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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS













CHEROKEE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

PIE and MUSIC

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For the Love of PANNING A Colorful Visit for GOLD to BLUE RIDGE

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Enchanted Maize

Five Weekends: Fri. - Sun., September 27 - October 27

Adventure for the whole family begins by getting lost in the Enchanted Maize at Blowing Springs Farm. Next go on a hayride, take a seat on a cow train, drive a pedal cart, target shoot with a corn slingshot, get wet in a duck race, and pet some animals at the Critter Corral. Southeast Tourism Society selected this A-MAIZE-ing experience as a Top 20 Event for 2017.

Blowing Springs Farm, 271 Chattanooga Valley Road, Flintstone, GA 30725

www.blowingspringsfarm.com

Fainting Goat Fall Fest Sun., October 20 Jasper

Let's cut to the good stuff, shall we? Themed Wine Tents, just what wine lovers are looking for in a festival. Become educated on how

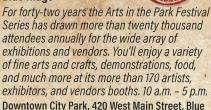
Fainting Goat's award-winning wines are made-from vine to wine. Stroll through the glorious vineyard grounds. Live music, hayrides, human foosball, a doggy costume contest, and even carnival games and bouncy houses for

the kiddies round out the day. Bring your lawn

Fainting Goat Vineyards, 201 Vineyard Way, Jasper, GA 30143

Facebook.com/FaintingGoatVineyards

Fall Arts in the Park Sat. & Sun., October 12 - 13



Ridge, GA 30513 BlueRidgeArts.net/arts-in-the-park

Fall Arts on the Great Lawn Sat. & Sun., September 21 - 22 **Gibbs Gardens**

Grab the unusual opportunity to visit Gibbs Gardens at a reduced cost. For only \$10 per person, each guest can browse more than fifty booths featuring juried artists and artisans and stroll more than two hundred acres of spectacular gardens. In addition to a variety of





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Enjoy!

GETTING OUT

nohl georgia FALL FESTIVALS

by Angela Chambers, Canton Resident

As autumn draws near, colorful leaves, bountiful apple harvests, and sweatshirt weather turn our hearts (and our GPS devices) toward the North Georgia mountains.

Early morning hikers, bikers, and kayakers flock to our northern parks for high-energy activities, while afternoons and evenings allow time to attend the festivals that flourish this time of year.

Appalachian Brew, Stew, and Que Festival

Sat., October 26 Hiawassee

Enjoy a day filled with brew, stew, and barbecue. Breweries from Georgia and North Carolina will be featured. You'll enjoy live music (Appalachian and Americana), food from area restaurants, regional artist booths, and free shuttles to and from local hotels and campgrounds.

Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, 1311 Music Hall Road, Hwy. 76 West, Hiawassee, GA 30546

GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com

Blue Ridge Blues & BBQ Music Festival

Thur. - Sat., September 19 - 21 Blue Ridge

Start the weekend Friday evening with a downtown Blues Crawl. Join the locals as they go from one restaurant to the next to eat, drink, and experience live music. Wander around Saturday as the smoky smell of barbecue from local and regional cookers fills the air. Traditional sounds of blues music against the backdrop of an early fall mountain town make this event distinctive.

Downtown City Park, 420 West Main Street, Blue Ridge, GA 30513

> BlueRidgeBluesandBBQ. com

Cherry Log Festival

Three weekends: Sat. and Sun., October 5 - 6, 12 - 13, 19 - 20

Cherry Log

Homemade cakes, pies, and canned goods are only part of the experience. Come early, because they're serving up savory breakfasts too. Wander around to check out a variety of arts and craft vendors. The bluegrass, gospel, and country music will help you work up an appetite for a hearty lunch. Fun for the whole family.

341 Cherry Log Street, Cherry Log, GA 30522 BlueRidgeMountains.com/events/cherry-logfall-festival



Chickamauga Pumpkin Festival Sat., October 19 Chickamauga

Get ready for the sixth annual Chickamauga Pumpkin Festival. You'll find crafts and food vendors, kids' games, live music, a pumpkin-carving contest, pumpkin painting, and much more. Come early and enjoy a pancake, sausage, and bacon breakfast.

Downtown Chickamauga, 111 Gordon Street, Chickamauga, GA 30707

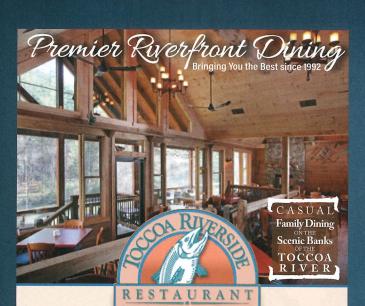
Facebook.com/ChickamaugaPumpkinFestival



VISIT



by Angela Chambers, Canton Resident One of many benefits to Cherokee County residents is the proximity to lofty mountain towns like Blue Ridge. A mere sixty miles from Canton, Blue Ridge offers restaurants, breweries, vineyards, outdoor activities, arts and crafts, and many other diversions. Blue Ridge has earned many accolades, with the latest coming from Southern Living Magazine. Citing ideal mountain living coupled with a vibrant dining scene, Southern Living named Blue Ridge one of its best retirement towns of 2019. While Blue Ridge offers entertaining experiences yearround, fall delivers even more excitement with its added autumn colors.



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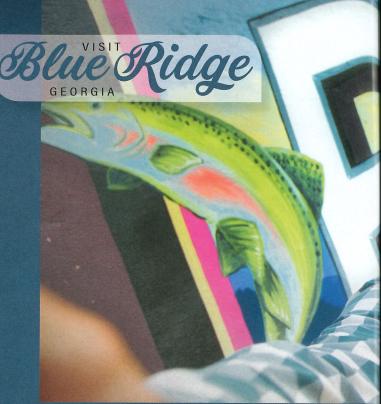


kristin@brownspecialtytravel.com www.brownspecialtytravel.com



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Maine is not your thing, take one of the shorter hikes that also offer serene scenery. The half-mile trek to Fall Branch Falls on the Benton MacKaye Trail takes you to one of the most picturesque waterfalls in Georgia.

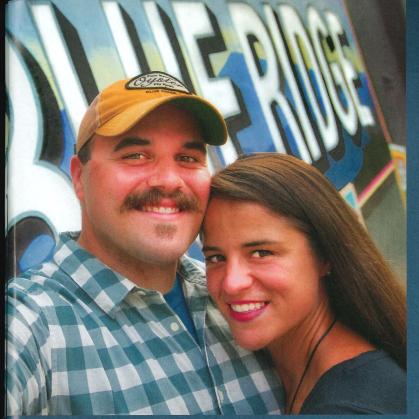
If two wheels are more your speed, Stanley Gap and Flat Creek mountain bike trails are close by. Stanley Gap offers fourteen miles of intermediate/ difficult single track, while Flat Creek has almost four and a half miles of intermediate single track.

The Georgia mountains are known for its apple orchards, and Blue Ridge excels in that area as nominee for Best Apple Orchard. Mercier grows strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, peaches, plums, nectarines, and apples and offers apple picking from August to October The orchard offers local apple products such as fried pies and cider too. While there you and your family can tackle the obstacle course perfect for family fun or team building.



Other family activities in Blue Ridge include the Expedition Bigfoot Museum—the museum—and the Swan Drive-In Theater, one of the few drive-in movie theaters in Georgia still in operation.

In 2015 the Georgia Council of the Arts named Blue Ridge one of the Top Five Art Towns in



2018, American Craft Week recognized it as one of the top ten fine craft towns in America. At the heart of the arts scene is the Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association. According to Executive Director Nicole Potzauf, "We strive to make the arts accessible to a rural community." The association offers classes and exhibits

events a year, including major arts festivals in May and October.

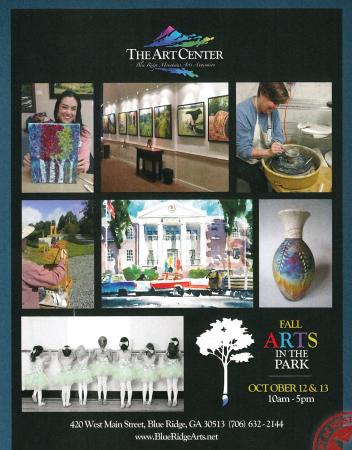
For more family fun, board the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway. Starting at the historic one-hundred-year old depot, riders take a four-hour, twenty-six-mile roundtrip journey along the Toccoa River through the Chattahoochee National Forest. From September 20 to November 11, see the fall colors in a unique way on the Fall Foliage 2019 rides. For information and tickets see BRScenic.com.

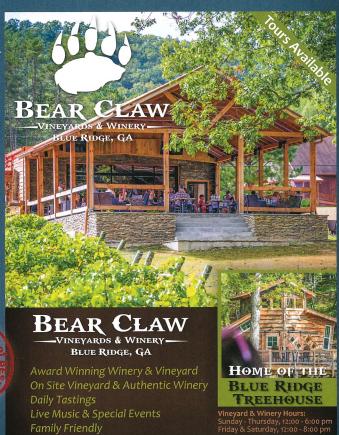
Blue Ridge can be a great one-day getaway, and for long weekends or full weeks, Kristen notes, "Most people stay in cabins to get the full mountain feel." Want to be in the heart of town? She recommends Blue Ridge Inn Bed and Breakfast, an 1890s Victorian house. Check out Southern Comfort Cabin Rentals for a variety of long- and short-term cabin rentals.

Whether you stay one day, one week, one season, or whether you move to Blue Ridge, it's the perfect place for Cherokee folks to be, especially in autumn.

For more information visit BlueRidgeMountains. com. Enjoy!







BearClawVineyards.com • 706-223-3750 • ²²⁸¹ Tennis Court Road Blue Ridge, Georgia