

Adventure. The word is synonymous with escapades that range from the simply new, to the epitome of daring-do. Regardless of how you define adventure, the foothills of Rutherford county have plenty of extraordinary destinations that are sure to fuel your adrenaline-filled wanderlust.

GEAR DROPPING ACCOMMODATIONS

For adventure-bound travelers the great outdoors beckons. Let your lodging reflect that interest! From the forested depths of Golden Valley to the picturesque towns of Lake Lure and Chimney Rock, Rutherford county has more adventurer-friendly lodging options than you can imagine. Need a spot to kick back on a lakeside dock, or a picturesque mountainside cabin? How about an amenity-filled campground with a view? Even if your ideal accommodations require a side of **hotel conveniences**, there are multitudes of options from **resorts** to **inns**, and **cabins** to **campgrounds**. All of these and more are available on **our website**, so finding your perfect adventure resting spot only takes a click or two.





YUMMY DISCOVERIES

Regardless of your preferred style of adventures, there's nothing better than kicking back with sublime food and beverage at the end of an incredible day. In Forest City, check out **Fat Tracy's**. With a laid back setting that includes hand pulled Bar-B-Q and Friday night ribs specials, it's the perfect location to chill out and munch. And if you're looking for the perfect sugar rush, stop by **The Pie Safe Baking Company** for one of their deliciously baked goodies. The **Moose & Goose Lounge** in Lake Lure is a relaxed atmosphere with great menus and incredible views, and **Barley's Taproom & Pizzeria** in Spindale offers a combination of pizzas, calzones, sandwiches, and subs, and was rated one of the 'Best Taprooms in the South' by Southern Draught Magazine. **Amendment 21 Grill** in Rutherfordton or the **Copper Penny Grill** with locations in both Rutherfordton and Forest City are equally great spots for exceptional food and drinks, or if you're looking for a place to grab a bite with spectacular views and fantastic brews, look no further than **Hickory Nut Gorge Craft Brewery**. Located in the Village of Chimney Rock along the banks of the Rocky Broad River, this local brewery and taproom is a must-stop for anyone looking to unwind after a long day of adventure in the great outdoors.

Looking for a way to feast while traversing the trails? Take it with you on a picnic! **Purple Martin Greenway** in Rutherfordton is a wonderful 1.4 mile paved trail that's also kid, bike, and pet-friendly, and connects into **Crestview Park** so the options for activity-filled dining are limitless. Almost every **restaurant in Rutherford county** offers take-out, and the county's multiple small town grocers are stocked with a wide variety of yummy snacks and picnic fare, so it's truly impossible not to find the perfect munchies pack for the journey.

EXHILARATING ACTIVITIES

Nothing says adventure like pushing the boundaries of your physical prowess, and here in Rutherford county we've got more than enough options to keep even the most seasoned of adventurers challenged. If the sports of rock climbing, bouldering, and rappelling entice, **Chimney Rock State Park** is the place for you. In addition to its famed **hiking trails**, the park allows rock climbing, rappelling, and bouldering on Eagle Rock and on the south face of Rumbling Bald Mountain. Climbing Eagle Rock requires the purchase of park access, but Rumbling Bald Mountain can be accessed without entrance to the park.

While we're on the subject of hiking, if pushing yourself to the brink of exhaustion on a scenic and challenging trail is exactly what you're searching for, the **South Mountains Game Lands & State Park** offers 40 miles of mid to high difficulty trails that are perfect for seasoned runners, hikers, mountain bikers, or horseback riders. Pair that with the spectacular year-round views of Golden Valley and you've got one seriously beautiful adrenaline rush. **Buffalo Creek Park** offers over 12 miles of trails through 1,527 acres of natural forest along the head of Hickory Nut Gorge at the town of Lake Lure. Their 3.5-mile loop features terrain and elevation changes and moderate climbs, and is perfect for runners, hikers, or mountain bikers. You can even access the **Weed Patch Mountain Trail** which extends 8.6 miles from the highest point of Buffalo Creek Park, looping up into Eagle Rock at Chimney Rock State Park.

Prefer your thrill-seeking moments airborne? The outdoor adventure park at **Canopy Ridge Farm** offers exhilarating zipline tours of Hickory Nut Gorge that range across 60 acres of the area's hardwood forests, including their largest line Zipzilla. If you want to get your thrills a little less sky level, they also have exciting UTV tours! Leave the beaten path behind as you drive or ride along in one of their Kawasaki UTVs over hills, across logs, and through diversely forested terrain.

If reveling in the beauty of nature from atop a faithful steed sounds like your ideal form of excitement, we've got your perfect breed of adventure. **Riverside Riding Stables** offers 1-hour guided trail rides, 2-hour river rides that literally allow you to swim with your horse as you traverse incredibly scenic mountain trails, and even 3-day, 2-night pack trips full of riding, fishing, and camping adventures. Not to be whinnied at, **Cedar Creek Stables** is another option that offers 1, 1.5, and 2-hour trail rides journeying across forests, thickets, creeks, and even mountain ridges on their Overlook Trail where you'll experience some of the most spectacular mountain views you've ever seen.

No matter your definition, adventures of every style and standard are yours for the finding in Rutherford county. From day trips, to weekends, to weeks long journeys; exhilarating memories are here for the making.

