

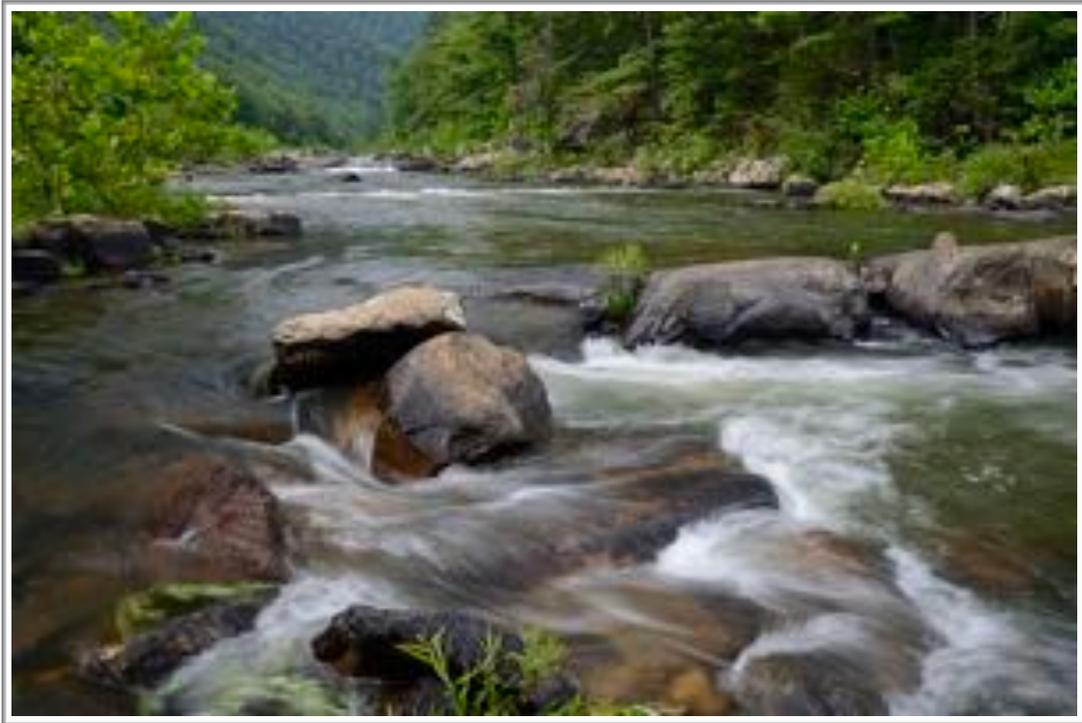
Appalachian Waters Scenic Byway

Cascading Waters, Mountain Drives



4 Days/3 Nights

Gateway City: Charlottesville, Virginia



Get ready for an extraordinary experience, enveloped in a beautiful landscape! As you're getting into the car, think relaxing, meandering, strolling, and wandering. When you arrive at the start of the Appalachian Waters Byway outside Lexington Virginia, you'll soon see that the views just don't get any better than this. As you begin driving the Byway, climbing out of the valley, the water comes rushing toward you, like diamonds flowing over the rocks sparkling in the sun. It looks like Mother Nature carefully placed each of the string of glistening jewels. Further up the route, the trees close in, shading the road with a green canopy of overhanging foliage. If you travel in spring, the sun dapples through unfolding leaves. In summer, the darker green landscape offers a greater contrast to the crystal-clear water and deep blue sky. And of course, we don't even have to try to describe autumn when Mother Nature puts on her best suit of clothes for all to enjoy. So, when you feel the call of the mountains, plan to take Route 39 along the Maury River cutting through Goshen Pass; the river-carved gorge famous for its springtime whitewater. The further you go, the higher into the Virginia highlands you get, eventually feeling like you're driving on top of the world. Named for the many lakes, rivers, streams and springs along the road, you can enjoy the beauty of nature and quaint country living, surrounded by majestic mountains, forests, historic treasures, natural wonders and blooming redbuds and dogwoods.



Touring the Byway

We recommend starting your journey in the very delightful town of Charlottesville, where you can explore some of Virginia's most important history. Thomas Jefferson lived here, as did President James Monroe. President James Madison was just up the road. The three, who together governed America for 25 years, were friends, often seen together talking on a street corner in Charlottesville. You can spend the day exploring Jefferson's Monticello, Monroe's Highland, and the original campus of the University of Virginia, with a period lunch at Michie Tavern. You can also stroll Charlottesville's very unique downtown mall, an eight-block bricked area in the center of town, lined with historic buildings filled with shops, boutiques, and restaurants.

After a good night's sleep at the South Street Inn, located right off the Downtown Mall, the most efficient way to get to your next destination would appear to be to jump on Interstate 64 to cruise down to Lexington. Yet, if you're not in a hurry,

you don't have to do that. There are absolutely beautiful country roads to take cross country to avoid the interstate all together. On the other hand, stretches of Interstate 64 that you'll be on, travel through some really lovely Virginia countryside.

Reaching Lexington, plan to spend the rest of the day exploring this genteel historic town, where accommodations at The Georges put you right at the center of things. Start your visit at the Lexington Visitors Center and then catch a carriage ride. Visit the Miller House and if you there's time, the General Stonewell Jackson Historic House before enjoying southern cuisine.

The next day, it's time to drive 45 miles of the Appalachian Waters Scenic Byway. Leaving Lexington on the Midland Trail (Route 60), when you reach Route 39, you'll be greeted by the lovely stream that sparkles on its way down toward you. You'll pass through Millboro Springs and Millboro before you reach Goshen, where the river begins to run parallel to the road as it cuts through Goshen Pass. Ahead, Hogback Mountain and Jump Mountain flank Goshen Pass, most beautiful in the spring when the flowers are all in bloom. You'll stay on Virginia Route 39 until you reach Warm Springs. There, plan to turn south to Hot Springs and the beautiful Homestead Resort, where you can thoroughly enjoy yourself in the afternoon and evening. The next morning, if you want to finish the Byway, go back north to Warm Springs and head west to West Virginia to continue the Byway. We wish you face passage if you're traveling another Virginia Scenic Byway or a safe and pleasant journey home.

DAY ONE



Charlottesville

It's hard to believe that from 1801 to 1825, America was in the hands of three good friends from Charlottesville; native sons, plantation owners, and southern gentlemen, all who lived within 15 miles of each other. Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe were such close friends, they considered themselves "Founding Brothers," as much as Founding Fathers of the United States. James Monroe even built his home, Highland so that he could see Jefferson's home from the front porch. Plan to visit and tour the homes, gardens, vineyards and greenhouses of all three of these very famous gentlemen. Yet, Charlottesville is about more than history. It has grown into a vibrant and modern city without compromising the integrity and richness of its unique history. The pedestrian mall on Main Street is alive with shops, galleries, boutiques and restaurants. As you stroll the tree-lined plaza, soak up the city's southern gentility and zest for life. Browse for antiques, books, and art pieces, or have a bite to eat right out on the pedestrian way. A bit further on West Main Street, the University of Virginia, founded by Jefferson, continues to be a hub of educational influence, as it has been since the Rotunda and Green were put into the ground.



Monticello

You'll never forget your first glimpse of Jefferson's beloved home Monticello, ("little mountain"), a white domed, red brick jewel surrounded by elegant landscaping. The house, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is also a National Historic Landmark and earned a place on the World Heritage Treasures list of the United Nations. The house itself contains 43 rooms on a plantation originally encompassing 5000 acres. Begin your visit with a guided walk through the house that includes the cellar, gardens and vineyard. About 60 percent of the furnishings are items original to Jefferson. The plantings in the vineyard are descended from the original vines Jefferson brought back from France. Little did he know that he was starting a whole new enormous industry in the United States with these fragile plants. The rest of Monticello is dotted with interpretation revealing as much as possible about Jefferson's strong legacy and contributions to the United States. Spend plenty of time exploring the whole property, there's a lot to the story. 931 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-984-9800, M-Sat 9AM-6:30PM, Sun 9:30AM-6PM, Self guided Adults \$31, Private tour of 2nd and 3rd Floors, \$395 for up to 5 guests. 9 other tour options available.

Miche Tavern

Michie Tavern is the perfect stop for lunch between Monticello and Highland. In addition to being a favorite dining place of visitors, the 1784 tavern is a living history museum. An 18th century menu is served by waiters in period dress. 683 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-977-1234, Daily 11:30AM-3PM

James Monroe's Highland

Even if you've visited James Monroe's home before, it's time to go back. Even though the home was called Ash Lawn-Highland, today, there is a whole new story. In 2016, remains of the 1799 main house preserved just below the surface of the ground were unearthed, confirming that Highland's main standing structure, long thought to be a remnant of the main house, was actually the presidential guesthouse. The fire that destroyed the main residence and property changes by later owners led to the misunderstanding surrounding the site for decades. A rich collection of furnishings original to the Monroe family are also on display. Much more modest than Jefferson's estate, Monroe's property is an 18th century working farm, with spinning and weaving, strutting peacocks, and food prepared on the hearth. Monroe lived at Highland until 1823.

2050 James Monroe Parkway, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-293-8000, Daily 10AM-5PM, Adults \$10, Behind the Scenes \$150



Historic Walking Tour of Charlottesville

Take a self-guided tour of the original historic center of Charlottesville dating from 1762 or join the tour of the Albemarle County Historical Society that includes Historic Court Square and surrounds. They begin on the sidewalk in front of the Albemarle County Courthouse. Adults \$7

Other Charlottesville Options

If you have already visited Monticello and more, Charlottesville has a whole collection of other interesting museums: Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum, Jefferson School African American Heritage Center, Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center, Albemarle Historical Society, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, Fralin Museum of Art, McGuffey Arts Center, Edgar Allen Poe Room, Les Yeaux du Monde, and the Berlin Wall Installation. Art lovers will discover the Bozart Fine Art Collection, Second Street Gallery, Lighthouse Studio, The Looking Glass, Mountain Vision Pottery, Virginia Clay Studio, The Glass Palette – Interactive Glass Art Studio, Barn Swallow Artisan Gallery, Mud Dauber Pottery, City Clay, and IX Art Park.



Downtown Charlottesville Mall

Main Street hosts a vibrant collection of more than 120 shops and 30 restaurants (many with outdoor cafes) housed in a wonderful mix of restored and renovated historic buildings. Dine, shop, see a movie or a play, or just stroll the brick-paved area. Even in the fine restaurants, no need to worry about a tie, just dress neatly and you'll be fine.



University of Virginia Historic Campus

The Academical Village at University of Virginia still stands as it was envisioned by Thomas Jefferson – a lawn surrounded on three sides by housing for students and professors, connected by covered walkways. The arrangement, he wrote, would form “an academical village, instead of a large and common den of noise, of filth and fetid air.” Today, this architectural masterpiece is also a World Heritage Site. The most recognizable symbol of the University, the Rotunda, stands at the north end of the Lawn. The south end of the lawn was left open to symbolize the surrounding agricultural economy that supported the University. On tours lasting about an hour, you can feel free to ask your guide specific information about what you are seeing.

Tours offered 10AM, 11AM, and 2PM, daily during the academia year, (except home football days) leaving from the Lower East Oval Room of the Rotunda. Grab the free trolley from the Downtown Mall to University of Virginia that runs along West Main Street.



Destination Distinctive Accommodations

200 South Street Inn Bed and Breakfast, 200 South Street East, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-979-0200

Staying in the very convenient 200 South Street Inn located just a couple of blocks off the Downtown Mall, puts you in old-world elegance that has been fitted out with high speed internet, private baths, in-room controlled heating and air conditioning and free parking. Rates are based on room size, location and features such as fireplaces or whirlpool baths.

Destination Distinctive Dining

Hamilton's at First and Main, 101 West Main Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-295-6649

Considered the best restaurant in Charlottesville, Hamilton's is the perfect place to enjoy a great dinner within walking distance of 200 South Street. The staff is comfortable welcoming C'ville natives, visitors, and University staff and students. Today's award-winning chef is committed to bringing a distinctive flare to the contemporary American cuisine

Destination Distinctive Retail

The Glass Palette – Interactive Glass Art Studio, 1304 East Market Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-977-9009

Create your own art glass masterpiece.

Oyster House Antiques, 122 East Main Street, Charlottesville, VA, 434-295-4757

Charlottesville Art Cooperative, 118 East Main Street, Charlottesville, VA 434-972-9500

Eloise, 505 West Main Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-995-9101

Feast, 416 West Main Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902, 434-244-7800

DAY TWO



Lexington

Walking down Main Street on a sun-dappled fall afternoon, surrounded by incredibly well-preserved historic buildings, you'll swear you saw a hoop skirt brush past. Meandering through town by carriage, it's not hard to imagine other carriages passing by on the timeless streets. Today, even though it was nearly destroyed by fire in 1796, Lexington is a quaint southern town that exudes history. Carefully preserved buildings constructed after the fire are now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic campus of Washington and Lee University was kept alive by a large loan of shares of the James River Company from George Washington. Lee's name was added when he served as President following the Civil War. VMI was also founded here in 1838. Stonewall Jackson, Texas hero Sam Houston, and Cyrus McCormick all hailed from here, along with George C. Marshall, of Marshall Plan fame who was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize. He played such a key role that President Truman established The Marshall Library at VMI in 1953. As you explore, turn off your cell phones, bring your camera and prepare to slow down. We guarantee the change of pace will grow on you.

Lexington Visitor Center

Stop here for an overview of Lexington heritage and ask the very helpful staff about anything else in town that catches your eye.

106 East Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, Daily 11AM-3PM

Lexington Carriage Company

Discover Lexington to the relaxing rhythm of clopping hooves on a 45-minute narrated carriage tour through downtown, residential areas, and the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery.

Tours run April 1-Oct 31, weather permitting. 106 East Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, Th-Sat 11AM-4PM, walk ups welcomed at the hitching post across from the visitors center.





Miller's House Museum

In the late 1700s when a ford in the river that crossed from Jordan's Point became a transportation hub, the gristmills, sawmills, forges and foundries of John Jordan were surrounded by other homes. The area, that ultimately included docks, a canal, railroad line, and covered bridge was the subject of a Washington and Lee University archaeology digs which revealed artifacts that documented the daily lives of residents and workers. They are now displayed in the Miller's House Museum along with a diorama of the Lexington railroad system.

834 Moses Mill Court, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-460-3111, Sat-Sun 1PM-4PM,

Stonewall Jackson House

If there's time, tour the only house Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson ever owned, where exhibits focus on Jackson's civilian life as a professor, church leader, businessman, and husband before the war. It has been carefully restored to the time of Jackson's residence, including many of Jackson's personal possessions. Few may know that Jackson was not always the favorite son of Lexington. He was born in West Virginia and raised by extended family until he went off to West Point. He served in the US Army before being appointed a professor at VMI. He bought the house on Washington Street in 1858 and in 1861, rode off to war, never to return.

8 East Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-464-7704, Th-Mon
9AM-5PM, Adults \$10



Destination Distinctive Accommodations

The Georges

Accommodations at The Georges put you right on Main Street, in one of three buildings with unique histories all meticulously restored to serve guests. Savor Virginian hospitality and great food in an environment with the history of the last 200 years in its bones at Haywood's, a casual piano bar serving southern bistro style cuisine.

Destination Distinctive Dining

Southern Inn, 37 South Main Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-463-3612

Considered the best restaurant in Lexington for decades.

Bistro on Main, 8 North Main Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-464-4888

Destination Distinctive Retail

Lexington Antiques, 25 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-463-9519

Artists and Cahoots, 21 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-464-1147

Cabell Gallery, 5 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 540-461-8488

Earth, Fire and Spirit, 15 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450, 405-788-9919

DAY THREE

Appalachian Waters Scenic Byway

This morning, it's time to leave Lexington and drive 45 miles of the Appalachian Waters Scenic Byway, ending at the Homestead Resort in Hot Springs. Take your time, enjoy the scenic beauty and the “waters” along the way.

Warm Springs

This tiny community that grew up around the Jefferson Pools, now includes the Bath County Historical Society, the Waterwheel Restaurant, located in a converted mill, and the Warm Springs Gallery that specializes in contemporary fine art.

The Jefferson Pools

Legend has it that the springs at Warm Springs were discovered by a Native American brave, enroute to a tribal council in the 1600s, who came upon these warm pools, soaked his weary body and left refreshed, quickly telling others. The trek to Warm Springs to “take the waters” was born. Soon it became the custom for European style “spa houses” to be built over warm springs all over the country. The pools here were constructed in 1761 in an octagonal-shaped house with a large hole in the roof to let out steam from the 98-degree springs. The original gentlemen’s bathhouse is referred to as the Jefferson Pools because Thomas Jefferson soaked daily for three weeks to help his rheumatism. A similar women’s bathhouse was added several decades later. The site is managed by the Omni Homestead Resort, located five miles to the south and reservations can be made by calling ahead. There are coed bathing times, adults only times, and clothing optional times. Towels are supplied.

11 Bath Street, Warm Springs, VA, 24484, 540-839-5346





Destination Distinctive Accommodations

The Homestead Resort

Experience the elegant charm that has made The Homestead a destination for 23 U.S. presidents over more than 250 years. Encompassing more than 2,000 acres of scenic landscape, the resort delivers timeless comforts and plenty of activities, no matter the season. The property dates from 1766, when a lodge was built on the site. Later, Dr. Thomas Goode expanded it with a European style spa and hydrotherapy. The current resort dates from 1888-1892 when J. P. Morgan bought the property and started rebuilding from the ground up, completing the main building in 1902. Be sure to take a tour of the property to learn the whole history and important events that have taken place here.

7696 Sam Snead Highway, Hot Springs, VA 24445, 540-839-1766

Destination Distinctive Dining

Enjoy one of the many restaurants at The Homestead.