

## NEWS RELEASE



*Where the Sun Rises  
on the Smokies*

### HAYWOOD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**CONTACT:** Darren Miller  
Public & Media Relations Manager  
(828) 452-0152  
[darren@smokeymountains.net](mailto:darren@smokeymountains.net)

**MAGGIE VALLEY AND WAYNESVILLE OFFER IDEAL ‘BASE CAMP’ FOR VISIT TO WNC**  
*Haywood County’s 200 Diverse Accommodations Only Minutes from Dozens of Attractions, Activities*

**HAYWOOD COUNTY, N.C. (OCTOBER 20, 2009)**—With more than 200 accommodations located in Maggie Valley, Waynesville, Canton, Clyde, and Lake Junaluska, visitors will have no problem finding the perfect place to stay that meets their needs, wants and budget for a vacation in Western North Carolina.

Whether it’s an economical motel or luxurious cabin, whether it’s a quaint downtown inn or a romantic bed and breakfast, whether it’s a lakeside cottage or a rustic vacation rental, it’s here in Haywood County, North Carolina.

“Because there is such a wide variety of quality accommodations here and visitors have all kinds of choices, it really is impossible not to find ideal lodging, which is really the first step to a perfect vacation,” said Lynn Collins, executive director of the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority.

Centrally located in the Southeast, Haywood County is only a few hours away by car for most in the region. And once here on vacation, it’s the perfect base camp, allowing visitors to take countless daily excursions throughout Western North Carolina to places of natural beauty, fun adventure, historical interest, and creative artistry.

“It is really amazing,” Collins said. “You can leave your secluded mountain cabin in the morning and within less than hour be exploring a vibrant bohemian downtown in Asheville. You can stay in a quaint inn in downtown Waynesville, enjoy coffee at café on Main Street in the morning and find yourself among a herd of elk in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park minutes later.”

The heart of the Western North Carolina mountains, there is no better place to set up “base camp” than in Haywood County, where visitors can enjoy being in the middle of nowhere and at the center of it all on the same trip.

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There is a long list of outdoor activities, must-see attractions, day trips, and scenic drives in and around Haywood County—enough to fill the itinerary of even the most adventurous visitor.

Explore the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (America’s most-visited national park), cruise the Blue Ridge Parkway (“America’s Favorite Drive”), tour the Biltmore Estate (“America’s Largest Home”), step back into history in Cherokee and experience Native American heritage, take a journey through the mountain countryside on the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad, trek along part of the famed Appalachian Trail, or cross the Mile-High Swinging Bridge at Grandfather Mountain (designated an International Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations).

There’s more, of course: hundreds of miles of trails to hike, several rivers to raft, dozens of amazing scenic roads to drive, slopes to ski, and historic towns to enjoy. For a comprehensive list of all there is to see and do while staying in Haywood County, visit [www.smokeymountains.net/activities/](http://www.smokeymountains.net/activities/) and click on the “Attractions,” “Outdoor Activities” and “Day Trips & Scenic Drives” links.

The Haywood County Tourism Development Authority has made finding the right lodging even easier. Just log on to [www.smokeymountains.net/accommodations/](http://www.smokeymountains.net/accommodations/) and begin searching for the perfect place to stay by selecting type and location of accommodation, checking the desired amenities and clicking “Find.”

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Haywood County, North Carolina, “Where the Sun Rises on the Smokies,” is 554 scenic square miles of spectacular country, with beautiful mountains and valleys dotting the landscape. More than a dozen of its mountain peaks soar to elevations of at least 6,000 feet (more than any east of the Mississippi River), and the county is one of the highest, with a mean elevation of 3,600 feet, east of the Rockies. One of its most notable mountain peaks is Cold Mountain—the basis for the award-winning, best-selling novel by Charles Frazier and the ensuing 2003 major motion picture—at 6,030 feet. The county sits at the western edge of the state, with the Blue Ridge Parkway running along its southwestern border. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Pisgah National Forest are located in the northern section of the county. Call 800.334.9036 to request a print version of the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority’s Media Guide, or visit [www.smokeymountains.net/media/](http://www.smokeymountains.net/media/) to download a PDF version.