



Smoky Mountains & Asheville Autumn Foliage Getaway: 5 Day Detailed Itinerary

Smoky Mountain Magic, Blue Ridge Views & Cozy Mountain Nights — An Easy-Going Adventure Through Asheville & the Smokies

Airport Information:

Arrival & Departure Airport: Asheville Regional Airport (AVL)

Day 1: Arrivals & Welcome Dinner

Please plan your flights so that you arrive at **Asheville Regional Airport (AVL)** by late afternoon. This gives everyone a comfortable arrival window before we meet in the hotel lobby at **5:30PM** for our **welcome dinner**.

After dinner, we'll make our way back to the hotel for a restful night before we begin our adventure.

Transportation:

 **Taxi / Uber / Lyft**

Airport  Hotel

Approximate travel time: 20 minutes depending on traffic

Asheville Regional Airport (AVL) is small, easy to navigate, and very simple for arrivals. Uber, Lyft, and local taxis all operate at AVL, and pickups take place in the airport's designated rideshare and taxi lot just south of baggage claim. Many travelers choose to schedule their Uber or Lyft in advance to ensure a smooth and timely pickup.

Guests will book their own transfer.

Meals included:

✓ Welcome dinner

 **Accommodation included:** Accommodation in Asheville (one night - arrival)

Baymont by Wyndham Asheville/Biltmore Village

📍 204 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville, NC 28803

☎ Phone: (828) 277-0111

🌐 Website: [Baymont By Wyndham](#)

Day 2: Smoky Mountain Magic: Scenic Overlooks & Mountain Highlights

Approximate Day Timing: 8:30AM- 7:00 PM

8:30 AM — Depart Asheville

Today we head straight into the Great Smoky Mountains for a full day of scenic overlooks, gentle optional hikes, heritage stops, and a relaxed riverside picnic. This day focuses on easy pacing, beautiful views, and classic Smokies experiences.

10:00 AM — Newfound Gap Overlook

A major Smokies viewpoint with wide, layered mountain scenery. We'll spend time walking around the overlook, taking photos, and enjoying the crisp mountain air.

10:30 AM – 11:30 PM Kephart Prong Trail (Optional Short Hike)

Distance: ~2 miles round-trip

Elevation Gain: Minimal

An optional gentle forest trail with footbridges, mossy trees, and a rushing creek. This is an easy, scenic hike that gives the group a beautiful nature experience without strenuous climbing.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Riverside Picnic Lunch

We'll stop at a riverside picnic area for lunch. Guests can:

- Sit at picnic tables
- Walk along the riverbank
- Explore the boulders and shallow water areas
- Take photos of the forest and stream

1:30 PM Clingmans Dome (Optional)

Guests who want a more active experience can complete the **0.5-mile paved uphill walk** to the observation tower — one of the best views in the Smokies. Those who prefer a lighter option can explore the surrounding area, browse the information signs, and enjoy the views from the parking area.

2:30PM – 3:30PM Cherokee Downtown Area (If time allows)

3:45PM — 5:15 PM Mountain Farm Museum, Mingus Mill & Oconaluftee Elk Viewing

Gentle, easy walking through historic farm buildings, open meadows, and a working water-powered grist mill. Guests can explore the log structures, browse short interpretive paths, and walk to the mill to see the flume and creek area.

Then continue just down the road to the Oconaluftee meadow, with the chance to spot elk in the late afternoon light.

6:15 PM — Dinner Before Returning to Our Accommodations

Transportation:

 Walking & Activity Level

Today's walking is light to moderate, broken into short, scenic segments throughout the day. Most stops are located directly at or very close to parking areas, with easy paths to viewpoints and historic sites.

Expect a mix of:

Short overlook walks (Newfound Gap, Clingmans Dome parking area)

Gentle forest walking (Kephart Prong optional hike)

Easy heritage paths (Mountain Farm Museum & Mingus Mill)

Approximate total walking time:

Light walkers: ~45–60 minutes spread across the day

Optional hikers: ~2 hours including Kephart Prong: All walking is at a relaxed pace with frequent breaks and photo stops.

 Air-conditioned private vehicle

Accommodations  Smokies and Beyond

We travel in a comfortable, air-conditioned private vehicle for the full day. Expect short, scenic drives between each stop, with mountain overlooks, forested roads, wildlife viewing areas, and heritage sites naturally breaking up the day.

Most transitions range from 10–30 minutes, with the longest stretch being the morning drive from Asheville into the Smokies (about 1 hour 30 minutes). The pacing is relaxed and designed to feel dynamic rather than long, with frequent opportunities to get out, walk, explore, and take photos.

 **Meals included:** Breakfast & picnic lunch

 **Accommodation included:** Shared accommodation in Greater Asheville Area (3 nights)

Airbnb Accommodations

 80 Walker Cove Road

Black Mountain, NC 28711

 Website: [Airbnb Accommodations](#)

Day 3: A Day of Biltmore Grandeur

Approximate Day Timing: 7:45AM- 6:00 PM

7:45 AM — Breakfast Feast at a Local Favorite

We'll begin our morning together with a delicious breakfast at a beloved local eatery. It's the perfect way to fuel up, connect, and get excited for the day ahead. This relaxed morning meal sets the tone before we head out to explore the grandeur of the Biltmore Estate.

10:00 AM — Arrive at Biltmore Estate

We'll plan to spend 3–4 hours on the estate, giving guests plenty of time to enjoy the house tour, stroll the gardens, browse the Conservatory, and explore Antler Hill Village at a comfortable pace. This window allows everyone to savor the experience without feeling rushed.

Late Afternoon - Downtown Asheville: Boutique Browsing, Artisan Shops & Local Makers + Early Dinner

We'll head into downtown Asheville for a relaxed afternoon exploring the city's vibrant creative scene. Guests can browse charming boutiques, discover local makers, and wander through artisan shops filled with handcrafted goods, pottery, jewelry, and Appalachian inspired pieces.

For those who prefer experiences beyond shopping, downtown offers plenty of options — cozy cafés, lively breweries, street musicians, galleries, and scenic corners perfect for peoplewatching or enjoying a warm drink.

This afternoon, we'll enjoy a relaxed, creative hands-on experience with a local Appalachian maker. Guests will have the chance to learn from a regional artisan, explore traditional craft techniques, and create a small handmade piece to take home.

We'll enjoy an early dinner here in the heart of Asheville, choosing from a variety of local favorites that highlight the city's food culture before heading back to our accommodations for a restful evening.

Transportation:

Walking & Activity Level

Today's walking is light to moderate, with most activity taking place on flat, well-maintained paths at Biltmore and downtown Asheville throughout the day. Guests can explore the house, gardens, grounds and downtown at their own pace, with plenty of opportunities to rest, take photos, or enjoy shaded areas.

Approximate total walking time: ~1–2 hours spread across the day, depending on how much guests choose to explore the gardens and estate grounds. All walking is optional and can be adjusted to each guest's comfort level.

Driving & Transportation

We travel in a comfortable, air-conditioned private vehicle for the full day. Expect short, easy drives between each stop, with most transitions ranging from 10–25 minutes. The longest stretch is the morning drive from our accommodations into Asheville/Biltmore, which takes about 30–40 minutes depending on traffic.

The day follows a relaxed rhythm of drive → explore → drive, with scenic roads, estate grounds, and local artisan areas naturally breaking up the travel time. Frequent opportunities to walk, browse, and enjoy the surroundings keep the day feeling smooth and unhurried.

Meals included: N/A

Accommodation included: Shared accommodation in Greater Asheville Area (3 nights)

Airbnb Accommodations

 80 Walker Cove Road

Black Mountain, NC 28711

Day 4: Blue Ridge Parkway, Artisan Makers, Waynesville & Winery Experience

Approximate Day Timing: 8:00AM - 6:00 PM

Morning: Scenic Blue Ridge Parkway

We begin our day on the iconic Blue Ridge Parkway, easing into the morning with sweeping overlooks and soft mountain light. This stretch of the Parkway offers some of the most peaceful, photogenic views in the region — rolling ridgelines, quiet forests, and that gentle mountain stillness that invites you to breathe a little deeper.

We'll make a few scenic stops along the way, giving everyone time to take photos, enjoy the crisp air, and settle into the slower rhythm of the mountains.

Late Morning: Southern Highland Craft Guild — Folk Art Center

We'll stop in to explore the work of Appalachian makers. Inside, you'll find pottery, textiles, woodwork, glass, jewelry, and fine craft — all handcrafted and deeply rooted in the culture of the Blue Ridge.

Mid-day: Small-Town Charm in Waynesville

In the early afternoon, we make our way to Waynesville, a welcoming mountain town full of boutiques, makers, cozy cafés, and local flavor. Guests can browse artisan shops, enjoy a warm drink, or explore the town's creative corners at their own pace.

For those who prefer experiences beyond shopping, Waynesville offers inviting cafés, breweries, galleries, and scenic spots perfect for relaxing and enjoying the easy mountain atmosphere.

Beautiful Vineyard Visit — A Mountaintop Toast

We'll end our afternoon at a local winery, perched high above the Blue Ridge with sweeping panoramic views. This relaxed tasting experience is a beautiful way to celebrate our final full day together — a mountaintop moment filled with good wine, great company, and unforgettable scenery.

Guests can enjoy the views, take photos, and savor the peaceful atmosphere before we head back for the evening.

Return to Our Cozy Mountain Escape

As the light fades, we return to our private mountain retreat — blankets, firelight, warm drinks, and the kind of conversations that only happen after a beautiful day together.

It's the perfect way to end the night: gathered around the fire, sharing stories, reflecting on the day, and settling into the comfort of the mountains.

Walking & Activity Level

Today's walking is light and flexible, with short strolls at scenic overlooks, gentle browsing at the Folk Art Center, and relaxed exploring in Waynesville. All walking is optional and can be done at each guest's comfort level.

Approximate total walking time: ~45–90 minutes spread throughout the day, depending on how much guests choose to explore each stop.

Air-conditioned private vehicle

We travel in a comfortable, air-conditioned private vehicle for the full day. Expect short, scenic drives between each stop, with most transitions ranging from 10–25 minutes as we move along the Blue Ridge Parkway, into Waynesville, and out to the winery. Our longest distance is approximately an hour.

The day follows a relaxed rhythm of drive → explore → drive, with overlooks, artisan stops, and small-town charm naturally breaking up the travel time. The pacing stays easy, scenic, and unhurried.

Meals included: Lunch

Accommodation included: Shared accommodation in Greater Asheville Area (3 nights)

Airbnb Accommodations

 80 Walker Cove Road

Black Mountain, NC 28711

 Website: [Airbnb Accommodations](#)

Day 5: Departure Day — Must We Leave?

Approximate Day Timing: Flexible based on flight times

Roam with Me Travel

www.roamwithmetravel.com

Phone: 314.440.8033

Email: roamwithmetravel@outlook.com

7 of 8

Enjoy a slow morning — make a cup of coffee, step outside for one last breath of mountain air, and soak in the quiet beauty around you.

For late morning and early afternoon departures, your group host will provide one scheduled group transfer to the airport. Timing varies based on traveler departures, and this shared transfer is typically around 8:30 or 9:00 AM. Final transfer time is confirmed once all flight details are received at the start of the trip.

If you have a later flight, your host can drop you in downtown Asheville for one last stroll before arranging an afternoon Uber, Lyft, or taxi.

 **Walking & Activity Level:** N/A

 **Air-conditioned private vehicle**
(AVL)

Accommodations  Asheville Regional Airport

Early or late afternoon/evening departures: Taxi, Uber, or Lyft

Approximate travel time: 35 – 40 minutes

 **Meals included:** N/A

**** Important Notes About Conditions & Flexibility**

Because this itinerary takes place in a dynamic mountain environment, all activities are subject to weather, wildlife, road conditions, and time of year. Your group host may adjust timing or the order of activities, and in rare cases may need to modify or cancel an experience. We appreciate your flexibility as we navigate the natural conditions that make this destination so special.