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Matt Paxton
Publisher

Cheryl Garrett
Graphic Designer



Cover photo of downtown Lexington during July 4th balloon event, photo by Kelly Nye.

For Advertising Rates and Information, Please Call:

April Mikels
(540) 463-3113
Main Office
(540) 463-3113

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Come play in our playground; Rockbridge County, Virginia

If you love the outdoors – hiking, biking, kayaking, or just taking a drive down country roads or the Blue Ridge Parkway, we have the place. If you love music, we have that all over, from the renowned Lime Kiln Theater to live music in our restaurants, wineries and breweries. If you like browsing in locally-owned shops and boutiques, we have that too. And if you like history, we have plenty of that also – almost 300 years-worth!

The area’s natural beauty is a huge attraction. The views from the Blue Ridge Parkway of Rockbridge County are spectacular, but the vistas you can encounter around a turn on a country road most anywhere in Rockbridge can also be stunning, four seasons of the year. Certainly we can’t forget the geological formation that gives the county its name – Natural Bridge. The Bridge is now a part of the Virginia State Parks system, and has become one of the more visited parks within the state. A walk under the bridge should be a part of any visit to the area.

Exploring our towns and villages can provide days of interesting and fun diversion. From the authentic feel of Lexington’s 19th and early 20th century downtown, the villages of Fairfield and Brownsburg, and the 1890s boom-era buildings in Buena Vista and at Southern Virginia University, there are a lot of sights to see and interesting shops to browse.

This area is becoming known for its gastronomic appeal. Rockbridge has always been a farming community, and local farmers have embraced the locavore movement. Wine grapes, cider apples, Asian pears, herbs, grains and vegetables are grown here. Flour and meals are milled using centuries-old stones. Grass-fed beef from Rockbridge graces the tables in restaurants here and elsewhere. Local restaurants often use locally-sourced foods in their dishes. Rockbridge wines and beers have won awards not only on the state level but nationally.

With all of these attributes, it’s no wonder that the Rockbridge area gets repeat visitors every year, and that more people discover our special place. We hope this guide will help you discover all there is to see and do in Lexington, Buena Vista and Rockbridge County. Come and see us!



A TTRACTIONS

From the incomparable Natural Bridge to the Virginia Horse Center, from downtown Lexington to Hull's Drive-In - the nation's first community-owned drive-in movie theater, the Rockbridge area will entertain, inspire, inform and delight. Come spend time exploring all that Rockbridge has to offer.



Brownsburg Museum's 2026 Season.

By popular demand, the acclaimed exhibit, "Interwoven: Unearthed Stories of Slavery" will continue for a third and final year. The exhibit explores local history through the moving story of one family's journey from slavery to freedom.

A highlight of the exhibit is a rare 1866 letter from a son to his father in Brownsburg describing life in faraway Liberia. It is full of love and longing.

Also on display are the contemporary photographs of the local slave houses by an internationally awarded German photographer, Gesche Wuerfel. Her work explores how these structures impact the landscape, its inhabitants, and our understanding of history.

The museum is located at 2716 Brownsburg Turnpike (Rte. 252). The winter hours are by appointment only – info@thebrownsburgmuseum.org www.thebrownsburgmuseum.org



Explore Downtown Lexington.

Downtown Lexington has both a historic past and a heritage of architectural preservation. The oldest downtown buildings date from the late 18th century, and many were built in the early to mid-19th century. Preservation efforts begun in the 1960s have resulted in many downtown build-



ings being saved from destruction, restored and adapted for modern uses. In the 1970s, overhead wires were placed underground, the downtown streets were completely rebuilt and brick sidewalks replaced concrete walks.

The 19th-century atmosphere, so appealing to visitors, has also attracted the attention of Hollywood. Scenes for several other theatrical and television productions have been shot in and around downtown.

Shoppers in downtown Lexington will find a diversity of merchandise and services. Several book stores offer new, used and collectible books. Local artists display their creations in several galleries and shops on Washington Street. Specialty food stores sell locally roasted coffees, gourmet chocolates, local and regional wines, beers and ciders, herbs and organic foods, and fresh-baked breads, cakes and pastries. Other shops stock distinctive gift items, college merchandise, active and outdoors gear, and men's and women's clothing.

Downtown Lexington's restaurant scene offers a mix of cuisines and atmospheres, from bistros to taprooms to coffee and gelato shops. Chose from Greek, Asian, Italian, and American fare. Downtown Lexington has a brewery with a rotating menu of local beers, plus wines and ciders from local producers.

There's plenty of live music to enjoy in downtown. Fridays Alive brings concerts to downtown on selected Friday evenings during the summer. Local restaurants often have live music in the evenings.

Hopkins Green, a small park on the corner of Nelson and Jefferson Streets, provides a place in downtown for visitors and locals to sit and relax. The campuses of Washington and Lee University and Virginia Military Institute are both adjacent to downtown and within easy walking distance of downtown and the Visitor Center.

Main Street Lexington, Inc. is a 501(c)3 volunteer-based organization established in 2013 to preserve, sustain, enhance and promote downtown Lexington. The organization is affiliated with the Virginia Main Street program. For more information, see its website at <http://www.mainstreetlexington.org>.

Enjoy Movies and Memories Under the Stars at the country's first community-owned, non-profit drive-in movie theatre - Hull's Drive-In.

Many adults can remember going to the drive-in movies as a child, but most drive-ins have closed over the past quarter century. In Virginia, only a few drive-in theaters remain, and one is right here in Rockbridge County!

Hull's Drive-In dates back to 1950, originally named the Lee Drive-In Theatre and operated by W.C. Atkins. It was bought by Mr. Sebert Hull of Buena Vista in 1957 and renamed as Hull's Drive-In. Mr. Hull and his wife, Effie, operated Hull's Drive-In for 40 years. Hull's was famous for reasonable ticket prices, a snack bar with great cheeseburgers and french fries, and the friendly reception of Mr. and Mrs. Hull.

When Mr. Hull passed away in 1998, Mrs. Hull sold Hull's Drive-In to W.D. Goad, owner of Goad's Body Shop next door to the theatre. Mr. Goad kept the drive-in going



Two Ways To Find Out What's Happening . . .

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Local attractions, events, where to stay, eat and drink, outdoors, history and more

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Lexington, Buena Vista and Rockbridge County's source for local news and information

in 1998 but, facing expensive upgrades and restoration at the drive-in, Mr. Goad was going to have to close it. The community came together to save the drive-in and under the leadership of Eric and Elise Sheffield, a local group calling themselves Hull's Angels formed to save the theatre and preserve the distinct character that had attracted families and visitors from as far away as Roanoke and Charlottesville for so many years. Thanks to this determined group of local citizens, Hull's Drive-In now has the distinction of being the first member-owned, community operated drive-in in the United States with 501c(3) status as a non-profit organization. The continued support of Hull's Angels helps assure that this local treasure will be around for the next generation.

Several years ago, with community support, the drive-in upgraded to digital projection, allowing it to show first-run movies with much greater clarity. In 2014, the 50 year-old screen was replaced with a new state-of-the-art screen, which makes the picture even brighter. In 2018, the sound system was replaced with all new speakers and wiring thanks to a very generous anonymous donor. In 2021, after a successful campaign that raised almost \$400,000, Hull's Angels bought the five acres of land that the drive-in sits on, assuring that it would remain open and showing movies under the stars for years to come.

A new stage in front of the screen added in 2024 allows Hull's to present live music and other events before movies and at special events at the drive-in.

Hull's Drive-In is located four miles north of Lexington on U.S. Rt. 11. The season begins in mid to late March and runs through the end of October, with double feature shows every Friday and Saturday night, and a single feature Sundays from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. The drive-in is very family-friendly and kids enjoy playing on the grass in front of the big screen before showtime. Movies are chosen, as much as possible, to showcase a film for all audiences for the first show, and a more grown-up film for the second. Open captioning available for the hearing impaired on Sunday nights.

The Drive-In is also available to be rented for special events, private parties and community gatherings. Become a member of Hull's Angels and receive special discounts while helping support this local treasure. Corporate sponsorships are also available. Any donations to support Hull's Drive-In may be sent to Hull's Angels, P.O. Box 1, Lexington, VA 24450.

For more information on movies, live music, vendor markets and trivia nights, check the online at www.hullsdrivein.com or call 540) 463-2621 for the Movie Line.

Tour the Jackson House Museum.

The Jackson House at 8 East Washington Street in Lexington, just one block west of the Lexington Visitor Center, explores the pre-Civil War home life of Thomas J. Jackson, the Lexingtonian who became internationally famous as Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson. The 225-year-old home tells the story of newlyweds Thomas and Mary Anna Jackson and six enslaved people on the eve of the Civil War. Explore the exhibit gallery with artifacts that illuminate



Jackson's life as a private citizen, professor at the Virginia Military Institute, family man, church member, and community leader during his decade in Lexington.

An exciting new self-guided, video-based tour allows visitors to explore the house and gardens at their own pace, while interpreters are ready to engage in deeper discussions about life in Lexington during the 1850s.

One of three museums operated by the Virginia Military Institute, the house was restored in 1979 to its appearance when Thomas Jackson, his second wife, Mary Anna Morrison Jackson, and six enslaved persons lived here immediately before the American Civil War. Furnished with many of Jackson's own possessions, the house reflects the modest means and simple tastes of a middle-class family.

Jackson arrived in Lexington in 1851 to teach natural and experimental philosophy and artillery tactics at VMI and longed for a home of his own. He wrote to a friend that "I shall never be content until I am the head of an establishment in which my friends can feel at home in Lexington." Though known publicly for his stern demeanor, Jackson could be playful at home. Mary Anna recalled, "He would often hide himself behind a door at the sound of the approaching footstep of his wife, and spring out to greet her with a startling caress."

He took great pleasure in tending the garden behind his home. In 1860, he wrote to Mary Anna, who was away, about growing a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, including lima beans, carrots, onions, cabbage, turnips, beets, potatoes, and "some inferior muskmelons." Mary Anna's sister Laura later recalled, "I shall never forget the magnificent giant celery he grew, which he exhibited with pride."

Today visitors can stroll through the restored garden with fruit trees, heirloom vegetables, and flowers; explore the exhibit gallery featuring 60 Jackson family artifacts; or browse in the museum store, which specializes in books, prints, and gifts inspired by 19th-century styles. Admission fees and sales in the museum store help support the educational programs and operations of the museum.

Admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for youth under ages 6-12. Children under six are admitted free of charge. Residents of Buena Vista, Lexington, and Rockbridge County receive free admission. *Visitors can save up*

to 30% with a bundle ticket that includes admission to the Jackson House Museum, the VMI Museum, and the Virginia Museum of the Civil War. Group rates are available with advance reservations.

For more information, go to: www.vmi.edu/jhm.

Lime Kiln Theater brings music with an Appalachian flavor to a spectacular outdoor setting.

Lime Kiln Theater has been a part of Lexington's cultural landscape for over thirty years. Facing expensive renovations to the structures at the theater site and funding challenges brought on by the recession, the theater was forced to suspend operations in 2012.

In 2014, a local group of volunteers brought the iconic venue back to life with a terrific season of music in the Bowl Theater. Over 4,000 people attended events and six of the seven shows sold out! Successive seasons since have proved equally successful.

The theater is located on the 12-acre site of a 19th-century lime kiln and quarry. The Bowl is a natural amphitheater with permanent bench seating for approximately 350 guests and standing room for up to 300 additional guests. The Kiln is a large, open space with a 40' x 160' tent. Seating in The Kiln will vary from show to show; fold-

ing chairs, standing room, etc. Performances take place on-site rain or shine. A retractable covering over The Bowl stage allows the theater to hold events in light rain/drizzle. Heavy rain moves the event to The Kiln, under a tent.

For information on the 2026 season and to buy tickets, check the theater's website at <http://www.limekilntheater.org>.



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See the massive Natural Bridge, the centerpiece of Natural Bridge State Park.

Natural Bridge, the geologic wonder for which Rockbridge County gets its name, is to the centerpiece of Virginia's 37th and newest state park, which officially opened in 2016.

Establishing Natural Bridge as a state park represented the culmination of a difficult and lengthy process to safeguard the bridge and assure its continued public access in perpetuity. A complex financial transaction involving a gift, a purchase and loans from several state agencies allowed the bridge and much of the lands surrounding it to become a state park.

Once owned by Thomas Jefferson and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the 215-foot tall Natural Bridge spans a limestone gorge carved out by Cedar Creek. However, the newest Virginia State Park is more than just the bridge. Situated on over 1500 acres of beautiful forests, and open, rolling meadows, the park showcases the area's karst terrain; and vistas of surrounding mountains and the James River valley display nature's splendor. Six miles of hiking trails open this varied terrain to visitors, and includes the accessible Cedar Creek Trail that leads from the bridge to the Monacan Indian Village and Lace Falls with its 30-foot cascade. Living history programs connect you to the past and cover how people once used the area's resources for survival and inspiration. Start at the visitor center where you will find exhibits and a gift shop.

Admission per person is \$6 for ages 6-12 and \$9 for those 13 and older. Natural Bridge Park is on US Route 11, and easily accessed from either Exit 175 or 180 off I-81. Park hours are from 8 am to dusk.



See the remarkable Henry Stewart Firearms Collection at the VMI Museum.

Collectors of antique firearms have undoubtedly heard of the late Henry M. Stewart, Jr., a 1935 graduate of VMI, and his legendary collection of antique guns. Many pieces of his collection are one-of-a-kind or the only known surviving example of a particular type.

Stewart bequeathed the collection to Virginia Military Institute, his alma mater. Besides the fascinating collection of arms and accoutrements, Stewart's collection contains many books and papers dealing with firearms, and over 350 government patent office models – valuable resources for serious researchers.

The display of firearms is part of the VMI Museum, located in Memorial Hall. The collection consists of more than 800 pieces, with the majority on display. The exhibit contains examples of well-known names in the development of the revolving cylinder firearms—sometimes called “wheel guns”—such as Colt, and many obscure manufacturers and gunsmiths known mainly to experts and collectors. A particularly interesting display of over fifty guns traces the search in the mid-1800s for a successful revolving cylinder firearm, which could fire multiple shots before reloading.

Visitors can also explore one of the largest exhibits of “air rifles” in the nation. Among the most interesting individual pieces is a .30 caliber air gun many historians believe was carried by Lewis and Clark on their famous ‘Voyage of Discovery’ from 1803 to 1806. The gun operated by being pumped up to 700 pounds per square inch, and then could be fired repeatedly for up to 40 rounds. It amazed the Native Americans who saw it demonstrated, and still interests scholars today.

Other rare and interesting pieces include the Porter revolving vertical turret rifle and the Allen and Cochran turret gun. Both were efforts to invent a successful repeating rifle in the 1800s. The Artemis Wheeler Revolving Carbine is one of only four bought by the US Navy in 1821.

The museum is located in Memorial Hall on the VMI Post, and is open 9-5, seven days a week. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6 for youth ages 6–12. Children under six are admitted free of charge. Residents of Buena Vista, Lexington, and Rockbridge County receive free admission. **Visitors can save up to 30% with a bundled ticket** that includes admission to the Jackson House Museum, the VMI Museum, and the Virginia Museum of the Civil War. Group rates are available with advance reservations.



For more information, go to <http://www.vmi.edu/museums-and-archives/vmi-museum/>

Visit Tantivy Farm For the Lavender, And The Views.

Brian and Penny Ross are no strangers to rural life, having bought their farm in northern Rockbridge County in



1989 after moving from Southern Pines in North Carolina, primarily because of the Virginia Horse Center, but also because of the beauty of this part of Virginia. For many years, the farm was a retreat from the rigors of organizing and running horse shows.

Brian went on to become a top dressage and eventing Equestrian Judge, traveling 35-40 long weekends a year, judging on 4 continents, including the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, and became an educator of eventing judges in the US. Penny organized as many as 20 national and international horse competitions a year for 25-plus years mostly in central Virginia. They raised two sons, worked their gardens, harvested their own fruits and vegetables, and enjoyed their many pets and wild animals.

In 2015, Brian, a cancer survivor, and Penny retired from the horse industry to concentrate their time on the farm. After some research and visiting a lavender farm in Washington State that impressed them, they planted a field of 360 lavender plants. Other things they considered were grapes, hops, garlic and asparagus but Penny had always had a love for lavender and had planted some on the rock ledges in front of their log home, where it thrived so their dream took shape.

In 2017, they planted another field and began selling lavender products at a local farmers market where they were frequently asked "Is the farm open to the public?" Inevitably they agreed to open in May 2018. Another lavender field was planted along with the building of a gift shop with adjoining porches to take in the outstanding views and enjoy locally made lavender ice cream! Several theme gardens have been added along with walking trails to a waterfall and picnic tables. With about 2,000 lavender plants and over 40 varieties in the ground their venture is truly Lavender Fields at Tantivy Farm.

Tantivy Farm in Northern Rockbridge County is open in 2026 from April 17th. through December 20th. Thursday-Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sundays 1 pm - 5 pm. Groups, clubs and tour buses are welcome by appointment at 540-460-6347.

Full Bloom is from mid-May through the end of July, with extended hours. Live lavender plants are available for purchase in the Gift Shop along with fresh picked and dried

lavender, soaps, sachets, eye pillows, bath and culinary products, ice cream and numerous other items.

For further information regarding directions to Tantivy Farm, special events and activities, please check the website at www.tantivyfarm.com.

See equestrian sports at the Virginia Horse Center.

The Virginia Horse Center stands at the forefront of Virginia's \$1.2B equine economy. Founded in 1986 to promote all disciplines of equestrian sport, its 600 acres of picturesque grounds hold a 4,000-seat coliseum, eight barns with 745 permanent stalls, 9 show rings, 8 schooling rings, two large indoor arenas, cross-country courses, campgrounds, and full catering and café services. The VHC also hosts many non-equine events including dog shows, agricultural programs and community gatherings.

The Virginia Horse Center Foundation (VHCF) is a



501(c)3 non-profit organization which owns and operates the Virginia Horse Center. The Foundation is proud to be a part of the Rockbridge community, an asset to the state's equine economy, and a safe and fun place for exhibitors on the East Coast competition circuit.

Committed to the well-being and safety of rider and horse, the Virginia Horse Center Foundation supports the facility that serves thousands of horses, riders and spectators annually. The VHCF manages over 75 events each year, most free and open to the public. The Foundation's mission is to provide a world-class facility hosting regional, national, and international equestrian events. More information, including a calendar of events, can be found at www.vahorse-center

Experience Virginia's Only Drive-Thru Safari Adventure at Virginia Safari Park.

Take a drive on the wild side at the Virginia Safari Park. Explore the beautiful 180-acre drive-through safari



park home to more than 1,200 animals - delight in feeding huge bull elk, bison, zebras, deer and more while on safari. You'll find no shortage of animal diversity on your journey through the park and in the Village Walk-Thru area. Also, the Virginia Safari Park is the only place in the United States where visitors can see the rare King Cheetah.

Get up-close access during unique animal encounters with two-toed sloths, African penguins and rhinos. Come eye-to-eye with the park's tallest residents at the Giraffe Tower and even feel their tongues as the giraffes take romaine leaves from your palm. Enjoy the free flight budgie aviary, pet all of your farmyard favorites in the petting area and explore the popular kangaroo walk-about. After visiting the Village Walk-Thru, browse the Safari Trading Post Gift Shop for unique souvenirs and gifts.

The Virginia Safari Park is an unforgettable day-out unlike any other. Come experience the thrill of feeding hundreds of exotic animals in a natural habitat. The Virginia Safari Park is in Rockbridge County, at Exit 180/ 180-B off I-81 in Natural Bridge, Virginia, and is open mid-March through late November, except for Thanksgiving Day. Learn more at www.virginiasafaripark.com.

See the history of the oldest state-sponsored military college in the VMI Museum.

The Virginia Military Institute Museum tells the fascinating and compelling story of the nation's first and oldest state-sponsored military college. The very first artifact in a collection, which today numbers in the thousands, was a musket fragment from the Jamestown settlement dating to 1607. The VMI Superintendent (president) declared that the artifact would speak with a "touching and eloquent voice" to



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future generations of cadets and visitors. Although the Institute was ravaged by Federal troops during the Civil War, both the college and the museum endured and were rebuilt.

While the Jamestown musket is gone, today the museum houses the world-famous Henry M. Stewart Antique Firearms Collection. Featuring over 450 rare and one-of-a-kind firearms, the collection traces the development of multiple shot revolvers and rifles. The heart of the collection is a display of twenty "Paterson" Colts made by Samuel Colt in the late 1830s. The collection also includes unique historic



"air" guns which used compressed air instead of powder to "fire" a bullet. In addition, a number of United States patent models relating to firearms are on exhibit.

The VMI Museum is also home to one of the most famous horses in the world, "Little Sorrel," the warhorse of Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson. When Little Sorrel died in 1886, his hide was mounted on a life-like frame. Nearby is the uniform Jackson wore at the Battle of Manassas when he received his nickname "Stonewall," along with the coat he wore when he was mortally wounded.

Inspect the sword carried by the "Pathfinder of the Seas" Matthew Fontaine Maury and the magnificent pearl and diamond brooch presented to Mrs. Maury by the Czar of Russia. General George Marshall, VMI Class of 1901 and the namesake of the post-WWII "Marshall Plan," is featured in the museum. View the famous shiny helmet and VMI dress uniform of WWII's "Blood and Guts" Gen. George S. Patton, VMI 1907. Imagine the months of isolation and frigid cold endured by polar explorer Adm. Richard E. Byrd, VMI 1908, as you view his Medal of Honor, one of seven alumni to receive this distinction.

The museum is located in Memorial Hall on the VMI Post, and is open 9-5, seven days a week. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6 for youth ages 6-12. Children under six are admitted free of charge. Residents of Buena Vista, Lexington, and Rockbridge County receive free admission. *Visitors can save up to 30% with a bundled ticket that in-*

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For more information, go to <http://www.vmi.edu/museums-and-archives/vmi-museum/>

See one of the nation's finest collections of Chinese porcelain at W&L's Reeves Museum of Ceramics and the Watson Pavilion.

Washington and Lee is home to perhaps the finest collection of 18th- and 19th-century Chinese and European porcelain in America, the gift of Euchlin Reeves, a 1927 graduate of the law school, and his wife, Louise Herreshoff. In 1967, Mr. Reeves contacted Washington and Lee about making a gift, which was in fact his collection of over 4,000 pieces of porcelain. Among the more interesting pieces is a creamer manufactured in China depicting the signers of the Declaration of Independence with Asian features.

Along with the porcelain, a number of paintings were included with the gift. When the paintings were cleaned, they revealed Impressionistic works painted by Louise Herreshoff as a young woman in the early days of the 20th century. Her talent was recognized in 1976 when the Corcoran Gallery in Washington mounted a posthumous one-woman exhibition of her works.

The Reeves Museum of Ceramics and the Watson Pavilion show some of the University's collection of porcelain and Herreshoff paintings in rotating exhibits. For hours and more, go to <https://www.wlu.edu/arts/museums> or call 540-458-8476.



University Chapel & Galleries Washington and Lee University Institutional History Museum.

A National Historic Landmark, the Chapel built in the Romanesque Revival style of architecture opened in 1868 during Robert E. Lee's tenure as 11th president of then Washington College. Non-denominational and unconse-

crated, the Chapel housed an auditorium, administrative offices, a YMCA, and a library.

In 1928, a museum was installed in the basement. Today, the chapel is still used for a variety of university events and the museum is now comprised of several gallery spaces with exhibitions on the history of the university. Visitors also see sculptor Edward Valentine's Recumbent



Lee statue.

The University Chapel and Galleries is closed to the public until spring 2026 for needed HVAC, fire suppression, and exhibition renovations. We look forward to welcoming the campus and community back to the Chapel following the project's completion.

For more information on visiting, please visit <https://www.wlu.edu/academics/institutional-history-museums> or by email at historymuseum@wlu.edu.



O UR TOWNS

The towns and villages of Rockbridge each have their own character and identity. Lexington and Buena Vista are the principal communities but Glasgow, Goshen, Fairfield, Brownsburg, Natural Bridge Station, Raphine and Rockbridge Baths have their own histories, events and attractions.



Enjoy all that Buena Vista's playground, Glen Maury Park, has to offer.

Glen Maury Park, off 10th Street in Buena Vista, is located on the site of a once-thriving 315-acre farm that predates the founding of the city. The Paxton House, built in 1831 by Elisha Paxton, was the centerpiece of the farm. The house has been listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and, in 1979, was named to the National Register of Historic Places. The Paxton House is the birthplace of Civil War General Elisha Franklin Paxton.

Glen Maury Park lies along the Maury River and rises over the hills to the west of the river. The views of the Blue Ridge Mountains from the pavilion at the highest point in the park are spectacular and worth the drive if you are in the Lexington area.

The park's campground offers sites for tent camping and hook-ups for RVs. The swimming pool is open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. The park hosts events ranging from music festivals to bike races to community celebrations like Buena Vista's long-running Labor Day fest.

See the park's website for rates for camping and the pool, and the schedule of events at www.buenavistava.org/residents/recreation/glen-maury-park



Buena Vista's Downtown Is Thriving.

Buena Vista was founded in the late 1880s and chartered as a city in 1892. Arising from an economic bubble that affected much of this part of Virginia based on the speculation of large deposits of iron ore, Buena Vista grew



from just few houses to a town of over 3000 people in just few years. Several factories and a large hotel were built during the boom era.

Some of those original buildings survive. The hotel became Main Hall at Southern Virginia University. The offices of the original Buena Vista Company are now the Buena Vista branch of the Rockbridge Regional Library. The old Columbia Paper Mill building still stands by the Maury River as you come into town from the west.

The city is enjoying a revival in its downtown. Mountain Gateway Community College and its Wilson Workforce Center moved into renovated space in the downtown last spring. New businesses have sprouted along Magnolia Avenue including a coffee roaster, a soda bar and ice cream shop. A new event space for small concerts can be found on the corner of Magnolia Avenue and 21st Street. Buena Vista is a part of the Virginia Main Street program, and the city's downtown association, Main Street Buena Vista, the city's downtown association has actively promoted new businesses in the downtown area.

With Glen Maury Park many music festivals and other events, and the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Appalachian Trail just a few miles to the east, Buena Vista is a magnet for visitors.

See the boom-era hotel that became Main Hall at Southern Virginia University in Buena Vista.

As you travel east on Route 60 toward the mountains and the Blue Ridge Parkway, you pass through the town of Buena Vista. Southern Virginia University, formerly Southern Seminary, is located on a hill overlooking this tiny but quaint town. Still known to the locals as “Sem,” the college educated young women for over 128 years. The school is now a four-year coeducational college.

Main Hall, built in 1892 and considered the heart of the campus, was built as a resort hotel when Buena Vista was at the center of western Virginia’s land boom. Designed in the Romanesque style, the hotel was described at the time as “one of the most beautiful structures of modern times...with a magnificent view of mountains and valleys from the broad verandas.” Now on the National Register of Historic Places and a Virginia Historical Landmark, the building houses college administrative offices and dorm rooms. www.svu.edu.



Northern Rockbridge County: beautiful vistas, authentic communities and interesting locations.

Visitors would have no trouble filling a day or even a weekend enjoying all that the northern part of Rockbridge County has to offer. From quaint villages to vineyards, from an authentic working water-powered grist mill to welcoming bed and breakfasts, from antiques to history, northern Rockbridge is worth taking the time to explore.



Most everything in northern Rockbridge is accessible off US Route 11, going north from Lexington. Route 11 as a thoroughfare follows the path of pre-Columbian Indian trails, and later the Valley Pike. The views of mountains and valley are spectacular from Route 11, and more easily enjoyed at slower than Interstate highway speeds.

Don’t miss stopping at Ecco Adesso Vineyards. The views from the striking stone mansion of the Blue Ridge Mountains are spectacular. Though the winery has been bottling its own vintages for just a few years, it has already amassed an impressive trove of awards.



The village of Fairfield, 10 miles north of Lexington, is typical of the Valley Pike town. When these villages were build, the road was much narrower and successive widenings has brought the road virtually to the doorstep of some of the buildings. Many homes and building in Fairfield date from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Spend some time walking the sidewalk in Fairfield and explore this quaint village. 3 Seasons Antiques is open from mid-March until just before Christmas Thursdays-Saturdays. The Quiltery will appeal to more than just quilters. See batiks, Stonehenge reproductions, and even novelty quilts. They offer classes and supplies also.



Going west from Fairfield on Sterrett Road (a left turn just north of Fairfield) take you to Brownsburg. Be sure to visit the Brownsburg Museum, which chronicles the life of this community.

From Brownsburg, go north on Rt. 252 1.6 miles to Raphine Road. Turn right on Raphine Road and in about .6 mile you'll see the brown clapboards of Wade's Mill to your left. Still a working water-powered grist mill, Wade's Mill sells flours and meals ground on the property. Back on Raphine Road, in roughly a mile, you'll come to Rockbridge Vineyard. Rockbridge Vineyard's wines have won awards for over 25 years. Stop and do a tasting in their expanded wine tasting room and now, their brewery tap room. .

Continuing through the village of Raphine, passing under Interstate 81 find White's Travel Center on your right. A mile beyond White's, you'll see signs for the Cyrus McCormick Farm McCormick invented the first practical reaping machine, which started the mechanization of agriculture. Seeing the replica of the first reaper is worth the stop.

Follow Raphine Road to Rt. 11, make a quick left and right onto Rt. 56 and check out Vesuvius. Gertie's Restaurant is small but their food get's great reviews. Stay on Rt. 56, cross the railroad tracks and go up the mountain to get to the Blue Ridge Parkway.

If you're in town for one of the weekends of the North Rockbridge Trail, don't miss this weekend of open houses and special events at farms, shops, wineries and inns in the northern part of the county. www.facebook.com/northrockbridgetrail

Righteous and Rascals of Rockbridge Trail showcases the area's notables.

Every community has characters in its history that can be classified as heroes or villains. Often, they have very colorful biographies. Lexington and Rockbridge County are no exception. Indeed, the area can point to some of the most famous people – and one horse - in American history that have local connections; among them George Washington, Robert E. Lee, Gen. George C. Marshall, Patsy Cline and artist Cy Twombly. The horse is Traveller, Robert E. Lee's famous grey stallion.

At the same time, we've also had our share of less than stellar characters. Charles M. Figgat was a local banker who absconded with \$140,000 from the Bank of Lexington, causing its failure. Mel Greenberg came to town in 1974 purporting to be a movie producer bent on making a musical about Stonewall Jackson. He split town without paying his hotel bill and left many disappointed locals who thought they were bound for stardom.

The Righteous and Rascals of Rockbridge Trail commemorates some of these individuals with granite pavers set in the sidewalks of downtown Lexington. The trail will ultimately run on Main Street from McDowell to Washington, on Nelson between Main and Lee Avenue and on Washington between Randolph and Jefferson Streets. To date 60 pavers have been installed.

The Lexington Visitor Center has materials to help you follow the trail and see all pavers currently installed. You can also go to the Righteous and Rascals website for directions and for expanded biographies of those immortalized in the stone pavers. <http://rrrockbridge.org/>

Take a self-guided walking tour through downtown Lexington, the colleges and the city's 19th and early 20th century neighborhoods.

These days, when you visit most towns and cities, you need your vehicle to get from place to place. Sidewalks may exist in downtown areas, but trying to get to other parts of town may involve walking along a busy street or highway, negotiating drainage ditches, overgrown roadsides and crossing multilane thoroughfares.

Lexington and Buena Vista offer a refreshing change. Both towns are extremely walking-friendly. Indeed, walking the streets of these Valley towns is the best way to see all there is to see, and to appreciate them.

Downtown Lexington undertook a major reconstruction project in the 1970s upgrading the streets, placing utility wires underground and putting in brick sidewalks. This investment by the city, concurrent with efforts by local preservation groups, acted as a catalyst for redevelopment, rehabilitation and adaptive use of old buildings in the downtown area. Today, Lexington is unusual in having a vibrant downtown area. The character of the downtown area changed over the past quarter-century. Traditional retailers such as department stores and hardware stores left downtown for the outskirts of town, and were replaced by more visitor-oriented shops such as art galleries, antique shops and shops featuring local and regional products. New restaurants offering a diversity of cuisines beckon the hungry tourist, and serve locals who work and even live in the downtown area.

Lexington's walking tours start at the Lexington Visitor Center at 106 East Washington Street. Pick up their excellent tour map that gives easy directions on a number of tours of varying lengths.



OUTDOORS

The natural beauty of Rockbridge is one of the biggest draws to the area. The views from the mountain tops, accessible by trail or by driving the Blue Ridge Parkway are stunning every season of the year. Hiking, canoing and kayaking, biking, hunting, fishing and nature photography are popular.



Experience the natural beauty of the mountains and valleys by taking a drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The Blue Ridge Parkway runs along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains for 470 miles in Virginia and North Carolina, and is only a 15-minute drive from Lexington. It is accessible to the Rockbridge area from both Route 56 east from Steeles Tavern and Route 60 east from Buena Vista. The Parkway can also be reached by taking Route 501 east from Buena Vista over the mountain at the James River gorge to the parkway at Otter Creek.

Besides beautiful views of the southern Appalachian Mountains and valleys, the Parkway provides a look at the natural and cultural history of the region. You can spend a few hours or several days traveling the Blue Ridge Parkway. If you enjoy natural beauty and scenic views, spend some time exploring the Parkway, particularly in the late spring when the rhododendron and mountain laurel are in bloom, and during the often spectacular fall leaf season.

For more information, go to www.blueridgeparkway.org

Experience a botanical museum at Boxerwood Nature Center and Woodland Garden.

In today's world of multitasking, Boxerwood Nature Center and Woodland Garden is a natural embodiment of the concept. This garden could be labeled a horticultural treasure, an arboretum, a nature center, a birding and wildlife sanctuary, or just a great place to be. Located less than a mile outside of Lexington city limits, Boxerwood grew from the love, interest, and efforts of Robert S. Munger (1911-1988).

The horticultural treasure is the arboretum made up of 7,000 mature trees and shrubs among which are 2,500 labeled cultivars. Although there are dozens of genera, the five most impressive collections are: magnolia (54 varieties), dogwood (81 varieties), dwarf conifers (167 varieties), rhododendrons & azaleas (290 varieties), and Japanese maples (154 varieties).

The Play Trail, adjacent to the nature center parking lot, is open to the public free of charge from dawn to dusk, all year long. The trail is the creation of long time Garden



Steward Karen (“KB”) Bailey, who designed the unique play space so that area children would have more opportunities to experience nature and make early connections to the natural world.

Boxerwood is located at 963 Ross Road, Lexington, VA. The gardens and Play Trail are open every day during daylight hours. For directions or more information call 540-463-2697 or visit <http://www.boxerwood.org>.

Go for a swim at Cave Mountain Lake State Park.

The lake is formed by a 35-foot high dam built by the CCC during the 1930s. The park offers camping, picnicking and a sand beach for swimming. Go here for more information and driving directions: <https://www.virginia.org/listings/OutdoorsAndSports/CaveMountainLakeRecreationArea>



Take a hike or bike trip on the Chessie Nature Trail.

The Chessie Nature Trail is a seven-mile, year-round public access walking trail between Lexington and Buena Vista, located along the former Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad right of way. The trail has a relatively flat grade with a gravel and dirt surface. There are currently no facilities on the trail, so plan a visit accordingly. Ticks are fairly common in this area during warmer months; be sure to wear appropriate clothing and check thoroughly for ticks after returning from the trail.

The Chessie Train has a listing at AllTrails.com, where you can download their smartphone app to rate the trail, log your trip with GPS, and upload photos for other visitors to see! Users may also want to bring along a copy of the *Field Guide to the Chessie Nature Trail* (published in 2009 by the Rockbridge Area Conservation Council) to learn more about the history and environment in the area of the trail.

Pedestrians and bicycles are welcome on the trail. The trail goes through private lands, including active cattle farms. Exercise caution and respect. Dogs must be leashed at all times. Pack out all litter.

Follow this link for a downloadable trail map: www.vmi.edu/media/content-assets/documents/chessie-trail/map_guide_for_the_cnt.pdf

The trail may be accessed from several places, including at the north end of the East Lexington Bridge (U.S. Route 11) over the Maury River; near Mill Creek on Old Buena Vista Road (Virginia Route 631), about 0.6 miles east of Route 11; at Stuartsburg Road (Route 608), where the South River flows into the Maury; and at the eastern terminus, Stuartsburg Road (Route 608) at U.S. Route 60.



Rockbridge’s dark night skies are great for star gazing. Natural Bridge State Park is a designated Dark Sky Park.

For amateur star gazers, Rockbridge County offers a number of locations with a low-light pollution night sky where on clear nights, the heavens seem so close you can reach out and touch them.

Natural Bridge State Park has been designated a Dark Sky Park by the International Dark Sky Association. This requires lighting in the park to be reduced or eliminated to comply with IDSA’s tough requirement.

Jefferson Point, a high spot in the park has a 300-degree view of the night sky, with low horizons for unimpeded viewing. The park has three 10-inch telescopes for special nighttime events. For more information and a schedule of upcoming Dark Sky events at the park, go to <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/natural-bridge>.

Other good sites are on the Blue Ridge Parkway on the eastern border of the county. Many overlooks offer parking and areas where you can set up a telescope, or just throw down a blanket, lie down and look up! Here’s a link to a website that will predict cloud cover, clarity and weather for a site on the Parkway near the southern border of the county: <http://cleardarksky.com/c/BIRdGAC1VAkey.html?1>

Other areas in the county, at some of the areas more rural B&Bs in particular, should have good sky watching.

Meteor showers are a favorite time for star gazers. For 2026, here are the major showers and the dates when they are at their peak: Lyrids, night of April 21-22 (moon 27%



full); Eta Aquarids, night of May 5-6 (moon 84% full); Perseids, night of August 12-13 (moon 0% full); Orionids, night of October 21-22 (moon 80% full); Leonids, night of November 16-17 (moon 45% full); Geminids, night of December 13-14 (moon 21% full). To see more about these showers, go to <https://www.amsmeteors.org/meteor-showers/meteor-shower-calendar>.

Enjoy all that Buena Vista's playground, Glen Maury Park, has to offer.

Glen Maury Park, off 10th Street in Buena Vista, is located on the site of a once-thriving 315-acre farm that predates the founding of the city. The Paxton House, built in 1831 by Elisha Paxton, was the centerpiece of the farm. The house has been listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and, in 1979, was named to the National Register of



Historic Places. The Paxton House is the birthplace of Civil War General Elisha Franklin Paxton.

Glen Maury Park lies along the Maury River and rises over the hills to the west of the river. The views of the Blue Ridge Mountains from the pavilion at the highest point in the park are spectacular and worth the drive if you are in the Lexington area.

The park's campground offers sites for tent camping and hook-ups for RVs. The swimming pool is open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. The park hosts events ranging from music festivals to bike races to community celebrations like Buena Vista's long-running Labor Day fest.

See the park's website for rates for camping and the pool, and the schedule of events at <https://www.buonavistava.org/residents/recreation/glen-maury-park>

Take a drive through Goshen Pass and marvel at the natural beauty. In the summer, take a dip in the cool mountain waters of the Maury River.

Twelve miles north of Lexington on State Route 39, visitors enter a great mountain gorge; three miles of rushing, boulder-strewn river, its shores teeming with rhododendron, mountain laurel, ferns, magnificent pines, maples and dogwoods. This is the Goshen Pass, where the Maury River cuts through a range of the Allegheny Mountains.

Aside from its natural beauty, the pass offers a variety of recreational activities. Swimming and tubing in the cool mountain water are perennial favorites in the hot summer months, while kayaking, fishing, hiking and picnicking are enjoyed virtually year round. About mid-way through Goshen Pass is a wayside park with a picnic tables. A shelter, showcasing the talents of local timber framers, is a worthy centerpiece for the picnic area.

The pass, with a rich history as a natural thoroughfare through the mountains, was used by the stagecoach lines in the 19th century.

Goshen Pass is managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation and is a game forest preserve.



Take a picnic or camp at Lake Robertson.

The Lake A. Willis Robertson Recreation Area is located on 581 acres of forests and rolling hills on the eastern slopes of the Allegheny mountains 14 miles west of Lexing-

ton. Named for the late U.S. senator from Lexington who championed conservation causes, the lake and recreation areas offer camping, fishing, a swimming pool and bath house, picnic areas and hiking trails.

Sites for both trailer/RV and tent camping are available. Camping fees include water and electricity hook-ups. Regular season reservations are accepted with a deposit, starting April 1.

To get to the lake from Lexington, take State Route 251 to Collierstown and Rt. 770 to the lake entrance.

During April, and Sept. 7 through Oct. 1, hours are 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Oct. 2 – March 31, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., weather permitting. Summer hours, May 2 through Labor Day, are

6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Additional information is available by calling (540) 463-4164 or by writing the superintendent at 106 Lake Robertson Dr., Lexington, VA 24450. <http://www.co.rockbridge.va.us/270/Lake-A-Willis-Robertson>.



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STAYING HERE

There are all kinds of lodging choices in the Rockbridge area - boutique downtown hotels, bed and breakfasts, mountainside inns, resort hotels, campgrounds and RV parks. You're sure to find the accommodations you're looking for.



The Inn at Brierley Hill.

The Inn at Brierley Hill offers eight rooms and cottages, multiple guest common areas for relaxing, rambling porches, and many other charming places to enjoy nature's tranquil beauty. The inn is located on a nine-acre retreat with spectacular mountain and valley views. Historic downtown Lexington is only two miles away, with its quaint shops and unique restaurants, Washington and Lee University and Virginia Military Institute. Also nearby are the Virginia Horse Center, Natural Bridge State Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Built in 1993, each room or suite features a private bath, gas or electric fireplace, a sitting area with chairs or

a couch. Wi-Fi is available throughout the inn. Some suites and cottages offer whirlpool tubs, outdoor hot tub, outdoor propane fire pit and kitchenettes. All rooms offer king size beds with new DreamCloud mattresses, exquisite Comphy brand linens and high end LATHER toiletries, towels and robes. Rates include a signature made to order breakfast. Guests love the available local wines and beer while enjoying the views from one of the many porches, decks and sitting areas.

Handicap parking is available with ramp access to the dining area and our accessible accommodation, Lexington cottage.

For more information, see the website at brierleyhill.com.

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For more information on visiting, please visit www.wlu.edu/academics/institutional-history-museum-and-galleries or by email at historymuseum@wlu.edu



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E VENTS

There's almost always something going on in Rockbridge, between the Virginia Horse Center, Glen Maury Park, our colleges and universities, theaters and local civic organizations. Check the Calendar of Events here and on LexingtonVa.com



See hot air balloons launch at the Balloons Over Rockbridge Hot Air Balloon and Music Festival.

The balloons return for the ninth year to Balloons Over Rockbridge on Saturday, July 4 and Sunday, July 5. The organizers will bring the event to the Oak Hill Property, across Rt. 39 from the Virginia Horse Center.

Balloon flights are scheduled for Saturday morning and evening, and Sunday morning and evening, weather permitting. Tethered rides will be offered both days as well, also weather permitting. Beginning at 2pm both days there will be live music from local musicians, food, beer, vendors and crafters. There will be a synchronized balloon glow both Saturday and Sunday evenings from 9 to 9:30pm

Each year, the event brings awareness to and raises funds for local charities and community organizations. This year's event will support Unity4Kids, Inc, Meals On Wheels Rockbridge/Lexington/Buena Vista, Street Ransom/True Mission Virginia, and the Mary Carol Moore Scholarship Fund.

There is no admission charge for the event. For more information, go to balloonsoverrockbridge.com. For flight reservations, email dee@balloonsoverrockbridge.com. For general information, email info@balloonsoverrockbridge.com or visit [Facebook@balloonsoverrockbridge](https://www.facebook.com/balloonsoverrockbridge). Mail can be sent to P.O. Box 862, Lexington, Va 24450.



Celebrate Labor Day in Glen Maury Park, Sept. 7, 2026.

Buena Vista observes its fifty-fourth Labor Day event this year. Buena Vista's Labor Day is a traditional kick-off to the election season in Virginia, and the parade will feature local and state politicians running in the November elections. Political speeches in the park, local musicians, food and other attractions round out the day.

To get a better idea of the day's events, go to www.buonavistava.org/residents/recreation/glen-maury-park.



Freedom Food Festival back in 2026.

The first Freedom Food Festival in 2019 was a huge success and last year's was even better. Mark your calendar; it's coming back in 2026. Downtown Lexington is excited to host this year's Freedom Food Festival, a community street and music festival on Main Street, on Saturday, July 3, 2026 from 5-10 p.m.

The Freedom Food Festival is an affordable, family-friendly celebration. Admission to the festival is free, and food and beverages are available for sale. Gather with friends and neighbors to enjoy live music, beer/wine/spirits sales and tasty July 4th picnic-style fare prepared by local celebrity chefs. Buy a single ticket or reserve a table for eight for a fee which includes meals..

Free parking at the Lexington Visitor Center and the Rockbridge County Courthouse parking deck. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to FreedomFoodFestival.com.



Friday's Alive outdoor concerts are a great way to begin the weekend.

Lexington's popular outdoor live music concerts return in 2026. The Lexington-Rockbridge Jaycees organized concert series happens at Lexington's Davidson Park just off downtown and behind the Rockbridge County Courthouse.

Concerts are held five Friday evenings during the summer. There is no admission charge. Proceeds from sponsorships and concession sales benefit local non-profit charities.

Additional information can be found on Facebook. Search @FridaysAlive for information on schedules, weather delays and more.



Fridays In The Park returns to Buena Vista's Glen Maury Park For 2026.

Buena Vista's Friday evening concert series returns to the park this summer. Food and beverages are available for sale at every event. Music starts at 6:30 p.m.

The season kicks off with Rewind on May 22. June 12 brings the sounds of the Feature Attraction Band to Glen Maury Park. Bang Bang headlines Fridays in the Park on July 17 and the season wraps up with Movin' On on August 14. Admission \$5.00, 16 and younger free with a Paid Adult.

Go to the event's Facebook page for updates at www.facebook.com/fridaysintheparkbv.



Lexington's Candlelight Processional and Local Christmas Parades Kick Off Holiday Season.

Main Street Lexington sponsors the annual candlelight processional and community tree lighting, which will take place on Friday, Nov. 27. Lineup begins at 5:15 p.m. at the Main Street entrance to Oak Grove Cemetery, where candles and holiday songbooks will be distributed. At 5:30, Santa and Mrs. Claus lead the processional down Main Street in a horsedrawn carriage provided by the Lexington Carriage Company. The processional will arrive at Hopkins Green, where caroling will continue, and the community tree will be lit to officially usher in the holiday season. As always, the processional is family-friendly, open to all and free of charge.

Lexington and Buena Vista both have great Christmas parades in their downtowns in December. Lexington's parade is tentatively scheduled for Friday evening, Dec.



4. Traditionally, Buena Vista holds its parade on the first Thursday of December, which would be Dec. 3, 2026. Both parades feature floats and marching units from local organizations, high school bands and, of course, Santa Claus.



LexRockBV Juneteenth celebration returns in 2026.

The Rockbridge area's Juneteenth celebration, LexRockBV Juneteenth happens on Friday, June 19th in Lexington's Richardson Park.

Juneteenth, a portmanteau of "June" and "19th," commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It originated in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, when U.S. Army Gen. Gordon Granger arrived there to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation. Although President Abraham Lincoln had signed the proclamation nearly three years before, on Sept. 22, 1862, it was not immediately adopted across all states. Enforcement depended on the advancement of U.S. troops, which were scarce in remote Texas, so it became a final holdout. The enforcement of emancipation there after a long wait was truly cause for celebration.

The first Juneteenth celebration took place in Galveston on June 19, 1866, and it has since caught on across the country. Virginia declared it a permanent paid state holiday in June 2020, and Lexington adopted it as a formal city holiday in 2021. Juneteenth became a Federal holiday in 2021.

On Friday, June 19 the festivities get underway in the late afternoon. The event celebrates freedom, history, and community with food, prize events and music. For the most up to date information, go to Facebook and search Lex Rock BV Juneteenth. (Note spaces.)



Don't Miss Buena Vista's Street Festival, Mountain Day, Oct 11.

Be in downtown Buena Vista for Mountain Day on Saturday, Oct. 11. A regional tradition for over 20 years. Mountain Day will feature dozens of local artisans and vendors showcasing their unique creations. Visitors can expect to find a wide variety of handmade crafts, enjoy fun food options, learn about community organizations, and listen to live music throughout the day.

For more information on Mountain Day 2026, go to www.mountainday.org.

See the pageantry of a full-dress parade at VMI.

Parades are scheduled for most Friday afternoons during the spring and fall on the VMI Parade Ground. Most parades begin about 4:30 p.m., but scheduling is dependent on the school's academic and events calendar. See the Calendar of Events or go to VMI's website for dates and times of parades and other events at the Institute at www.vmi.edu/calendar.



Take in the Rockbridge Community Festival

For the 48th year, the Rockbridge Community Festival will feature regional crafts people, artists and local groups exhibiting in downtown Lexington on Saturday, August 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The festival also brings local music and lots of food. Three blocks of Main Street are closed to traffic that day. For more information: rockbridge-communityfestival.weebly.com.



Experience a classic county fair at the Rockbridge Regional Fair in September

This year's fair runs from September 10-12 at the Virginia Horse Center just north of Lexington. From the rides on the midway, to the 4-H livestock exhibits, the art show, quilts, games and more, the Rockbridge Regional Fair is a definite 'must do' if you're in town at that time.

When information is available on this year's fair, you can find it on Facebook or at www.rockbridgefairandexpo.org.



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F OOD & DRINK

The Rockbridge area boasts numerous vineyards, breweries and a cidery. Restaurants offer a variety of cuisines in settings from more formal dining to pub-style to fast food. Farmer's markets add to the diversity of choices, where you can pick up the makings of a great picnic.



Savor a beverage outdoors together at Devils Backbone Outpost Tap Room & Kitchen.

Conveniently located on Route 11, just north of Lexington, Devils Backbone has an ever-changing selection of cold beer, delicious cocktails and amazing meals served with an incredible view of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The deck is open for an unbeatable outdoor dining option. Live music, trivia and more - check their website at www.db-brewingcompany.com for their rotating event schedule! Open for lunch and dinner daily, and brunch on weekends. Reservations recommended.



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Taste local wines and great beers at Great Valley Farm Brewery and Winery.

Great Valley Farm Brewery and Winery was Rockbridge County's first brewery/winery combination. The brewery opened in October of 2016 with a focus on Belgian-Style Ales. Owners Nathan and Irma Bailey planted their first grapes in 2012 and have steadily added more vine plantings in the years since. Wine production started in 2019 with sales following in early 2020.

Although the brewery focuses on Belgian ales, there is always a wide variety of beer styles to choose from. Besides tasting flights and pints for consumption in the tasting room, you can take home some of your favorite beer in a growler, or cans/bottles of certain beers.

On the wine side, about half of the grapes used in their wine come directly from the farm, with the remainder being sourced mainly from small family vineyards in the Shenandoah Valley. Their focus is making distinctive and unique wines that showcase the excellent growing conditions that the Shenandoah Valley has to offer.

The brewery and winery tasting room is situated on a hill with a commanding view of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Valley of Virginia. During the warmer months, you can enjoy that view from an outdoor patio and picnic area. Great Valley hosts food trucks and has live music on many weekends. You can check the schedule and learn more at greatvalleyfarmbrewery.com.

The brewery is located less than a mile off Route 11 South near Exit 180, I-81. Take Broad Creek Church Road about three-quarters of a mile and look for Great Valley Lane to the left.



Enjoy craft cider at Halcyon Days Cider Company, but don't miss the labyrinth!

Halcyon (hal-see-uhn) Days Cider Company is a unique addition to Rockbridge's locavore/craft beverage scene. Halcyon Days makes small batches of hard cider using over 50 varieties of apples from the 2000 trees on the property 7 miles south of Lexington on Rt. 11.

New owners, Ryan and Liz Colvin grow, harvest, and press the apples. They ferment and then mature the cider for two to six months. Each batch of cider is bottled, carbonated and labeled by hand.

The many varieties of apples allow the Colvins to create different flavors and control the sweetness of the final product. Many ciders are offered for tasting and purchase, ranging from semi-sweet to dry. Harrison, Virginia Hewes Crab and Ashmeads Kernel are just a few of the heirloom cider apples used in their blends. The alcohol content varies, but is similar to that of craft beers.

While the cidermaking is accomplished in a new state-of-the-art production building, the rest of the facility is refurbished from historic Rockbridge County structures. An existing 1940s milk barn that was used

Alone Mill Schoolhouse
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www.alonemillschoolhouse.com
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 HOURS: MON.-SAT. 10-5
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sugarmapletradingcompany.com
[@sugarmapletradingco](https://www.instagram.com/sugarmapletradingco)

Matsumoto's
 sushi & grill
 159 South Main St.
 Lexington, VA 24450
 540-464-8196
 Lunch: Tues.-Fri. 11:30-2:00
 Dinner: Tues.-Sat. 4:30-8:00
 Sunday & Monday Closed

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in dairy farming in an earlier use of the property has been renovated into seating space and a large family game room. A covered breezeway connects the milk barn building to the tasting room, which is in a reconstructed 19th century log cabin moved to the site from North Mountain.

If making hand-crafted ciders in a unique setting wasn't enough, the grove of dwarf apple trees on the knoll above the cidery is a story in itself. The trees grow along wires, much like those at vineyards, and the grove itself is laid out in the design of a labyrinth. The labyrinth, which is a larger version of the same design, is the floor of Chartres Cathedral in France, and leads one on a continuous path to the center at the top of the hill. Historically, the 13th century labyrinth at Chartres is representative of a pilgrim's quest for the holy land, and the design has been duplicated in many places.



The cidery has new updated hours: Thursdays 2-7, Fridays and Saturdays 12-7, Sundays 12-6. Please visit their website at www.halcyondayscider.com or follow them on Facebook/Instagram for updates. The address is 4135 S Lee Hwy, Natural Bridge, VA 24578. Phone (540) 291-1340.

Enjoy a meal in, or grab takeout from one of the area's numerous and varied restaurants.

Dining out is an important part of any vacation, whether it's a day trip or a week's stay. The Lexington/Rockbridge area has numerous restaurants and food service establishments to satisfy most desires, pocketbooks, and time restraints. There are long-established traditional restaurants, as well as fast food shops, coffee shops, bakeries, and ethnic fare. You can eat in a restored 19th century manor house, a resort hotel dining room, a country inn, a deli, a downtown restaurant, or drive through for a hamburger, fried chicken or a burrito to take on a picnic. You can satisfy your hankering for Chinese, Japanese, Mexican, Italian, Southern Barbecue, Tapas, Vegetarian, Thai, Greek and American cuisine. Check the directory on page 34 for restaurants listed as members of the Lexington-Rockbridge Co. Chamber of Commerce.



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 Thurs - Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5
 1350 Decatur Rd., Fairfield, VA
 (540) 460-6347
www.tantivyfarm.com

Taste award-winning wines and craft beers at Rockbridge Vineyard and Brewery.

The winery has won the coveted Virginia Governors Cup among honors in National and International wine competitions. Owner-winemaker Shepherd Rouse has a Masters Degree in Enology from UC Davis and is a seasoned Virginia winemaker. Rockbridge Vineyard is regarded as one of the finest small wineries in the Commonwealth and is the fruition of Rouses



dream to make fine wine in his native state of Virginia. He and his team are looking forward to turning their skills now, to producing excellent and interesting beers as well.

In 1988 Rouse purchased a farm in northern Rockbridge County, in the Shenandoah Valley at higher elevation than most Virginia vineyards and has 18 acres of grapes. He has complemented his own planting with grapes grown by other top-quality growers at selected locations in Virginia, including Mulberry Grove in Brownsburg, Silver Creek Or-



chards in Nelson County and Amherst Vineyards in Amherst County. From this palette, Rouse is able to produce a full spectrum of wines to match a broad range of individual tastes. By processing each wine minimally and employing traditional, small batch methods, the full intensity and tenor of each wine is captured in Rouse's winemaking.



His interest in Native American culture and geology has led to the creation of two of Rockbridge's most popular wines. Tuscarora White and Tuscarora Red are named after the Tuscarora branch of the Iroquois Federation and the hard sandstone formation which forms the prominent ridges of the western Valley of Virginia. A semi-dry rosé made from Concord and Vidal is named after a famous bullfrog "Jeremiah", frogs being another of Rouse's favorite childhood pursuits. Rockbridge Vineyard is now producing a wine called Extra Virginia Claret, which is made from the Norton grape. The Monticello Wine Co. made wine from the Norton grape in the late 1800s and early 1900s. It was called Virginia Claret.


V d'Or, Rockbridge's cryo-concentrated Vidal ice wine rivals the best dessert wines from France, Germany and California, and was a gold medal winner in the 2022 Virginia Governor's Cup competition, as is Rockbridge's Meritage red. Also in 2022, the V d'Or was in the Governor's Case-representing the top twelve wines of the competition. From these twelve, the top wine of the year is chosen. For 2023, the V d'Or was a gold medal winner. Four other Rockbridge wines won silver medals. Five Rockbridge wines won silver medals in the 2024 competition.

Rockbridge Vineyard and Brewery produces finely-crafted, small-batch brews to complement the selection of fine wines. The taproom offers beer by the pint, flights or growler fills. Taproom hours are noon to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays and Mondays.

Rockbridge Vineyard is open year-round for tours and tasting. Winery tasting room hours are Sunday and Monday, noon to 5 p.m. and Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To get to the winery, take exit 205 off I-81 at Raphine, Va. Go west on Rt. 606. The winery is one mile on the right. Visit their website at www.rockbridgevineyard.com.








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HISTORY

The Rockbridge area has been a destination for history buffs for years. Our museums, historic sites, cemeteries, churches and ruins tell the story of the development of our nation, all from within our small part of it. Come and make some history of your own.



Take a picnic to the canal locks at the Ben Salem Wayside between Lexington and Buena Vista on Rt. 60.

The James and North (now Maury) Rivers offered a way for farmers and merchants to ship products out and bring in manufactured goods. Rockbridge producers would build a bateau - a large, flat-bottomed boat - and float down to Richmond with wheat, corn, iron and whisky and the pole the bateau back up river with goods they couldn't manufacture themselves.

By the late 1700s, canals along the rivers were seen as a viable way to move cargo and people inland. The James River and Kanawha Canal was started west from Richmond, with the ultimate goal of connecting with the Ohio River by way of the Kanawha in what's now West Virginia. By 1840, the canal was built to Lynchburg, and by 1851 reached Buchanan. In 1860, the North River Navigation Company finished a canal from Lexington down to the mouth of the Maury, where it met the James River Canal.

The canal port at Jordan's Point became Lexington's industrial center, but the era of canals was short-lived. Floods, damage from the Civil War and the coming of railroads doomed the canal.

The canal company sold its right-of-way to the Richmond & Allegheny Railroad, later the Chesapeake & Ohio, now CSX. Part of the old canal towpath was used to construct a rail line up to Lexington from Balcony Falls, near present day Glasgow, opening in 1881.

Canal locks, like the well-preserved one at Ben Salem Wayside, allowed the canal boats to move up and down the river around rapids in the stream. The wayside is a popular picnic spot for locals and visitors.



Visit the Cyrus McCormick Farm and see the workshop, mill and replica of the original McCormick reaper, the machine that started the mechanization of agriculture.

In July of 1831, Cyrus McCormick's invention, the first successful mechanical reaper, was demonstrated in one of McCormick's wheat fields. The reaper, which harvested grain five times faster with much less effort than a man with a scythe or sickle, was a revolution in agriculture. The reaper was the first of many mechanical inventions that allowed farmers to cultivate ever larger tracts of land with fewer people, and accelerated our nation's westward expansion. McCormick later moved his operation to Chicago where his company evolved into International Harvester and J.I. Case.

The 634-acre farm, called Walnut Grove by the McCormick family, is now a research station operated by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). A restored blacksmith shop, gristmill and museum are open to the public and provide a look at McCormick the man and his invention. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; admission is free. To reach the McCormick Farm, take Exit 205 off I-81 at Raphine onto Rt. 606. The farm is approximately one mile east of the interstate. For additional information, call the museum office at (540) 377-2255.



Explore Oak Grove Cemetery and see the statue and Jackson's grave, and find those of other notable Revolutionary and Civil War soldiers.

Oak Grove Cemetery on South Main Street grew around the old Lexington Presbyterian Church, which was built on the edge of town in 1789. The site of the old church can be seen in the cemetery beside Main Street near the Preston family plot.

In addition to Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, over a hundred Confederate and Revolutionary War veterans are buried here. Other notables interred in the cemetery

include John Mercer Brooke, the designer of the ironclad ship C.S.S. Virginia (often referred to by its previous name, Merrimack); Gen. William N. Pendleton, Lee's chief of artillery; early presidents of Washington College and VMI and two Virginia governors. Jackson's sister-in-law, Margaret Junkin Preston, a noted poet and wife of Col. J. T. L. Preston, one of the founders of VMI, is also buried there. A marker just inside



the main gate lists many of the famous and interesting people buried in the cemetery and locates their graves.

The statue of Jackson by Richmond sculptor Edward Valentine, was dedicated in 1891, and rededicated in 1991. The 1891 dedication drew one of the largest crowds ever assembled in Lexington.

See the ruins of the 'railroad that never was' by driving south down Plank Road in Rockbridge County.

The years after the Civil War were a time of great expansion of the railroads. Two competing lines planned to build south through the Shenandoah Valley to connect the northern end with what is now Roanoke. Both the SVRR and VRR were routed in part through Rockbridge County.

The Shenandoah Valley Railroad, now part of the Norfolk Southern system, runs through Buena Vista along its route at the western base of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The Valley Railroad, which originated in Harrisonburg, was intended to essentially parallel the Valley Pike, now U.S. 11. After leaving Staunton, it entered Rockbridge County at Raphine and continued on with stations at Midway, Fairfield, Decatur, Timber Ridge and East Lexington before culminating in Lexington.

In 1882, the SVRR succeeded in reaching Roanoke ahead of the VRR. Construction on the Valley Railroad had temporarily ceased in 1873, after the stretch from Harrisonburg to Staunton had been completed, because of a national financial panic. It wasn't until 10 years later that the line from Staunton to Lexington was finished. Track would never be laid south of Lexington.



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See Beautiful Horses in a Spectacular Setting

The Virginia Horse Center hosts thousands of horses, riders and spectators annually, showing and competing in over 75 events each year, most free and open to the public. The Virginia Horse Center is a world-class facility hosting regional, national, and international equestrian events. More information can be found in the Calendar of Events starting on page 36 of this travel guide, or at www.vahorsecenter.org.



487 Maury River Rd., Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-2950 • www.vahorsecenter.org

But stone culverts, bridge piers and other evidence of where the railroad was to go were built and can still be seen. Some of the most notable examples of the masonry arches and abutments constructed to span the waterways can be found in Rockbridge County along Plank Road south of Lexington. Take Rt. 251 south from Lexington about 2 miles to Possum Hollow Road on the left, then about a mile to Plank Road. Follow Plank Road south; you'll see some of this spectacular stonework over the next five miles or so.



See the stone marking the birthplace of Sam Houston.

Stop at the Sam Houston Wayside five miles north of Lexington on Rt. 11 and see the granite marker commemorating the birthplace of Sam Houston, the hero of Texas. See if you can find another marker in Lexington to another less-well-known, but no less colorful, Texas hero. Hint: it's at the corner of South Main and Houston Streets



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KENDAL at Lexington



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Balloons Over Rockbridge

Balloon flights are scheduled for Saturday morning and evening, July 4; and Sunday morning and evening, July 5. Balloons will launch sometime after 6 am and 6 pm, weather permitting. Tethered rides will be offered both days as well, also weather permitting. Beginning at 2 pm both days there will be live music from local musicians, food, beverages, vendors and crafters. There will be a synchronized balloon glow both Saturday and Sunday evenings from 9 to 9:30 pm. balloonsoverrockbridge.com and facebook.com/balloonsoverrockbridge for the latest information.

Children's Bike Parade

Lexington's Children's Bike Parade in downtown Lexington is a different kind of patriotic parade. Kids 12 and under decorate their bikes and tricycles - even babies in strollers get decorated. The decorating begins at 10 am and steps off at 11, and goes north on Main Street from The Hub, by Oak Grove Cemetery. Refreshment are available at the end of the parade.

Concert and Dance

In the evening of Buena Vista's Glen Maury Park is the site of the annual Fourth of July Concert and Dance, from 6:30-9:30 pm, bringing a great dance band under the pavilion for a night of music and dancing. Food and beverages are available. Current information at facebook.com/BVRotary

Fireworks Show

A 9:30 pm, the Fourth wraps up with a great fireworks show at Glen Maury Park.

Check the Rockbridge Area's page on the VA250 website for local and state events throughout the Semiquincentennial observance. va250.org/rockbridge

**LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA
& ROCKBRIDGE**

VA 250

DIRECTORY

*Businesses listed are Chamber of Commerce Serving Lexington, Buena Vista
& Rockbridge County members as of March 2, 2026*

Bed and Breakfasts

Blue Ridge Abbey Bed & Breakfast

2068 Chestnut Avenue
Buena Vista VA 24416
(540) 318-3889
blueridgeabbey.com

Inn at Brierley Hill

985 Borden Road
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-8421
(800) 422-4925
innkeeper@brierleyhill.com
www.brierleyhill.com

Church Hill at Timber Ridge

78 Sam Houston Way
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 324-8446
http://www.churchhill.info

Fox Hill Bed & Breakfast

4383 Borden Grant Trail
Fairfield, VA 24435
(540) 377-9922
(800) 369-8005
stay@foxhillbb.com
www.foxhillbb.com

Herring Hall Bed & Breakfast

154 Herring Hall Road
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(540) 460-3365
herringhall.com

New Field Farm at Timber Ridge

1364 Forest Grove Road
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 319-6400

Old Brownsburg Store B&B

2719 Brownsburg Tpke.
Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473
(540) 460-4833

Secret Garden on Jackson Avenue

306 Jackson Avenue
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 319-6400

Shenandoah Manor B&B, LLC

325 Union Run
Lexington, VA 24450
Phone: (612) 221-1140
www.shenandoahmanorbandb.com

Steeles Tavern Manor

8400 N. Lee Highway
P.O. Box 39
Steeles Tavern, VA 24476
(540) 377-9494
steelestavern.com

Sugar Tree Inn

145 Lodge Trail
Vesuvius, VA 24483
(540) 377-2197
sugartreeinn.com

White Tree Inn

2070 Forest Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(540) 460-5434
www.facebook.com/whitetreinn

Cabin & Cottage Rentals

Blue Ridge Hideaway

144 Windy Slope Lane
Lexington, VA 24450
(804) 514-8839

Church Hill at Timber Ridge

78 Sam Houston Way
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 324-8446

New Forest Farm

1165 Little Dry Hollow
Lexington, VA 24450
(434) 242-5238

Stonegate Guesthouse

601 S. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(208) 399-1887
www.stonegatevirginia.com

Sunset Farm

1475 Thornhill Road
Lexington, VA 24450
(703) 727-1478

Campgrounds

Glen Maury Park

101 Maury River Drive
Buena Vista, VA 24416
park@buenavistavirginia.org
www.glenmaurypark.com

Natural Bridge KOA

214 Killdeer Lane
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(540) 291-2770

Swedish Lilac Campground

2741 South River Road
Vesuvius, VA 24483
(703) 678-9933
swedishlilaccampground.com

Hotels & Motels

Budget Inn Natural Bridge

4331 S. Lee Highway
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(540) 291-2896

Comfort Inn & Suites

584 Oakland Circle
Raphine, VA 24472
(540) 377-2430
www.choicehotels.com

Country Inn & Suites

875 N. Lee Highway
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-9000
www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/brand/
country-inn

Econo Lodge

820 S. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-2739
www.choicehotels.com/econo-lodge

The Georges

11 North Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-2500
info@thegeorges.com
http://www.thegeorges.com

Hampton Inn-Historic District

401 East Nelson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-2223
lxtsw_hampton@hilton.com
www.hampton-inn.com/hi/lexington-
historic

House Mountain Inn

455 Lonesome Dove Trail
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-4004
(540) 464-4003
innkeeper@housemountaininn.com
www.housemountaininn.com

Lexington Virginia Hotels, Inc.

P.O. Box 1105
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-9000

Sleep Inn, Inn & Suites

95 Maury River Road
P.O. Box 1105
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-6000
gm.va377@choicehotels.com
www.sleepinn.com/hotel/va377

Super 8 Motel

1139 N. Lee Highway
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-7858
www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8

Tru By Hilton

22 Hotel Drive
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 254-7630
www.hilton.com

Resorts

Natural Bridge Historic Hotel

Route 11/Hwy 130
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(540) 291-2121
(800) 533-1410
www.naturalbridgeva.com

Restaurants

Blue Sky Bakery & Skybar

125 W. Nelson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-6546
www.blueskylex.com

Brew Ridge Taps

11 East Nelson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 461-8012
brewridgetaps@gmail.com
www.brewridgetaps.com

Chick-fil-A at North Lee Highway

25 Hotel Drive
Lexington, VA 24450
(304) 545-8455

Cupcake Heaven

20 W. Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-4400
cupcakeheavenandcafe.com

Devils Backbone Outpost Taproom & Kitchen

50 Northwind Lane
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 462-6200
dbbrewingcompany.com

Domino's Pizza

23 South Jefferson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-7375
www.dominos.com

Gina's Trattoria

98 E. Midland Trail
Lexington, VA 24450
(434) 944-2179

Haywood's

2 North Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
540.463.2508
<http://www.opentable.com/haywoods-reservations-lexington>

Heliotrope Brewery

128 S. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-1336
www.facebook.com/heliotropebrew

Holy Cow! Ice Cream

103 Glen Maury Park Road
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(540) 817-9153

Kenney's and More

1518 Magnolia Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(434) 660-5677

Napa Thai Cuisine

24 N. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 461-8133

The Palms

101 W. Nelson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-7911
www.thepalmslexington.com

Pronto Caffe and Gelateria

26 South Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
Phone: (540) 464-1472
francesco@prontogelateria.com
www.prontogelateria.com

Pure Eats

107 N. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
Phone: (540) 462-6000
www.pure-eats.com

Salerno's Wood Fired Pizza & Taphouse

115 South Jefferson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-5757
salernopizza@embarqmail.com

Sam's Hot Dogs

889 N. Lee Highway
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 600-3194

Straws LLC

2047 Magnolia Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(801) 390-8099
youmomlikesstraws.com

Subway – Downtown Buena Vista

2522 Beech Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(540) 261-1609

Subway – Hunter Hill

889 N. Lee Highway
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-1177

Sushi Matsumoto

159 S. Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-8196

Sweet Things Ice Cream Shoppe

106 W Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-6055
<http://www.sweetthingsicecream.com>

Sweet Treats Bakery

19 West Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-3611
www.sweettreatsbakery.net

TAPS

11 North Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 463-2500

Wildberry Market

9 East Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450
wildberrymarketva.com

ZunZun

11 E. Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 460-0600
Facebook.com/zunzunlex

Vineyards, Breweries and Cideries

Brew Ridge Taps

11 East Nelson Street
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 461-8012
www.brewridgetaps.com

Devils Backbone Outpost Taproom & Kitchen

50 Northwind Lane
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 462-6200
www.dbbrewingcompany.com

Ecco Adesso Vineyards

340 Ecco Adesso Lane
Fairfield, VA 24435
(540) 817-0419
<https://eccoadesso.com/>

Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery

60 Great Valley Farm Lane
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(704) 425-2631
greatvalleyfarmbrewery.com

Halcyon Days Cider Company

4135 South Lee Highway
Natural Bridge, VA 24578
(540) 291-1340
halcyondayscider.com

Heliotrope Brewery

128 South Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450

Jump Mountain Vineyard

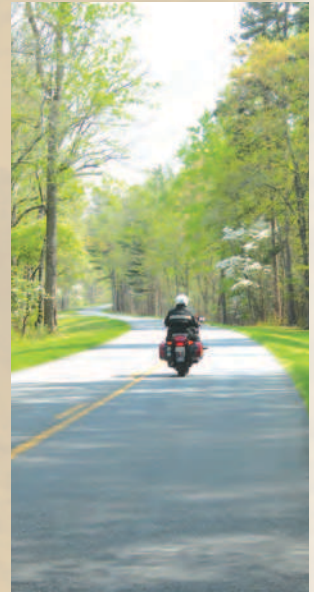
1493 Walkers Creek Road
Rockbridge Baths, Virginia 24473
(540) 348-6730
<https://jumpwines.com/>

Lexington Valley Vineyard

80 Norton Way
Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473
(540) 462-2974
www.lexingtonvalleyvineyard.com

Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery

35 Hill View Lane
Raphine, VA 24472
(540) 377-6204
rockbridgevineyard.com



2026 Calendar of Events

Buena Vista, Lexington and The Rockbridge Area

Recurring Events

Thursdays, 6:30 pm: Trivia night, Devils Backbone Outpost Taproom & Kitchen.
Sundays, 1-4 pm: Live music, Rockbridge Vineyard and Brewery. (rockbridgevineyard.com/events-at-the-winery)
For Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery, see www.greatvalleyfarmbrewery.com/events
Fridays, 7 pm: Live Music, Brew Ridge Taps (www.brewridgetaps.com/calendar.html)

MARCH

March 13-15: IEA Zone 3 Finals, Virginia Horse Center. (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
March 14-15 Fox Run Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center. (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
March 18, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, S. Jefferson St., Lexington.
March 21-22: Tumble's Ridge Hunter-Jumper, Virginia Horse Center. (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
March 21-22: Starter Trials, Virginia Horse Center. (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
March 25, 8 am-12:30 p.m.: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, S. Jefferson St., Lexington.
March 26-27: AQHA March to Virginia and Virginia Maiden, Virginia Horse Center.

APRIL

April 1, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, S. Jefferson St., Lexington.
April 3-5: Great American Ranch and Trail Horse Sale, Virginia Horse Center. (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
April 2, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, Camden Field, corner 10th St. and Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
April 3, 5-7 pm: First Fridays Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
April 4, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
April 4, 1-5 pm: Rockbridge Bull & Oyster Fest. (See rockahc.org for information.)
April 4-5: EquiSmartz 4-H Event, Virginia Horse Center (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
April 4-5: Porsche Car Show, Virginia Horse Center (Check vahorsecenter.org for spectator information.)
April 8: 8am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
April 9, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
April 10-11: United Professional Horsemen's Association (UPHA) Show, Virginia Horse Center.
April 10-12: Blue Ridge Arabian Classic, Virginia Horse Center.
April 11, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
April 13-14: First VMI Reunions.
April 15, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
April 16, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
April 18, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
April 14: Easter Egg Hunt at the Paxton House, Glen Maury Park, Buena Vista
April 22-26: Lexington Spring Premier A (Virginia Festival of Champions) Virginia Horse Center.
April 22, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
April 23, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
April 24-25: Second VMI Spring Reunions.
April 24-26: Spring Sidewalk Sale, Downtown Lexington
April 25: Downtown Buena Vista Artpalooza.
April 25, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
April 27: Guy Carawan's Bluegrass Jam, Glen Maury Park.
April 29: Lexington Spring Encore A – Festival of Champions, Virginia Horse Center.
April 29, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
April 30, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
April 30-May 3: W&L Alumni Weekend

MAY

May 1: Southern Virginia University Commencement
May 1-3: Lexington Spring Encore A – Festival of Champions, Virginia Horse Center.
May 1-2: Guy Carawan's Bluegrass Jam, Glen Maury Park.
May 1, 5-7 pm: First Fridays Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
May 2, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
May 2, 10 am: Lexington Road and River Relay, (Info, lexvaroadandriverrelay.org).
May 2, 5-8 pm: Lexington Taster's Choice, benefitting Yellow Brick Road Early Learning Center, Virginia Horse Center. (Info and tickets at tasterschoicelexington.com).
May 6, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
May 6-9: Bonnie Blue National Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
May 7, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
May 9, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
May 13, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
May 14-17: Keswick Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
May 14-17: Mid-Atlantic Dressage Festival, Virginia Horse Center.
May 14, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
May 15: W&L Law School Commencement.

May 16, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
May 17: Virginia Military Institute Commencement.
May 20, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
May 21-24: Virginia Horse Center Eventing, Virginia Horse Center.
May 21, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
May 22, 6:30-9 pm: Fridays In The Park with Rewind, Glen Maury Park.
May 23, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
May 23: Pool Opens, Glen Maury Park
May 27, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
May 28, 10 am: Washington and Lee University Undergraduate Commencement.
May 28-31: Virginia Barrel Classic, Virginia Horse Center.
May 28, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
May 30, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.

JUNE

June 3, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
June 4-7: Youth Equestrian Development Association National Championship Show, Virginia Horse Center.
June 4, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
June 6-7: Bit and Bridle Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
June 5, 5-7 pm: First Fridays Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
June 6, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
June 10, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
June 11-13: Rockbridge Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
June 11, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
June 12, 6:30-9 pm: Fridays in the Park with the Feature Attraction Band, Glen Maury Park., Buena Vista.
June 13, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
June 13, Rockbridge Outdoors Fest. Glen Maury Park.
June 19-20: Maury River Fiddler's Convention, Glen Maury Park.
June 17-20: Shenandoah Classic Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center
June 17, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
June 18, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
June 19: Juneteenth Celebration, Richardson Park, Lexington.
June 20-22: Norton Bike Rally, Glen Maury Park.
June 20, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
June 23-24: House Mountain Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center
June 24, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
June 25-28: Equestrian Vaulting Region I Championship, Virginia Horse Center.
June 25, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
June 27 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.

JULY

July 1, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
July 1-5 Region 15 & 16 Arabian Championship Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
July 2, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
July 3-5: Northern Airstream Rally, Virginia Horse Center.
July 3, 5:30-10 pm: Freedom Food Festival, Downtown Lexington.
July 4-5: Balloons Over Lexington Hot Air Balloon Event, Oak Hill Property, across from Virginia Horse Center. (See more information at www.balloonsoverrockbridge.com).
July 4: Children's Bike Parade, Downtown Lexington
July 4: Music and Fireworks, Glen Maury Park
July 4, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
July 8, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
July 9, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
July 10-13: Dressage at Lexington, Virginia Horse Center.
July 11, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
July 11, 12 noon-6 pm: Summer Breeze Festival, Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery.
July 15, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
July 16, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
July 18-19: American Connemara Pony Society Region 3, Virginia Horse Center.
July 17, 6:30-9 pm: Fridays In The Park with Bang Bang, Glen Maury Park.
July 18, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
July 22, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
July 23-16: Virginia Commonwealth Games, Virginia Horse Center.

2026 Calendar of Events continued

July 23, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
July 24-25: Beach Music Festival, Glen Maury Park.
July 26-28: East Coast Western Dressage Championships, Virginia Horse Center.
July 25, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
July 29, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
July 30-Aug. 2: East Coast Arabian Championship Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
July 30, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.

Aug. 1, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Aug. 5-9: Lexington National Horse Show A (Virginia Festival of Champions), Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 5, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Aug. 6, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Aug. 7, 5-7 pm: First Fridays Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
Aug. 8, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Aug. 12, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Aug. 14-16: Chris Wheeler Softball Tournament, Glen Maury Park.
Aug. 13, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Aug. 14-16: National Barrel Horse Association Colonial Nationals, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 14, 6:30-9 pm: Fridays In The Park with Movin' On, Glen Maury Park.
Aug. 15, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Aug. 15-16: Virginia Horse Center Starter Trials, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 15: Matriculation, Virginia Military Institute
Aug. 16: Thoroughbred Heritage Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 17: First year law school orientation begins, Washington and Lee University.
Aug. 19, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Aug. 20-23: Sallie B. Wheeler/Young Virginia Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 20, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Aug. 22, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Aug. 22: Rockbridge Community Festival, Downtown Lexington.
Aug. 24: Law school classes begin, Washington and Lee University.
Aug. 26, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Aug. 26: Classes begin, Southern Virginia University.
Aug. 27, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Aug. 29-30: House Mountain Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 29: Dairy Goat Society of Virginia, Virginia Horse Center.
Aug. 29: Undergraduate orientation and matriculation begin, Washington and Lee University.
Aug. 29, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 2, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Sept. 3: Undergraduate classes start, Washington and Lee University.
Sept. 3, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Sept. 3-6: Virginia 4-H State Championship Horse and Pony Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 4-6: Summer Sidewalk Sale, Downtown Lexington
Sept. 4, 5-7 pm: Lexington Gallery Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
Sept. 5, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Sept. 5: Football, Wittenberg University at W&L.
Sept. 7, 9 am-10pm: Labor Day Celebration, Glen Maury Park, Buena Vista.
Sept. 9, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Sept. 10, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Sept. 10-13: Rockbridge Regional Fair, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 11-12: Rockbridge Mountain Music Festival, Glen Maury Park.
Sept. 11-12: First Fall Reunions, VMI.
Sept. 11-13: Virginia Paint Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 12-13: House Mountain Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 12, Noon-6pm: Rockbridge Beer and Wine Festival, Lime Kiln Theater, (Info, rockbridgebeerandwine.com).
Sept. 12: Football, Bucknell at VMI.
Sept. 12, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Sept. 16, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Sept. 17, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Sept. 17-19: Nothin' Fancy Bluegrass Festival, Glen Maury Park.
Sept. 18-20: Virginia State Barrel Finals, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 19: Corn Hole Tournament, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 19, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Sept. 22-27: Pickin' Family Music Festival, Glen Maury Park.
Sept. 23, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Sept. 23-26: ASHAV Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Sept. 24, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Sept. 25-27: Young Alumni Weekend, Washington and Lee University.

Sept. 26, 9th Annual "Run Of The Mill" 5K Race, Brownsburg to Wades Mill.
Sept. 26, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Sept. 30, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1-4: Virginia Dressage Association Fall Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 1, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Oct. 2-4: Parents and Family Weekend, Washington and Lee Univ.
Oct. 2, 5-7 pm: First Friday Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
Oct. 3-4: Second Fall Reunions, VMI.
Oct. 3, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Oct. 3: Football, Mercer at VMI.
Oct. 3: Football, Averett University at W&L.
Oct. 3: Mill Day, McCormick Farm, Raphine.
Oct. 3, 12 noon-6 pm: Harvest Festival, Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery.
Oct. 7, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Oct. 8-10: Friesian Grand Nationals, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 8-11: North American Suffolk Horse Association Annual Meeting, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 8, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Oct. 10-11: Fox Run Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 10, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Oct. 10, 10 am-4 pm: Mountain Day, Downtown Buena Vista.
Oct. 10: Football, Randolph-Macon College at W&L.
Oct. 7, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Oct. 13-15: Blue Ridge Cluster St. Bernard Dog Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 14, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Oct. 16-18: JM Equine Barrel Race, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 15, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Oct. 17, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Oct. 17: Goose Creek Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center
Oct. 21, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Oct. 22, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Oct. 21-25: Southwest Virginia Hunter-Jumper Association Show, Virginia Horse Center
Oct. 24, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Oct. 24: Football, East Tennessee State at VMI.
Oct. 24: Football, Hampton-Sydney College at W&L.
Oct. 28, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Oct. 29: VHC Eventing, Virginia Horse Center.
Oct. 29, 3-6 pm: Buena Vista Farmer's Market, The Downtown Square - corner of 21st & Magnolia Ave., Buena Vista.
Oct. 31, 9 am-noon: Natural Bridge Farmers Market, Virginia Gold Orchard, Natural Bridge.
Oct. 31: Halloween Downtown Trick or Treating, Downtown Lexington
Oct. 31: Buena Vista Spooktacular

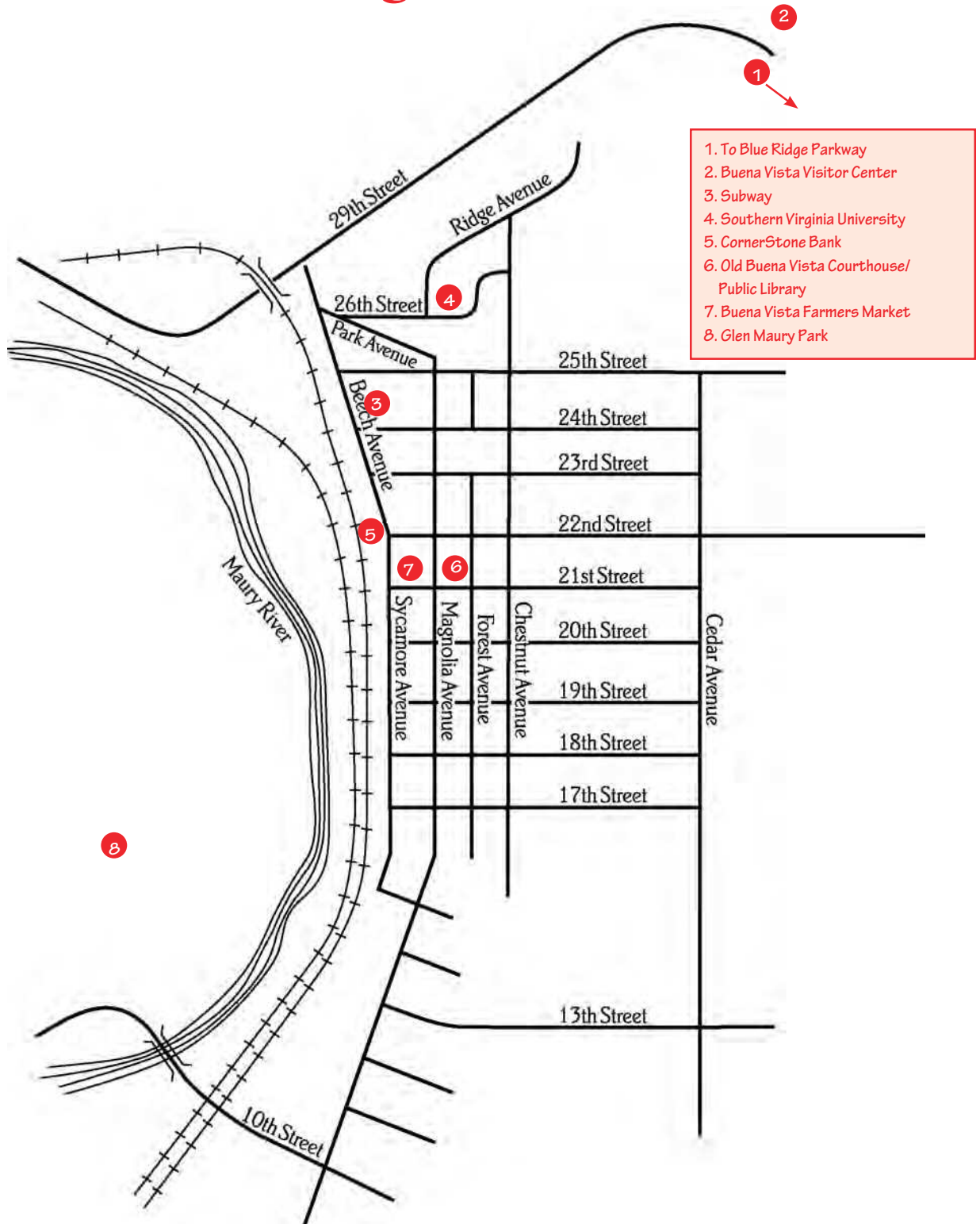
NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: VHC Eventing, Virginia Horse Center.
Nov. 4, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Nov. 5-8: Virginia Horse Show Association, Virginia Horse Center.
Nov. 6, 5-7 pm: First Friday Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
Nov. 7: Chessie Trail Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K, 5K, and 26.2 Relay.
Nov. 7: Football, Shenandoah University at W&L.
Nov. 11, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Nov. 14: Football, The Citadel at VMI.
Nov. 18, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Nov. 20-22: AQHA Virginia Harvest Festival, Virginia Horse Center.
Nov. 21-22: Southern Extreme Bull Riding Association (SEBRA), Virginia Horse Center.
Nov. 21: Football, Furman at VMI.
Nov. 25, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Nov. 27: Candlelight Processional and Community Tree Lighting, Downtown Lexington
Nov. 27-Jan. 1, 2027: Festival of Trees at Natural Bridge State Park.
Nov. 28: Small Business Saturday

DECEMBER

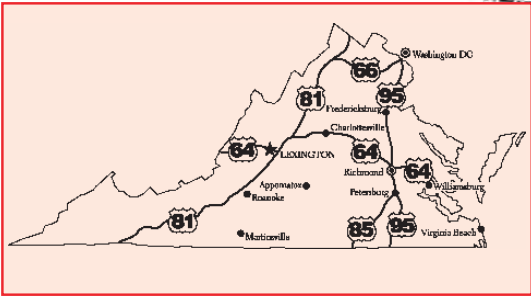
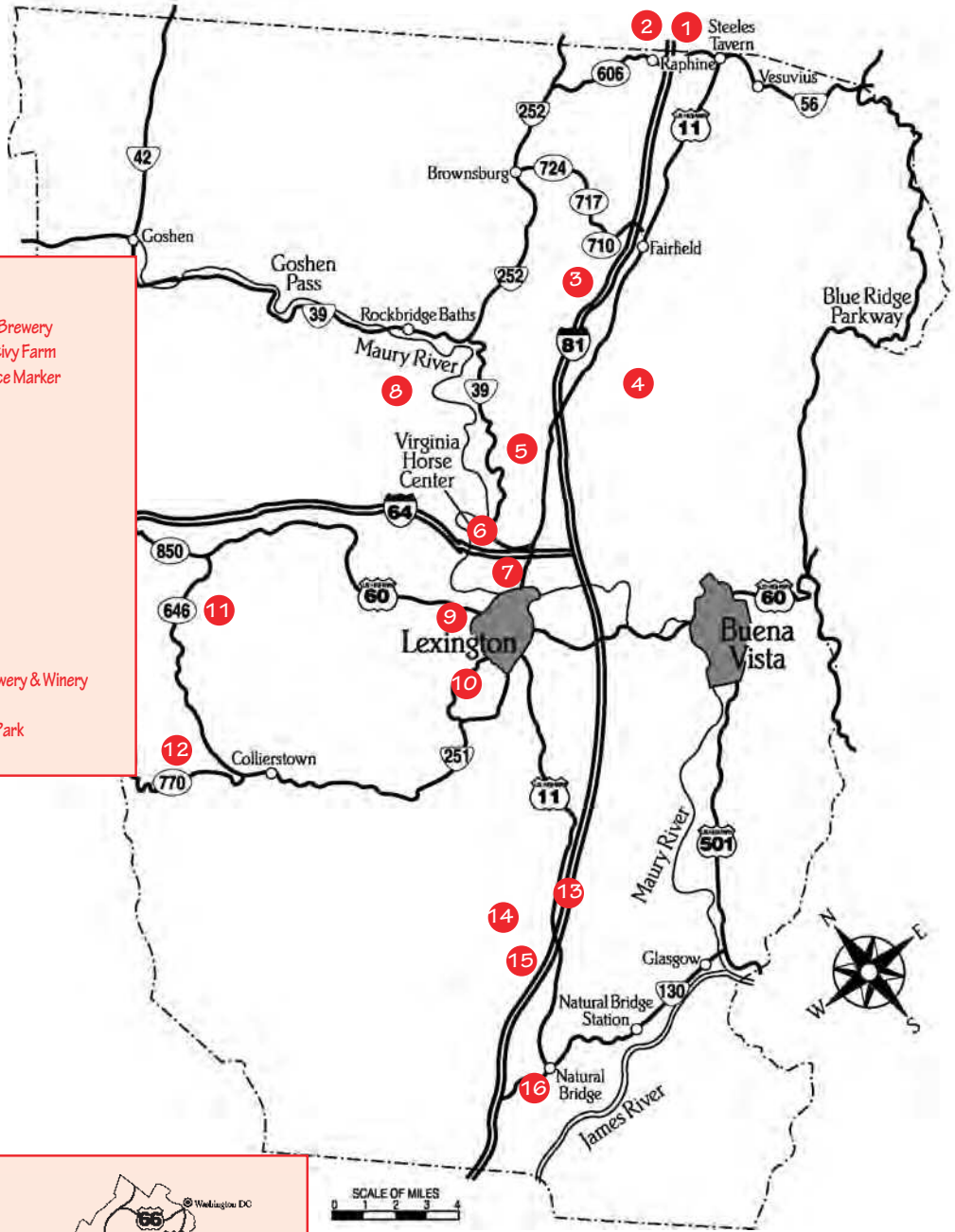
Dec. 2, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Dec. 3: Buena Vista Christmas Parade, Downtown Buena Vista.
Dec. 4, 5-7 pm: First Friday Art Walk, Galleries on and around Washington St., Lexington.
Dec. 4: Lexington Christmas Parade, Downtown Lexington.
Dec. 5: Jingle Bell Run, Downtown Lexington.
Dec. 6: Horses Christmas, Glen Maury Park.
Dec. 5: Christmas Basket Packing, Virginia Horse Center.
Dec. 5-6, 12 noon-5 pm: Holiday Open House, Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery.
Dec. 9, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Dec. 10-13: The Barracks Horse Show, Virginia Horse Center.
Dec. 16, 8 am-12:30 pm: Lexington Farmers Market, McCrum's Parking Lot, N. Jefferson St., Lexington.
Dec. 18: Holiday Church Open House, Downtown Lexington.
Dec. 19-20: DC Fast Pitch Softball, Virginia Horse Center.

Buena Vista, Virginia

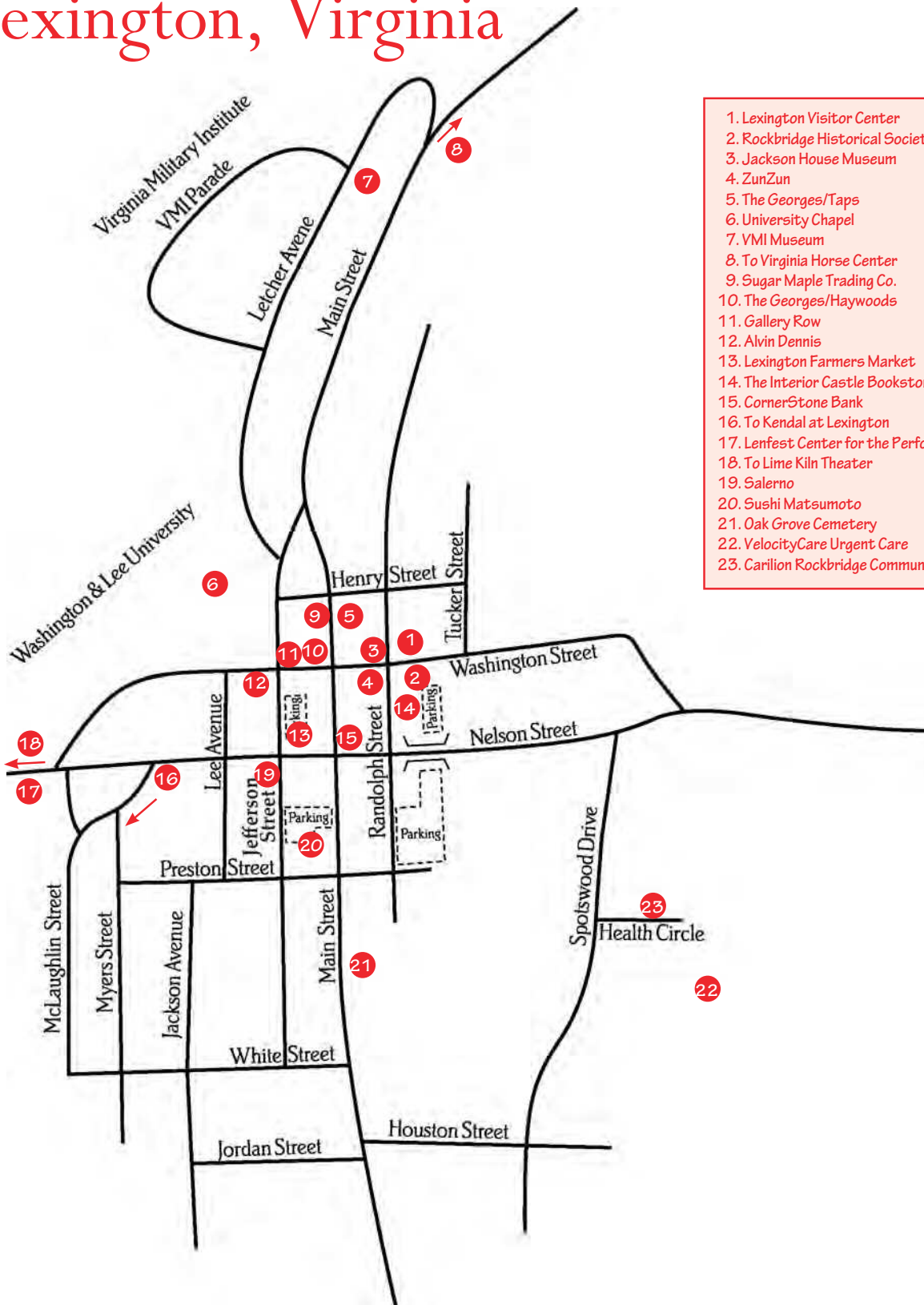


Rockbridge County

1. McCormick Farm
2. Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery
3. Lavender Fields at Tantivy Farm
4. Sam Houston Birthplace Marker
5. Hull's Drive-in Theatre
5. Roadmap Coffeeworks
6. Virginia Horse Center
7. Subway
7. CornerStone Bank
8. Alone Mill Schoolhouse
9. Inn at Brierley Hill
10. Boxerwood Gardens
11. House Mountain Inn
12. Lake Robertson
13. Halcyon Days Cider Co.
14. Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery
15. Virginia Safari Park
16. Natural Bridge State Park



Lexington, Virginia



1. Lexington Visitor Center
2. Rockbridge Historical Society
3. Jackson House Museum
4. ZunZun
5. The Georges/Taps
6. University Chapel
7. VMI Museum
8. To Virginia Horse Center
9. Sugar Maple Trading Co.
10. The Georges/Haywoods
11. Gallery Row
12. Alvin Dennis
13. Lexington Farmers Market
14. The Interior Castle Bookstore
15. CornerStone Bank
16. To Kendal at Lexington
17. Lenfest Center for the Performing Arts
18. To Lime Kiln Theater
19. Salerno
20. Sushi Matsumoto
21. Oak Grove Cemetery
22. VelocityCare Urgent Care
23. Carilion Rockbridge Community Hospital

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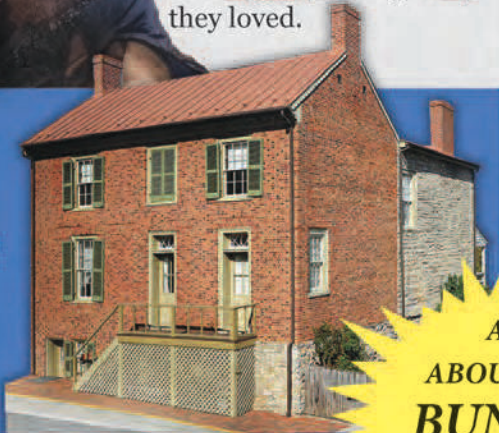


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