



ROMANTIC

Your ideal journey is an exhilarating experience filled with beautiful sights, sumptuous food, and moments that take your breath away. To put it in terms of Casablanca, here in Rutherford county, we've got the Bogie to your Bergman.

WHERE TO STAY

THE FIREHOUSE INN

Rutherfordton

If you yearn to stay in a place with historical aplomb, this incredibly elegant bed and breakfast in downtown Rutherfordton is actually a completely restored 1925 town hall and firehouse. The fact that it's located in downtown Rutherfordton means that there's already incredible antiques and unique shopping within walking distance, and this beautiful hotel is also a mere 25 minutes from Lake Lure and Chimney Rock, so the possibilities for indoor and outdoor activities are truly endless.

THE OLIVEWOOD INN

Forest City

This lovely inn may not be what you expect to find amid the foothills of NC. The house was built in the 1920s and its Italian-inspired, European architecture is completely renovated and truly breathtaking. Its location on West Main Street in Forest City places it within easy walking distance of wonderfully quaint dining and shopping opportunities. Additionally, it's only blocks away from local museums and activities, and just a few minutes' drive from the attractions of Lake Lure and Chimney Rock, so there are plenty of nearby options for romantic fun of any kind.

THE 1927 LAKE LURE INN & SPA

Lake Lure

If you love Hollywood history, this incredible inn was made just for you. It was the site of the hit movie 'Dirty Dancing' and you'll recognize many of the iconic scene locations from the moment you arrive. But 'Dirty Dancing' locale aside, this hotel and spa is incredible in its own right. From their onsite, award-winning Inrogate Spa, to their sumptuous Veranda Restaurant, Moose & Goose Lounge, and casually fantastic Lake House Diner - add the fact that just a short walk or drive from the inn are all of the wonderful activities on Lake Lure itself like guided boat tours, lake cruises, and the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge, and you can rest assured that your stay will be one that you'll rave about for years to come.

One quick search [here](#) will provide information on the above specific options as well as many more options for resorts, B&Bs, cabins, cottages, and camping than you could ever imagine. Need a relaxing spot with a lakeside dock? How about a picturesque mountainside cabin or even a cozy and romantic campground with amenities and a view? All of these and more are available and finding your perfect, romantic spot only takes a click or two.

WHAT TO DO

KICK BACK AND RELAX

Lake Lure, Chimney Rock

If a day of pampering is in order, you're sure to feel relaxed and rejuvenated after one of the sublime treatments at the **Irongate Spa**, the **Spa & Salon at Rumbling Bald**, or the **Esmeralda Spa**. From signature massages and wraps to facials, hair, nails, or even a specialized bundle of treatments for a whole day of indulgence, there's no better way to embrace your inner romantic glow.

VINEYARDS

County-wide

If the idea of leisurely driving along winding mountain-edged by-ways only stopping to sample local artisan nectars sounds heavenly, we have the driving tour for you. Our [scenic winery driving tour](#) is full of breathtaking sights, incredible local vintages, and even comes with a map to ensure a lack of directional disparity! It's a day of romantic memories that won't be soon forgotten.

LAKE LURE FLOWERING BRIDGE

Lake Lure

Is there anything more romantic than being surrounded by the heavenly scent of flowers? No matter what time of day you meander through this incredible garden walkway, you're sure to be romantically inspired. The **Lake Lure Flowering Bridge** was built as a highway bridge in 1925 and transformed in 2011 when a new bridge took its place for automobile traffic. Hailed as the largest Sensory Garden for the Blind and Visually Impaired in North Carolina, this incredibly beautiful, volunteer-upkept oasis is part of Lake Lure's $\frac{3}{4}$ mile Town Center Walkway that continues past Morse Park to Lake Lure Beach and is considered a Living 3D Mural on the Appalachian Mural Trail. It's a scenic walk for the senses that will live fragrantly in your memories for years to come.

BOAT TOURS

Lake Lure

No matter whether it's a guided tour of the lake, a dinner cruise at sunset, or even a private water tour of the area's legends and history, **Lake Lure Tours and Lake Lure Adventures** have the perfect options to make your romantic getaway an enthralling one. Advance reservations are required, so be sure to check out their listings [here](#) before arriving.

Lake Lure, Chimney Rock and the Blue Ridge Foothills has a plethora of activities perfect for your romantic getaway. One quick search [here](#) will provide information on the above specific options as well as many more.

DINNER FOR TWO

DELECTABLE DINING

County-wide

If you love a garden setting complete with eclectic tapas, sumptuous entrees, and luscious desserts, **The Gardens at Rumbling Bald Resort** will definitely feed your dining soul. Looking for something with a panoramic view? **The Esmeralda Inn** offers a historically beautiful atmosphere with indoor or outdoor dining and a locally sourced menu that's been rated one of the best in the foothills. If you prefer your scenery waterside, be sure to check out the **Veranda Restaurant at the 1927 Lake Lure Inn & Spa**. Their incredible dining options presented with an equally incredible lakeside view is sure to put the romance back in your dining experience. For a romantically casual dining experience definitely check out **Burntshirt Vineyards Tasting Room & Bistro**. Their southern-style menu paired with customizable wine tasting options is a perfect way to enjoy romantic dining bliss.

All area restaurants offer take-out options too if you'd rather enjoy your meal in the comfort of your cozy room. Start your search [here](#) for the perfect meal on your perfect getaway!

ROMANTIC GETAWAYS ARE A FOOTHILLS SPECIALTY

From day trips to long weekends or even week-long journeys, there's no better place to put the romance back in your travel plans than Rutherford county. So get packing! We can't wait to see you soon!

