

## Your Gateway to Adventure

### WELCOME TO FRANKLIN AND NANTAHALA, NORTH CAROLINA

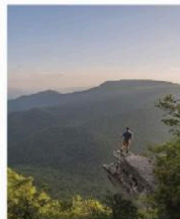


Located in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, this area is truly Mother Nature's playground where the sights and sounds of nature surround you. The Franklin and Nantahala communities offer you a refreshing change of pace and a relaxing atmosphere where you can enjoy the simple pleasures of the tranquil mountains. Come to a place where beautiful scenery, hiking, fishing, history and Southern hospitality are a way of life. Whether just for a visit or for the rest of your life, you will find that you are welcome here in "Nature's Playground".



#### Hiking Trails

The Appalachian Trail is the world's most famous trail and Franklin sits at mile marker 110. But that's not all, we're home to hundreds of miles of trails that lead to breathtaking scenic vistas, historic towers, and quiet peaceful mountainsides scattered around the Nantahala National Forest, the largest National Forest in North Carolina.



#### Waterfalls

With our high mountain elevation and valleys below, we're surrounded by majestic waterfalls. The Cullasaja River Gorge is a 14 mile stretch of road that leads you to four popular falls, ranging from 250' tall to 60 feet high. Dry Falls is the most popular waterfall, as you can walk behind it.



#### Scenic Views - No Hiking Required

While we have our share of hikes to incredible views, not all of the beauty that surrounds us make you work for it. First and foremost, Wayah Bald Tower stands alone. At just over one-mile high, Wayah Bald is the perfect place to catch a sunrise, have a picnic, or watch the sunset. A scenic drive up to the tower leads to a short walk along a paved path.



#### Quintessential Mountain Town

Downtown Franklin offers something for everyone in the family, whether you're looking for the latest outdoor gear, searching for some locally made arts and crafts, hungry for a farm-to-table dinner, or wanting to relax with friends and enjoy locally crafted beer, it's all here in the heart of downtown Franklin.

### GEM CAPITOL OF THE WORLD



Gem mining is still one of the most popular activities in the Franklin area. Mining for precious stones began in 1870. Ruby and sapphire are still the most sought after today. Tiffany's and other companies showed an interest in the area in the 1890's hoping to find the source of the rubies found in the corundum mines. The search ended in the early part of the 20th century. Try your hand at any of the ten active gem mines in our area.

### WORLD-CLASS ENTERTAINMENT



Enjoy world-class entertainment at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. This state-of-the-art 1,500 seat venue hosts all types of performances, concerts, plays, and entertainment.



FRANKLIN & NANTAHALA TOURISM  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**CONTACT US**

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## Land of the Noon Day Sun

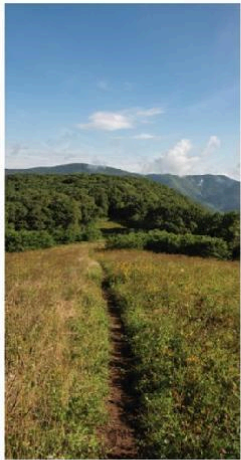
### The Nantahala may be known for whitewater sports. Now here's the rest of the story!

Each year, thousands enjoy the thrill of a rafting or kayaking trip down the Nantahala. The last eight miles of the river is one of the nation's most popular whitewater venues.

Yet when you venture up the mountain above the Nantahala Gorge, there's an entirely different Nantahala — a scenic mountain river with world-class trout fishing and, at 3000 feet elevation, a crystal clear lake with boating, fishing and all kinds of fun.

Whether you are looking for a quiet getaway or an active vacation, you'll find numerous comfortable cabins, lodges and vacation homes dotting the lake shoreline and up the mountainsides.

Once you've discovered this beautiful and peaceful corner of the Smokies, we know you'll be back — again and again. Refreshingly unsophisticated Nantahala — the real Smoky Mountains!

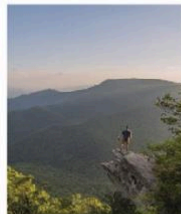


Nantahala Lake is located high above the Nantahala River Gorge at a 3,000-foot elevation — a pristine and serene lake with just 30 miles of shoreline. The lake is regulated and maintained by Duke Power Company. Many anglers enjoy fishing the Nantahala reservoir due to the low number of boaters and the breathtaking scenery. Fish in the lake include Walleye, Crappie, Sunfish, Trout, and Bass. And it's the only lake in the South with a population of freshwater Kokanee Salmon.

There are two public boat launching areas — the Rocky Branch ramp is on the east shore just off Wayah Road and the Choga public access area is on the west shore. Also on Wayah Road, the Lakes End Marina (828-321-3001), rents pontoons, fishing, and ski boats. Nantahala Lake Marine & RV (828-321-BOAT) provides boat service, shrink wrap storage and repair. You can also store your boat at U-Stor Boat (828-321-2614).

The Nantahala Community is ideally located for a relaxing getaway — secluded, yet close to all the outdoor activities, scenic drives, attractions and shopping in Western North Carolina.

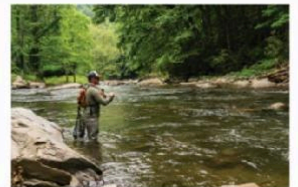
You'll find cabin rentals, chalets, vacation rentals and campgrounds scattered throughout the mountains ...in the woods, beside pristine creeks, with mountain views, in Nantahala Gorge and overlooking Nantahala Lake.



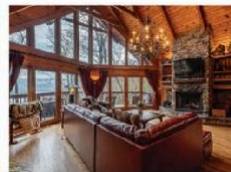
Whitewater Kayaking



Whitewater Rafting



World-Class Flyfishing



The Nantahala Community is centrally located within all the great vacation activity areas of Western North Carolina.

You can go whitewater rafting on the Nantahala River, fish for trout in pristine streams, or bass in high mountain lakes. Visit Cherokee Indian Reservation or nearby Franklin NC, known as Gem City because of all the great gem mines in the area. Take a hike in the Joyce Kilmer Forest or Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Or just relax in your vacation rental and experience the quiet of our little corner of the Smokies. Come see us!



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