

HAYWOOD COUNTY TOURISM FACT SHEET

Haywood County (population: 61,084) is home to the North Carolina Great Smoky Mountains, the most visited national park in the country, and 46 of the most scenic miles and highest elevation on the Blue Ridge Parkway. There are 550 scenic square miles of mountains and valleys. Five mountain towns within the county offer something for everyone from outdoor enthusiasts, romantic vacationers, beer lovers, winter explorers, weekend warriors, relaxation seekers, live music groovers, art aficionados and more.

FUN FAST FACTS

3 Local Breweries



1 Distillery

40+ Locally Owned Restaurants

5 Christmas Tree Farms

3 National Parks and Forests

19 Peaks above 6,000 feet
(more than any other county
east of the Mississippi River)

74 Overlooks and Vistas on
Blue Ridge Parkway

150 Elk and Counting



7 Golf Courses

18 Ski Slopes

More than 700 Working Farms

1 of 2 Headwater Counties
in the Nation



MOUNTAIN TOWNS

MAGGIE VALLEY: Classic, authentic and nostalgic, Maggie Valley features scenic views and family-friendly attractions and is also the perfect home base for exploring due its wide range of accommodations.

- **EAT:** The Garrett House, J. Arthur's, Iconic Sandwiches, Joey's Pancake House, Frankie's Italian Trattoria
- **EXPLORE:** Wheels Through Time Museum, Cataloochee Ski Area, Elevated Mountain Distillery
- **SHOP:** B&C Winery, Simply Soco, Momma T's Mountain Made, Cabbage Rose

WAYNESVILLE: A charming urban downtown makes Waynesville ideal for shopping local boutiques and artisan goods, while the foodie will be delighted with a vibrant farm-to-table restaurant and craft beer scene.

- **EAT:** Boojum Brewery, Haywood Smokehouse, Sweet Onion, Bourbon Barrel Beef & Ale, Sauced
- **EXPLORE:** Barber's Orchard Fruit Stand, The Strand at 38 Main, Cataloochee Valley, Haywood Arts Regional Theatre
- **SHOP:** Hazelwood Soap Company, Robin Blu, Classic Wineseller, Mast General Store, Sunburst Market

LAKE JUNALUSKA: Popular for a relaxing respite, the 200-acre Lake Junaluska is surrounded by 1,200 acres of beautiful rolling hills and valleys.

- **EXPLORE:** Rose Walk, kayak and paddleboarding, Lake Junaluska Golf Course

CANTON: Rich with culture and history, Canton offers visitors a step back in time and an immersion in the culture of Appalachia.

- **EAT:** Bearwaters Brewing Company, Southern Porch, a La Cupcakes
- **EXPLORE:** Canton Labor Day Festival, Pigeon River Tubing

CLYDE: As a quaint, small town, Clyde is home to the county's most captivating historic sites as well as the perfect place to stop, relax and soak in the natural beauty of the North Carolina mountains.

- **EAT:** Blue Rooster Southern Grill, Ferrara Pizza & Pasta, Coffee Cup Cafe
- **EXPLORE:** Haywood County Quilt Trails, The Shook Museum

EAT & DRINK

Home to more than 55,000 acres of locally owned and operated farms and agricultural offerings, Haywood County is a farm-to-table foodie's delight. The agritourism initiative, Buy Haywood, is an invitation to experience these farms firsthand with the "Find Your Adventure" guide. The pristine mountain water is also key to a delicious local craft beer scene. Due to its high elevation, Haywood is known as a "Headwaters County" meaning all the natural water originates within it, ideal for delicious spirits. Visitors will enjoy breweries, bars and lounges and a craft distillery of premium whiskeys and spirits that offers tours and tastings.

STAY

The best selection of Smoky Mountain lodging and vacation rentals is right here in Haywood County, from quaint bed and breakfasts and contemporary inns to secluded cabins and popular hotels. Many are run by local families who are passionate about what they do and who have a family history dedicated to making every guest's visit the best experience.

PET FRIENDLY

Bring the pup along while vacationing in Haywood County to enjoy hikes and tasty restaurants with plenty of outdoor seating and delicious breweries that welcome four-legged friends. Head to the Pigeon River in Canton for a play date in one of the top four cleanest water sources in Asheville's greater watershed.

WEDDINGS

With more than 25 captivating venues, couples enjoy an unforgettable experience tying the knot. From intimate, rustic ceremonies to elaborate traditional celebrations, Haywood County provides a beautiful backdrop of rolling valleys, sweeping vistas, idyllic mountain lakes, or fields of wildflowers.

HISTORY

Founded in 1808, Haywood County was named for John Haywood, a North Carolina treasurer from 1787 to 1827. Rich in homegrown mountain heritage, the county is immersed in Appalachian traditions with a diverse range of activities for an avid history buff to explore, from museums to hiking to buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.

WEATHER

The annual average temperature is 54 degrees; the temperature averages 38 degrees in January and 71 degrees in June. Haywood County averages 47.5 inches of rainfall and 12.2 inches of snowfall each year.

LOCATION

Right in the middle of the North Carolina Smoky Mountains and the south end of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Haywood County offers a vacation full of outdoor adventure, with only a short drive from nearby cities including: 20 minutes from Asheville and 2.5 hours from Charlotte.

VISITOR CENTER

The Visit NC Smokies Visitor Center offers regional brochures, maps, directions, event calendars and public restrooms. It is open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.



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