Welcome to the Virginia Mountains, where the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains stretch across the landscape, offering a haven for outdoor enthusiasts. With abundant opportunities for fishing, hiking, and thrilling mountain biking adventures, this region promises an unforgettable experience for nature lovers and adrenaline seekers alike.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

1. Fire Station One Boutique Hotel - Roanoke
Experience a unique stay at this boutique hotel located in a renovated fire station. With its stylish decor and modern amenities, it offers a trendy and memorable lodging experience. While you’re there, browse the handcrafted sustainable furniture at Txtur and enjoy a delicious Nordic-inspired menu at Stock Cafe, both located on the first floor.

3. Historic Buchanan Swinging Bridge - Buchanan
Take a step back in time and cross the Historic Buchanan Swinging Bridge. This suspension bridge offers a thrilling walk over the James River, providing a unique and memorable experience.

FOR FIRST-TIME TRAVELERS

4. Roanoke Star - Roanoke
Marvel at the iconic Roanoke Star, perched atop Mill Mountain. Take in panoramic views of the cityscape and surrounding mountains, and don’t forget to wave hi to friends on the Mill Mountain StarCam!

UNDERATED EXPERIENCES

5. National D-Day Memorial - Bedford
Pay homage to the heroes of World War II at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford. Explore the thoughtfully designed memorial grounds and learn about the sacrifices made during this pivotal moment in history.

LOCAL FAVORITES

6. Smith Mountain Lake Farm Alpacas - Hardy
Get up close and personal with adorable alpacas at Smith Mountain Lake Farm. Feed, pet, and learn about these charming creatures, offering a unique and heartwarming experience.

7. Homestead Creamery - Wirtz
Indulge your taste buds at Homestead Creamery, known for its delectable ice cream and fresh dairy products. Visit their farm store, take a tour, and savor the flavors of locally produced goodness.
WHAT NOT TO MISS WHILE YOU'RE IN

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Day trip, road trip or extended stay – make Franklin County and Smith Mountain Lake your future destination. Our rural community has plenty of open space, great views, small towns, and welcoming people. You can spend a day at Smith Mountain Lake, discover Downtown Rocky Mount, experience the Blue Ridge in Ferrum, or stop by Boones Mill. From music to moonshine and everything in between, we offer a little something for everyone.

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE
A Four-Season Lake Front Destination

Whether you’re looking to float, fish, or find a place to unplug, Smith Mountain Lake is your four-season waterfront oasis. You could catch your fish of a lifetime, enjoy a waterfront meal, and listen to live music all in the same day before catching a picture-perfect sunset. While visiting, make a stop at the Booker T. Washington National Monument to learn about his rise from the bondage of slavery and the heights he reached in life. Known as the “Jewel of the Blue Ridge”, Smith Mountain Lake may become your home away from home. Be sure to plan a visit for the annual “Smith Mountain Lake Wine Festival” in September and the “Smith Mountain Lake Chili Festival” in November.

ROCKY MOUNT
A Music Town That’s Something Else

Rocky Mount serves as the crossroads of Franklin County where music is alive, beverages are flowing, and small-town hospitality remains the norm. Catch a world class show at the Harvester Performance Center, shop through Downtown Rocky Mount, and close out the night with amazing food and drinks.

The town also serves as the eastern gateway to “The Crooked Road: Virginia’s Heritage Music Trail” and hosts many must see events throughout the year including the “Scarecrow Trail” in October and “Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas” in December. For car lovers, “Cruisin’ Rocky Mount” is the first Saturday of the month from April to November. “Rocky Mount – We’re Something Else”.

FOOTHILLS OF THE BLUE RIDGE
Where Higher Education Meets Blue Ridge Heritage

Resting at the foot of the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains, Ferrum is home to the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum and Ferrum College. This cross section of history, heritage, and higher education serves as a foundation for much more. Be sure to bring your kayak and experience the tranquil waters of Philpott Lake, learn about authentic life of days gone by at the Blue Ridge Institute, and catch a football game or dinner theater show at Ferrum College.

Don’t miss out on the annual “Blue Ridge Folklife Festival” the last Saturday in October. This annual gathering of heritage musicians, artisans, and “coon dogs” is a celebration of life in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

www.visitfranklincountyva.com
COUNTY OF BATH

Warren Springs Mountain Preserve
Route 39 and Route 703
Warren Springs, 540-864-7035
touristinformation.com
Three floors of local history and artifacts. 3-log
cabin.

Paint Bank Fish Hatchery
4405 Paint Bank Rd, Paint
Bank, 540-652-5920; dgif.
virginia.org. Open 7am-3:30pm.
Family-friendly trout viewing experience.

FRANKELIN COUNTY/ ROCKY MOUNT

Includes: Baker, Barren
Valley, Franklin, Rocky
Mount. 540-201-440, info@franklin广电.com.
Visit the Gateway to the Virginia National
Historic Park and Explore the birthplace
of the American Revolution.

THINGS TO DO

Peacock Mines Day Use Area
Free of charge, open 365 days a year.

Commissioner’s Rock Parking Area
includes basic facilities.

Sedalia Center
1106 Sedalia School Rd., Mendota; 540-
586-3707; sedaliacenter.org. Many
activities including concerts, special events,
and no parking costs.

Golden Road
1106 Sedalia School Rd., Mendota; 540-
586-3707; sedaliacenter.org. A
museum dedicated to the history of
sawmills and railroad equipment.

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ARE JUST AROUND THE BEND

Want big adventure?
Check out the sprawling four county region known as Virginia’s Western Highlands. Find adventure ideas, driving directions and more for a great getaway at VaWesternHighlands.com

Alleghany Highlands | Bath County | Craig County | Highland County

Scenic Barn Quilt Trails
& More
VisitCraigCounty.com
HighlandCounty.org

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800-936-1766

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Take to the waters that made Bath County famous. Rest in the grandeur of the Great Hall at The Omni Homestead Resort or enjoy one of our peaceful Inns. Bath County offers a relaxing and unforgettable experience, all amid the pristine beauty of Virginia’s Allegheny Mountains.

visitbathva.com
HIGHLAND COUNTY

**Highland County Barn Quilt Trail**
Highland County, Monterey; 540-468-2347. highlandcounty.org/visitor-info-highland-county. Find barn quilts around the county!

**Highland County Museum**

**Highland County Visitor Center**

**Highland Wildlife Management Area**
Highland County, Monterey; 804-367-1003; dwr.virginia.gov/hwa/highland. Over 14,000 acres of outdoor recreation opportunities.

**McDowell Battlefield**
Just East of McDowell along Route 9, a Civil War battlefield with interpretive signage.

**Sounding Rock Fire Tower**
135 Sounding Knob Rd., Monterey; 540-396-4476; highlandcountyhistory.com/mcdowell-battlefield. Experience the unspoiled, mountain Civil War battlefield with interpretive signage.

**Virginia Maple Syrup Trail**
Scan Map and Travel Information Center, 135 Sounding Knob Rd., Monterey; 540-396-2347; highlandcounty.org/maple-syrup-trail. Tour local sugar camps and get your passport stamped!

**Virginia’s Blue Ridge Visitor Information Center**
201 Shenandoah Ave., NE, Roanoke; 540-427-1800; explorepark.org. Hiking trails, adventure course disc golf, camping, and visitor center.

**Hollins University**
Visual Arts Center, Roanoke; 540-362-6532; hollins.edu/visualarts. Explore the pistons pumping, great fly-wheel rotating and rooftop views.

**Crystal Spring Pump Station**
Roanoke; 540-982-5465; roanokehistory.org. View the great fly-wheel rotating and the pistons pumping.

**Roanoke’s Grandin Theatre**
Roanoke; 540-345-6377; grandintheatre.com. Historic nonprofit theater showing first run & vintage films.

**Tour Local Sugar Camps and Get Your Passport Stamped**
Virginia Maple Syrup Trail High Count, Monterey; 540-468-2347; highlandcounty.org/maple-syrup-trail.

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Come Experience the Beauty of Smith Mountain Lake

The Smith Mountain Lake region is filled with natural beauty, water adventure, scenic parks for hiking and biking, local shopping and dining, wineries, distilleries, and historical treasures. SML offers countless ways to create unforgettable memories in all four seasons.