

## **Points of Interest in Western North Carolina**

Asheville is a popular tourist destination year-round. The Biltmore Estate is especially appealing, with a different theme each season. If you decide to extend your stay in Asheville to include the weekend, you may find the following information of interest.

### **Biltmore Estate**

Biltmore Estate offers a gracious escape from everyday life. Marvel at the grandeur of America's largest home filled with Vanderbilt's collection of fine art and antiques. Stroll through gardens created by America's father of landscape architecture, Frederick Law Olmsted. Enjoy estate-raised foods, and savor award-winning vintages at Biltmore's winery.

### **Grove Park Inn**

The Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa is one of the American South's oldest and most famous grand resorts. Built in 1913 overlooking the Asheville, North Carolina skyline and the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Inn is a favorite year-round destination for both leisure and business guests. Its splendid views, old world charm, peerless amenities, and a long tradition of exceptional service and hospitality make it a place to savor as one of the most enduringly original and exciting resorts in America.

### **The North Carolina Arboretum**

The North Carolina Arboretum is a 426-acre public garden located within the Bent Creek Research and Demonstration Forest of the Pisgah National Forest. Surrounded by the dense folds of the botanically diverse Southern Appalachian Mountains, the Arboretum is nestled in one of the most beautiful natural garden settings in America.

### **Biltmore Village**

Built in the late 1890's as a classic planned community at the entrance to George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate, Biltmore Village today is truly one of the Carolinas' most unique touring and shopping environments. Because of its history, its range of retailers, and its fine restaurants, Historic Biltmore Village has an international reputation. It's the way shopping used to be -relaxed and enjoyable with top quality merchandise at realistic prices and wonderful customer service. Enjoy quaint tree-lined streets, brick sidewalks, open air dining, original houses from the 1900's, all combined with amazing collections of one-of-a-kind merchandise of true quality and value. Excellent restaurants are within walking distance.

### **Downtown Asheville**

Vibrant and alive, downtown Asheville offers a variety of shops including the Mast General Store as well as superb restaurants. The recently completed Grove Arcade Public Market is filled with approximately 70 locally owned and operated shops, including restaurants, craft shops, and various neighborhood businesses. Grove Arcade Public Market businesses will showcase many of Western North Carolina's best products.

### **Blue Ridge Parkway**

For beautiful vistas and a relaxing cruise, go South on the Parkway about 40 minutes to the Pisgah Inn, or go North to reach Mount Mitchell, the highest peak East of the Mississippi.