

4-Day Tour

Asheville and the Blue Ridge Mountains

June 22-25, Saturday to Tuesday

\$710/Person Double Occupancy

June 30 – July 3, Sunday to Wednesday

\$895/Person Single Occupancy

We will depart the hotel in a 55-passenger deluxe motor coach, heading north to Asheville, North Carolina. Asheville is a city in western North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. It is known for a vibrant arts scene and historical architecture, including the dome-topped Basilica of Saint Lawrence. The vast 19th century Biltmore Estate displays artwork by masters like Renior. The Downtown Art District is filled with galleries and museums and in the nearby River Arts District, former factory buildings house a variety of artist's studios.

Upon arrival in Asheville, your local guide will meet you for a welcome to Asheville tour with stops at the **Blue Ridge Parkway Heritage Center** and the **Folk Art Center**. Talk with a ranger, pick up some merchandise, learn about other area offerings, watch a park film, and explore Parkway-themed exhibits.

After the "welcome" tour, check in to the **Hampton Inn**. The group will be pre-registered and pre-keyed, and your bags will be delivered to your room. Dinner tonight will be at **Stone Ridge Tavern**, a local family owned restaurant that is an Asheville favorite. An enormous rustic fireplace frames a beautiful wood covered dining room. Large cedar trees shadow the restaurant, and there are two large waterfalls that come alive with turtles, frogs and fish. You will feel at home as you dine in this warm, cozy mountain lodge atmosphere.



DAY TWO, enjoy a hot continental breakfast before meeting your guide in the lobby for your first tour of the day to the **Biltmore House and Gardens**. The luxurious family home of George and Edith Vanderbilt is a marvel of elegance and charm, as magnificent today as it was more than a century ago. Your self-guided tour spans three floors and the basement where you'll see displays of vintage clothing, accessories, art, furniture, and more. Lunch will be on your own at **Antler Hill Village** on the grounds of the estate.

After lunch you will visit the Biltmore Winery for a tour and tasting, and a chance to visit the shops at Antler Hill Village. Enjoy mountain views and sip wine as you learn about the many steps to growing the grapes. Then head back to the winery's crush dock to begin a behind-the-scenes tour on the floor of the production areas. Return to the hotel and freshen up before dinner.

Dinner tonight will be served at **The Moose Café**, which is located on the grounds of a **North Carolina Farmer's Market**, which makes it rather convenient to serve the best local and seasonal items. The café is famous for their country cookin', and are always changing up the menu and specials according to what is in season, and what the local farmers have to offer

DAY THREE starts with hot continental breakfast in the hotel and meeting your guide in the lobby. Get acquainted with Asheville this morning as our guided tour takes you to vibrant downtown Asheville with a view of the **St. Lawrence Basilica, Woolworth Art Walk, Thomas Wolfe House** and lunch on your own at historic **Grove Arcade**. After lunch, you will visit **Billy Graham's Training Center, The Cove**, a 1,200 acre getaway where gifted Christian leaders, teachers and speakers guide people in studying God's Word and where believers can refresh and grow in their faith.



This afternoon we will visit **The River Arts District** that consists of a vast array of artists and working studios in 22 former industrial and historical buildings, spread out along a one mile stretch of the French Broad River. This eclectic area is an exciting exploration of food and arts. You will have an opportunity to visit the artists working in their studios, and find time to locate art that's perfect for your world.

Dinner will be a toe tapping evening at **the Blue Ridge Mountain Opry Dinner Show**, hosted by The Award-Winning **Whitewater Bluegrass Band**. You will be served some of the finest Southern Style Barbeque in Western North Carolina.

DAY FOUR, enjoy your final hot continental breakfast before check out and departing. Your final visit in Asheville will be at the **WNC Farmer's Market** where you will have a chance to pick up some homemade mountain goodies. (fresh produce, flowers, homemade jams and jellies, breads, cheeses, crafts, etc.) before departing.

Price per person includes 4 days/3 nights, transportation, hotels, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, all tours and attractions, and local tour guide services.