



Burke County Tourism Authority **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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All Aboard! WNC Fall Trolley Tours

See beautiful fall foliage in Western North Carolina via Burke County TDA's Ridgeline Trolley. These one-day autumn trolley tours are every weekend from October through early November. Venture to such scenic places as Linville Falls and the Brown Mountain Overlook. Take in vistas of Table Rock and Hawksbill, two of NC's prettiest peaks. The tours are \$55 and include lunch, with dessert, at Famous Louise's Rockhouse Restaurant. Hours are 11:30-5:00.



www.DiscoverBurkeCounty.com



Daily Fall Color Reports for Top 10 Places

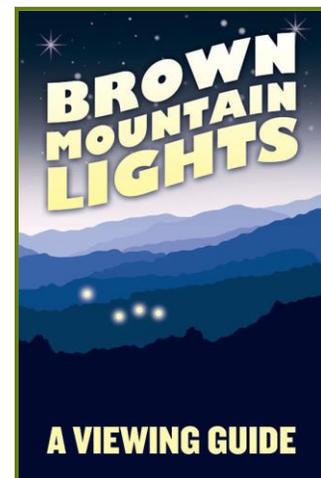
The top 10 places in Burke County to view autumn leaves are listed in daily fall color reports provided by the Burke County Visitors Center. The detailed reports make it easier to find the best colors this autumn in a county with elevations ranging from 1,000 to 4,000 feet. Locations in the reports are: Blue Ridge Parkway, Linville Falls, Table Rock, Pisgah National Forest, Lake James State Park, Linville Gorge, Brown Mountain Overlook, South Mountains State Park, McGalliard Falls Park, and the Catawba River Greenway. The reports start in early October and run thru the season.

www.DiscoverBurkeCounty.com

Official Brown Mountain Lights Viewing Guide

Visitors come to Morganton and Burke County from near and far for a chance to see the famous Brown Mountain Lights. Now there is an official guide to help them. The Burke County Tourism Development Authority has created the guide, which is available free of charge at the Burke County Visitors Center. Use the guide to enhance your chances of seeing the elusive lights that have appeared for centuries at irregular intervals near their namesake mountain in Burke County.

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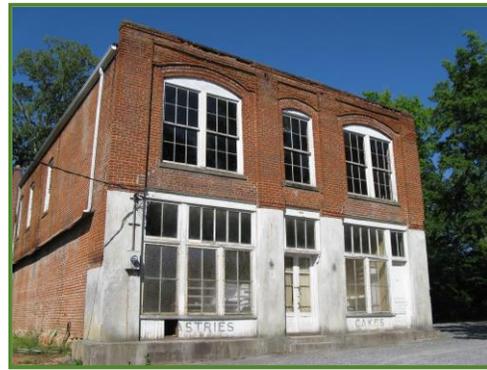
Apple Hill Orchard: Top Pick for Tasty Fall Apples

With 22 acres of trees producing 15 varieties, Morganton's Apple Hill Orchard is a top pick of apple aficionados. The orchard, owned by the Prewitt family for more than a half century, has been a popular stop on the u-pick-'em circuit in Western North Carolina since the late 1980s. Each year from late August through Christmas Eve, folks know to visit the bucolic Burke County orchard for freshly-grown apples, tasty ciders, and apple-flavored treats baked on site. Visitors can also enjoy wagon rides on Saturdays. Rides depart every 45 minutes from 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

www.AppleHillOrchard.com

Hunger Games' District 12 Given New Life

An ownership change has begun a new era for the Henry River Mill Village, an early-1900s village in Burke County that was the filming site for District 12 in the first Hunger Games movie. The new owners offer daily tours focused on the community's history, including the Hunger Games aspect. They've also contracted with Unofficial Hunger Games Fan Tours for in-depth movie-based tours on weekends, and partnered with First in Fright Paranormal for ghost investigations the last Saturday of each month.



www.HenryRiverMillVillage.com



Sidetracked Adds to Growing Beer Scene

Sidetracked Brewery opened in April, giving Morganton three downtown breweries. It joins Catawba Brewing Co., which started Morganton's beer-vitalization in 2009, and Fonta Flora, which debuted in 2013. "We are two miles off the interstate and it's a great place to be because you can walk to all 3 breweries in 10 minutes," says brewer Joseph Ackerman. "This is more of a destination town now."

www.SidetrackedBrew.com

Trail Showcases Secluded Lake James

The Fonta Flora State Trail debuted this past winter along the rim of one of the most scenic lakes in Western NC. The hiking and biking trail traverses the northern expanses of Lake James in Burke County. Two trail sections are open and total 10 miles. The trail will eventually loop the lake by 2023. Trail is rated easy to moderate.



www.BurkeNC.org
