

Visitor Guide & Map

Historic Saluda, Tryon & Columbus, NC

Annual Events

Here at the First Peak of the Blue Ridge, we're delighted to offer you lots of ways to have a good time. You'll enjoy yourself at local festivals, equestrian events, music and theater performances, holiday celebrations and other special events. Below are just a few of our annual events— visit our on-line events calendar for all the details, www.discoverfirstpeak.com.

- April** Block House Steeplechase - Tryon
- May** Saluda Arts and Music Festival
- June** Blue Ridge BBQ Festival - Tryon
- July** Columbus Fabulous Fourth
Coon Dog Day Festival - Saluda
Art Trek Tryon Studio Tours
- Sept.** Green Creek Winery Festival
- Oct.** Tryon Arts & Crafts Fall Festival
Tour de Leaves Bicycle Tour - Tryon

Cover photo Barfol Photography



Driving Distances

Asheville, N.C.	45 miles	Columbia, S.C.	120 miles
Atlanta, Ga.	200 miles	Greenville, S.C.	45 miles
Charleston, S.C.	230 miles	Jacksonville, Fla.	400 miles
Charlotte, N.C.	90 miles		



Historic Saluda, Tryon & Columbus, NC

First Peak Visitor Center

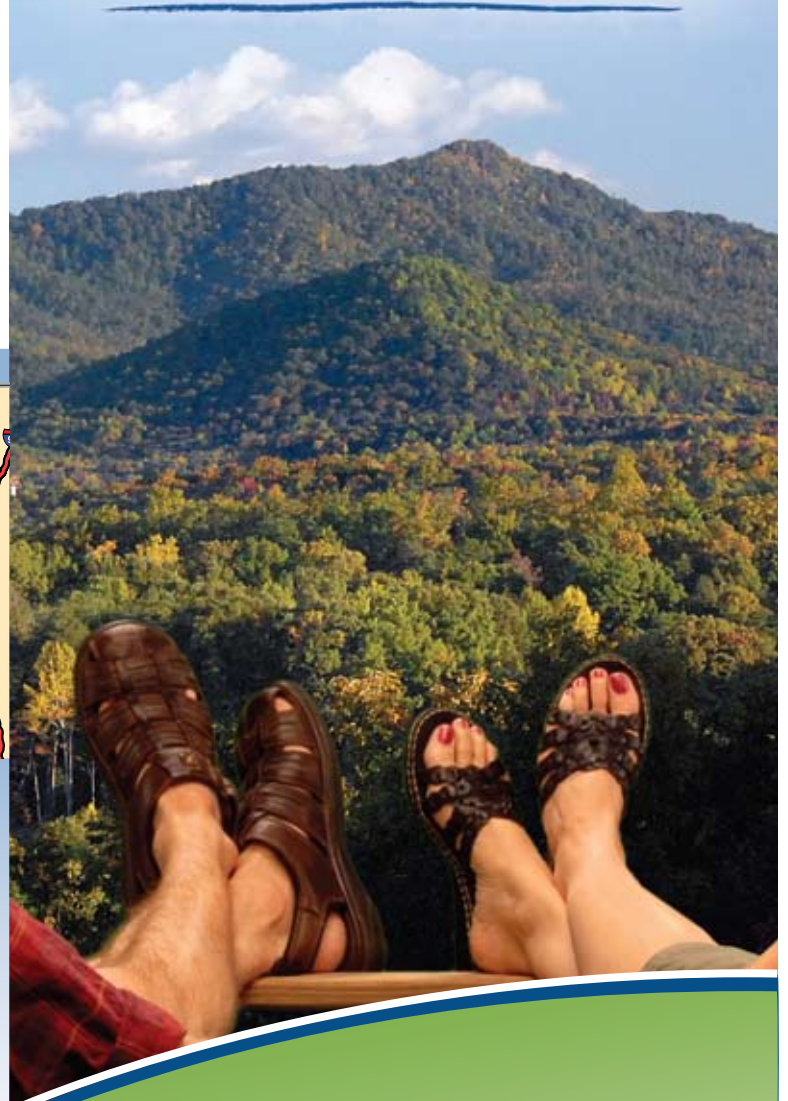
20 E. Mills St., PO Box 308 | Columbus, NC 28722
800-440-7848 | 828-894-2324
www.discoverfirstpeak.com

10-10-40k



First Peak

of the Blue Ridge



Slip Into Someplace
More Comfortable...



Enjoy the Best of Both Worlds

Here at the First Peak of the Blue Ridge, you can have the best of both worlds, whether you're seeking a quiet getaway or a vacation filled with activity and adventure. Explore our waterfalls, wineries, shops, galleries and great restaurants. Take in our beautiful mountain scenery by car, motorcycle, bicycle or on foot. Enjoy live music or a local festival. Wind down in comfort—our classic inns, inviting B&Bs and cozy cabins will help you rest and rejuvenate. Historic Saluda, Tryon, Columbus and the surrounding areas invite you to create your perfect getaway. Let us help! For lodging and area information, visit us at www.discoverfirstpeak.com or give us a call at 800-440-7848.

Slip into Someplace More Comfortable

More than a dozen historic inns, B&Bs and cottages endure around the small towns of Tryon, Saluda and Columbus, as do dozens of newer properties. You'll find everything from inns with full service restaurants to luxurious B&Bs, from wooded cabins to modern vacation homes with all the amenities. Check out the list inside, then visit our web site for all the details, www.discoverfirstpeak.com.

Wine and Horses

Our lush horse farms and vineyards help to preserve the rolling farmland framing our mountains. Don't miss our two wineries—Rockhouse Vineyards and Green Creek Winery—and enjoy tours, tastings and picnic spots. Attend our annual Block House Steeplechase or one of the nearly year-round horse shows. Or just enjoy a scenic drive through these areas.





Lodging...







Inns, Bed & Breakfasts



Adawehi Wellness Retreat

2 immaculate B&B rooms on private 3rd floor. Forests, gardens, trails. 134 Adawehi Lane, Columbus 28722. 828-894-5260 • www.adawehi.com
 





Butterfly Creek Inn

5 dreamy BR/suites, waterfall, creek, gardens, spa services, hiking. Affordable luxury. 780 Smith Dairy Rd., Columbus 28722. 828-894-6393
www.butterflycreekinn.com
   





Charles Street Garden Suite

Garden setting, 1 block to town. Sitting, dining, sleeping areas, galley kitchen. P.O. Box 337, Saluda 28773. www.charlesstreetgarden.com 828-749-5846
 





Green River Plantation

42-room mansion, circa 1804. 4 gorgeous rooms w/private baths. 6333 Coxe Rd., Green Creek/Rutherfordton 28139. 828-286-1461
www.green-river.net
   






Green River Vineyard B & B

3 BRs surrounded by vineyards, mountain vistas & the Green River. 3043 John Watson Road, Green Creek/Rutherfordton 28139. 828-863-4705
www.greenriverbb.com
   





Marilyn's Melrose Inn

New owner. Remodeled historic inn, 8 themed rooms, 2 blocks to downtown. 55 Melrose Ave, Tryon 28782. 828-859-0234
www.melrose-inn.com
   

1903 Mimosa Inn & Tavern

Restored historic landmark, 10 guest rooms w/antiques & reproductions. 65 Mimosa Inn Dr., Tryon 28782. 828-859-7688.
www.carolina-foothills.com
    

The Oaks Bed & Breakfast

Classic 1895 Victorian. Gourmet breakfast. Walk to town. 4 BR, 2 suites. 339 Greenville St., Saluda 28773. 828-749-2000 or 800-893-6091
www.theoaksbedandbreakfast.com
   

Orchard Inn & Restaurant

Historic mountaintop retreat on 11 acres, fine dining, 9 rooms, 5 cottages. 100 Orchard Inn Lane, Saluda 28773. 828-749-5471 or 800-581-3800 • www.orchardinn.com
     





1906 Pine Crest Inn & Restaurant

Historic Inn, Award-winning food & wine. 32 rooms, suites & intimate cottages on 10 acres. 85 Pine Crest Lane, Tryon 28782. 828-859-9135. 800-633-3001 • www.pinecrestinn.com
     

Saluda Inn & Wine Cellar

National Historic Registry, 18BR rustic inn & retreat, wine & coffee bar. Walk to town. 229 Greenville Street, Saluda 28773. 828-749-9698
www.saludainn.com
     

Stone Hedge Inn & Restaurant





Beautiful stone lodge w/mountain views, restaurant, 5 rooms & 1 cottage. 222 Stone Hedge Lane, Tryon 28782. 828-859-9114.
www.stone-hedge-inn.com
   

Tryon Old South B&B



Beautiful 1910 Colonial Revival B&B, 3 blocks from town, 4 rooms, large porch. 27 Markham Rd, Tryon 28782. 828-859-6965 or 800-288-7966
www.tryonoldsouth.com
 

Hotels & Motels

Days Inn




58 newly remodeled rooms w/nice linens, fridge, microwave, outdoor pool. 626 W. Mills St., Columbus 28722. 800-329-7466 or 828-894-3303 • www.daysinn.com
   

Saluda Mountain Lodge




25 clean, comfortable guestrooms w/ spectacular view, reasonable rates. I-26, Exit 59, Saluda 28773. 828-749-4951 • www.saludamountainlodge.com
 

Vacation Rentals—Cabins, Cottages & Homes



Abode on the Lake

2-BR, 2 bath cabin on Lake Adger, private boatslip, mtn view, Dish TV #2 Chalet Court, Mill Spring 28756. 843-729-5549 • lrames@pol.net
  

The Adirondack House

Mountain view, 2 BR/2 bath, 4 acres modern kitchen, sunroom, fireplace. 225 Baker St., Tryon 28782. 970-926-5513
<http://www.vrbo.com/235945>
  



Ando Cabin

Light-filled, open floor plan, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, deck, 3.5 acres/pond. 4017 Howard Gap Rd., Saluda 28773. 843-270-2312
www.homeaway.com ID# p115290
 




Avalon Mountain House

Beautiful, 4 large BRs, deck, large family room, HDTV, walk to town. 30 Shand St., Saluda 28773. 803-331-1222 • www.vrbo.com/167970
  




Bear Creek Lodge

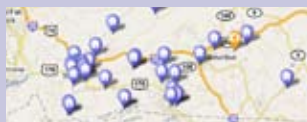
One 1BR & one 2BR efficiency cabin on scenic Hwy 176. P.O. Box 246, Saluda 28773. 828-749-9647
www.saludacabins.com
 

Buttercup Cottage

2BRs, 1BA, sleeps 4+ sleeper sofa. Fully equipped kitchen w/grill, large deck. 612 Ransom Rd., Saluda 28773. 828-749-9538
www.saludabuttercupcottage.com
  

Cottages of Dark Corner

2 & 3BR cottages, large porches, private spas. Mountain views, waterfall. 225 Robin Lane, Saluda 28773. 828-749-3580 or 828-329-9377
www.cottagesofdarkcorner.com
  



Find Lodging Map with nearby interests at: www.discoverfirstpeak.com/maps

Lodging Amenity Legend

 Pets Considered

 Internet/Wi-Fi


 Private Bathrooms

 Fireplace

 Hot Tub/Jetted Tub

 Non-Smoking Options

 Restaurant

 Alcohol Served/Sold

 Weddings/Meetings

Cottage on World's Edge

Cozy mountain getaway, 5 secluded acres, sleeps 4, rockers, burn pit & more. World's Edge at Lake Lure. 828-247-0404 • www.goldenvalleygetaways.com/worldsedge.htm



Creekside Cabin

Immaculate 5 BR, 3BA log home, river access, 8 acres Sleeps 12-14, HDTV, fire pit area, etc. Green River Highlands, Rutherfordton 28139. 941-371-1891 www.stayatthecabin.com



Green River Log Cabin

Cabin sleeps 8, 2 baths, other amenities, access to river. Front Ridge Cir., Green River Highlands, Rutherfordton 28139. 305-798-3937 www.greenriverlogcabin.com



The Guest House

Serene & beautiful 2 BR home on Lake Adger. Dock, screen porch, covered patio. 885 S. Cove Rd., Mill Spring 28756. 828-894-0650 jboles1@windstream.net



Lake Adger Mountain Home

Luxury features, 4BR, 3BA, 2 decks, 4 acres, lake access, pontoon rental. 117 N Boundary Rd., Mill Spring 28756. 843-364-2120 www.vrbo.com/312384



Melrose Mountain Retreat

Lovely 2BR, 2BA, deck, lake views. Master w/fireplace, sitting area, balcony. 401 Lakeview Dr., Tryon 28782. 828-859-5979 • www.tryonncrealestate.com (find address under Listings).



Mount Stoker Cabin

40-acre private mountain preserve, stream & waterfalls. 4BR/2.5 bath. Pearsons Falls Road, Saluda 28773. 803-270-7331 • www.vrbo.com/255901



Mountain Life Realty Cabins & Homes

Vacation rentals on water, with views, and in historic Saluda. P.O. Box 490, Saluda 28773. 888-444-5838 www.mtnliferealty.com



Orchard Lake Campground Cabins

A-frame cabins sleep 6. Lakes for swimming & fishing. Children welcome. P.O. Box 96, Saluda 28773. www.orchardlakecampground.com



Piney Mountain Cabin

Custom-built, mountain top cabin, 2 bedroom + loft. Spectacular views. 35 Volley Way, Saluda 28773. 704-987-9879 www.RentTheCarolinas.com



Pine Shadows Chalet

3BR/2BA, sleeps 6-7, A-frame, 3 acres, mountain view, huge deck. 23 Pine Shadows Lane, Columbus 28722. 904-434-5519 www.vrbo.com/297623



Ridge View Cabin

Immaculate 2BR, 1BA log home on 2 acres, river access, long rentals ok. Sleeps 4-6. Green River Highlands, Rutherfordton 28139. 941-371-1891 www.stayatthecabin.com



Rosewood Chalet

4 bedrooms w/queen, full & single beds. Full kitchen, deck, picnic table. 2840 Landrum Rd., Columbus 28722. 941-371-1333 or 941-685-9039.



Saluda Mountain Home

Beautiful, modern mtn top home sleeps 6, fireplace, wood floors, screen porch. 689 Thompson Rd., Saluda 28773. 843-795-2508 www.saludamountainhome.com



Saluda Mountain Lake Retreat

40-acre private retreat, 8 cabins. Gas grills, stocked lake, paddle boats, waterfall. 4 miles to downtown Saluda 28773. 800-860-5585 www.ashevillecabinrental.com



Sandy Cut Cabins

3 cabins w/Jacuzzis, quiet mtn setting. Hiking trails, fishing, swimming nearby. P.O. Box 386, Saluda 28773. 828-749-9555 www.sandycutcabins.com



Shady Branch Cabin

Near I-26, FENCE, Lake Lure. 3BR, 2BA, 3 acres, lg. porch w/hot tub. 363 Edwards Rd., Columbus 28722. 828-243-1844 • www.vrbo.com/234303



Spring Pond Cabin & Sweet Earth Mountain Upstairs Suite

Historic cabin sleeps 5, porches, ponds for fishing/swimming, hiking on 8 acres. Or a cozy suite w/LR, DR, BR, queen bed, porch, walk to town. 640 East US Hwy 176, Saluda 28773. 828-749-9824

www.saluda.com/springpond -& www.saluda.com/sweetearth



Tree Blew Inn Cottage

Mountain cottage, 2 "country fresh" BRs & 2BA. Fireplace, screened porch. Smith Hill, Saluda 28773. 828-692-3585 www.treeblewinnc.com



The Treehouse at Lake Adger

Beautiful lake/mtn views. 2 Bed/2 bath, large kitchen/dining, boat slip w/kayak. No. 5 Chalet Ct., Mill Spring 28756. 352-638-2981 www.vacationcabinsnc.com



Tryon Mountain House (Realtor Mgd)

Mountain & lake views, 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath, open family area, deck, kayaks. Melrose Mountain, Tryon 28782. 828-859-7653 or 800-447-1304 www.tryonrealestate.com (furnished rentals).



Woodlane House

4BR home, furnished/serviced for medium-length stays. Pleasant, quiet. Hwy 108, Columbus 28722. 828-894-8241 www.woodlanehouse.com



Campgrounds

Orchard Lake Campground

Wooded sites w/fire rings, full RV hook-ups, 3 cabins. 2 lakes to fish, swim. 460 Orchard Lake Road, Saluda 28773. 828-749-3901 www.orchardlakecampground.com



Silver Creek Campground

Wooded sites, full RV hook-ups, camp cabins, pond, pool, tube rentals, mini-golf. 3111 Silver Creek Road, Mill Spring 28756. 828-894-2331 or 800-510-1603 www.campingfriend.com (use search).



Wilderness Cove Campground

River-front, family friendly. Wooded sites w/water/electric. Cabins. Tubing. 3772 Green River Cove, Saluda 28773. 828-749-9100 www.wildernesscovecampground.com



Visit our web site for more details and photos of properties: www.discoverfirstpeak.com

All information subject to change

Lodging Amenity Legend

Pets Considered

Internet/Wi-Fi

Private Bathrooms

Fireplace

Hot Tub/Jetted Tub

Non-Smoking Options

Restaurant

Alcohol Served/Sold

Weddings/Meetings

Explore the Area...

Attractions & Recreation

1 C2 Foothills Equestrian Nature Center (FENCE)

390-acres. Hiking trails, boardwalk, picnic area. Equestrian events, bird walks, family events. Book lodge for gatherings. 3381 Hunting Country Rd., Tryon 28782. 828-859-9021. www.fence.org

2 A3 Gibson Park and Pool

Public swimming pool (seasonal hours and fee), playground and picnic area. 236 Park St., Columbus 28722. 828-894-2646.

3 C2 Green Creek Winery

Wine tours, tastings, shop. Vineyard/mountain views. Book events & weddings. Open Wed–Sun. Tour bus friendly, call first. 413 Gilbert Rd., Columbus 28722. 828-863-2182. www.greencreekwinery.com

4 B1 Green River Cove Recreation Area

The Green River offers a scenic drive and access for fishing, tubing, kayaking, canoeing, picnicking & hiking. Green River Cove Rd., Saluda 28773. 800-440-7848. www.eco-wnc.org/grq/

5 B3 Green River Plantation/NC Civil War Trail Marker

Restored 42-room, 1804 mansion, on National Historic Register. Civil War history. Tours by appt. Book events & weddings. 6333 Coxe Rd., Rutherfordton 28139. 828-286-1461. www.green-river.net

6 C1 Harmon Field

50-acre park on Pacolet River. Wading, playground, tennis courts, walking track, sports fields & horse rings. Cabin & picnic shelter. Dogs allowed*. Harmon Field Rd., Tryon 28782. 828-859-6656.

7 B2 Historic Mill Spring School/Agricultural Development Ctr

Tour 1920s school with artist studios, markets, meeting space, & auditorium, on Overmountain Victory Trail motor route. 4 School Rd., Mill Spring 28756. 800-440-7848. www.polkcountyfarms.org

8 A3 House of Flags Museum and Veteran's Park

A unique historical collection of over 300 United States, military, state, & international flags. Guided & self-guided tours. Veteran's Park is next door. Gibson St., Columbus 28722. 828-894-5640. www.houseofflags.org

9 B2 Lake Adger

Private lake with public boat ramp: pontoons: 80HP, all others: 60HP. Fishing for muskie, bass, pike, sunfish, crappie, catfish. Lake Adger Rd., Mill Spring 28756. 828-894-2049. www.lakeadger.com

10 A1 McCreery Park

Picnic pavilion & gazebo (can reserve), playground. Dogs allowed.* Main St., Saluda 28773. 828-749-2581. www.saluda.com

11 C1 Nina Simone Plaza

Nina Simone, born in Tryon in 1933, was a world-renowned jazz musician. She is honored with a sculpture of her seated at her piano. 54 N. Trade St., Tryon 28782. 800-440-7848. www.ninasimoneproject.org

12 B3 Overmountain Vineyards & Winery

Tour 10-acre Cabernet Sauvignon & Merlot vineyard and winery. Book events & weddings. 2012 Sandy Plains Rd., Tryon 28782. 828-863-4098. www.overmountainvineyards.com

13 C1 Pacolet River Scenic Byway – Hwy. 176

A 10-mile scenic drive from Tryon to Saluda along the Pacolet River. Pass historic sites, waterfalls & beautiful vistas along the "Saluda Grade," a storied railroad incline. Hwy. 176. 800-440-7848.

* Keep dogs on a leash & clean up after them.

• Locate listings by their map coordinates (A1-C3).

14 C1 Pearson's Falls

Easy ¼-mile hike to 90 ft. waterfall, wildflowers, birding. Open daily, call for hours. Closed in January. No pets. Small fee. 2720 Pearson Falls Rd., Saluda 28773. 828-749-3031. www.pearsonsfalls.org

15 A3 Polk County Courthouse/NC Civil War Trail Marker

Built in 1859 using local bricks. On National Historic Register. Restored, still in active use. Stoneman's Raid passed here during Civil War. Courthouse St., Columbus 28722. 800-440-7848.

16 A3 Polk County Historical Association Museum

Polk County's story told through themed displays, historic artifacts, and photographs. Info for genealogical research. Call for hours. 60 Walker St, Lower Level, Columbus, NC 28722. 828-894-3351

17 B3 Rockhouse Vineyards & Winery

A family owned winery offering award-winning wines, tours and tastings. Book events & weddings. Open Thurs-Sun. 1525 Turner Rd., Tryon 28782. 828-863-2784. www.rockhousevineyards.com

18 C1 Rogers Park

200-seat amphitheater for concerts and events. May be reserved. Small creek and short trails meander through the park. Dogs allowed.* W. Howard St., Tryon 28782. 828-859-6656.

19 B2 Shunkawauken Falls/Sunset Rock Scenic Loop

150-foot, drive-by waterfall on winding White Oak Mountain Dr. Pull over on left past falls. Continue .7 miles to Sunset Rock overlook and down Skyuka Mtn Rd., Columbus 28722. 800-440-7848.

20 C1 Tryon Arts and Crafts

Arts & crafts school with large Heritage Gallery and Gift Shop. Weekend workshops plus classes and visiting artists. 373 Harmon Field Rd., Tryon 28782. 828-859-8323. www.tryonartsandcrafts.org

21 C1 Tryon Fine Arts Center

Renovated 335-seat theater promoting the visual and performing arts – including concerts, dance, theater and art exhibits. 34 Melrose Ave., Tryon, NC 28782. 828-859-8322. www.tryonarts.org

22 C1 Tryon Toy-Makers & Wood-Carvers Museum

Exhibits of popular toys and furniture created by the Tryon Toy-Makers & Wood-Carvers during the early 1900s. 43 E. Howard Street, Tryon 28782. 828-290-6600. www.toymakersandwoodcarversmuseum.com

23 C1 Upstairs Artspace


Non-profit contemporary art gallery exhibiting two- and three-dimensional art and craft by leading artists of the Southeast. 49 S Trade St, Tryon 28722, 828-859-2828. www.upstairsartspace.com

First Peak of the Blue Ridge

800-440-7848 | www.discoverfirstpeak.com | visit@discoverfirstpeak.com



Hiking/Birding Trails

Call 800-440-7848 for detailed information about trails.
Five of our trails are certified as part of the NC Birding Trail system.
Look for this bird icon  next to the description.


Easy

1 Trails at FENCE  & 10 Pearson's Falls  (listings above.)

25 C2 Weaverbarton Shuford Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary  
3 woodland hiking trails on 85-acre property. Dogs allowed*. Drive past buildings, then take next gravel driveway on right to trailhead. Shuford Rd., Columbus 28722. 828-859-5060. www.pacolet.org

26 C1 Woodland Park 
Hiking trails lead through 10 acres of unspoiled forest. Chestnut Street, Tryon 28782. 828-894-2324. www.discoverfirstpeak.com

Moderate or Strenuous

27 B1 Green River Gamelands 
9 trails vary in difficulty and scenery. Rugged hiking through the N.C. Wildlife Gamelands. Dogs allowed*. Green River Cove Rd., Saluda 28773. 800-440-7848. www.eco-wnc.org/grg/

28 C1 Norman Wilder Forest 
2-3 mile wooded hike on steep slopes. Rock face with gentle waterfall. Dogs allowed*. Park at trailhead on Hwy 176 or Tau Rock Vineyard Road, Tryon 28782. 828-859-5060. www.pacolet.org

29 B1 Poinsett Passage
A 6.6-mile section of the Palmetto Trail. Dogs allowed*. Trailhead at Orchard Lake Campground side entrance, Fork Creek Rd., Saluda 28773. 800-440-7848. www.palmettoconservation.org

River Outfitters & Fishing Guides

30 A1 Curtis Wright Outfitters, 
828-749-3444, www.curtiswrightoutfitters.com

31 B1 Green River Adventures Guided Whitewater Trips, 
800-335-1530, www.greenriveradventures.com

32 B1 Green River Cove Tubing, 
828-749-3781, www.greenrivercovetubing.com

33 B2 Silver Creek Tubing,  800-510-1603.
www.campingfriend.com/silvercreekcampground/

34 B1 Wilderness Cove Tubing, 
828-749-9100, www.nctubing.com

Golf Courses

35 B3 Meadowbrook Golf Course,
828-863-2690, www.meadowbrookgolfclub.com

36 C2 Red Fox Country Club,
828-894-8251, www.redfoxcc.com

37 C1 Tryon Country Club,
828-859-9561, www.tryoncountryclub.com



Family Friendly Fun

Whether you're big or small, the First Peak is a great place to enjoy family time together – let us help you create a plan that fits for everyone. Look for this icon to discover playful and adventurous spots for family fun.

Cycling

The First Peak offers great road cycling for all levels – beginner, intermediate and league level. Our most popular routes are highlighted on the map - give us a call for details on routes that fit your level – 800-440-7848. Rent a bike or get the inside scoop at 24 Keith's Triathlon Shop,  171 E. Main St., Saluda 28773, phone: 800-382-2144, www.keithstriathlon.com.

Nearby Western, NC Attractions

- Biltmore Estate, Asheville
- The Blue Ridge Parkway
- Carl Sandburg Home, NHS, Flat Rock
- Cedar Creek Stables & Riverside Riding Stables, Lake Lure
- Chimney Rock Park
- Flat Rock Playhouse
- Kid Senses Museum, Rutherfordton and Hands On!, Hendersonville
- Lake Lure

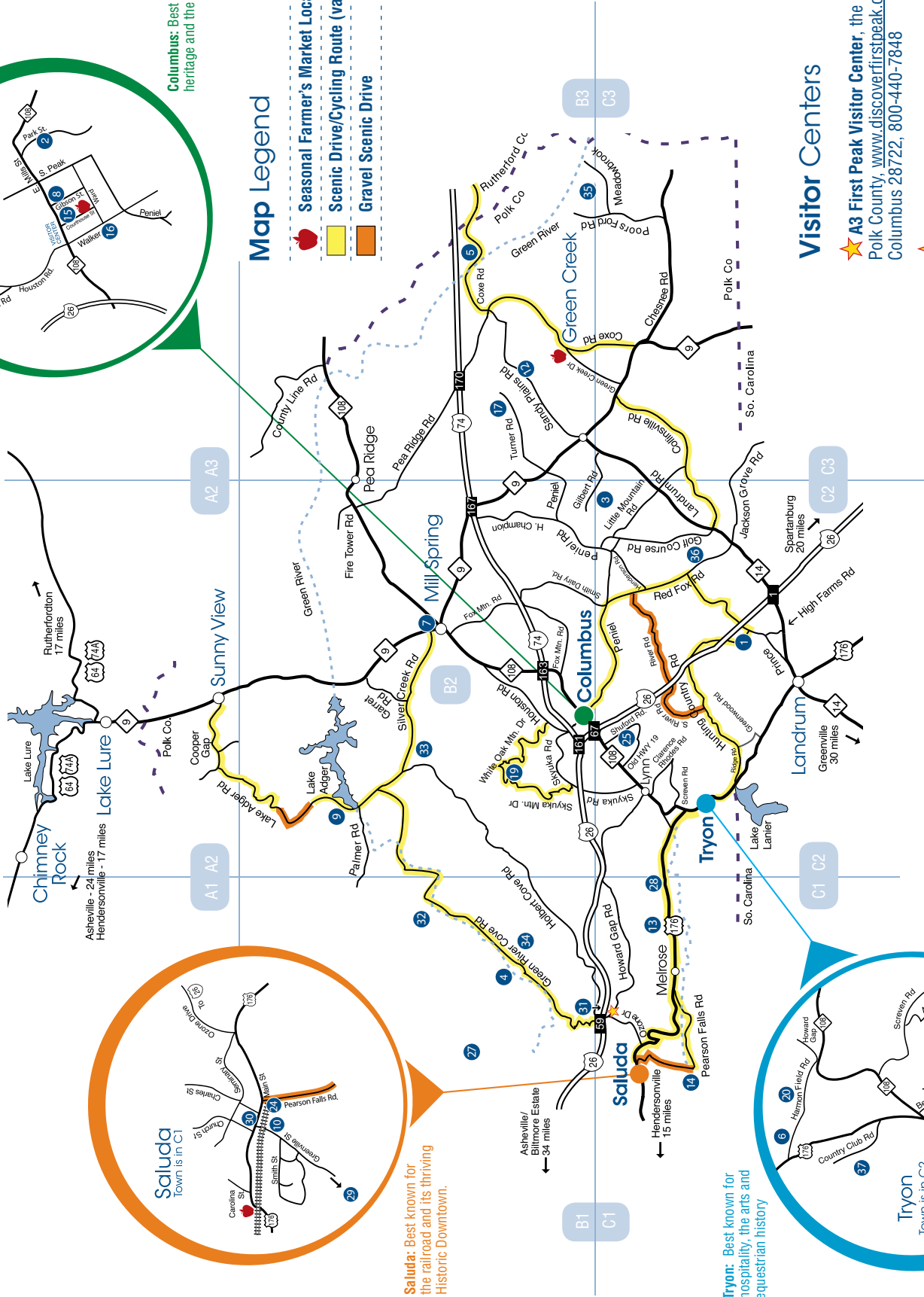




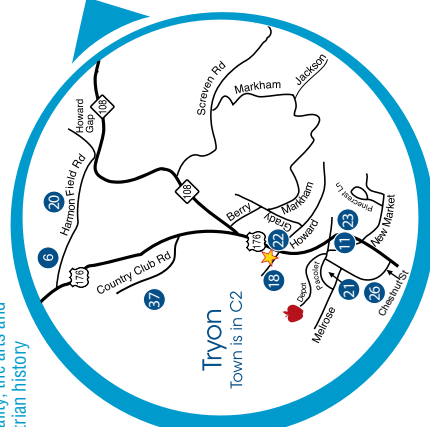
Columbus: Best known for history, heritage and the Polk County seat

Map Legend

-  Seasonal Farmer's Market Locations
-  Scenic Drive/Cycling Route (various levels)
-  Gravel Scenic Drive






Saluda: Best known for the railroad and its thriving Historic Downtown.



Tryon: Best known for hospitality, the arts and equestrian history

Visitor Centers

-  **A3 First Peak Visitor Center**, the official Visitor Center for Polk County, www.discoverfirstpeak.com, 20 E. Mills St., Columbus 28722, 800-440-7848
-  **C1 Saluda Visitor Information**, www.saluda.com 1487 Ozone Dr., Saluda 28773, 828-749-9463
-  **C1 Tryon Visitor Information**, www.exploretryon.com 301 N. Trade St., Tryon 28782, 828-859-6484