



The Finer Things Tour

Find tours and tastings at area wineries, plus upscale shopping, spa treatments, fine restaurants, performing arts and much more on the Finer Things Tour. This tour is best for groups of 25-40.

Day 1

Ashe & Alleghany Counties

Galleries and Murals of Downtown West Jefferson: Tour over 15 fine art and handcraft galleries in West Jefferson. Be sure to check in with the Ashe County Arts Council to find out about the downtown mural tour, and local music and arts performances that might be happening during your visit. (1.5 hrs)

Barn Quilt and Frescoe Tour: Take a drive through the beautiful countryside and be on the lookout for traditional quilt patterns displayed on barns throughout the area. Make your destination one or both of the Churches of the Frescoes, which feature the work of Ben Long. (1 hr)

Thistle Meadow Winery in Laurel Springs: Sample the bounty at a wine tasting and learn to make your own wine. (2 hrs)

Green Park Inn Restaurant & Tavern: Visit the 2nd oldest Inn in North Carolina for a fine dining experience. Drop in the Divide Tavern and sit where historic figures such as Annie Oakley have enjoyed a nightcap. (1.5 hrs)

Day 2

Boone, Blowing Rock, Banner Elk

Galleries & Shops of Downtown Blowing Rock: Tour several galleries, including the Blowing Rock Art & History Museum, and many upscale boutiques, antiques and other shops. (2 hrs)

The Spa and Timberlake's Restaurant at Chetola Resort: The Spa at Chetola Resort offers a wide variety of spa treatments. Follow your relaxing afternoon with lunch at Timberlake's, which features a menu inspired by Bob Timberlake, the world- renowned artist from North Carolina. (2.5 hrs)

The Cone Manor: This historic property features spectacular views off the Blue Ridge Parkway, a tour of the manor and houses the Southern Highland Craft Guild Gallery. (1 hr)

Fine Art Galleries: If you have time, visit the Carlton Gallery in Banner Elk, featuring the works of over 200 artists. The Crossnore Weavers demonstrations and fine textile shop is another great destination.

Evening Entertainment Options: Take in a performance at ASU, The Mariam & Robert Hayes Performing Arts Center, or enjoy the outdoor drama *Horn in the West* (June-Aug.). Also, check the High Country Host's calendar of events for festivals and special performances: www.mountainsofnc.com/calendar.html

Arts & Music Festivals to Plan Your Trip Around:

Art in the Park: A series of six juried art and fine handcraft shows with 100 exhibitors in each show held in Blowing Rock one Saturday per month May through October.

An Appalachian Summer Festival: ASU's annual summer arts celebration featuring music, dance, theatre and visual arts held on ASU's campus during the month of July.

The Blue Ridge Wine & Food Festival: This April event features wine and food tastings, auctions, seminars, cooking classes and much more.

Symphony at Chetola Resort: Usually held one Friday evening in July. Check HCH calendar for dates.

West Jefferson Antique Fair: The September event features over 50 antique vendors and is held in concurrence with the Art on the Mountain Artist Showcase.

For more information on touring the High Country, contact:



High Country Host
1-800-438-7500
www.mountainsofnc.com