



WINE, MUSIC AND HORSES AT THE FIRST PEAK OF THE BLUE RIDGE

Historic Saluda, Tryon and Columbus, N.C.

The First Peak of the Blue Ridge is a scenic mountain destination that provides nature's playlist – but the 'volume' of your experience is up to you. Keep the volume low with peaceful hikes to waterfalls, local wine tastings, and quiet 'porch time' at one of our cozy inns, B&Bs or cabins. Or, turn up the volume with America's steepest canopy zip line, guided whitewater adventures or local music.

WATCH THIS SEPTEMBER: THE FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES™ TRYON 2018



More than 80 years of Tryon Horse Country's local equestrian tradition helped pave the way for the 2014 opening of world-class [Tryon International Equestrian Center \(TIEC\) at Tryon Resort](#). This September, TIEC will welcome the world as it hosts the FEI World Equestrian Games™ Tryon 2018, the major international championship for eight core equestrian disciplines. An estimated 500,000 attendees are expected for the 13-day event.

TIEC is a 1,600-acre equestrian lifestyle destination featuring spring, summer and fall sanctioned horse shows, 12 riding arenas, more than 1,200 permanent stalls plus a variety of year-round restaurants, shops, lodging and local events including the family-friendly 'Saturday Night Lights' festivals. Future plans include a 180-room resort hotel and a village featuring mixed-use retail, condos and a visitor center.

TRYON'S NINA SIMONE RECEIVES RECOGNITION IN 2018

This year, some much-deserved recognition has come to Nina Simone, born Eunice Waymon in Tryon in 1933. The world famous jazz singer known as the High Priestess of Soul was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in April, 2018. Her childhood home was designated a National Treasure by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In June, audio stories of her childhood were created on [UGo Tour](#) – text 'Nina' to 555-888 to listen.



Young Simone had natural musical talent and the Tryon community came together to support her musical development through lessons and performances. Later, she would introduce the world to a unique musical infusion of pop, gospel, classical, jazz, folk and ballads that she called "Black Classical Music." Her voice and music were instrumental in the American Civil Rights Movement. In 2010, her eight-foot, [bronze-cast sculpture](#) was dedicated in Nina Simone Plaza in downtown Tryon.

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[THE GORGE: THE STEEPEST, FASTEST ZIP LINE CANOPY TOUR IN THE UNITED STATES](#)



The tiny town of Saluda is home to the steepest, fastest zip line canopy tour in the United States. [The Gorge](#) launches visitors off their outpost back deck on a 3.5-hour tour through old growth forest with expansive mountain views. Comprised solely of tree-based platforms, The Gorge drops an unprecedented 1,100 vertical feet through 11 sections, plus three rappels and a sky bridge. The hands-free automatic braking system is worry-free and allows people to attain speeds of up to 40 mph. It's an adrenaline rush with extreme safety built in, suitable for most people, from kids as young as 10 to active seniors in good physical health. The canopy tour complements the guided inflatable kayak trips, whitewater kayak instruction and waterfall adventures already offered by its sister business, [Green River Adventures](#).

[MOUNTAIN WINERIES: VINEYARD VISTAS AND WINE TASTINGS](#)



With nearly twenty vineyards and five wineries, the Tryon Foothills are becoming well known for wine excellence and are a top destination for visitors to this scenic area. This region has the perfect climate for growing grapes, thanks in part to our elevation and our thermal belt, which moderates temperatures along the mountains year-round. In the early 1900s, Tryon was well known for its wine grapes.

Just like our small towns, our wineries may grow similar varieties but have distinct personalities. [Green Creek Winery](#) opened in 2005 and additional wineries have opened over the years, including [Overmountain Vineyards](#), [Parker-Binns Vineyard](#), [Mountain Brook Vineyards](#), and [Russian Chapel Hills Winery](#). All are located near Tryon and offer tours, tastings, scenic mountain views and picnic spots. Grapes from our vineyards go to local and regional wineries, including Biltmore Estate.

[TAP INTO TRYON: ANNUAL TRYON BEER FEST HELD IN NOVEMBER](#)

Tryon's seventh annual Oktoberfest-style event will be held Saturday, Nov. 6, 2018 in downtown Tryon. Tap Into Tryon at this intimate event full of local flavor and unlimited samples of the finest craft beers from local and regional breweries (and wine too). Extras include an oyster roast and authentic German food. Rain or shine. The festival starts at 12pm, but come early and see the great shops, restaurants, and galleries that Tryon has to offer. For more information and tickets go to www.tryonbeerfest.com.



[WHERE IS THE FIRST PEAK OF THE BLUE RIDGE?](#)

We are four hours west of Raleigh, N.C. Head to Charlotte and we are just 90-miles to the west. You will be rewarded with long-range views of Tryon Peak – the First Peak of the Blue Ridge – as you follow Hwy. 74W to our front door. Take Exit 170 for Tryon Resort, Exit 161 for Columbus and Tryon, or continue onto I-26W and take the next exit to discover Saluda. Welcome to the Blue Ridge Mountains! You choose what's next: get out and explore, or rest and rejuvenate. This area features a wonderful blend of scenic beauty and small town charm, with great lodging, restaurants, shops, events and outdoor activities. Historic Saluda, Tryon and Columbus are within a few miles of each other, but each has its own distinct personality.

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