourists flocking to the river in the summer months to go canoeing, tubing, and rafting. (23) Nevertheless, the French Broad still evokes feelings of awe with its mighty, everchanging waters. Wilma Dykeman, author of the 1955 regional classic *The French Broad*, recalls: "I could stand in one small corner of the world and be part of its vast design...I know that my place and river is not an isolated corner of the world. It is an artery at its heart." (17) This road, like many others in river valleys, was built following old Native American trading paths that led to trading posts and villages in the Tennessee and Ohio River valleys. Note the palisades, or sheer rock walls, that line the right side of the road. Over time, the wide river cut away at the rock valley walls. Migrating animals and Native Americans used this passage to cross through the Eastern United States' tallest mountains. When European settlers arrived, they also followed the river valleys and paths set by those before them and widened the paths into roads. With the arrival of trains, river valleys again provided the path of least resistance.

Getting There

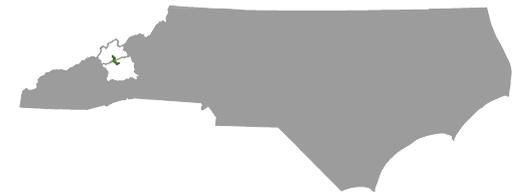
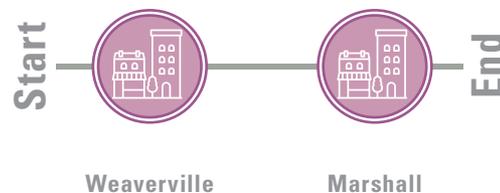
The byway begins at the intersections of US 25/US 70 and Monticello Rd in Weaverville 0.4 miles west of I-26, Exit 19 interchange.

- Turn left onto Monticello Rd (SR 1727) and travel 2.7 miles.
- Turn right onto NC 251 (Old Marshall Hwy) and travel 9.2 miles.
- After crossing the Ivey River Bridge, veer left to travel the next 2.4 miles on US 25/US 70 Bus which becomes Main St in Marshall. This will bring you to the main intersection in Marshall and the only bridge in town crossing the French Broad River.
- Continue straight on Main St for the next 1.6 miles to the intersection with US 25/US 70 Bypass where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Weaverville, a small town first settled in the 1700s, is the home to the Vance Birthplace State Historic Site. Zebulon B. Vance was North Carolina's Civil War governor from 1862–1865. He also served in the US Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. The Vance historic site offers presentations on early mountain settler life.

 The Town of Marshall, established in 1852, is named after the former US Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall—the longest-serving chief justice in Supreme Court history. As a small town perched upon the banks of French Broad in the western Carolina mountains, it is the quintessential mountain community that's full of culture, history, and amazing scenery.



Counties: Buncombe and Madison

Total Distance: 16.3 Miles

Drive Time: 30 min

OPPOSITE: Madison County Courthouse in Marshall

BELOW: Old church building in Marshall and the French Broad River



HISTORIC FLAT ROCK SCENIC

Byway

The Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway, named for a large expanse of granite used as a Cherokee meeting and ceremonial site, treks through a historic community with scenic vistas and forested landscapes that offer travelers a look into the rich architectural, religious, and recreational history of the Flat Rock village. The village was a popular haven for affluent Charlestonians, Europeans, and plantation owners and was often known as the “Little Charleston of the mountains.” These visitors left evidence of their stays in the many beautiful historic homes in town. Historians and enthusiasts alike may be intrigued with the lineage of Southern aristocracy found among the tombstones in the St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church Cemetery. As author Louise Howe Bailey explained, “Flat Rock lies in a pocket of history, weaving a recollection of the Great Cherokee tribe, pioneers, and Charlestonians into a pattern uniquely her own.” Many historic homes and beautiful areas extend beyond the reaches of this byway and are waiting to be explored.



Counties: Henderson
Byway Route: 8.5 miles
Non-Byway Route: 2.9 miles
Total Distance: 11.4 miles
Drive Time: 20 min



Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 225 (Greenville Hwy) and Pinnacle Mountain Rd (SR 1114), 1 mile north of US-25.

- Travel North 2.7 miles to Rutledge Drive (SR 1166)
- Turn left and travel 0.9 miles to Erkwod Dr (SR 1164)
- Turn Left and travel 0.9 miles to Kanuga Road (SR 1127)

OPPOSITE: Flat Rock Village

LEFT: The Flat Rock Playhouse



- Turn left onto Kanuga Rd (SR 1127) and travel 2.9 miles (This section is not part of the designated byway)
- Turn left onto Little River Road (SR 1123)
- Travel 4 miles back to NC 225 (Greenville Road) where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 St. John in the Wilderness, a Gothic revival church built in 1836, is considered the oldest Episcopal church in Western North Carolina.

 "The great flat rock," once frequently used as a meeting place for pioneers and merchants, is now a meeting place for the Flat Rock Playhouse. Called the "State Theater of North Carolina," the playhouse is considered to have one of the best "summer series" productions in the country and offers year-round classes for aspiring actors, young and old. The theater operates from April through December. (11)

 The Woodfield Inn (formerly known as the Farmer Hotel) was built in 1852. The hotel has been a popular retreat for coastal South Carolinians for more than 100 years.

 Although fairly short in length, the hike up to the top of Glassy Mountain on the Glassy trail can be a bit challenging but is worth the expansive view from the 2,783 foot tall summit.

 Connemara, the Carl Sandburg National Memorial Site and home to the Pulitzer Prize winning author for 22 years, was built in 1839 by Christopher G. Memminger, the first secretary of the Confederate Treasury. Sandburg, known for his 20th-century activism for the American people, published more than one third of his works while living at Connemara. Today, the historic antebellum house and the dairy goat barn (1900s) still

Start



St. John in the Wilderness



Flat Rock Playhouse



Woodfield Inn



Glassy Mountain

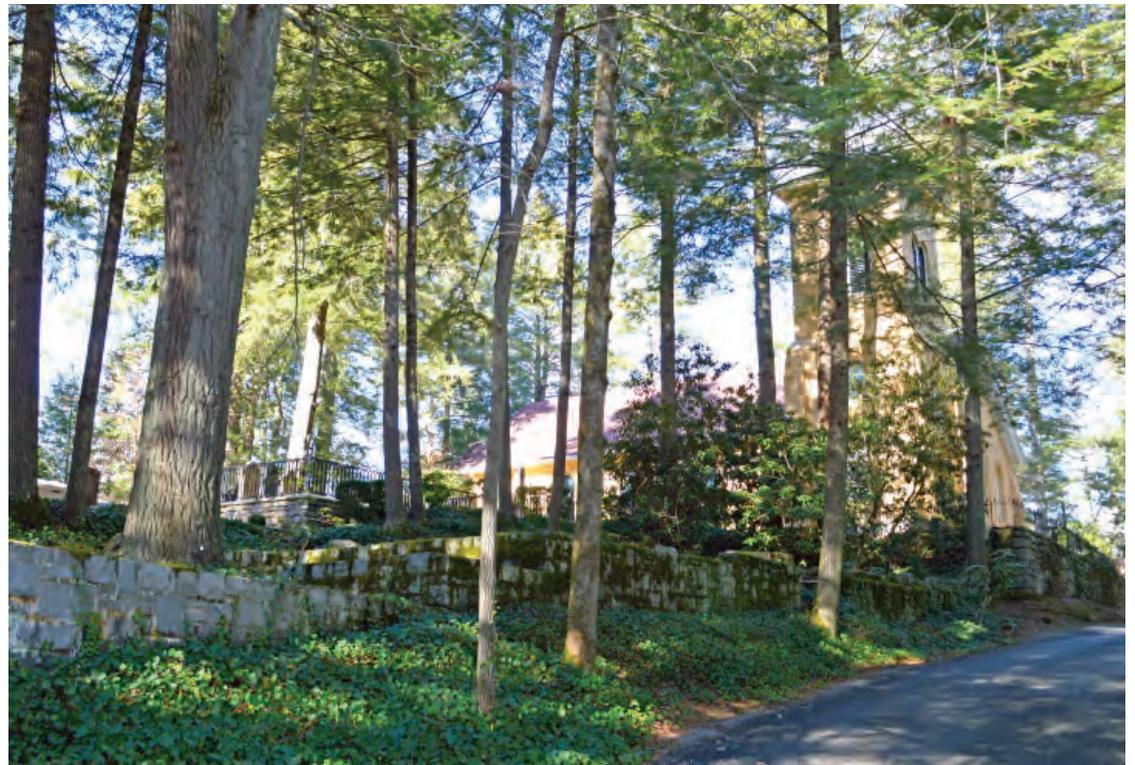


Connemara

End



preserve the legacy that the Sandburgs left behind and remind visitors that, as Sandburg said in 1922, "Nothing happens unless first a dream." (11)



LEFT: Fall color along the byway

ABOVE LEFT: Flat Rock Village

ABOVE RIGHT: Connemara

RIGHT: St. John in the Wilderness

INTERSTATE 26 SCENIC *Highway*

An aerial photograph showing a multi-lane highway (Interstate 26) curving through a lush, green, forested mountain valley. The road is flanked by dense trees and greenery. In the background, rolling mountain ranges are visible under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is scenic and natural.

Located in some of North Carolina's highest terrain, the Interstate 26 Scenic Highway in Madison County takes motorists straight through the heart of the Appalachian Mountains and offers stunning views, as well as engineering and environmental wonders. The byway begins in Mars Hill. Originally called Pleasant Hill, this area was first settled around 1790. The community grew up around the establishment of the French Broad Baptist Academy in 1856. In 1859, the school was chartered as Mars Hill College, named after a Biblical reference in Acts to a location the apostle Paul visited. The town itself received a charter in 1893, and officially changed its name to Mars Hill to reflect the influence of the college.

Getting There

The byway begins at Exit 9 at the interchange of I-26 and US 19/US 23A.

- Follow I-26 West to the NC/TN State Line where the byway ends near the Appalachian Trail.

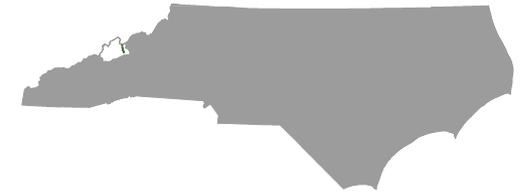
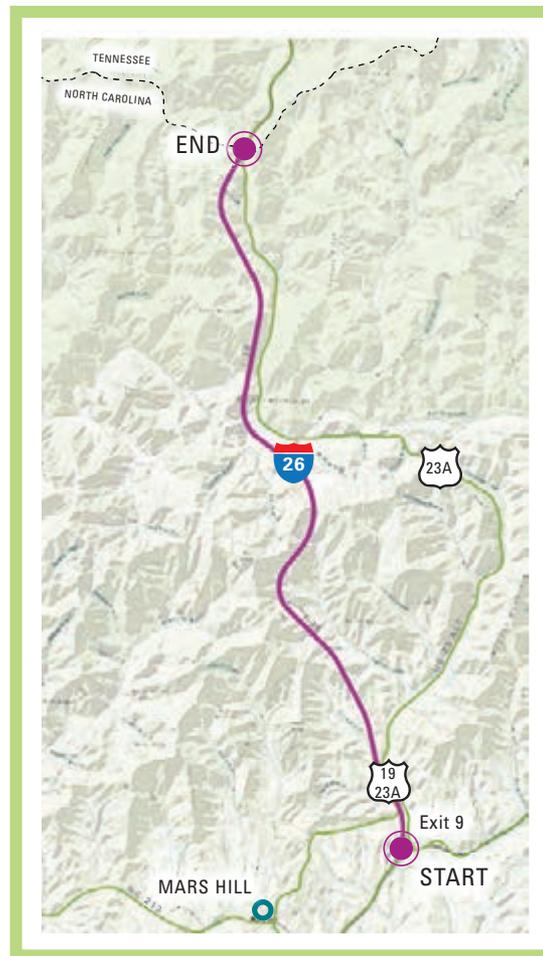
Points of Interest

Just west of Exit 9 on I-26 is the first of two scenic overlooks along the highway. In addition to sweeping views of the Madison County landscape, careful observers will spot the Blue Ridge Parkway across the valley and the tiny California Creek Church below the highway.

Near the overlook, but not visible from the interstate, is one of two wildlife passages constructed underneath the highway. These eight-foot by eight-foot concrete culverts allow bears, deer, and other wildlife to safely cross the highway corridor without entering the roadway. The second scenic overlook is located at the welcome center. From the observation point, visitors can view Mount Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Mississippi River, as well as Black Mountain, Grandfather Mountain, and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Below the observation area, visitors will find an educational display on a native chestnut tree. Passing the welcome center, the highway climbs until it reaches its highest point, Buckner Gap. At nearly

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Panoramic mountain views from the scenic observation area



Counties: Madison
Total Distance: 9 Miles
Drive Time: 10 min





5,000 feet above sea level, this point is the highest elevation on any interstate in North Carolina. Near the top of Buckner Gap is one of NCDOT's first monarch butterfly sanctuaries, which is not easily visible from the highway. The unique wildlife habitat was created to enhance the environment along the highway's roadsides. A few miles from the state line, the highway crosses the Laurel River near the Wolf Laurel community. At 235 feet, the Laurel River bridge is the tallest in North Carolina. Because of its height and the severity of winter weather in North Carolina's higher elevations, the bridge was designed with an automatic de-icing system. Careful observers will notice several

nozzles on the bridge's sides that are part of this system. The highway's second animal crossing is located 1.5 miles past the bridge. At this point, I-26 approaches Sam's Gap and the Tennessee state line. The Appalachian Trail runs under the highway through an underpass at the state line. A small parking lot was constructed here for trail hikers.

 The North Carolina Welcome Center, located alongside the eastbound lanes, was constructed to resemble a typical mountain farmstead. In addition to restroom facilities, travel information and vending machines, the center offers exhibits related to mountain life and culture. Inside the welcome center,

travelers will find displays of local arts and crafts as well as an exhibit outlining the construction of this segment of I-26.

ABOVE: Wildflowers from the NCDOT Wildflower Program along the byway

OPPOSITE: Fall color and mountain views from the observation area





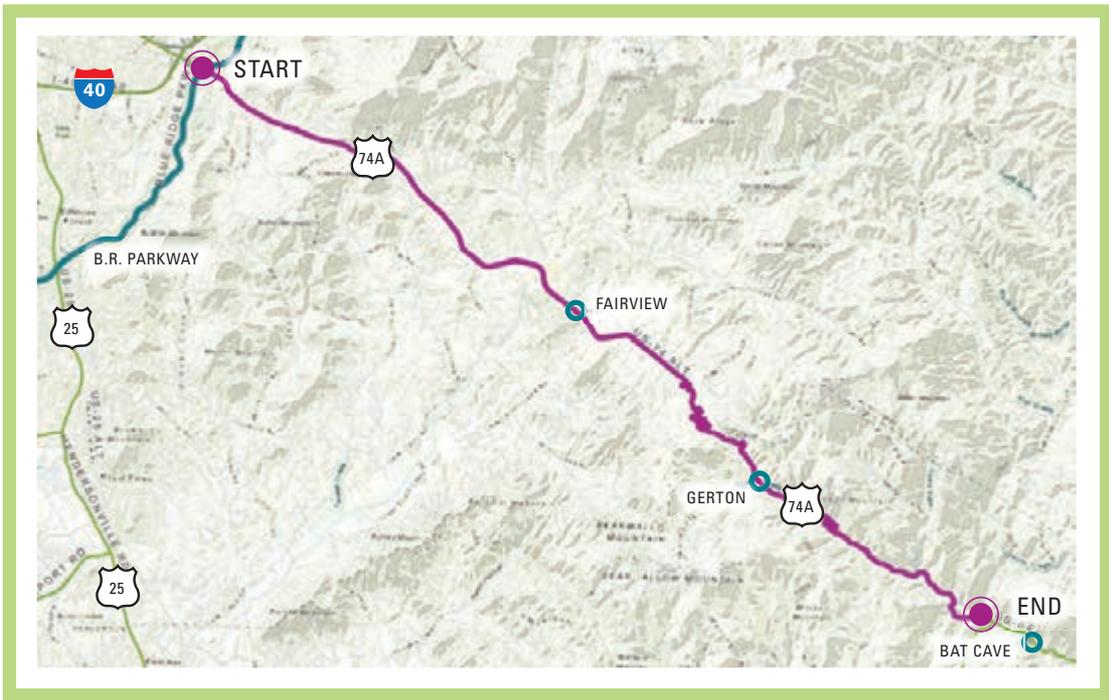
DROVER'S

Road



Drover's Road byway traverses through a wide range of landscapes from a natural plateau to narrow mountain gorges with spectacular views. The hillsides along the byway are covered in stands of mature trees, and during the spring and early summer, motorists are treated to a visual symphony of flowering trillium and mountain laurel. As the byway works its way through the mountains from Asheville, notice Little Pisgah Mountain (elevation 4,412 feet) to the east, whose peak was once known to the Cherokee as Konnatoga. As you pass through the Hickory Nut Gorge, keep a look out for Bearwallow Mountain and Hickory Nut Creek (also known as the Rocky Broad). The high, steep sides of the gorge are covered in a cascade of rocks, trees, and rhododendron. In the spring, travelers may see trees with deep lavender blooms scattered along this drive. George Vanderbilt originally brought this plant, known as the Paulownia tree or Empress tree, to the Carolinas, but since then, it has become highly invasive to this mountainous region. Though this area has changed considerably during the past century, its beauty still abounds, and the paths blazed through this region a century ago are the same avenues of choice today.





Counties: Buncombe and Henderson

Total Distance: 16.9 Miles

Drive Time: 30 min

Start



Hickory Nut Gap



Gerton

End

Getting There

The byway begins at U.S. 74 Alt at the Blue Ridge Parkway just east of I-40 and north of Fairview.

- Head East on U.S.-74 Alt for 16.9 miles to the intersection of U.S. 74 Alt/US 64 and NC 9 in Bat Cave where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 The Hickory Nut Gap, one of two gaps in the Blue Ridge Mountains, was used by early eastern settlers to reach the beautiful Asheville plateaus. Many farmers drove

flocks of market-bound livestock through this gap, giving the byway its name. This gap was once known as Sherrill’s Gap after a historic inn and tavern located nearby and owned by Bedford Sherrill. The inn, open between 1834 and 1909, was a well-known comfort stop for weary travelers, settlers, drovers, and Civil War soldiers. Listed as a National Register Historic Site, the inn is now maintained as a private residence and is visible from the wide curves between Ferguson Mountain and Tater Knob.

OPPOSITE: Bear Wallow Baptist Church

RIGHT: Colorful sunset on Drover’s Road





 The community of Gerton, formerly known as Pump, is as unique as the name itself. As the story goes, the town's original name came from the frequent practice of thirsty patrons leaving money by a local water pump, and upon their return, they would find a jar of a clear potent liquid unique to these hills. The drive through this area offers several craft shops, stores, campgrounds, and roadside stands. However, the infamous pump is gone.

ABOVE and OPPOSITE: Pastures and farm land along Drover's Road

RIGHT: Sherrill's Inn





MOUNT MITCHELL SCENIC

Drive

Every mile of the Mount Mitchell Scenic Drive is packed with exceptional vistas of natural and geological sights, boundless recreation opportunities, and rare glimpses into Appalachian mountain culture and history. The route is a natural outdoor classroom, encompassing everything from the East's highest peaks to the historical Nu-Wray Inn, which was built in 1833 and still exemplifies mountain hospitality. As the byway winds nearly five miles through Mount Mitchell State Park, it provides a glimpse at the recreational opportunities offered by the park and the educational insights of this high mountain environment. As travelers descend the mountain and continue their trek along the Blue Ridge Parkway, they are presented with expanding vistas of the Black Mountains. Bear, deer, raccoon, turkey, fox, coyote, and many other animals may be seen by sharp-eyed observers. As a bird watcher's paradise, the ecosystems found at these elevations provide opportunities to see birds of prey only found in more northern climates, such as the Peregrine Falcon and the Northern Saw-whet Owl. Eventually, the route will leave the Parkway and descend several thousand feet into the South Toe River Valley. The South Toe River drains the eastern slopes of the Black Mountains, which can be viewed by looking up and to the left from the valley floor. Near the end of the byway, visitors can explore the quaint mountain town of Burnsville. On the west end of town, colorful squares hanging on the sides of barns and businesses are part of the Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina. Each block represents a different quilting pattern reflecting the heritage of the place in which it is located. Homesteads, farms, pastures, churches, and small communities dot the landscape in these rural areas of Yancey and Madison Counties.



Counties: Madison and Yancey
Total Distance: 52.5 Miles
Drive Time: 1 hr 20 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

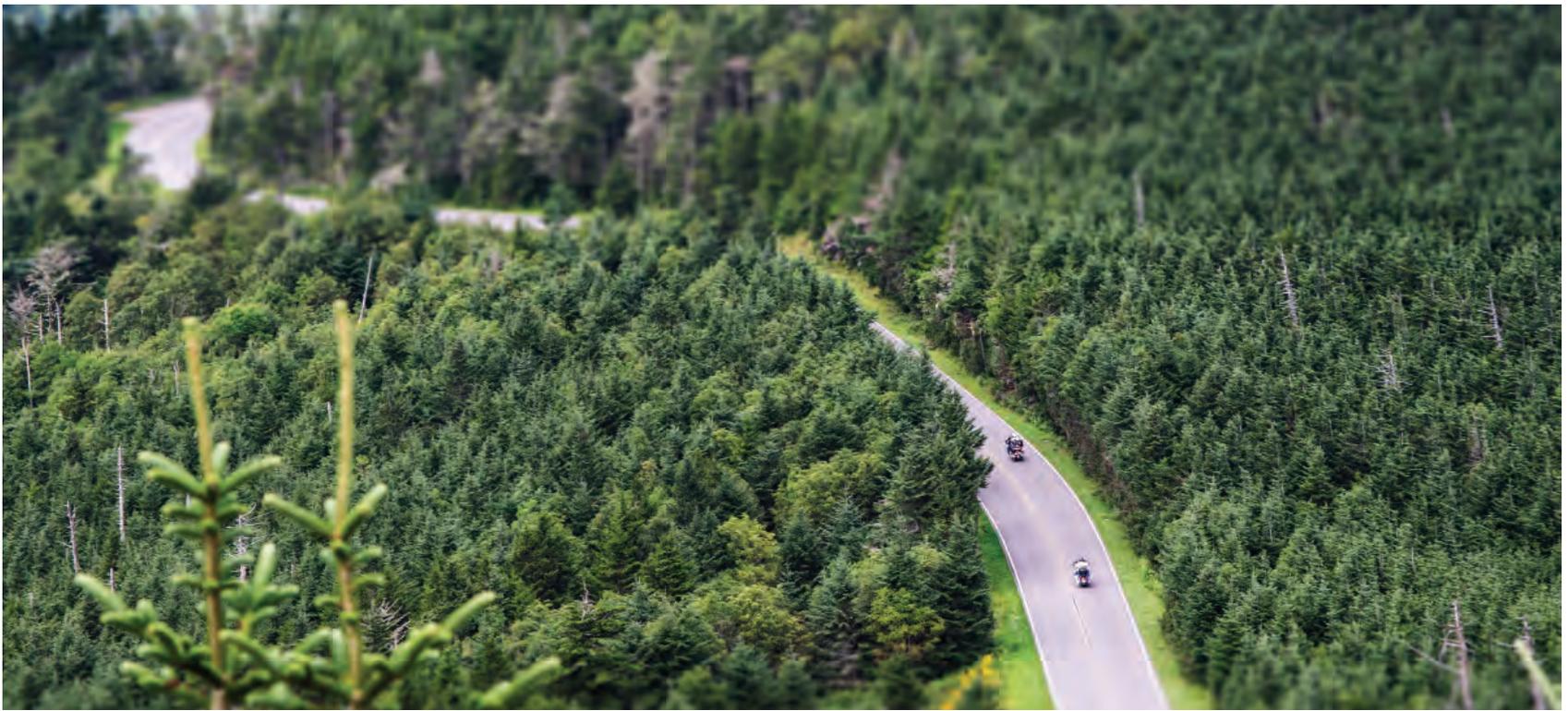
BELOW: Approaching Mount Mitchell

Getting There

The byway begins at the summit parking lot of Mount Mitchell State Park and the beginning of NC 128.

- Follow NC 128 south for 4.5 miles.
- Turn left onto the Blue Ridge Pkwy and travel 11.2 miles to the Exit just past mile marker 345 and the twin tunnels. Exit to the right off of the parkway and follow the ramp to NC 80.
- Turn left and follow NC 80 N for 13.9 miles.
- Turn left onto Micaville Loop and travel 0.5 mile.
- Turn left onto US 19 W and travel 4.9 miles.





- In Burnsville, veer right onto E Main St. and follow E Main St around the town square and onto W Main St. for 2.1 miles.
- Turn right onto US 19 W and travel 15.3 miles to the I-26 interchange at Exit 9 where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Mount Mitchell is the highest peak in both North Carolina and the eastern United States at an altitude of 6,684 feet. It is one of

16 peaks over 6,000-feet tall making up the Black Mountain Range, which accounts for more than one-quarter of the 6,000-footers east of the Mississippi River. The Black Mountains themselves, with peaks such as Mitchell, Big Tom, and Craig, reflect the history of the exploration and ultimate preservation of these lofty mountains. In 1844, Elisha Mitchell, a professor from the University of North Carolina, documented the peak which now bears his name as the highest in the United States. He was led to this peak by local guide and bear hunter Big

Tom Wilson. These peaks were protected through the efforts of North Carolina Governor Locke Craig, who in 1915 secured legislation to create the first state park. Mount Mitchell State Park was established to return the mountain to its natural state and intercede in the exploitation of the industrial scale lumbering that was destroying the East's tall summits.

 The Black Mountain Campground possesses the trailhead for the Mount Mitchell Trail and allows hikers to climb from the valley floor and ascend nearly 4,000 feet

Start



Mount Mitchell



Mount Mitchell
Trail



Micaville



Burnsville

End

to the summit of Mount Mitchell. More than 70 miles of hiking trails are within 15 minutes of the Mount Mitchell Scenic Drive, including some that lead to spectacular waterfalls such as Roaring Fork Waterfall and Setrock Creek Waterfall. Fishing opportunities are numerous with trout predominant in the cool mountain streams and small-mouth bass further down in the rivers.

 Look for signs of old mining operations in the small unincorporated town of Micaville, which is appropriately named, as the area is known for the huge 'sheets' of mica mined there.

 The town square of Burnsville is a true mountain treasure replete with a statue of Captain Otway Burns, naval hero of the War of 1812, standing guard over the mountains. Also found here is the 1833 Nu-Wray Inn, the historic McElroy House, which served as the Western Headquarters of the Home Guard during the Civil War, and the Burnsville Sundial, the largest vertical sundial in North Carolina and the only quilt-block sundial in the world.

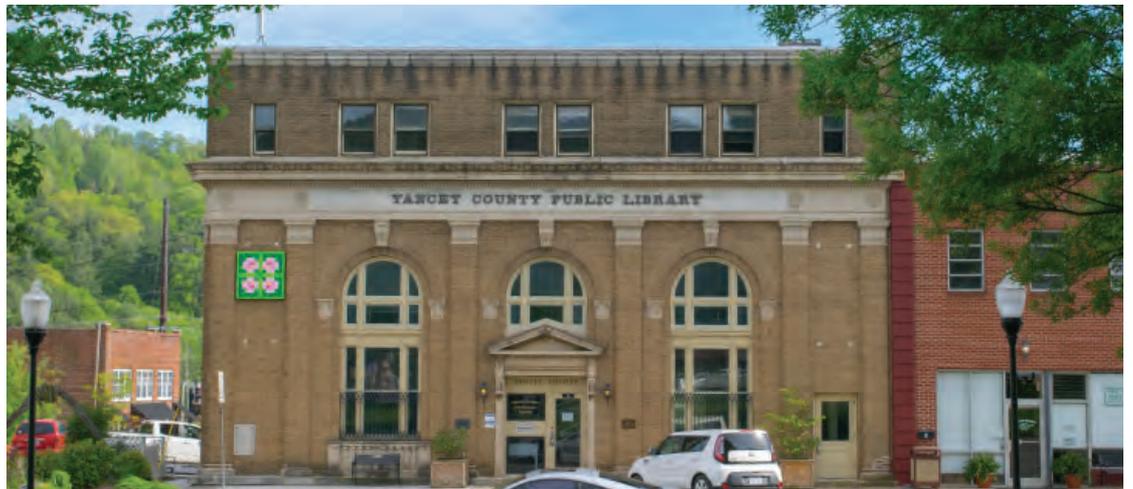


OPPOSITE: Motorcycle enthusiasts enjoy the drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway to Mount Mitchell

ABOVE RIGHT: Mount Mitchell before a storm

CENTER RIGHT: Late afternoon on the Blue Ridge Parkway

BELOW RIGHT: Barn quilts seen in Downtown Burnsville

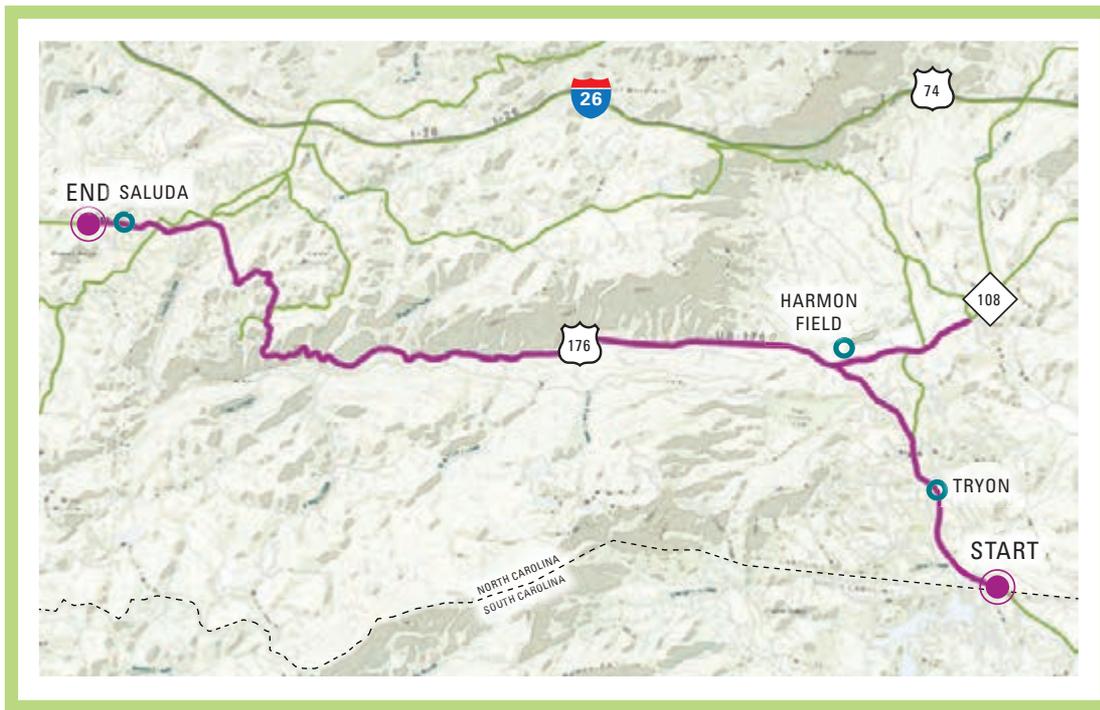


PACOLET RIVER

Byway



Beginning at the South Carolina state line, the Pacolet River Byway traces US 176 through the Tryon "Thermal Belt," a unique weather phenomenon where a microclimate is created that is ordinarily free of dew and frost. This valley road crosses the Pacolet River several times and parallels the Saluda Grade, the steepest standard-gauge mainline railway grade in the United States. Opening in 1878, the section is 3 miles long and is said to be between 4-5% grade. (19) Old railroad depots, log cabins, a vaudeville/movie theater, and several other historic buildings are in the towns of Saluda and Tryon ready to be discovered.



Counties: Polk
Total Distance: 11 Miles
Drive Time: 20 min

OPPOSITE: Pearson's Falls & Glen in Saluda

BELOW: Nina Simone Plaza in downtown Tryon (Photo Credit: Meg Rogers)

Getting There

The byway begins on US 176 (Trade St) at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line in Tryon.

- Follow US 176 (Trade St) for 1.6 miles and turn left at the traffic signal to continue following US 176 W.
- Continue for 0.9 miles to Harmon Field Rd. From here, you can take a byway extension by turning right onto Harmon Field Rd which will add 1.2 miles one way, or you can remain on the main route by continuing straight on US 176.

Extension Route:

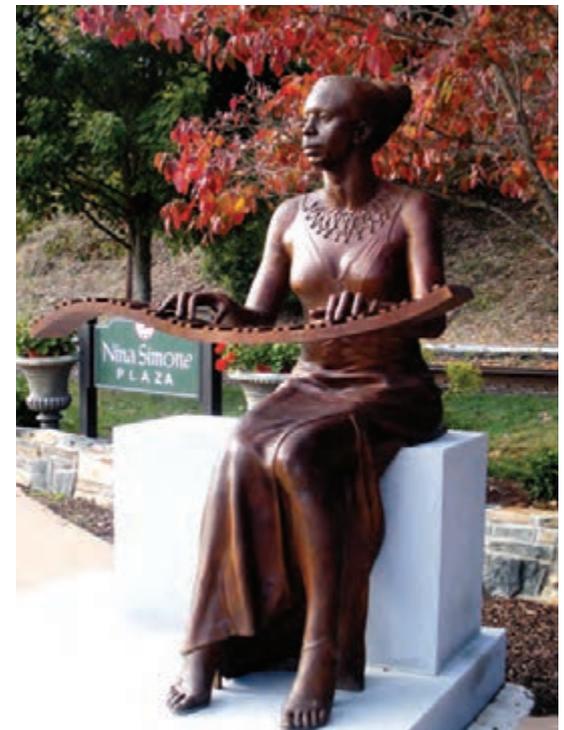
- *If you choose to ride the byway extension, turn right onto Harmon Field Rd and continue 0.7 miles to NC 108 (Lynn Rd)*

and turn left. Travel 0.5 miles to where the extension ends at the Pacolet River.

- *To return to the main byway backtrack on NC 108 and Harmon Field Rd to US 176 and turn right.*
- Continue on US 176 for the next 7.5 miles through Saluda to the Henderson County line where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 The Nina Simone Plaza, in the heart of Historic Downtown Tryon, features Zenos Frudakis's 2010 monumental bronze sculpture recognizing the remarkable life of Tryon native Eunice Waymon, better known as Nina Simone, who was recognized internationally for her prodigious talent and contribution to the musical arts. While continuing to pursue her dreams, she attended the Juilliard School of Music in New

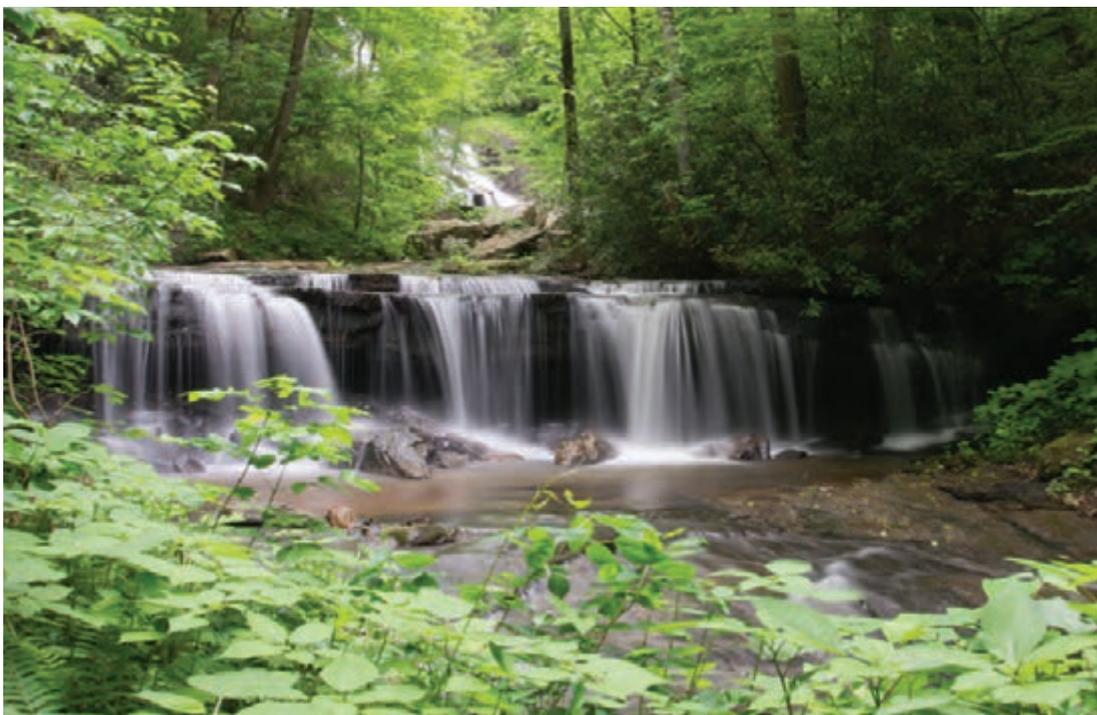


York City and took private piano lessons from Vladimir Sokoloff, a professor at the Curtis institute of Music in Philadelphia, which had denied her application. With her unique style and powerful compositions, she became known as the “High Priestess of Soul” and affirmed herself as a pop-culture musical gem in the late 20th-century, becoming a “powerful musical force in a global theatre.” (30) The site is also designated as a Blue Ridge National Heritage Area and Blue Ridge Music Trail site.

At the intersection of Harmon Field Road and US 176, motorists should note the Cherokee Boundary Treaty Marker. The unadorned bronze plaque is attached to a large flat-faced boulder standing approximately five-feet tall that roughly forms the shape of a blunt arrowhead. The marker commemorates the short-lived 1767 boundary treaty between then Royal Governor of North Carolina William Tryon and the Cherokee nation. (6) This treaty, the Western Boundary Agreement of 1767, was one of a number of attempts to re-establish peace between the Cherokee and the colonists by establishing a definitive line between white settlers and the Cherokee after white settlers continually encroached on Cherokee land. (3)

Along the Pacolet River, travelers can visit Harmon Field, a 47-acre community recreational area with a log cabin, covered picnic area, fishing deck, playground, horseshoe pits, track, tennis courts, baseball fields, and horse show arenas. The field is open to the public, but the log cabin and covered picnic area are available by reservation only, with a small fee for the log cabin rental. (16)

Pearson’s Falls Natural Heritage Site, near Saluda, is a 268-acre botanical wonderland where visitors may hike, bird watch, or picnic. There is said to be as many as 200 species of rare wildflowers, ferns, and algae within its lush forest. (34)



RIGHT: Pearson’s Falls

OPPOSITE: (Above) Downtown Tryon (Right) Harmon Field (Left) The Saluda Depot

Start



Nina Simone Plaza



1767 Cherokee Treaty



Harmon Field



Pearson’s Falls Natural Heritage Area

End



BLACK MOUNTAIN

Rag

Earning its name from an old fiddle tune, the Black Mountain Rag, much like the traditional rag song style, is full of twists, turns, and ups and downs. The Black Mountains were deemed “black” because of the dark green foliage of the Landa Firs that cover the mountainsides in this part of the state. Another interesting site near the byway is Mount Mitchell, which is the highest mountain east of the Mississippi River and may be reached from the nearby Blue Ridge Parkway. Along the sharp curves and hairpin turns of NC 9 lies the town of Bat Cave, which was aptly named for a nearby cave inhabited by these winged mammals. Towards the end of the route nearing Hendersonville, enjoy the beautiful masses of mountain laurel and some of North Carolina’s finest apple orchards.

Getting There

The byway begins in Black Mountain at the intersection of NC 9 (Broadway Ave) and US 70 (State St).

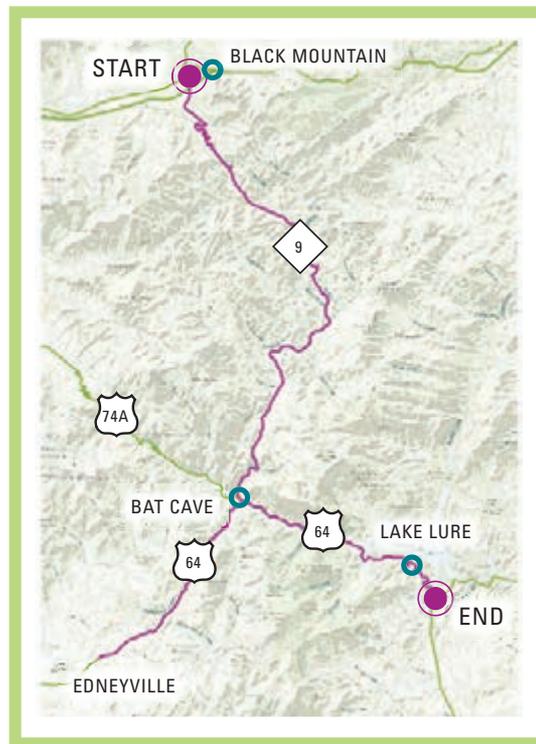
- Follow NC 9 south for 0.6 miles to the I-40 interchange.
- Continue on NC 9 south for the next 16.6 miles to the intersection with US 64/US 74 Alt.
- Turn left to continue following NC 9 S/ US 74 Alt. E (Gerton Highway) for 0.2 miles where US 64 joins.
- From here, you can choose to continue on the main byway route by continuing straight on NC 9/US 64/US 74 Alt or you can ride a byway extension by turning right onto US 64 W (Chimney Rock Rd) that will add 6.3 miles one way.

Extension Route:

- *If you choose to ride the byway extension, turn right at the intersection of NC 9/US 74 Alt. and US 64 and follow US 64 (Chimney Rock Rd) west 6.3 miles to Edneyville.*
- *To return to the main byway route, backtrack 6.3 miles on US 64 (Chimney Rock Rd) and turn right onto NC 9/US 64/ US 74 Alt.*
- Continue on NC 9 South/US 64 East/US 74 Alt. E for another 4.7 miles through the town of Lake Lure to the split of NC 9 and US 64/US74 Alt. where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Be sure to keep an eye out for the historic Chimney Rock between the



communities of Bat Cave and Chimney Rock. Chimney Rock is a weathered granite monolith that rises from Chimney Rock Mountain. Motorists may want to take a side trip to Chimney Rock State Park to visit this unique rock formation, which overlooks Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure.

 Hickory Nut Falls, cascading more than 400 feet into the Broad River, adds to the beautiful mountain scenery and has been featured in a number of movies including *Fire Starter*, *Last of the Mohicans*, and *A Breed Apart*. Just past the falls, settlers once crossed the tall mountains of Hickory Nut Gap to reach the Asheville plateau. In fact, historians believe that Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto passed through here around the year of 1540.

 The resort community of Lake Lure was established in 1927 and provided the scenery for the movie *Dirty Dancing*.



Counties: Buncombe, Henderson, and Rutherford

Main Byway Route: 24.6 miles

Extension Route: 6.3 miles

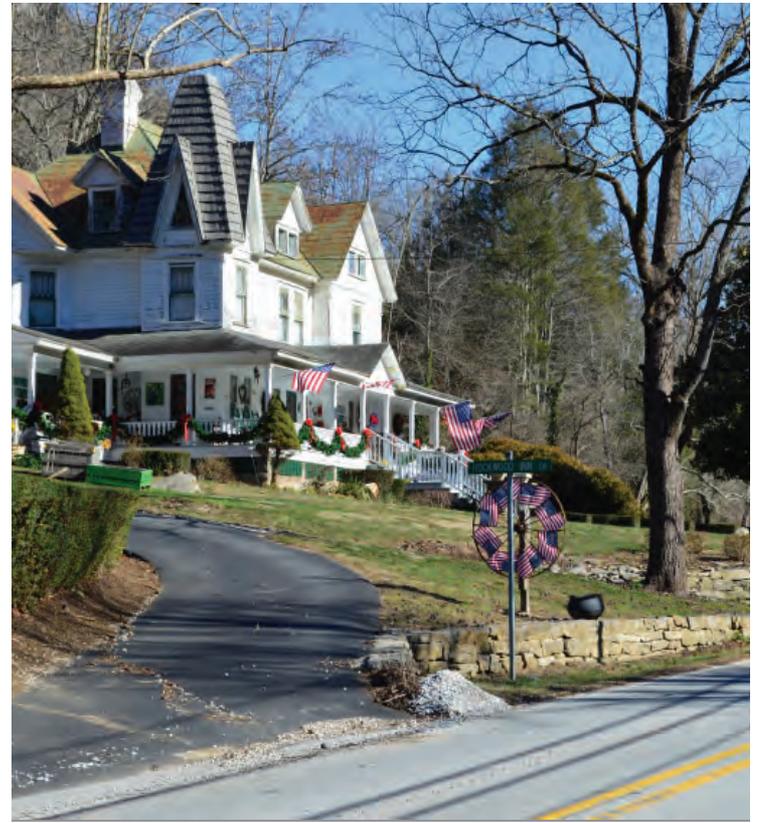
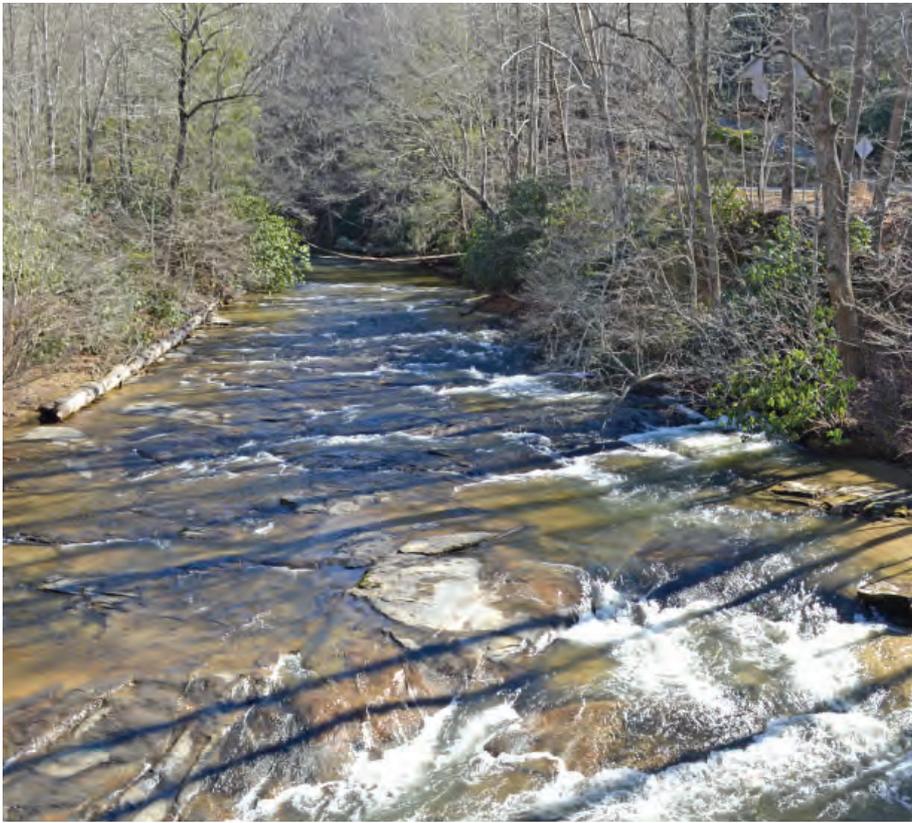
Total Byway Distance: 30.9 miles

Drive Time: 55 min

OPPOSITE: Lake Lure from Morse Park

BELOW: Public art on Lake Lure Flowering Bridge





 Pool Creek is home to North Carolina's famous bottomless pools—unique water features formed by the erosion of ancient rock. (This site is privately operated and charges an admission fee.)



ABOVE LEFT: Broad River

ABOVE RIGHT: Chimney Gift Shop

OPPOSITE: Chimney Rock Park Entrance

Start



Chimney Rock



Hickory Nut Falls



Lake Lure



Pool Creek

End



HIGHLANDS OF THE ROAN



Highlands of the Roan byway is more than just a scenic route that transports travelers across the majestic Appalachian Mountains. It is a route that explores the deep roots of Appalachian heritage and offers opportunities to be immersed in the local culture. As visitors meander through the quiet valleys of the mighty mountains in search of the Roan highlands, they will discover small farms, churches, and towns that offer opportunities to learn the art of local crafts such as pottery, weaving, and glass blowing. Along the way, keep an eye out for the many Christmas tree farms scattered throughout the hills. The byway ends at the Roan Mountain Rhododendron Gardens near Carvers Gap in the Pisgah National Forest with distinct views of the Black Mountain range to the east and the Roan Highlands to the north and west.

Getting There

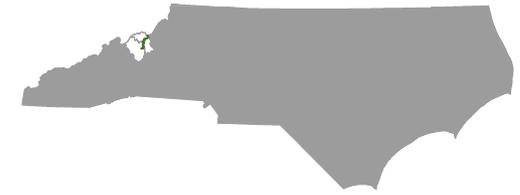
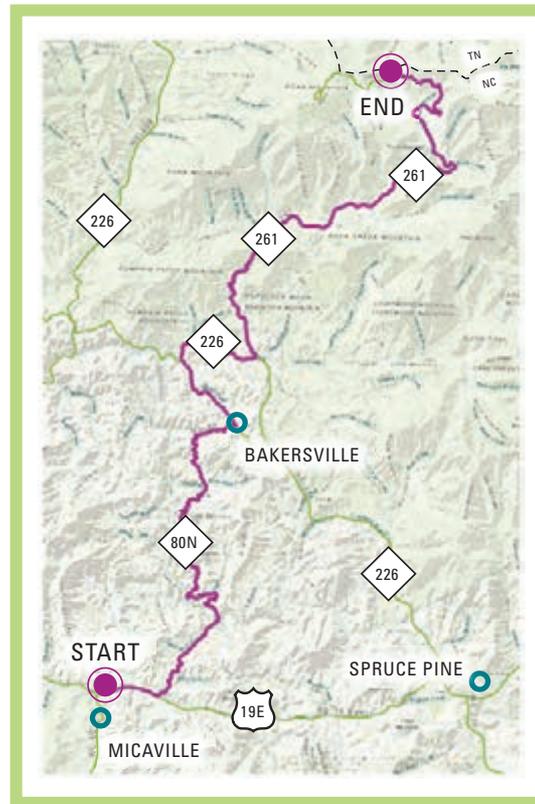
The byway begins at the intersection of US 19 E and NC 80 in the Micaville community in Yancey County.

- Follow US 19 E/NC 80 north for 1.25 miles and then make a left to keep following NC 80 north.
- Follow NC 80 north for the next 10.4 miles to the intersection with NC 226A.
- Turn left and follow NC 226A north for 2.1 miles.
- Turn right to follow NC 226 South for 2.5 miles.
- Turn left in the town of Bakersville to follow NC 261 for 12.7 miles to Carver's Gap in Pisgah National Forest near the North Carolina and Tennessee state.
- Turn left onto SR 1348 and follow for 1.9 miles to the Roan Mt. Rhododendron Gardens where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 The Mayland Earth to Sky Park, once a landfill, is the home to Bare Dark Sky Observatory, which allows visitors to explore the wonders of the stars.

 Founded in 1929, the nationally renowned Penland School of Craft in Bakersville is an international center for craft education to "support individual and artistic growth through creative practice and discovery." The 420-acre campus includes teaching studios, lodging, eateries, galleries, and a research library. They offer workshops on anything from wood working, printmaking,



Counties: Mitchell and Yancey

Byway Distance: 30.8 miles

Drive Time: 60 min

BELOW: Steeple of a church along the byway





and photography to iron/metal works, glass blowing, and textiles. (1)

 Kona Baptist Church, the Kona community's historic legacy, is symbolic of the common architectural forms that are found with rural mountain churches of Appalachia. The adjacent cemetery contains grave sites of Mitchell County's first settlers and tombstones that reflect households that split during the Civil War.

 Kona is also the home to the mysterious Frankie and Charlie Silvers saga. Frankie Silvers, a young bride of about 19, was convicted and hanged for the murder of her husband, Charlie. In December 1831, while in her home with her year-old daughter, she killed her husband with an ax and burned what she could of his remains in the fireplace of their home. She attempted to cover up her deed by reporting that Charlie had gotten lost on a hunting trip, but when searches failed to find any trace of him, they investigated closer to the Silvers' home and found the evidence of his death. Frankie never confessed publicly to the crime, and the reason for this tragedy is still unknown; however, many theories and legends surround the story today. (41)

 The Toe River, which runs parallel to much of the byway, offers exciting recreational opportunities to visitors of Loafers Glory, such as rafting, tubing, and fishing.

 In Bakersville, the Historic Mitchell County Courthouse, built around 1908 in the Classical Revival style, offers historic

Start



Mayland Earth to
Sky Park



Penland School
of Craft



Kona Baptist
Church



Local Mystery

lectures, musical events, and educational training throughout the year.

 At Carvers Gap (Elevation around 5,500 feet), travelers can stretch their legs and hike 1.7 miles to Grassy Ridge Bald (Elevation 6,189 feet), the highest point of the Appalachian Trail that has an unobstructed 360° view. The Grassy Ridge Bald, covered in a one-foot deep grass carpet, is one of three bald peaks along this trail that makes up the area known as Grassy Ridge, which spans roughly 7 miles. There are only nine such balds known in the world.

 Standing 6,285 feet tall, the Roan Mountain has the largest naturally grown gardens of Catawba Rhododendrons in the world. Be sure to visit the 600-acre Rhododendron Gardens from mid to late June to witness the magnificent display of magenta Rhododendron flowers that drape the landscape. (38) (A small parking fee is required for this area.)

OPPOSITE: The Toe River

BELOW: Pastoral views along the byway

RIGHT: Fall color along NC 261



Toe River



Historic Mitchell
County Courthouse



Carver's Gap and
Appalachian Trail



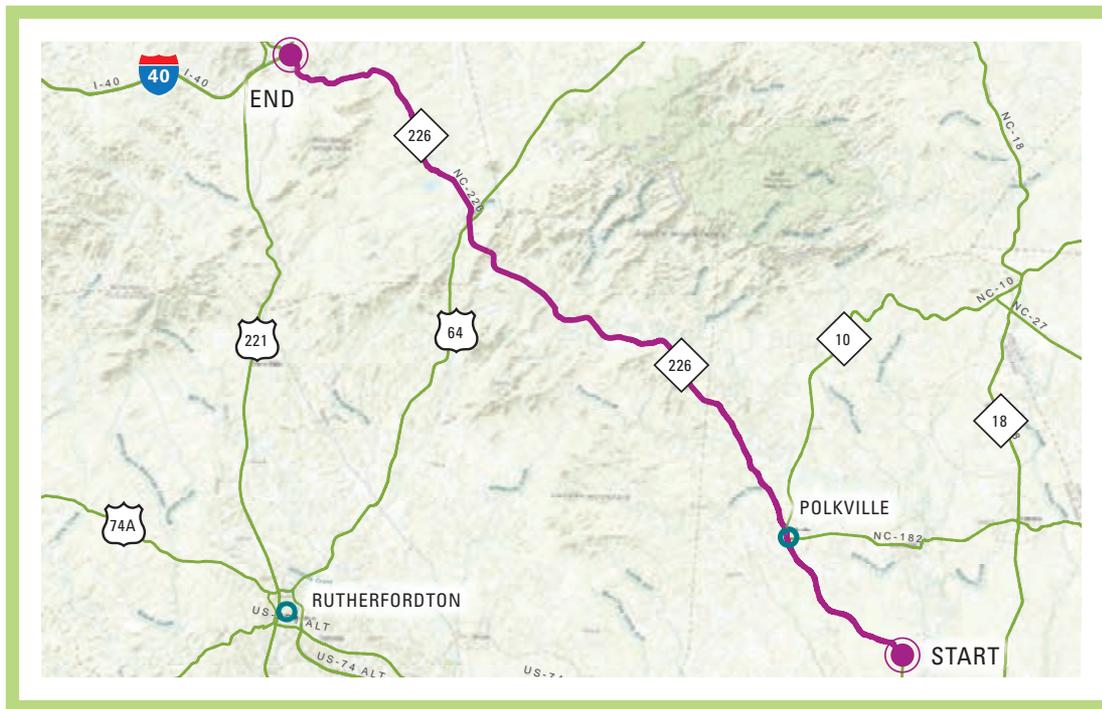
Roan Mountain

SOUTH MOUNTAIN

Scenery



As motorists travel the South Mountain Scenery byway, they will experience a transitioning of landscapes between the rolling hills of Piedmont and the surging terrain of the mountains. When arriving in the town of Polkville in the First Broad River Valley, travelers will begin to catch glimpses of the South Mountains ahead. Along the way, look for upper Piedmont farms and spectacular views of mountains. Throughout these areas, travelers will notice corn fields and apple orchards gracing the landscapes.



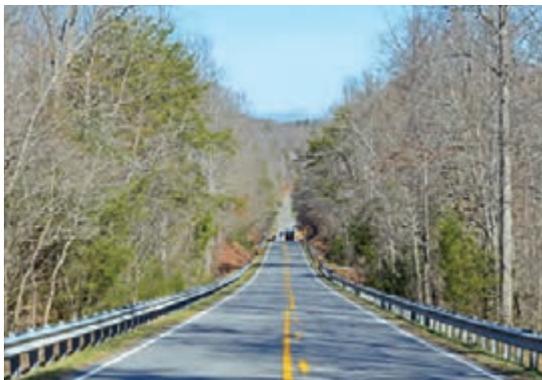
Counties: Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford

Total Distance: 34 Miles

Drive Time: 40 min

BELOW LEFT: Scenery along the byway

BELOW RIGHT: The Metcalf Museum



Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 226 (Polkville Rd) and Ramseur Church Rd (SR 1811) at the Metcalf community, 4.3 miles north of US 74 in Shelby.

- Follow NC 226 north for the next 34 miles to the intersection with College Dr (SR 1819) just south of I-40, Exit 86 in Marion where the byway ends.





Points of Interest

 Shelby, the Cleveland County seat, was named for Isaac Shelby, a Revolutionary War commander. Cleveland County was formed in 1841 and named for Col. Benjamin Cleveland, a hero of the Battle at Kings Mountain.

 Formed in 1779, Rutherford County was named for Griffith Rutherford, a member of the Provincial Congress and a Revolutionary War general.

 Cherry Mountain lies to the southwest and earned its name from the production of liquor and “cherry bounce”—produced from

local cherry trees—brewed here after the Civil War.

 The South Mountains are a rugged isolated range located in Burke, Rutherford, and Cleveland Counties and were once referred to as the Oakanoahs by the Cherokee. South Mountains State Park and the South Mountains Wildlife Management Area offer interesting side trips for visitors on this byway.

 Marion, the McDowell County seat, was named for South Carolina’s Francis Marion, a farmer and Revolutionary War general. McDowell County, formed in 1842, was

named for Joseph McDowell who fought at Kings Mountain and was a member of Congress.

ABOVE and OPPOSITE: Rolling hills and mountain views are found along this byway

Start



Shelby



Rutherford
County



Cherry Mountain



South Mountains



Marion

End



PISGAH

Loop

By traveling the Pisgah Loop, motorists have an opportunity to view some of North Carolina's most beautiful and remote landscapes. This 47-mile loop route around Burke County offers unparalleled views of Western North Carolina. Near Morganton, motorists will spot stone-topped mountains that form a natural barrier to the west. These routes have changed very little since early settlers and Revolutionary and Civil War units were challenged with the prospect of crossing into the lands beyond. The byway rises and winds up into the Pisgah National Forest with views of Table Rock and Hawksbill Mountain. The route will begin to travel parallel to the Blue Ridge Parkway past a rare montane, or mountain wetland, and as you reach the Linville Falls trail head, the route becomes a natural unpaved stretch of road for 15-miles in order to protect the Linville Gorge National Wilderness Area that follows the east side of the road. Four-wheel-drive vehicles are required past this point. Travelers are encouraged to tread lightly along this part of the byway and to protect the pristine conditions of the wilderness. At the trail access for Linville Falls and Wiseman's View a short, handicapped-accessible trail reveals the true natural splendor and beauty of this area. From the overlook, visitors have an eagle-eye view of the rock faces of Table Rock Mountain, Hawksbill Mountain, the Chimneys, and other rock faces as the Linville River roars through the gorge hundreds of feet below. After the wild and scenic journey through the Linville Gorge, the river calms itself in the vast, pristine waters of Lake James. By the end of the byway, Western North Carolina's past reveals itself with views of historic foothill farms tucked among blooming mountain laurel, streams, and views of Table Rock Mountain.

Getting There

To access the byway from I-40 east bound, take Exit 100 (Jamestown Rd) (SR 1142), which becomes Independence Blvd (NC 126), and travel northeast 3.4 miles to reach NC 181 (North Green St). To access the byway from I-40 west bound, take Exit 105 onto NC 18 west, South Sterling Street which becomes South Green Street through downtown Morganton. South Green Street becomes NC 181. Travel north along NC 181 from Morganton.

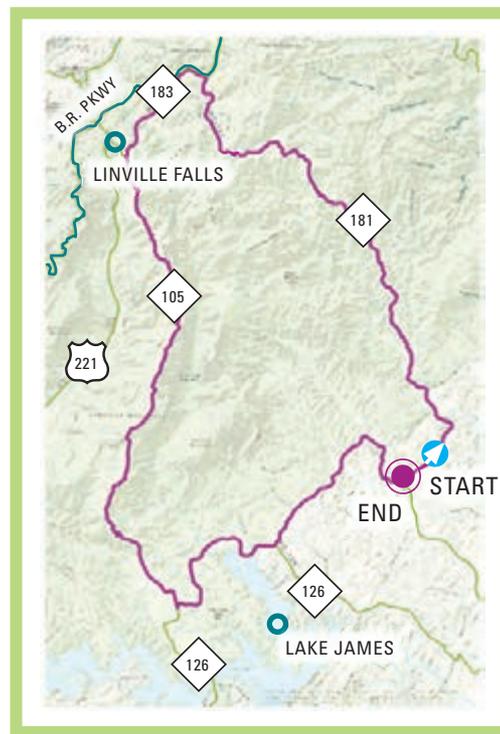
The byway begins at NC 181 and Fish Hatchery Rd (SR 1240), nine miles northwest of downtown Morganton.

- Travel north on NC 181 for 17.5 miles.
- Turn left on NC 183 in Jonas Ridge and travel 3.8 miles.

*** Four wheel-drive vehicles are recommended and sometimes necessary for travel along this next section of the byway.**

- Turn left onto Old NC 105 (SR 1238) (Pisgah National Forest) and travel 15.6 miles. **This road is mostly unpaved through the Linville Gorge National Wilderness Area.**
- Make a sharp left turn onto NC 126 and travel 5.0 miles.
- Turn left onto Fish Hatchery Rd (SR 1240) and travel 6.5 miles to the intersection with NC 181 where the byway ends. (This was also the starting point of the byway.)

** An alternative route for non-four wheel drive vehicles (Non-byway route): Instead of turning left onto Old NC 105, continue along NC 183 for an additional 0.7 miles. Turn left onto US 221 S and follow for 20.4 miles. Turn left onto US 221 Bus S and take an*



immediate left onto Hankins Rd (SR 1501). Travel northeast on Hankins Rd for 3.4 miles. Turn left onto Lake James Rd (SR 1552), which becomes South Mountain Institute Rd (SR1236), and travel northeast for 8.4 miles to the intersection with NC 126. Turn left onto NC 126 and travel 0.8 miles to rejoin the byway at the intersection with Old NC 105.

Points of Interest

 Overmountain Victory Trail was used by patriots in the American Revolution en route to a crucial victory over forces loyal to the English at Kings Mountain.(24) This portion of the byway is part of the Overmountain Victory Trail Commemorative Motor Route and is used by reenactors wearing period costumes each year to commemorate the crossing of the mountains to reach the Battle of Kings Mountain.



Counties: Burke

Total Distance: 48.4 Miles

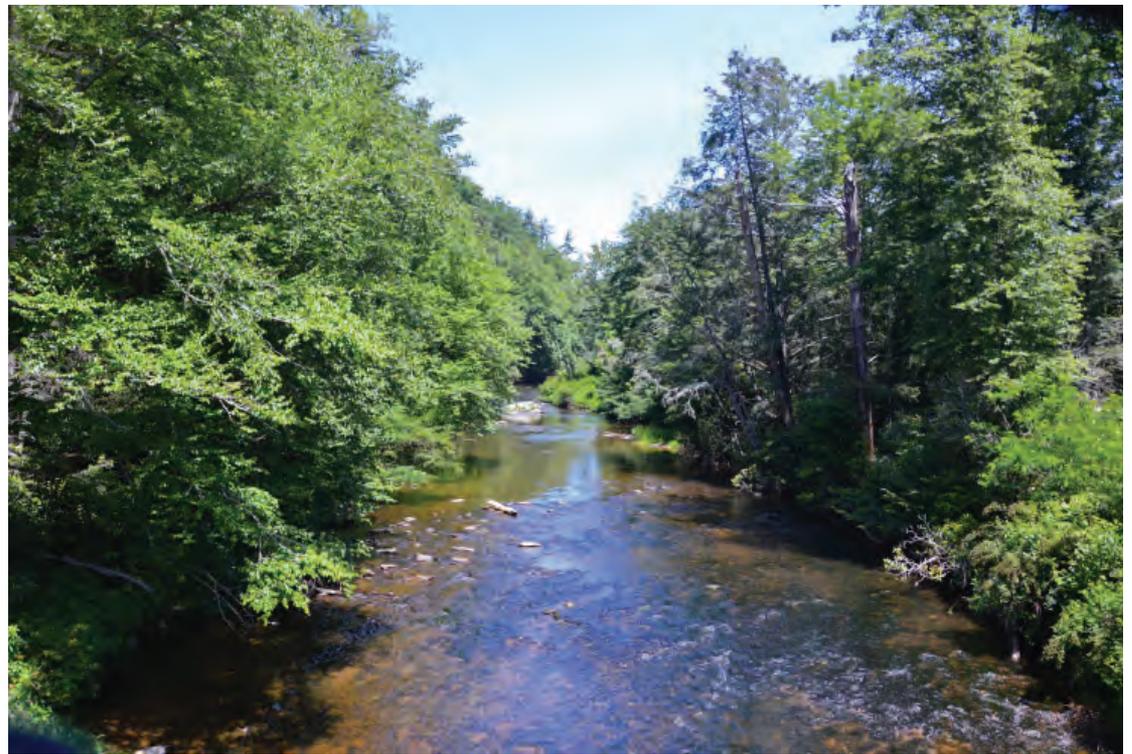
Drive Time: 1 hr 50 min

Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses. Four-wheel drive vehicles are required for unpaved portions.



ABOVE: View of Pisgah Loop from Table Rock

OPPOSITE: View of Linville Gorge Wilderness from Table Rock



 Lake James State Park includes the largest waterfront acreage in a state park in Western North Carolina and was the first state park to be created with the appropriation of state funds for land acquisition and park development and not just as a park established in land only. The byway crosses the Linville River as it exits Linville Gorge and enters Lake James, the uppermost lake in the Catawba River system.

 Linville Public Access Area at Lake James is the site of the fort battle and canoe scenes from the movie, "Last of the Mohicans."

ABOVE:
(Left) View of Linville Gorge from Wisemen Overlook
(Right) Linville River

RIGHT:
Table Rock Mountain

OPPOSITE:
Linville Gorge Information Cabin (US FS)



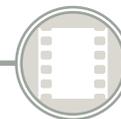
Start



Overmountain
Victory Trail



Lake James
State Park



Filming Site for
"Last of the Mohicans"

End

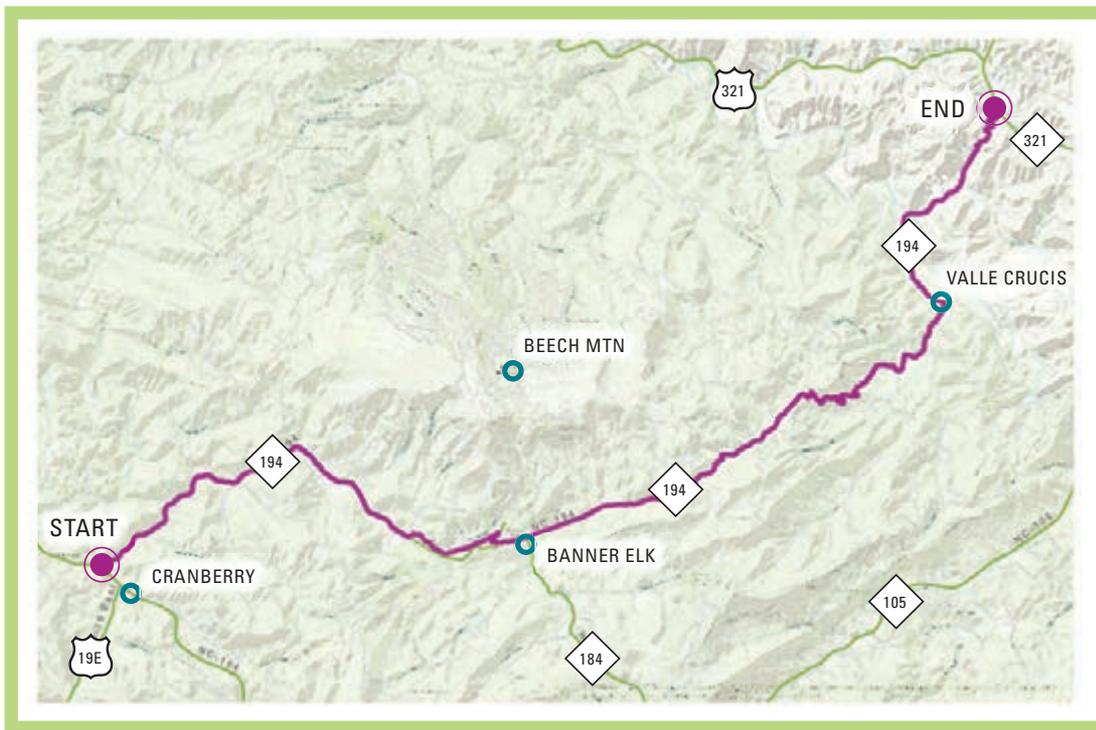


MISSION

Crossing

A scenic view of a winding road through a valley with colorful autumn foliage and a farm in the distance. The road curves through a lush green valley, flanked by trees with vibrant orange, yellow, and red leaves. In the background, a farm with several buildings, including a prominent barn, is visible on a hillside. The sky is clear and blue.

Mission Crossing byway guides motorists along NC 194 through North Carolina's ski country and along the northern range of the Roan Mountains in Pisgah National Forest before descending into the Watauga River Valley, the name of which is derived from the Native American word for "beautiful water," and ending in the community of Vilas. Before leaving the valley, be sure to visit the Mast Farm Inn and Mast General Store, an authentic general store that opened in 1882. The farm, established in 1812, is one of the best preserved 19th-century farms in Western North Carolina and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. After leaving Valle Crucis, notice the unusual barn on the right while climbing out of the valley. The Baird Barn, built in the late 19th to early 20th century, is an excellent example of a transverse crib barn.



Counties: Avery and Watauga
Byway Route: 18.3 Miles
Non-Byway Route: 1.6 Miles
Total Distance: 19.6 Miles
Drive Time: 35 min

BELOW: The Apple Barn in Mission Valley

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 194 and US 19E between Elk Park and the community of Cranberry.

- Follow NC 194 north for 5.2 miles.
- Turn left onto Edgar Tufts Rd (SR 1328) (this section is not a designated Scenic Byway) and take an immediate right onto Old Turnpike Road (SR 1329) and travel 1.3 miles.
- Take a sharp right onto NC 184 (Beech Mountain Pkwy) and travel 0.3 mile (this section is not a designated Scenic Byway).
- Turn left onto NC 194 (Main St).
- Follow NC 194 for 7.8 miles through Banner Elk to Valle Crucis.

- Turn left to continue on NC 194 north for another 3.7 miles to the intersection with US 321 at Vilas where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Cranberry was founded in 1850 and named for the abundance of local cranberries, but it was first called Cranberry Forge for the iron mines that were believed to have been used by Native Americans before contact with settlers. The mines once supplied iron to the Confederacy, and it was the only active iron mine remaining in North Carolina by 1974.

 Elk Park, founded in 1885, is named for the elk that formerly roamed the region. It is located on the Elk River, which begins in Banner Elk. Banner Elk, also known as Shawneehaw, is the home of Lees-McRae



College. The town was named for the Banner family, early settlers on the Elk River. Above Banner Elk is Beech Mountain, which at 5,506 feet, is one of the region's better-known ski resorts.

 Old Turnpike Road, one of the last remaining original highways of the 19th century, was originally a game trail and foot path that connected the settlers of Valle Crucis and Banner Elk with Tennessee. The turnpike was a toll road, and able-bodied men who lived on or near the road volunteered their labor for six days out of the



year in return for free access. Old Turnpike Road also played an important part in North Carolina history. During the Civil War, the road was a link in the Underground Railroad and served as a route for smuggling escaped Union prisoners and Confederate draft dodgers to Tennessee.

 Near the end of the route after passing through Matney, travelers will encounter the Valle Crucis Episcopal Mission for which the byway is named. This mission played an important part in the history of Valle Crucis, which is Latin for “Vale of the Cross.” In 1842, Bishop Stillman Ives purchased 2,000 acres of land and founded a divinity school that became the first Anglican monastic order since the Reformation. In 1852, Ives was ordered to disband the church. By 1895, Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire had revived and reorganized the Episcopal church’s work by opening a mission school that remained in operation until World War II. The mission is now operated by the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina as a camp and conference center. (48)

LEFT: The Elk River

OPPOSITE: (Above Left) Barn in Banner Elk **(Above Right)** Church of the Holy Cross in Banner Elk **(Below Left)** The Corn Maze **(Below Right)** Pastoral Views along NC 194

Start



Cranberry



Elk Park

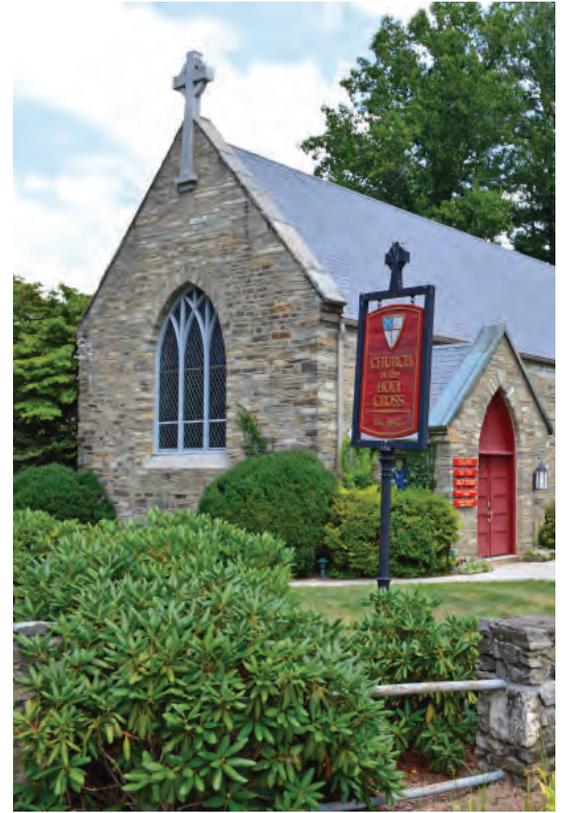


Old Turnpike
Road



Valle Crucis
Episcopal Mission

End



LITTLE *Parkway*



Built in 1889 by men and mules as a toll road, Little Parkway, also known as Yonahlossee Trail (one of many privately-owned roads in the state), winds its way along the side of Grandfather Mountain and served as the link between Blowing Rock and Linville before the completion of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1987. Linville, established in 1883 and designed by Samuel T. Kelsey of Kansas, is located on the Linville River. South of Linville are Linville Falls and Linville Gorge. All were named for William and John Linville who were killed below the falls by Native Americans in 1766. The upper and lower falls, accessed from the Blue Ridge Parkway, are 12 feet and 90 feet tall respectively. Linville Gorge is among the nation's largest gorges and is located in one of the wildest uninhabited areas in the Eastern United States. While traveling from Linville to Blowing Rock, watch for signs marking the Eastern Continental Divide, an invisible line that separates the waters flowing to the Atlantic Ocean from those flowing to the Gulf of Mexico.



Counties: Avery, Caldwell, and Watauga

Total Distance: 18.5 Miles

Drive Time: 35 min

Note: This route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 221 and NC 105 in Linville.

- Follow US 221 (Blowing Rock Hwy) for 18.5 miles to the intersection with US 321 Bus (Main Street) in Blowing Rock where the byway ends.

**Side trip: Backtrack 1.6 miles on the byway from Blowing Rock to an access point for the Blue Ridge Parkway. If you take a right and traveling north on the parkway for 0.5 mile, you will find The Cone Manor. If you take a left and travel south on the parkway for 11.4 miles you will discover Price Lake, Linn Cove Viaduct, and numerous overlooks with fantastic sunset views. Exit off the parkway at Milepost 305 to return to US 221 and Little Parkway, just 3.2 miles from Linville.*

Points of Interest

 The majestic Grandfather Mountain is located along the byway between Linville and Blowing Rock. It was named because the mountain, when viewed at a distance, resembles an old man's profile against the sky. Grandfather Mountain, or Tanawha, as Native Americans called it, is one of the highest points in the Blue Ridge Mountains and is most famous for its "Mile High Swing Bridge" that has provided panoramic vistas since 1952. (13)

 The Linn Cove Viaduct, the final link in the Blue Ridge Parkway, is visible from the face of Grandfather Mountain. The viaduct is five miles north of Linville and at the time of its construction was the world's only bridge built from the top down. This innovative construction method assured that no heavy equipment was placed on the face of the



OPPOSITE: Fall color surrounds the Linn Cove Viaduct

ABOVE: The entrance to Pembroke Cottage celebrates the artistic heritage of Blowing Rock



mountain in order to protect the mountain's ecology. For more detailed information about the construction process, visit the National Park Service's information center just off the viaduct on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

 When near Blowing Rock, look for a large colonial revival house with huge columns on the front. Called Westglow, the house was built by Elliott Daingerfield and used as his summer residence. One of North Carolina's

most renowned artists, Daingerfield has work displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. To see one of his best pieces, however, continue into Blowing Rock to view the "Madonna of the Hills" hanging in St. Mary's-of-the-Hills Episcopal Church.

 Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, a 3,516-acre park, is named for the textile

OPPOSITE: (Left) Fall color along the byway
(Right) View of Linn Cove Viaduct from US-221

Start



Mile High
Swinging Bridge



Linn Cove
Viaduct



Elliott
Daingerfield



Moses H. Cone
Memorial Park

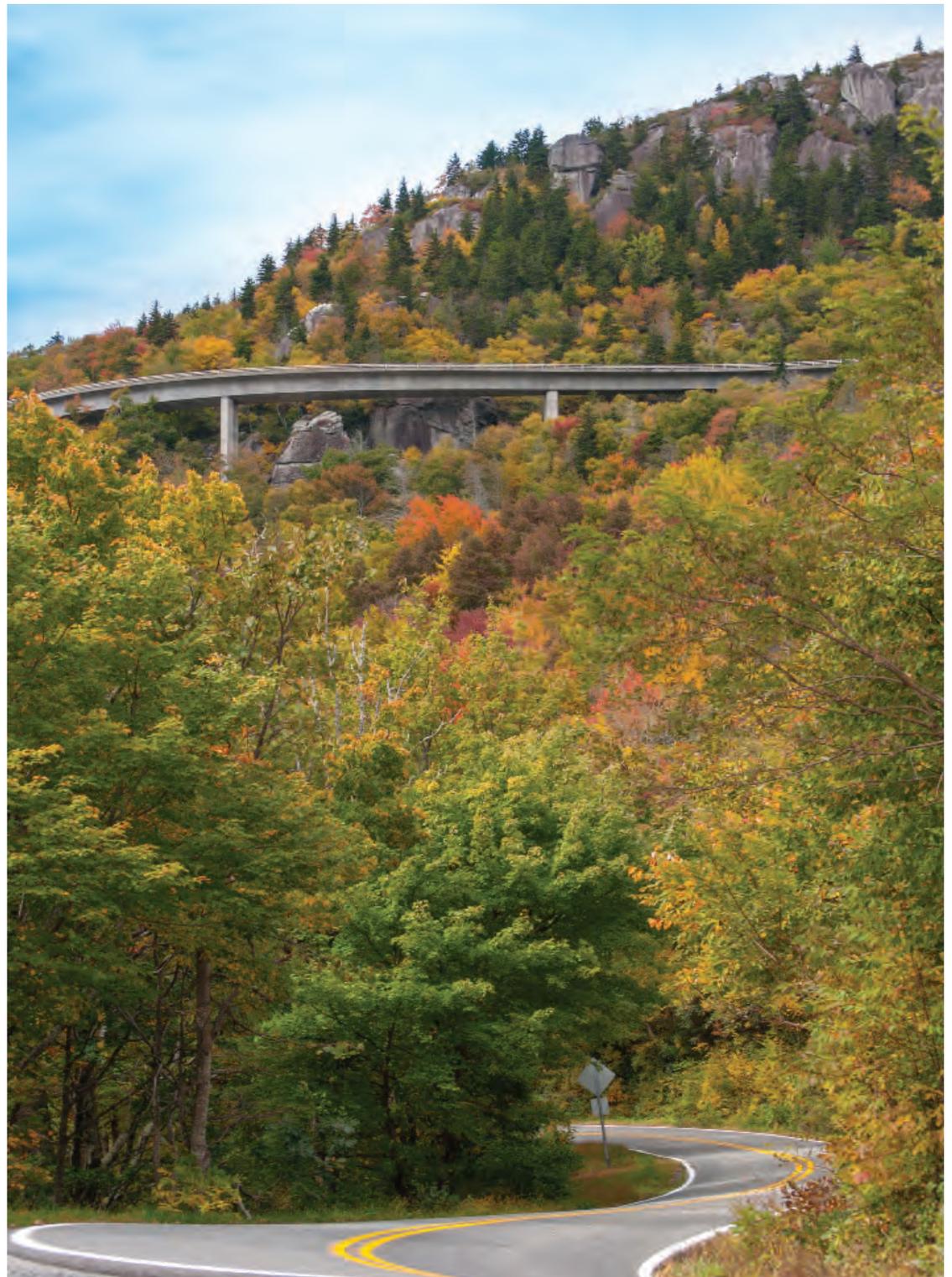
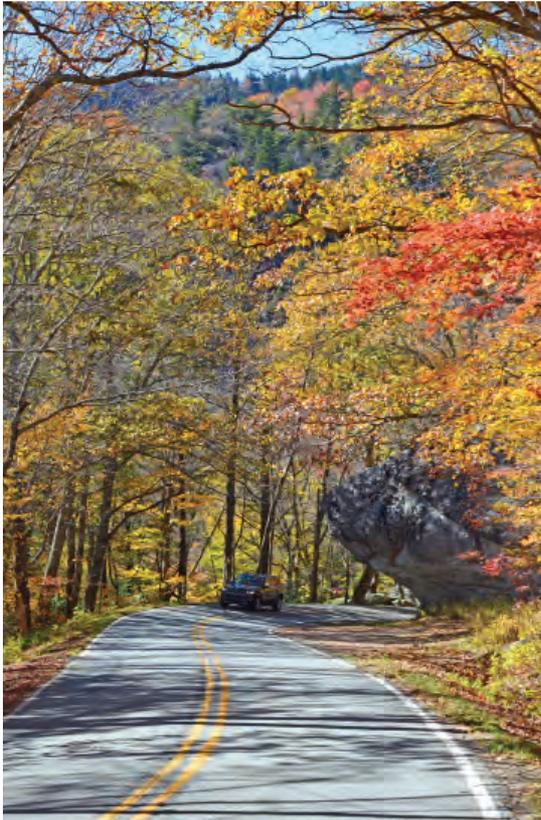


Blowing Rock

End

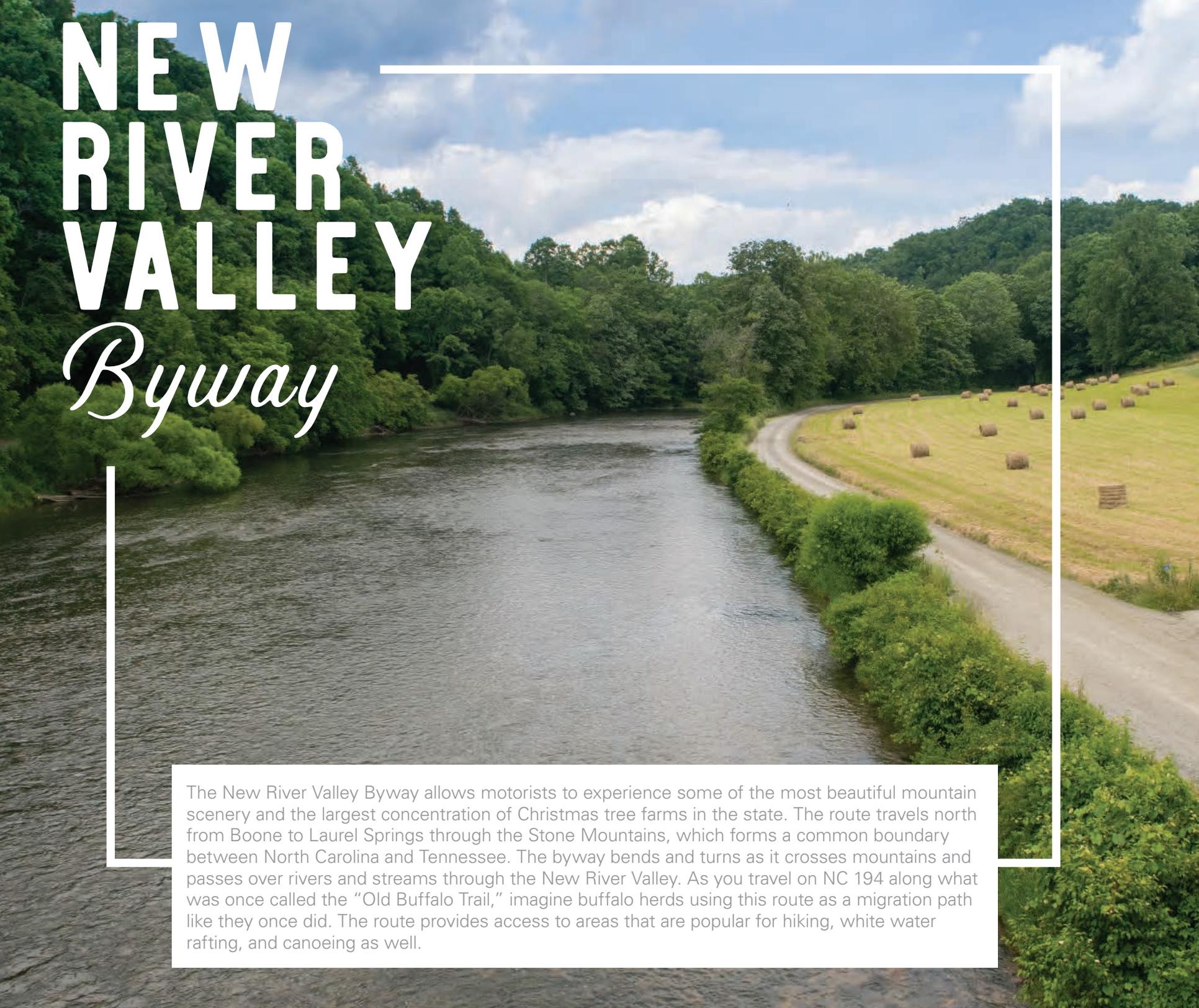
manufacturer whose estate comprises the park (visitors must enter the park through the main gate on the Blue Ridge Parkway). Cone Manor, known by locals as Flat Top Manor, is now a museum and craft center. Visitors should note the Tiffany windows, one of many unusual aspects of this house. While visiting the historic home, take advantage of the great picnic and hiking areas, as well as breathtaking views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

 Blowing Rock, settled in 1870, was named for the nearby cliff rising above the Johns River Valley from which air currents rise and allow light objects to be blown back to the sender. This resort community, the only incorporated town on the Blue Ridge Parkway, has seasonal festivals in its local park.

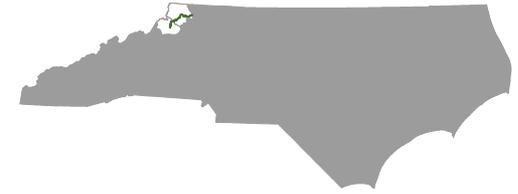


NEW RIVER VALLEY

Byway



The New River Valley Byway allows motorists to experience some of the most beautiful mountain scenery and the largest concentration of Christmas tree farms in the state. The route travels north from Boone to Laurel Springs through the Stone Mountains, which forms a common boundary between North Carolina and Tennessee. The byway bends and turns as it crosses mountains and passes over rivers and streams through the New River Valley. As you travel on NC 194 along what was once called the "Old Buffalo Trail," imagine buffalo herds using this route as a migration path like they once did. The route provides access to areas that are popular for hiking, white water rafting, and canoeing as well.



Counties: Watauga and Ashe
Byway Route: 31.4 Miles
Non-Byway Route: 7.6 Miles
Total Distance: 39 Miles
Drive Time: 1 hr

***Note:** This route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.*

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 421/US 221 and NC 194 in Boone.

- Follow NC 194 north for 17.8 miles to the intersection of NC 194 and US 221 in the Baldwin community where the byway temporarily ends.
- Turn left onto US 221 and follow for 3.5 miles to the West Jefferson town limits.
- Continue on US 221 for another 4.5 miles through West Jefferson and Jefferson to the intersection of US 221 and NC 16/NC 88. Follow NC 16/NC 88 straight for another 3.1 miles to the intersection of NC 16 and NC 88. (This section is not part of the designated scenic byway.)

- Continue straight on NC 88 for 10.1 miles to continue the designated byway to the intersection of NC 88 and NC 18 in Laurel Springs where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

-  The New River is believed to be North America's oldest river and the only major river in the US to flow north. Some geologists even believe that the river could be the second oldest river in the world. The North Fork, which rises in northern Watauga County, and the South Fork, which rises near Boone, flow to Ashe County where they join to form the New River. (28)

OPPOSITE: The New River in Orion

BELOW: Barn quilts seen along byway





Start



New River



Boone



Todd



West Jefferson
Cheese Factory



Laurel Springs

End

 Boone is named for Daniel Boone, who was known to have camped in this area, and is the home to Appalachian State University.

 The community of Todd was the site of a Revolutionary War engagement and was a bustling logging community until the 1930s.

 Settled in 1803, Jefferson was named for then-president Thomas Jefferson. Cheese lovers will want to visit the cheese factory in downtown West Jefferson. It is the only cheese factory in the state and is located on Main St. between 3rd St. and 6th St.

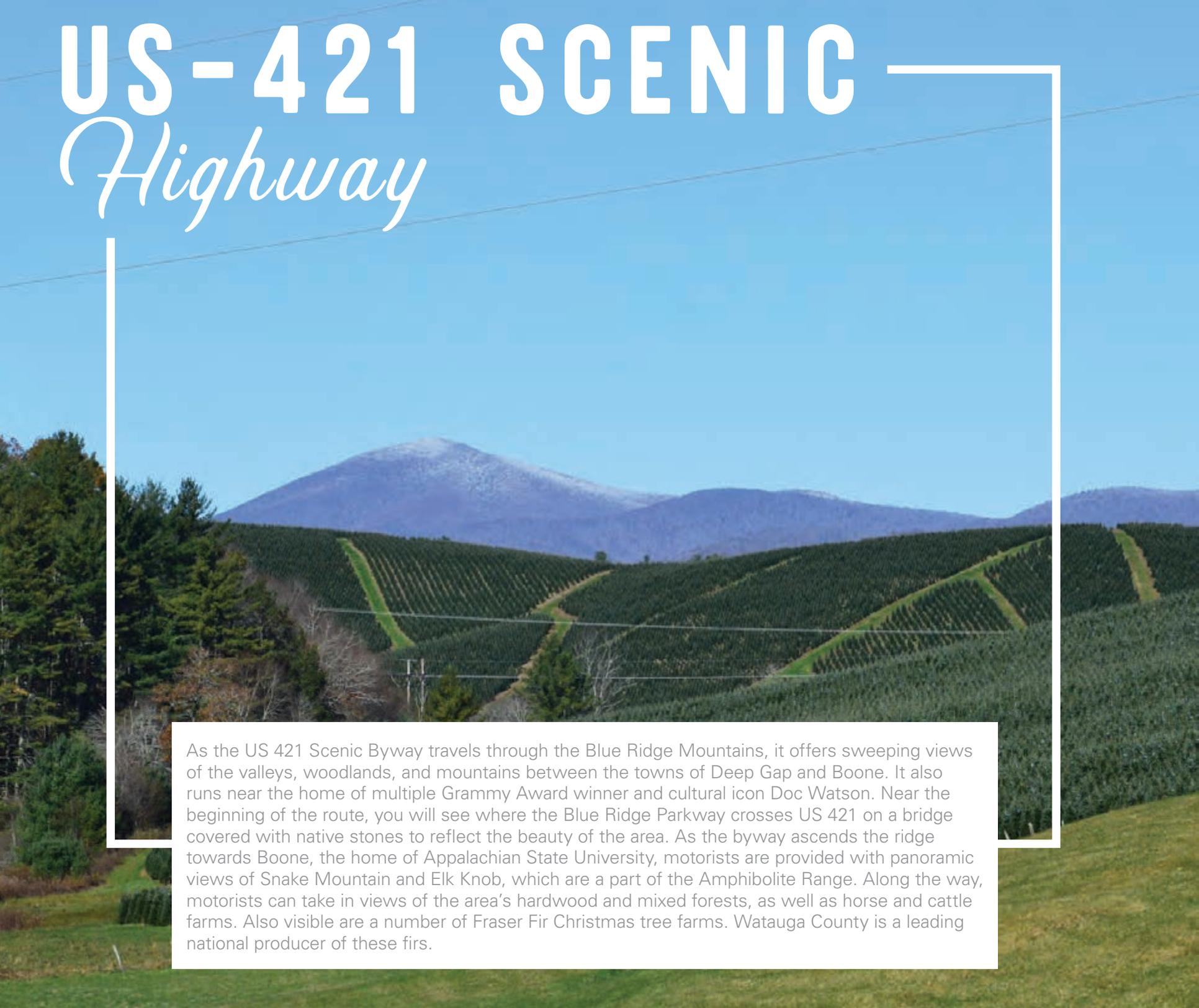
 Laurel Springs, settled in 1859, was named for the nearby spring flowing from laurel-covered rocks. Nearby attractions include the Blue Ridge Parkway, Mount Jefferson State Park, New River State Park, and Doughton Park. Doughton Park, the largest recreational area along the Blue Ridge Parkway, was named in honor of North Carolina Congressman Robert L. Doughton who worked to establish the Blue Ridge Parkway. Brinegar Cabin, built in 1880, is located within the park and is accessible from the Blue Ridge Parkway.



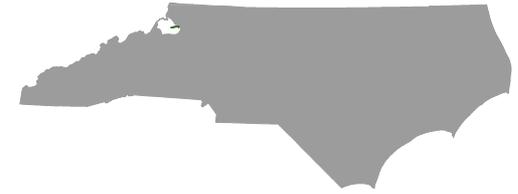
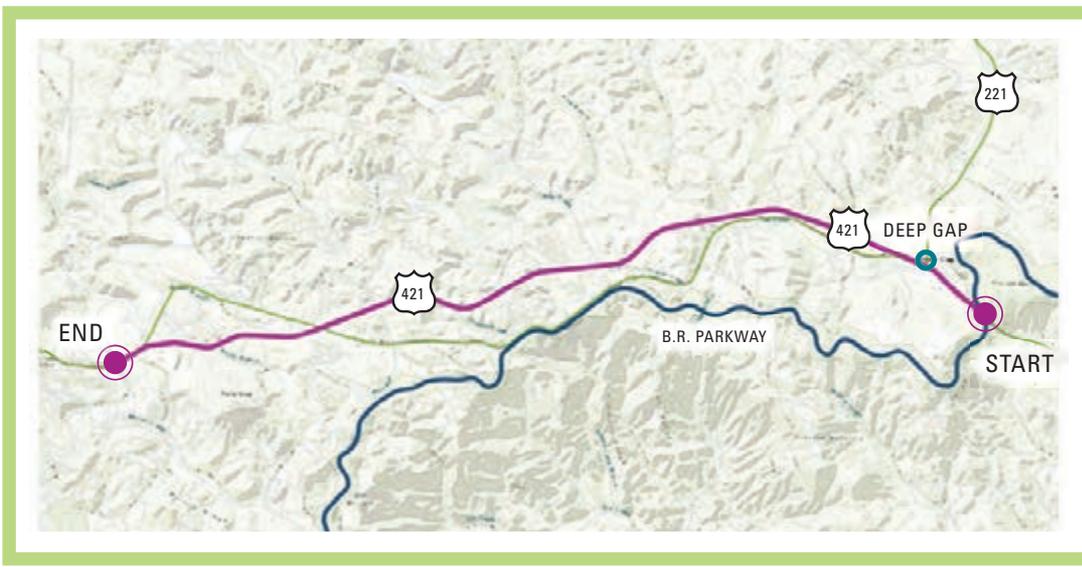
OPPOSITE and RIGHT: Views of farms and rolling hills along the byway

US-421 SCENIC

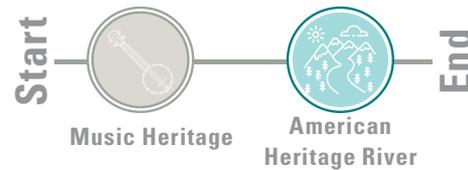
Highway



As the US 421 Scenic Byway travels through the Blue Ridge Mountains, it offers sweeping views of the valleys, woodlands, and mountains between the towns of Deep Gap and Boone. It also runs near the home of multiple Grammy Award winner and cultural icon Doc Watson. Near the beginning of the route, you will see where the Blue Ridge Parkway crosses US 421 on a bridge covered with native stones to reflect the beauty of the area. As the byway ascends the ridge towards Boone, the home of Appalachian State University, motorists are provided with panoramic views of Snake Mountain and Elk Knob, which are a part of the Amphibolite Range. Along the way, motorists can take in views of the area's hardwood and mixed forests, as well as horse and cattle farms. Also visible are a number of Fraser Fir Christmas tree farms. Watauga County is a leading national producer of these firs.



Counties: Watauga
Total Distance: 8.5 Miles
Drive Time: 10 min



Getting There

The byway begins on US 421 at the Blue Ridge Pkwy overpass in Deep Gap.

- Follow US 421 north 8.5 miles to the intersection of Brookshire Rd and New River Hills near the South Fork New River bridge where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

● The town of Deep Gap is the home of Arthel "Doc" and Merle Watson. Doc Watson, who was born blind, was a recording artist known for his unique music that blended traditional Appalachian styles of gospel, bluegrass, and country. His son Merle joined him in his music career during

the late 1960s and together they spread the Appalachian sound throughout the world.

● In 1999, the federal government named the New River Watershed as one of the first American Heritage rivers. American Heritage rivers are designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to receive special attention for natural resource and environmental protection, economic revitalization, and historic and cultural preservation. The northward-flowing New River is believed to be one of the world's first rivers. In fact, some scientists believe that only the Nile River is older. (28)

OPPOSITE: Fraser Fir Christmas tree farm



BIG HORSE CREEK

Byway



Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway highlights the rural life in the beautiful mountains of Ashe County. The county was once known as one of North Carolina's "lost provinces," a remote, inaccessible county cut off from the rest of the state by the Eastern Continental Divide where, it was said, that the only way to get there was to be born there. As the byway begins, notice the peaks (4,710 feet elevation) of Phoenix Mountain to the east. Just as the rugged mountains close in with their densely wooded terrains, the byway gives way to the verdant pastures along the creek bottoms that extend up the bluffs. This rustic countryside is a short distance from undisturbed natural areas such as Pond Mountain and the Cherokee National Forest. The byway parallels Big Horse Creek all the way into the town of Lansing and crosses it again in numerous locations, making it a great place to cruise with the windows down to enjoy the sound of the rushing water. Occasionally, the road rises and follows the ridge above the creek where travelers can witness spectacular views of the narrow valleys with farmhouses, farm animals, old barns, and country churches. The hillsides feature mixed forests with intermittent pastures and Christmas tree farms. The byway also offers a snap shot of culture through the renowned songwriting and performances of former folk music artist Ola Belle Reed, a National Heritage Fellowship award winner, who was originally from the New River Valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains. (47)

Getting There

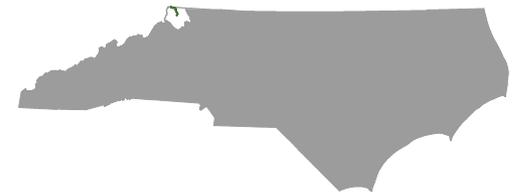
Begin the byway on NC 194 at the intersection with NC 88 in Warrensville.

- Travel north on NC 194 for 3.6 miles to Lansing.
- In Lansing continue straight heading north on South Big Horse Creek Rd (SR 1353) for 2.6 miles.
- Bear right at the intersection with Big Windfall Rd and continue for 6.4 miles on Big Horse Creek Rd, (SR 1362).
- Big Horse Creek Rd becomes Rip Shin Rd (SR 1361).
- Follow Rip Shin Rd for 3.5 miles where it switches from pavement to gravel and becomes Whenlin Ridge Rd (SR 1359).
- Travel 0.5 mile on Whenlin Ridge Road and then make a right turn back onto a paved Farmers Store Rd (SR 1360).
- Follow Farmers Store Rd for 1.3 miles to the North Carolina and Virginia state line where the byway ends.

*Side Trip: Continue straight onto Virginia Route 753 (Dolinger Rd/ White Top Gap Rd) for less than a mile to the parking lot for Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area to turn around and head back south on the byway or continue north to Whitetop Station Depot on the Virginia Creeper Trail, a rails-to-trails recreational facility.

Points of Interest

 Lansing's motto 'Echoes of the Past, Whispers of Tomorrow' well defines this mountain town. The most prosperous years



Counties: Ashe

Total Distance: 17.9 Miles

Drive Time: 35 min



OPPOSITE: Rustic Barn along the byway

BELOW and RIGHT: Farms and livestock are abundant in the area





for Lansing began with the construction of the Virginia-Carolina Railroad from 1914 to 1916. The railroad, which ran adjacent to the byway, had a great impact on the prosperity of the town, enabling the mining and timber industries to flourish. The passenger and freight railroad was known as the “Creeper Railroad” due to its slow ascent from its southern terminus in Elkland, North Carolina to its northern terminus in Abingdon,

Virginia. Lansing grew and prospered until the economic crash of the Great Depression in 1929, after which recovery was slow. Road improvements gradually brought easier access to goods and services in nearby larger towns and led to the close of the railroad in 1977, resulting in significant changes to the town. Currently this rustic small town is a designated ‘Mountain Heritage Trout Water City’ with the creek side Creeper Trail Park.

Lansing also has two locations on the Blue Ridge Music Trail: the Old Helton School Hog Stomp and the Phipps General Store Jam. (22)

 Sitting just west of the byway at an elevation of 5,000 feet is Pond Mountain, which overlooks three majestic mountain ranges: the Blue Ridge Mountains to the east, the Cherokee National Forest to the east, the Cherokee National Forest to the west, and Jefferson National Forest to

Start



Lansing



Pond Mountain



**Wilburn Waters:
Pioneer**

End



the north. Originally named by Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter Jefferson, for the many natural ponds that were scattered throughout the landscape, the mountain is now part of Pond Mountain Games Lands which help preserve the area's wildlife habitat, water resources, and natural beauty.

 Wilburn Waters, a notable hunter and trapper who once lived near the Tuckerdale Community, is memorialized with an

extravagant gravestone that has a bear atop it and a marker in a creek bed below that states "WILBURN WATERS 1812-1879 PREACHER BEAR HUNTING PIONEER KILLED 120 BEARS BURIED ON THIS HILL." At one point, he was hired to eradicate the wolf population from the Virginia state line to Bald Mountain in North Carolina; to do so, he howled to attract nearby wolves. (45)

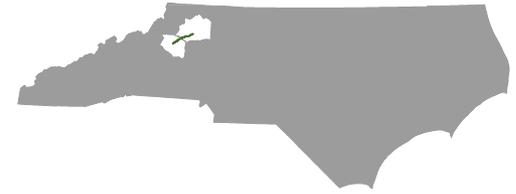
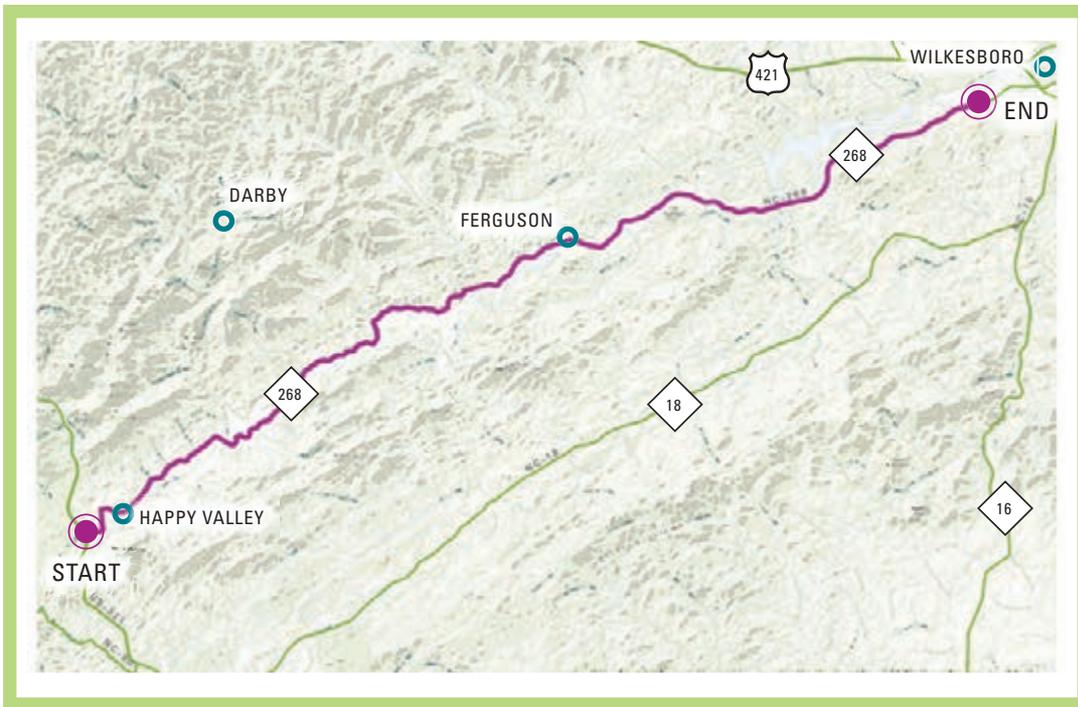
ABOVE: Big Horse Creek

OPPOSITE: "Echos of the Past, Whispers of Tomorrow" is the motto of Lansing and embodies the feel of the area

UPPER YADKIN

Way

The Upper Yadkin Way byway takes motorists on a scenic adventure through the state's northern foothills. Pastures and farmland can be seen along the beginning segment of the route between Goshen and Ferguson, which follows the Yadkin River from the mountains through the foothills. The Yadkin River rises in Watauga County, near Blowing Rock, to the west and eventually becomes a part of the Pee Dee River bordering Montgomery and Stanly Counties. As you near the end of the byway, you will travel through the area known as Happy Valley, which was the site of prominent early settlers.



Counties: Wilkes and Caldwell
Total Distance: 26.3 Miles
Drive Time: 35 min

OPPOSITE: View of W Kerr Scott Reservoir from Mountain View Overlook

BELOW: W. Kerr Scott Reservoir

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 268 and US 321, 3.6 miles north of Main St NW in Lenoir.

- Follow US 268 E for 1 mile and turn right to continue following NC 268.
- Travel another 3.5 miles and NC 268 curves sharply to the right.
- Continue following NC 268 for 21.8 miles to the Wilkesboro city limits (0.4 miles east of Old NC 268) where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 W. Kerr Scott Reservoir in Goshen was formed in 1962 for flood control and recreation and was named for North Carolina





Governor W. Kerr Scott, who served from 1949 to 1952.

 Wilkesboro and Wilkes County were named for John Wilkes, an English political leader who supported American rights in the Revolutionary War era. The county was formed in 1778 and nearby Wilkesboro, the county seat, was planned out in 1801.

 Patterson, founded in 1851 with a textile-based economy, was named for Samuel F. Patterson, a prominent state official. The Morgan School at Patterson Reserve

is named in honor of Samuel Legerwood Patterson and is located on the plantation lands he gave to the school.

 South of Patterson is Fort Defiance, the restored 1790 house of General William Lenoir, a Revolutionary leader and hero at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The house stands on the site of a frontier fort of the same name. While open to the public for tours, visitors should contact Fort Defiance directly for current hours of operations and admission fees.

ABOVE: Upper Yadkin farm

OPPOSITE: Fort Defiance

Start



W. Kerr Scott
Reservoir



Wilkesboro +
Wilkes County



Patterson



Fort Defiance

End



“I have at last `struck it rich’ here in North Carolina, and am in the most peculiar, and one of the most poetic places I have ever been in”

William James
The Letters of William James



PIEDMONT REGION
Byways

CROWDERS MOUNTAIN

Drive

The byway winds motorists around the base of Crowders and Kings mountains in Gaston and Cleveland Counties. Formed in 1841, Cleveland County was named for Benjamin Cleveland, a hero at the Battle of Kings Mountain during the Revolutionary War. Kings Mountain National Military Park, located in South Carolina, is the site of a unique battle fought on October 7th, 1780 between an American militia (people who fought for independence) of mainly Scots-Irish back-country patriot leaders and Loyalists (people who lived in the colonies yet remained loyal and fought for England) under the command of Patrick Ferguson. On October 7, 1780, the American militia decimated the loyalists. The battle was an important victory for the American army during the Revolutionary War and was the turning point of the war in the South. After the defeat of the loyalists, British forces under General Cornwallis retreated into South Carolina and were unable to recruit more loyalists to support their forces. (24) The valley that separates the Pinnacle from the rest of the Kings Mountain Range is known as Sherrars Gap.

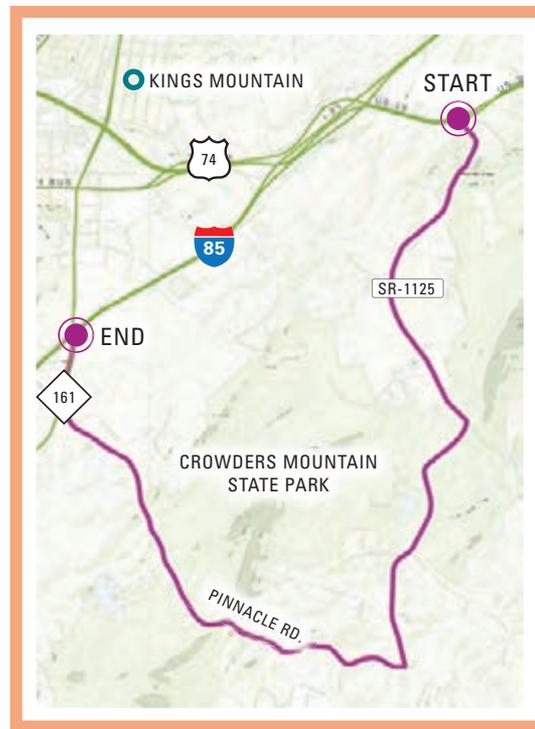
Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 74/US 29 (Kings Mountain Hwy) and Sparrow Springs Rd (SR 1125) 0.5 miles east of I-85.

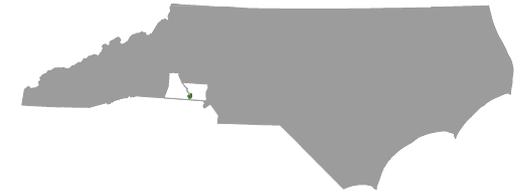
- Follow Sparrow Springs Rd (SR 1125) 2.5 miles and turn right to continue on Sparrow Springs Rd for another 1.9 miles.
- Turn right onto Pinnacle Rd and travel 3.4 miles to the intersection with NC 161. (Pinnacle Rd becomes Lake Montonia Rd at the Cleveland County and Gaston County line.)
- Turn right and head north on NC 161 (York Rd) for 0.3 mile to return to I-85 where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Crowders Mountain, named for a local settler, is one of the peaks in the Kings Mountain Range. The mountain range is about three miles long, extending from the southern end of Gaston and Cleveland Counties in North Carolina into York County, S.C. The highest peak, called the Pinnacle, marks the northern end of the range. Its weathered granite cap, called a monadnock, stands above the other peaks as a king stands above his people.



 Crowders Mountain State Park showcases the local mountains, which are remnants of the ancient Appalachians. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy many opportunities to hike or rock climb in the park.



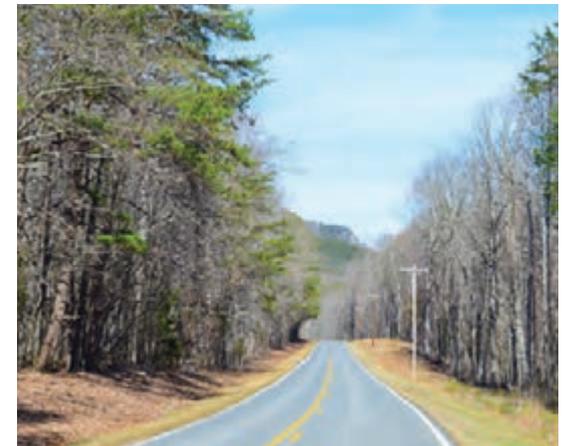
Counties: Gaston and Cleveland

Total Distance: 8.1 Miles

Drive Time: 15 min

OPPOSITE: View from the Pinnacle at Crowders Mountain

BELOW: Crowders Mountain



Start



Crowders
Mountain

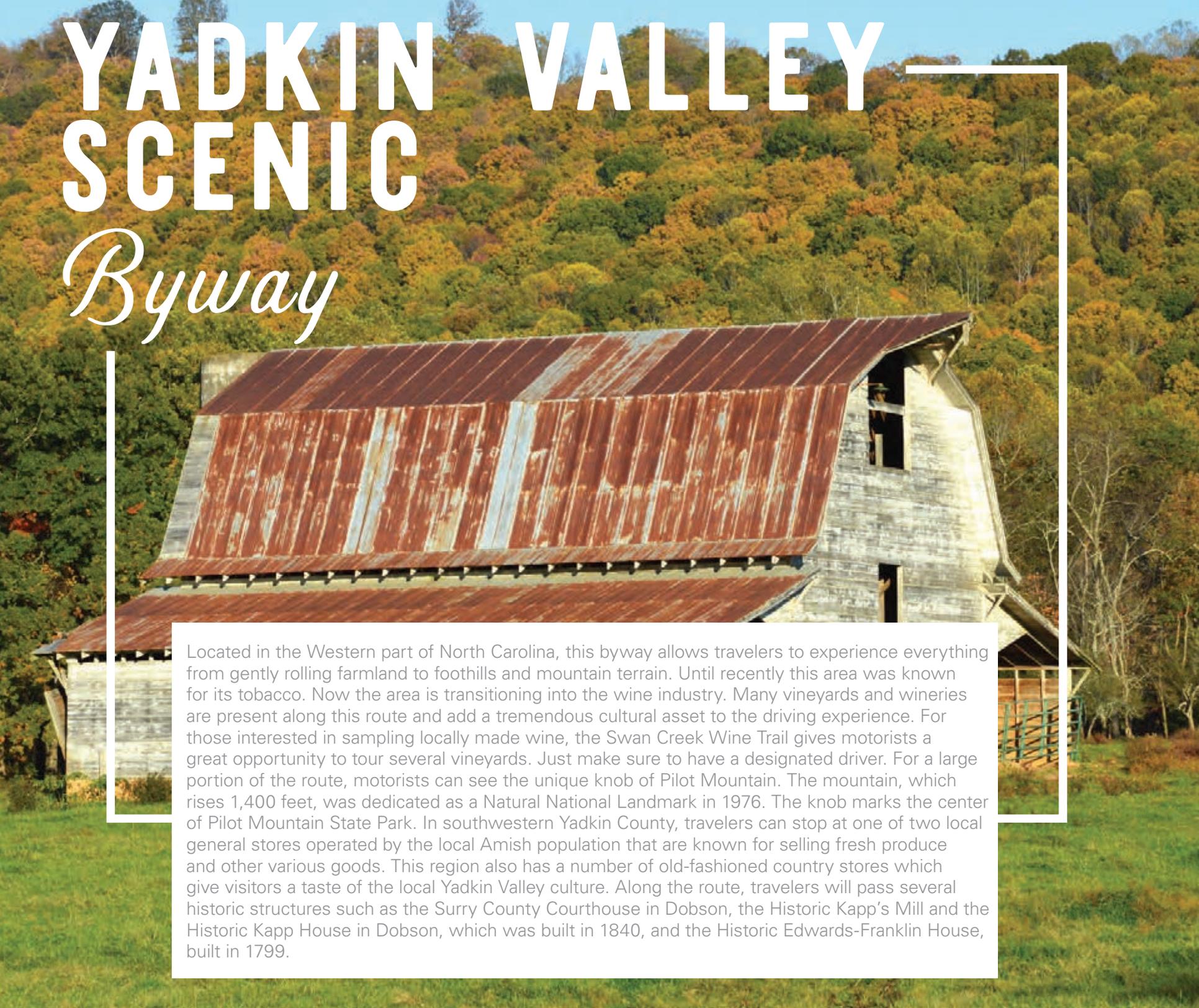


State Park

End

YADKIN VALLEY SCENIC

Byway

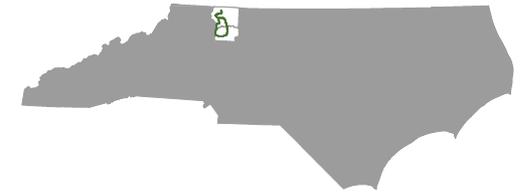
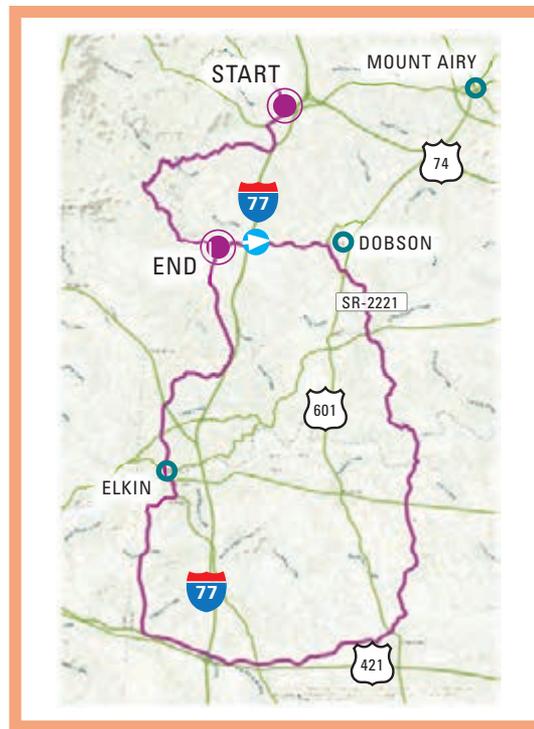


Located in the Western part of North Carolina, this byway allows travelers to experience everything from gently rolling farmland to foothills and mountain terrain. Until recently this area was known for its tobacco. Now the area is transitioning into the wine industry. Many vineyards and wineries are present along this route and add a tremendous cultural asset to the driving experience. For those interested in sampling locally made wine, the Swan Creek Wine Trail gives motorists a great opportunity to tour several vineyards. Just make sure to have a designated driver. For a large portion of the route, motorists can see the unique knob of Pilot Mountain. The mountain, which rises 1,400 feet, was dedicated as a Natural National Landmark in 1976. The knob marks the center of Pilot Mountain State Park. In southwestern Yadkin County, travelers can stop at one of two local general stores operated by the local Amish population that are known for selling fresh produce and other various goods. This region also has a number of old-fashioned country stores which give visitors a taste of the local Yadkin Valley culture. Along the route, travelers will pass several historic structures such as the Surry County Courthouse in Dobson, the Historic Kapp's Mill and the Historic Kapp House in Dobson, which was built in 1840, and the Historic Edwards-Franklin House, built in 1799.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 89 and Round Peak Church Rd (SR 1397) about 0.3 miles from the I-77 overpass at Exit 100.

- Follow Round Peak Church Rd (SR 1397) north for 1.3 miles to a local vineyard.
- Backtrack on Round Peak Church Rd and take a right onto NC 89.
- Travel 1.2 miles on NC 89 and turn left onto Beulah Rd.
- Follow Beulah Rd for 1 mile and turn right onto Haystack Rd.
- Travel 8.2 miles and turn left onto River Rd (SR 1330) and travel 3.5 miles.
- Turn left onto Kapps Mill Rd (SR 1330) and travel 1.8 miles.
- Turn left onto Zephyr Rd (SR 1001) and travel 5.4 miles and cross over I-77 and into Dobson where the route changes to W Kapp St.
- Turn right onto US 601 Bus (N Main St) and travel south for 1.3 miles.
- Turn left onto Rockford Rd (SR 2221) and travel 4.4 miles and make a right turn to continue following Rockford Rd.
- Proceed 6.8 miles and turn right to continue on Rockford Rd.
- Continue 5.6 miles on Rockford Rd to Country Club Rd (SR 1503).
- Turn left onto Country Club Road (SR 1503) and travel 3.2 miles to the US 601 (N State St) in Yadkinville.



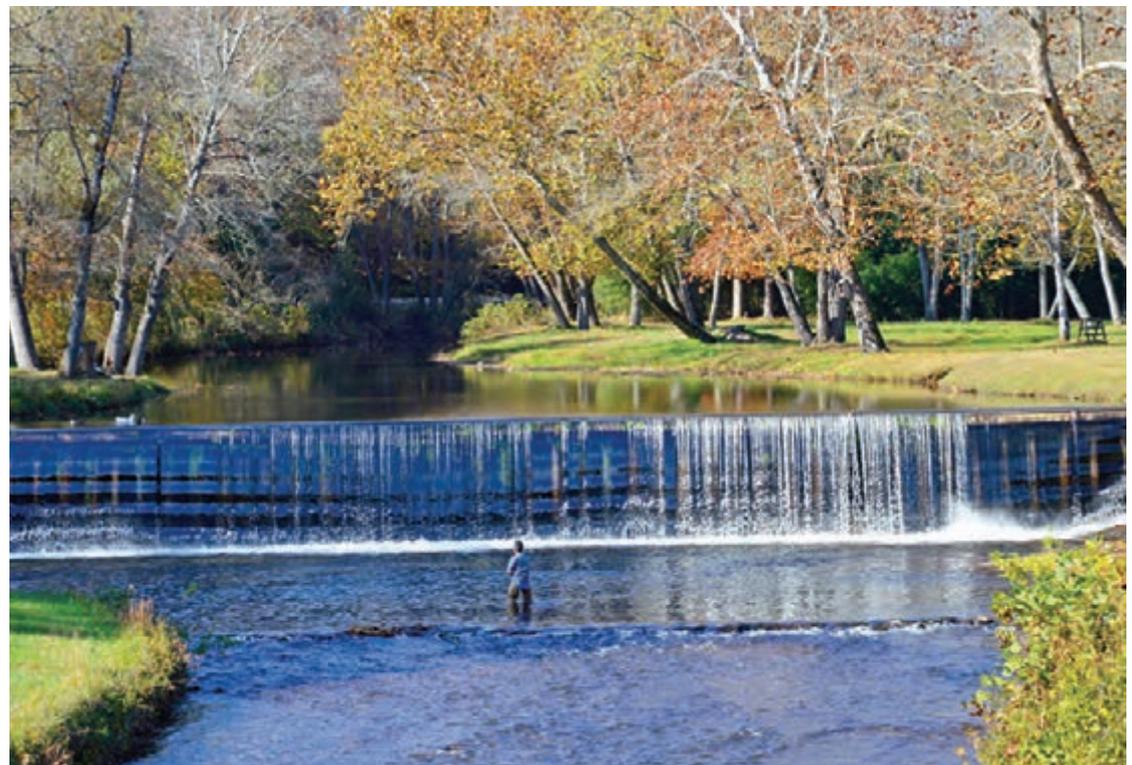
Counties: Surry and Yadkin

Total Distance: 76.5 Miles

Drive Time: 2 hr 5 min

OPPOSITE: Barn along the route

BELOW: Fishing in the Yadkin River





- Continue straight across US 601 onto N Lee Ave (SR 1134) for the next 0.8 miles.
- Turn right onto Old US 421 (W Main St) and travel 11.3 miles (you will cross over US 21 and over I-77).
- Turn right onto Swan Creek Rd (SR 1300) and travel 6.0 miles.
- Turn right onto Swan Creek Bypass (SR 1386) and travel 1.5 miles.
- Turn left onto US 21 Bus (Bridge St) and follow it for 0.7 miles and turn left in 0.1 miles to stay on US 21 Bus (Bridge St).
- Travel 0.2 Miles on US 21 Bus (Elm St) and turn right onto US 21 Bus (Bridge St/ Main St).
- Continue for 4 miles and turn right onto Poplar Springs Rd (you will cross the US 21 Bypass).
- Continue on Poplar Springs Rd for 9.9 miles to the intersection with Kapps Mill Rd where the byway ends. (Poplar Springs Rd will change to Zephyr Rd in the community of Zephyr.)

ABOVE: Once a thriving tobacco producer, the Yadkin Valley region is now known for its wineries. Many vineyards and wineries are located along the route.

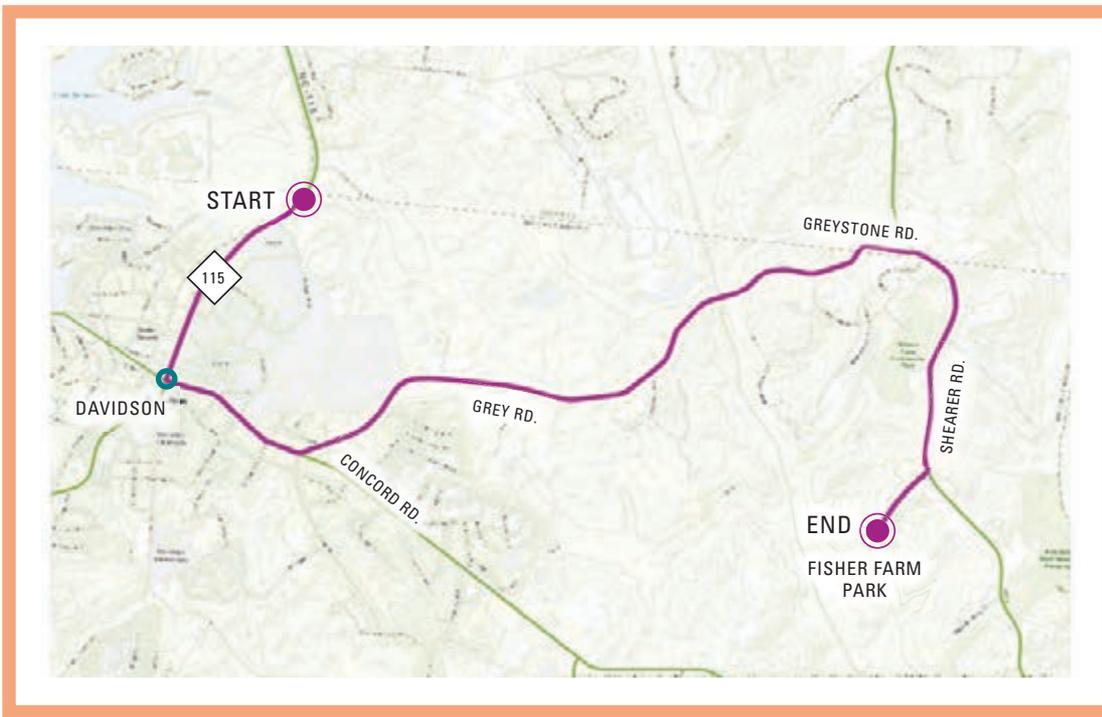


THE COLLEGE TOWN

Ride

A vibrant street scene in Davidson, North Carolina. The image shows a busy intersection with traffic lights and a brick building in the background. A green street sign for 'CONCORD' is visible. The scene is filled with cars, including a white van, and pedestrians. The overall atmosphere is lively and urban.

By linking historic sites, noteworthy architecture, and trade routes, this byway embraces an appreciation for its historic past and connects the Davidson College campus and the town center to the rural piedmont landscape from which they grew. The town of Davidson is inextricably linked to Davidson College, which predated the surrounding community and influenced its development. Davidson owes its primary existence not to farming or rail expansion but to the pursuit of higher education. The town's significant historic preservation and open space conservation efforts along this route have protected built and rural environments that illustrate the evolution of Davidson College and the town. As travelers journey down Main Street, part of the historic trade route between Charlotte and Statesville, they will notice the many historically and architecturally significant buildings that encompass downtown with homes and buildings dating from 1837, when the college was initially established, to 1901 when a fire destroyed much of the business district. (7) As the route heads south out of town, the rolling foothills, typical of the North Carolina Piedmont, provide viewers fresh pastoral scenes with occasional farm houses, barns, and small homes interspersed throughout the landscape. Local and regional recreational cyclists can be found along the entire College Town Ride which is a part of the multi-county Lake Norman Bike Route. According to local bicycle vendors, anywhere from 60 to 300 cyclists ride this route each weekend.



Counties: Iredell and Mecklenburg

Total Distance: 5.5 Miles

Drive Time: 15 min

OPPOSITE: Downtown Davidson

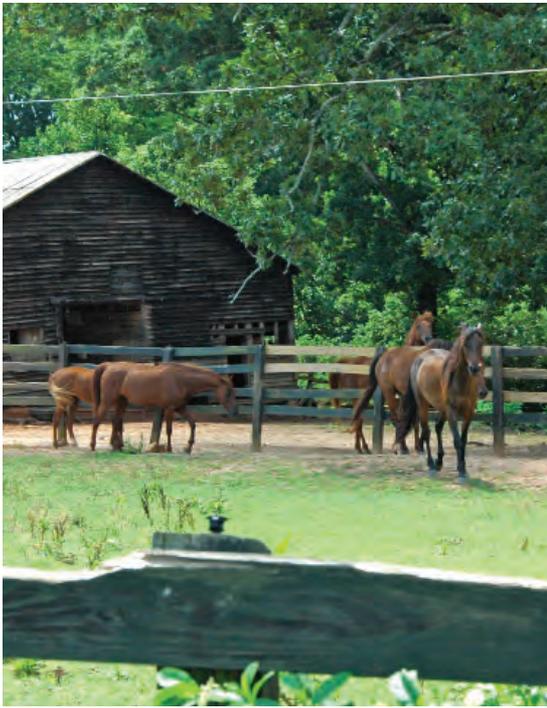
BELOW: Fisher Farm Park in the Town of Davidson

Getting There

The byway begins on NC 115 (Main St) near Ridge Rd at the Iredell/Mecklenburg County Line in Davidson.

- Travel 0.9 miles south on NC 115 and turn left onto Concord Rd (SR 2693).
- Travel 0.6 miles and turn left onto Grey Rd (SR 2417). At the Iredell County Line Grey Rd becomes Greystone Rd (SR 1141) and then becomes Shearer Rd (SR 2418) in Mecklenburg County.
- Travel 3.7 miles and turn right onto Fisher Farm Rd (SR 2419) and travel 0.3 miles to the byway end at Fisher Park.





Points of Interest

 The NC Highway Historical Marker M-21 near the Iredell/Mecklenburg County line highlights the land grant system used by King Charles II to charter a tract called Carolina in the American colonies. According to the marker, by 1746 this Granville Grant had evolved to form the northern half of the colony of North Carolina. (14)

 Davidson College, named for Revolutionary War hero General William Lee Davidson, was founded by Presbyterian farmers in 1837. This section of the route

holds many early residences linked to the college, including the first college president's house, built in 1837 for Robert Morrison and the Isaac Johnston House (1850s), which was later used as a boarding house for students. (7)

 The Davidson College arboretum, a collection begun in 1869, occupies the entire campus. A variety of mature tree specimens and buildings such as the Eumenean Literary Society Hall (1849) and the Philanthropic Hall (1850) are visible from the route. Other historic, campus-related buildings visible from this section of Main Street are the Oak and Elm Rows (1836). Originally dormitories,

these buildings later gave overnight shelter to Confederate soldiers returning home after the Civil War. (7)

 Along Main Street opposite the campus is the Helper Hotel (1848), one of Davidson's oldest, most distinctive buildings. Initially built as a store, it soon became a hotel for college visitors. Nearby, the Copeland House and the Grey House date back to the 1860s. (7)

 Village Green, a much-loved community gathering spot, was historically used as a shady place for college visitors to park their wagons and buggies. (7)

Start



Kings Land Grant



Davidson College



Davidson College
Arboretum

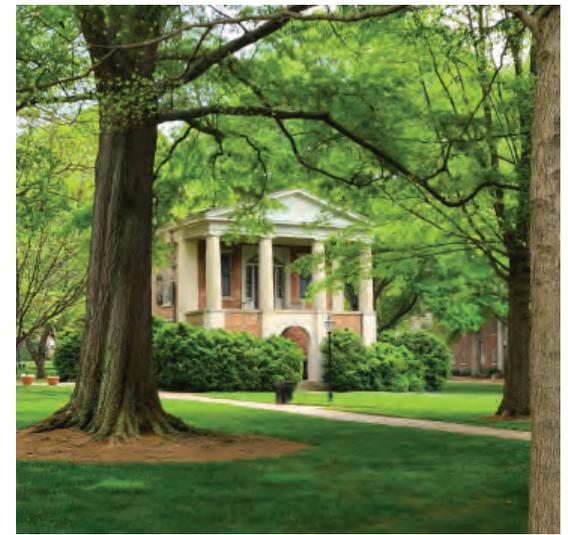


Helper Hotel

 Along Concord Road, a campus marker commemorates the achievement of physics professor Henry Louis Smith, who in 1896 developed the first x-ray machine in the US. (7)

 Abersham, a 243-acre Mecklenburg County park, and Fisher Farm Park, a 200-acre protected natural area, are favorite destinations for the locals for educational programs as well as recreational activities, such as hiking, running, picnics, and bird watching.

BELOW & RIGHT: Davidson College



Village Green



Discovery of the
X-Ray



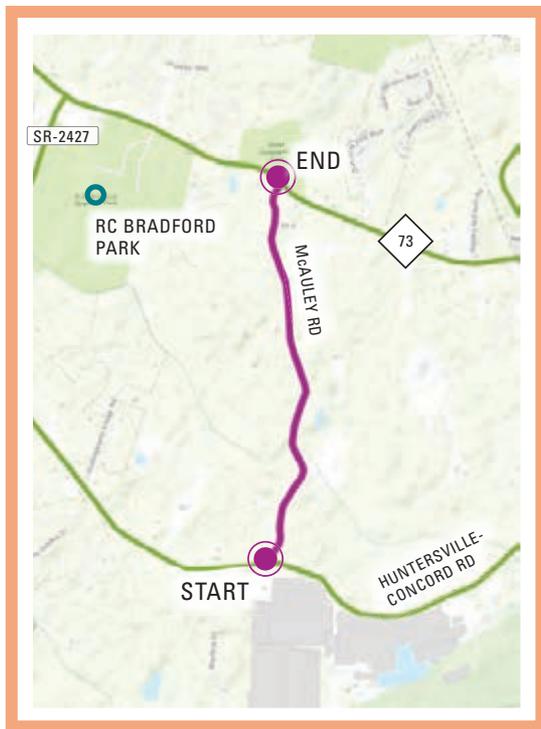
Fisher Farm Park

End

McAULEY ROAD SCENIC *Byway*



McAuley Road offers travelers a glimpse of the past through a typical 19th century landscape with a dirt road, one lane wooden bridge, open farmland, and dense woodlands. Located in Mecklenburg County, one of the fastest growing urban areas in the United States, this byway offers motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists an opportunity to see what Mecklenburg County looked like in the past. Traveling along the road, visitors will experience rolling hills, mixed forests, pastures, grazing livestock, and historical farm structures. Ramah Creek meanders through the protected lands and can be seen from the one lane bridge about half way through the route. A wide variety of wildlife including deer, coyotes, turkeys, birds of prey, and an extensive list of other birds can frequently be seen along the route. The road is historically significant and is designated by the Charlotte Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission as one of the last vestiges of rural vistas that dominated Mecklenburg County until the middle of the 20th century. Catawba Lands Conservancy permanently protects 775 acres of the area surrounding the road through voluntary conservation easements assuring a large natural preserve of native flora and fauna.



Counties: Mecklenburg
Total Distance: 1.6 Miles
Drive Time: 5 min

OPPOSITE & BELOW: Pastoral views along the byway

LEFT: Livestock near the route

BOTTOM LEFT: Historic Barn

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of McAuley Rd (SR 2425) and Huntersville-Concord Rd (SR 2426).

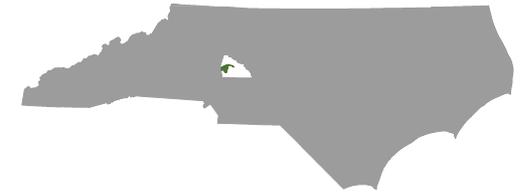
- Follow McAuley Rd (SR 2425) for 1.6 miles to NC-73 (Davidson-Concord Rd) where the byway ends. ***This road is a completely unpaved gravel road.***



MILL BRIDGE SCENIC *Byway*



Mill Bridge Byway is named for the flourmill built by Dr. Samuel Kerr in 1823. The Scotch-Irish settlement of Millbridge features Thyatira Church, one of North Carolina's oldest Presbyterian churches. The route passes through land that has a rich history and long tradition of farming. With a population density of only about 50 people per square mile, this area is marked by open spaces, fields, streams, and working farms dotted with well-preserved historic homes, out buildings, and barns. Located along this stretch of road is the Piedmont Research Station, an agricultural research facility operated by North Carolina State University that includes study areas for dairy, poultry, field crops, and horticultural crops.



Counties: Rowan

Byway Route: 43.7 Miles

Non-Byway Route: 2.3 Miles

Total Distance: 46 Miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 5 min



OPPOSITE: Kerr Mill

BELOW: Historic Thyatira Presbyterian Church

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 150 and Sherrills Ford Rd (SR 1526) west of Salisbury.

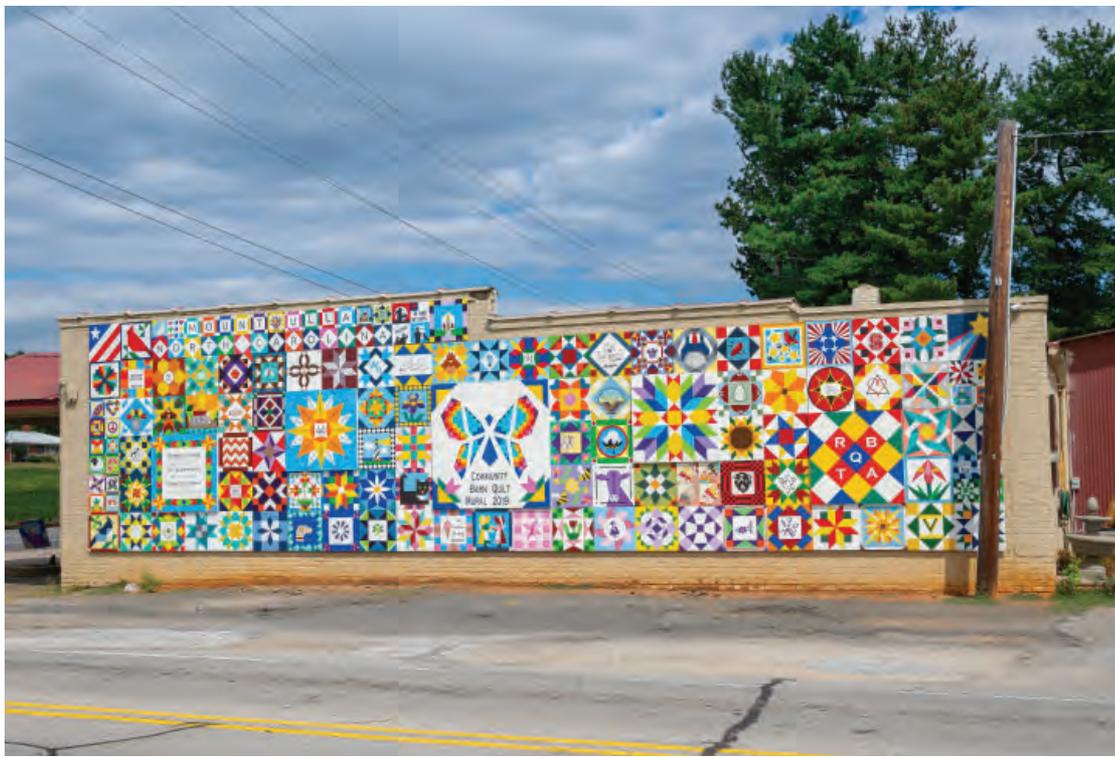
- Travel 14.1 miles west on Sherrills Ford Rd (SR1526) which becomes NC 801.
- Turn left onto Belk Road (SR 1759) and travel 2.1 miles.
- Turn right onto Centenary Church Rd (SR 1753) and travel 0.7 miles.
- Turn left onto Mooresville Rd (NC 150) and travel 1.7 miles.
- Turn left onto Jones Road (SR 1760) and travel 1.4 miles.
- Turn right onto Centenary Church Rd (SR 1753) and travel 0.2 miles.

- Turn right onto Brown Rd (SR 1761) and travel 5 miles. (At Graham Rd (SR1547) Brown Rd becomes Lyerly Rd.)
- Turn right onto Kerr Mill Rd (SR 1770) and travel 1.2 miles.
- Turn right onto Sloan Rd and travel 1.9 mi.

Side Trip: Turn left onto Sloan Rd (SR 1768) to visit Sloan Park and the Mill. The entrance is 0.1 miles. Facilities, picnicking, and hiking trails are available in the park.

- Turn right onto Mooresville Rd (NC 150) and travel 0.4 miles.
- Turn left onto Caldwell Rd (SR 1547) and travel 1.9 miles to Millbridge Rd (SR 1350).
- Turn right onto Millbridge Rd, travel 1.7 miles to Corriher Springs Rd and turn right.





ABOVE: Largest community barn quilt in the U.S. located in Mount Ulla

CENTER: Quilt block on a barn

LEFT: Back Creek Historic Presbyterian Church

OPPOSITE: The bridge to Kerr Mill

- Follow Corriher Springs Rd for 1.4 miles, turn right to continue on Corriher Springs Rd.
- Continue for 2.6 miles and then turn left onto Bradshaw Rd.
- Follow Bradshaw Rd. for 1.5 miles to where the road ends at Mooresville Rd.
- Turn right onto Mooresville Rd, follow for 2.3 miles until you get to intersection of Mooresville, Graham, and Caldwell Rd (this section is not a designated Scenic Byway).
- To continue on the designated byway, turn right onto Caldwell Rd and continue for 1.9 miles until you reach Millbridge Rd (requires you to retrace a small section of the byway).
- Turn left and follow Millbridge Rd 2.6 miles to Mooresville Rd and turn right.
- Travel 0.1 miles to White Rd and turn left.
- Follow White Rd 3.2 miles until you reach Sherrills Ford Rd where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Kerr Mill, a grist mill built in 1823 and renovated in the 1970s, now serves as a museum featuring pieces of early Americana. (NC 150)

 Rankin-Sherrill House is a complex of silos and buildings that includes a smokehouse constructed in 1853. (Centenary Church Rd)

 Patterson Farm, which cultivates hundreds of acres of tomatoes, strawberries, pumpkins, and poinsettias, offers tours and “pick-your-own” fruits and vegetables. (Mill Bridge Rd)

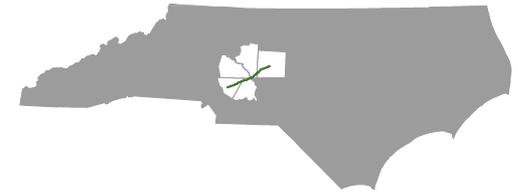
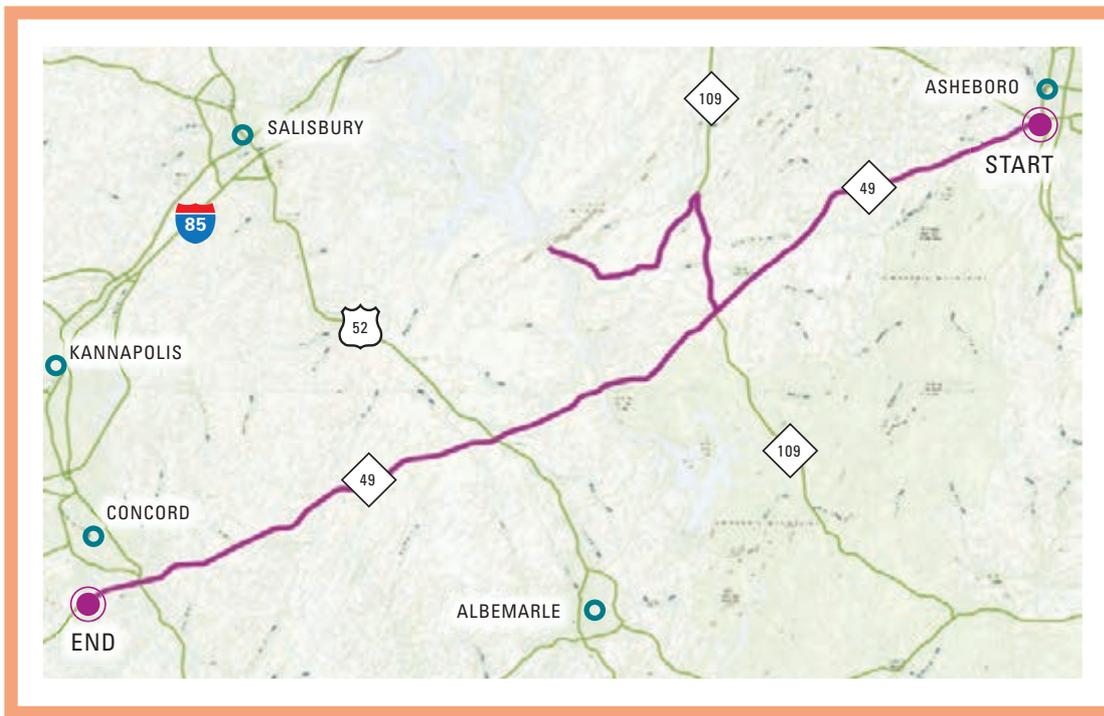


UWHARRIE SCENIC

Road



The Uwharrie Scenic Road takes motorists through both the Uwharrie Mountains and the area known as the “Carolina Slate Belt” along NC 49 between Charlotte and Asheboro. At one point in time, many buildings and fences seen throughout these rolling hills were built from slate, a type of metamorphic rock. As motorists travel south through the Uwharrie National Forest, they will encounter the Uwharrie Mountains. These isolated peaks were formed several hundred million years ago by volcanoes and have survived erosion and weathering over many centuries. Uwharrie is believed to have originated from a Native American word meaning “rocky soil.” The federal government bought the Uwharrie National Forest in 1934 and designated it a national forest in 1961. It now covers approximately 51,000 acres in Randolph and Montgomery Counties and a small portion of Davidson County. Along this route the Uwharrie River flows into the Yadkin River near Morrow Mountain State Park to form the Pee Dee River. A variety of crops such as corn and winter wheat can be seen throughout this region.



Counties: Cabarrus, Davidson, Randolph, Rowan, and Stanly

Byway Route: 50.7 miles

Extension Route: 22.4 miles

Total Distance: 73.1 miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 20 min

OPPOSITE: Barn along the byway

BELOW: Badin Lake Scenic Overlook

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 49 and US 64 in Asheville.

- Travel south on NC 49 for 0.7 miles to Old NC Hwy 49 (SR 1193).
- Follow Old NC Hwy 49 for 10 miles.
- Merge onto NC 49 and travel 7.3 miles to the interchange of NC 49 and NC 109.
- From here, you can continue the main byway route by proceeding straight on NC 49 or you can ride a byway extension by turning right onto NC 109 which will add 22.4 miles.
- If you choose to stay on the main byway route, proceed straight on NC 49 for 7.5 miles to Stokes Ferry Rd (SR 1004) where the byway extension route will rejoin the main byway.





Extension Route:

- *If you choose to ride the byway extension, exit NC 49 to NC 109 N.*
- *Turn right onto NC 109 N, which becomes Glenn St in Denton, and travel 5.4 miles.*
- *Turn left onto NC 47 E (E Salisbury St) in Denton and travel 0.3 miles.*
- *Take the 2nd left onto S Main St (SR 2501), which becomes S Main St Extension and travel 4.5 miles to NC 8.*
- *Cross NC 8 onto Lick Creek Church Rd and follow it for 3.1 miles to Bringle Ferry Rd (SR 1002) where the designated byway route ends.*
- *To return to the designated route, turn left onto Bringle Ferry Rd and travel 0.6 miles.*
- *Turn left onto River Rd (SR 2152) and travel 6.7 miles.*
- *Turn left onto Stokes Ferry Rd (SR 1004) and travel 1.7 miles to NC 49 and turn right to rejoin the main byway.*
- *Travel 25.2 miles on NC 49 to the intersection of Old Charlotte Rd (SR 1157) just south of Concord where the byway ends.*

Start



Denton Farmpark



Denton



Lick Creek Baptist Church

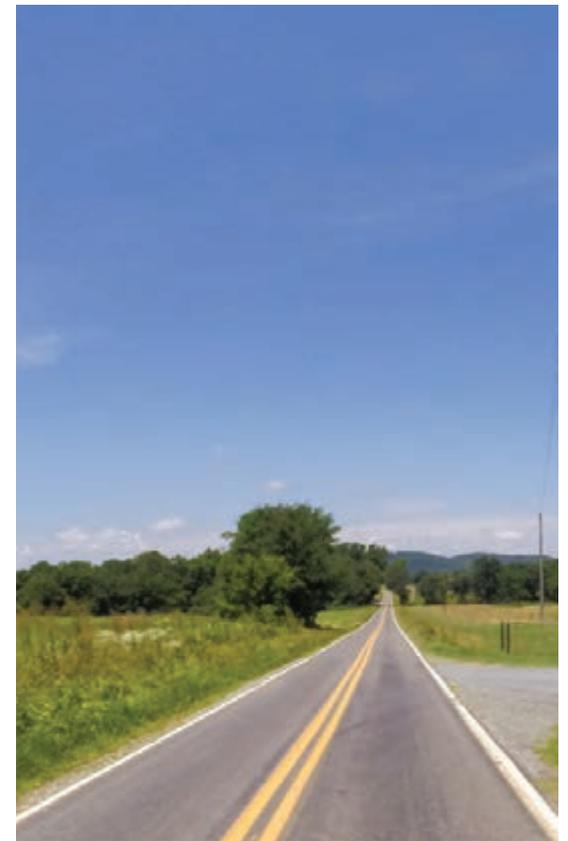
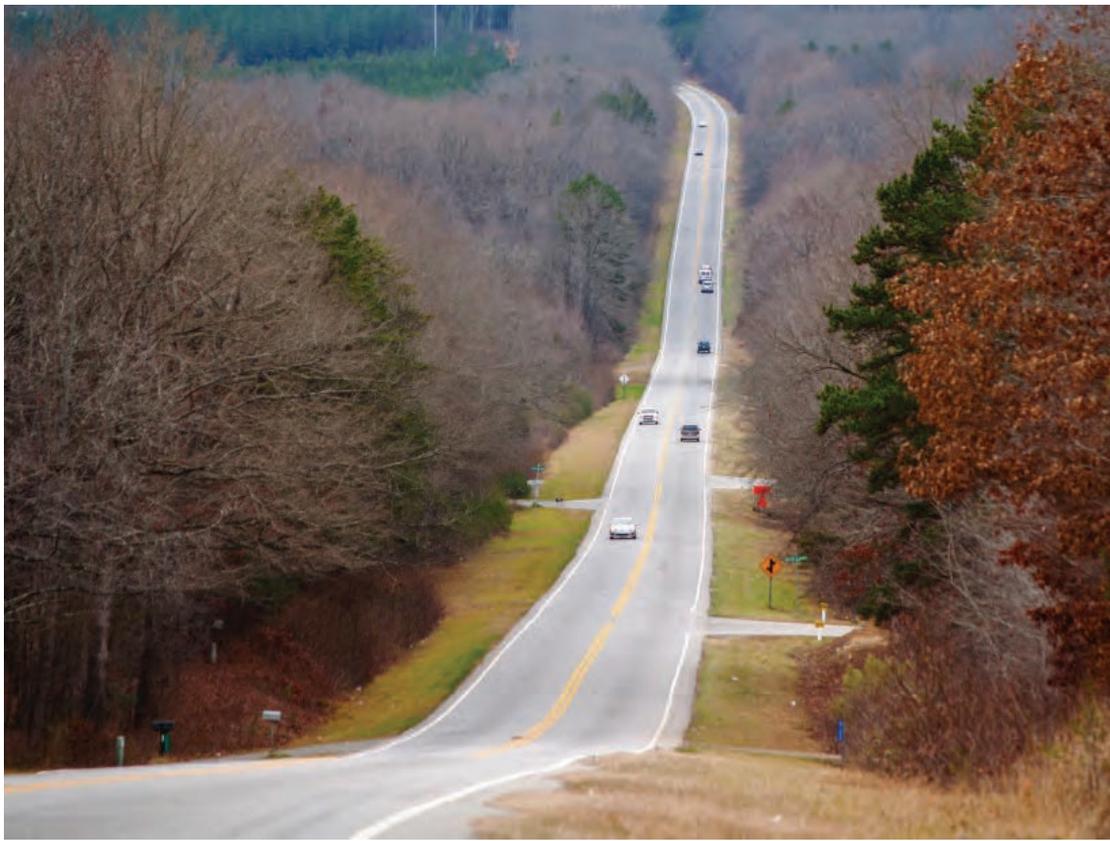


Tuckertown Reservoir



Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

End



Points of Interest

 History buffs may enjoy a side trip to the Denton Farmpark in Davidson County. The park features an impressive collection of restored buildings, including country stores, a church, post office, and gristmill, and is also home to the annual Threshers' Convention, a large steam, gas, and electric farm machinery show.

 Denton, the first town built around the intersection of NC 109 and NC 47, was once known as Finch's Crossing because of the seasonal throng of migrating birds that converged on a grove of sycamore trees at the intersection. Denton's central business district boasts a well-preserved collection

of historic buildings, including many good examples of early 20th-century architecture.

 The Lick Creek Baptist Church, one of Davidson County's oldest landmarks, is located near Bringle Ferry Rd. Records indicate meetings were held at the church as early as 1787.

 Located near the community of High Rock, Tuckertown Reservoir (also known as Tuckertown Lake) was built by the Carolina Aluminum Co. for hydroelectricity and recreation in 1917 and occupies the small valley within the Uwharrie Mountain range.

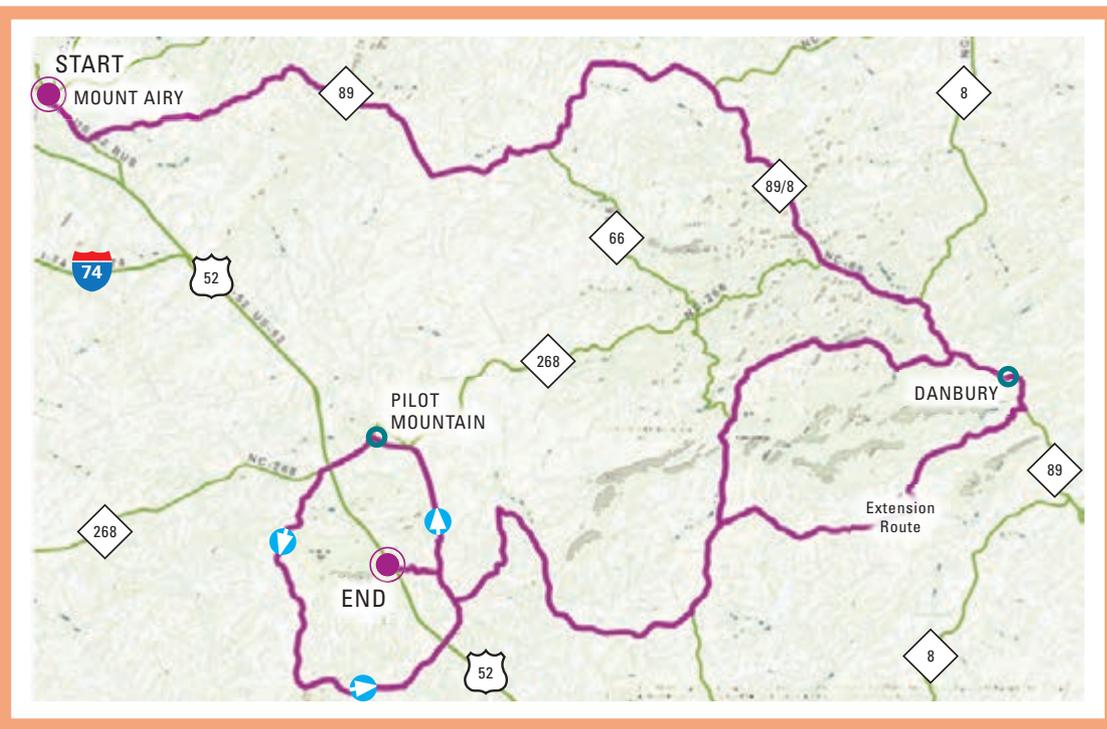
OPPOSITE: Quilt barn along the byway

 For another interesting side trip, visit the Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site, the site of the first authenticated discovery of gold in the United States. Gold was found on the Reed family farm in 1799 and the discovery helped North Carolina lead the country in gold production until the California gold rush in 1848. Reed Gold Mine is located about eight miles south of Mount Pleasant.

SAURATOWN MOUNTAINS SCENIC

Byway

The motorist's adventure begins in the quintessential mountain town of Mt. Airy, often referred to as Mayberry, where visitors can experience some hometown food, shopping, and cultural revival. The byway then winds its way around the ancient "Middle Mountains" region in North Carolina's rolling northern Piedmont. At the beginning of the byway, look for excellent views of Hanging Rock in the distance. As travelers work their way down the route, they'll pass one of the most well-preserved structures from the antebellum period in North Carolina, the Moratock Iron Furnace in the small town of Danbury, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Along the way, travelers will have the opportunity to explore Hanging Rock State Park and enjoy some of the many recreational opportunities that it provides, such as hiking, canoeing, and fishing. Later on, visitors will be exposed to long range views of Sauratown Mountain before making a 360° loop around the base of Pilot Mountain. The grand finale presents an extraordinary view of Pilot Mountain's Big Pinnacle.



Counties: Stokes and Surry
Main Byway Route: 70.7 Miles
Extension Route: 11.9 Miles
Total Distance: 82.6 Miles
Drive Time: 2 hr 10 min

OPPOSITE: View of Hanging Rock from byway

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of Independence Blvd and N Main St in downtown Mt. Airy, NC.

- Follow Main St south for 0.9 miles and turn right to continue on Main St.
- Travel 0.8 miles to NC 89 (Westfield Rd) and turn left.
- Continue on NC 89 (Westfield Rd) for 28.2 miles to Hanging Rock Park Rd.
- From here, you can choose to stay on the main byway route by turning right onto Hanging Rock Park Rd (SR 1001) or ride a byway extension.

Extension Route:

- *If you choose to ride the byway extension, continue straight on NC 89/NC 8 and follow for 2.6 miles.*
- *Turn right onto Mountain Rd (SR 2018) and follow for 4.1 miles to Flat Shoals Rd (SR 2019).*
- *Turn right and travel 5.2 miles to NC 66 and turn left to return to the main byway.*
- If you choose to stay on the main route, follow Hanging Rock Park Rd (SR 2015) for 1.5 miles to Moores Spring Rd (SR 1001).
- Turn right and travel 5.4 miles to NC 66 and turn left.
- Follow NC 66 for 2.7 miles to the intersection with Flat Shoals Rd where the byway extension rejoins. Continue on NC 66

for 2.2 miles to Chestnut Grove Rd/Volunteer Rd (SR 1136) and turn right.

- Travel 6.6 miles to High Bridge Rd and turn left.
- Follow for 2.9 miles to Old 52 Rd (SR 1236) and turn right. Travel 0.4 miles and veer left onto Old Winston Rd (SR 1152).
- Travel 1.3 miles to Coon Rd and turn right.
- Travel 0.1 miles and turn left onto Old 52 Rd (SR 1236) and continue for 2.2 miles to E Main St (SR 1857) and turn left.
- Continue 1 mile and turn left onto Key St. Follow for 1.5 miles and turn left onto Shoals Rd (SR 2048) shortly after going through two roundabouts.
- Follow Shoals Rd for 5.7 miles to Stony Ridge Rd (SR 2048) and turn left.



ABOVE: Pilot Mountain's Big Pinnacle

- Continue for 2.7 miles to Perch Rd (SR 1147) and turn left. Travel 2.4 miles to Old 52 Rd and turn left. (This will require you to travel a section of the byway that you have already ridden.)
- Travel 0.5 miles to Old Winston Rd (SR 1152) and turn left. Continue for 0.4 miles to Pilot Knob Park Rd (SR 1151) and turn left.
- Continue for 1.3 miles to the Entrance to Pilot Mountain State Park where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Mount Airy, the hometown of the late actor Andy Griffith, was the inspiration for The Andy Griffith Show's fictional Mayberry. Its small-town character is showcased and celebrated at festivals, such as the week-long Mayberry Days event and the Blue Grass & Old-Time Fiddler's Convention, which attract thousands each year. Historic homes and buildings highlight this picturesque town and reflect the region's history and rural heritage.

 Founded in 1849, Danbury is located on the Dan River at the foot of the Sauratown Mountains. The community was originally a Native American village that became a trading post called Crawford. The town has several restaurants and many historic points of interest, including: the former Stokes County jail; the Wilson-Fulton House, a.k.a. the Brick House, which was built in the 1850s; and the Moody Tavern, a two-story frame house built around 1860, which was

Start



Mount Airy



Danbury



**Moratock Iron
Furnace**

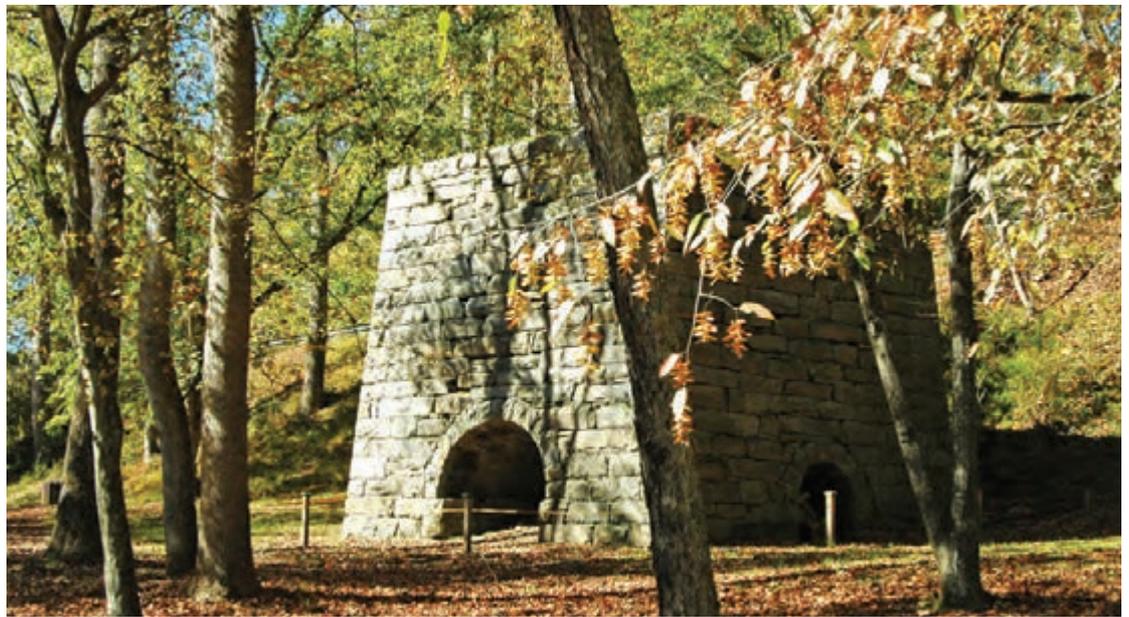
the headquarters for Union General George Stoneman's troops during the last days of the Civil War.

 Moratock Iron Furnace, built by Nathaniel Moody in 1843, is made of large granite blocks and was used by the Confederacy to manufacture swords and munitions during the Civil War. (29)

 Hanging Rock State Park is a beautiful 6,000-acre preserve named for an unusual natural quartzite outcrop, which is a part of the ancient Sauratown Mountains. Also in the park are the Cascade Falls, which have a double drop of 200 feet in the upper cascade and 60 feet in the lower cascade. Look for Tory's Den, a cave below the Moores Knob bank, said to have been occupied by Tories (colonists loyal to the king) during the Revolutionary War.

 The Town of Pilot Mountain, which shares its name with a nearby peak, was originally settled by the Saura, a Native American group from western NC. The eventual settlement of Scots-Irish and English Quakers in the area and the completion of the local railroad in 1888 led to a social and economic boost for the region. (53)

 Pilot Mountain State Park boasts one of the most recognizable natural formations in the state. The isolated peak of Pilot Mountain's Big Pinnacle is actually a quartzite monadnock remnant from the erosion of the Sauratown Mountains, and was once used as a navigational tool for the Saura people. (53)



ABOVE: (TOP) Moratock Iron Furnace
(BOTTOM) Squad car in Mt. Airy (Photo Credit: Sam Dean & Tourism Partnership of Surry County)



**Hanging Rock
State Park**



Pilot Mountain



**Pilot Mountain
State Park**

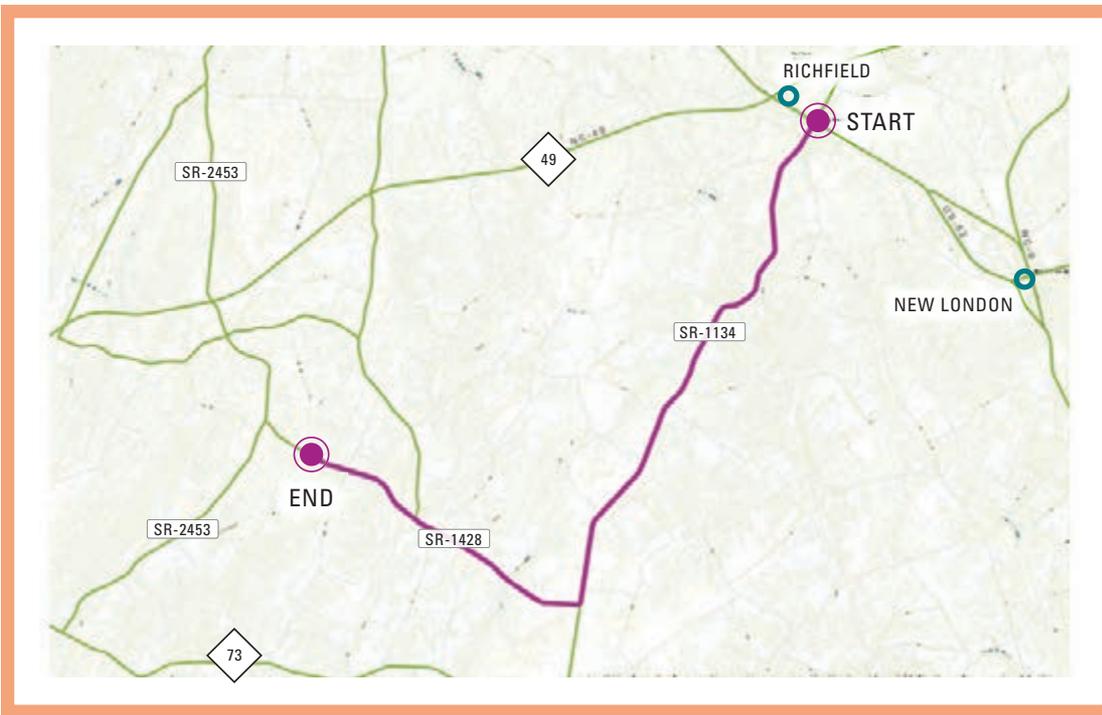
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ROLLING KANSAS

Byway



The Rolling Kansas Byway passes through an area known appropriately as “Rolling Kansas,” so nicknamed because of its hilly terrain and turn of the century farms and windmills. The route winds through the wavering countryside with panoramic views of the western Piedmont. Along the way, keep a look out for Bethel Bear Creek United Church of Christ and its graveyard, which has tombstones dating to the 1820s and is among the oldest cemeteries in Stanly County.



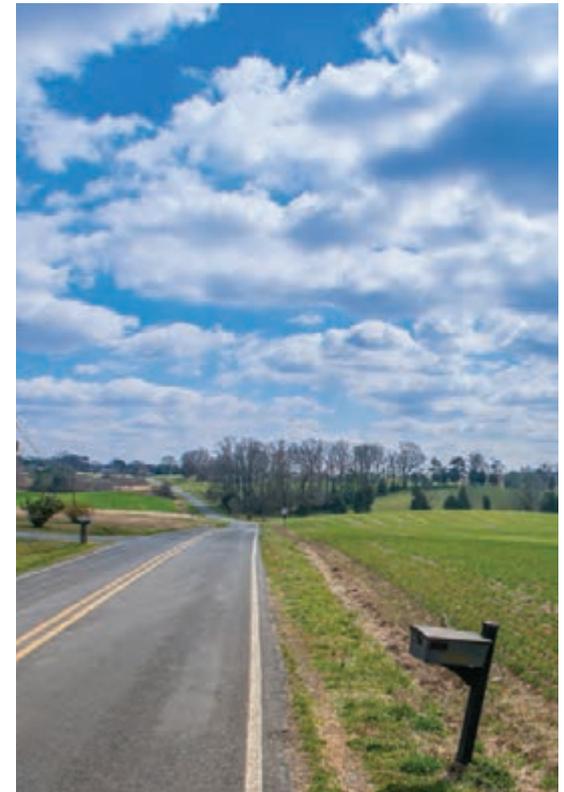
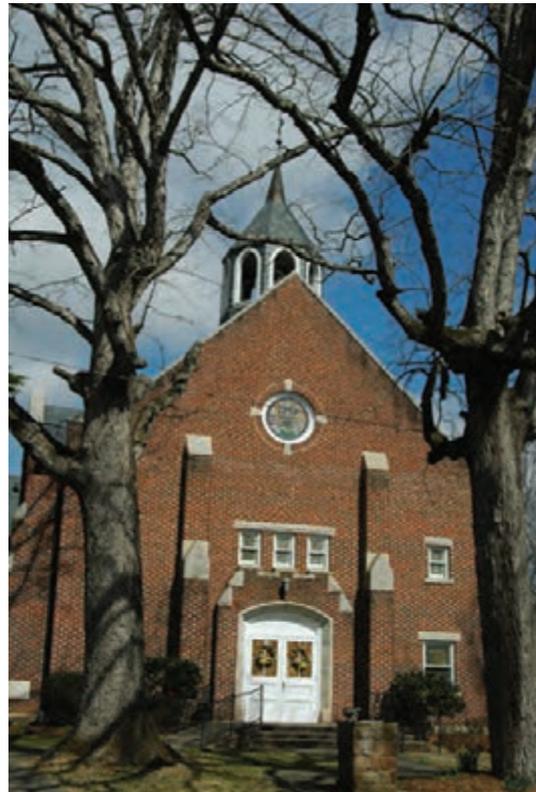
Counties: Stanly
Total Distance: 9.2 Miles
Drive Time: 15 min

BELOW MIDDLE: Bethel Bear Creek Church

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 52 (Church St) and Main Street in Richfield.

- Travel 5.8 miles on S Main St (SR 1134), which becomes Millingport Rd.
- Turn right onto Bear Creek Church Rd (SR 1428) and travel 3.4 miles to the Cabarrus County Line where the byway ends near Bethel Church.



PEE DEE VALLEY

Drive



The Pee Dee Valley Drive parallels the route of the Pee Dee River as it flows south from Badin Lake to Lake Tillery. The Pee Dee River, formed at the junction of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers, flows into and through South Carolina, where it empties into the Atlantic Ocean. Sometimes called the Great Pee Dee River, the name originates from the Catawba word for "smart, capable, or expert."

Getting There

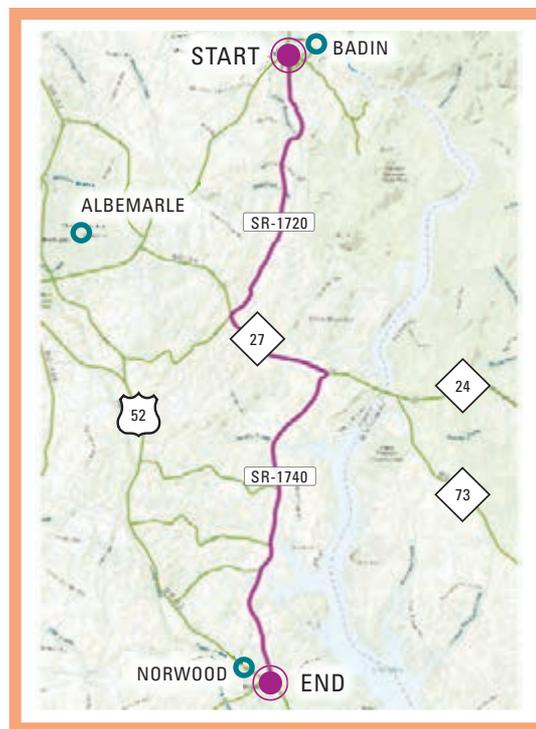
The byway begins near the intersection of Nantahala St and Henderson St at Badin Elementary School just off NC 740 in Badin.

- Follow Henderson St (SR 1720), which becomes Valley Dr, for 5.5 miles.
- Turn left onto NC 24/NC 27/NC 73 and travel 2.3 miles.
- Turn right onto Indian Mound Rd (SR 1740) and travel 6.8 miles to the intersection with US 52 (Main St) in Norwood, where the byway ends. (Indian Mound Rd becomes Pee Dee Ave in Norwood.)

Points of Interest

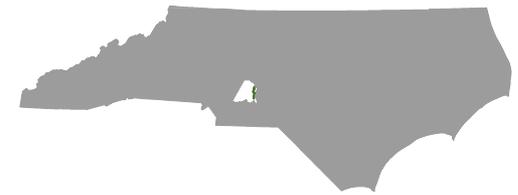
 The town of Badin, which was established in 1913, is named after French industrialist Adrian Badin because of an aluminum reduction plant that he created and operated near the Yadkin River. In order for the plant to maintain the necessary power for production, the construction of a dam began. When WWI broke out in Europe, construction was unable to continue, so the French sold the partially built dam and powerhouse to ALCOA (Aluminum Company of America). ALCOA finished the construction of the dam, and it has been operated by them since 1917. Badin is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is noted for its unique French colonial-inspired townhouses, which are among the earliest examples of townhouse architecture in North Carolina. (2)

 A quick side trip on Morrow Mountain Road takes motorists into Morrow Mountain State Park. From the upper parking lot, visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of



Badin Lake to the north and Lake Tillery to the south. Morrow Mountain State Park was established in 1935 on land given to the state by James McKnight Morrow. The park has more than 30 miles of hiking and equestrian trails open to the public and the restored residence of Dr. Francis Joseph Kron who had a medical practice here in the early 1800s. There are three peaks: Sugarloaf Mountain, Mill Mountain, and Tater Top Mountain. Each peak is less than 1,050 feet high and all of them are a part of the Uwharrie Mountain Range.

 Norwood, founded in 1826, was named for William Norwood, its first postmaster. The town is located near Lake Tillery, which has sometimes been called Lake Norwood.



Counties: Stanly

Total Distance: 14.6 Miles

Drive Time: 20 min

OPPOSITE: Historic Badin Museum
Quadruplex

BELOW: Badin Firehouse Museum





ABOVE: View from Morrow Mountain trail



LEFT: Yadkin's Narrows Dam Turbine Runner

OPPOSITE: Badin Baptist Church



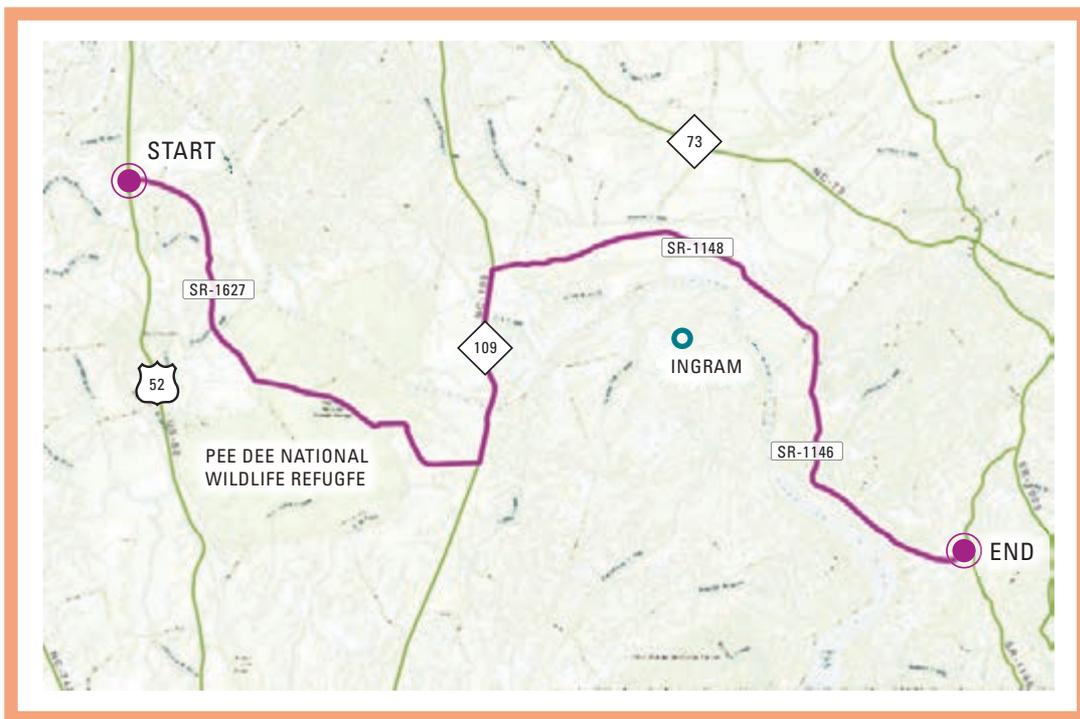


GRASSY ISLAND

Crossing

A gravel road with double yellow lines leads through a rural landscape. On the left, there are dense green trees. On the right, there are fields of dry, golden-brown crops. In the distance, a blue sky with light clouds is visible, and a white structure is partially hidden behind the trees.

The byway is named for Grassy Island, a group of earthen masses in the Pee Dee River north of Blewett Falls Lake along the Anson/Richmond County line. Along the route, travelers will pass by pine and hardwood forests, swamps, and farms along the banks of the Pee Dee River. The Pee Dee River, formed by the junction of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers in Montgomery County, flows south along the Anson/Richmond County line and into South Carolina where it empties into Winyah Bay. When nearing the end of the route, the byway begins to feature the geological transition between the lowland Piedmont region to the Uwharrie Mountain expanse. Neighboring the byway to the south is Blewett Falls Lake, which provides recreation opportunities for the public through boat ramps and access points for fishing on the lake.



Counties: Anson and Richmond
Total Distance: 25.4 Miles
Drive Time: 35 min

BELOW: Artful Carolina Thread Trail wayfinding sign

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 52 and Pinkston River Rd (SR 1627) in the Cedar Hill area a couple of miles north of Ansonville.

- Travel south on Pinkston River Rd (SR 1627) for 4.8 miles and turn left onto Grassy Island Rd (SR 1634).
- Travel 4.6 miles and turn left onto NC 109 to head north.
- Travel 3.5 miles and turn right onto another Grassy Island Rd (SR 1148) in Richmond County.
- Travel 12.5 miles to the intersection with Holly Grove Church Rd (SR 1146) where the byway ends about 5.5 miles west of downtown Ellerbe.

Points of Interest

 For an interesting side trip, visit the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge. As North Carolina's only inland wildlife refuge, it features a self-guided auto tour and hiking trail through a migratory bird habitat. A waterfowl observation blind allows for up-close viewing of bird species native to or passing through the region. The refuge's office and visitor center are located on US 52, three miles south of Ansonville.

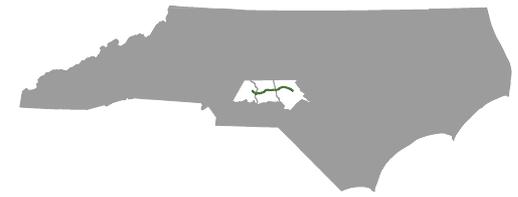
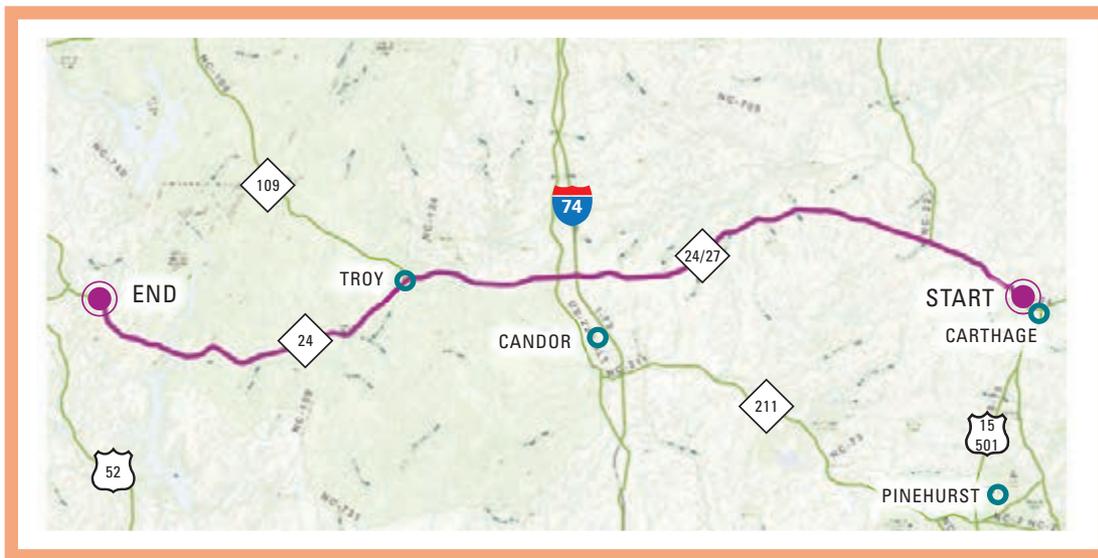


SANDHILLS SCENIC

Drive



The Sandhills Scenic Drive journeys through North Carolina's Sandhills, a series of low rolling hills located between the Cape Fear and Pee Dee rivers. Settled by Scottish highlanders about 1740, the area was named for the coarse, sandy soil prevalent in the region. The Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in the Moore County town of Southern Pines houses the last remaining cluster of ancient long-leaf pines in this area. (31) These pine trees covered the Sandhills until they were nearly destroyed by logging in 1895. The pines are a showcase for the preserve's hardwood swamp forest, which also contains rare plant and animal species. The former long-leaf pine forests have regenerated with the faster growing short-leaf pine. Along the way, enjoy views of fertile farmlands and rolling hills while passing the state's pottery center to the north and golf resort communities to the south. When approaching the Pee Dee River, both Horse Trough and Shelter Mountain of the Uwharrie Mountain range are visible on either side of the route. These isolated peaks have withstood erosion and weathering over thousands of years. While crossing the river near Lake Tillery, notice how Stony Mountain frames the path of the Pee Dee River's western shore.



Counties: Montgomery, Moore, and Stanly

Total Distance: 46.2 Miles

Drive Time: 55 min

Getting There

The byway begins in Carthage on NC 24/NC 27 (Courthouse Square/McReynolds St).

- Travel west on NC 24/NC 27 for 46.2 miles to Sweet Home Church Rd (SR 1731) in Albemarle where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

- Founded in 1796, Carthage is located in an area settled by Scots from the Cape Fear region in the mid-18th century.
- Incorporated in 1901, Biscoe was first known as Filo. The name was changed in 1895 to honor one of the major customers of the town's lumberyard.

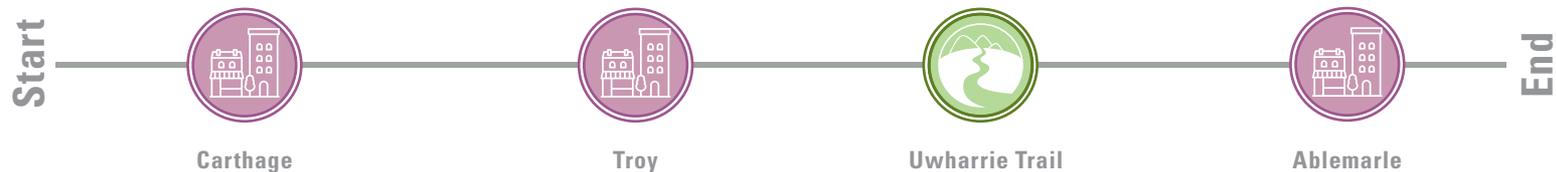
Troy, incorporated in 1843, is believed to be named for either Robert Troy, a member of the House of Commons, or John B. Troy, an educator and member of the North Carolina General Assembly. Troy is located on the eastern border of the Uwharrie National Forest, which was purchased by the federal government in 1934 and established as a national forest in 1961. (33) The forest covers approximately 51,000 acres in Randolph and Montgomery Counties and a small portion of Davidson County.

The 20-mile Uwharrie Trail, a national recreational trail west of Troy, follows a north-south route and passes over the Uwharrie Mountains. It is the longest hiking trail located between North Carolina's mountains and coast.

Albemarle was named for George Monck, Duke of Albemarle and one of the eight original lords proprietors of the Carolina Colony in 1663.

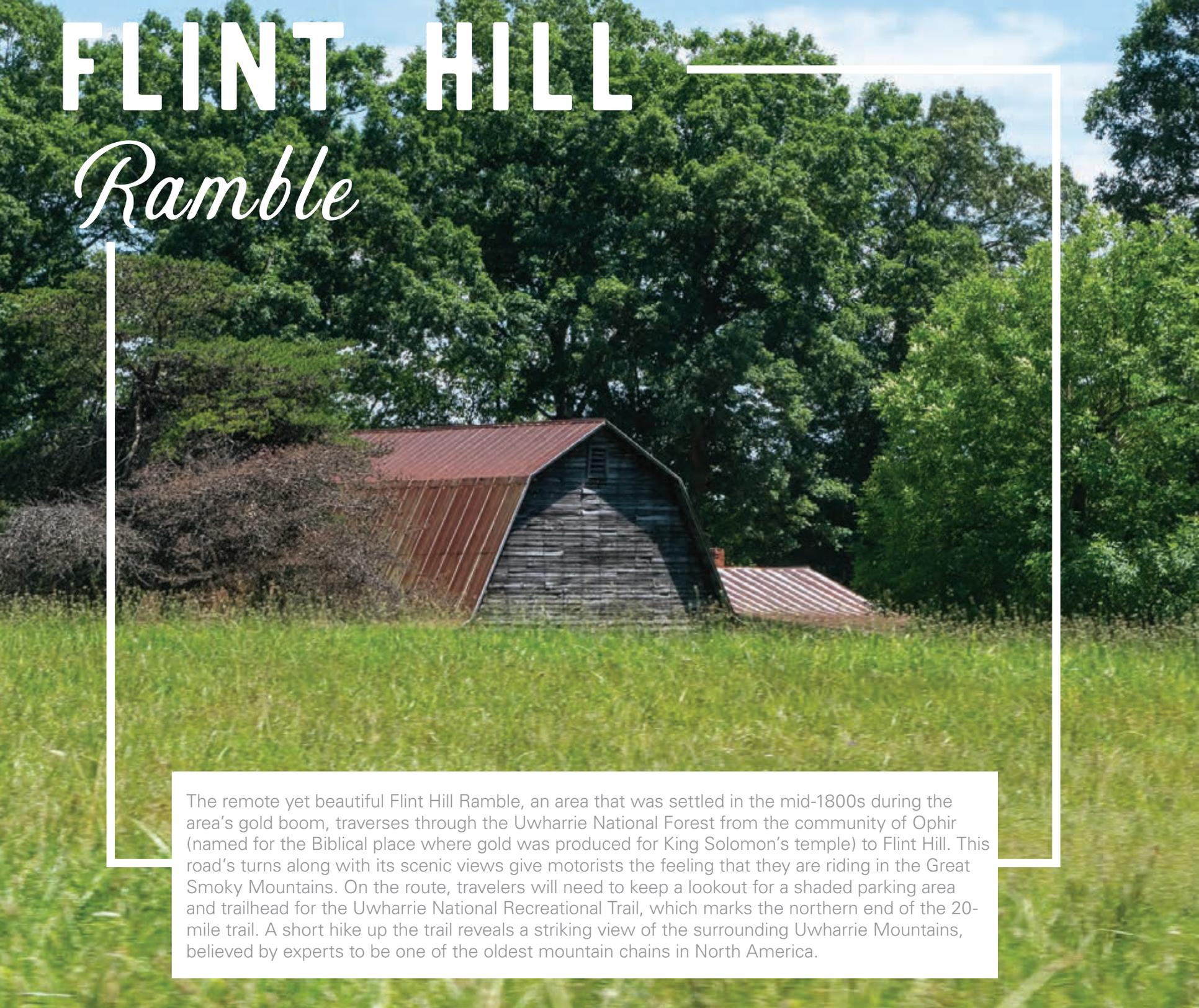


ABOVE: Uwharrie Trail sign
OPPOSITE: Lake Tillery

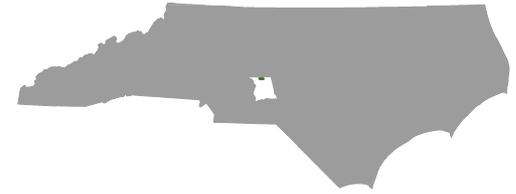
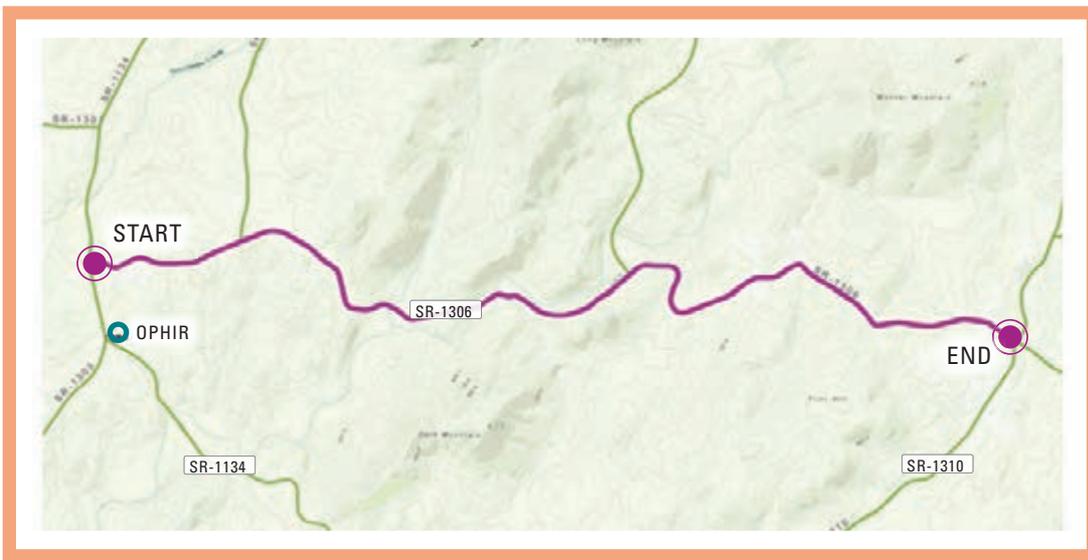


FLINT HILL

Ramble



The remote yet beautiful Flint Hill Ramble, an area that was settled in the mid-1800s during the area's gold boom, traverses through the Uwharrie National Forest from the community of Ophir (named for the Biblical place where gold was produced for King Solomon's temple) to Flint Hill. This road's turns along with its scenic views give motorists the feeling that they are riding in the Great Smoky Mountains. On the route, travelers will need to keep a lookout for a shaded parking area and trailhead for the Uwharrie National Recreational Trail, which marks the northern end of the 20-mile trail. A short hike up the trail reveals a striking view of the surrounding Uwharrie Mountains, believed by experts to be one of the oldest mountain chains in North America.



Counties: Montgomery
Total Distance: 4.4 Miles
Drive Time: 10 min

Getting There

To access the byway, travel to the intersection of Ophir Rd and NC 109 in the community of Uwharrie about 8 miles northwest of downtown Troy on NC 109. Turn onto Ophir Rd (SR 1303) and travel north for 5.2 miles to the intersection with Flint Hill Rd (SR 1306) where the byway begins.

- Travel east on Flint Hill Rd (SR 1306) for 4.4 miles to the end of the byway at the intersection with Love Joy Rd (SR 1310).



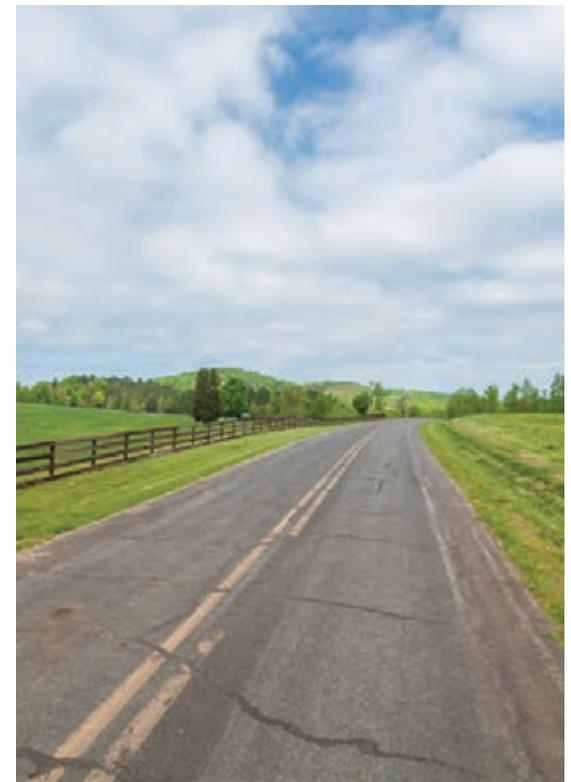
Points of Interest

 About a quarter of a mile east of the Uwharrie trailhead is what is locally known as "Jumping Off Rock." This rocky bluff overlooks a cascading stream and the surrounding Uwharrie National Forest. For safety reasons, jumping off "Jumping Off Rock" is strongly discouraged.

BELOW: Jumping Off Rock Trailhead



BELOW: Flint Hill Road

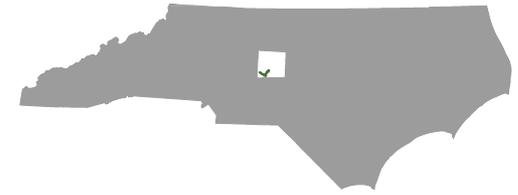
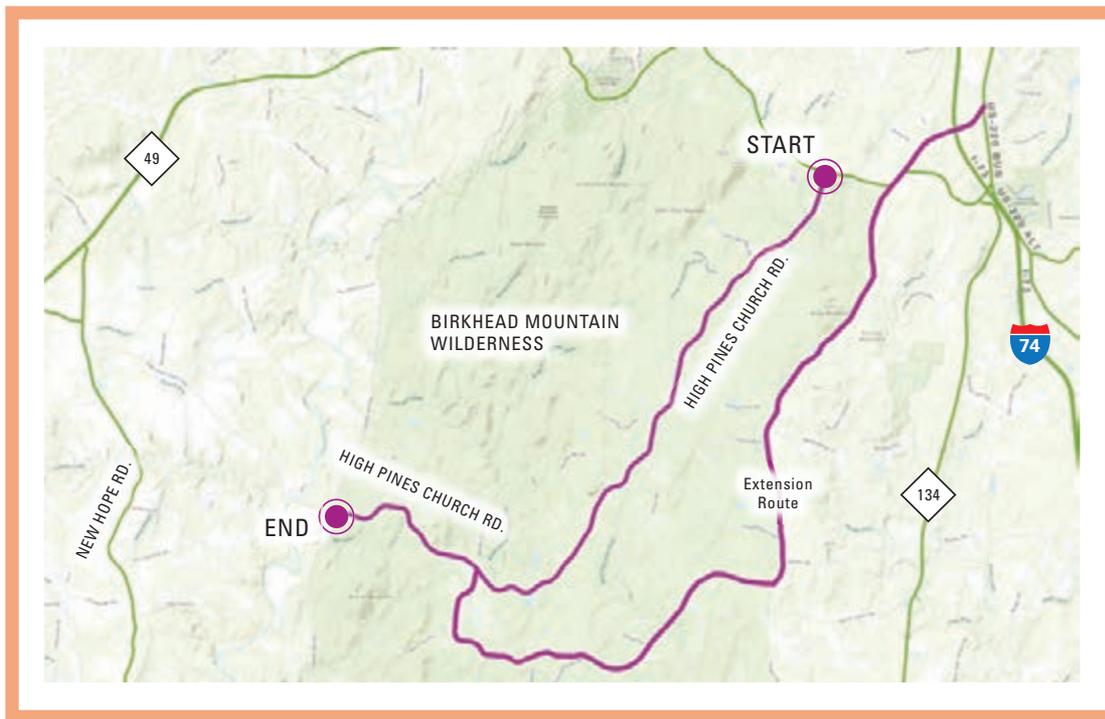


BIRKHEAD WILDERNESS

Route



The Birkhead Wilderness Route features the Uwharrie Mountains, considered to be some of the oldest mountains in North America. This byway is specifically named after the Birkhead Mountain Wilderness, a remote section of the Uwharrie National Forest covering over 5,100 acres in southern Randolph County. The rugged area offers a more remote experience with fewer visitor amenities than other sections of the Uwharrie National Forest. Near the community of Lassiter Mill within the Uwharrie National Forest, the route crosses a well-preserved mix of hardwood forests, open pasture land, and numerous native rock outcroppings. Several hiking trails can be accessed within the vicinity of Lassiter Mill, including the Birkhead Mountain, Robbins Branch, and Hannah's Creek trails that wind through 10 miles of the wilderness area. Evidence of pioneer settlement—old homesteads, crumbling chimneys, and gold mining activity—can still be seen here. If travelers choose to ride the byway extension they will encounter much of the same terrain and intrinsic qualities as the main route, such as hardwood mixed forests, pastureland, and rock outcroppings. On the byway extension, they will get the chance to explore the historic Pisgah Covered Bridge, which provides a quaint reminder of simpler times.



Counties: Randolph
Main Byway Route: 9.3 Miles
Extension Route: 12.5 Miles
Total Distance: 21.8 Miles
Drive Time: 35 min

OPPOSITE: Pisgah Covered Bridge

BELOW: Old barn along the byway

Start



Trailhead



Covered Bridge

End

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of High Pines Church Rd (SR 1143) and Hopewell Friends Rd (SR 1142).

- Follow High Pines Church Rd for 9.3 miles to Lassiter Mill Rd where the byway ends.

Extension Route:

- *The byway extension begins in the community of Ulah at the intersection of US 220 Bus. and Pisgah Covered Bridge Rd (SR 1114).*

- *Proceed southwest along Pisgah Covered Bridge Rd for 7 miles and veer right to stay on Pisgah Covered Bridge Rd.*

- *Continue for another 1.6 miles to Pisgah Covered Bridge on the left. From there travel 3.9 miles to High Pine Church Rd and turn left to return to the main byway route.*

Points of Interest

-  The trailhead of Robbins Branch Trail within the Birkhead Mountain Wilderness is two miles north of the High Pine Church Rd. on Lassiter Mill Rd.



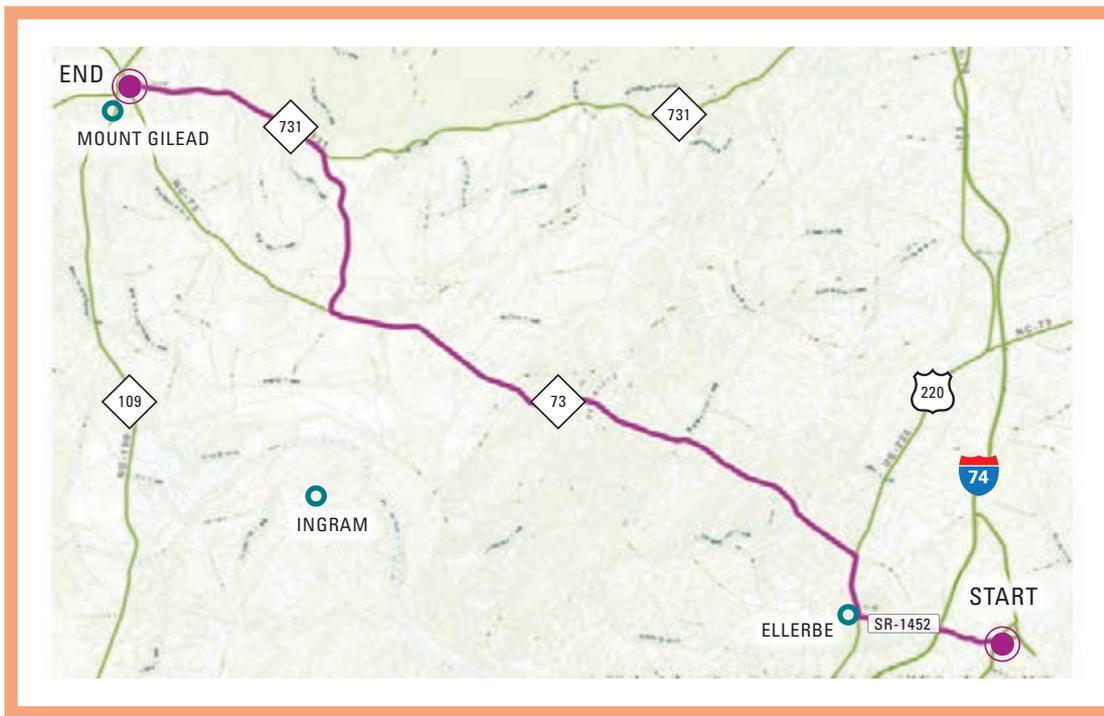
-  Constructed in 1911 at a cost of \$40, the Pisgah Covered Bridge is one of two public covered bridges remaining in the state. The bridge spans 51 feet across the west fork of the Little River. Although the bridge was decommissioned in the 1960s, the structure remains and is ready to be explored by the traveling public.

INDIAN HERITAGE

Trail



This byway explores a part of North Carolina's rich Native American heritage starting at the town of Ellerbe and ending near Mount Gilead. Once known as the "Fair Grounds," Ellerbe received its present name after W.T. Ellerbe developed the nearby recreational and health facility, Ellerbe Springs. With one of the state's most extensive Native American collections, the Rankin Museum of American Heritage is a quick side trip easily accessible in this small town. Traveling north on US 220 from Ellerbe, motorists will pass through North Carolina's prime peach-growing region. Depending on the season, several fruit and vegetable stands may be open along this section of byway to stop and buy fresh produce from local growers. As you travel north through the Piedmont heartland, you will pass by the farm of one-time professional wrestler and legend Andre the Giant.



Counties: Montgomery and Richmond

Total Distance: 22.4 Miles

Drive Time: 30 min

OPPOSITE: Town Creek Indian Mound

BELOW: Mural celebrating Native American heritage in downtown Mount Gilead

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of Milestone Rd/Church St (SR 1452) and Haywood Parker Rd (SR 1441), 2.7 miles east of downtown Ellerbe.

- Head west onto Millstone Rd/Church St (SR 1452) and travel 0.3 miles.
- Take second left to continue following Millstone Rd/Church St (SR 1452) and travel 1.2 miles into Ellerbe.
- Turn right onto US 220 (Main St) and travel 1.2 miles.
- Turn left onto NC 73 and travel 11.2 miles.
- Turn right onto Indian Mound Rd which becomes Town Creek Mound Rd in Montgomery County and travel 2.2 miles to the Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic

Site. Continue on Town Creek Mound Rd for 1.1 mile.

- Turn left onto NC 731 and travel 4 miles to the intersection with Main St in Mount Gilead where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

- The Historic Ellerbe Springs Inn and Restaurant, home of a once-famous mineral spring resort and spa, is located just north on US 220.
- Town Creek Indian Mound, just east of Mount Gilead, is the oldest North Carolina State Historic Site. This archeological site was an important ceremonial center for the Pee Dee culture some 300 to 400 years ago. Visitors can tour the reconstructed temples and see various exhibits that explain the lives of the indigenous people. (25)





 Included on the National Register of Historic Places, Mount Gilead's historic downtown features good examples of turn-of-the-century commercial buildings and historic homes. Other attractions include the Mount Gilead Museum and the Piedmont Center of the Arts as well as a large outdoor wall mural celebrating the culture and traditions of the Pee Dee.

LEFT: Ellerbe Springs Inn

BELOW: Rankin canoe at the Mount Gilead Museum

OPPOSITE: Vineyards, pastures and farms dot the landscape along the byway



Start



Ellerbe Springs
Inn



Town Creek
Indian Mound



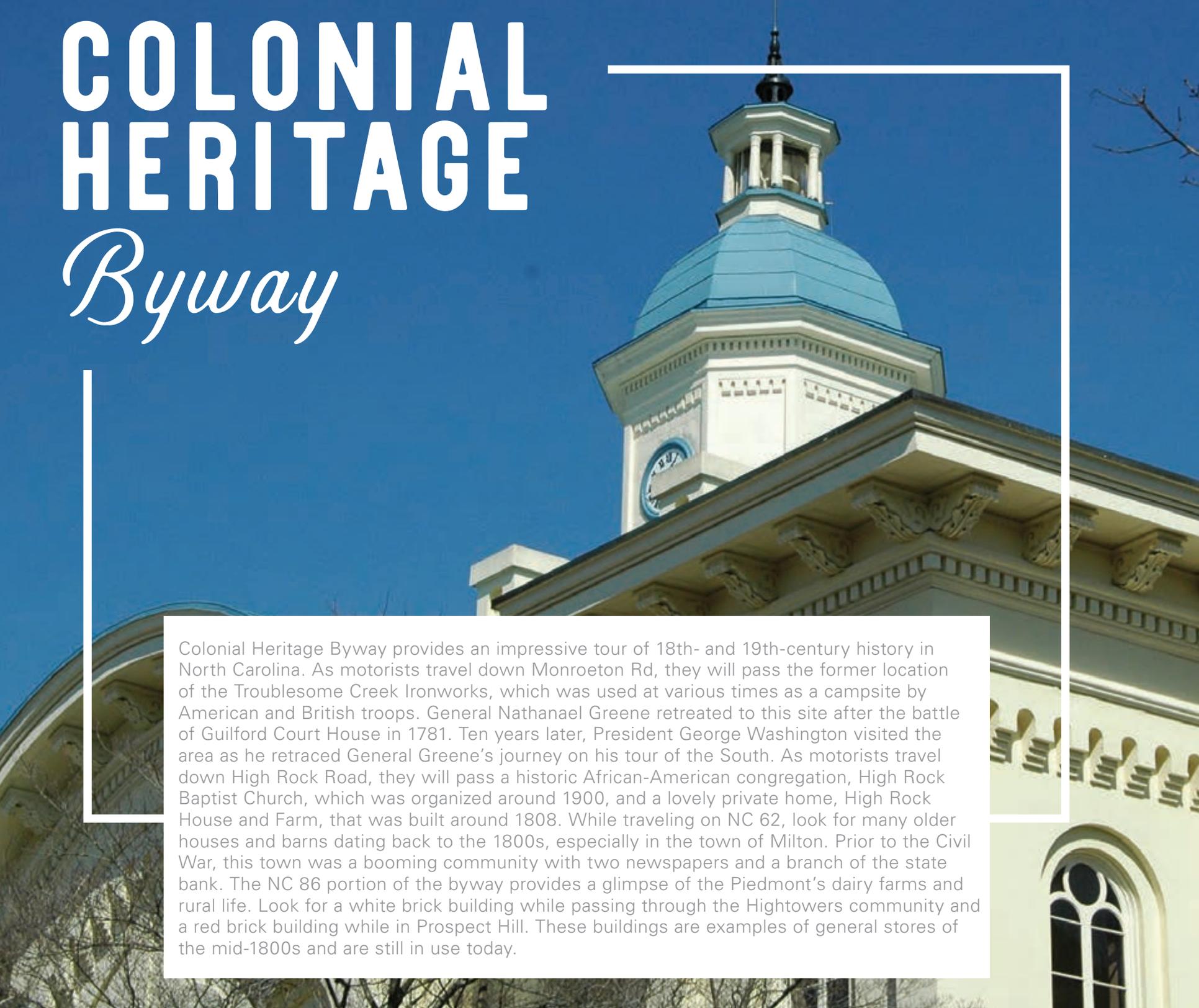
Mount Gilead
Museum

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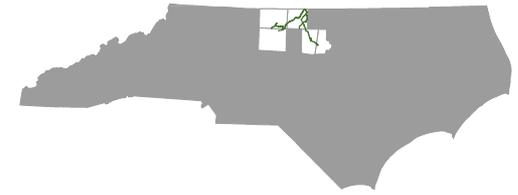


COLONIAL HERITAGE

Byway



Colonial Heritage Byway provides an impressive tour of 18th- and 19th-century history in North Carolina. As motorists travel down Monroeton Rd, they will pass the former location of the Troublesome Creek Ironworks, which was used at various times as a campsite by American and British troops. General Nathanael Greene retreated to this site after the battle of Guilford Court House in 1781. Ten years later, President George Washington visited the area as he retraced General Greene's journey on his tour of the South. As motorists travel down High Rock Road, they will pass a historic African-American congregation, High Rock Baptist Church, which was organized around 1900, and a lovely private home, High Rock House and Farm, that was built around 1808. While traveling on NC 62, look for many older houses and barns dating back to the 1800s, especially in the town of Milton. Prior to the Civil War, this town was a booming community with two newspapers and a branch of the state bank. The NC 86 portion of the byway provides a glimpse of the Piedmont's dairy farms and rural life. Look for a white brick building while passing through the Hightowers community and a red brick building while in Prospect Hill. These buildings are examples of general stores of the mid-1800s and are still in use today.



Counties: Caswell, Durham, Guilford, Orange, and Rockingham

Main Byway Route : 110.3 miles

Extension Route 1: 7.5 miles

Extension Route 2: 8.6 miles

Extension Route 3: 28.1 miles

Total Distance: 154.5 miles

Drive Time: 2 hrs 50 min

Getting There

The byway begins on Scalesville Rd at the Guilford/Rockingham County line between Nutt Rd and the Haw River near the town of Summerfield.

- Follow Scalesville Rd (SR 1002) NE for 1.4 miles to Church St Extension and turn left. Continue for 0.3 miles to US 158.
- Turn right onto US 158 for 2.4 miles to Meadow Branch Rd.
- From here, you can continue the main byway route by proceeding straight on US 158 or ride a byway extension by turning left onto Meadow Branch Rd, which will add 4.4 miles of designated byway and 3.1 miles of a non-byway road.

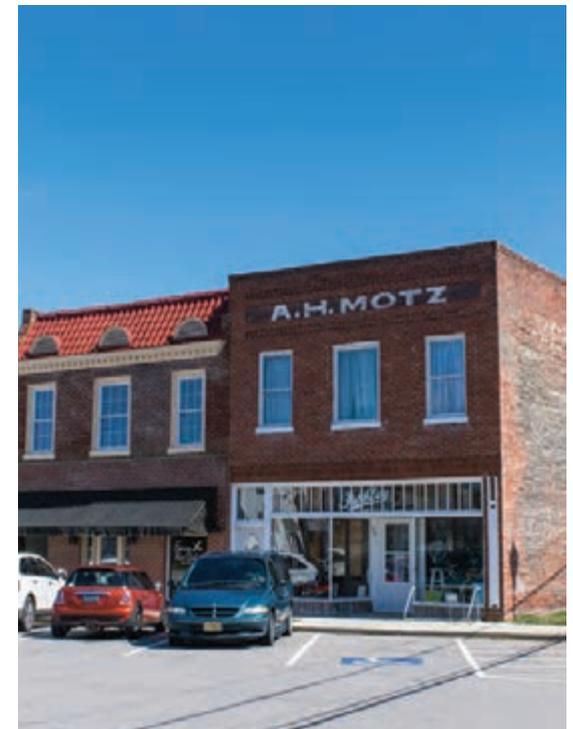
- If you choose to proceed on US 158, continue for 1.1 miles and turn right onto Flat Rock Rd (SR 2432).

Extension Route 1:

- *If you choose to turn left onto Meadow Branch Rd, follow it for 1.5 miles to Monroeton Rd.*
- *Turn left onto Monroeton Rd (SR 2422) and continue for 0.6 miles to Iron Works Rd.*
- *Take a right onto Iron Works Rd (SR 2406) and follow for 2.3 miles to US 158 where this extension of designated byway ends.*

OPPOSITE: Old Caswell County Courthouse

RIGHT: Downtown Yanceyville





- *To return to the designated byway route, turn right onto US 158 and travel 3.1 miles to Flat Rock Rd (Non-byway route).*
- Turn left onto Flat Rock Rd (SR 2432) to rejoin the byway.
- Follow Flat Rock Rd for 4.8 miles to US-29 Bus.
- Turn left onto US 29 Bus and follow for 0.7 miles to Elm Grove Church Rd.
- Turn right onto Elm Grove Church Rd (SR 2660) and continue for 0.8 miles and turn right onto Mizpah Church Rd and travel 2.4 miles to NC 87.
- Turn right onto NC 87 and continue 0.4 miles to the intersection of NC 87 and NC 150.

- Turn right onto NC 150 and travel 4.2 miles to the intersection of NC 150 and Osceola Ossipee Rd.
- From here, you can choose to continue the main byway route by turning left onto Osceola Ossipee Rd. or ride a byway extension by turning right to continue on NC 150 to the town of Monticello, which will add 4.3 miles one-way.
- If you choose to stay on the main byway route, turn left onto Osceola Ossipee Rd.

Extension Route 2:

- *If you choose to turn right and head down the extension to Monticello, travel 4.3 miles to US 29 where this extension of the byway ends.*

LEFT: Downtown Milton

RIGHT: Historic Union Tavern in Milton

- *To return to the main byway route, backtrack 4.3 miles to the intersection of NC 150 and Osceola Ossipee Rd.*
- *Continue straight across onto Osceola Ossipee Rd to rejoin the main byway route.*
- *Follow Osceola Ossipee Rd for 1 mile to Brann Rd.*
- *Turn left onto Brann Rd and continue for 2.4 miles to High Rock Rd.*
- *Turn left onto High Rock Rd (SR 2614) and follow for 2.9 miles to the intersection with NC 87. Continue straight across onto*

Start



Mill Creek



**Battle of
Bentonville**



**Cliffs of the
Neuse State Park**



Seven Springs



LEFT: Old Caswell Jail

- Turn right onto US 158 in Leasburg and follow for 0.3 miles and turn left onto Ridgeville Rd and follow for 3.6 miles.
- Make a sharp right turn onto Griens Church Rd (SR 1710) and follow for 2.5 miles to NC 119 and turn left.
- Follow NC 119 for 1.5 miles to the intersection of NC 86 and NC 119.
- Turn left onto NC-86.

City Store Rd (SR 2613) and follow for 1.2 miles to Somers Loop.

- Turn right onto Somers Loop (SR 2631) and continue for 0.2 miles to NC 150.
- Turn right onto NC 150 and travel 8.9 miles through the community of Locust Hill to US 158.
- Turn right onto US 158 and follow it for 5.9 miles to Yanceyville.
- Veer right onto Main St (SR 1163) and follow for 2.6 miles to NC 62.
- Turn left onto NC 62 and travel 11.8 miles to NC 57 in Milton.
- Turn right onto NC 57 and travel 4.9 miles to Semora and take a right onto NC 119.

• Follow NC 119 for 3 miles until you get to the intersection of NC 119 and Osmond Rd.

- From here, you can choose to continue the main byway route by turning left onto Osmond Rd or ride a byway extension by continuing straight on NC 119 (see extension directions below).
- If you choose to stay on the main byway route, turn left onto Osmond Rd (SR 1562) and proceed on Osmond Rd for 2 miles to Solomon Lea Rd. (You will cross over Hycos Lake.)
- Turn right onto Solomon Lea Rd (SR 1561) and travel 3.8 miles to US 158.

Extension Route 3:

- If you choose to continue straight and ride the byway extension, continue on NC 119 for 0.8 miles to Stephentown Rd and turn right.
- Follow Stephentown Rd (SR 1564) for 5.9 miles to US 158.
- Turn right onto US 158 and continue for 1.7 miles to NC 86.
- Turn left and travel 4.9 miles to the intersection of NC 86 and NC 119.
- Turn right onto NC 119 and travel 7.4 miles where the byway extension ends at the Alamance/ Caswell County line.



Deep Run



Trenton



New Bern

End



- *To return to the main byway, backtrack 7.4 miles to the intersection of NC 86 and NC 119 and turn right onto NC 86.*

- Proceed on NC 86 for 18.6 miles to Governor Burke Rd in northern Hillsborough.

- Turn left onto Governor Burke Dr (SR 1619) and travel 0.3 miles to NC 57. Cross over NC 57 to stay on Governor Burke Dr and continue 1.4 miles to Miller Rd.

- Turn right onto Miller Rd (SR 1555) and follow for 1.5 miles to St. Marys Rd. (You will cross US 70 to get to St. Marys Rd.)

- Turn right onto St. Mary's Rd (SR 1002) for 0.9 miles. Cross over Cameron St to proceed on King St and follow King St for 0.2 miles (2 blocks).

- Turn left onto Churton St (NC 86/US 70 Bus.) at the traffic signal and travel 0.4 miles and turn left onto US 70 Bus. E/NC 86 S.

- Travel 3.1 miles on US 70 Bus. until it joins US 70 E and continue for 2.4 miles.

- The byway temporarily ends at the I-85 overpass.

- Travel 1.4 miles down US 70 E to NC 751.

- Turn right onto NC 751 and continue on the byway for 3.1 miles to the NC 751 / US 15-501 interchange in Durham where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 With a history dating back to the 1750s, Speedwell Church in Reidsville has a cemetery with many old graves near the sanctuary, which was constructed in 1844.

 Mizpah Church Road loosely follows the alignment of the colonial road known at the time as Dick's Ferry Road, which connected to the Great Wagon Road. It was along this route that British General Cornwallis conducted part of his futile hunt for the main American forces under the command of General Nathanael Greene as they raced north toward the Dan River in early 1781. Today, the area is marked by rolling farmland intermixed with hardwood forests and open pasture land.



 High Rock Ford near the Haw River Bridge on High Rock Road was an easy crossing point on the Haw River and has long figured into the commercial and military history of the area. Colonial Governor William Tryon, who built a lavish palace in New Bern, camped his forces there on June 12, 1771, after having put down a rebellion over taxation and local control by a group known as the Regulators at the Battle of Alamance. Known as the War of Regulation, it is considered an opening salvo in the fight for independence. Ten years later, American General Nathanael Greene established headquarters here in the late winter of 1781 before the Battle of Guilford Court House. (18)

 Caswell Court House in Yanceyville is a monumental Victorian structure that combines the Italian Romanesque style

with Classical features and is unlike any other courthouse that can be found in North Carolina. (4)

 Leasburg is a quaint village with an unexpected collection of colonial era institutions and homes, including the James Malone House.

 Hillsborough, settled in 1754, was once North Carolina's summer capital. Public tours of the historic district begin at the visitor's center located on the corner of King and Cameron Streets.

 Durham was first established as a railroad stop on land donated by Dr. Bartlett Snipes Durham. Nearby attractions include Duke University, Eno River State Park, the historic American Tobacco Campus, and Bennett Place State Historic Site where Confederate General Joseph F. Johnston

ABOVE: Old Town Cemetery in Hillsborough

surrendered to General William T. Sherman, ending the Civil War in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida.

POTTERY

Road



Pottery Road journeys from the North Carolina Sandhills near Pinehurst through the Piedmont region to Seagrove, an area known worldwide for beautiful pottery. In the 18th century, seven families from Staffordshire, England, the pottery center of England, settled within a five-mile radius of each other near Westmoore. Today, their descendants continue to make both traditional and modern pottery forms. There are nearly 80 potteries in the vicinity of this byway and several directly along the route.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 211 and NC 705 in Eagle Springs (5.5 miles east of US 220/I-73/I-74 Exit 44 in Candor).

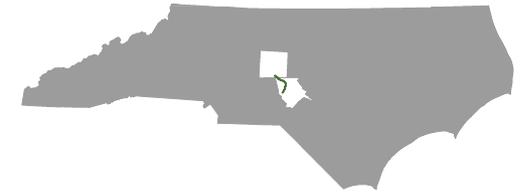
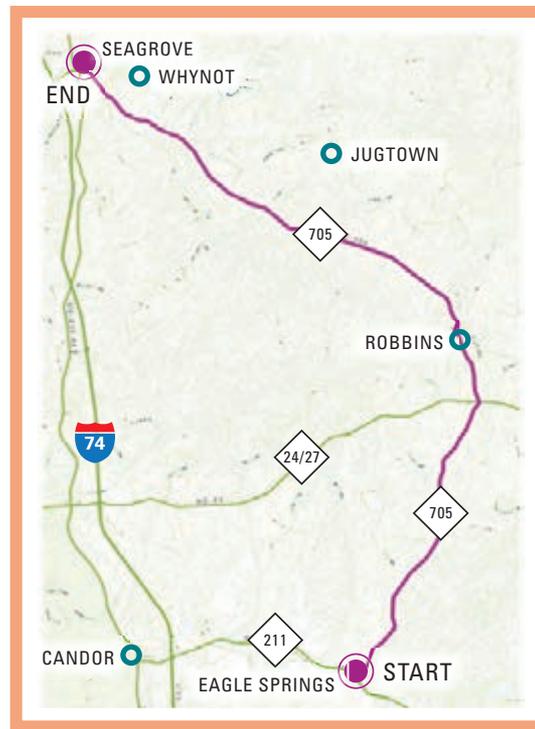
- Follow NC 705 north for 11.4 miles.
- Continue on NC 705 north by turning right onto N Middleton St in Robbins and continue for 0.3 miles.
- Turn left to continue on NC 705 for another 13.6 miles to the intersection with US 220 Alt (Broad St) in Seagrove where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Pinehurst, located about 12 miles southeast of Eagle Springs, is a golf resort community established in 1895 and was the host of the 1999, 2005, and 2014 US Open golf tournaments.

 Established in 1890, Eagle Springs was named for a mineral spring owned by the Eagle family. At this part of the route on NC 705, note the old cedar trees lining the first part of this route where the byway begins. This portion of the road is known locally as “Cedar Lane.”

 Formerly called by a variety of names including Mechanics Hill, Mechanicsville, Elise, and Hemp, Robbins was settled sometime prior to 1828. The earlier names came from a mechanic and gunsmith who lived here. Located on the old plank road (built between 1849 and 1854) from Fayetteville to Salem, Robbins was given its current name in 1943 for the owner of a local textile mill. The town is also near the site of what was once one of the world’s largest talc mines.



Counties: Moore and Randolph

Total Distance: 25.3 Miles

Drive Time: 35 min

BELOW: Hay harvest





 Jugtown was established in 1920 by Raleigh artist Jacques Busbee, who made and distributed his pottery nationally from here.

 The community of Whynot received its name because residents could not decide on a name for the post office — “Why not this?... Why not that?... Whynot!”

 Seagrove was incorporated in 1913 and named for a local railroad official. The North Carolina Pottery Center can provide detailed information on the numerous local potters in Seagrove. Seagrove is about nine miles south of the North Carolina Zoological Park in Asheboro and is accessible by taking US 220 North to NC 159. Other attractions near the route include Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines. The

preserve houses the last remaining stand of ancient long-leaf pines, which covered the Sandhills until they were wiped out by logging in 1895. The preserve showcases the hardwood swamp forests and includes unique plants and animals, some of which are endangered species. (31)

Start



Pinehurst



Eagle Springs



Robbins



ABOVE LEFT: One of many pottery shops along the way

ABOVE RIGHT: A good old mule



Jugtown



Whynot



Seagrove

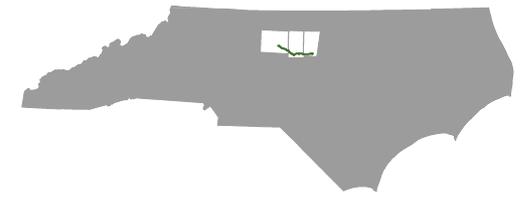
End

FOOTBALL

Road



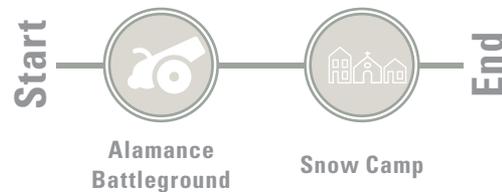
Named for the route Triad football fans used to travel to football games at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Football Road showcases the beauty of North Carolina's Piedmont between the Triad and Triangle metropolitan areas. Traveling along the byway, motorists will see small dairy farms, creeks, ponds, and bicyclists, since most of the route is designated as a recreational bicycle route.



Counties: Alamance, Guilford, and Orange

Total Distance: 42 Miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 5 min



Getting There

To access the byway, take Exit 128 off of I-85 in Greensboro and travel south along Alamance Church Rd.

- Turn left and follow Alamance Church Rd for 12.6 miles and turn right onto Greensboro Chapel Hill Rd and follow for 7.3 miles where the road will change to Sylvan School Rd.
- Follow Sylvan School Rd for another 0.4 miles before turning left onto Drama Rd.
- Travel down Drama Rd for 0.5 miles and turn left back onto Sylvan School Rd.
- Follow Sylvan School Rd for 0.3 miles and turn left onto Snow Camp Rd.

RIGHT: Rustic cabins and dairy barn along route

- Travel Snow Camp Rd for 0.8 miles before turning right to get back on Greensboro Chapel Hill Rd.
- Follow Greensboro Chapel Hill Rd for 19.3 miles. The road name will change to Old Greensboro Rd about halfway down this section of road.
- When the road ends, turn left onto Jones Ferry Rd and travel 0.8 miles to NC 54 where the byway ends.





Points of Interest

166 At the NC 62 intersection, history enthusiasts may want to take a quick side trip to the Alamance Battleground State Historic Site located about 4.5 miles east along NC 62. The Alamance Battleground is the 1771 site where the North Carolina militia, led by Governor William Tryon, defeated the Regulators. Regulators were North Carolinians from several western counties who wanted to see the government regulated to prevent what they viewed as further extortion and corruption on the part

of the colonial government, rooted in eastern North Carolina.

166 Originally a Quaker community, Snow Camp was settled in 1749. The local outdoor drama, "The Sword of Peace," portrays the plight of the Quakers in this area during the Revolutionary War.

ABOVE: Rustic cabin

RIGHT: Cows along the byway

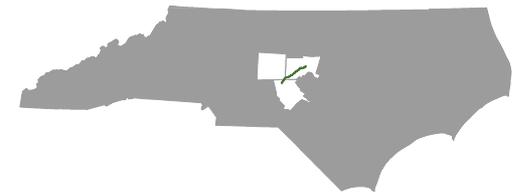
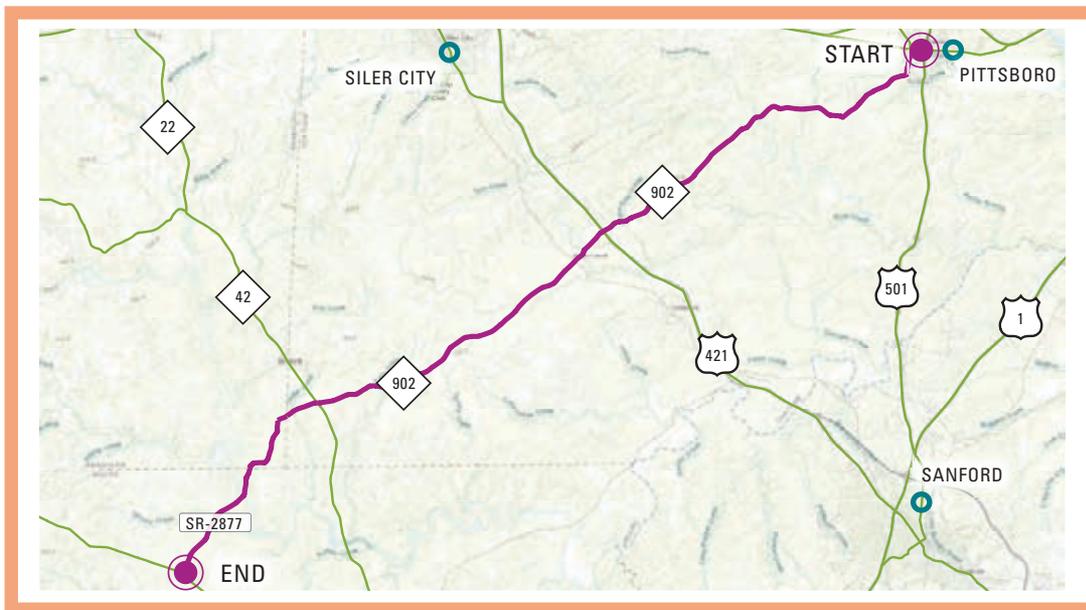


DEVIL'S TRAMPING GROUND

Road



The Devil's Tramping Ground Road extends from the courthouse in Pittsboro through the farmlands and forests of the lower Piedmont in Moore County. Motorists will travel by Round Top Mountain across the Rocky River and through an area known as "The Devil's Tramping Ground" near the community of Bear Creek. The legend behind the byway's name begins with a tale of a worn, circular path in a local clearing. According to local residents, the path is worn because of the devil's constant pacing and plotting of new forms of evil to afflict on the good in the world. The clearing itself sits off the byway on private property. The byway concludes with a beautiful drive through the Moore County countryside.



Counties: Moore and Randolph
Total Distance: 33.4 miles
Drive Time: 45 min

Getting There

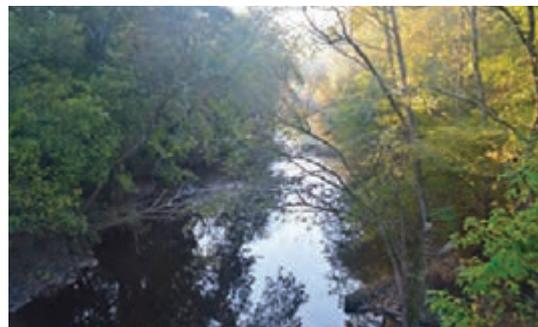
The byway begins on US 64 Bus/West St at the Chatham County Courthouse.

- Follow West St/US 64 Bus west for 0.5 miles.
- Turn left onto NC 902/NC 87 and travel 0.8 mile.
- Turn right to follow NC 902 and travel 2.7 miles.
- Turn right to continue following NC 902. Travel 16.8 miles to Harper's Crossroads where the site of the Devil's Tramping Ground can be accessed.
- From Harper's Crossroads travel another 4.6 miles on NC 902 to the intersection with NC 42 where NC 902 ends.
- Continue across NC 42 onto Jerry Frye Rd (SR 1164)/ Short Cut Rd (SR 2880) and travel 1.5 miles to Howard Mill Rd.

- Turn left onto Howard Mill Rd (SR 2877) and follow for 6.6 miles to the intersection with NC 705 where the byway ends.

Side Trip:

To see the Devil's Tramping Ground, take a right at the intersection onto Siler City Glendon Rd (SR 1006) in Harpers Crossroads, and then an immediate left onto Devils Tramping Ground Rd (SR 1100). Travel 1.7 miles and look for a gravel pull off to the left. The actual site is a few hundred feet in the woods along a path. Be aware this is private property.



BOTTOM: Downtown Pittsboro

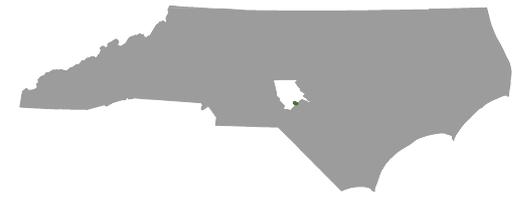
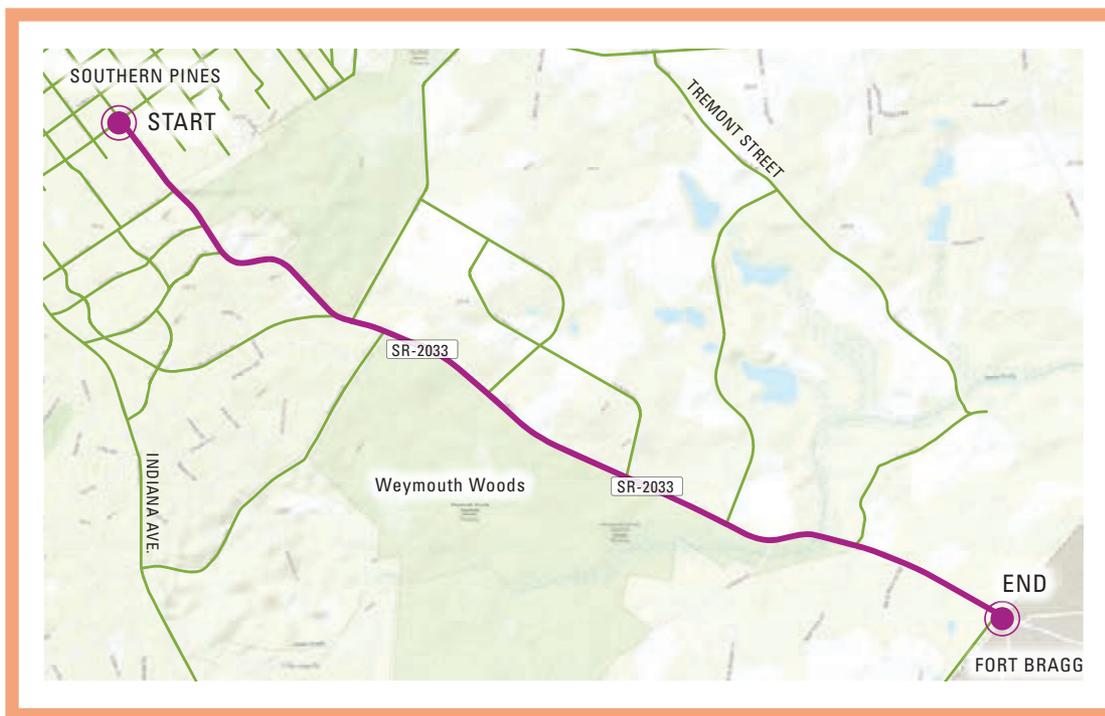


EAST CONNECTICUT

Avenue



East Connecticut Avenue is a winding country road with soft curves and rolling topography that showcases the long-leaf pine forest ecosystem, historic estates, and charming horse farms of the local Sandhills community of Southern Pines. The Sandhills, which lie between the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain, is a physiographic region identified by broad rolling terrain covered in deep coarse sand that was first settled by Highland Scots in the early 1700s. (Scientists believe that the region was formed by the deposits of the rising and receding of oceans. Everywhere water met land beaches were formed, and they would leave behind sandhills once the water receded again).(39) These areas were once used to supply materials for naval operation stores. Timber would be stripped from the land and used as masts for large ships, and resin would be collected from the pine trees to create turpentine, pitch, tar, and rosin for the hulls, ropes, and decks of these same ships. Today, these pine forests are protected and used for ecological research and recreational activities.



Counties: Moore
Total Distance: 2.8 Miles
Drive Time: 5 min

BELOW: East Connecticut Avenue in Southern Pines

Getting There

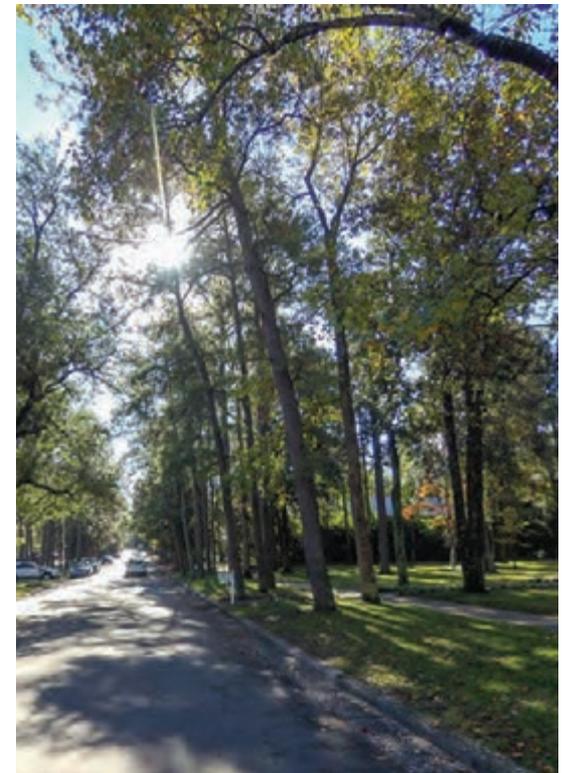
The byway begins at the intersection of East Connecticut Ave and North Ridge St in Southern Pines (3 blocks east of Broad Street).

- Travel southeast on East Connecticut Ave (SR 2033) for 2.8 miles to the intersection with N Fort Bragg Road (SR 2074) where the byway ends just before entering the military base.

Points of Interest

 The town of Southern Pines was initially formed around 1884 by John T. Patrick, who intended for it to be a health retreat. While his dream may have not come to full fruition, it grew to become a very prosperous and active community.

 The 900-acre Weymouth Woods Nature Preserve was established in 1963 as the first natural area in the state park system. The first plot of 400 acres was originally purchased and owned by the grandfather of the well-known novelist James Boyd to protect the land from logging and lumbering. After James Boyd's death, his wife Katherine donated the land to the state to be designated as a preserve. The park is made up of sandy ridges of long leaf pine and hardwood bottomlands, which is why early settlers referred to this area as the "pine barrens." The preserve is home to more than 500 species of plant and animal life and several are listed as rare or endangered species, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, the pine-barren tree frog, and the bog spicebush. This tract of land contains a considerable amount of old growth timber ranging anywhere from 250 to 450 years





old with the oldest known living pine (dating from 1548) residing there. (31)

 The Historic Campbell House, which now houses the Arts Council of Moore County, was once partially located across the street from where the Weymouth Center currently sits. In the 1920s it was moved from that location to where it sits now to become one of the Boyd's son's homes. In 1946, it was bought by Major Campbell who renovated it and lived there for 20 years before gifting it to the Southern Pines for the "cultural and social enrichment of the community."

 The Weymouth Center for Arts and Humanities, located in the Boyd house, is a cultural center dedicated to music, literature, and conservation. The 9,000 square-foot Georgian Mansion continues to hold lecture series, recitals, concerts, and plays, and it often serves as a refuge for ambitious writers. (50)

 Fort Bragg, headquarters to the US Army Special Operations Command and the home to the 82nd Airborne Division, is the world's largest airborne facility with more than 56,000 active duty personnel. (12)

Note: The byway ends at the entrance to Fort Bragg on Connecticut Avenue, but travelers may proceed through the base to the city of Fayetteville if the signage at the Fort Bragg gate permits.

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Images of Southern Pines

Start



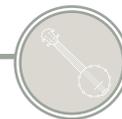
Southern Pines



Weymouth Woods
Nature Preserve



Arts Council of
Moore County



Weymouth Center for
Arts and Humanities



Fort Bragg

End

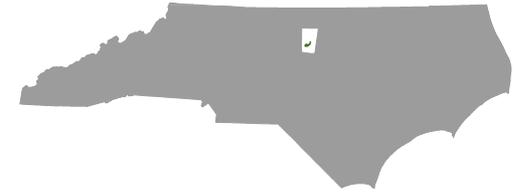
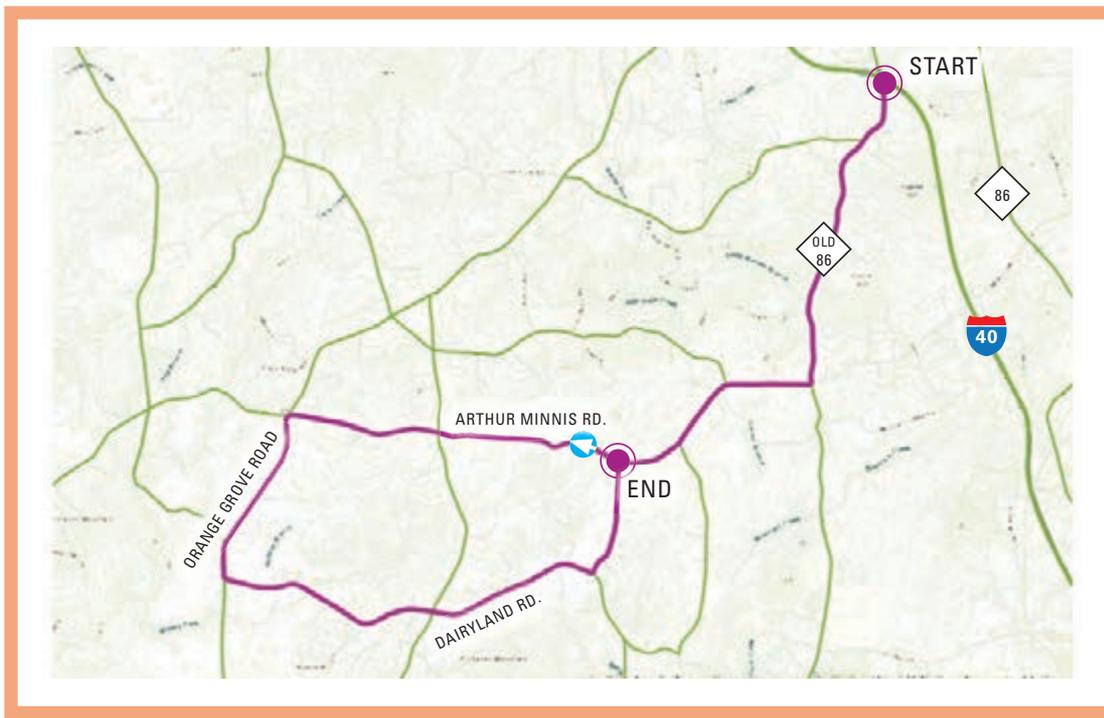


SCOTS WELSH HERITAGE

Byway



The Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway travels through Orange County along trade roads used by Native Americans and early backcountry pioneers. The king of England gave much of the land along this route to 18th-century Scotch-Welsh settlers. Generation after generation have lived and farmed this land, each leaving its own mark, making this byway a unique journey through American history. Travelers start by cruising down Old NC 86, a route that actually appears on colonial maps dating back to 1770. Not far down the road is a scenic vista of farmland known as Currie Hill, where the elevation goes from about 500 feet to more than 800 feet above sea level. The hills form a horseshoe-shaped valley near the tributary of New Hope Creek. Eventually motorists will snake their way along a gravel road through beautiful forests with rustic homesteads, log cabins, and historic farms. Many of the farms are still in use today. Keep an eye out for Cane Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, which includes a mid-1800s cemetery that is home to several Civil War soldiers' graves.



Counties: Orange
Total Distance: 13.2 Miles
Drive Time: 20 min

Getting There

The byway begins at Old NC 86 at the I-40 overpass, Exit 261 in Hillsborough.

- Head south on Old NC 86 for 2.7 miles until you reach Arthur Minnis Rd and turn right.
- Travel down Arthur Minnis Rd for 4.7 miles and turn left onto Orange Grove Rd.
- Follow Orange Grove Rd for 1.5 miles until you reach Dairyland Rd and turn left.

- Follow Dairyland Rd. for 3.3 miles and turn left onto Rocky Ridge Rd.
- Travel down Rocky Ridge Rd for 1 mile until you reach Arthur Minnis Rd where the byway ends. From here you can turn right and backtrack to the beginning of the byway or turn left and ride the byway again.

Points of Interest

- Originally a part of a Native American trading path, Dairyland Road has remained an important route through the years. The road

passes many weathered farmhouses like the one nicknamed “Old Stagecoach.”

 Maple View Country Store, at the crossroads of Dairyland Road and Rocky Ridge Road, is a local favorite known for its homemade ice cream. Views of the historic Nutter Farm can be enjoyed from the store’s front porch.

 Founded in 1754, Hillsborough is a small town with charming brick buildings and a clock that the king of England gave to the town in the 1760s. (Hillsborough is located three miles past I-40 on Old NC 86).

Start



Dairyland Road -
Trading Path



Maple View
Country Store

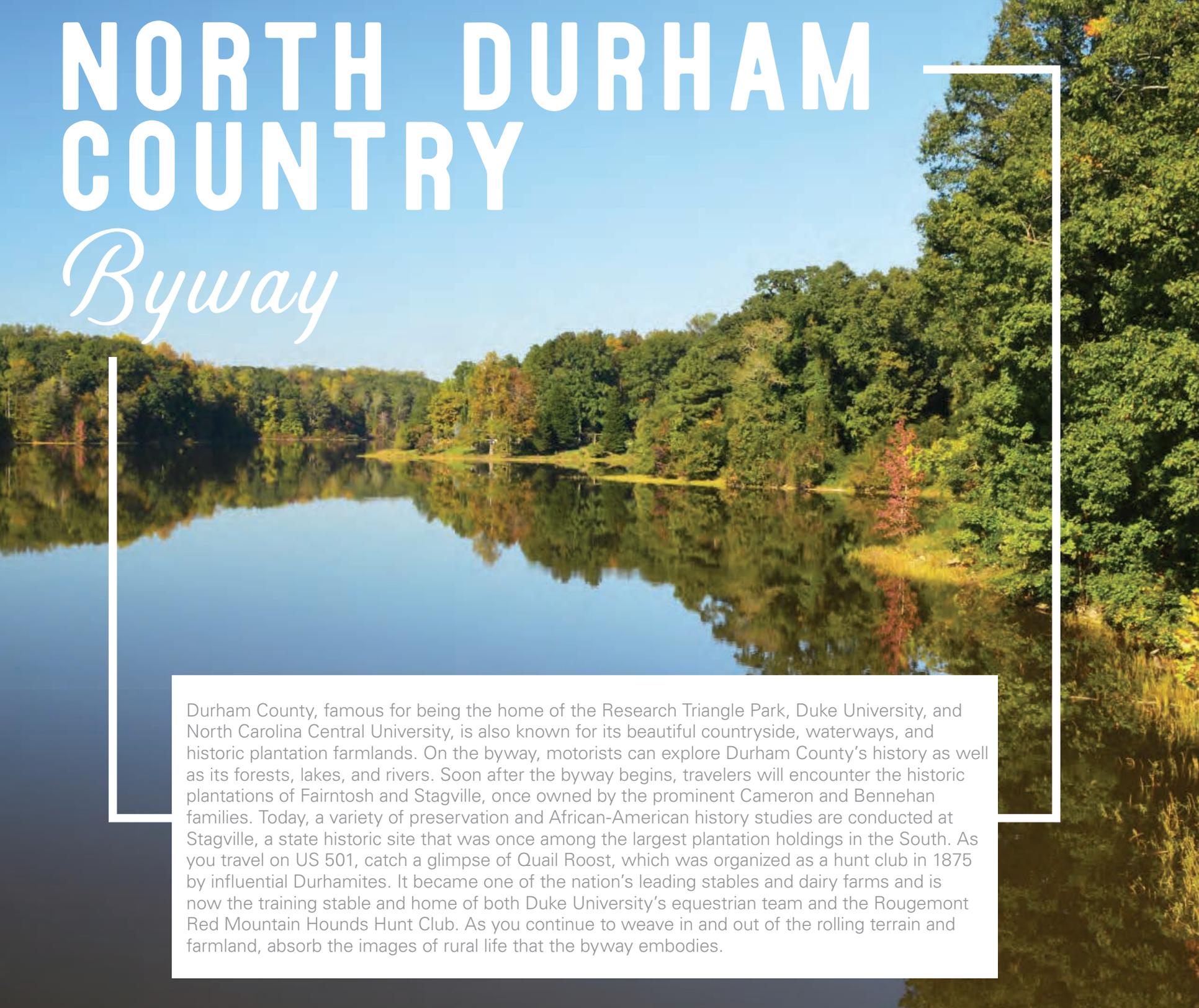


Hillsborough

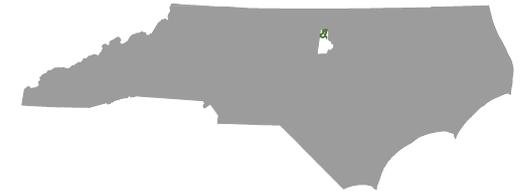
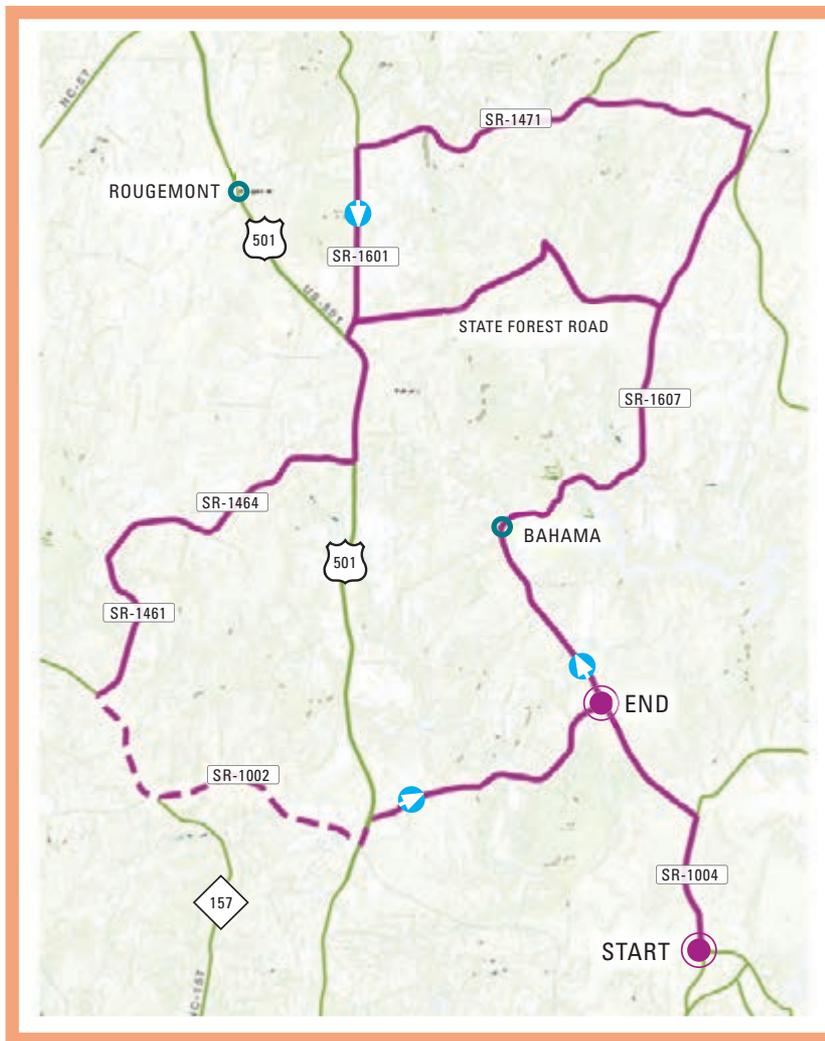
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NORTH DURHAM COUNTRY

Byway



Durham County, famous for being the home of the Research Triangle Park, Duke University, and North Carolina Central University, is also known for its beautiful countryside, waterways, and historic plantation farmlands. On the byway, motorists can explore Durham County's history as well as its forests, lakes, and rivers. Soon after the byway begins, travelers will encounter the historic plantations of Fairtosh and Stagville, once owned by the prominent Cameron and Bennehan families. Today, a variety of preservation and African-American history studies are conducted at Stagville, a state historic site that was once among the largest plantation holdings in the South. As you travel on US 501, catch a glimpse of Quail Roost, which was organized as a hunt club in 1875 by influential Durhamites. It became one of the nation's leading stables and dairy farms and is now the training stable and home of both Duke University's equestrian team and the Rougemont Red Mountain Hounds Hunt Club. As you continue to weave in and out of the rolling terrain and farmland, absorb the images of rural life that the byway embodies.



Counties: Durham

Main Byway Route: 31.1 Miles

Extension Route: 3.9 Miles

Total Distance: 35 Miles

Drive Time: 55 min



ABOVE: Horses in pasture along route

OPPOSITE: Lake Michie near Bahama

Getting There

To access the byway: take Exit 182 off of I-85 in Durham and travel north on Red Mill Rd (SR 1632) for 3.6 miles. Turn right onto Teknika Pkwy and travel 0.2 miles. Turn left and return to Red Mill Rd and travel 0.5 mile to the intersection of Old Oxford Rd (SR 1004) where the byway begins.

- Turn right onto Old Oxford Rd (SR 1004) and travel 1.5 miles.

- Turn left onto Stagville Rd (SR 1615) and travel 3.8 miles.

- Turn right onto Bahama Rd (SR 1616/SR 1607) and travel 3.6 miles

- From here, you can choose to continue on the main byway route by continuing straight on Bahama Rd or you can choose to ride a byway extension.

Extension Option:

- If you choose to ride the byway extension, turn left onto Hampton Rd (SR

1603). Travel down Hampton Rd for 1.6 miles and turn left onto Wilkins Rd and follow for 0.1 miles (SR 1613) (this will be the second Wilkins Rd).

- Veer right onto State Forest Rd (SR 1614) and follow for 2.2 miles.
- Turn left onto Moores Mill Rd to return to the main byway route.

**State Forest Rd is a gravel road and has a bridge crossing at the Eno River that can be rather rough.*



- If you choose to stay on the main byway route, travel another 2.2 miles on Bahama Rd (SR 1616/SR 1607)
- Turn left on Red Mountain Rd (SR 1471) and travel 4.5 miles
- Turn left onto Moores Mill Rd (SR 1601) and travel 2.1 miles
- Turn left at traffic signal onto US 501 and travel 1.4 miles
- Turn right onto S Lowell Rd (SR 1464/SR 1461) and travel 4.9 miles
- The byway temporarily ends at the intersection of S Lowell Rd and Guess Rd (NC 157). Turn left onto Guess Road (NC 157) and travel 1.3 miles. Turn left onto Mason Rd (SR 1002) and travel 2.5 miles. Turn left onto US 501 (N Roxboro Rd) and travel 0.3 miles.
- The byway resumes by turning right onto Orange Factory Rd (SR 1628) and travel 3 miles to the intersection with Stagville Rd where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Bahama's name (pronounced bah-hay-ma) originates from the first two letters of the three prominent family names in the area—Ball, Harris, and Mangum. Bahama Road travels by the tranquil waters of Lake Michie (pronounced mik-ee), which offers recreational opportunities including boating, hiking, and picnicking.

Start



Bahama



Tabor Church



Hill Demonstration
Forest



Occaneechi
Trading Path

End



 The final resting place of Governor William B. Umstead, who served from 1953 until his death in 1954, can be found at Mt Tabor Church a few miles east of Bahama on Bahama Rd.

 Hill Demonstration Forest was developed from lands donated to North Carolina State University by George Watts Hill. Established in 1929, the 2,400-acre forest straddles the Flat River and includes a one-lane bridge with views of the river. Motorists may see a wide range of birds and rare plant species, since more than 200 species of birds live here, including egrets, herons, ibis, and osprey.

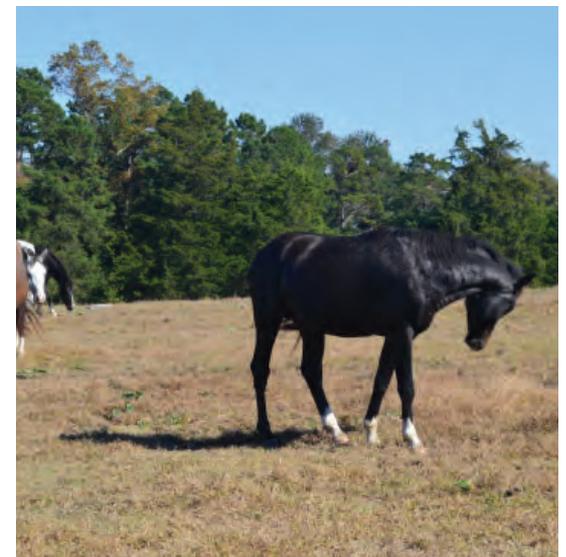


 The Great Indian Trading Path, the Occaneechi Path, ran through this area along present-day Snow Hill Rd, St. Mary's St, and Mason Dr. The path was a famous Piedmont fur and deerskin trading route that began in 1670 and was used by European explorers, hunters, and settlers.

ABOVE LEFT: Stagville garden

ABOVE RIGHT: Tabor Church

RIGHT: Horses at play



An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. A paved road runs diagonally from the top right towards the center. To the left of the road is a large green field with a dark, winding path or ditch. In the foreground, there are trees with autumn-colored leaves. To the right of the road, there are several buildings, including a white house with a red roof and a white barn with a red roof. The background shows more fields and a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

AVERASBORO BATTLEFIELD SCENIC *Byway*

The Averasboro Battlefield Byway takes motorists through the heart of one of the Civil War's last battlefields. The byway follows the route of Union General William T. Sherman's march through the Cape Fear River Valley just north of Fayetteville in Cumberland and Harnett Counties. Prior to the Civil War, the French General Marquis de Lafayette also traveled along this road on his way to Fayetteville during his 1825 tour of the United States. While the byway's history primarily involves the Civil War, this route was an important part of the plank road system, wooden roadways created from nearby timber, in the mid-1800s. (26)

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 82 (Burnett St) and Royal St (1802) in the community of Godwin.

- Follow NC 82 (Burnett St) for 5.5 miles to the intersection of NC 82, Middle Rd, and Dorman Rd where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 As the byway begins, motorists will notice the small farms and patches of woodland that dot the route. This area forms a small plateau between the floodplains of the Cape Fear and Black Rivers. This geographic feature is the reason Sherman marched his troops through the area after leaving Savannah en route to a Confederate munitions depot in Goldsboro.

Along the byway, motorists will notice a number of historical markers. These markers tell the story of how Southern troops tried in vain to stop the advance of Sherman in the Averasboro community. Three plantation homes in the area were used as hospitals (two for Union forces and one for Confederates), all of which are privately owned land and are not open to the public.

While this area today is expansive farmland, during the Battle of Averasboro this region was primarily woodland. Just before the Cumberland/Harnett County line, a re-creation of the original trench lines is visible. Further along the byway is the Chicora Civil War Cemetery, featuring a restored enslaved person's cabin from



Start



End

Averasboro
Battlefield

the Smith Plantation, to which the land along the byway once belonged.

The Averasboro Battlefield Museum, just past the Chicora Cemetery, houses exhibits on the Battle of Averasboro, and each year a reenactment of the battle is held on the



Counties: Cumberland and Harnett

Total Distance: 5.5 Miles

Drive Time: 10 min



ABOVE: Battle of Averasboro Battlefield

museum grounds. About a mile past the museum on the right in a grove of trees, motorists can see the red roof of the Lebanon Plantation house, the now private residence that was used as a hospital for Confederate forces.

CLAYTON BYPASS

SCENIC

Highway



The Clayton Bypass may be the most unlikely scenic byway in North Carolina. It is one of only two freeways that have earned the designation, and many motorists will access it directly from Interstate 40. It leads travelers past rolling hills and open pastures peppered with woodlands and offers long straightaways that provide distant views of the surrounding countryside. This surprising gem of a byway offers a unique encounter with much of the undeveloped farmland of Johnston County.



Counties: Johnston
Total Distance: 9.3 Miles
Drive Time: 10 min



Getting There

The byway begins at the I-40 and US 70 (Clayton Bypass) Interchange.

- Follow US 70 (Clayton Bypass) for 9.3 miles to US 70 Business where the byway ends.

LEFT: Open country along the Scenic Highway

"I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on
my way."

Carl Sandburg

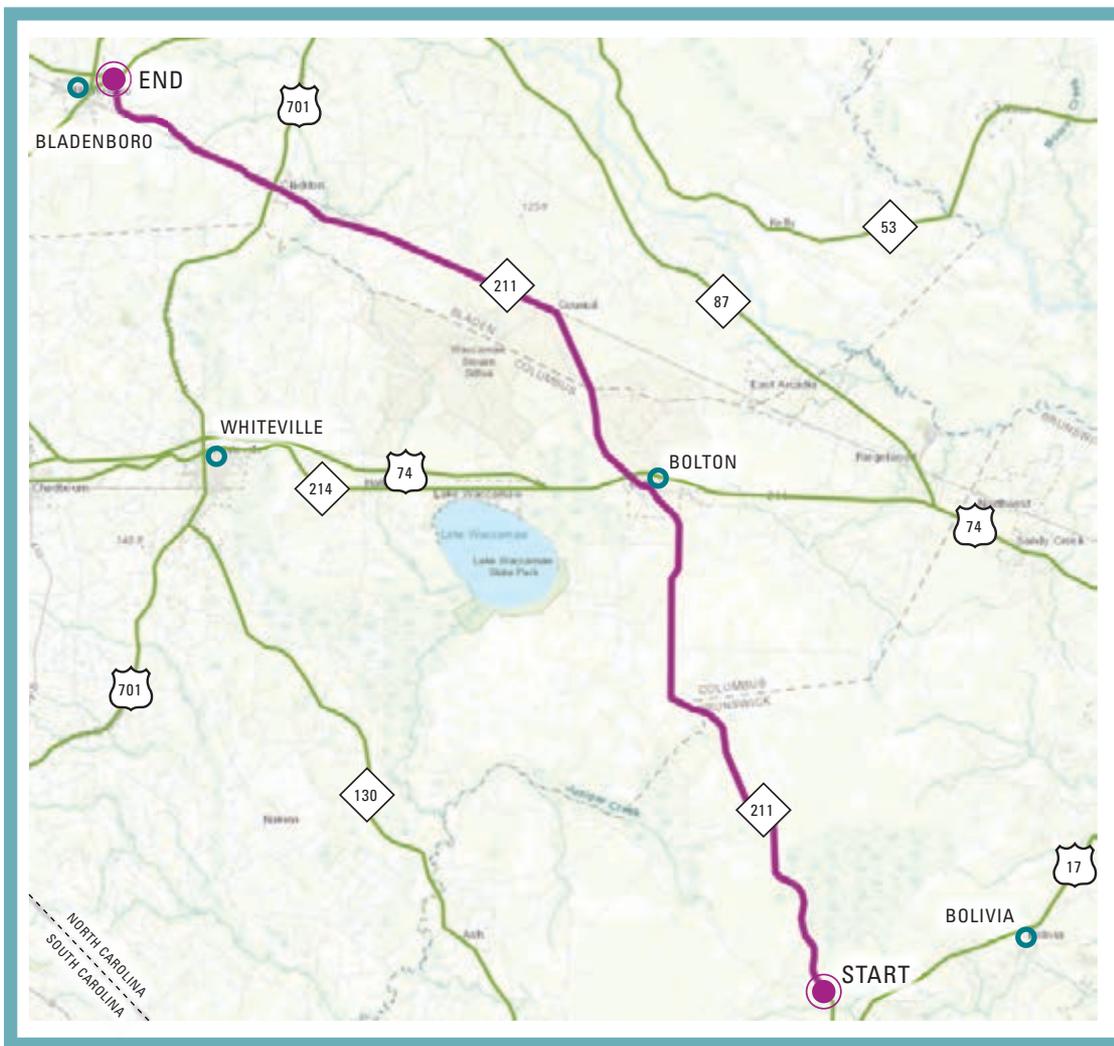
A photograph of a white lighthouse with a dark roof and a lantern room, built on wooden stilts over a body of water. The sun is setting on the left, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky is a clear blue. The lighthouse has a balcony on the second floor and a smaller one on the lantern room. The text "COASTAL PLAINS" is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, and "Byways" is written in a white, cursive font, both overlaid on the image.

COASTAL PLAINS
Byways

GREEN SWAMP

Byway

Named for the Green Swamp Preserve through which it passes, the Green Swamp Byway snakes in and out of swamps and pocosins (highly acidic freshwater evergreen shrub bogs) and into the sweeping longleaf pine savannahs. Once dominated by timber and paper mills, most of the land along the route is now protected conservation land managed by a national non-profit group. (15)



Counties: Bladen, Brunswick, and Columbus

Total Distance: 51.2 Miles

Drive Time: 40 min

BELOW: Pitcher plants and dragonfly in Green Swamp



Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 211 (Green Swamp Rd) and Little Macedonia Rd NW 2 miles north of US 17 in Supply.

- Follow NC 211 north for 52.1 miles to the intersection of NC 211 and NC 242 northeast of Bladenboro where the byway ends.





Points of Interest

 At almost 17,000 acres, the Green Swamp Preserve is composed of peat and muck timberland because it has little surface water and extensive stands of trees. The Green Swamp Preserve is home to many rare and diverse plant and animal species, which includes the Venus Flytrap, orchids, and pitcher plants as well as the red-cockaded woodpecker, fox squirrels, the American alligator, and Hessel's hairstreak butterfly. For the pine savannahs to remain healthy, the NC Forest Service must conduct prescribed burns to aid in seed dispersal and invasive plant removal. (9)

 An isolated community named Crusoe Island is located on the edge of the vast swamp. Political refugees from French Haiti founded Crusoe Island in 1806. Today, the swamplands are owned by several large pulp and paper companies. Crusoe Island lies 15 miles southwest of the Brunswick/Columbus County line.

 The byway passes near Lake Waccamaw State Park near Bolton. Lake Waccamaw, the largest of the mysterious Carolina Bays, was originally thought to have been formed by meteors, but new theories suggest it was formed by the ocean's waves and its prevailing winds. (37) The park offers an

abundance of recreational opportunities and is an easy side trip. (See the Carolina Bay Lakes Byway for more information.) The Green Swamp drains into Lake Waccamaw, which was named around 1733 for the Waccamaw Tribe, a Siouan-speaking tribe who lived in the region. Members of the Waccamaw Siouan tribe still live in the area, concentrating near Lake Waccamaw, and are one of eight state-recognized Native American tribes in North Carolina. (49)

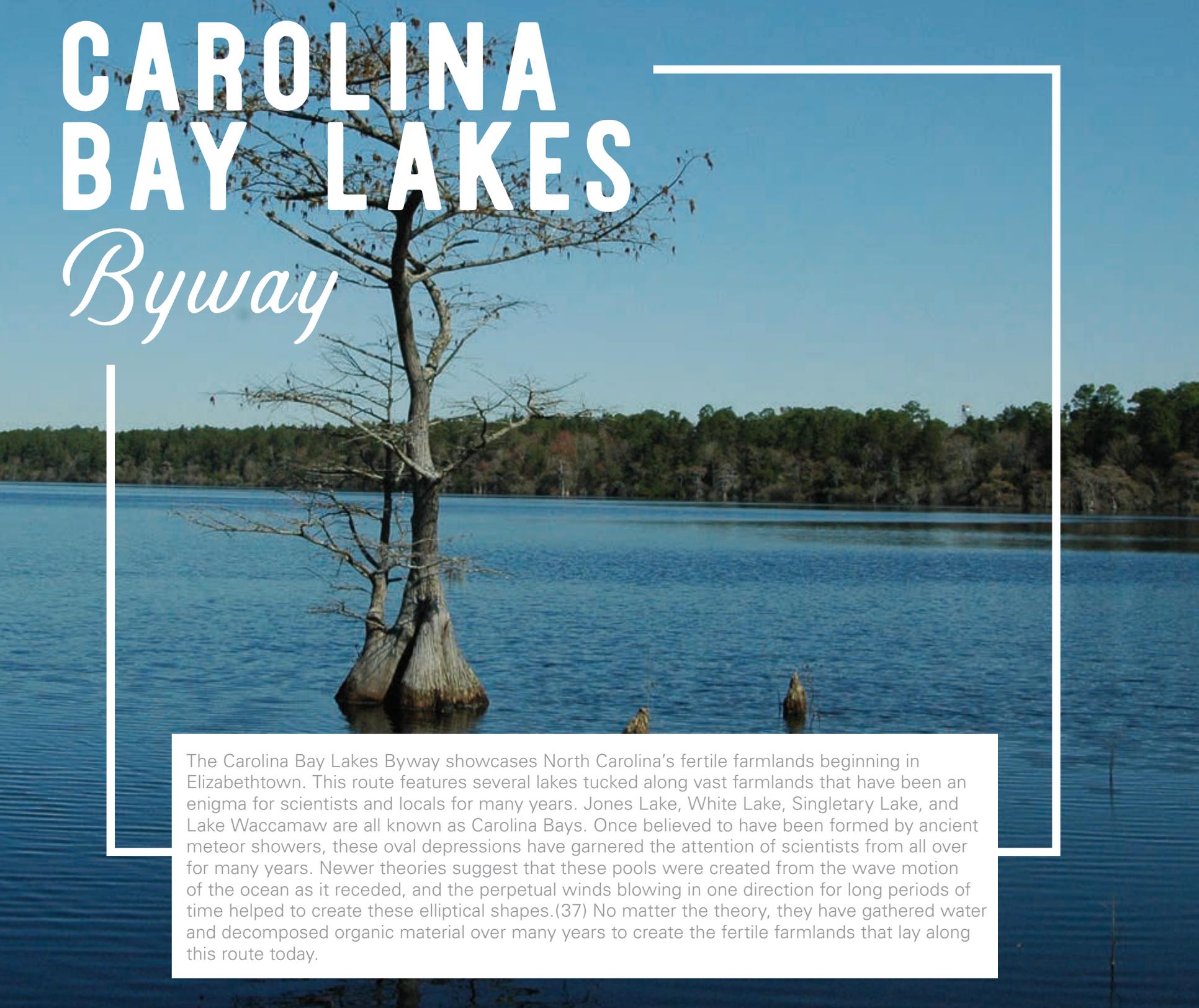
OPPOSITE: Pitcher plants and Venus Flytraps





CAROLINA BAY LAKES

Byway



The Carolina Bay Lakes Byway showcases North Carolina's fertile farmlands beginning in Elizabethtown. This route features several lakes tucked along vast farmlands that have been an enigma for scientists and locals for many years. Jones Lake, White Lake, Singletary Lake, and Lake Waccamaw are all known as Carolina Bays. Once believed to have been formed by ancient meteor showers, these oval depressions have garnered the attention of scientists from all over for many years. Newer theories suggest that these pools were created from the wave motion of the ocean as it receded, and the perpetual winds blowing in one direction for long periods of time helped to create these elliptical shapes.(37) No matter the theory, they have gathered water and decomposed organic material over many years to create the fertile farmlands that lay along this route today.

Getting There

To access the byway from Spiveys Corner, travel south 4 miles from US 13 to the beginning of the byway at the intersection of US 421 and NC 242.

- Follow NC 242 (Salemberg Hwy) south for 14 miles through Salemberg on Main St. In Roseboro, NC 242 is N East St. (Do not follow NC 242 truck route.)
- Turn right onto Roseboro St and travel 1.5 miles.
- Turn right to continue on NC 242 (Elizabethtown Highway) and follow it for 22.7 miles to the end of the byway at the intersection with NC 53.

Points of Interest

🏠 Located at the headwaters of Little Coharie Creek just south of the byway's terminus, Spivey's Corner is well known as the home of the annual Hollerin' Contest, which was first held in 1969 to celebrate the art of hollering. For people who lived in more rural areas of North Carolina, hollering was an essential means of communication across long distances before the establishment of the telephone.

🏠 The town of Salemberg, founded in 1874, was named for Salem Academy, located in the town. The school was the forerunner of the North Carolina Justice Academy where state law enforcement officers obtained advanced education.

🏠 Sampson County was named for John Sampson, a member of the House of Commons under North Carolina's royal governors who remained a loyalist for the



Counties: Bladen, Cumberland, and Sampson

Total Distance: 38.2 Miles

Drive Time: 44 min

OPPOSITE: Jones Lake near Elizabethtown

BELOW: Barn along the byway





first few years of the American Revolution before then being elected to the North Carolina Council of State, an honor he was forced to decline due to declining health.

 Cumberland County, founded in 1754, was named for the Duke of Cumberland, a son of British King George II who was successful at the Battle of Culloden in Scotland. Ironically, the area was settled by Scottish Highlanders, the very people defeated by the Duke of Cumberland at Culloden.

 Elizabethtown, settled in 1773 and possibly named for Queen Elizabeth I, was

the site of the 1781 Revolutionary War Battle of Elizabethtown, where Whigs broke the Tories' ("loyalists," or colonials who remained devoted to England) power by driving them into a ravine, now known as Tory Hole, near the Cape Fear River.

ABOVE: Wildlife thrives among the lakes along the byway

RIGHT: Downtown Elizabethtown

OPPOSITE: NC Forest Service County Headquarters



Start



Spivey's Corner



Salemburg



Sampson County



Cumberland County



Elizabethtown

End



FIRE DANGER
HIGH
TODAY!
PREVENT FOREST FIRES



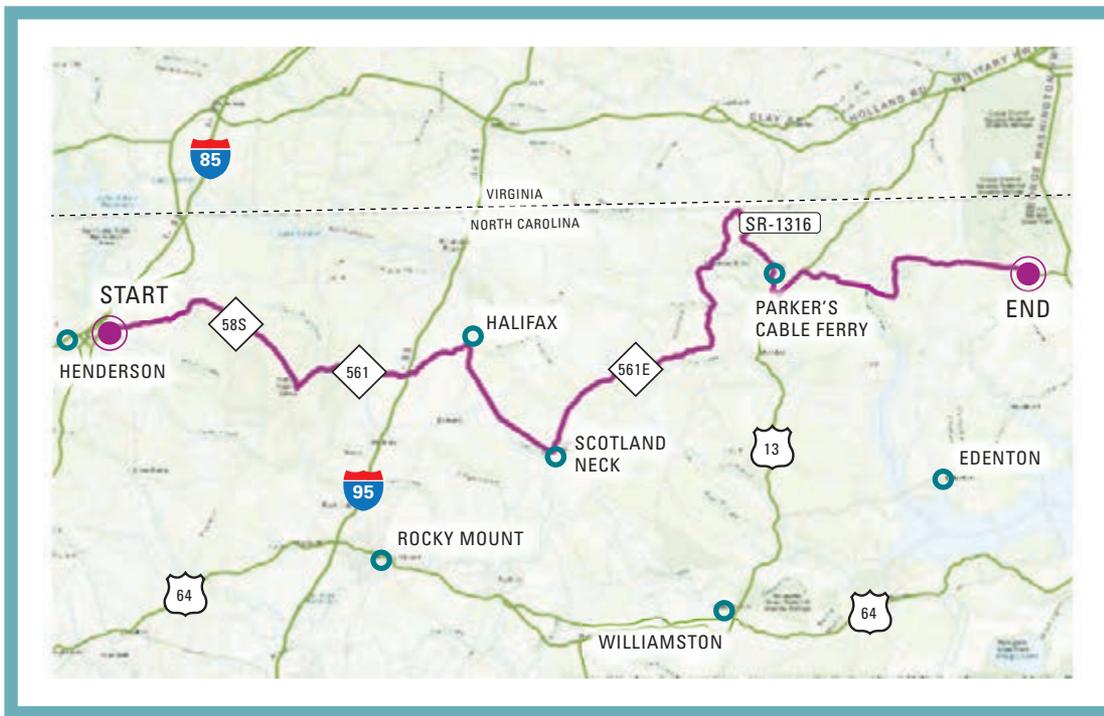
LAFAYETTE'S

Tour



The Lafayette's Tour byway takes motorists through several of the communities that French General Marquis de Lafayette, a close confidant to George Washington, visited on his 1825 tour of the United States. The city of Fayetteville, in southeastern North Carolina, was named for this famous Revolutionary War hero. (32) North Carolina's early development was not limited by political boundaries, as explorers and settlers from Virginia and North Carolina crossed the present state line, sharing culture and trade. In many cases, this part of North Carolina and the southern part of Virginia are nearly identical in economy, architecture, and regional dialect. Not only does this byway spark the interests of history buffs, but outdoor enthusiasts also have several opportunities for enjoyment.

St. Ann's
Catholic
Church



Counties: Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton, Pasquotank, Vance, and Warren

Total Distance: 170.4 miles

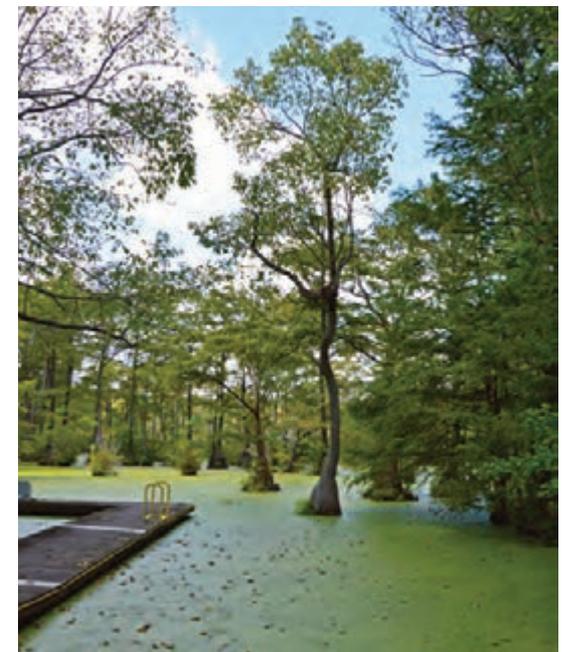
Drive Time: 3 hrs 40 min

Note: Recreational and larger vehicles are not permitted on the cable ferry and will need to follow an alternate route.

Getting There

The byway begins at the US 1 and Warrenton Rd interchange in northeast Henderson.

- Take Warrenton Rd east for 0.8 miles and veer right to stay on Warrenton Rd for 12.1 miles.
- Turn left onto US 401 N (Main Street) and travel 2 blocks (0.1 miles) and turn right onto US 158 E/NC 58 S (Macon St) and travel 0.5 miles.
- Veer right onto NC 58 S and travel 5.8 miles.
- Continue straight onto NC 43 for 11.6 miles.
- Turn left onto Evans Road and then make an immediate sharp left onto NC 561. Travel 3.7 miles and veer right to continue on NC 561 E.
- Travel 11.9 miles and then make a left to continue on NC 561 E.
- Continue 7.5 miles to US 301 Bus.
- Turn right onto US 301 Bus S in Halifax and travel 2.6 miles.
- Turn left onto NC 903/NC 125 and travel south for 14.6 miles to Scotland Neck. (NC 903/125 is W 12th Street in Scotland Neck.)
- Turn left onto US 258 N (Main St) and travel 13.3 miles crossing the Roanoke River and entering Rich Square.
- Veer right in 0.1 miles onto Short St and turn right again onto E Jackson St to follow NC 561 east for 11.7 miles.
- Turn left onto Menola St Johns Rd (SR 1141) and travel 1.5 miles.
- Veer right onto Flea Hill Rd (SR 1142) and travel 2.8 miles.



OPPOSITE: Historic church in Halifax

ABOVE: Merchants Millpond State Park

- Turn right onto Benthall Bridge Rd (SR 1160) and follow it for 6.4 miles to Main St in Murfreesboro. (Benthall Bridge Rd becomes Spring Ave in Murfreesboro.)
- Turn right onto Main St and travel 1.1 miles.
- Turn left onto US 258 at the traffic signal and head north for 2.8 miles.

BELOW and RIGHT: Historic buildings along the byway



- Turn left onto Statesville Rd (SR 1310) and travel 3.9 miles.
- Turn right onto New Hope Rd (SR 1315) and travel 2.2 miles.
- Turn right onto Buckhorn Church Rd (SR 1316) and travel 3.0 miles.
- Turn right onto US 258 S and travel 1.3 miles.
- Turn left onto Parkers Ferry Road (SR 1306) and travel 5.4 miles to the Parker's Cable Ferry.
- Cross the Meherrin River by ferry. (If the ferry is not operational, see alternative route.)

**Alternative Route: If ferry is not operating or if traveling in an RV, take US 258 S to US 158 E and follow to Winton.*

- Travel south on Parkers Fishery Rd (SR 1175) for 2.7 miles to reach US 158.
- Turn right onto US 158 and move immediately into the left lane to make a u-turn to follow US 158 E for 1.5 miles.
- At the interchange, turn right onto the US 13 N/US 158 E ramp to continue on US 158 E for 4.3 miles.
- Turn right onto NC 137 E (SR 1343) and travel 8.6 miles to Gatesville.
- Turn right onto NC 37 S and travel 3.4 miles.
- Turn left onto Mill Pond Road (SR 1400/1403) and continue 4.6 miles.
- Turn right onto US 158 E and travel 16.0 miles to the intersection with Lynch's Corner Rd and Newland Rd where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 When in Warrenton, named for Joseph Warren (a Revolutionary War soldier killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill), enjoy views of historic antebellum houses while driving through the town or take a pleasant stroll on the courthouse grounds. It's stated that General Lafayette stayed at a plantation south of town between the time that he gave his speeches in Halifax and Raleigh. Warrenton has been home to many famous people, including journalist Horace Greeley, North Carolina's first African American congressman John A. Hyman, and the Bragg brothers, who were both politicians and soldiers.

 Incorporated in 1891, Essex was the center of a free African-American settlement prior to the Civil War. Descendants of some of the original families still live here today.

 Outdoor enthusiasts may want to visit nearby Medoc Mountain State Park by turning right onto NC 4/NC 48 and following the signs. Sidney Weller named Medoc Mountain for the vineyard he established there in the late 1800s. He introduced America to a system of grape culture and named his vineyard after the wine-producing area of Medoc, France. Medoc Mountain is an elongated ridge, the remnant of an ancient granite core of a mountain range formed in the Paleozoic Era.

 Halifax, now a state historic site, was once the colonial seat of the State Assembly. In 1757, Halifax was named for the Second Earl of Halifax George Montague, who helped expand colonial commerce while serving as the president of the Board of Trade and Plantations. The Halifax Resolves, one of the first actions taken by a colony for

independence, were signed here in 1776, and Lafayette spoke in the town on February 27, 1825. Several historic and replica buildings are part of the tour in Halifax.

 The community of Crowells Crossroads was settled by Edward and Joseph Crowell in 1730. Stories say these men, relatives of Oliver Cromwell, escaped during the English Reformation by dropping the letter m from their names.

 As a side trip, check out the beautiful array of birds at Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck, which offers education on the conservation of waterfowls and wetlands and acts as a local resource for avian biology and wetland ecology. (Entry fee required.)

 Settled in the early 1700s, Murfreesboro was first known as Murfrees after the family that owned the land upon which the town was built. The nearby landing on the Meherrin River was known as Murfrees Ferry in 1770 and by 1787 the town received its current name. Famous former citizens include Dr. Walter Reed, former head of the US Yellow Fever Commission in Cuba and the doctor who discovered a cure for the disease; Richard J. Gatling, who invented the Gatling gun and several agricultural tools; and John W. Wheeler, minister to Nicaragua and state treasurer during the mid-1800s. It is also the home to Chowan University, established in 1848.

 Parker's Cable Ferry, one of the last two-car ferries operating in the state, has operated across the Meherrin River near its junction with the Chowan River since the early 1900s.

 Built on the land of Benjamin Wynns in 1766, Winton was burned to the ground in 1862 by Union forces. C.S. Brown founded

Chowan Academy here in 1886, one of the earliest schools for African-Americans.

 The Chowan River was named for the Chowanoac, an Algonquian-language tribe whose tribal lands encompassed much of modern Gates, Hertford, Bertie, and Chowan Counties. The river was explored around 1585 by Ralph Lane, Sir Walter Raleigh's expedition leader, and again in 1622 by explorers from Jamestown. It was a major trade access route for residents of the northeastern corner of the state.

 Thought to be more than 10,000 years old, the Great Dismal Swamp has decreased in size since the arrival of Europeans because of drainage and logging. This forested wetland was shown on maps as early as 1647 and is a 111,000-acre area of marsh, lake, and cypress swamp. In 1728, Colonel William Byrd II was one of the first people to survey the North Carolina/Virginia state line through the swamp and provide an extensive description of the area. He is rumored to have given the swamp its name. George Washington surveyed this area in 1763 in order to build a canal to drain part of the swamp for lumbering. A Civil War battle was held at the Great Dismal Swamp Canal locks at nearby South Mills when Confederate forces were prevented from blowing up the locks to keep Union supplies from coming down the canal. (40)



RIGHT: Historic Courthouse in downtown Halifax

OPPOSITE: The byway winds through farm country

Start



Warrenton



Essex



Medoc Mountain
State Park



Halifax



Crowells
Crossroads



Sylvan Heights
Bird Park



Murfreesboro



Parker's Cable
Ferry



Chowan Academy



Chowan River

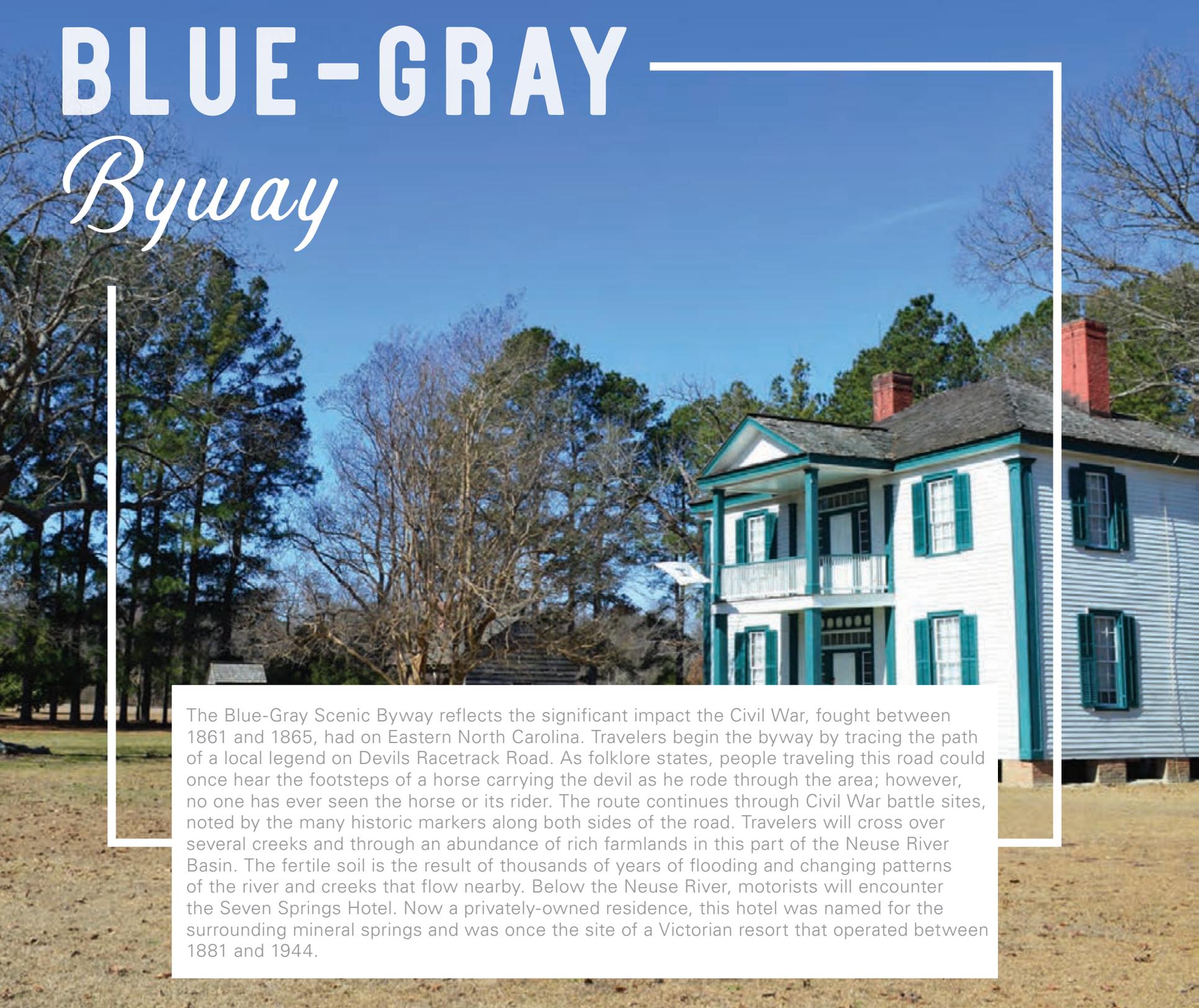


Great Dismal
Swamp

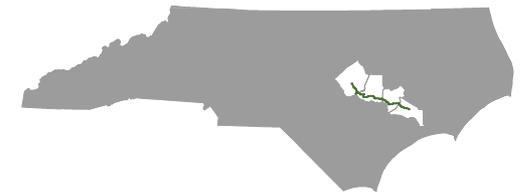
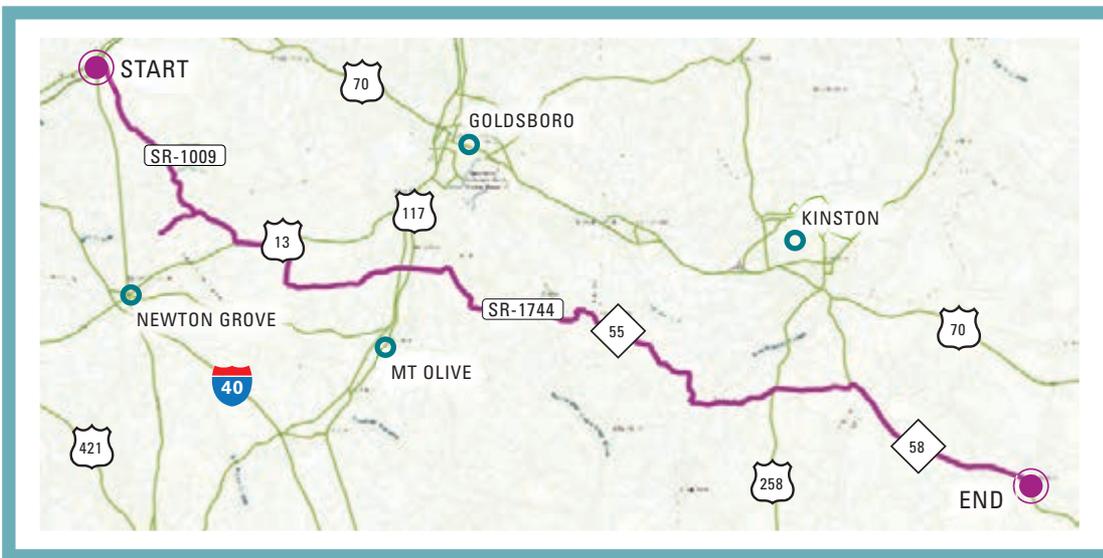
End

BLUE-GRAY

Byway

A large, two-story white house with teal trim and a balcony, surrounded by trees. The house has a prominent front porch with teal columns and a white railing. The windows are also framed in teal. The house is set against a backdrop of tall, thin trees and a clear blue sky. The foreground is a dry, grassy field.

The Blue-Gray Scenic Byway reflects the significant impact the Civil War, fought between 1861 and 1865, had on Eastern North Carolina. Travelers begin the byway by tracing the path of a local legend on Devils Racetrack Road. As folklore states, people traveling this road could once hear the footsteps of a horse carrying the devil as he rode through the area; however, no one has ever seen the horse or its rider. The route continues through Civil War battle sites, noted by the many historic markers along both sides of the road. Travelers will cross over several creeks and through an abundance of rich farmlands in this part of the Neuse River Basin. The fertile soil is the result of thousands of years of flooding and changing patterns of the river and creeks that flow nearby. Below the Neuse River, motorists will encounter the Seven Springs Hotel. Now a privately-owned residence, this hotel was named for the surrounding mineral springs and was once the site of a Victorian resort that operated between 1881 and 1944.



Counties: Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, and Wayne

Total Distance: 84.4 Miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 55 min

Getting There

The byway begins at US-701 and Devil's Racetrack Rd near I-95, Exit 90 in Four Oaks.

- Head east 12.5 mi. on Devils Racetrack Rd toward Hillsboro Rd.
- Turn right onto Harper House Rd and continue until you reach Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site on the right in 1.9 miles.
- Backtrack on Harper House Rd to Devils Racetrack Rd. Continue on Harper House Rd. across Devils Racetrack Rd. for 0.1 miles and turn right onto St. Johns Church Rd.
- Follow St. Johns Church Rd for 0.4 miles until it turns into Bentonville Rd and continue on Bentonville Rd. for 3 miles.
- Turn left onto US Hwy13 and travel 4.1 miles to the crossroads in Grantham.
- Turn right onto Grantham School Rd and follow for 3.2 miles to Dudley Rd/Oberry Rd.
- Turn Left onto Dudley Rd/Oberry Rd and follow for 7.5 miles until you reach US-117. Cross US-117 and continue on Oberry Rd./ Sleepy Creek Rd through the town of Dudley for 3.1 miles.
- Turn Right onto Eagle Nest Rd and continue for 3.11 miles until it dead ends into Indian Springs Rd.
- Turn left onto Indian Springs Rd. (SR-1744) and follow until you reach NC-55 in 6.6 miles Turn left onto NC-55 and then turn left onto W Spring St in 0.4 miles.
- Follow W Spring St. 1 mile into the Town of Seven Springs and turn right onto Main St to return to NC-55 in 0.1 miles.
- Turn left onto NC-55 and follow for 4.8 miles to Smith Grady Rd. Follow Smith Grady Rd for 3.6 miles and veer right to travel on Old Pink Hill Rd. Follow Old Pink Hill Rd for 1.8 miles to Liddell Rd.
- Turn left onto Liddell Rd. and follow it for 1.8 miles through the town of Deep Run to



ABOVE: Civil War Trail Marker at Howell Woods

OPPOSITE: Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site

John Green Smith Rd. Turn right and follow John Green Smith Rd for 2.1 miles and turn right onto Big Oak Rd.

- Follow Big Oak Rd for 0.6 miles and take a slight left onto Sandy Foundation Rd and follow for 1.1 miles.
- Turn left onto US-258 and almost immediately take the first right onto



Lightwood Knot Rd. Follow Lightwood Knot Rd for 4.8 miles to Vine Swamp Rd.

- Turn left onto Vine Swamp Rd and follow for .3 miles and take a sharp right onto NC-58 and follow for 13.6 miles into the Town of Trenton.

- In the Town of Trenton, take a right onto Market St and follow for 0.5 miles near Mayfield Rd where the byway ends.

ABOVE: Bentonville Battle State Historic Site

OPPOSITE: Cliffs of the Neuse State Park

Start



Mill Creek



Battle of
Bentonville



Cliffs of the
Neuse State Park



Seven Springs

Points of Interest

 After crossing Hannah's Creek, the byway crosses Mill Creek where Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston's troops were prevented from attacking Union troops under the command of General William T. Sherman from the rear because of a flood. The Confederates were able to escape after their defeat. In the community of Bentonville, one-half mile further along the byway, Confederate forces kept naval stores of tar, pitch, and turpentine, which they burned after their retreat from Bentonville.

 The Civil War Battle of Bentonville took place on March 19-21, 1865, at what is now the Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, approximately four miles southwest of Bentonville. This 1865 battle slowed Sherman's march through the state and was the bloodiest and largest land battle ever fought on North Carolina soil with nearly 5,000 total casualties. The battle, the only significant attempt to defeat Sherman's army during its march through the Carolinas, was the last full-scale action in which a Confederate army was able to mount a tactical offensive during the Civil War. Reenactments of this historic battle are held each March in remembrance of those few days. The nearby Harper House was used as a Union field hospital and is included in the site's tour. (36)

 Just off the byway after the Indian Springs community is the Cliffs of the Neuse



State Park. The park features cliffs that rise 90 feet from the Neuse River and were formed from a fault shift thousands of years ago. Over time, erosion exposed the multi-colored sedimentary layers in a formation that enables laurel and other mountain plants to grow here. Nature trails and a museum are available to park visitors.

 Seven Springs was originally named Whitehall after the plantation of William Whitefield, a prominent pre-Revolutionary War settler, in 1741. A state Civil War marker near the Neuse River Bridge denotes the site where the Confederate ironclad, C.S.S. Neuse, was built. This was also the site of an early Civil War skirmish, the Battle of Whitehall, where Union troops damaged the ship, which is now housed in Kinston. The battle occurred as the Union troops were marching north in an attempt to capture a railroad trestle near Goldsboro. (52)

 The farming community of Deep Run, located along the byway, was established in the 1880s with the opening of a turpentine distillery. It was originally called Red Town because the community's houses were painted red.

 The town of Trenton was established as Trent Courthouse in 1779 and named for the river, which was named for the Trent River in England. By 1784, the name Trenton was adopted.

 Nearby places of interest include New Bern and the beaches of the Crystal Coast. New Bern, the colonial and state capital from 1746 to 1792, is 25 miles northeast of Trenton. About 35 miles southwest of Trenton are the Bogue Sound and beach recreation areas.



Deep Run



Trenton



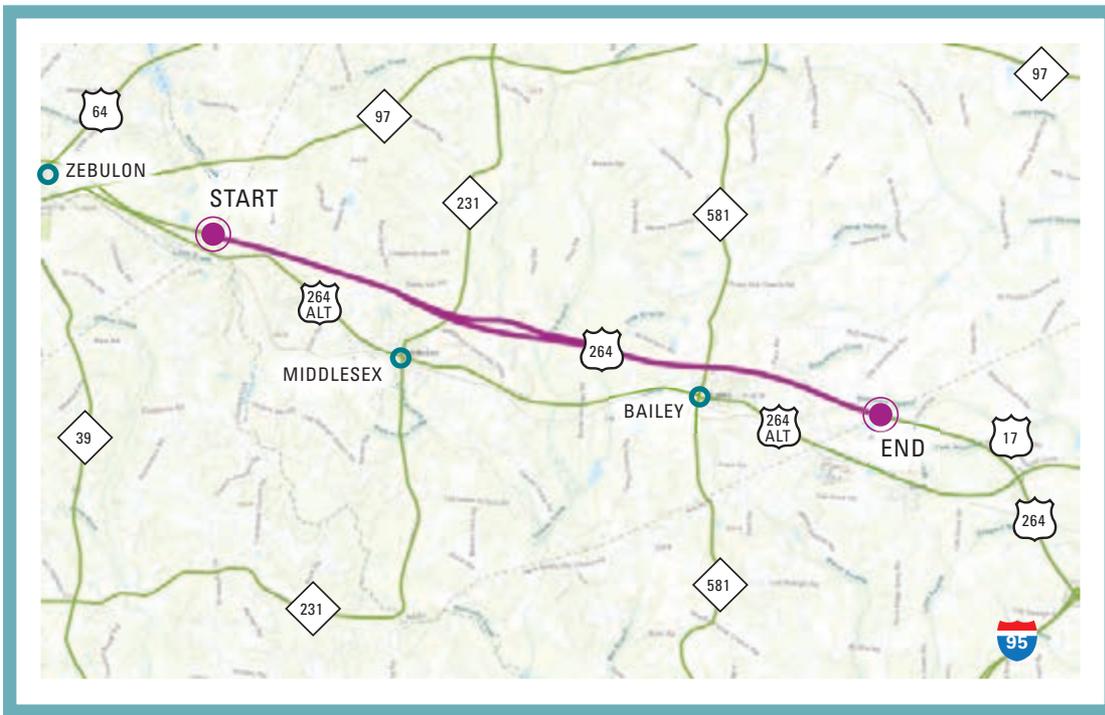
New Bern

TURKEY CREEK

Byway



This coastal plain byway offers views of mixed pine and hardwood forests along with intermittent glimpses of agricultural farmlands. Approximately 2,500 feet of the relatively undisturbed Turkey Creek crosses through the dynamically engineered median adding to the significance of the route. In having environmental foresight in the early 1970's, the North Carolina Department of Transportation chose to widen the median of this relocated highway to allow Turkey Creek to flow freely and avoid what could have been a disastrous channel change.



Counties: Nash
Total Distance: 11 Miles
Drive Time: 10 min

Getting There

The byway begins on US-264 at the Nash County line just east of Zebulon.

- Follow US-264 East for 11 miles to the Wilson County Line where the byway ends.

OPPOSITE: Bird's-eye view of the byway

BELOW: Daylilies along the route



TAR HEEL

Trace



The Tar Heel Trace byway winds through North Carolina's Coastal Plain from Wilson to Williamston and takes its name from the pine tar industry that once thrived in this portion of the state. About halfway through the route, you will encounter a small town surrounded by vast farmlands of soy bean and peanuts called Conetoe, incorporated in 1887. Don't let the spelling fool you, the name is pronounced Cuh-knee-ta, named for the nearby Conetoe Creek. Along the eastern portion of the route near Williamston, notice the numerous sheds and silos that store one of the region's most dominant crops—peanuts.



Counties: Edgecombe, Martin, and Wilson

Total Distance: 51.7 Miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 5 min

OPPOSITE: Tar River near Tarboro

BELOW: Williamston in the fall

Getting There

The byway begins on NC 42 at the US 301 interchange east of Wilson.

- Travel 9 miles east on NC 42.
- Veer right onto NC 124 follow for 6.1 miles to the intersection with US 258.
- Proceed straight across over US 258 to continue on NC 124 for 3.1 miles.
- Turn right onto NC 42 E and follow for 18.7 miles.
- At the intersection of NC 42/NC 142 and NC 11, go straight across to follow NC 142 E for 5.8 miles.
- Turn right onto NC 125 S and follow for 8.9 miles to the Williamston city limits near Oak St where the byway ends.





Points of Interest

 “Tar Heel” is the nickname given to the state’s residents by British Lieutenant General Lord William Cornwallis’ troops after they emerged from the nearby Tar River with tar stuck to their boots. Another story says the ground alongside many of the state’s river fronts was covered with tar that spilled from rafts bringing the product to market. Early residents found that it was simple to cut these trees and pile the light, or fat wood, into piles and cover them with soil after setting them on fire. The piles, called tar kilns, were then left to smolder causing the pine resin to run out as a dark

tar. Tar was used extensively in the shipping industry. The tar was distilled into turpentine and was used to waterproof rope and wood in the form of either pitch or tar.

 Wilson was formed in 1849 when the towns of Hickory Grove and Toisnot Depot merged in 1849 as a result of the construction of a new rail line. The new town was named for Louis D. Wilson, a state senator and early advocate of the public-school movement, who was killed during the Mexican War of 1846–1848.

 Legend has it that the Tar River was named for the tar produced in the counties

through which it flowed, while others suggest that the river’s name is derived from a Native American word.

 Williamston, named in honor of Colonel William Williams who fought in the Revolutionary War, is located on the Roanoke River. Settled in 1779, the town originally was called Skewarky for the plantation on which it was built.

Start



Tar Heel Origins



Wilson



Tar River



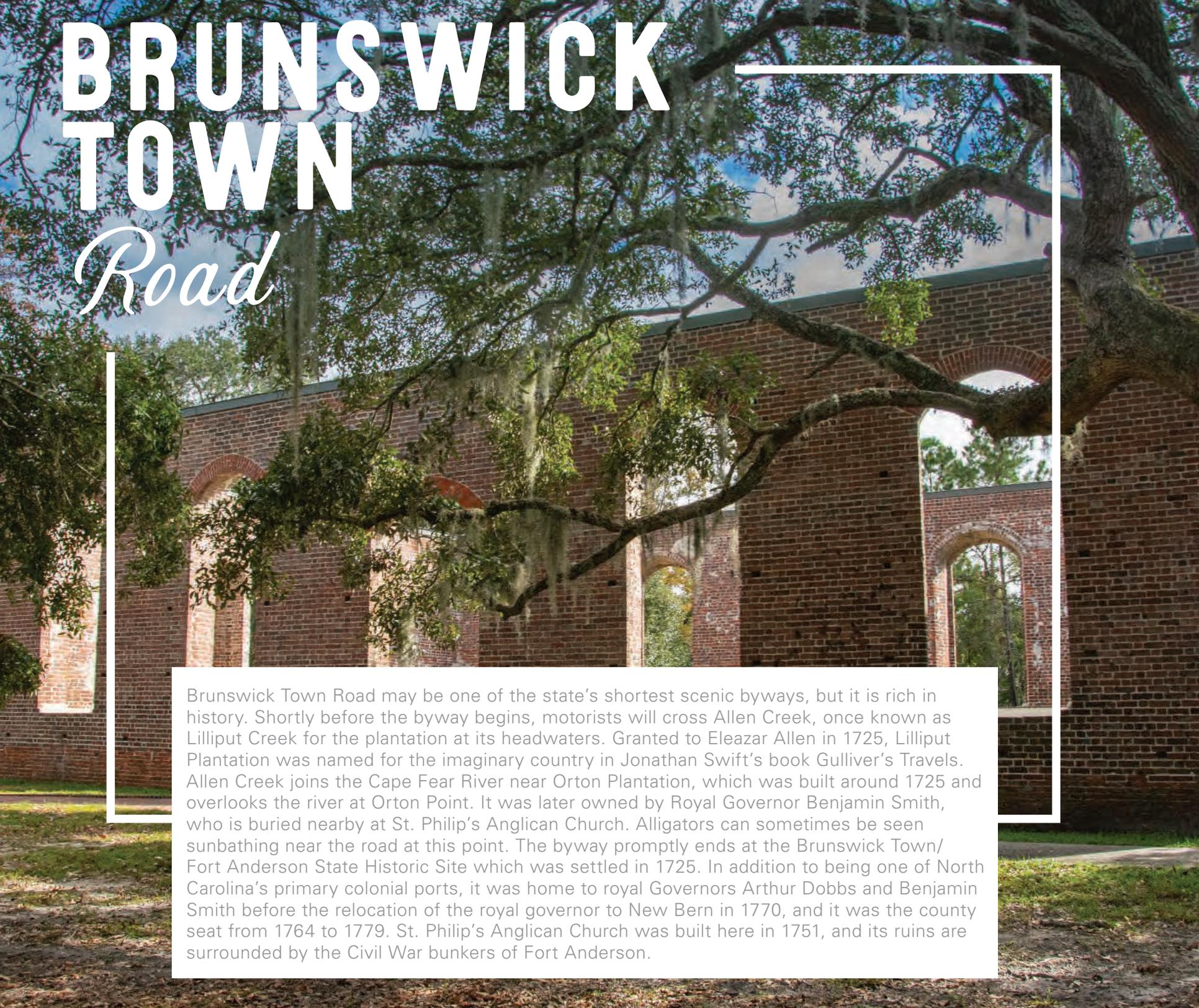
Williamston

End



BRUNSWICK TOWN

Road



Brunswick Town Road may be one of the state's shortest scenic byways, but it is rich in history. Shortly before the byway begins, motorists will cross Allen Creek, once known as Lilliput Creek for the plantation at its headwaters. Granted to Eleazar Allen in 1725, Lilliput Plantation was named for the imaginary country in Jonathan Swift's book *Gulliver's Travels*. Allen Creek joins the Cape Fear River near Orton Plantation, which was built around 1725 and overlooks the river at Orton Point. It was later owned by Royal Governor Benjamin Smith, who is buried nearby at St. Philip's Anglican Church. Alligators can sometimes be seen sunbathing near the road at this point. The byway promptly ends at the Brunswick Town/ Fort Anderson State Historic Site which was settled in 1725. In addition to being one of North Carolina's primary colonial ports, it was home to royal Governors Arthur Dobbs and Benjamin Smith before the relocation of the royal governor to New Bern in 1770, and it was the county seat from 1764 to 1779. St. Philip's Anglican Church was built here in 1751, and its ruins are surrounded by the Civil War bunkers of Fort Anderson.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 133 and Orton Rd SE (SR 1530) just south of Wilmington.

- Travel east on Orton Rd (SR 1530) for 0.3 miles.
- Turn right onto Plantation Rd (SR 1529) and travel south for 1.6 miles.
- Turn left onto St. Phillips Rd (SR 1533) and travel 0.4 miles to the entrance to Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson Historic Site where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Brunswick Town, named for King George I, the Duke of Brunswick and Lunenburg and in ruins since 1830, has a long history—from attacks by the Spanish in 1748 to Revolutionary and Civil War battles. Resistance to the Stamp Act occurred in 1765 at the Russelborough House, the ruins of which are located north of the Brunswick Town Site.

 Fort Anderson was built here during the Civil War to help protect the port of Wilmington but was evacuated in 1865 after a devastating Union attack that led to the fall of Wilmington. Another battery, Fort Lamb, was located just south on Price's Creek.

 For additional travels, continue to the town of Southport, named for its location as the state's southernmost port at the mouth of the Cape Fear River. Southport was built in 1748 as part of Fort Johnston, named for Colonial Governor Gabriel Johnston. The fort, which burned in 1775, was rebuilt around 1800 and later used by



Counties: Brunswick

Total Distance: 2.3 Miles

Drive Time: 10 min

OPPOSITE: Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

BELOW : Reenactment at Fort Anderson





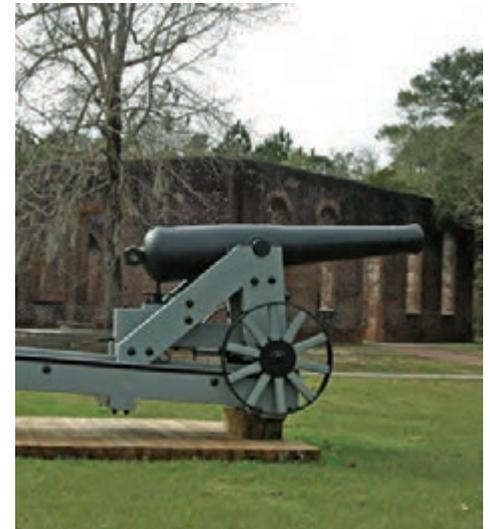
the Confederate Army, though only the officers' quarters remain today. A state ferry runs from Southport across the river to Fort Fisher. Now a state historic site, Fort Fisher protected the river during the Civil War and was the site of the largest land and sea assault by US forces prior to D-Day in World War II. A museum, as well as one of North Carolina's three aquariums, is located at the Fort Fisher State Recreation Area.

 The first European to discover the Cape Fear River was Giovanni da Verrazzano in 1524. An Italian navigator working for the king of France, Verrazzano was looking for a



direct sea route to the Pacific Ocean. The Cape Fear River has had several names, but "Cape Fear" became the final designation because the southern tip of Smith Island (now Bald Head Island) at the river's mouth was the site of many narrow escapes from navigational mishaps.

ABOVE & OPPOSITE: Scenes from Fort Anderson



Start



Brunswick Town



Fort Anderson



Southport



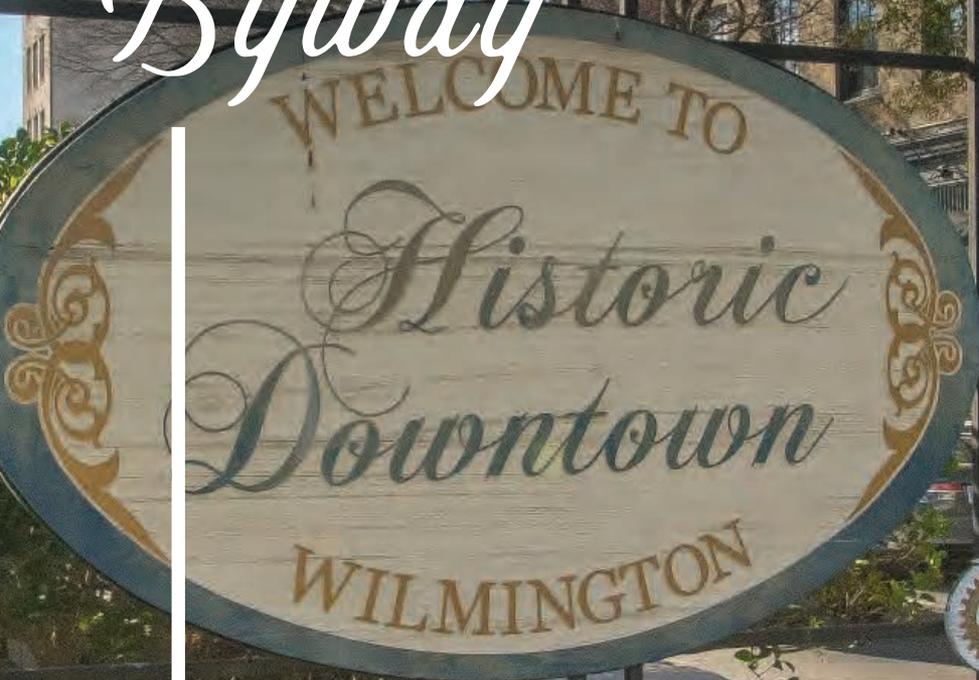
Cape Fear River

End



CAPE FEAR HISTORIC

Byway



The Cape Fear Historic Byway in downtown Wilmington guides motorists through one of the most scenic urban areas in the nation as it meanders alongside the tranquil Cape Fear River, down thriving colonial-era streets, and through the majestic Greenfield Park and Gardens. Known as the Port City, Wilmington was incorporated in 1739 and sits on a peninsula between the Cape Fear River and Atlantic Ocean. The city contains North Carolina's richest collection of 19th century urban architecture and still maintains the original grid pattern finalized in 1743. Wilmington was built, for the most part, by commission merchants and prosperous businessmen who indulged themselves in the extravagances of the culture of the late 1800s. Today, the city is home to about 100,000 people and is the largest city on North Carolina's coast.

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 74/NC 133 (Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy) and N 3rd St at the Isabel Holmes Bridge over the Cape Fear River in Wilmington.

- Travel south on N 3rd St for 0.2 miles.
- Turn right onto N Front Street and follow for 0.6 mile.
- Turn right onto Red Cross St and follow for 1 block.
- Turn left onto Water St and travel 0.7 miles.
- Turn left onto Ann St and follow for one block.
- Turn right onto S Front St and go 3 blocks (0.3 miles).
- Turn left onto Castle St and go 4 blocks (0.3 miles).
- Turn right onto S 5th St and go 10 blocks (0.9 miles).
- Continue straight on Lake Shore Dr into Greenfield Park and travel 1.5 miles before turning right to continue on Lake Shore Dr.
- Travel another 1.8 miles and veer right to continue on Lake Shore Dr. Follow for another 0.8 miles.
- Turn right onto US 421 (Carolina Beach Rd) and follow for 0.1 miles and veer right onto US 421 S (Burnett Blvd) and follow for 0.4 mile.
- Turn right onto Willard Stand go 0.2 miles.
- Turn left onto South 5th St and travel 10 blocks (0.9 miles).



- Turn left onto Castle St and travel 2 blocks (0.2 mile).
- Turn right onto 3rd St and travel 1.6 miles to complete the byway loop.

Points of Interest

 The byway first passes the site of 1898 Memorial Park, which commemorates the racial violence that occurred near this location on November 10, 1898 - the Wilmington Race Riot, an important event



Counties: New Hanover

Total Distance: 10.5 Miles

Drive Time: 40 min

OPPOSITE: Downtown Wilmington

BELOW: Greenfield Park & Garden





Above: 1898 Memorial Park



Above: New Hanover County Courthouse

in both Wilmington's and North Carolina's history. During the Wilmington Race Riot, prominent white citizens of Wilmington violently overthrew the legally-elected biracial city government. This riot marked the onset of Jim Crow era segregation in North Carolina and the end of increased black participation in North Carolina politics during Reconstruction. (10)

 The waterfront area features the federal courthouse, Wilmington's Riverwalk (a well-maintained pedestrian promenade that extends the length of Water Street), and many unique shops and restaurants. The

U.S.S. North Carolina, which played a major role in several Pacific Ocean battles during World War II, rests just across the river. The ship is now a state historic site that offers tours. (Fee required for entry.)

 South Front Street features some of the city's most exclusive homes, while Castle Street and South Fifth Street comprise the heart of the Wilmington National Register Historic District, an antique district that was once the home of workers at the city seaport.

 Greenfield Park and Gardens, a scenic park surrounding Lake Greenfield, is home to a wide variety of trees and plant life. While in the park, the byway passes the world's largest Rotary Club International sign and the Greenfield Lake Park Amphitheatre, which hosts summertime Shakespeare performances.

 South Third Street is home to the city's government buildings as well as many historic churches and the Thalian Hall Performing Arts Center. Nearby on Market Street, motorists can visit Bellamy Mansion, First Baptist Church, the Kenan Memorial

Start



1898 Memorial Park



U.S.S. North Carolina



South Front Street



Greenfield Park and Gardens



South Third Street

End



Fountain, and monuments for Senator George Davis and revolutionary leader and delegate to the Continental Congress Cornelius Harnett. (Bellamy Mansion is a privately owned residence that requires an entry fee.)

ABOVE Wilmington Riverwalk

RIGHT: Bellamy Mansion



AIRLIE

Road



Named for the historic homestead and gardens along the route, the byway guides travelers down an enchanting path draped with tall pines and Spanish moss-covered oaks and swiftly opens to a brilliant display of marsh grasses, boat docks, and the bright blue waters of Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Airlie Road provides more than just scenic beauty, it represents the history and uniqueness of the North Carolina coastal region. Along the way motorists should keep a look out for the many historic properties that helped shaped the Wrightsville area. Near the end of the byway, visitors will exit the tranquil canopy into the lively corridor of the Intracoastal Waterway, peppered with marinas, unique shops, and popular restaurants. Locals can be seen paddle boarding, canoeing, and boating down this active canal to grab a bite to eat and enjoy the scenery at some of the local seafood restaurants perched along the edge of the waterway.



Counties: New Hanover
Total Distance: 1.5 Miles
Drive Time: 5 min



BELOW: Boat docks on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway



Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 76, Military Cutoff Rd and Airlie Rd in Wilmington.

- Travel east on Airlie Rd for 1.5 miles to the intersection of Airlie Rd and US 74 at the Wrightsville Beach drawbridge where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 Airlie Gardens, once a private estate and gardens dating back to the 1800s, is a public garden made up of 67 acres that includes everything from magnolia forests, open fields, and salty marshes to formal gardens, as well as intriguing wildlife, thousands of azaleas, and a seasonal butterfly house. The gardens also offer many educational

opportunities that use experiential and hands-on learning techniques to teach the concepts of wildlife, soil management, water quality, and environmental stewardship. Other educational programs, such as bird hikes and butterfly releases, are also offered. The gardens continue to host an annual oyster roast on the banks of the Bradley Creek to celebrate the local delicacy, a tradition that began in 1905. (An entry fee is required.) (20)

 Minnie Evans, the gate keeper of the Airlie estate from 1948 to 1974, was a popular local artist known for her folk-art paintings influenced by the local Airlie landscapes. Her artwork depicted the lushness of the gardens that she worked in every day. She often sold the art at the gates of the gardens and actually had her first exhibit there. After her death in 1987, local artists created the Minnie Evans Bottle

Chapel, a colorful mosaic structure built from reused glass bottles in her memory, and it has become a focal point and central part of the gardens today. (20)

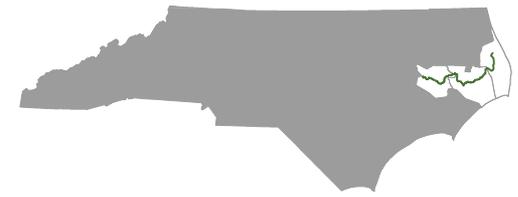
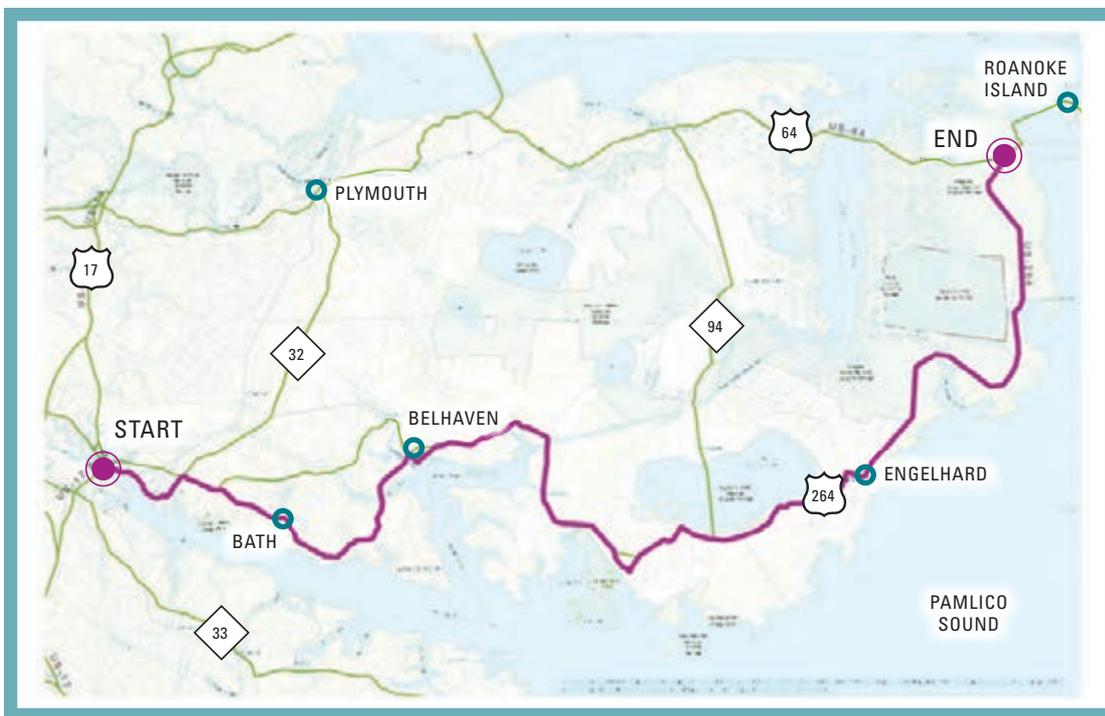
 As a side trip, visit nearby Wrightsville Beach to check out the local shops, hunt for sea shells on the beautiful beaches, or just enjoy the breeze as you explore the local community via bicycle. Wrightsville is known as one of the premier surfing locations in the US, and on any given day, visitors can find beginners and professionals alike enjoying the crystal blue waters by way of a surfboard or paddleboard.

PAMLICO SCENIC

Byway

A large fishing boat with multiple masts and rigging is the central focus of the image. The boat is white with a green stripe and has the name "Jamie L" visible on its side. The background shows a clear blue sky and other boats in the distance. The foreground is slightly blurred, showing some greenery and water reflections.

Beginning near calm waters of the Pamlico River, the byway journeys through some of North Carolina's oldest and most historic towns and alongside some of the most important preserve lands in the state. Pamlico was the name of a Native American group that once lived in the area. The river, first explored by Europeans in 1584, extends 33 miles from Washington to the Pamlico Sound, which is 80 miles long and 15 to 30 miles wide. It covers more than 1,800 square miles and has a maximum depth of 21 feet. The Pamlico Sound drains water from the Albemarle Sound along with the Neuse and Pamlico rivers through the Ocracoke and Oregon inlets to the Atlantic Ocean. After passing through Belhaven and Scranton, enjoy a beautiful stretch of road where drainage canals and trees form a unique and protective seven-mile tunnel with views of vast fields and tree stands on either side. Eventually, the route will lead visitors past the Swan Quarter, Mattamuskeet, and Alligator River National Wildlife Refuges. The farms on both sides of the road in this area are on lands reclaimed by draining the surrounding swamps in the early 20th century. This practice, called "swamp busting," is no longer allowed as these wetlands are now protected for the vital role they serve as native and migratory habitats. This area marks the state's largest rural historic district. Watch closely for older buildings along this stretch, including the octagonal house known as the Ink Bottle House. In addition to the historical aspects of this section, observe the vast farmlands that attract numerous hunting clubs.



Counties: Beaufort, Dare, and Hyde

Total Distance: 122.1 Miles

Drive Time: 2 hrs 25 min

BELOW: Washington waterfront

OPPOSITE: Fishing boats in Swanquarter

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of US 17 Bus (Bridge St.) and Main St in the town of Washington.

- Follow Main St east along the waterfront for 0.2 miles and turn right onto Stewart Pkwy/Water St and continue for 0.5 miles.
- Turn left onto Harvey St go one block, and then turn right to get back onto Main St.
- Follow Main St for 0.6 miles and turn right onto NC 32 (Park Dr).
- Follow NC 32 (Park Dr/River Rd) for 4.1 miles and then turn left to continue on NC 32 (Broad Creek Rd).
- Travel down NC 32 (Broad Creek Rd) for 3 miles until you reach US 264.
- Turn right on US 264 and follow it for 2.8 miles and then veer right to get on NC 92.
- Stay on NC-92/NC 99 for 15.1 miles and then turn left to stay on NC 99. Continue on NC 99 for 7.8 miles until you reach US 264 (Main St) in Belhaven.
- Turn right onto US 264 Bus (Main St) and continue for 0.9 miles and then turn left onto US 264 Bus (Pamlico St).
- Travel 2 miles until you get to the intersection of US 264 Bus. and US 264.
- Turn right and follow US 264/NC 45 for 22 miles.
- Veer right onto NC 45 and continue 2.2 miles to Main St in Swan Quarter. Turn left



onto Main St and travel 1.5 miles back to US 264.

- Stay on US 264 for 59.3 miles to US 64 near Manns Harbor where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 The town of Washington, located at the head of the Pamlico River, was originally called Forks of the Tar River. In 1776, the town founder changed the name to honor his friend George Washington. Therefore,



Washington, NC, has the distinction of being the first town in the United States named after the legendary George Washington. Washington has a unique 18th-century layout, though few of the original buildings remain due to fires that occurred during the Civil War.

 Settled in 1690 and incorporated in 1705, Bath is the oldest incorporated town in North Carolina. Virginians and French Huguenots (persecuted French Protestants) settled the area around Bath when it was called the town of Pamticoe (an early version of Pamlico). Located on what was then called Town Creek and is now known as Bath Creek, Bath is home to the oldest church in North Carolina, St. Thomas Church, built in 1734. 18th-century Bath had its share of famous—or infamous—residents. Royal Governor Charles Eden had a provincial capital at Bath while Edward Teach, better known as the pirate Blackbeard, is said to have made his home on nearby Plum Point. Bath is now a state historic site with several restored buildings open to the public, so take a walking tour of the town to appreciate its 18th-century flavor.

 Located on the site of a Native American village called Aquascogoc, Belhaven was settled in 1890 and incorporated in 1899. The town derives its name from the French words belle and haven, meaning “beautiful harbor”. It is a major stopping point for boats traveling the Intracoastal Waterway.

Start



Washington



Bath



Aquascogoc



Lake Mattamuskeet

 Lake Mattamuskeet, a natural freshwater lake of about 50,000 acres first seen by Europeans in 1585, is derived from a Native American word that means “moving swamp” or “shallow lake.” The name is appropriate, since the deepest point in the lake measures only five feet.

 Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge alone is home to a vast amount of wildlife, including thousands of Canadian Geese, Snow geese, tundra swan, and 22 species of duck, as well as deer, bobcats, otters, black bear, and 240 species of birds and other wildlife. The Swan Quarter and Alligator National Wildlife Refuges provide wildlife habitats to hundreds of other species of animal life as well. (See the US Fish & Wildlife Service for more details).

 Located on Far Creek between Lake Mattamuskeet and the Pamlico Sound, Engelhard was first named Far Creek Landing. In 1874, Engelhard was given its current name in honor of the editor of the influential Wilmington newspaper, the Wilmington Journal, who protested the acts of Reconstruction. NOTE: Engelhard is the last stop for restrooms or fuel until Manns Harbor about 40 miles away.

 Stumpy Point, founded in 1733, sits along the edge of Stumpy Point Bay. Once a lake, the bay now opens into the Pamlico Sound. A major portion of the commercial fishing fleet that comes through Oregon Inlet is based here. (The rest are based in Wanchese on Roanoke Island.)



 Note the old US Army and Navy bombing ranges nearby along US 264. Also, be sure to watch for red wolves (an endangered species) along the last portion of the route while traveling through the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. For more historical and recreational attractions, visit Roanoke Island and the Outer Banks.

OPPOSITE: The oldest church in Bath

ABOVE: Bath waterfront

RIGHT: Swan Quarter Marsh



**Mattamuskeet National
Wildlife Refuge**



Engelhard



Stumpy Point

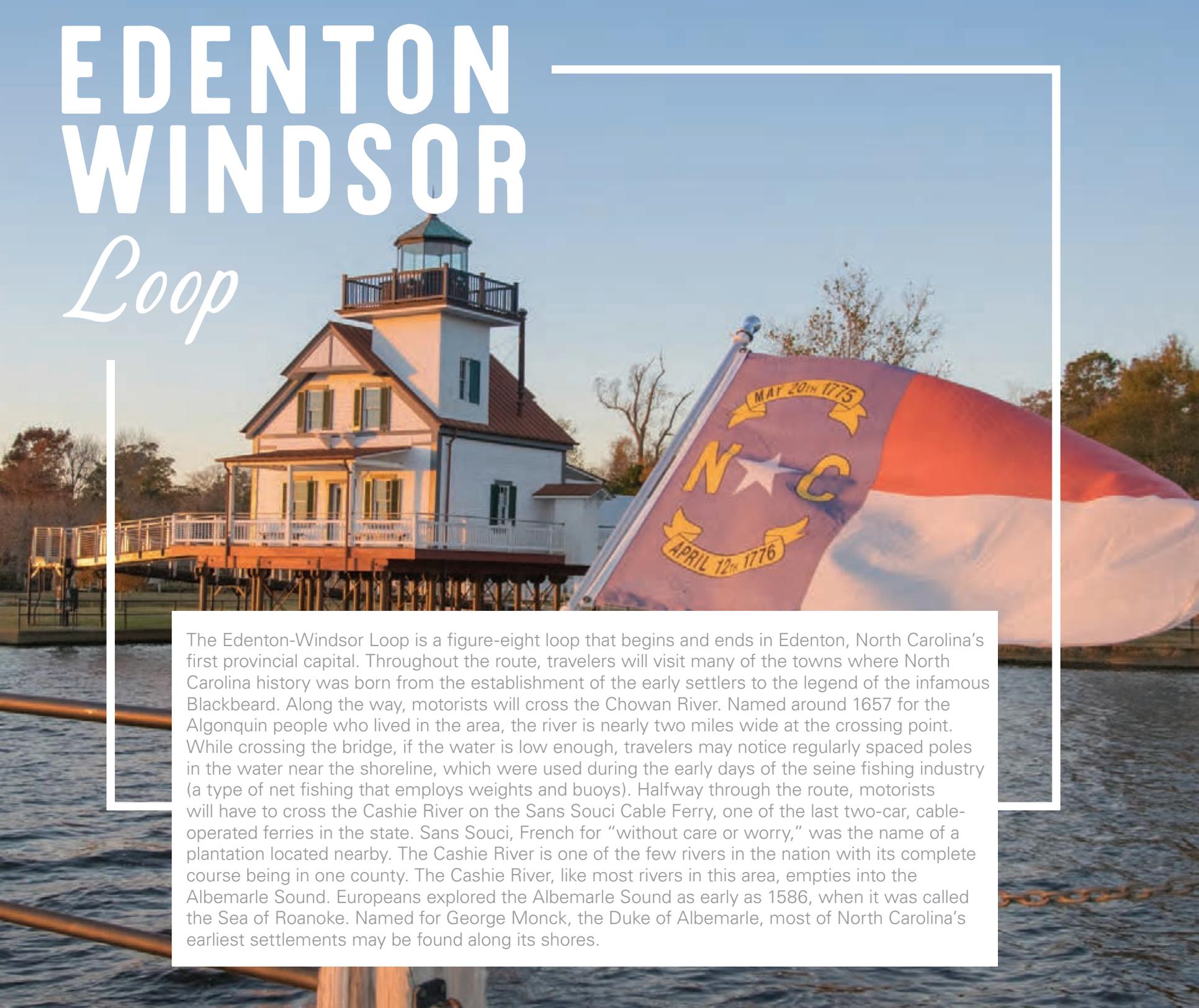


**Alligator River National
Wildlife Refuge**

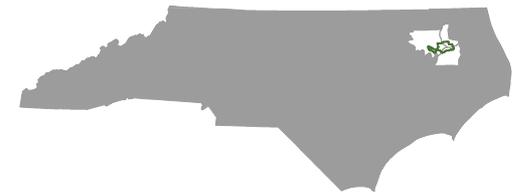
End

EDENTON WINDSOR

Loop



The Edenton-Windsor Loop is a figure-eight loop that begins and ends in Edenton, North Carolina's first provincial capital. Throughout the route, travelers will visit many of the towns where North Carolina history was born from the establishment of the early settlers to the legend of the infamous Blackbeard. Along the way, motorists will cross the Chowan River. Named around 1657 for the Algonquin people who lived in the area, the river is nearly two miles wide at the crossing point. While crossing the bridge, if the water is low enough, travelers may notice regularly spaced poles in the water near the shoreline, which were used during the early days of the seine fishing industry (a type of net fishing that employs weights and buoys). Halfway through the route, motorists will have to cross the Cashie River on the Sans Souci Cable Ferry, one of the last two-car, cable-operated ferries in the state. Sans Souci, French for "without care or worry," was the name of a plantation located nearby. The Cashie River is one of the few rivers in the nation with its complete course being in one county. The Cashie River, like most rivers in this area, empties into the Albemarle Sound. Europeans explored the Albemarle Sound as early as 1586, when it was called the Sea of Roanoke. Named for George Monck, the Duke of Albemarle, most of North Carolina's earliest settlements may be found along its shores.



Counties: Bertie, Chowan, and Washington

Total Distance: 78.4 Miles

Drive Time: 2 hrs 10 min

***Note:** Recreational and larger vehicles are not permitted on the cable ferry and will need to follow an alternate route.*

OPPOSITE: 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse

BELOW: The Sans Souci Ferry

Getting There

The byway begins at the intersection of NC 32 (Broad St) and US 17 Business (Queen St) in Edenton.

- Travel south on US 17 Bus. for 1.7 miles until you get to the US 17/US 17 Bus. interchange. Turn left to get on the US 17 S on-ramp.
- Follow US 17 South (Ocean Hwy) for 9.2 miles and turn left onto NC 45.
- Follow NC 45 for 3.6 miles and turn right onto Sans Souci Rd. In 6.2 miles, take the Sans Souci Ferry to cross the Cashie River. Once you cross the river, the road name changes to Woodward Rd.

Alternative Route: If ferry is not operating or if traveling in an RV or larger vehicle,





backtrack to NC 308, turn left, and travel to Windsor.

- Continue down Woodward Rd for 10.5 miles until you reach US 13/US 17. Turn right and travel north on US 13/US 17 for 1.9 miles.
- Turn right onto US 13 Bus/US 17 and almost immediately turn left onto US 13 Bus. (Granville St).
- Travel down Granville St for 1.1 miles and then turn right onto US 17/NC-308 (King St).

- Follow US 17/NC 308 for 1.5 miles and turn right to stay on NC 308 (Cooper Hill Rd) and continue for 11.8 miles until the road ends at NC 45/NC 308.
- Turn right onto NC 45/NC 308 and follow for 3.9 miles and then turn left to stay on NC 308. Continue for 7.2 miles and turn left onto NC 32.
- In 5.1 miles, turn left onto NC 32/NC 37/ NC 94. Continue for 6.9 miles and make a sharp turn to the left onto NC 94 (Soundside Rd) after crossing the Albemarle Sound.

- Follow NC 94 (Soundside Rd) for 6.1 miles to NC- 2.
- Turn left onto NC 32 (Yeopim Rd/Church St) and continue 1.9 miles to NC 32 (Broad St) where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

-  Settled around 1685, Edenton was planned out in 1712 and incorporated in 1722. It was named for provincial Governor

Start



Edenton



Edenhouse



Windsor



Three Rivers
Bridge



Mackey's Ferry

End

Charles Eden. Visitors will notice numerous historical markers identifying the town's Revolutionary War leaders, as well as signers of the Declaration of Independence. Edenton was one of the most prosperous ports on the trade route in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the pirate Blackbeard made numerous stops here. Some of North Carolina's best public and private architecture also may be seen in town including the Cupola House, built in 1757 and considered the south's finest example of Jacobean architecture. Boston was not the only Revolutionary War city to host a "tea party." Penelope Barker and 51 other women in town held their own such "party" on October 25, 1774. Barker and the other women wrote down a resolve that was published in numerous newspapers and promised to do everything in their power to support the boycotts. In it, the women resolved not to drink tea or wear any manufacture from England until the acts—and especially the Tea Act of 1773—were repealed. The event gained infamy when it was satirized in a cartoon in a London newspaper a few months later. To learn more about the history of the area, visit the Historic Edenton State Historic Site. Tours begin at the Barker House on the waterfront in Historic Edenton.

 Edenhouse, a community that was the home of royal governors Charles Eden and Gabriel Johnston, was founded around 1671.

 Settled in 1722 and named for Windsor Castle in England, Windsor was the site of Gray's Landing, a colonial trading point. Prior to the Civil War, Windsor was a major US port of entry and business center on the road to Halifax. The main streets in town are King, York, and Queen, with the cross streets named for the Lords Proprietors. Northwest of town is Hope Plantation, the home of early 19th-century Governor David Stone. Built

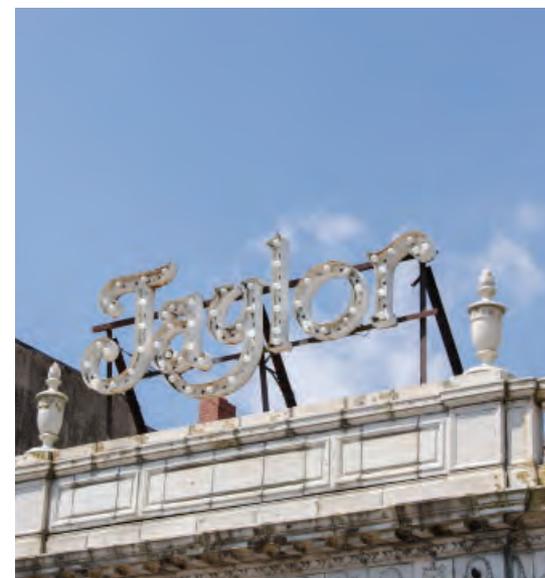
circa 1800, it is an impressive example of federal architecture. Admission is charged to this privately-owned home in the National Register of Historic Places. While in town, enjoy views of some of North Carolina's finest 19th and early 20th-century residential architecture.

 Three Rivers Bridge, located at the mouth of Bachelor Bay at the confluence of the Cashie, Middle, and Roanoke rivers was the site of a Civil War battle won by Confederate forces in 1864.

 Mackey's Ferry was originally the southern terminal of the Albemarle Sound ferry, which once operated where the railroad now crosses the sound. The earliest recorded ferry at this location was known as T. Bell's Ferry in 1733. Settled in 1765, Mackey's was named for Colonel William Mackey, a local landowner who bought the ferry from Bell in 1735.

OPPOSITE: Downtown Edenton

BELOW: Colonial Waterfront Park in Edenton



PERQUIMANS

Crossing



The Perquimans Crossing takes motorists through some of North Carolina's oldest inhabited lands. Near Winfall, the byway crosses Mill Creek, which was originally known as Vosses Creek and was named for the family who owned the land before 1700. But, by the end of the 19th century, it was called Brights Mill Creek for the local mill owner. The route sweeps down into the town of Hertford by way of a "S" Swing Bridge crossing the Perquimans River. The bridge is believed to be the only one of its kind in the nation still operational. The Perquimans River empties into the Albemarle Sound about 10 miles southeast after crossing the length of the county that bears its name.



Getting There

The byway begins 14 miles south of Elizabeth City at US 17 (Ocean Hwy) and US 17 Bus (Creek Dr).

- Follow US 17 Bus. south for 2 miles to US 17 (Ocean Hwy) where the byway ends. (US 17 Bus will change to US 17 Bus /NC 37 (Church St) before reaching the town of Hertford.)

Side Trip: To see one of the oldest houses in North Carolina, continue straight across on Church St at the intersection of Church St and US-17 for 1.5 miles and the house is on the left.

Points of Interest

 Settled in the early 1700s, Hertford was named for the Marquis of Hertford when it was incorporated in 1758. First called Phelps Point for the owner of the town's site, it was an early colonial port of entry around 1701. The county courthouse holds records from the late 1600s and includes the Durant Deed, the oldest deed on record in North Carolina, dated March 1, 1661.

 To see one of the oldest houses in North Carolina, continue along Church Street to the Newbold-White House, which was built about 1730. Located on land granted to Joseph Scott in 1684, at one time the house was used for Quaker congregations, court sessions, and government assemblies. It is now a local historic site with tours available.



Counties: Perquimans

Total Distance: 2 Miles

Drive Time: 5 min

OPPOSITE: "S" Swing Bridge in Hertford

BELOW LEFT: Newbold-White House

BELOW RIGHT: Downtown Hertford



Start



Hertford



Newbold-White
House

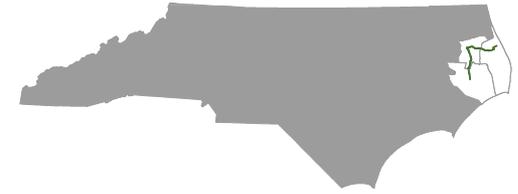
End

ALLIGATOR RIVER

Route



The Alligator River Route allows motorists to explore some of coastal North Carolina's most rural areas as it travels through expansive wetlands and open farmlands. Motorists begin their excursion by crossing North Carolina's largest natural lake, Lake Mattamuskeet, a 50,000-acre natural freshwater lake first visited by English explorers in 1585 during one of Sir Walter Raleigh's expeditions. As travelers venture north from the lake, they will dive in and out of swamps and low farmlands from Fairfield to Columbia. An area of straight marsh or slough named the Big Savannah covers the area from Columbia to Alligator. When traveling through Alligator, keep an eye out for wildlife in or near the drainage canals bordering the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge was established to protect a unique pocosin habitat and restore wetlands for native and endangered species. Not only do travelers get to admire the abundant wildlife that inhabits the area, but they also get to visit and explore small towns and communities that are the embodiment of North Carolina's rich history, such as Columbia, Mann's Harbor, or Roanoke Island.



Counties: Dare, Hyde, and Tyrrell

Total Distance: 70.7 Miles

Drive Time: 1 hr 15 min



Getting There

The Byway begins in at the intersection of US 264 and NC 94 in the community of New Holland.

- Follow NC 94 north for 35 miles until you reach US 64 in Columbia. NC-94 will change into Broad St. Proceed straight through the traffic signal to continue on Broad St.
- At the next block, turn right onto Main St., and continue through downtown to US 64, and turn left.
- Continue on US 64 for 29.3 miles where you will take a left to stay on US 64 (Old Hwy 64).
- Continue on US 64 for 5.9 miles where the byway will end at Fort Raleigh Rd on the left.

OPPOSITE: Alligator River intracoastal waterway

RIGHT: An otter on Lake Mattamuskeet

BELOW: Lake Mattamuskeet Lodge



Points of Interest

 Mattamuskeet Lake's name is derived from the Algonquian word for "moving swamp" or "shallow lake," which is appropriate given its maximum depth of only five feet. Attempts have been made over the years to drain the lake to create farmlands, but these attempts failed because the lake sits just three feet below sea level. Mattamuskeet's old pumping plant is now used as an observation tower to view wildlife. The NC 94 causeway spans nearly six miles across the lake and offers an opportunity to view migratory birds throughout the year. Located along the Atlantic Flyway, a bird migration route that encompasses the entire US Eastern Seaboard, the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge borders the lake's shores and provides a safe haven for waterfowl.

 Fairfield, a community located on the north shore of Lake Mattamuskeet, was incorporated in 1885. It was named for the "fair fields" of reclaimed swampland located nearby.

 Alligator Lake, known locally as New Lake, was named around 1624 and covers 3.5 square miles and drains the surrounding swamplands. The flat lands around this area comprise part of the Hollow Ground Swamp. Some of these lands were claimed through a former process called "swamp busting" to create farmlands. Now prohibited, the process once had allowed landowners to drain swamps by constructing canals and

drainage ways to direct the water away from the fertile soil.

 The town of Columbia was founded in the early 1700s as a trading post on the Scuppernong River.

 The fishing village of Mann's Harbor was settled in the 19th-century and named for a German fishing captain who sheltered there during a storm.

 Roanoke Island was the site of the first English settlement in the United States. Visitors can view the site at the Fort Raleigh National Monument and Elizabethan Gardens, one mile after the bridge. This English settlement, sponsored in part by Sir Walter Raleigh for Queen Elizabeth I, was established in 1587. By 1590, it had vanished, leaving modern-day historians and archeologists with many theories on what happened to the settlers from "The Lost Colony." Visit the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site for more information.

 Visitors may also want to visit the Elizabeth II at Roanoke Island Festival Park in Manteo, just down the road. Representative of the type of ship used during the 1585 voyage to Roanoke, the Elizabeth II is a living museum of the 16th century and is located on Shallowbag Bay. For those interested in marine life, visit the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island, also in Manteo.

 Other points of interest may be found elsewhere along the Outer Banks, including the Wright Brothers National Memorial and

Jockey's Ridge State Park, the largest active sand dune on the East Coast.



ABOVE and RIGHT: Black bears, tundra swans and herons are a few of the species thriving in the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge

Start



Mattamuskeet
Lake



Fairfield



Alligator Lake
{aka New Lake}



Columbia



Mann's Harbor



Roanoke Island



The Elizabeth II



Jockey's Ridge
State Park

ROANOKE VOYAGES

Corridor



The Roanoke Voyages Corridor carries motorists by monuments of time and history as it travels across Roanoke Island in Dare County. Roanoke Island, named after an early Native American village, was the site of the first English settlement in North America. This attempt of settlement proved disastrous when returning colonists found that the English men, women, and children who established this first colony had vanished. The reason behind their disappearance is still a mystery today, but visitors can experience this historic unsolved tale by attending the state's longest running outdoor drama, "The Lost Colony," at the Waterside Theater.



Counties: Dare
Total Distance: 6.8 Miles
Drive Time: 15 min

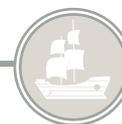
Start



Waterside Theater



Manteo



Roanoke Island Festival Park



North Carolina Aquarium

End

Getting There

The byway begins at the eastern most point of Mann's Harbor Bridge in Manteo.

- Follow US 64 (Old Hwy 64) for 5.4 miles through Manteo to US 64/US 64 Bypass.
- Turn left onto US 64 and continue 1.4 miles until you reach the Washington Baum Bridge where the byway ends.

Points of Interest

 The Waterside Theater is located within the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site along with the enchanting Elizabethan Gardens.

 The quaint villages of Manteo and Wanchese, named for two Roanoke people enlisted by Sir Walter Raleigh to gain support

for further travel to the new world, can also be found on Roanoke Island. Manteo has a beautiful waterfront with many shops and restaurants.

 Cross over the bridge at the waterfront and visit the Roanoke Island Festival Park, home of the Elizabeth II, a restored 16th-century transatlantic vessel, or travel to Wanchese, a quaint fishing village located south of Manteo along NC 345 on the mainland.

 Other attractions on the island include a greenway trail, the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island, wildlife viewing, boating, and fishing.

OPPOSITE: Elizabeth II at Roanoke Island Festival Park

RIGHT: William B. Umstead Bridge at the Croatan Sound



OUTER BANKS NATIONAL SCENIC *Byway*



From Whalebone Junction in Dare County to Beaufort (pronounced BOH-fert) in Carteret County, the Outer Banks Scenic Byway traces the easternmost parts of North Carolina along the state's barrier islands. The unique maritime culture shared by the 21 coastal villages along this route led to its designation as a national scenic byway. North Carolina's barrier islands extend from the Virginia border south to Cape Lookout. They are separated from the mainland by six broad yet shallow sounds, which include from north to south: Currituck, Albemarle, Roanoke, Pamlico, Core, and Bogue. These sounds range from 3 to 40 miles wide. Pamlico Sound is the largest sound along the US East Coast, covering more than 1,800 square miles. It is visible to the west along many portions of the byway. The byway crosses its waters when taking the ferry from Ocracoke Island to both Hatteras and Cedar Island. Currently, nine major islands, or banks, protect the mainland coast from the Atlantic Ocean's onslaught of winds and water. From north to south, these barrier islands are: Currituck Banks, Bodie (pronounced "body") Island, Pea Island, Hatteras Island, Ocracoke Island, Portsmouth Island, Core Banks, Shackleford Banks, and Bogue Banks. Wind and water shift the sands of these islands, which makes them transient not only in location but also in name. Weather rules life here, and the families that have lived along the byway for generations have many great stories to tell.

Getting There

The byway begins at Whalebone Junction at the intersection of US 64/US 158 and NC 12 (Cape Hatteras National Park Rd).

- At the US 64/US 158 and NC 12 intersection traffic signal, follow NC 12 south to Bodie Island and the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.
- Follow NC 12 for 11 miles and cross over the Oregon Inlet onto Pea Island.
- Continue on NC 12 for 47.6 miles until you reach the Hatteras Inlet Ferry.
- Take the Hatteras Inlet Ferry to Ocracoke Island by crossing the Hatteras Inlet (approximately 40 minute free ferry ride).
- Follow NC 12 on Ocracoke Island for 13.7 miles from the Hatteras Ferry terminal to Cedar Island Ferry terminal.
- Take the Cedar Island Ferry from Ocracoke Island to Cedar Island (approximately 2.25 hour ferry ride-toll required).
- On Cedar Island continue on NC 12 south for 9.9 miles to the intersection with Old Cedar Island Rd.
- From here, you can continue the main byway route by proceeding straight on NC 12 or ride a byway extension (the Atlantic and Sea Level Loop) by turning left onto Old Cedar Island Rd which adds 8.5 miles.
- If you choose to stay on the main byway route and continue for 2.1 miles to the junction of NC 12 and US 70 W. (NC 12 ends here.) (The Atlantic and Sea Level Loop extension returns to the main byway route at this intersection.)



Extension Route 1 - Atlantic and Sea Level Loop:

- *If you choose to ride the byway extension, Turn left onto Old Cedar Island Rd (SR 1387) and travel for 3.2 miles.*
- *Turn right onto Shell Rd (SR 1378) and follow for 0.6 miles.*
- *Turn left onto School Dr (SR 1380) and follow for 0.2 miles.*



Counties: Dare, Hyde, and Carteret

Main Byway Route: 109.6 Miles

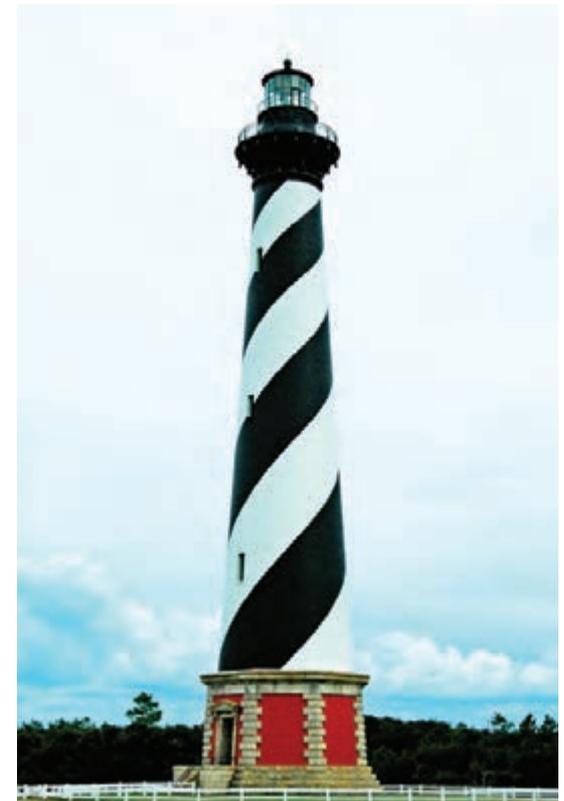
Extension Route 1: 8.5 Miles

Extension Route 2: 21.5 Miles

Total Distance: 139.6 Miles

Drive Time: 6 hrs 45 min

BELOW: Cape Hatteras Lighthouse





ABOVE: Bodie Island Lighthouse

- Turn right onto Seashore Dr (SR 1417) and follow for 4.5 miles to the intersection of NC 12 and US 70 W.
- Turn left onto US 70 W to return to the main byway route.
- From the junction of NC 12 and US 70 W, travel on US 70 W for 8.2 miles to the community of Davis and take a right to continue following US 70 W.
- Continue west on US 70 for 6.2 miles to Smyrna.

- From here, you can choose to stay on the main byway route by turning right onto US 70 W or you can ride a byway extension by continuing straight on Marshallberg Rd. (Harkers Island, Straits, and Gloucester Loop) which adds 21.5 miles. See below for extension directions.
- If you choose to stay on the main byway route, turn right onto US 70 W and continue for 1.5 miles to the intersection with Harkers Island Rd. (The Harkers Island, Straits, and Gloucester Loop extension returns to the main byway route at this intersection.)

Extension Route 2 - Harkers Island, Straits, and Gloucester Loop:

- To ride the byway extension, continue straight at the US 70 intersection onto Marshallberg Rd (SR 1347) and travel 2.4 miles.
- Make a sharp right turn onto Star Church Rd (SR 1346) and follow it for 1.1 miles.
- Turn left onto Pigott Rd (SR 1343) and travel 2.1 miles.
- Turn left onto Straits Rd for 0.7 miles.

Start



New Inlet



Whalebone Junction



Bodie Island Lighthouse



Oregon Inlet

- Turn left to follow Straits Rd. for another 0.3 miles.

- Turn left onto Harkers Island Rd (SR 1332)/Island Rd (SR 1335) and travel 6.1 miles to the Harkers Island Visitor Center/ Ferry where the road ends.

- Turn around and follow Island Rd/Harkers Island Rd for 8.8 miles back to US 70 W

- Turn left onto US 70 W and rejoin the main byway route.

- Follow US 70 west for 4.9 miles to cross the North River and arrive at the intersection with Merrimon Rd (SR 1300). (The National Scenic Byway ends at this intersection.)

- To continue on the state byway route, turn left at the traffic signal and continue on US 70 W for 4.5 miles to the intersection of NC 101 (Beaufort City Limits) where the state byway ends.



Points of Interest

 New Inlet, near Whalebone Junction, opened in the 1720s and closed periodically until its last closing in the 1930s.

 In the early 1930s, after finding a dead whale on a nearby beach, Alexander Midgett hauled the 72-foot whale skeleton in the back



Pea Island National Wildlife and Migratory Bird Refuge



Chicamacomico Coast Guard Station



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse



Historic Communities

of his Model-T truck from nearby Pea Island and placed the skeleton at the junction near his filling station in order drum up business. Surprisingly, the whale bones attracted many tourists to the junction, giving the place its name, Whalebone. (51) The junction is at the end of Currituck Banks, the northernmost barrier island in North Carolina.

 Bodie Island Lighthouse was built in 1872 to replace the original lighthouse destroyed in the Civil War. Its 150-foot black and white banded stripe can be seen for several miles. A swimming beach and recreation center is located nearby at Coquina Beach.

 Oregon Inlet opened in 1846 during a hurricane and was crossed mainly by ferry until 1963 when the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge was opened.

 Pea Island is entirely a National Wildlife and Migratory Waterfowl Refuge and is sometimes called Chicamacomico Banks, which comes from the Algonquian word for "sinking down sand." The small wooden structures with stairs facing the natural freshwater ponds are wildlife observation stands.

 The historic Chicamacomico Coast Guard Station in Rodanthe on Hatteras Island operated from 1874 to 1954. It is the most complete site of the remaining life-saving stations in North Carolina and one of the most complete ones in the country. The Station is now a museum that is open to the public from mid-April through November.



ABOVE: Cape Lookout Lighthouse

OPPOSITE: Ocracoke Island Lighthouse





Buxton, known as “The Cape” until it was incorporated in 1882 as Buxton, is home of the famous Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and is the easternmost point in North Carolina. At 208 feet, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is the tallest masonry lighthouse in the United States and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1870, its iconic black and white candy-striped tower is visible for several miles. The original lighthouse was decommissioned in 1936 and was replaced with a more powerful beam to warn ships away from nearby Diamond Shoals. The shoals’ turbulent waters caused ships to wreck, giving the area the infamous

nickname “the Graveyard of the Atlantic.” The lighthouse is operated by the National Park Service and is open seasonally for tours.

H Throughout these small villages, such as Hatteras and Frisco, reside “hoi toiders” (high tiders), people who have retained a unique dialect due to their relatively isolated residence on these islands, as well as their fiercely independent seafaring culture. Linguists label the Hoi Toiders’ unique speech as an Ocracoke brogue; it is a combination of a variety of early influences, but particularly 17th-century English regional dialects. The residents’ name derives

from the most characteristic feature of the Ocracoke brogue which can be found in the pronunciation of the phrase “high tide” as “hoi tide,” a pronunciation that can still be found in parts of southwestern England. (8)

H In the village of Ocracoke, travelers will notice a pony pasture. The horses that live here are called Bankers Ponies. They are the descendants of horses brought by early European explorers whose ships wrecked in the Atlantic. A herd is also maintained on the islands south of Beaufort.

B One of the oldest operating lighthouses on the Atlantic coast is located on Silver



**Waterfowl Museum +
Heritage Center**



**Cape Lookout
Lighthouse**



**Shackleford Banks
Bankers Ponies**



Beaufort

End



Lake, a tidal basin and harbor in the village of Ocracoke. The 75-foot-tall Ocracoke Island Lighthouse was built in 1823 and is North Carolina's only operational lighthouse within a town. Ocracoke Inlet, once the state's primary trade inlet, was the site of the death of the notorious pirate Blackbeard, who was killed on November 22, 1718.

Portsmouth Island, which may be visible to the east from the Cedar Island Ferry, was settled in the 1700s and incorporated in 1753. Before the Civil War, Portsmouth was one of North Carolina's busiest ports of entry and a resort. It was known at one time as the "shipping capital of the Outer Banks" and was named for Portsmouth, England. The few remaining buildings on the island are the houses, church, post office, and school of the townspeople, the last of whom left in 1971. The Cape Lookout National Seashore

manages the island and allows a limited number of day visitors (accommodated by private ferry) to explore the island. Portsmouth Island is a National Register Historic District.

Near the community of Atlantic, the byway meanders past old workboats that fill Atlantic Harbor, a community draped in windblown oaks with beautiful homes and a rich commercial fishing heritage. Sea Level is another maritime village found along this stretch.

The community of Stacy was once home to many of the area's best-known waterfowl carvers. This tradition is celebrated today with annual events and a museum.

The community of Harkers Island is home to a trail of island homes and small businesses dedicated to local decoy carving, model boats, fresh seafood, and the island's

famed boat building tradition. At the end of Island Road, the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center celebrates North Carolina's waterfowling, boatbuilding, commercial fishing, and community traditions. The museum and heritage center are located on the left when entering Cape Lookout National Seashore.

Built in 1859, the Cape Lookout Lighthouse is distinct with its black and white diamond pattern covering the 160-foot tower and is accessible by private ferry from Harkers Island. At the Cape Lookout National Seashore, hiking trails connect the museum with the Harkers Island Visitors Center, which features exhibits as well as picnic areas and excellent sites for windsurfing and kayaking.

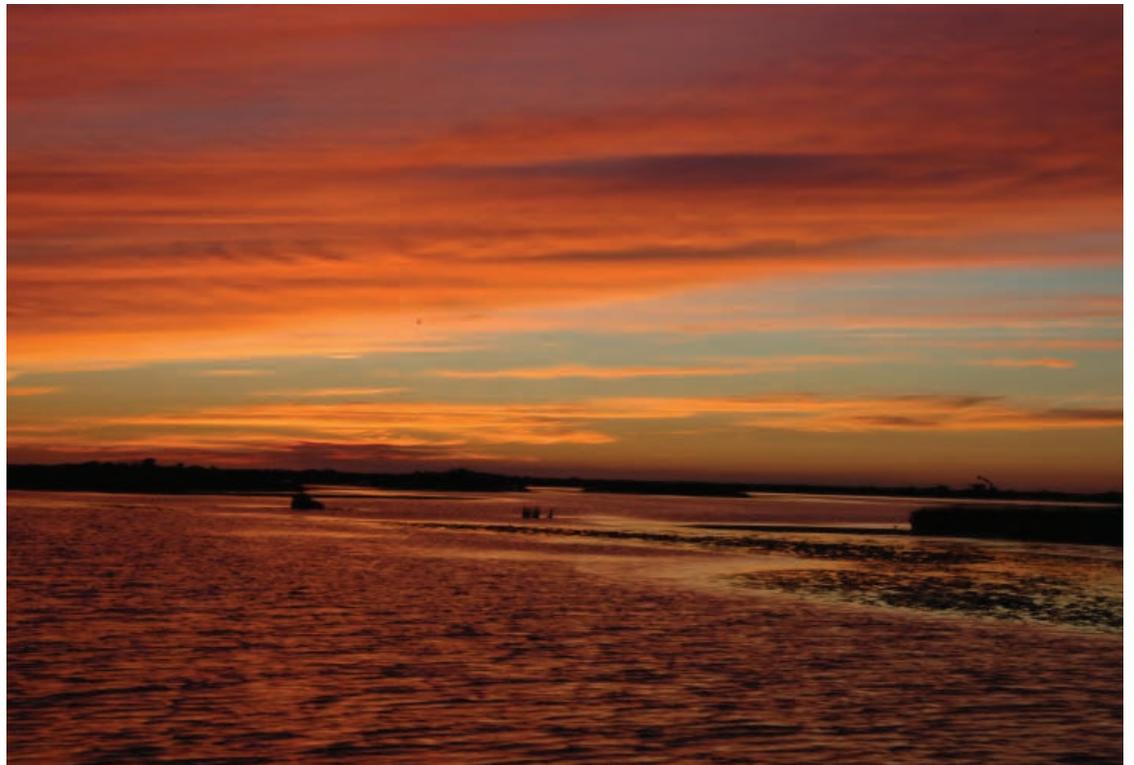
Shackleford Banks, the southern-most barrier island in the Cape Lookout National Seashore, is home to more than 100 feral



horses, also known as “Banker Ponies,” that freely roam the nearby beaches and maritime forests. The legend is that the horses are descendants of Spanish Mustangs that were stranded there after a shipwreck. The island can be accessed from the Harkers Island Ferry or by private vessel.

 Beaufort, planned in 1715, was incorporated in 1723 and named for Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, one of the eight lords proprietors of the colony of Carolina, and palatine of Carolina. A walk through historic Beaufort along the waterfront provides a great place to stretch your legs and enjoy a historic coastal community. From whaling to salt works, with military battles in between, Beaufort is rich in history.

RIGHT: A sunset over the ocean at Ocracoke



STATE PARKS & RECREATION AREAS

Carolina Beach State Park (coast)

1010 State Park Road PO Box 475
Carolina Beach, NC 28428
Phone: 910-458-8206
Marina Phone: 910-458-7770
carolina.beach@ncparks.gov

Carvers Creek State Park (piedmont)

2505 Long Valley Road
Spring Lake, NC 28390
Office: 910-436-4681
carvers.creek@ncparks.gov

Chimney Rock State Park (mountains)

743 Chimney Rock Park Rd
Chimney Rock, NC 28720
Office Phone: 828-625-1823
chimney.rock@ncparks.gov
Chimney Rock: 800-277-9611
visit@chimneyrockpark.com

Cliffs of the Neuse State Park (coast)

240 Park Entrance Road
Seven Springs, NC 28578
Phone: 919-778-6234
cliffs.neuse@ncparks.gov

Crowders Mountain State Park (piedmont)

522 Park Office Lane
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
Phone: 704-853-5375
crowders.mountain@ncparks.gov

Dismal Swamp State Park (coast)

2294 US 17 North
South Mills, NC 27976
Phone: 252-771-6593
dismal.swamp@ncparks.gov

Elk Knob State Park (mountains)

5564 Meat Camp Road
Todd, NC 28684
Phone: 828-297-7261
elk.knob@ncparks.gov

Eno River State Park (piedmont)

6101 Cole Mill Road
Durham, NC 27705
Phone: 919-383-1686
eno.river@ncparks.gov

Falls Lake State Recreation Area (piedmont)

13304 Creedmoor Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
Phone: 919-676-1027
falls.lake@ncparks.gov

Fort Fisher State Recreation Area (coast)

1000 Loggerhead Road
Kure Beach, NC 28449
Phone: 910-458-5798
fort.fisher@ncparks.gov

Fort Macon State Park (coast)

2303 East Fort Macon Road
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512
Phone: 252-726-3775
fort.macon@ncparks.gov

Goose Creek State Park (coast)

2190 Camp Leach Road
Washington, NC 27889
Phone: 252-923-2191
goose.creek@ncparks.gov

Gorges State Park (mountains)

976 Grassy Ridge Road
Sapphire, NC 28774

Phone: 828-966-9099
gorges@ncparks.gov

Grandfather Mountain State Park (mountains)

9872 Hwy 105 S (Suite #6)
Banner Elk, NC 28604
Phone: 828-963-9522
grandfather.mountain@ncparks.gov

Hammocks Beach State Park (coast)

1573 Hammocks Beach Road
Swansboro, NC 28584
Phone: 910-326-4881
hammocks.beach@ncparks.gov

Hanging Rock State Park (piedmont)

1790 Hanging Rock Park Road
Danbury, NC 27016
Phone: 336-593-8480
hanging.rock@ncparks.gov

Haw River State Park (piedmont)

339 Conference Center Dr
Browns Summit, NC 27214
Phone: 336-342-6163
haw.river@ncparks.gov

Jockey's Ridge State Park (coast)

300 W. Carolista Drive
Nags Head, NC 27959
Phone: 252-441-7132
jockeys.ridge@ncparks.gov

Jones Lake State Park (coast)

117 Hwy 242 N
Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Phone: 910-588-4550
jones.lake@ncparks.gov

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area (piedmont)

280 State Park Road
Apex, NC 27523
Phone: 919-362-0586
jordan.lake@ncparks.gov

Kerr Lake State Recreation Area (piedmont)

6254 Satterwhite Point Road
Henderson, NC 27537
Phone: 252-438-7791
kerr.lake@ncparks.gov

Lake James State Park (mountains)

7321 NC Hwy 126
Nebo, NC 28761
Phone: 828-584-7728
lake.james@ncparks.gov

Lake Norman State Park (piedmont)

759 State Park Road
Troutman, NC 28166
Phone: 704-528-6350
lake.norman@ncparks.gov

Lake Waccamaw State Park (coast)

1866 State Park Drive
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450
Phone: 910-646-4748
After hours: 910-640-0140
lake.waccamaw@ncparks.gov

Lumber River State Park (coast)

2819 Princess Ann Road
Orrum, NC 28369
Phone: 910-628-4564
lumber.river@ncparks.gov

Mayo River State Park (piedmont)

Mayodan, NC 27027
Phone: 336-427-2530
mayo.river@ncparks.gov

Medoc Mountain State Park (coast)

1541 Medoc State Park Road
Hollister, NC 27844

Phone: 252-586-6588
medoc.mountain@ncparks.gov

Merchants Millpond State Park (coast)

176 Millpond Road
Gatesville, NC 27938
Phone: 252-357-1191
merchants.millpond@ncparks.gov

Morrow Mountain State Park (coast)

49104 Morrow Mountain Road
Albemarle, NC 28001
Phone: 704-982-4402
morrow.mountain@ncparks.gov

Mount Jefferson State Natural Area (piedmont)

1481 Mt Jefferson State Park Rd
West Jefferson, NC 28694
Phone: 336-246-9653
mount.jefferson@ncparks.gov

Mount Mitchell State Park (mountains)

2388 State Highway 128
Burnsville, NC 28714
Phone: 828-675-4611
mount.mitchell@ncparks.gov

New River State Park (piedmont)

358 New River State Park Road
Laurel Springs, NC 28644
Phone: 336-982-2587
new.river@ncparks.gov

Occaneechee Mountain State Natural Area (piedmont)

625 Virginia Cates Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Phone: 919-383-1686
eno.river@ncparks.gov

Pettigrew State Park (coast)

2252 Lake Shore Road
Creswell, NC 27928
Phone: 252-797-4475
pettigrew@ncparks.gov

Pilot Mountain State Park (piedmont)

1792 Pilot Knob Park Road
Pinnacle, NC 27043
Phone: 336-325-2355
pilot.mountain@ncparks.gov

Raven Rock State Park (coast)

3009 Raven Rock Road
Lillington, NC 27546
Phone: 910-893-4888
raven.rock@ncparks.gov

Singletary Lake State Park (coast)

6707 NC 53 Hwy. East
Kelly, NC 28448
Phone: 910-669-2928
singletary.lake@ncparks.gov

South Mountains State Park (mountains)

3001 South Mountain Park Avenue
Connelly Springs, NC 28612
Phone: 828-433-4772
south.mountains@ncparks.gov

Stone Mountain State Park (mountains)

3042 Frank Parkway
Roaring Gap, NC 28668
Phone: 336-957-8185
Reservations: 1-877-722-6762
stone.mountain@ncparks.gov

Weymouth Woods-Sandhills Nature Preserve (coast)

1024 Ft. Bragg Road
Southern Pines, NC 28387
Phone: 910-692-2167
weymouth.woods@ncparks.gov

William B. Umstead State Park (piedmont)

8801 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27617
Phone: 919-571-4170
william.umstead@ncparks.gov

HISTORIC SITES

1898 Memorial Park

1702 Burnett Boulevard
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 341-7852

Alamance Battleground*(NR)

5803 South NC 62
Burlington, NC 27215
(336) 227-4785
<https://alamancebattleground.org/contact-us/>

Allison-Deaver House *(NR)

2753 Asheville Hwy
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768
(828) 884-5137

Andy Griffith Playhouse *

218 Rockford St.
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(336) 786-7998
<http://www.surryarts.org/>

Archibald Henderson Law Office (NR)

201 W. Fisher St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 216-8228
<http://salisburync.gov/Visitors>

Asa Biggs House (NR)

100 E. Church St.
Williamston, NC 27892
(800) 776-8566
<https://visitmartincounty.com/asa-biggs-house/>

Atlantic Coastline Railroad Station & Warehouse *(NR)

108 Gladden St.
Washington, NC 27889

Averasboro Battlefield Museum

3300 NC 82
Dunn, NC 28334
(910) 891-5019
www.averasboro.com

Ayr Mount (NR)

376 St. Mary's Rd.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 732-6886
www.historichillsborough.com

BB&T (Arts Council of Wilson) *(NR)

124 E. Nash St.
Wilson, NC 27893
(252) 291-4329
www.wilsonarts.com

Beaufort Historic Site (NR)

130 Turner St.
Beaufort, NC 28516
(252) 728-5225
www.beauforthistoricsite.org

Bellamy Mansion

503 Market St.
Wilmington, NC
(910) 251-3700
www.bellamymansion.org

Belhaven Memorial Museum*

210 E. Main St.

Belhaven, NC 27810
(252) 943-6817

<https://co.beaufort.nc.us/tourism/museums/belhaven-memorial-museum>

Bennett Place State Historic Site *(NR)

4409 Bennett Memorial Rd.
Durham, NC 27705
(919) 383-4345
<http://www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com/>

Bentonville Battleground (NR)

5466 Harper House Rd.
Four Oaks, NC 27524
(910) 594-0789
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/bentonville-battleground>

Biltmore Estate *(NR)

1 Lodge St.
Asheville, NC 28803
(800) 411-3812
www.biltmore.com

Blandwood Mansion (NR)

447 W. Washington St.,
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 272-5003
<https://preservationgreensboro.org/blandwood-mansion/>

Blount-Bridgers House/ Hobson Pittman Memorial Gallery *(NR)

130 Bridgers St.
Tarboro, NC 27886
(252) 823-4159

Brevard Chamber of Commerce Building

175 E. Main St.
Brevard, NC 28712
(800) 884-8900
www.brevardncchamber.org

Brunswick Town (NR)

8884 Saint Phillip's Road SE
Winnabow, NC 28479
(910) 371-6613
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/brunswick-town-fort-anderson>

Burgwin-Wright House

224 Market St.
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 762-0570
www.burgwinwriighthouse.com

Cape Fear Museum of History and Science

814 Market St.
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 798-4370
www.capefarmuseum.com

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site

81 Carl Sandburg Ln.
Flat Rock, NC 28731
(828) 693-4178
www.nps.gov/carl

Carson House (NR)

1805 Highway 70 West
Marion, NC 28752
(828) 724-4948
www.historiccarsonhouse.com

Chapel of Rest

1964 NC 268
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828) 758-0906

<http://www.chapelofrest.org/>

Chatham County Historical Museum *(NR)

9 Hillsborough St.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
(919) 542-6222
<https://chathamhistory.org/museum.shtml>

Cherry Hill (NR)

NC 58
Warrenton, NC 27589
(252) 257-4432
www.cherryhillconcerts.com

Cherokee County Historical Museum (NR)

87 Peachtree St.
Murphy, NC 28906
(828) 837-6792
www.cherokeecounty-nc.gov/183/Historical-Museum

Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station (NR)

23645 NC 12
Rodanthe, NC 27968
(252) 987-2401
<https://chicamacomico.org/>

Chinqua-Penn Plantation (NR)

2138 Wentworth St.
Reidsville, NC 27320

Churches of the Frescoes-St. Mary's

400 Beaver Creek School Rd.
West Jefferson, NC 28694
(336) 982-3076
<https://www.ashefrescoes.org/index.php>

Churches of the Frescoes- Holy Trinity Church

195 J.W. Luke Rd.
Glendale Springs, NC 28629

(336) 982-3076

<https://www.ashefrescoes.org/index.php>

City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium

401 S. College St.
Morganton, NC 28655
(828) 433-SHOW (7469)
www.commaonline.org

Cleveland County Historical Museum *(NR)

Shelby, NC 28150
(704) 484-4900

Community Council for the Arts *(NR)

400 N. Queen St.
Kinston, NC 28501
(252) 527-2517
www.kinstoncca.com

Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center

1785 Island Rd.
Harkers Island, NC 28531
(252) 728-1500
www.coresound.com

CSS Neuse and Gov. Caswell Memorial

2612 W. Vernon Ave.
Kinston, NC 28504
(252) 522-2091
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/css-neuse-and-governor-caswell-memorial>

Duke Homestead State Historic Site and Tobacco Museum *(NR)

2828 Duke Homestead Rd.
Durham, NC 27705
(919) 627-6990
<https://dukehomestead.org/>

Duke University Chapel*

401 Chapel Dr.
Durham, NC 27708
(919) 681-9488
www.chapel.duke.edu

Eastern Cabarrus Historical Society Museum *(NR)

1100 N. Main St.
Mount Pleasant, NC 28124
(704) 436-6612
<https://www.echsmuseum.org/>

Edna Boykin Cultural Center

124. Nash St.
Wilson, NC 27893
(252) 291-4329
www.wilsonarts.com

Ellerbe Springs Inn *(NR)

2537 North US 220
Ellerbe, NC 28338
(910) 652-5600
<http://www.ellerbe-springs.com/>

Estes-Winn Memorial Automobile Museum and N.C. Homespun Museum *(NR)

111 Grovewood Rd.
Asheville, NC 28804
(828) 253-7651
www.grovewood.com

Former Post Office of Shelby *(NR)

111 S. Washington St.
Shelby, NC 28150
(704) 484-2787

Fort Branch — Confederate Earthen Fort *(NR)

2883 Fort Branch Rd.
Hamilton, NC 27840

(800) 776-8566
www.fortbranchcivilwarsite.com

Fort Defiance (NR)

1792 Fort Defiance Drive
Lenior, NC 28645
(828) 758-1671
www.fortdefiancenc.org

Frisco American Indian Museum and Natural History Center (NR)

53536 N.C. 12
Frisco, NC 27936
(252) 995-4440
www.nativeamericanmuseum.org/

Gen. William C. Lee Airborne Museum

209 W. Divine St.
Dunn, NC 28334
(910) 892-1947
www.generalleearbornemuseum.org

Gertrude Smith House

708 N. Main St.
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(336) 786-6856
www.visitmountairy.com

Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum

59200 Museum Dr.
Hatteras, NC 27943
(252) 986-0720
<https://graveyardoftheatlantic.com/>

Greensboro History Museum *(NR)

130 Summit Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 373-2043
www.greensborohistory.org

Gov. Charles B. Aycock Birthplace (NR)

264 Governor Aycock Rd.
Fremont, NC 27830
(919) 242-5581
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/governor-charles-b-aycock-birthplace>

Gov. Zebulon Vance Birthplace

911 Reems Creek Rd.
Weaverville, NC 28787
(828) 645-6706
www.nchistoricsites.org

Harmony Hall *(NR)

100 E. King St.
Kinston, NC 28501
(252) 522-0421
<http://harmonyhallkinston.com/>

Harshaw Chapel (Old Methodist Church) *(NR)

150 Church St.
Murphy, NC 28906
(828) 837-2718
<http://murphyfirstumc.org/about-us/harshaw-chapel/>

Hayti Heritage Center *(NR)

804 Old Fayetteville St.
Durham, NC 27701
(919) 683-1709
www.hayti.org

Hickory Ridge Homestead *

591 Horn in the West Drive
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-2120
<https://www.horninthewest.com/>

Historic Bath State Historic Site *(NR)

207 Carteret Street
Bath, NC 27808
(252) 923-3971

<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/historic-bath>

Historic Cabarrus County Courthouse *(NR)

65 Union St.
Concord, NC 28025
(704) 920-2787

Historic Edenton Tour (NR)

116 E. King St.
Edenton, NC 27932
(252) 482-0300
www.visitedenton.com

Historic Robert Cleveland Log House

203 N. Bridge St.
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
(336) 667-3171
<http://wilkesheritagemuseum.com/>

Historic Stagville *(NR)

5825 Old Oxford Highway
Durham, NC 27712
(919) 620-0120
www.stagville.org

Historic Webbley *(NR)

403 S. Washington St.
Shelby, NC 28150
(704) 487-0616
<http://governoromaxgardner.com/historic-webbley/>

Hope Plantation (NR)

132 Hope House Rd.
Windsor, NC 27983
(252) 794-3140
www.hopeplantation.org

Horne Creek Living Historical Farm

308 Horne Creek Farm Rd.
Pinnacle, NC 27043

(336) 325-2298
www.nchistoricsites.org/

House in the Horseshoe (NR)

288 Alston House Rd.
Sanford, NC 27330
(910) 947-2051
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/house-horseshoe>

Hugh Mangum Museum of Photography/ McCown- Mangum House (NR)

5101 N. Roxboro Rd.
Durham, NC 27704
(919) 471-1623
www.Enoriver.org

Jacob Holt House *(NR)

122 S. Bragg St.
Warrenton, NC 27589
(252) 257-0337

Joel McLendon Cabin/James Bryant House (NR)

3361 Mt. Carmel Rd.
Carthage, NC 28388
(910) 692-2051
https://www.moorehistory.com/house_museums/mclendon_cabin.htm

John C. Campbell Folk School (NR)

1 Folk School Road
Brasstown, NC 28902
(800) 356-5724, (828) 837-2775
www.folkschool.org

Josephus W. Hall House (NR)

226 S. Jackson St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-0103
<https://www.historicsalisbury.org/about-hsf/hsf-landmarks/hall-house>

Kinston Lenoir County Visitors and Information Center

101 E. New Bern Rd.
Kinston, NC 28504
(252) 522-0004

Kouris Warehouse *

200 W. Warren St.
Shelby, NC 28150

Lake Waccamaw Depot Museum *(NR)

201 Flemington Ave.
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450
(910) 646-1992
<http://lakewaccamawdepotmuseum.com/>

Malcolm Blue Farmstead and Museum *(NR)

1177 Bethesda Rd.
Aberdeen, NC 28315
(910) 944-7275
<https://www.townofaberdeen.net/>

Mast General Store *(NR)

3565 NC 194
Sugar Grove, NC 28679
(828) 963-6511
www.mastgeneralstore.com

Memorial Garden

36 Spring St.
Concord, NC 28025
(704) 786-8009
<https://firstpresconcord.org/about/memorial-garden/>

Mountain Gateway Museum and Heritage Center *

24 Water St.
Old Fort, NC 28762
(828) 668-9259
<https://www.mgmnc.org/>

Museum of the Albemarle *

501 S. Water St.
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
(252) 335-1453
www.museumofthealbemarle.com

NC Transportation Museum at Historic Spencer Shops *(NR)

411 S. Salisbury Ave.
Spencer, NC 28159
(704) 636-2889
<http://www.nctrans.org>

Newbold-White House *(NR)

151 Newbold Rd.
Hertford, NC 27944
(252) 426-7567
http://perquimansrestoration.org/Newbold-White_House.html

Ocracoke Preservation Society Museum

49 Water Plant Rd.
Ocracoke, NC 27960
(252) 928-7375
www.ocracokepreservation.org

Octagon House Restoration (NR)

30868 US 264
Engelhard, NC 27824

Old Gates County Courthouse *(NR)

202 Court St.
Gatesville, NC 27938

Old Martin County Courthouse (NR)

215 E. Main St.
Williamston, NC 27892
(252) 792-6605
<https://visitmartincounty.com/old-martin-county-courthouse/>

Old Stone House (NR) or Michael Braun House

770 Stone House Rd.
Salisbury, NC 28146
(704) 633-5946
<https://www.rowanmuseum.org/>

Old Waynesborough Park *

801 US 117 Bypass South
Goldsboro, NC 27530
(919) 731-1653
<https://oldwaynesborough.org/>

Old Wilkes Jail Museum (NR)

203 N. Bridge St.
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
(336) 667-3712
<http://wilkesheritagemuseum.com/>

Orange County Historical Museum (NR)

201 N. Churton St.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 732-2201
<https://orangenhistory.org>

Outer Banks History Center

1 Festival Park Blvd.
Manteo, NC 27954
(252) 473-2655
<https://archives.ncdcr.gov/researchers/outer-banks-history-center>

Port O'Plymouth Roanoke Museum *(NR)

302 E. Water St.
Plymouth, NC 27962
(252) 793-1377
<http://portplymouthmuseum.org/about-port-oly-mouth-museum/>

Rankin Museum of American Heritage *

131 W. Church St.
Ellerbe, NC 28338

(910) 652-6378
<https://rankinmuseum.org/>

Reed Gold Mine *(NR)

9621 Reed Mine Rd.
Midland, NC 28107
(704) 721-4653
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/reed-gold-mine>

Roanoke Island Festival Park — Home of the Elizabeth II *

1 Festival Park
Manteo, NC 27954
(252) 475-1500
www.roanokeisland.com

Rowan Museum/Utzman- Chambers House (NR)

116 S. Jackson St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-5946
<https://www.rowanmuseum.org/>

Shaw House Properties (NR)

100 S.W. Broad St.
Southern Pines, NC 28387
(910) 692-2051
https://www.moorehistory.com/house_museums/shaw_house.htm

Shelby City Hall *(NR)

300 S. Washington St.
Shelby, NC 28150
(704) 484-6800

Smith-McDowell House Museum *(NR)

283 Victoria Rd.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 253-9231
<https://www.wnchistory.org/smith-mcdowell-house/>

Snow Camp Historic Site *

126 Sylvan School Rd.
Snow Camp, NC 27349
(336) 376-9433
www.snowcamp.org

Snuggs House and Marks House *(NR)

112 N. 3rd St.
Albemarle, NC 28001
(704) 986-3777
<http://stanlycountymuseum.com/snuggs-house/>

Somerset Place (NR)

2527 Lake Shore Rd.
Creswell, NC 27928
(252) 797-4560
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/somerset-place>

St. John in the Wilderness Church (NR)

1895 Greenville Hwy.
Flat Rock, NC 28731
(828) 693-9783
www.stjohnflatrock.org/

St. Martin's Church *(NR)

290 S. 1st St.
Hamilton, NC 27840
(252) 798-5561
<https://visitmartincounty.com/st-martins-episcopal-church/>

Thalian Hall

310 Chestnut St.
Wilmington, NC 28401
(800) 523-2820
www.thalianhall.org

The Alexander Dickson House *(NR)

150 E. King St.

Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 732-7741
www.historichillsborough.com

The Cone Manor, Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

Blue Ridge Parkway, Milepost 294
Blowing Rock, NC 28605
(828) 295-3782
<https://www.blueridgeheritage.com/destinations/moses-cone-manor/>

The Gertrude Smith House *(NR)

708 N. Main St.
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(336) 786-6856
www.visitmayberry.com

The Lost Colony Outdoor Drama *

1409 National Park Dr.
Manteo, NC 27954
(252) 473-6000
www.thelostcolony.org

The Old Depot *(NR)

207 Sutton Ave.
Black Mountain, NC 28711
(828) 669-6583
www.olddepot.org

The Pendergrass Building *(NR)

36 W. Main St.
Franklin, NC 28734
(828) 524-9758
www.maconnchistorical.org

The Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center

121 Schoolhouse Rd.
Robbinsville, NC 28771
(828) 479-3364
www.stecoahvalleycenter.com

The Thomas Wolfe Memorial (NR)

52 N. Market St.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 253-8304
<http://wolfememorial.com/>

Town Creek Indian Mound *(NR)

509 Town Creek Mound Rd.
Mount Gilead, NC 27306
(910) 439-6802
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/town-creek-indian-mound>

U.S.S. North Carolina

1 Battleship Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 399-9100
www.battleshipnc.com

Wayne County Museum *

116 N. William St.
Goldsboro, NC 27530
(919) 734-5023
<http://www.waynemuseum.org/>

Well House *(NR)

Court Square, Shelby, NC 28151
(704) 481-1842

William Fields House *(NR)

447 Arlington St.
Greensboro, NC 27406

Williamston Historic Commercial District (NR)

P.O. Box 506
Williamston, NC 27892
<http://www.townofwilliamston.com/>

Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau

505 Nutt St., Unit A

Wilmington, NC 28401
(877) 406-2356
www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com

*** Handicap Accessible**

**(NR) National Register of Historic Places
State Historic Site**

For More Information

NCDOT Scenic Byways Program

Roadside Environmental Unit: Scenic Byways
1557 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1557
(919) 733-2920
www.ncdot.gov/scenic

**Travel Information (Attractions, Special
Events Calendar, Welcome Centers, etc.)**

N.C. Department of Commerce: NC Travel and
Tourism Division
4324 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4324
1-800-VISITNC
www.visitnc.com

N.C. Ferry System (Rates and Schedules)

NCDOT Ferry Division
8550 Shipyard Rd.
Manns Harbor, NC 27953
(800) BY-FERRY
www.ncferry.org

NC State Parks

**N.C. Department of Environment and
Natural Resources**

Division of Parks and Recreation
1615 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615
(919) 707-9300
www.ncparks.gov

US Forest Service

160 Zillicoa St.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 257-4297
<https://www.fs.fed.us/>

NC Historic Sites

NC Department of Cultural Resources: Division
of Archives and History
4620 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4620
(919) 733-7862
<https://historicsites.nc.gov/>

Blue Ridge Parkway

199 Hemphill Knob Rd.
Asheville, NC 28803
(828) 348-3400
www.nps.gov/blri

BYWAY INDEX

A

Airlie Road, 218
Alligator River Route, 230
Appalachian Medley, 42
Averasboro Battlefield Byway, 180

B

Big Horse Creek Byway, 102
Birkhead Wilderness Route, 148
Black Mountain Rag, 72
Blue-Gray Byway, 200
Brunswick Town Road, 210

C

Cape Fear Historic Byway, 214
Carolina Bay Lakes Byway, 190
Cherohala Skyway, 22
Clayton Bypass, 182
College Town Ride, The, 118
Colonial Heritage Byway, 154
Crowders Mountain Drive, 112

D

Devil's Tramping Ground Road, 168
Drover's Road, 60

E

East Connecticut Avenue, 170
Edenton-Windsor Loop, 224

F

Flint Hill Ramble, 146
Fontana Byway, 30
Football Road, 164
Forest Heritage Scenic Byway, 46
French Broad Overview, 50

G

Grassy Island Crossing, 142

Green Swamp Byway, 186

H

Highlands of the Roan, 76
Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway, 52

I

Interstate 26 Scenic Highway, 56
Indian Heritage Trail, 150

L

Lafayette's Tour, 194
Little Parkway, 92

M

McAuley Road Scenic Byway, 122
Mill Bridge Scenic Byway, 124
Mission Crossing, 88
Mount Mitchell Scenic Drive, 64

N

Nantahala Byway, 26
Newfound Gap Road Scenic Byway, 34
New River Valley Byway, 96
North Durham Country Byway, 176

O

Outer Banks NSB, 236

P

Pacolet River Byway, 68
Pamlico Scenic Byway, 220
Pee Dee Valley Drive, 138
Perquimans Crossing, 228
Pisgah Loop, 84
Pottery Road, 160

R

Roanoke Voyages Corridor, 234

Rolling Kansas Byway, 136

S

Sandhills Scenic Drive, 144
Sauratown Mountains Scenic Byway, 132
Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway, 174
South Mountain Scenery, 80

T

Tar Heel Trace, 206
Turkey Creek Byway, 204

U

Upper Yadkin Way, 106
US-421 Scenic Highway, 100
Uwharrie Scenic Road, 128

W

Waterfall Byway, 18
Whitewater Way, 38

Y

Yadkin Valley Scenic Byway, 114

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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North Carolina Byways

This publication was developed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Environmental Roadside Unit in collaboration with Dr. Mandy L. Cooper and Design Workshop.

David B. Harris, PE

NCDOT: State Roadside Environmental Engineer

Jeff Lackey

NCDOT: Aesthetic Engineering Section Supervisor

Kyle Cooper, PLA

NCDOT: NC Scenic Byways Coordinator

Miguel Santiago

NCDOT: Roadside Environmental Engineer

Mandy L. Cooper, PhD

Department of History, UNC Greensboro
Editor

CONSULTANT TEAM:

Design Workshop

Glenn Walters, PLA

Susannah Horton, PLA

Graphic Designers/ Editor

