



# CRAFTS HERITAGE TRAIL ITINERARY

## **Welcome**

Art and artists have long been influenced by the landscapes that surround them. They often draw materials, as well as inspiration, from the land itself. We invite you to find both art and inspiration as you travel scenic byways and rural highways through changing landscapes and small communities. Art galleries and craft shops are sprinkled throughout the region in historic downtowns, along backroads, and in the heart of the mountains.

## **1. Sequoyah Birthplace Museum**

576 Hwy 360

Vonore, TN

(423) 884-6246

[www.sequoyahmuseum.org](http://www.sequoyahmuseum.org)

Hours: 9am-5pm; Mon-Sat and Noon-5pm; Sun

This museum celebrates Cherokee history and culture in East Tennessee while honoring Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee alphabet. Its gift shop has a great selection of authentic Cherokee crafts.

## **2. Tellico Plains, TN**

*The town of Tellico Plains is nestled against the mountains at the base of the Cherohala Skyway. Once a logging community, this mountain town is now home to the Cherohala Skyway Visitor Center, the Charles Hall Museum, and an historic downtown full of shops. You can also find lots of places to sit down and have a good hot meal, or pick up something to take with you and have a picnic along the way.*

### **Tellico Arts Center**

113 Scott Street

Tellico Plains, TN

(423) 253-2253

Hours: Noon -6pm; Mon-Sat

The Tellico Arts Center is a not for profit juried Art Center. It hosts more than 50 artists, representing varied media, who reside within 30 miles. Art for sale at the center ranges a wide variety, including everything from fabric art, paintings, metal work, pottery, beading, leather, stained glass, local books and music, photography and more.

### **Scott Street Gallery**

700 Veterans Memorial Drive

Tellico Plains, TN

(423) 253-7677

Hours: 11am-6pm; Tues-Sat

Located in downtown Tellico Plains, this art gallery is home to a wide variety of handmade art and crafts, including paintings, stained glass, and art supplies.

**Stone Cottage**

121 Scott Street  
Tellico Plains, TN  
(423) 253-2400

Hours: 11am-6pm; Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, and Sat

Located in a restored craftsman bungalow, the Stone Cottage offers antiques, handcrafted garden décor and natural fiber clothing. Display gardens feature perennials and herbs. Herbal workshops by reservation.

**Tellico Grains Bakery**

105A Depot Street  
Tellico Plains, TN  
(423) 253-6911  
[www.tellico-grains-bakery.com](http://www.tellico-grains-bakery.com)

Hours: 8am-4pm; Tues-Sat

Indulge in the culinary arts practiced by Tellico Grains Bakery. This local bakery, located in an historic bank building, is well known by locals and tourists alike for its homemade breads, pastries, cakes, pizzas, and sandwiches - all baked using a wood fired oven.

**3. Coker Creek, TN**

*Follow Hwy 68 as it rolls through the mountains into Coker Creek, TN. The roots of traditional arts and crafts run deep in this tight knit community. Woodcarving, basket weaving, and pottery are just a few of the traditional art forms still practiced, taught, and celebrated in gift shops, community centers, festivals, living rooms, and front porches.*

**Coker Creek Welcome Center**

Hwy 68  
Coker Creek, TN  
(423) 261-2286

Hours: 10am-5pm; Tues-Sat

Filled with arts, crafts, books, maps, as well as information about the historical Unicoi Turnpike, the Cherokee National Forest, and area attractions. As a Gold Panning Association of America (GPAA) dealer, they can sell you a gold pan and give you practical and historic information about gold panning.

**Designs by Baerreis**

12203 Hwy 68  
Coker Creek, TN  
(423) 261-2731  
[www.climbingbear.com](http://www.climbingbear.com)

Hours: 10am-4pm; Mon-Fri

Handmade wooden designs for the home, unique jewelry, and glass art, all created by the Bearris family.

**Coker Creek Gallery**

206 Hot Water Road (County Road 617)

Coker Creek, TN

(423) 261-2157

[www.cokercreekgallery.com](http://www.cokercreekgallery.com)

Hours: 10am-5pm; Tues-Sat

Features work by local and regional artists. Art and traditional handmade crafts ranging from photography, pottery, jewelry, metal, glass, wood carving, weaving, and everything in between.

**Seven Sisters Honey Acres**

12850 Hwy 68

Coker Creek, TN

(423) 261-2777

[www.sevensistershoney.com](http://www.sevensistershoney.com)

Hours: 11am-5pm; Wed-Sun

Offers local mountain honey, organic homemade beauty products, handcrafted furniture, and contemporary art.

**4. Copperhill, TN**

*Located in the Copper Basin, Copperhill is a mountain town known for its copper mining history. It is a very walk-able historic downtown full of locally owned and operated shops and restaurants. The TN/GA state line is represented by a blue line drawn through the town, separating it from its sister town – McCaysville, GA.*

**Courtyard Studios**

111 Ocoee Street

Copperhill, TN

(423) 496-1166

Hours: 10am-5pm; Mon-Sat and Noon-5pm; Sun

Several artists' studios in one central location. Art and handmade crafts ranging from photography, hand hewn bowls, puzzle boxes, wood carving, stained glass, and painting.

**5. John C. Campbell Folk School**

1 Folk School Road

Brasstown, NC

800-365-5724

[www.folkschool.org](http://www.folkschool.org)

Hours: 8am-5pm; Mon-Sat and 1pm-5pm; Sun

Started in 1925, John C. Campbell Folk School provides experiences in non-competitive learning. The Folk School offers year round week-long and weekend classes for adults in craft, art, music, dance, cooking, gardening, nature studies, photography and writing. Visit the Craft Shop to find authentic arts and crafts from more than 300 juried craftspeople. Featuring a large collection of both traditional and contemporary Appalachian craft, including everything from jewelry, pottery, wood, fiber, ironwork, and many other disciplines. The Craft Shop is also home to the world famous Brasstown Carvers. Complete with a book room housing hundreds of instructional books, art supplies, CDs, and even T shirts and hats, you're sure to find the perfect reminder of your trip to this world class facility.

## **6. Franklin, NC**

*Known as the Gem Capitol of the World, Franklin is a mountain community rich in gems and minerals and surrounded by mountains, streams and waterfalls. You'll find gem mines located throughout the area. Native stones include ruby, sapphire and garnets. For more information on gem mining you should contact the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum.*

### **Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum**

25 Phillips Street

Franklin, NC

(828) 369-7831

[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)

Hours: May to October – Mon-Fri; Noon-4pm and Sat; 11am-3pm

November to April – Sat; 11am-3pm or by appointment

Located inside the historic 1850 Macon County jail building, this museum houses a collection of thousands of specimens of gems, minerals, fossils and artifacts. It also serves as an information center for gem mining in the area and local history. The gift shop features art and craft made by local crafts people using local gems.

### **NC Mountain Made**

36 East Main Street

Franklin, NC

(828) 524-7766

[www.ncmtnmade.com](http://www.ncmtnmade.com)

Hours: June to October – Mon-Fri; 9am-5:30pm and Sat; 9am-9pm

November to May – Mon-Sat; 9am-5:30pm

This shop and gallery features more than 200 western North Carolina artisans and craftspeople and features a wide variety of items with a large selection of quilts and pottery.

### **Michael Rogers Gallery**

1511 Highlands Road

Franklin, NC

(828) 524-6709

[www.sharethebeauty.com](http://www.sharethebeauty.com)

Hours: Mon-Fri; 10am-5pm and Sat 10am-2:30pm

Fine art prints and original watercolors showcasing regional landscapes and rural mountain life from the heartland of western North Carolina.

## **7. Cherokee, NC**

*The town of Cherokee is located within the Qualla Boundary land trust and is headquarters for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Here you will not only find finely crafted authentic Cherokee art, but also be able to visit sites where you can see the process by which such crafts are made, and the history and heritage behind the crafts and the people who make them.*

**Museum of the Cherokee Indian**

589 Tsali Boulevard

Cherokee, NC

(828) 497-3481

[www.cherokeemuseum.org](http://www.cherokeemuseum.org)

Hours: 9am-5pm; Daily. Closed Christmas, New Year's and Thanksgiving

Located on tribal land in the Great Smoky Mountains, this non-profit organization tells the story of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Its gift shop features authentic Native American art and crafts.

**Big Meat House of Pottery**

Hwy 19

Cherokee, NC 28719

828-497-9544

Hours: April to December - 10am-5pm; Mon-Sat

Big Meat family members have been potters for generations. In addition to traditional low-fired coil pottery that turns into wedding vases and medicine bowls, you'll also see authentic and high quality masks, pipes, knives, basketry and beaded jewelry.

**Medicine Man Crafts**

482 Tsali Boulevard

Cherokee, NC 28719

828-497-2202

[www.mountainshops.com/wnc/medicine-man.html](http://www.mountainshops.com/wnc/medicine-man.html)

Hours: 9am-6pm; Mon-Sun

This shop features a wide variety of handmade objects, and carries a large selection of Cherokee baskets, pottery, and wood carvings, as well as many other Native American crafts.

**Oconaluftee Indian Village**

564 Tsali Blvd

Cherokee, NC 28719

828-497-2111

[www.cherokee-nc.com](http://www.cherokee-nc.com)

Hours: May to October – 9am-5pm; Daily

Oconaluftee Indian Village allows a glimpse back in time to an active and authentic 1750s Cherokee village. The earliest forms of American craft—pottery, basket making, wood carving and weaving—are demonstrated and sustained here by members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Dog hobble, jelly berry, mockernut hickory and the tree of heaven line the walking trail along with hundreds of flowers, shrubs and ferns.

**Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual**

645 Tsali Blvd.

Cherokee, NC

828-497-3103

[www.quallaartsandcrafts.com](http://www.quallaartsandcrafts.com)

Hours: June to August – 8am-7pm; Mon-Sat and 9am-5pm; Sun

September to May – 8am-5pm; Daily

Founded in 1946 with the purpose of preserving and advancing Cherokee arts and crafts, the Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc., is today the oldest and leading Native American Arts cooperative in the United States. Featuring a wide variety of authentic Cherokee art and crafts.

### **8. Robbinsville, NC**

*Resting in the mountains at the North Carolina end of the Cherohala Skyway, Robbinsville is a small town surrounded by the Nantahala National Forest. It is only about 15 miles from the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest – set aside to serve as a living memorial to Joyce Kilmer, who was killed in action during World War I, yet was probably best known for his poem “Trees.”*

#### **Bee Global Studio Gallery**

1633 Lower Stecoah Road  
Robbinsville, NC 28771  
828-479-8284

[www.beeglow.com](http://www.beeglow.com)

Hours: April to December - 10am-5pm; Mon-Fri and 10am-3pm; Sat

January to March by appointment

Specializing in beeswax lanterns illuminated from within by a replaceable votive candle. Ferns, dogwood, Japanese maple, columbine, ground pine and other native flora are captured just below the surface of the globes, so that once lit, they reflect the patterns of nature.

#### **Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center**

121 Schoolhouse Road  
Robbinsville, NC 28771  
828-479-3364

[www.stecoahvalleycenter.com](http://www.stecoahvalleycenter.com)

Hours: 10am-5pm; Mon-Sat and 12pm-5pm; Sun

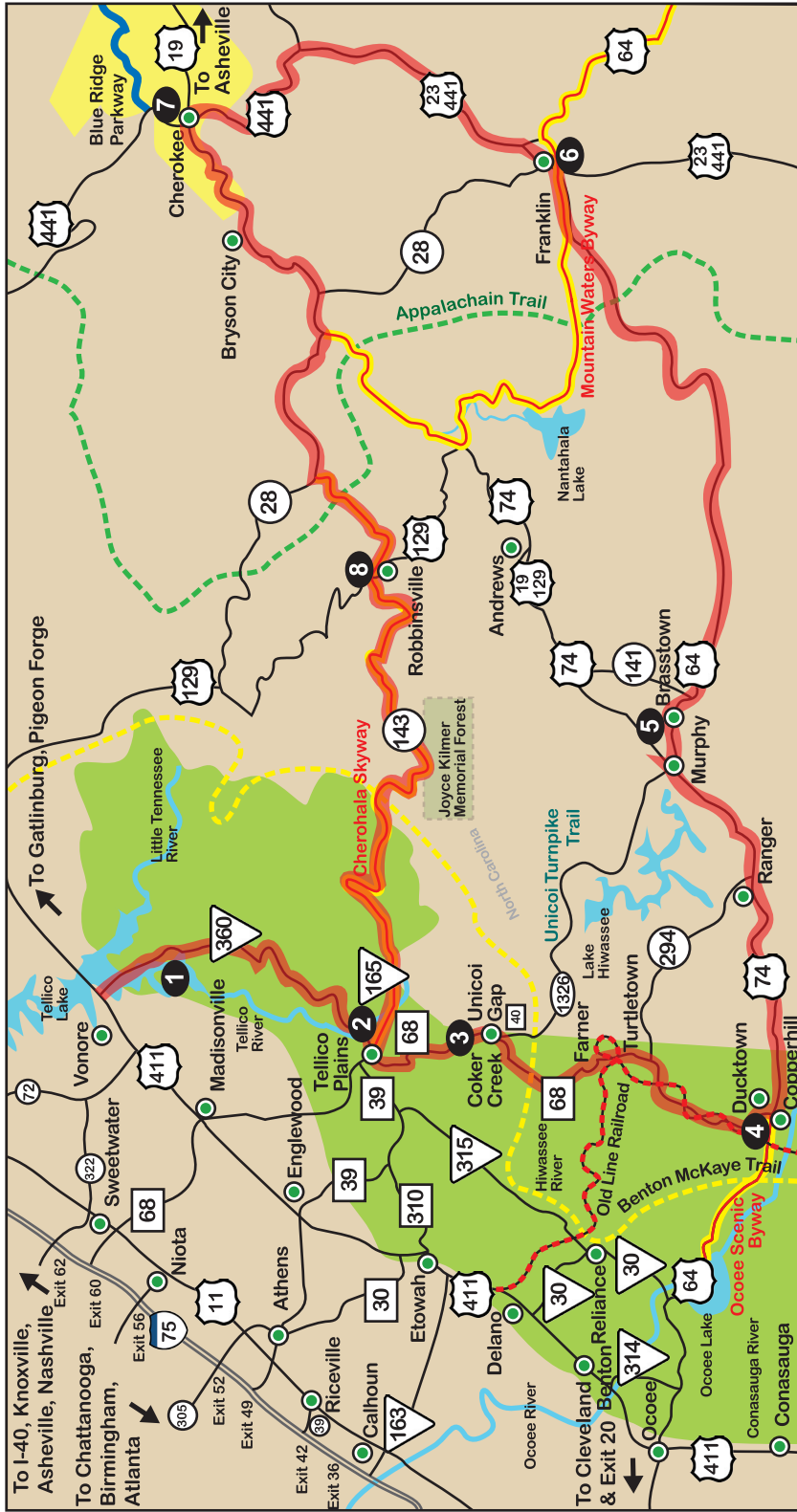
A former rock schoolhouse is now a community center holding a library, visitor's center, and weaving cooperative. The center houses a shop carrying local crafts and artists' studios. The Azalea Trail around the school provides just enough exercise to justify a smidgen of lemon pound cake made by local bakers.



TOLL FREE: 1-877-510-5765

[WWW.TENNESSEEOVERHILL.COM](http://WWW.TENNESSEEOVERHILL.COM)

# CRAFTS HERITAGE TRAIL



- Cherokee National Forest
- Nantahala National Forest
- Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest
- Cherokee Indian Reservation

- 1** Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
- 2** Tellico Plains, TN
- 3** Coker Creek, TN
- 4** Copper Hill, TN

- 5** John C. Campbell Folk School
- 6** Franklin, NC
- 7** Cherokee, NC
- 8** Robbinsville, NC

↓ To Atlanta via Hwy 411

↓ To Atlanta via I-575 at Blue Ridge