

# **Mountains & Music Motorcycle Tour: Appalachia**

**June 24-30, 2018**



Questions or special requests? Contact Tamela Rich: [Tamela@TamelaRich.com](mailto:Tamela@TamelaRich.com)

The Appalachian Mountains are the oldest mountain range in North America. People who have called them “home” have given us rich history, a fusion of musical genres and dances, a distinctive cuisine, and an oral storytelling heritage, all of which will be celebrated on this seven-day tour.

## TOUR OVERVIEW

Departing Front Royal, Virginia, at the conclusion of the [Mid-Atlantic Women's Motorcycle Rally](#), we will travel some of the most scenic and satisfying roads of the Blue Ridge Mountain province in Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

We will average six hours in the saddle each day with plenty of breaks and photo opportunities.

### Sunday, June 24, 2018

Kickstands up in Front Royal, Virginia after a get-acquainted breakfast at the [Holiday Inn & Suites](#). After a couple of hours in the tranquility of the West Virginia countryside, we will lunch at Seneca Rocks (pictured below).

We will spend the afternoon in the gorgeous [George Washington and Jefferson National Forest](#), then end our day on a horse farm at [Mountain Quest Inn](#) in time to make the evening barn tour and feed carrots to the horses, llamas and sheep.

**Traveling: Virginia and West Virginia.**



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## Monday, June 25, 2018

Some of the finest and least-crowded motorcycling roads in West Virginia are in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. We will spend Monday exploring them. You can choose to stay with the group or explore one of several self-guided itineraries on your own.

### Highlights:

- Highland Scenic

Highway Four scenic overlooks along the Parkway provide spectacular views of the Allegheny Highlands on the highest roadway in West Virginia.

- The Falls of Hills Creek is the glittering jewel in the crown of the Monongahela National Forest. A series of three falls that cascade 20 feet, 45 feet, and the third falling 65 feet, make this waterfall



one of the highest in West Virginia.

- After dinner we will be serenaded by a bluegrass trio in Mountain Quest's magnificent two-story library after dinner.



## Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Leaving Mountain Quest, we will head south, once again in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest, going to elevation before descending into Virginia's Roanoke Valley, then to Floyd, VA.

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Located in the southwest corner of the state just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, Floyd is a one-of-a-kind place. Home to funky shops, farm-to-table restaurants, and its own music festival, [FloydFest](#), Floyd is a little town you'll want to return to time and again. Choose from several restaurants there, or eat at the General Store.

We'll end the afternoon at [River House](#), a full-service country inn. Everyone loves the front porch, which overlooks the North Fork of the New River. The Inn's uniquely-decorated guest rooms are converted farm buildings. All have en suite bathrooms.



The restaurant offers exquisite regional cuisine, an international wine list, and a full-service bar with all ABC permits.

**Traveling: West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina.**

## Wednesday June 27, 2018

After breakfast at River House we'll ride "[America's Favorite Drive](#)," the [Blue Ridge Parkway](#) as we head to the The Blue Ridge Music Center near the Virginia-North Carolina state line.

The [Blue Ridge Music Center](#) is administered by our National Parks Service. The Music Center is also the home for the free, state-of-the-art- award-winning, and interactive [Roots of American Music Museum Exhibit](#).



From there we'll have lunch in charming [West Jefferson, North Carolina](#).

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Take an optional tour of cheesemaker [Ashe County Cheese](#), the oldest cheesemaker in North Carolina (since 1930) of browse the shops.

From West Jefferson it's a 15-minute ride back to River House, where we'll enjoy the amenities, take a nap, or enjoy a

beverage on the front porch. River House has six kayaks plus a couple of canoes and tubes, and the staff will be delighted to drive you upstream and let you float back to the Inn.

After a gourmet dinner, **Wayne Henderson** and **Helen White** (pictured with tour host Tamela Rich below) will entertain us. The duo played for Queen Elizabeth when she visited Virginia in 2007.



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Wayne has traveled the world representing the US. and has been honored in the White House and Congress. In addition to being a world-renowned guitar builder (Eric Clapton is a client), he is a witty storyteller. Helen is a classically trained violinist, a composer, and an phenomenal fiddler.

**Traveling: Virginia, North Carolina.**

**Thursday June 28, 2018**

Leaving River House we will travel the legendary [Crooked Road](#), which is technically a Heritage Music Trail in southwestern Virginia, but to motorcyclists, the name says it all!

As we make our way along the Crooked Road we will stop at [Grayson Highlands State Park](#) and hope to see the legendary wild ponies who call it home. Located near Mount Rogers and Whitetop Mountain, Virginia's two highest mountains, Grayson Highlands offers scenic views of alpine-like peaks more than 5,000 feet high.





After passing through Damascus, Virginia, where we are sure to see hikers on the Appalachian Trail, we'll lunch in Shady Valley, Tennessee, the midpoint for a favorite motorcycling road known as "The Snake."

The afternoon finds us crossing Roan Mountain, Tennessee (pictured right) and into North Carolina on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

We will end the day at Little Switzerland, North Carolina, so named for its sweeping panoramas of deep valleys and distant ranges that resemble those of the foothills of the Swiss Alps. We'll stay at the Switzerland Inn, (pictured below) located right on the Blue Ridge Parkway, "America's Favorite Drive."

After a welcome reception on the terrace that overlooks the ridge line we'll enjoy dinner together.

**Traveling: North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee.**



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**Friday June 29, 2018**



The last day of our tour gives you several options.

**Option One** is Grandfather Mountain, where you can walk its famous Mile High Swinging Bridge, the highest in America. The 228-foot suspension bridge (pictured left) spans an 80-foot chasm and was built to give visitors easy access to the breathtaking view from Grandfather Mountain's

Linville Peak.

**Option Two:** Wheels Through Time transportation museum presents a collection of rare American motorcycles, memorabilia and a distinct array of unique "one off" American automobiles. It is now home to a very popular TV show, What's in the Barn? Our tour will be hosted by the Museum owner and TV host himself, Dale Walksler.

**Option Three:**  
Biltmore House, Gardens, Village and Winery.

America's largest private residence was built by railroad scion George Vanderbilt on over 8,000 acres. It will take a full day to appreciate all that this property has to offer.



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That evening is our farewell dinner, also at Switzerland Inn.

**Traveling: North Carolina.**

**Saturday, June 30, 2018**

After breakfast, check out and head home, or extend your stay. Our tour is concluded.

**TOUR PRICING**

**Single Occupancy:** \$2,425

**Double Occupancy:**

- \$2,140 per motorcyclist (Shared Queen or King<sup>1</sup>)
- \$1,860 per person on shared motorcycle (Shared Queen or King<sup>2</sup>)

**Included:**

- 6 Nights Hotel Accommodations
- 6 Dinners
- 6 Breakfasts
- 2 private musical performances on Monday and Wednesday evenings
- 1 Tour Guide per 10 guests



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<sup>1</sup> Other accommodations might be available by request and if so, will be priced separately. If you want more than one bed please book early.

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**Excluded:**

- Motorcycle and riding gear
- Transportation to Front Royal, VA
- Transportation after the tour's conclusion in Little Switzerland, NC
- Lunches
- Snacks
- Alcoholic beverages
- Admission to attractions
- Souvenirs and other "personal expenditures"
- Travel and health insurance



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## Reservations and Payments:

[Use this link to pay your \\$300 deposit for single occupancy.](#)

[Use this link to pay a double-occupancy deposit of \\$500.](#)

The entire balance must be paid by May 4, 2018

**Cancellation Policy:** Please try to replace your seat on the tour if you can't join us. If you cannot find someone to take your place, our terms are as follows:

- Cancellations before May 24, 2018 lose 50% of their deposit
- Cancellations May 24 to June 4, 2017 will be refunded 50%
- Cancellations after June 4, 2018 will receive no refund

## INCENTIVES

Save \$200 on single occupancy or \$300 on double-occupancy by registering before 12/31/17 and paying in full at the time you register.

Party of 4 or more? Ask for customized pricing.

**LIMITED AVAILABILITY:** Two of the inns are historical properties with unique accommodations. Therefore the number of rooms we can offer for the tour is limited. Book early to get the accommodations that best suit you.

## YOUR GUIDE



I'm Tamela Rich, award-winning author and avid motorcyclist. I have traveled Appalachia extensively all of my life, exploring the rich history, culture, and beauty of the region.

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