



## **GRAHAM COUNTY, NC**

Begin your road to adventure in Graham County, NC. The remote area, tucked away in the far-western region of North Carolina in the Great Smoky Mountains, offers an array of outdoor adventures, unique accommodations, shops and dining. Enjoy scenic road tours, wilderness hiking and biking trails, trout streams, lakes, mountain views and waterfalls in an uncrowded setting. Gaze upon spectacular outdoor sights from elevations reaching over 5,500 feet. Catch a glimpse of residents that have been featured on the Discovery Channel's "Moonshiners" series. Discover Robbinsville, voted one of the Top Outdoor Adventure Towns by Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine readers. Admire giant poplars in Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, explore Fontana Dam, the tallest dam in the Eastern US, or brave the Tail of the Dragon's twisty roads. [www.GrahamCountyTravel.com](http://www.GrahamCountyTravel.com)

## **DID YOU SAY TREEHOUSES?**

Graham County is home to a myriad of lodging options from upscale lodges with soaring mountain views, to treehouses, tiny houses, floating houses, cozy lakefront cabin rentals, even a specialty inn that provides a private motorcycle garage with every room! Blue Waters Mountain Lodge, a cozy, friendly lodge overlooking Lake Santeetlah, hosts lakeside BBQ parties on Friday Nights. Snowbird Mountain Lodge is a magical, secluded mountain retreat listed on the Register of Natural Historic Places. The Fontana Village Resort, which sits above Fontana Lake and Fontana Dam, offers full-service conference facilities and caters to families with a host of activities. The Historic Tapoco Lodge, also listed on the Register of Natural Historic Places, is an all-inclusive destination for an elegant family vacation or corporate retreat. New in 2014, get a lofty perspective at River's Edge Treehouses in an outdoor setting along the Cheoah River. Try vacationing simply in a tiny house at Living Simply Campground, or immerse yourself in the ultimate privacy in a floating house on Lake Fontana. [www.grahamcountytravel.com/accommodations](http://www.grahamcountytravel.com/accommodations)

## **WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE**

Four lakes, 3 dams, and 15 waterfalls; it's an outdoor enthusiast's dream! Lakes Calderwood, Cheoah, Fontana and Santeetlah are popular destinations for fishing and water sports, including boating, water skiing, kayaking, paddleboarding, swimming, and jet skiing. And our streams are rated among the most popular fly fishing waters in North Carolina with a delayed harvest program that adds thousands of trout to Big Snowbird Creek each fall. If you are looking for excitement, kayak down the Cheoah River during a scheduled whitewater dam release and experience the longest and steepest class IV and V rapids in the Southeast. [www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/lakes-creeks-whitewater](http://www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/lakes-creeks-whitewater)

## **HIT THE ROAD**

The Cherohala Skyway begins 10 miles west of Robbinsville, NC, travels 41 miles along the crest of the Unicoi Mountains and ends in Tellico Plains, TN. Crossing the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests, the highway is surrounded by mile after mile of scenic overlooks. The trailheads for many hiking trails originate from the Cherohala Skyway, including Hooper Bald - a quarter-mile forest hike that leads to a meadow with beautiful flaming azaleas in June. The Huckleberry Trailhead leads up a gradual slope through a thicket of dwarf trees and shrubs to a grassy overlook with extensive views of



mountains, coves and deep valleys. Spirit Ridge, which is wheelchair and stroller accessible, strolls through a hardwood forest to a fabulous vista overlooking the byway.

Other famous roadways include the Tail of the Dragon – with 318 curves in 11 miles; this is a motorcycle and sports car enthusiast’s dream ride. The recent interest in moonshining is drawing people to Moonshiner 28 which runs 105 miles from the “The Dragon” to Walhalla South Carolina. Twisting roads, waterfalls and back country shopping are its major features. [www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/roads](http://www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/roads)

### **THE COMMON BEAUTY OF THE NATURAL WORLD**

The famous Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, located within the Nantahala National Forest, is one of the last tracts of virgin hardwood forest remaining in the Appalachian Mountains. Preserved in its natural state, the 3,800 acre forest contains 100-foot poplars up to 450 years old with trunks measuring more than 20 feet in circumference. The forest is the gateway to the 13,000 acre Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness that features over 30 miles of trails. The Wilderness also offers an additional 300 miles of hiking trails across the county, including 28 miles of the Appalachian Trail. [www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/forests](http://www.grahamcountytravel.com/discover-graham-county/forests)

### **TRAILS FOR RIDING AND HIKING**

Visit Tsali Recreation Area, a mountain biker and horseback rider’s paradise with trails rated among the most popular in the Eastern United States. The four-loop trail system is best known as a challenging mountain bike course. New in 2014, the Santeetlah Lake Trails are quickly becoming a favorite of locals and visitors for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. [www.grahamcountytravel.com/santeetlahlaketrail/](http://www.grahamcountytravel.com/santeetlahlaketrail/)

### **AUTHENTIC SHOPPING & DINING EXPERIENCES**

Quaint shops and authentic local dining options are aplenty in Graham County. Wehrloom Honey’s all natural specialties, Yellow Branch Cheese and Working Pottery Studio, along with Stecoah Valley Center’s music, arts, festivals, classes, and food are just a few of our genuine community experiences. Dining options run the gamut from “farm-to-table” to fine dining, casual barbecue spots, and corner diners where the locals go. Jasper’s Restaurant at Tapoco Lodge is the #1 rated restaurant in all of Western North Carolina on TripAdvisor.



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