

## Family Fun – 10 Great Ways To Have a Good Time In the Foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains

**1** Go ahead! Goof off. Our lake, streams, trails and porches provide the perfect avenue for letting your imaginations run wild. Teach the kids to fish off the banks of Lake Lure's [Morse Park](#) or to hunt big catfish at [Fly-N-Hook](#) fishing in Rutherfordton, plan a scavenger hunt down one of our many trails, or play board games all evening as fireflies flicker outside a screened-in porch.



**2** [Bubba's Fun Park](#) in Forest City is “Home of the KidZoo,” the perfect place to spend a rainy day or escape the heat. The KidZoo is a two-level, 1200 square foot indoor playground featuring a ball pit, roller slide, glide track, tumbler, web crawl and spiral slide. The park also offers eight outdoor batting cages and an indoor Toddler Play Area for children four and under. Lazer Runner, a 1,500 square foot interactive game for ages 8 and up is popular with adults and teens, too. Pizza, nachos and pretzels are offered at the snack bar. The pro shop is high on the list of baseball and softball enthusiasts.



**3** Adults and kids can fly through the air on a zipline. At [Canopy Ridge Farm](#) in Lake Lure, the adventure tour lasts about 1 1/2 hours; don't miss Zip Zilla – over 1,000 feet in length and engineered for speed and squeals. Join [Boulderline Adventure Programs](#) at Lake Lure and soar from ridge to ridge through 40 acres of forest woodland. Fly over trees as you step off platforms of varying heights from two- to 25-feet high.

**4** At [KidSenses Children's InterACTIVE Museum](#) in Rutherfordton, feed your brain and fuel a good time. Many visitors are surprised to find a children's museum of this sophistication in a city of this size. When you come, check the website for special programming and workshops. Children and adults experience hands-on fun as they play,



learn, and create together. Top kid-rated exhibits include the Discovery Garden (a true urban garden built at the back of the museum), Bubble-Ology, Little Family Dollar, Science Power, Kid's Pueblito and Creation Station.

Allot a few hours to half a day, depending on the age of your children to fully experience the museum. After you wrap up, grab an ice cream at [Main Street Coffee & Ice Cream](#) or enjoy a meal at [Mimi's Dairy-O Pizza & Grill](#).

**5** Beach or bust! That's the motto at [The Beach at Lake Lure](#), located across from the 1927 Lake Lure Inn & Spa. The area's only public access beach is the perfect place to build sandcastles, play volleyball, bring a picnic and play at the water park. The beach is open Memorial Day through the summer season. Admission is charged.



**6** The [Chimney Rock State Park Great Woodland Adventure](#) introduces kids to Grady the Groundhog, the Park's animal ambassador. Follow the signs featuring Grady or a park guide on the Great Woodland Adventure Trail. Jump as far as a spider, spot the salamanders or name the birds of prey statues soaring above. Head over to Grady's Animal Discovery Den to see the live animal habitats of snakes, turtles and opossum, and experience hands-on displays of wildlife furs, skins, shells and skeletons. Admission is charged.





**7** Go for the adrenalin rush with [Lake Lure Adventure Company](#). Their certified ski and wakeboard instructors offer professional instruction for first timers, as well as experienced skiers and riders. Rent a pontoon boat or kayak, water ski, or go wakeboarding or wake surfing.

**8** [Cedar Creek Riding Stables](#) at Lake Lure offers trail rides, gem mining, and fishing if you bring your gear and fishing license. [Riverside Riding Stables](#) at Lake Lure offers pony rides, one-hour trail rides, and two-hour river rides (yep, prepare to get wet!) and three-day/two-night overnight pack trips.



**9** Search for treasure when you take the family **gem mining**. Flume mining involves grabbing a bucket and bellying up to a trough filled with sand and running water. [Thermal City Gold & Gem Mine](#) at Union Mills is operated by real prospectors and has been in operation since 1830. [Broad River Gems & Mining Co.](#) in Rutherfordton has riverside mining, an impressive gift shop and a 95,000-year-old cave bear skeleton! At [Chimney Rock Gemstone Mine](#) in Chimney

Rock Village, you're likely to find aquamarine, emeralds, rubies, garnets, quartz, agates, hematite, amethysts and more.

# 10

You absolutely **MUST** take a covered pontoon boat tour of Lake Lure with [Lake Lure Tours](#). The peaceful, one-hour boat tour covers 27 miles of pristine shoreline. Skipper guides share the history, culture and landmarks of the area, and they'll show you where "Dirty Dancing" was filmed. Grandparents and friends with walkers can get on and off these boats with assistance, so plan on bringing everyone. Note: tours close in winter.



Need Assistance? We can help!

**Welcome Center in Lake Lure**

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