



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August Brings Summer's Grand Finale with Festivals, Live Music, Family Adventures and a Once-in-a-Generation Railroad Celebration in Rowan County

Rowan County, N.C. – August marks the grand finale of summer in Rowan County, bringing together unforgettable festivals, live music, family attractions, agritourism experiences, and one of the most anticipated railroad events. Whether visitors are looking for hands-on farm fun, lakeside adventures, concerts under the stars, or a weekend getaway, Rowan County offers countless ways to make the most of summer before fall arrives.

From nationally recognized attractions to beloved hometown traditions, August is the perfect time to experience everything that makes Rowan County original.

Summer Fun on the Farm at Patterson Farm

August 1–8 & August 12–September 12, 2026

Families can enjoy a day of hands-on fun at Patterson Farm Market & Tours in Mount Ulla. Visitors can feed friendly farm animals, slide down Big Red's Slide, explore the playground, dig in the sandbox, and experience a variety of interactive agricultural activities designed for children and families.

N.C. Transportation Museum Car Shows

August 1, 8 & 15, 2026

Car enthusiasts won't want to miss the N.C. Transportation Museum's final car shows of the season, featuring the All Ford Show, All GM Show, and All MOPAR Show on consecutive Saturdays throughout August.

Kids' Summer Movies at the Norvell Theater**August 1 & 8, 2026**

Piedmont Players Theatre presents family favorites on the big screen with Kids' Summer Movies. For just \$5, families can enjoy themed pre-show activities, character meet-and-greets, and screenings of *Cinderella* and *Frozen*.

Discover Fun in Kannapolis**August 4, 6, 8, 13 & 15, 2026**

Kannapolis continues its popular Discover Fun series with free concerts, outdoor entertainment, Stories Under the Stars, and \$2 Summer Movie Matinees at the Gem Theatre. This month's lineup includes nationally recognized artists, community events, and family-friendly entertainment.

Summer Fun Days at the N.C. Transportation Museum**August 4 & 11, 2026**

Kids can enjoy themed activities, crafts, and train rides during Summer Fun Days at the N.C. Transportation Museum. August features Wagon Trail Day and Caboose Train Day, making for memorable weekday family adventures.

Summer Fun Fridays at Patterson Farm**August 7 & 14, 2026**

Families are invited to become "Farmers for the Day" during Patterson Farm's educational Summer Fun Fridays. Each experience includes admission to Pawpaw Carl's Barnyard & Playground along with interactive agricultural activities and animal encounters. Advance registration is required.

Brew & Choo Summer Concert**August 8, 2026**

The N.C. Transportation Museum combines craft beer, live music, food trucks, train rides, and a high-energy 90s concert during its popular Brew & Choo Summer Concert, creating one of the area's most unique summer experiences.

F&M Bank Concert Series & Back to School Bash**August 8, 2026**

Celebrate the close of summer in China Grove with free family fun, including a Back to School Bash, splash zone, school supply giveaways, and live music from Jimmy Buffett tribute band Captain Mike & Shipwrecked.

Annual Woodleaf Tomato Festival

August 15, 2026

One of Rowan County's original summer traditions returns with live entertainment, local vendors, a parade, and tomato-themed contests. Admission and parking are free.

Rowan Chamber Dragon Boat Festival

August 22, 2026

High Rock Lake comes alive as teams compete during the annual Dragon Boat Festival. Visitors can enjoy exciting races, food trucks, vendors, entertainment, and family-friendly activities throughout the day.

Dancing on Depot Street Summer Concert Series

August 22, 2026

Downtown Cleveland welcomes visitors for another free evening of live music featuring The British Invaders. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy a relaxing night of music, dancing, and community.

History on Tap

August 27, 2026

Hosted by the Historic Salisbury Foundation, History on Tap offers guided tours, local craft beer, live music, and an inside look at the restoration of the Wrenn House/Female Academy. Registration is required.

A Fleetwood Mac Candlelight Experience

August 28, 2026

Experience an unforgettable evening as a live string trio performs the music of Fleetwood Mac by candlelight at First United Methodist Church in Salisbury. Two performances are available.

America 250 Locomotive Celebration

August 28–30, 2026

The month concludes with one of the most premier railroad events as the N.C. Transportation Museum hosts the America 250 Locomotive Celebration. Visitors will have the rare opportunity to see commemorative locomotives from across the country gathered in one location while enjoying train rides, rotating locomotive displays, and incredible photo opportunities around the historic Bob Julian Roundhouse.

Visitors traveling for the event can take advantage of Rowan County Tourism's America 250 Locomotive Celebration Stay & Play Package, which includes complimentary event passes when booking a qualifying overnight stay at participating Rowan County lodging properties. Reservations must be made by August 25 at 4 p.m., with stays between August 27–31 and booked through VisitRowanCountyNC.com.

Visitors planning an August getaway can also take advantage of Rowan County Tourism's Summer Fun Stay & Play Package, offering a 50% back VISA e-Gift Card reward with qualifying overnight stays booked through VisitRowanCountyNC.com.

For more information on events, lodging, and special Stay & Play packages, visit VisitRowanCountyNC.com.

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The Rowan County Tourism Development Authority (Rowan County Tourism) is a North Carolina Public Authority established through enabling legislation from the North Carolina General Assembly. Rowan County Tourism is county-wide in scope, and its efforts are directed at the promotion and development of Rowan County's existing and potential tourism assets and visitor travel. For more information, contact Rowan County Tourism at 704-638-3100 or welcome@visitrowancountync.com.