FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Firsts of Fall this September in Rowan County

Salisbury, N.C. — The first signs of fall are showing up across Rowan County this September. Farms are welcoming the season, festivals are filling community calendars, and familiar fall traditions are returning for another year. From the roar of classic cars and motorcycles to live music, local agriculture, historic celebrations and family fun, September offers plenty of ways to experience the season and discover a few new favorites along the way.

Summer Fun on the Farm at Patterson Farm
Through September 12
Patterson Farm Market & Tours wraps up its summer season with Summer Fun on the Farm through September 12. The experience includes PawPaw Carl's Playground, barnyard animals and open-air play spaces.

Pick-Your-Own Muscadine Grapes at Cauble Creek Vineyard
September 5–October 3
Muscadine grape season is underway at Cauble Creek Vineyard. Visitors can pick their own grapes for $2.50 per pound while enjoying the vineyard and the first tastes of the season.

SmokeOut Rally
September 10–13
The 2026 SmokeOut Rally returns to the Rowan County Fairgrounds with four days of motorcycle events and entertainment. The event features Hooligan Flat Track Racing, Dirt Drags, Burnout Drags, mini bike racing, the FXR Gathering, Sportster Showdown, custom bike shows, the Dennis Kirk Garage Build-Off, live music and more.

Rock the Park
September 12
Rock the Park returns to Rockwell Park for a day of live music, food, vendors and activities for all ages. The free event runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Salisbury Pride Festival
September 12
Salisbury Pride's 14th annual Pride Festival returns to Bell Tower Green from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a free day celebrating community, connection and inclusion through entertainment, activities and more.

Antique Automobile Club of America Car Show
September 12
Car enthusiasts can head to the N.C. Transportation Museum for the Antique Automobile Club of America Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show features antique automobiles representing all makes and models.

Gold Hill Fall Farm Fest
September 13
Celebrate the harvest season at Gold Hill Fall Farm Fest from noon to 4 p.m. Visitors can shop for farm-fresh products, including produce, meats, honey and goat's milk products, while exploring the historic Gold Hill community and its unique shops and buildings.

Fall Fun on the Farm at Patterson Farm
September 14–November 21
Fall arrives at Patterson Farm with more than 40 attractions and activities, including a corn maze, barnyard, wagon rides, PawPaw Carl's Playground, Agmagination, Tractor Track and We Dig AG! Diggers. The farm's Market will also feature pumpkins, gourds and other seasonal favorites, along with apple cinnamon donuts and other treats from the Ice Cream Shop.

GermanFest at the Old Stone House
September 19
GermanFest at the Old Stone House celebrates the history and traditions of German settlers in Rowan County. Hosted by Rowan Museum, the family-friendly festival includes historic house tours, reenactors, traditional demonstrations, educational exhibits, handmade goods, concessions, small animals and colonial toys.

All Jeep Show
September 19
Jeep enthusiasts can head to the N.C. Transportation Museum from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the All Jeep Show, featuring Jeeps of all makes and styles, from classic Willys models to modern Wranglers and custom builds.

Rowan County Fair
September 21–26

Visitors can enjoy carnival rides, fair food, entertainment and longtime fair traditions that make the fair an annual favorite for families at the Rowan County Fair.

Day Out With Thomas™
September 25–27 & October 2–4

Climb aboard for Day Out With Thomas™ at the N.C. Transportation Museum. The event features a 25-minute ride with Thomas the Tank Engine™, live entertainment, giant lawn games, a hay bale maze, inflatables, crafts, temporary tattoos, model train layouts and access to the museum's transportation exhibits.

Gold Hill Founders Day
September 26
Gold Hill Founders Day celebrates the history and heritage of Historic Gold Hill with arts, music and activities highlighting the community's roots as a once-famous gold-mining boom town.

Dancing on Depot Street
September 26
Dancing on Depot Street brings an evening of live music to Cleveland with The Dirty Grass Soul. The free, family-friendly event begins at 6 p.m. Visitors are invited to bring a lawn chair or blanket, enjoy local food and spend the evening listening to live music.

Ridgefest at Morgan Ridge Vineyard
September 27
Ridgefest at Morgan Ridge Vineyard closes out September with a celebration of music, wine and the vineyard experience.

Autumn Adventures in Rowan County Stay & Play Package:
Guests who book an overnight stay at a participating Rowan County hotel between September 1 and November 22, 2026, can receive a VISA e-Gift Card equal to 50% of their stay. The promotion ends November 17, 2026, at 4 p.m., and cannot be combined with other Overnight Stay & Play packages or offers.

For a complete list of September events and to plan a fall getaway, 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.