

# A Season of Sparkle

YOUR GUIDE TO HOLIDAY MAGIC IN LAKE LURE, CHIMNEY ROCK & THE BLUE RIDGE FOOTHILLS.

Light Up the Foothills and celebrate the holidays in true Rutherford County style! From shimmering Main Streets wrapped in twinkling lights to mountain towns brimming with festive cheer, this is the season when our communities shine the brightest. Stroll, shop, sip cocoa, and make merry as you explore holiday traditions old and new — all surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of the Blue Ridge Foothills.



SHOP SMALL, GIVE LOCAL  
*Spread Cheer*

The perfect holiday gift is closer than you think! Explore local boutiques, galleries, artisan markets, and family-owned shops across the county. From handcrafted pottery and specialty foods to cozy apparel and mountain-made treasures, every purchase supports the small businesses that make our communities thrive.

## MAKE IT A HOLIDAY GETAWAY!

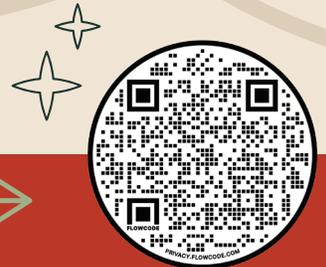
Turn your festive adventure into a cozy overnight escape. Book a stay at one of our charming inns, lakeside lodges, boutique B&Bs, or mountain cabins — many offering exclusive holiday packages and winter specials. Wake up to scenic views, twinkling lights, and the peaceful charm of the Blue Ridge Foothills.

## FOLLOW THE LIGHTS *Find the magic*

With so many celebrations across the county, there's something new to experience every weekend. Follow the glow, explore our towns, and create unforgettable memories all season.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [VISITNCSMALLTOWNS.COM](http://VISITNCSMALLTOWNS.COM)

For event details, local shopping guides, lodging specials, and even more holiday magic.



## *More* HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Holiday cheer fills every corner of Rutherford County! These festive events bring even more magic to the season — perfect additions to your holiday itinerary.

**CHRISTMAS IN THE MALL** Nov 28 | Tri-City Mall, Forest City | 5:30–8:30PM

Black Friday deals, carolers, Santa photo ops, ornament making, and more.

**A CELEBRATION OF PEACE & JOY –  
SYMPHONY OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY** Dec 5 | The Foundation PAC | 7:30–9:30PM

A joyful concert full of your favorite holiday melodies.

**SPINDALE–RUTHERFORDTON CHRISTMAS PARADE** Dec 6 | 4PM

A beloved county tradition shared between two Main Streets.

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL – LIVE ON STAGE** Dec 12 at 7PM & Dec 13 at 3PM | The Foundation PAC

The timeless story brought to life with local talent.

**OLD-FASHIONED CLIFFSIDE CHRISTMAS** Dec 18 | Old Main Street, Mooresboro | 4:30–8PM

Santa, cocoa, cookies, Christmas lights, and nostalgic small-town charm.



NOV29 - JAN 5

# JOY TO The Gorge

## ONGOING HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

### GORGE GLOW UP Nov 28 - Jan 5

Cruise through Lake Lure and Chimney Rock Village as local businesses light up the holidays.

### SHOP SMALL SATURDAYS Nov 29 - Dec 22

Cookies, cocoa, gift wrapping, and downtown cheer — discover something delightful in every storefront.

### HOLIDAY TRIVIA Wednesdays at 5:30PM | Lured Market & Grill

### OPEN MIC Thursdays at 6PM | Lured Market & Grill

### CORNHOLE LEAGUE Sundays at 3PM | Lured Market & Grill

### THE GIVING TREE TRAIL Dec 5 - Jan 5 | Lake Lure Inn & Spa

Vote for your favorite tree, decorated by local businesses to support Hurricane Helene recovery grants.

### MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET Nov 28 - Jan 4

Chimney Rock Smokehouse

Holiday pop-up bar magic with themed nights:

Christmas Bingo - Tuesdays

Karaoke - Wednesdays

### HOLIDAY MELLOW FLOW CANDLELIGHT YOGA

Nov 30 - Dec 16 from 6-7PM | Lured Market & Grill

### SUNDAY BRUNCH AT THE LAKE LURE INN & SPA

Dec 7 - 28 | 10AM-2PM

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### BLACK FRIDAY MARKET AT FAE NECTAR Nov 28 & 29

9AM-5PM - Discover art, crafts, fantasy-themed vendors & unique gifts.

### SANTA PHOTOS: CANDY CABIN LAKE LURE Nov 29 | 1-4PM

### LAKE LURE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING Dec 3 | Morse Park

Gazebo | 5:30PM - Santa, s'mores & songs by Lake Lure Classical Academy Choir.

### SANTA ON THE CHIMNEY Dec 6 & 13 | Chimney Rock State Park

11AM-2PM - Watch Santa rappel down Chimney Rock - a holiday tradition

### BREAKFAST WITH ELVES Dec 6 & 13 | Chimney Rock Smokehouse

8-11AM

### SANTA PET PORTRAITS Dec 7 | 12PM - 2PM | Lured Market & Grill

### PHOTOS WITH THE GRINCH Dec 13 & 20 | Candy Cabin Lake Lure

2-4PM

### WINTERFEST AT GREY HAWK BAR & GARDENS Dec 13

Open during business hours - Live music, craft vendors, and festive spirits.

### NATIONAL UGLY SWEATER DAY COMPETITION Dec 19

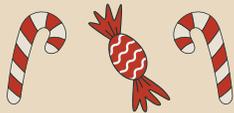
Chimney Rock Smokehouse

### DICKENS CHRISTMAS DINNER Dec 19 & 20 | Lake Lure Inn & Spa

5-8PM

### BRUNCH WITH SANTA Dec 13 | Highlands Reserve 9AM-12PM

Pop-Up Market 9AM-1PM



## FOREST CITY Hometown Holidays

Each winter, Forest City transforms into one of the most dazzling holiday destinations in the Southeast - with over a million lights, warm smiles around every corner, horse-drawn carriages, and festive fun for everyone.

NOV27 - JAN 1

## SIGNATURE EVENTS

### LIGHTING CEREMONY Thanksgiving Night, Nov 27 | 6:30-9PM

Watch Forest City flip the switch and light up the season in spectacular style.

### CHRISTMAS PARADE Sunday, Nov 30 | 3-5PM

Floats, bands, hometown pride — the perfect kickoff to the holidays.

### CARRIAGE RIDES Fridays & Saturdays, Dec 5-20 | 6-8:45PM

A storybook ride beneath the lights. Reservations begin Dec 1 at [ExploreForestCity.com](https://www.exploreforestcity.com).

### HAYRIDES Fridays & Saturdays, Dec 5-20 | 6-9PM

### ICE SKATING Nov 27-Dec 20 | Select nights starting at 6PM

Glide, twirl, and laugh on synthetic ice that feels just like the real thing.

### VISIT WITH SANTA Fridays & Saturdays, Dec 5-20 | 6-9PM

### SANTA PAWS Sundays, Dec 7, 14 & 21 | 1-4PM

Bring your furry friends for festive photo ops!

### BE THE LIGHT 5K Sunday, Dec 14 | 6PM

A magical evening run beneath the Christmas lights. Register at [runsignup.com/BethelLight5KRun](https://runsignup.com/BethelLight5KRun)