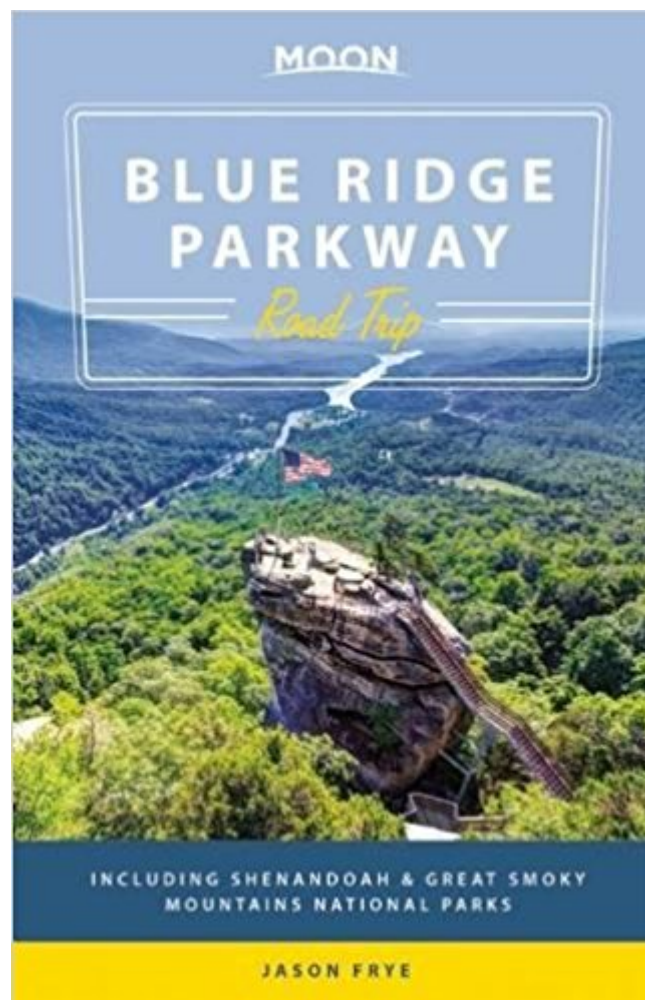




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Moon Blue Ridge Parkway Road Trip: Including Shenandoah & Great Smoky Mountains National Parks (Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Hit the Road with Moon Travel Guides! The Blue Ridge Parkway connects the green valleys of Shenandoah National Park to the Great Smoky Mountains. Drive America's most scenic highway with Moon Blue Ridge Parkway Road Trip. Inside you'll find: Maps and Driving Tools: 29 easy-to-use maps keep you oriented on and off the highway, along with site-to-site mileage, driving times, and detailed directions for the entire route Eat, Sleep, Stop and Explore: You'll know exactly what you want to do at each stop with lists of the best hikes, views, and more. Listen to live bluegrass with a glass of local moonshine, drive past fields brimming with fireflies, and wander through American history Itineraries for Every Traveler: Drive the entire two-week route or follow strategic routes like "Music of the Blue Ridge," as well as suggestions for spending time in Washington DC, Front Royal, Waynesboro, Roanoke, Galax, Asheville, Cherokee, and Knoxville Local Expert: North Carolinian and mountaineer Jason Frye shares his love of the Great Smoky Mountains (and where to find the best barbecue!) Planning Your Trip: Know when and where to get gas, how to avoid traffic, tips for driving in different road and weather conditions, and suggestions for LGBTQ travelers, seniors, and road trippers with kids With Moon Blue Ridge Parkway Road Trip's practical tips, detailed itineraries, and insider's view, you're ready to fill up the tank and hit the road. Looking to explore more of America on wheels? Try Moon Nashville to New Orleans Road Trip! Doing more than driving through? Check out Moon Blue Ridge & Smoky Mountains or Moon North Carolina.

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Customer Reviews

Though Jason Frye calls the coast of North Carolina home, his heart is with the mountains. Born and raised in the rugged Appalachian foothills in southern West Virginia, he developed an affinity for hiking and exploring the woods, coves, and hollows of the hills. His family vacationed in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, deepening his love for this landscape with each visit. Jason first encountered the Blue Ridge Parkway on a dark night, en route to the beach, when his family briefly followed this two-lane ribbon of highway across the Virginia mountains. Though the detour onto the Parkway lasted less than an hour, he knew he wanted to explore it further. In his 20s, he followed the Blue Ridge Parkway through Virginia, even continuing onto Skyline Drive for an X-Files-inspired road trip. When he moved to North Carolina, he discovered the beauty of the southern end of this drive. To this day, he takes the Blue Ridge Parkway any time he gets the chance. Jason is the author of two Moon guidebooks: Moon North Carolina and Moon North Carolina Coast. He also contributes to Salt magazine, AAA Go!, Our State and Our State Eats food blog, the Wilmington Star News, where he is a features contributor and dining critic, the Raleigh News and Observer, the Charlotte Observer, the blog of Virgin Atlantic Airlines, and a number of other print and online publications.

From Moon Blue Ridge Parkway Road Trip

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a 469-mile ridge-riding ribbon that runs from Great Smoky Mountains National Park to Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. Along the way are opportunities for a multitude of recreational activities, including hiking, rafting, kayaking, as well as calmer strolls around stately historical sites. If you're road tripping from Knoxville to Washington DC, here's some ways to enjoy all the outdoor adventures the Great Smoky Mountains have to offer.

Newfound Gap Road: Bisecting the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the 33-mile drive offers plenty of long-distance views, short hikes, and streamside driving.

Andrews Bald: Hike to one of the prettiest high-altitude meadows in the Smokies.

Catalooches: Camping in this secluded valley with Milky Way views is bliss; and driving through isn't half bad either.

Hen Wallow Falls Trail: An easy out-and-back day hike to a beautiful waterfall.

Cades Cove: Cades Cove offers plenty of wildlife viewing and the largest collection of intact historic structures in the park.

Rick Mountain: Hike up, up, up in the hills for gorgeous views of Cades Cove.

Dollywood: Ride roller coasters and get a taste of southern Appalachian music, history, and culture at this theme park owned by a country music legend.

East Tennessee History Center: Learn about the history and culture of Tennessee foothills at this downtown Knoxville landmark.

Knoxville Museum of Art: This Tennessee marble building is filled with impressive contemporary pieces, including works by artists native to the city and

region. Tennessee Theatre: The official state theater of Tennessee is an architectural marvel. As you pull into the Shenandoah Valley, you'll find memorable places of both human and natural historical interest. National Air and Space Museum: Showcasing the crowning achievements of U.S. aeronautics, this museum displays everything from the Wright Flyer to space suits and artifacts from the Apollo missions. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: This moving memorial illustrates the rise of Nazi Germany and the atrocities perpetrated upon European Jews and other ethnic and social groups during World War II. Arlington National Cemetery: The second oldest National Cemetery contains the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the gravesite of JFK, and monuments, memorials, and headstones marking major events in our history. Manassas Battlefield National Park: The site of two bloody battles during the Civil War, this battlefield is the place where General "Stonewall" Jackson earned his nickname and the Confederate army earned two early victories and opened the way for a Southern invasion of Northern territory. Hogback Mountain Overlook: From here you can spot 11 bends of the Shenandoah River and mountains as far as you can see. Luray Caverns: Just west of Skyline Drive, these caverns were discovered in the 1870s and found to contain human bone fragments embedded in a stalagmite. Today, more than 500,000 people tour the caves annually. Mary's Rock Trail: A moderate trail leads to a beautiful rock outcrop with sweeping views of the countryside. Dark Hollow Falls Trail: This short trail leads you to a beautiful 70-foot waterfall just off Skyline Drive.

This wasn't what I expected but it doesn't mean it may not be the right book for you. This isn't a guide for the Blue Ridge Parkway area. It is a more specific list of places to go, stay and see along their suggested itinerary. That means, you can be just down the road from a town with an entry and there is nothing in the book on it. If you are doing more roaming and expect this as a guide we found it lacking.

This guide was very helpful to us. We were able to locate the types of hikes we wanted to take. Even though we just did the NC portion of the parkway, it was a good resource.

Frye delivers! perfectly arranged, full of information, well illustrated. a must have for anyone interested in that road. even if you already had driven all of it.

I ordered this book late last week and it arrived exactly when it was suppose to. I am very impressed so far with how it is set up and written. It is exactly what I was looking for. We will be driving the Blue

Ridge parkway in about 5 weeks and I am hoping the information in this book is as helpful as it appears to be. Great purchase!

What is there is useful, but not as complete as I had hoped - found some better information on internet sites such as Asheville, NC website.

This is a super book for planning a trip (doesn't have to be a road trip ether!!) it's got great things to do in each area, and breaks trips down into sections of how many days you have to spend and where you start/end. It covers necessities such as gas and food, and safety information as well.

very informative and good to have. Shows you where to go and see notable places on the parkway

We are planning a trip in 2017 and wanted to do research and this is a rich resource!

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