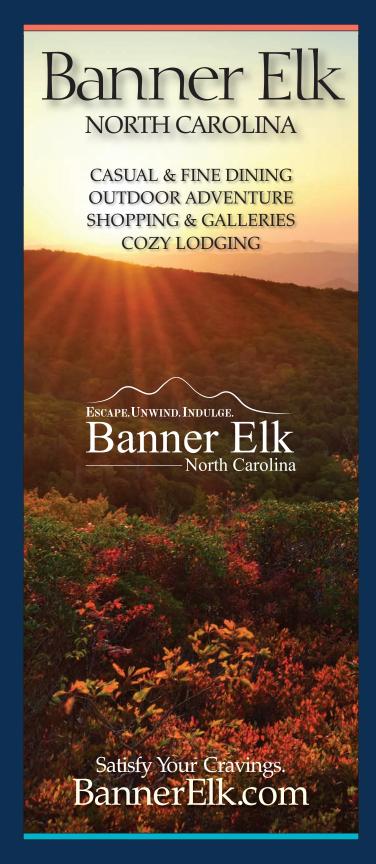


Banner Elk is a popular getaway in the Blue Ridge Mountains of the N.C. High Country. It's a place that blends small town relaxation with the amenities of a larger city.

Visitors enjoy arts, culture and adventure. Within 15 minutes of the town's lone stoplight you can experience the great outdoors, fabulous dining, theater and the arts, family attractions, and the two largest winter sports venues in the South.



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# ESCAPE.

High in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Banner Elk provides an escape from the hustle and bustle. Our elevation of 3,740 feet helps to melt

away the stresses of everyday life. Hike easy greenways or tackle challenging trails among the highest peaks east of the Rockies. Go for thrills via whitewater rafting, navigate the topography on a mountain bike or strap on skis at the two largest ski resorts in the South. On the lighter side, spend a day visiting unique shops, boutiques and spas.

There's no better place to unwind than right here in the peaceful elevations of the Blue Ridge.

## UNWIND

Summertime offers a cool respite from the steamy heat of the flatlands, with temperatures often 15 to 20 degrees cooler than in metropolitan areas of the South. Enjoy outdoor dining at a variety of restaurants in Banner Elk, known for its culinary scene. Rock on the front porch of a luxury cabin or cozy bed-and-breakfast inn, and watch a sunrise or sunset. In winter, soak in the quiet ambience of a fresh snowfall.

## TXDUTGE

It's easy to indulge in Banner Elk. Raise a fork to one of the best restaurant scenes in the

North Carolina mountains. Banner Elk has earned the nickname "Culinary Hot Spot of the High Country" with food aficionados enjoying everything from five-star white linen dining to upscale casual to down-home cooking and tasty delis. There's also an array of wineries and craft breweries within a 20-mile radius of downtown. Indulge in the arts at a variety of local galleries or via Lees-McRae College's popular series of Broadway musicals each summer. Meanwhile, Ensemble Stage provides year-round professional theater at the Historic Banner Elk School.

### ENJOY.



Events and activities are plentiful in Banner Elk as the calendar rolls from one season to the next.

Spring and summer bring fine arts and crafts shows to the lawn of the Historic Banner Elk School, along with one of the largest

Fourth of July celebrations in the Blue Ridge. Thursday evenings are known for the popular Concerts in the Park series.

Each fall, the Blue Ridge Mountain trees display vibrant colors and the world turns its attention to Banner Elk in October for the famed Woolly Worm



Festival. Since 1978, this unique festival has conducted races to determine which woolly worm receives the honor of providing the local winter forecast.



Thanksgiving begins choose-andcut Christmas tree season. Banner Elk is surrounded by the best Fraser fir Christmas tree farms

in America. Early December is magical as people come to Banner Elk for A Small Town Christmas – three days of traditional activities, fun and fellowship.

January through March invigorates with skiing, snowboarding, ice skating and snow tubing at nearby Beech Mountain Resort and Sugar Mountain Resort.



#### FEAST.

For a town of fewer than 1,500 residents, Banner Elk has an amazing food scene. An abundance of foodie delights has earned it the title of Culinary Hot Spot of the N.C. High Country.



Visitors to our one-stoplight town have choices ranging from fine dining to farm-totable, from ethnic cuisine to fresh seafood and steaks, and from upscale casual to down-home fare.

One restaurant has been ranked among the Top 100

in the United States on multiple occasions, while another has earned *Wine Spectator's* Award of Excellence for several years running.



#### WANDER.

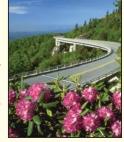


The premier visitor attractions in the North Carolina High Country are all nearby when you stay in Banner Elk.

In addition to being framed by the two largest winter sports resorts in the South (Sugar Mountain and Beech Mountain), Banner Elk also touches up against Grandfather Mountain. With its Mile-High Swinging Bridge, Grandfather

Mountain is one of the largest tourist attractions in North Carolina.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a short drive from Banner Elk, along with Tweetsie Railroad, Horn In The West, Linville Caverns and The Blowing Rock. Wander the



scenic back roads to Valle Crucis and pay a visit to the historic Mast General Store, a national treasure that has been in operation since 1883. Banner Elk Winery is one of the flagship vineyards of the High Country Wine Trail, which meanders the countryside to four award-winning wineries.





### STAY.



The mix of lodging available in Banner Elk assures something for nearly every taste and budget. Upscale vacation homes and cabins are available

in the hills and valleys surrounding Banner Elk, while bed-and-breakfast inns and cozy cottages put you right in town. Well-appointed hotel guest rooms are also available, as are pet-friendly options.



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