

ASHEVILLE

Rock Your Classroom! Student Travel in Asheville & Western North Carolina

*The Asheville CVB can offer **free and helpful assistance** with blocking your group accommodations. Use our lead service to find and compare the best group room rates! As part of our service, we can also provide a free **welcome gift** for each member of your group upon check-in.*

Day 1

Your first day in Asheville begins with a visit to **Biltmore**, America's largest privately owned home. Offerings specifically designed with student groups in mind include an escorted tour of Biltmore House and an interactive one-hour program at River Bend Farm at Antler Hill Village. **Lunch** is available onsite at one of Biltmore's restaurants.

Compliment your Biltmore visit with a stop at nearby **Smith-McDowell House Museum**, Asheville's first mansion and oldest surviving structure and home to many of Asheville most influential residents.

For evening fun, visit **Asheville's Fun Depot**, featuring indoor mini golf, multi-level laser tag, indoor batting cages, climbing wall, indoor and outdoor go-carts and more. Dinner is available onsite at the **Sports Café**.

Day 2

Get into the great outdoors and see Asheville from a whole new perspective – by treetop! Zip-lining, teambuilding, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, and kayaking are just some of the many options available at **Adventure Center of Asheville** and their sister company, **Wildwater**. Boxed lunches available.

If time permits, venture into the River Arts District for an interactive art project at **The Village Potters**. Their “**Get Your Hands Dirty**” workshop teaches participants how to make Appalachian style pottery using age-old tools and techniques.

Depending on the time of the visit, consider a night at the ballpark with the **Asheville Tourists** minor league baseball team. Check the schedule to see if your visit coincides with one of the many special events hosted throughout the season. Concessions are available onsite.

Day 3

Explore the parameters with a visit to **Chimney Rock State Park**, known for its spectacular 75-mile views, numerous hiking trails, a 404-foot waterfall, and Nature Center. The staff botanists and ornithologist provide programs studying the natural wonders found along the park's trails. **Lunch** is available at the nearby **Old Rock Café**.

Just a mile from Chimney Rock State Park is **Lake Lure** and its 27 miles of shoreline. Voted one of America's top 10 most beautiful man-made lakes by *National Geographic*, explore Lake Lure's history and beauty in the easy comfort of a guided boat tour and see a variety of local wildlife.

Stop for **dinner** on your way back into Asheville at one of the casual group friendly restaurants in town.

For additional educational experiences:

- Sign up for a guided visit at **The North Carolina Arboretum** where K-8 students can partake in programs like “Amazing Arthropods,” “Exploring Ecology,” and “Tree Math.” Academic programs blend the benefits of outdoor education and STEM education through interactive experiences within the 434 acre campus.
- Enjoy a stop at **Asheville Museum of Science** in downtown Asheville with state-of-art programs and exhibits that focus primarily on weather and earth sciences. Their cutting edge technologies help to intrigue and inspire science and nature lovers alike.
- Travel to the **Pisgah National Forest** to explore the never-ending world of forestry and natural history at America’s first forestry school, the Cradle of Forestry. At the Forest Discovery Center, specially designed programs addressing science, social studies, forestry and living history are available and correlate to N.C. state curriculum standards and U.S. Forest Service guidelines.
- Visit the **Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education**, operated by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. The Center includes a wildlife garden, an award winning film, exhibits and the NC WILD store. Also located on-site is the state’s largest trout hatchery where visitors can feed brook, brown and rainbow trout.