Blue Ridge Parkway Loop Tour

The Blue Ridge Parkway Loop Tour starts and ends at the Visitor Center, located at 201 South Main Street, by way of the Parkway. There are lots of places to hike along the parkway, or stay in your vehicle and simply enjoy the ride.

- Proceed north on Main Street, to 7th Ave./Hwy 64 W. and turn left at Bank of America.
- Travel 17 miles west on Hwy. 64 W., through the communities of Laurel Park, Horse Shoe, Etowah & Penrose, until you reach the intersection of Hwy. 64, Hwy. 280 & Hwy. 276 N.
- Go straight through the traffic light, heading into Pisgah National Forest.
- Follow Hwy. 276 N., staying right when the road splits in about 5 miles, and continue for another 10 miles beyond the split onto the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Turn right onto the Parkway, after 3 1/2, miles, you will find the Pisgah Inn on the right, between miles marker 409 & 408. The inn, restaurant, camp grounds and hiking trails here are open April - October. Reservations for dining are recommended.
- Continue an additional 15 miles north, and take the left exit for Hwy. 191 (signs will read that this is the exit for Hwy. 191, the NC Arboretum, Asheville, Hendersonville and Hwy. 26).
- Follow the exit ramp down to the light, and turn right onto Hwy. 191 South (Old Haywood Road).
- Stay on this road for 7 miles, then turn right onto Hwy. 280 and travel approximately 1 mile (to the third stoplight), and turn left back onto Hwy. 191 (Haywood Road).
- Follow this road for 7 miles, through Mills River, until you reach Asheville Highway, then turn right.
- This road becomes Church Street, and approximately 1 mile after turning, turn left onto Barnwell Street.
- At the Intersection of Barnwell and Main Streets, the Visitor Center will be on your left.