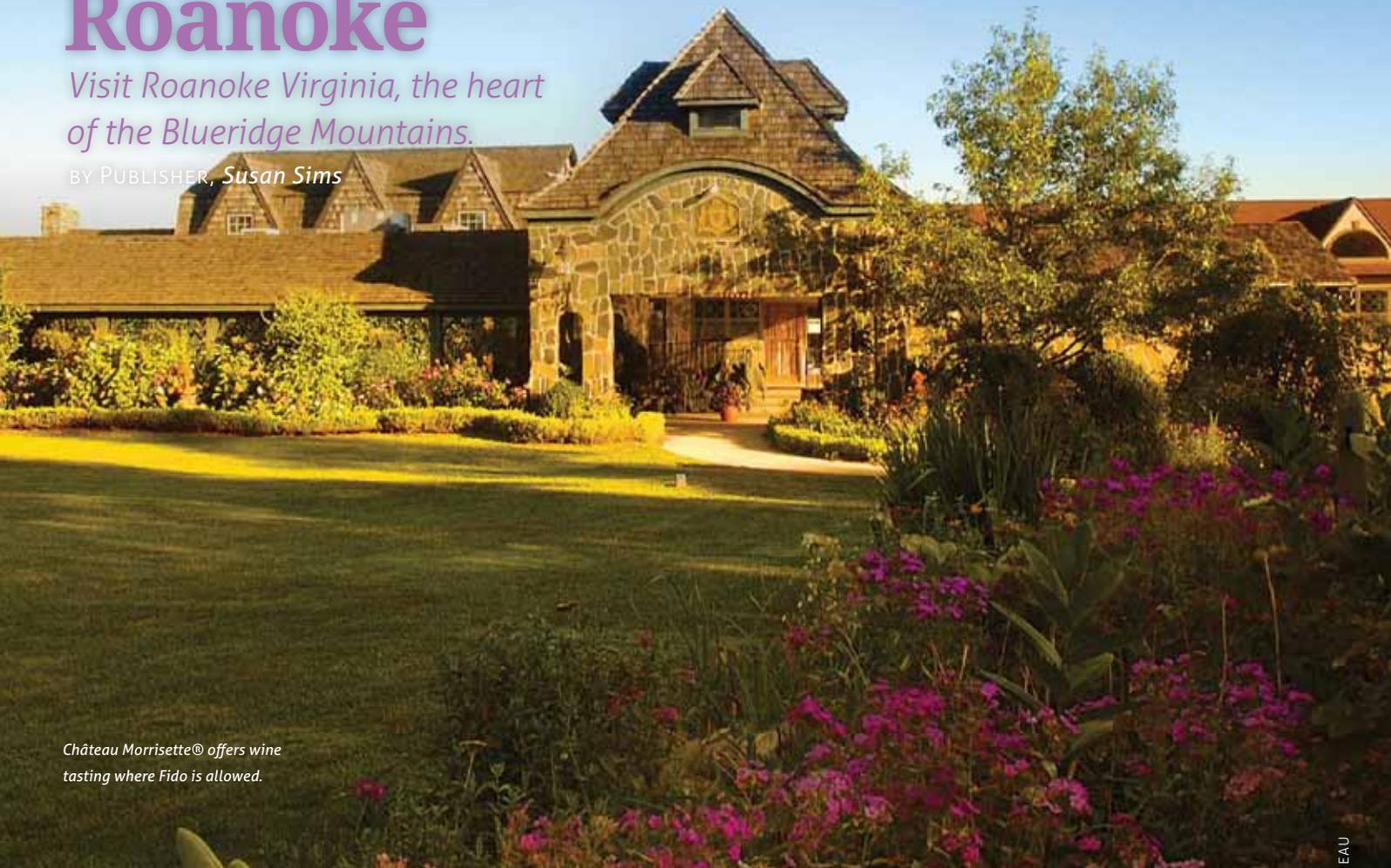




Ruffin it in Roanoke

Visit Roanoke Virginia, the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

BY PUBLISHER, Susan Sims



Château Morrisette® offers wine tasting where Fido is allowed.

WHAT BETTER WAY TO SEE ROANOKE, Virginia than with man's best friend? Started by Sponsor Hounds, the Woofstock Dog Festival is held each year in June at Elmwood Park where several shelter groups gather with an assortment of canines who are looking for their new forever homes. It's a fun atmosphere with music, food and contests

With Fido, walk along the Roanoke River on one of Roanoke's Valleys Greenways. Meander through parks and step back in time with a visit to historic Grandin Village. Although not exactly like the fictional small community of Mayberry from the Andy Griffith show, nostalgia is nevertheless around every corner. Don't leave town without a yummy cupcake from Viva la Cupcake and ice cream from Pop's Ice Cream & Soda Bar.

A visit to Black Dog Salvage is next on the list. Black Dog Salvage was created in 1999 by Mike Whiteside and Robert Kulp. They specialize in the reclamation, repurposing and resale of architectural, commercial, and industrial elements and fixtures from Virginia's architectural past.

Black dog Molly was the inspiration for Black Dog Salvage and lived a full life of thirteen and a half

years. Before she passed over to Rainbow Bridge, she was in charge of training their newest salvager, Sally the Salvage Dog. Sally is always eager to assist customers and their dogs while they explore 40,000 square feet of treasures.

Is Fido ready to see the world's largest man-made star? Head on out to the top of Mill Mountain and gaze upon this enormous creation. Constructed in 1949, it originally was to be lit only during the holidays. It now shines brightly each night up until midnight. While there, sightseeing opportunities include the Mill Mountain Zoo, one of the state's three accredited zoos and one of the few in the na-



ANNUAL WOOFSTOCK DOG FESTIVAL HELPS SHELTER DOGS FIND NEW FOREVER HOMES.



IF YOU GO »

🏠 SHERATON ROANOKE HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

Boasting a newly designed recent \$18 million renovation, and welcomes Fido with the use of food and water bowls and The Sheraton Sweet Sleeper Dog Bed. There is no pet fee, 80-pound weight restriction and one dog maximum. Room service for you and Fido available from on-site restaurant Shulas 347 Grill. Shula's 347 Grill is named in honor of Hall of Fame coach, Don Shula; the winningest coach in NFL history with 347 career victories. 2801 Hershberger Road, Roanoke, VA 24017; (540) 563-9300; sheratonroanoke.com.

🏡 GRANDIN VILLAGE

grandinvillage.org.

🌲 MILL MOUNTAIN TRAILS

roanokeva.gov/starcam.

🐕 BLACK DOG SALVAGE

902 13th Street SW, Roanoke, VA 24016; (540) 343-6200; blackdogsalvage.com.

🐕 SERVICE DOGS OF VIRGINIA AND SAINT FRANCIS SERVICE DOG FOUNDATION

dogs4acasue.org; thedogs.com.

tion located on a mountain as well as walking on the Mill Mountain trails.

And saving the best for last, no visit with Fido to Roanoke is complete without a little wine tasting. Château Morrisette® is one of the largest and most scenic wineries in Virginia. Housed in one of the largest salvaged timber frame buildings in North America, and producing 15 different wines, Château Morrisette® is so dog gone Fido-friendly that labels featuring their black Lab are prominent on most bottles of wine. Hosting dog adoption events is an annual affair along with the Black Dog Wine and Music Festival.

In partnership with Service Dogs of Virginia and Saint Francis Service Dog Foundation, Château Morrisette® has created LIBERTY® and INDEPENDENCE®, two new wines that pay tribute to service dogs and their dedication to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. Château Morrisette® will contribute a percentage of gross adjusted sales to both non-profit organizations.

Hungry? Enjoy elegant dining in a relaxed old-world atmosphere. Dine indoors by the open fire or on the patio during warm weather.

Money Magazine ranked Roanoke as one of the top three "Best Places to Retire in the United States." Fido wags his tail in agreement. 🐾



Sally the Salvage Dog at Black Dog Salvage greets both human and canines alike. Black Dog Salvage was created in 1999 to provide a home for Southwestern Virginia's architectural past. The brainchild of entrepreneurs Mike Whiteside and Robert Kulp and inspired by Molly, Black Dog's namesake, the company found its beginnings with the salvage of some of Roanoke Virginia's most notable architectural details at 21 Highland Ave. Since that time, Black Dog has become the temporary resting place for architectural antiques, commercial salvage, and modern society's other cast offs.