

Accommodations

- * Restaurant on Site
- 1 **Absolute Paradise**
504-723-5533
- 2 **Alpine Inn**
828-765-5380
- 3 **America's Best Value Inn**
828-659-2567
- 4 **Appalachian Dream Cabin**
251-363-3142
- 5 **Between the Falls**
386-299-9681
- 6 **Backyard Bunkies**
828-527-4428
- 7 **Bear Haven & Gypsy Cabins**
828-668-4831
- 8 **Bear Den Creek-Side Cabins**
828-765-2888
- 9 **Big Bear Cabin**
828-765-2888
- 10 **Big Lynn Lodge**
800-654-5232 or 828-765-4257
- 11 **Black Bear Cabin**
386-299-9681
- 12 **Blue Ridge Parkway Cabin Rentals**
919-602-6722
- 13 **Budget Inn**
828-652-7276
- 14 **Camp Grier Group Lodges**
828-668-7793
- 15 **Camp Lake James & Cabins**
828-391-6866
- 16 **Lake James Vacation Rentals**
828-442-5890
- 17 **Chalet Switz**
407-678-9383
- 18 **Comfort Inn**
828-652-4888 or 877-424-6423
- 19 **Cottages at Spring House Farm**
828-738-9798 or 877-738-9798
- 21 **Eco-Cove Wildlife Sanctuary**
828-724-9757
- 22 **Fossie's Cabin**
828-724-9612
- 23 **Grandview Lodge**
407-463-2458
- 24 **Greybeard Rentals**
828-668-6077
- 25 **Hampton Inn**
828-652-5100 or 800-426-7866
- 26 **Haus Edelweiss Guest Suite**
828-527-2564
- 27 **Hidden Lake Cabins**
828-460-8252
- 28 **Holiday Inn Express**
828-527-0035
- 29 **Catawba River Inn**
828-756-7001
- 30 **Inn on Mill Creek**
877-735-2964 or 828-668-1115
- 31 **Jarrett Creek Cottage**
828-669-1072
- 32 **The Kibbin**
828-669-1072
- 33 **Lake Club Vacation Rental**
828-584-9999
- 34 **Lake Front Retreat**
919-426-6723
- 35 **Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages***
800-634-4421 or 828-765-2658
- 36 **Little Switzerland Vacation Rentals**
866-766-0611 or 828-765-7111
- 37 **Lodge at Catawba Falls Preserve**
828-284-7893
- 38 **Log Lodge Hideaway**
704-578-3410
- 39 **Morning Star Cabin**
225-439-0281
- 40 **Mountain Appalachian Inn**
828-460-3438

- 41 **The Mountain Majesty**
585-402-4398
- 42 **Newberry Creek Cabin**
828-442-5890
- 43 **Railway Rest**
828-460-2486
- 44 **Rivers Ridge Lodge**
828-243-5762 or 828-668-7529
- 45 **Rocky Falls Retreat**
704-489-1559 or 704-641-9500
- 46 **Round Knob Lodge**
828-669-1072
- 47 **Ryan's Rest**
678-850-5944
- 48 **Sarah's Song Cabin**
828-659-2879
- 49 **Sky Island Retreat**
828-668-4928
- 50 **Skyline Inn***
828-765-9394
- 51 **South Creek Retreat**
828-803-9464
- 52 **Sportsman Inn**
828-659-7525
- 53 **Super 8 Motel**
828-659-7940
- 54 **Switzerland Inn***
800-654-4026 or 828-765-2153
- 55 **Tranquility Cabin**
828-738-4893
- 56 **Waters Edge**
828-442-5890
- 57 **Whispering Creek Cottage**
813-215-8906
- 58 **Wildcat Lodge**
502-245-8816
- 59 **Hidden Creek Camping Resort**
828-652-7208

Attractions

- Lake James State Park**
828-652-5047 or 828-584-7728
- Linville Caverns**
800-419-0540 or 828-756-4171
- Linville Gorge Wilderness Area**
828-652-2144
- Orchard at Altapass**
888-765-9531 or 828-765-9531
- Bear Creek Marina**
828-655-1400
- Buck Creek Trout Farm**
828-724-9612
- Catawba River Outdoors**
828-442-6048
- McDowell Arts Council Gallery & Gifts**
828-652-8610
- Arrowhead Gallery & Studios**
828-668-1100
- The Makery**
828-312-7150
- The Catawba Angler**
828-460-2390
- Blue Ridge Traveler Visitor Center**
828-668-4282

Golfing

- Buck Creek Driving Range**
828-724-4888
- Marion Lake Club Golf Course**
828-652-6232
- Linville Falls Golf Club**
828-756-4653

Museums

- Historic Carson House**
828-724-4948
- Mountain Gateway Museum**
828-668-9259
- NC Museum of Minerals**
828-765-2761

Blue Ridge Traveler

TOWNS AND TRAILS

MARION • LAKE JAMES • LITTLE SWITZERLAND
LINVILLE FALLS • OLD FORT

- Accommodations
- Campgrounds
- Public/Primitive Camping
- Wineries
- Mining
- ▬▬▬▬▬▬ Dirt Road
- ▬▬▬▬▬▬ Road Closed to Traffic

Area Attractions

- Mt. Mitchell State Park**
828-675-4611
- Grandfather Mountain State Park**
800-468-7325
- Chimney Rock State Park**
800-277-9611
- Biltmore House**
800-411-3812



Campgrounds

- 1 **Bear Den**
828-765-2888
- 2 **Buck Creek**
828-724-4888
- 3 **Camp Grier**
828-668-7793
- 4 **Catawba Falls**
828-668-4831
- 5 **Mountain Paradise**
828-756-4085
- 6 **Mountain Stream RV Park**
Mountain Stream Yurts
828-724-9013
- 7 **Mountain View RV Park**
828-527-3020
- 8 **Riverbreeze Campground**
828-925-8524
- 9 **Sky Island Retreat**
828-668-4928
- 10 **Tom Johnson's RV Park**
888-266-0551
- 11 **Triple C**
828-724-4099
- 12 **Hidden Creek Camping Resort**
828-652-7208

Public & Primitive Camping

- 1 **Crabtree Fall Campground**
828-675-5444
- 2 **Curtis Creek Campground**
828-652-2144
- 3 **Lake James State Park**
828-652-5047
- 4 **Linville Gorge Wilderness Area**
828-652-2144

Wineries/Cheese/Bees/Beer

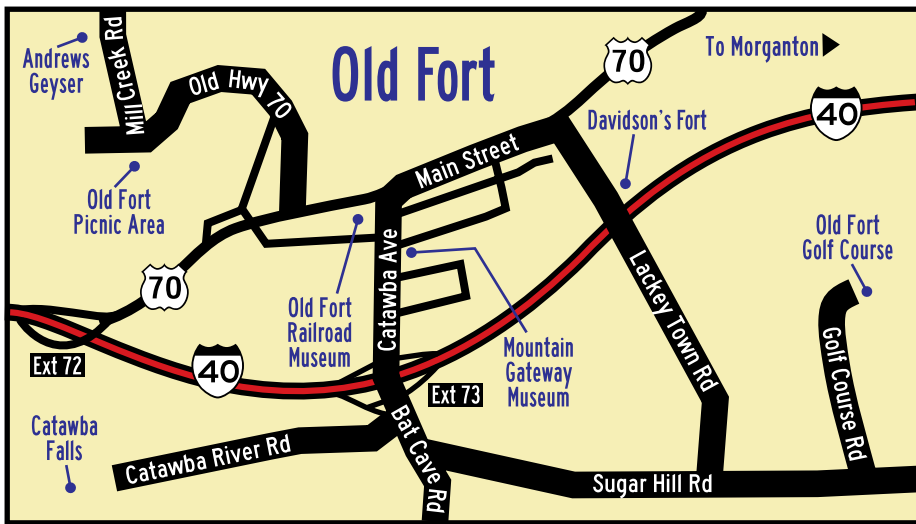
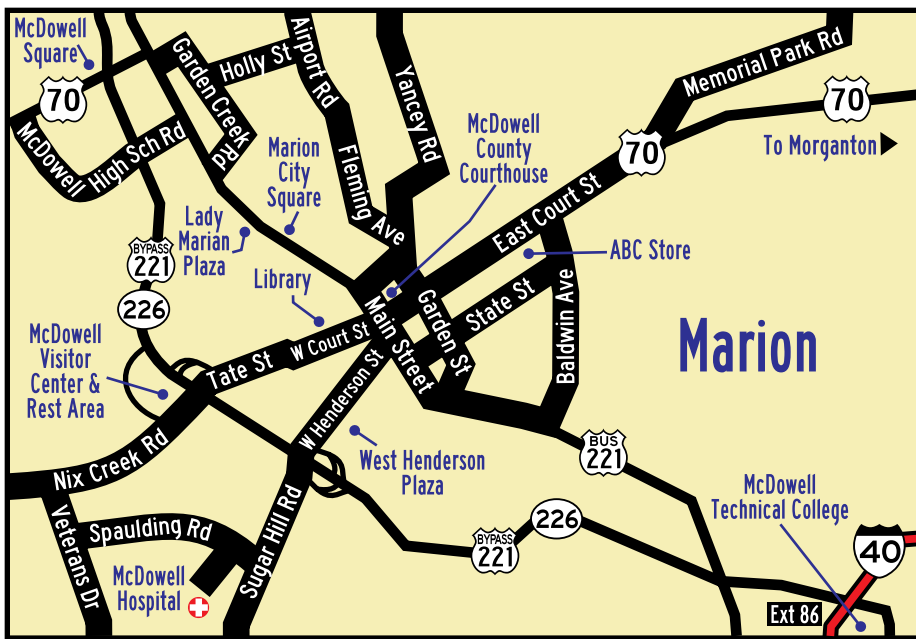
- 1 **Linville Falls Winery**
828-765-1400
- 2 **English Farmstead Cheese**
828-756-8166
- 3 **Lake James Cellars**
828-584-4551
- 4 **Keeper's Cut Meadery**
828-527-6326
- 5 **South Creek Vineyards & Winery**
828-652-5729
- 6 **Silver Fork Vineyard**
828-652-5729
- 7 **Sweet Betsy Farm**
828-724-4444
- 8 **Refinery 13**
828-559-0027
- 9 **Mica Town Brewery**
828-559-8300
- 10 **Spillway Bridge & Co.**
828-460-0269
- 11 **Hillman Beer**
828-668-6372
- 12 **Flavors on Main General Store**
828-528-8145

Mining

- 1 **Emerald Village**
828-765-6463
- 2 **Linville Mountain Gem Shop**
828-756-7206
- 3 **The Lucky Strike**
828-738-4893
- 4 **Carolina Emerald Mine**
828-738-9544

McDowell County Tourism Authority
91 South Catawba Avenue | Old Fort, NC 28762

Call for a **FREE**
McDowell County Travel Guide
1-888-233-6111 or 828-668-4282
www.blueridgetravelers.com



10 Point Lookout Trail
3.62 miles, easy-moderate.

Non-Motorized Trail. 1800-2900 Feet above sea level depending upon area. Spectacular views of Royal Gorge and 19th century railroad tunnels. Paved NON-MOTORIZED trail for bicyclists and hikers. I-40 to exit 73, North on Catawba Ave., turn left onto Highway 70, then right onto Old Hwy. 70. 2.4 miles to Mill Creek Road, Old Fort Picnic Area to left with parking available during season. Trail begins at end of Old Hwy. 70, look for U.S.F.S. entry gate.

11 Woodlawn Fitness Trail
1.25 miles, easy-moderate.

1600 ft. Fitness trail consists of 7 stations, 2 exercises per station, on a 1/4 mile jogging path. Additional 1-mile loop surrounds exercise trail. Woodlawn Work Center is 6 miles north of Marion on US 221. Trail is behind picnic area on left.

12 Woods Mountain/Betsy Ridge
13 miles, moderate-strenuous.

3600 ft. Excellent views of Black Mountains, Little Switzerland, Armstrong Creek watershed area, and Table Rock from section of North Carolina's "Mountains to Sea Trail." Trail begins near Buck Creek Gap overlook at intersection of Blue Ridge Parkway and NC 80. Trail may be exited on US 221, at US Forest Service rest area near Woodlawn.

13 Snook's Nose
Strenuous, 2.7 miles. Caution

Experienced hikers only. Narrow trail, ascending approx. 2800 feet. From US 70 turn onto Curtis Creek Road, continuing approximately four miles to campground. Trailhead is marked on left side of Curtis Creek Road, across from the campground. Trail rises steeply to Blue Ridge Parkway with long range views along the ridge. Cross Parkway to access Green Knob Lookout Tower with views of Mt. Mitchell.

Hiking Trails

1 Armstrong Creek
3 miles, easy-moderate.

3640 ft. Primitive hiking trail on old logging road. Take NC 226A to Armstrong Fish Hatchery Road (1443). Trail head begins past hatchery parking lot, ends at Woods Mountain Trail..

2 Bad Fork
2-6 miles, moderate.

2940 ft. Primitive trail connects with Woods Mountain and Armstrong Creek Trails. Take NC 226A to Armstrong Fish Hatchery Road (1443). Drive 3 miles to trail head on left side at confluence of Bad Fork with Armstrong Creek. Trail ends at Woods Mountain Trail.

3 Kitsuma Peak Trail/Young's Ridge
9.7 mile loop, moderate.

3195 ft. Two trails merge to create an eight-mile trail opening to breathtaking views, winding around Old Fort Mountain. Also used as a mountain bike trail, listen for riders. Narrow trail, moderate to difficult. Parking available at Ridgecrest Overlook and at Old Fort Picnic Area. From US Hwy. 70, approx. 2.4 miles, U.S.F.S. Old Fort Picnic Area on left. From 1-40/Ridgecrest Exit, turn onto "Old Hwy. 70" to stop sign, past Ridgecrest Conf. Center. Drive straight ahead to road end at parking area.

4 Lead Mine Gap
2.8 miles, moderate.

3460 ft. Mixed forested environment with long range views. Take Curtis Creek Road from US 70, east of Old Fort. Continue about 8 1/2 miles to trail head. Trail head is at the intersection of campground site #213. Trail descends to Mackey Creek. Offers a back country experience and can be hard to follow.

5 Linville Gorge

3400 ft. Eastern America's most scenic and rugged gorge. On NC 183 in village of Linville Falls, turn right at dirt road (Kistler Memorial Highway, #1238) 3/4 mile from intersection with US 221. There are multiple strenuous trails accessible from Kistler Memorial Highway. Obtain Linville Gorge Wilderness Map from US Forest Service Grandfather District Office in Nebo, 828-652-2144

6 Mackey Mountain
7 miles, difficult.

3400 ft. Excellent views in bear sanctuary. Take Curtis Creek Road, off US 70, east of Old Fort. Trailhead is 3.7 miles from Curtis Creek Recreation Area Campground. Follows the Mackey Mountain Ridge through old growth forests. Trail crosses Narrows Knob, elevation 3396, and trail can be hard to follow.

7 McDowell Historic Greenway

The McDowell Greenway is a paved route, following the path of the Catawba River. Two sections are complete and cover approximately 1.5 miles (one way). Canoe/kayak and fishing access, handicap fishing decks. Enter the park at 136 US 70 West in Marion, parking is behind house.

8 Mt. Ida Wilderness Trail

Gravel road leads to trailhead, covered picnic shelter and overlook. Trail is approximately .70 mile. Entrance at 1536 Rutherford Road in Marion, beside Ideal Rentals.

9 Newberry Creek
5 miles, easy-moderate.

4300 ft. Scenic trail ends at Parkway. Take Curtis Creek Road, off US 70, east of Old Fort. Left at Newberry Creek Road, parking on left side of road, just before road ends at trailhead. Trail begins after 4 miles at end of road.



Waterfalls

1 Catawba Falls:

3 miles round-trip, moderate, strenuous. A 340-foot cascade, upper falls is a 70-foot plunge. I-40 West bound to exit 73. Turn left and go under interstate. Make first right. At fork, bear left onto Catawba River Road. I-40 West bound exit 73. As you approach the stop sign at the end of this exit, Catawba River Road is to the right BEFORE you reach the stop sign. Road ends after 3 miles. Parking area is at the end of the bridge. Follow trail signs. Hiking is permitted during daylight hours only. The McDowell County Sheriff's department patrols this area. Cars left after dusk will be towed.

2 Crabtree Falls

2.5 mile loop, moderate. 60-foot plunge down a wide and even rock face. At Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 33.5, turn into Crabtree Falls Parking lot. Do not use the campground parking lot.

3 Dugger's Creek Falls
0.3 mile loop/easy

On the Blue Ridge Parkway, Milepost 316.5 is the Linville Falls parking area and visitor center. Once in the parking lot, you will find the visitor's center with a map of the park, and some pictures of the waterfalls. To see Dugger's Creek Falls, you will follow the edge of the parking lot back to the street. You will come upon a small, marked trailhead to your right. Once you enter the woods, you will follow a very short trail to a bridge over Dugger's Creek. The falls to your right. This is not a large waterfalls, but is breathtaking. Bring the camera to take great shots from the swinging bridge. There is also a trail going down below for other views of the falls.

4 Hickory Branch Trail Falls

4 miles round-trip, moderate. View of 20-foot falls. Approximately 2 miles east of Old Fort on US 70, turn onto Curtis Creek Road, go 4 miles to campground. Trailhead is on edge of field to right of campground.

5 Linville Falls

Falls Trail: 1.6 miles round-trip, easy; Gorge Trail: 1.4 miles round-trip, strenuous; Plunge Basin Trail: 1 mile round-trip, moderate.

Most popular waterfall in Blue Ridge! A spectacular three-tiered waterfall plunging into Linville Gorge, the "Grand Canyon of the Southern Appalachians." Exit Blue Ridge Parkway spur at milepost 316.4.

6 Roaring Fork Falls

1 mile round-trip, easy. Located in Toecane District of Pisgah National Forest. A 30-foot rush down a narrow, zigzag slide. At Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 344.1, exit north onto NC 80. Drive north 2.3 miles, turn left onto FS 472 (South Toe River Road), just before Mt. Mitchell Golf Course. Take first left (after 0.1 miles) at sign indicating Roaring Fork Falls and Busick Work Center. Road dead-ends at work center. Park near gate on right.

7 Setrock Creek Falls

1.4 miles round-trip, easy. From the Blue Ridge Parkway at MP 344, continue south for 2.2 miles, left on South Toe River Rd (SR 1205). Follow Black Mountain Campground signs approx. 2.8 miles, at 2 miles there is a sharp turn. Park across from the campground entrance, if you're not camping. From here, walk across bridge into campground, take first road to left, then take second trail to the right, stake reads "Setrock Falls."

8 Tom's Creek Falls

2 mile loop, easy. 7 miles north of Marion on US 221. Turn left at Huskins Branch Road, just before Woodlawn Motel. Go 1.3 miles and park on right at gravel lot with kiosk. Trailhead begins at lot. When trail forks, follow left along creek. Gentle falls in picturesque area. Approximate height of falls: 100 feet.