



# *Jackson County*

MORE PEAK MOMENTS 

DISCOVER JACKSON NC



Blue Ridge Parkway

## Jackson County, NC

Ideally located near Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway, Jackson County, NC is home to the charming mountain towns of Cashiers, Cherokee, Dillsboro, Sylva, Balsam, Cullowhee, Glenville and Sapphire. In Jackson County, you'll experience **More Peak Moments**, the kind that rise above the ordinary and linger long after you leave. Whether you're casting a line on the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail®, gazing at Whitewater Falls, finding tranquility on one of two Certified Forest Therapy Trails or watching an elk emerge from the morning mist, the moments will leave you in pure awe. From authentic Native American and Appalachian culture to celebrated farm-to-table cuisine, Jackson County invites you to slow down, take it in and carry a deeper sense of place with you long after you've gone.

Learn more at [DiscoverJacksonNC.com](https://DiscoverJacksonNC.com)



### Small-Town Vibes with Big-Time Flavors

Jackson County's food and beverage scene leaves as much of a lasting impression as its towering mountains. Indulge in farm-to-table offerings from award-winning chefs and culinary stars who know their way to a foodie's heart.



**Dalaya Thai Cuisine** is an understated eatery serving authentic flavors by Chef Kanlaya Supachana, originally from the Chiang Mai region of northern Thailand. Affectionately known as 'Chef Gun,' Supachana was nominated for 'Best Chef: Southeast' by the James Beard Foundation in 2024.



**ILDA** serves authentic Sicilian recipes coupled with locally sourced Appalachian ingredients. This husband-and-wife-owned restaurant recently was named Eater Carolinas' "Mountain Restaurant of the Year" in 2021.



Tucked away in the enchanting grounds of Cashiers' Lonesome Valley, **Canyon Kitchen** offers al fresco dining, widespread views and an award-winning farm-to-table menu. It was also voted "Most Romantic Restaurant in NC" by Food & Wine.



Part of the iconic High Hampton in Cashiers, **The Dining Room at High Hampton** has been feeding guests for more than 100 years. At the helm are husband-and-wife duo Scott and April Franqueza, who use their world-class expertise to create dynamic Appalachian-inspired cuisine. April was nominated for "Outstanding Pastry Chef or Baker" by the James Beard Foundation in 2025.



Jackson County also boasts **six local breweries** with more than 120 unique brews on tap ranging from IPAs, sours, lagers and more.



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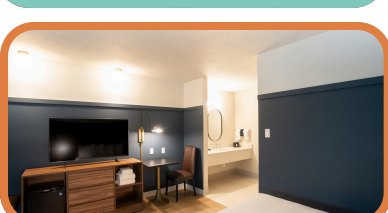
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## Cozy, Upscale Accommodations

The destination offers a range of both luxury and casual accommodations, including:



- Set to reopen in spring 2026, **Jarrett House** returns following a careful restoration. Originally established in 1884, one of the region's most storied inns maintains its Victorian-era character with updated comforts, including 23 TV-free guest rooms and the return of its family-style dining, alongside new additions like a bakery café, bar and library.
- Outland Great Smoky Mountains**, a luxury private retreat in Sylva featuring two separate lodging options: The Chalet, a seven-bedroom vacation rental ideal for families and groups, and Spa Suites, better suited for romantic retreats.
- The iconic 20<sup>th</sup> century **High Hampton**, a home to a world-class gold course and incredible views that underwent a major remodel in 2019.
- Hotel Cashiers**, a pet-friendly boutique mountain inn featuring a blend of modern and rustic design, plus outdoor seating under charming patio lights.
- The quaint retreat of **The Wells Cashiers**, tailored with premium amenities and elevated, contemporary design at an accessible price point.
- The recently renovated boutique hotel or **Hotel Sylva**, offering modern, luxurious accommodations in the heart of Downtown Sylva.

## The Healing Power of Nature

Trade skyscrapers for mountains and find serenity and under-the-radar wellness by The Great Smoky Mountains National Park & Blue Ridge Parkway.



Lace up your hiking boots and trek the two-mile loop at **Whiteside Mountain**, considered by geologists to be one of the oldest mountains in the world.



Jackson County is the only destination in the United States with **two Forest Bathing trails** certified by the Association of Nature & Forest Therapy, including the country's first fully accessible forest therapy trail.



Cool off at **Sliding Rock** or **Silver Run Falls**, two of Cashiers' waterfalls that offer natural swimming holes.



Sit on a sandy swim beach with a mountain view or enjoy water activities at **Lake Glenville**, one of the country's highest elevation lakes.



Whether you're a seasoned angler or casting a line for the first time, enjoy the uninterrupted, soothing activity of **Fly Fishing** on Jackson County's pristine rivers and streams teeming with brown, rainbow and brook trout. Enhance your experience and book a trip with one of the several professional guides in the area.



## Only in Jackson County!

There are several unique attractions and key events that only exists in Jackson County.



**Panther Valley**, known as “The Yosemite of the East” is treasured backcountry with 30 miles of trails, dozens of cascading waterfalls, trout streams, sheer granite cliffs and the best panoramic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.



The **Cashiers Leaf Festival** celebrates the leaves beginning to change in the beautiful mountain village of Cashiers Friday-Sunday in mid-October. Welcoming 90 artisans to The Village Green park, visitors will find unique, handcrafted goods.



The first two weeks of December in charming Dillsboro, the annual **Lights & Luminaries** celebration invited travelers from near and far to experience holiday cheer by strolling through the downtown streets as 2500 luminaries light the way, while carolers sing, and shop owners pass out cider and cocoa.

The natural phenomenon known as **The Shadow of the Bear** occurs twice a year, from mid-October to early November and again from mid-February to early March. The sun sets behind Whiteside Mountain just after 4:30pm and its shadow creates a perfect image of a Black Bear dancing across the treetops below.



Now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year, the annual **Greening up the Mountains Festival** celebrates the arrival of spring through traditional and contemporary forms of Appalachian art, music and food. It draws crowds of upwards of 12,000 attendees and has 175 vendor booth spaces.



## Secret Season

From January to March each year, Jackson County’s Secret Season offers an abundance of hidden benefits.



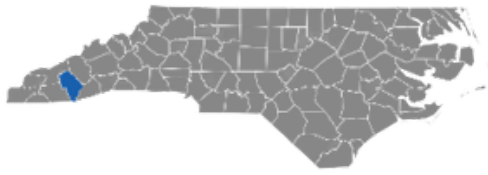
Enjoy **shorter wait times** at popular trails and attractions such as Shadow of the Bear (mid-February to early March).



Take advantage of **discounted lodging** throughout the county with many accommodations offering special packages and promotions.



Shop about with **fewer crowds** and grab the best seat in the house at the county’s most popular dining spots in the charming downtown areas.



## A Glimpse Into Jackson County!

From scenic mountain vistas and charming downtowns to fly fishing, waterfalls and year-round outdoor adventure, Jackson County offers a rich blend of experiences to savor each moment.

