North America

- Asheville, NC
- Gatlinburg, TN

Asheville, NC

Food & Drink

Restaurants & Cafés

- 12 Bones Smokehouse (River Arts District)
- White Duck Taco Shop (Downtown)
- Neng Jr.'s (Filipinx-Appalachian fusion, West Asheville)
- The Admiral (small-plates bistro, West Asheville)
- Wild Ginger (Vietnamese, West Asheville)
- Bull & Beggar (brasserie, River Arts District)
- Limones (Latin-inspired, downtown)
- Five Points Restaurant (classic diner breakfast, north of downtown)
- Ultra Coffeebar (RAD café)
- Rocky's Grill & Soda Shop (retro lunch spot, Brevard)

Deserts & Bakeries

- French Broad Chocolate Lounge (desserts, downtown)
- Sunshine Sammies (gourmet ice-cream sandwiches, downtown)
- Hole Doughnuts (West Asheville)
- OWL Bakery (artisan pastries, West Asheville)

Cocktails

- The Golden Pineapple (cocktail bar, West Asheville)

Breweries

- Wicked Weed Funkatorium (sours brewery + kitchen, South Slope)
- Burial Beer Co. (brewery + kitchen, South Slope)

- Highland Brewing (east Asheville; taproom with food trucks/kitchen)
- Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. Taproom (Mills River)
- Turgua Brewing (Fairview)
- Wedge Brewing Co. (brewery with food trucks, River Arts District)

Hikes / Walks

- **Catawba Falls Trail** – 3 mi RT (or 3.5-mi loop), moderate. Leads to a 100-ft cascade in Pisgah NF; lower trail and new footbridges are **open**, but the upper-falls platform/Wildflower spur remain closed for repairs.
- **Daniel Ridge Loop Trail** – 4-mi moderate loop near Brevard with the 150-ft Daniel Ridge Falls (aka Tom's Spring Falls); trail is fully **open** post-Helene.
- **Moore Cove Falls Trail** – 1.4-mi easy out-and-back in Pisgah, ending at a 50-ft falls you can walk behind; reopened and considered family-friendly.
- **Rainbow Falls Trail** (Gorges State Park) – 2.5-mi moderate RT to a 125-ft free-fall waterfall; the park and trail reopened on Nov 1 and are now **open**.
- **Graveyard Fields Loop (Lower & Upper Falls)** – 3.5-mi moderate loop off the Blue Ridge Parkway with two waterfalls, high-elevation meadows, and summer blueberries; trailhead is **open**, but some Parkway sections closer to Asheville remain closed, so check detours.
- **Glassy Mountain Trail** (Carl Sandburg Home NHS) – 1.3 mi one-way (2.6 mi RT), moderately steep; climbs from the historic farm to sweeping summit views. The site's trail network has reopened.
- **Asheville Botanical Gardens Loop** – 0.5-mi easy urban loop showcasing native plants and a creek; garden trails reopened after Helene, though some cleanup continues.

Arts & Crafts

- **Explore the River Arts District** – wander working studios, watch pottery or "make-your-own" glass ornaments at the North Carolina Glass Center.
- **Folk Art Center (Southern Highland Craft Guild)** – browse galleries of Appalachian craft and catch free daily artist demonstrations on the Blue Ridge Parkway (open 10 a.m.–5 p.m.).

Scenic Drives & Viewpoints

- **Blue Ridge Parkway drive (US-276 ↔ NC-151 segment)** – a crowd-light stretch reopened after Helene; gives access to overlooks such as Graveyard Fields and Black Balsam.

History

- **Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site** – tour the poet’s farmhouse, visit the goat farm, or stroll the gentle Glassy Mountain path; most grounds reopened in December 2024.
- **Thomas Wolfe Memorial** – guided house museum downtown; listed by NC DNCR as OPEN for visitors during recovery.

Gatlinburg, TN

Tours

Spooky

- The Witch Tour: Appalachian Mountains Ghost Tour 2023 - Sevierville (viator.com)