The VIRGINIA MOUNTAINS region connects small towns and vibrant cities through scenic drives in the western reaches of the state. With breathtaking views and a wealth of fresh air adventures, this outdoor mecca invites you to explore and enjoy before kicking back to enjoy your favorite locally crafted beverage.

ADVENTURE

Head to the East Coast Mountain Biking Capital to become a #Trailsetter in Virginia’s Blue Ridge! Outdoor lovers will enjoy over 3,000 trail miles of mountain biking and hiking, plus blueways and water trails for paddling, kayaking and canoeing. While you’re in the area, pop over to recently expanded Explore Park for camping in yurts and pod cabins, and don’t miss a chance to soar through the trees on the new Treetop Quest aerial adventure course with zip-lines.

TREK

Take a hike to one of the healthiest, most biologically diverse forests in the world in Virginia’s Western Highlands. A stark contrast to one of the region’s many greenways, National Forest land features sightings of wildlife, such as black bears, bobcats, brook trout and songbirds, as well as rare and unusual plants. Trails throughout the Alleghany Highlands and the counties of Bath, Craig and Highland offer insights to the region’s rich heritage, gorgeous landscapes and friendly communities. You can even access the famed Appalachian Trail!

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QUENCH

Taste-test delicious craft brews at Explore Park’s historic Brugh Tavern, where Twin Creeks Brewing recently opened their second location. A few hops away is Beale’s in Bedford, Chaos Mountain Brewing in Callaway and Hammer and Forge in Boones Mill. Prefer a more urban experience? Try Three Notch’d in downtown Roanoke, which is also family-friendly, Deschutes Tasting Room for a variety of flavors; or Big Lick Brewing, where your pups can enjoy the afternoon together, too!

FISH

There’s plenty of outdoor fun to enjoy in the mountain hamlet of Paint Bank. Hunting and fishing enthusiasts can start at the state fish hatchery, capturing a unique look into the trout rearing and stocking process, with 1.6 million trout in all stages of development. Pack up your gear for a trip to Big Pine Trout Farm, where sportsmen test their skills for trophy-sized trout (and can even take home the catch for the evening’s supper!). Finish up your adventures by stepping across an actual swinging bridge in the Paint Bank General Store at The Swinging Bridge Restaurant, complete with wildlife displays, gifts and hunting and fishing supplies.

SPLASH

Time for kayaking, tubing and biking in the Alleghany Highlands, where you can explore the great outdoors along the Jackson River Blueway or Scenic Trail. The newly opened Alleghany Outdoors in Covington rents kayaks, tubes, bikes and rafts, and offers the ultimate outdoor experience for locals and visitors. Try a combo trip for the ideal day outside, and pack a picnic lunch to enjoy on the back deck overlooking the river! Want to slow things down? Head east to Smith Mountain Lake for a houseboat excursion, thanks to Parrot Cove Boat Rentals and Sales, to explore the more than 500 miles of shoreline and hidden nooks and inlets of this unique man-made lake. Or head south to Philpott Lake for Concerts by Canoe (or tube or SUP) – featuring live music on a floating stage for a floating audience!
Franklin County is a distinct outdoor destination along the Blue Ridge Parkway. It is a landscape woven with miles of roads, trails, and waters perfect for adventures of all kinds. Bike along nearly 50 miles of scenic byways.

You can paddle on one of five blueways, including Philpott Lake. Or spend the day boating on one of two lakes, including Smith Mountain Lake. Finish the day with a craft beverage at one of our fine wineries, breweries or distilleries.
Bute County Historic Circuit Courthouse
1 West Main St., 540-473-8274; hisfin.org. Original, primary source genealogy documents dating to the early 1700s.

Bute County Historical Museum
Court House Sq., 540-473-8794; butehistory.org; housed hundreds of artifacts and historic interpretations of Bute County.

Fincastle
Fincastle Historic District
20 West Main St., 540-473-1900; historicaldocuments.net. National Register of Historic Places; Italian Renaissance, architectural style from 1770s-20th century.

Fincastle Library Genealogy Room
51 Academy St., 540-477-2910; fincastle.lib.va.us. A collection of local and national genealogy documents. Research assistance available.

James Hator Early Cabin
222 Murray St., 540-473-1077; hisfin.org. Purposed historic cabin since 1776, scheduled tours available.

Upper James River Water Trail
16 East Main St., 540-473-1270; fincastle.lib.va.us. Buses with public access points, kayaking, canoeing, fishing.

HARDS
Booster T. Washington National Monument

Federal Reserve Bank

Twins Ridge Recreation Park
1021 Twins Ridge Rd., 276-427-2703. Hosts such events as the National Guard Flik College Fishing Northern Conference Championship.

HOT SPRINGS
Garth Newel Music Center
401 Earth Newel Ln., 540-697-6520; gnhm.org. World-class music, gourmet food, friendly people, and breathtaking scenery.

Smith Mountain Lake State Park

McDowell Battlefield
540-397-4178; highlandcountyhistory.org. Experience unspoiled, mountain Civil War battlefield.

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Parrot Core Boat Rentals
16430 Booker T. Washington Hwy., 540-487-8140; parrotcore.com. Experience a Smith Mountain Lake vacation like none other!

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Smith Mountain Lake State Park

Smith Mountain Lake
540-721-2700; smithmtnlakeva.com. 100 shoreline miles.

Smith Mountain Lake State Park

Monticello
Monticello and Jefferson National Forest
165 West Main St., 540-473-3077; fincastle.lib.va.us. Enormous outdoor playground, 300 square miles and no traffic lights!
EXPLORE VIRGINIA'S WESTERN HIGHLANDS, where mountain views, charming towns and outdoor fun can be found around every bend in the road.

Outdoor Adventures
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

Be inspired
Virginia's only Year-round Chamber Music Experience.

Want big adventure?

Outdoor Adventure

MAGICAL JOURNEYS.

The back roads are winding and peaceful with stunning mountain views. The great food and legendary hospitality make the journey complete. That's a Made in Bath County experience.

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Not all escapes are created equal.

When you and your family travel, you bond. Whether you're experiencing falconry, horseback riding, skiing or zip lining for the first time, each day together shows you that the best experiences are the ones you share.

#MadeInBathVA

#UniquelyAlleghany

VisitAlleghanyHighlands.com

Plan your Uniquely Alleghany getaway at VisitAlleghanyHighlands.com

540-962-2178  888-430-5786  #UniquelyAlleghany

This #UniquelyAlleghany moment courtesy of Alleghany Highlands Trails.

Be inspired
Garth Newel Piano Quartet

Hot Springs, VA  |  540.839.5018  |  www.GarthNewel.org

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