

Alexander County: North Carolina's untapped treasures

Between the Blue Ridge Mountains and Lake Hickory, Alexander County offers an unexpected mix of outdoor adventure, rare gems, living history, and authentic small-town experiences... all without the crowds.

alexandercountync.gov

visitalexandernc.com

rockyfacepark.com



DIG FOR A HIDDENITE TREASURE

Alexander County is home to some of North Carolina's best gem mining, with rich deposits of emeralds, sapphires, garnets, and other precious stones. In fact, the county is part of the famous Brushy Mountains, where prospectors and rockhounds have been uncovering hidden treasures for generations. **Emerald Hollow Mine** in Hiddenite is known worldwide as one of the only public emerald mines where visitors can dig, sluice, and find real gemstones.

TASTE 200 YEARS OF HISTORY

North Carolina's only water-powered mill still in operation, **Linney's Mill** has been grinding fresh, local grains the old-fashioned way for over 200 years. Visitors can see demonstrations, buy their products (grits, corn meal, biscuit mix, and more!), and even reserve a campsite. Powered by the flowing waters of Rocky Creek, this family-run mill is a true taste of history—one stone-ground batch at a time.



Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area has been transformed into an outdoor recreation destination. Hike scenic trails with stunning overlooks, challenge yourself on the 60 rock-climbing routes, or enjoy a peaceful picnic surrounded by nature. Whether you're scaling cliffs or enjoying the beautiful views, Rocky Face Park is the perfect place.



Command Decisions Wargames Center – Get ready for high-energy, adrenaline-pumping action at this premier airsoft and paintball battlefield, where tactical strategy meets all-out fun.

DISCOVER NC APPLE COUNTRY



As one of the top apple-producing counties in North Carolina, Alexander County knows a thing or two about growing delicious apples. Locals and visitors enjoy a stop at the apple houses to purchase their favorite varieties of apples, along with other sweet treats. And don't forget about the widely popular Taylorsville Apple Festival, held on the third Saturday in October, with approximately 35,000 visitors each year.



Lucas Mansion – At the Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center, step into history at this stunning three-story mansion formerly owned by Diamond Jim Lucas. The mansion is home to local art, heritage exhibits, and a touch of old-world elegance. This Edwardian-Victorian mansion is sure to amaze.





Lake Hickory

From the lake to the mountains, we have something for everyone.



Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area

Looking for a story? Let's build your Alexander County itinerary.

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