

Hickory

Winston-Salem 56 miles

Fisher River Ararat River A tributary of the Yadkin River A tributary of the Yadkin River River Distance: 21 miles River Distance: 27.7 miles Difficulty: Class I-II (III) Difficulty: Class I-II River Accesses: Fisher River Park, Old Highway River Accesses: Riverside Park, H. B. Rowe Park, 601, Hamlin Ford, and Bray Ford, Dobson, NC and Tharrington Park, Mount Airy, NC; Highway **River Junction Points:** Turkey Ford Road and Buck 268 East, Pilot Mountain, NC Ford Road, Dobson, NC River Junction Points: Sheep Farm Road, Mount Notes: Half-day and full-day trips. Remote area Airy, NC; Radar Road, Ararat, NC; Quaker Church with narrow passageways. (Approximately 22.7 Road, Siloam, NC miles of river from Bray Ford Access to Shoals Notes: No junction points crossing this river for 8.9 miles. Approximately 15 miles of river from Access with many river junction points.) Prepare for a remote setting. Highway 268 East Access and Shoals Access. Approximately 15 miles between Tharrington Park Access and the Highway 268 East Access with few river junction points. Prepare for a remote setting. From Pilot Mountain to Hanging Rock State Park 20 miles 8 Shoals Access to Donnaha Access Difficulty: Class I – II River Put In: 4454 Shoals Road, East Bend, NC River Take Out: 6131 Donnaha Park Road, East Bend, NC Notes: Donnaha Access CLOSED through fall 2023. Long stretch of shoals, ledges, and islands in this section with many lines to choose from. Approximately 34 navigation areas of interest with some consecutive. Paddle-in camping is available downstream right of the islands. 9 Donnaha Access to Old 421 Access Difficulty: Class I – II River Put In: 6131 Donnaha Park Road, East Bend, NC River Take Out: 7695 Yadkinville Road, Lewisville, NC Notes: Donnaha Access CLOSED through fall 2023. Long stretches of flatwater with approximately 7 navigation areas of interest. Mandatory portage rive right approximately 2.5 miles downstream of the double islands Old 421 Access to Huntsville Access River Distance: 5.4 miles Difficulty: Class I – II River Put In: 7695 Yadkinville Road, Lewisville, NC River Take Out: 5600 Courtney-Huntsville Road, Yadkinville, NC **Notes:** Long stretches of flatwater with approximately 4 navigation areas of interest. Huntsville Access Mile Marker 87 River Put In: 5600 Courtney-Huntsville Road, Yadkinville, NC

Deep, calm

Notes: Last access point in the Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor. For more information visit: *trails.nc.gov*





Proud to be part of the BLUERIDGE

Morganton

Asheville 56 miles

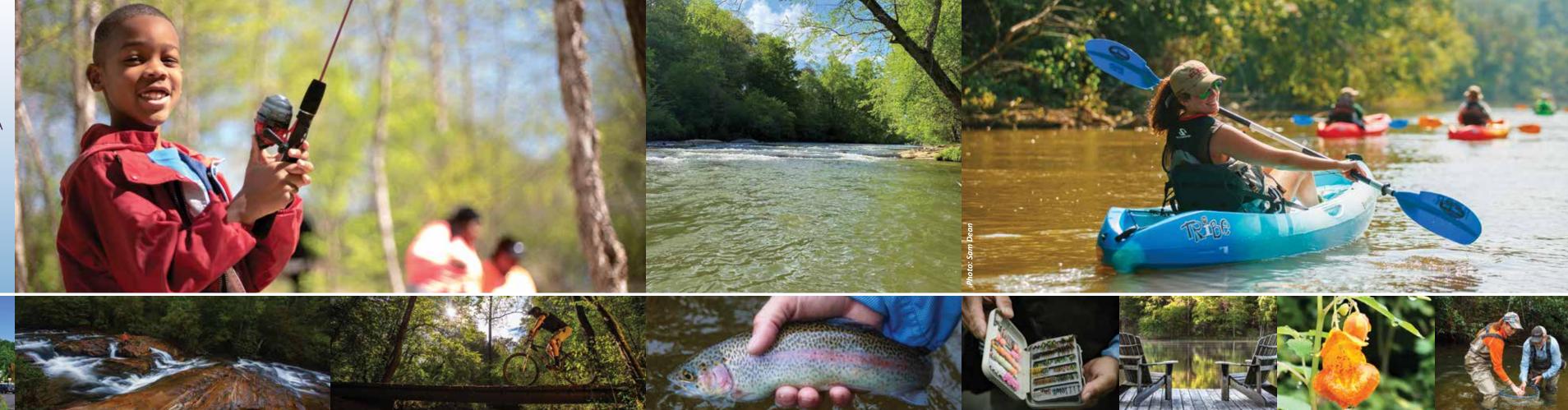








Located in northwestern North Carolina within an easy day's drive of anywhere in the state, the Yadkin Valley commences at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains and sprawls eastward into the Piedmont.



explore. engage. experience.

The natural beauty of the Yadkin River Valley and the experience of enjoying a float trip along the Yadkin River or one of its tributaries makes the region a fun-filled destination for paddlers.

On the upper section of the river activities include canoeing and kayaking the Class I to Class IV rapids and fly fishing for trout. The sections of river below W. Kerr Scott Dam in Wilkes County and then flowing down through Surry and Yadkin Counties contain rapids rated at Class I and II and are ideal for easy float trips by canoe, kayak, or even paddleboard.

yadkinvalley.com

Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center 257 Standard Street, Elkin, NC 28621 336-526-1111 ExploreElkin.com

Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center 200 North Main Street, Mount Airy, NC 27030 336-786-6116 mountairyncchamber.org

Wilkes Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center 717 Main Street, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659 336-838-8662 ExploreWilkes.com

Northwest North Carolina Visitor Center 4 2121 East Highway 421, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659 336-667-1259 wilkescountytourism.com

Yadkin County Chamber & Visitor Center 5 205 S. Jackson Street, Yadkinville, NC 27055

336-679-2200 yadkinchamber.org Jonesville Welcome Center

1503 NC Highway 67, Jonesville, NC 28642 336-835-2000 visittheyadkinvalley.com

I-77N North Carolina Welcome Center 7 Southbound I-77 Milepost 105, Dobson, NC 27017 336-320-2181 visitnc.com

Caldwell County Chamber & Visitor Information Center 8 1909 Hickory Boulevard SE, Lenoir, NC 28645 828-726-0616 caldwellchambernc.com

Pilot Mountain Visitor Center 9 124 W. Main Street, Pilot Mountain, NC 27041 336-368-2247 ncparks.gov

information

water activities

it starts with a river...

fishing canoeing

kayaking

rafting tubing

picnicking

camping

YADKIN RIVER RUNS

W. Kerr Scott Tailwater Access to Smoot Park

2 Smoot Park to Roaring River Community Access

3 Roaring River Community Access to Ronda Access

4 Ronda Access to Crater Park Access

5 Crater Park Access to Burch Station Access

Burch Station at Mitchell River Access to Yadkin Shores Access

7 Yadkin Shores Access to Shoals Access

8 Shoals Access to Donnaha Access

Donnaha Access to Old 421 Access

Old 421 Access to Huntsville Access

11 Huntsville Access

map your river adventure.

The Yadkin River Valley region, designated as the Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor, is located in the beautiful rolling foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Here you'll find a thriving, vibrant area with charming, historic small towns and stunning vistas teeming with outdoor recreational opportunities.

With scenic waterfalls and lush native plants and wildlife along the riverbanks, you'll find the Yadkin Valley offers abundant opportunities to connect with and enjoy the outdoors.

Whether you're looking for a day float trip or a weekend excursion, plan your Yadkin River adventure with our map to help you easily locate your destination as well as nearby amenities, activities, and points interest.

The Yadkin River and its tributaries offer an abundance of river-based recreation through the four-county region of Caldwell, Wilkes, Surry, and Yadkin Counties in North

From its headwaters near the Blue Ridge Parkway's longest rivers in North Carolina.

Cover photo: Julian Charles

YADKIN RIVER TRIBUTARY RUNS

A Upper Yadkin River

B Yadkin River from Patterson to W. Kerr Scott Reservoir

₩ ₩ ® ©

Buffalo Creek

Elk Creek

E Lewis Fork Creek - North and South Prongs

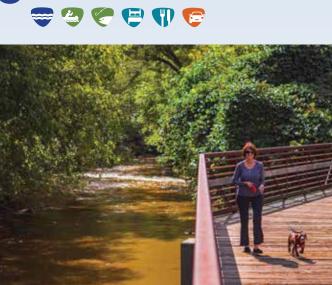
Reddies River

G Roaring River

H Mitchell River

Fisher River

Ararat River

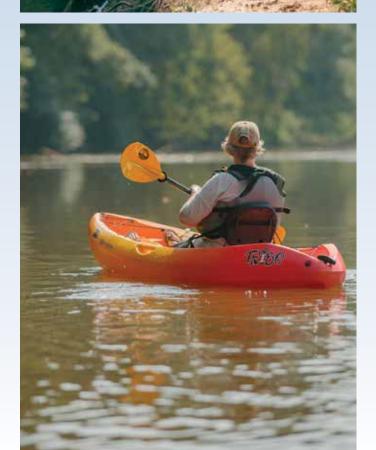


it starts with a river.

Thunder Hill Overlook, the Yadkin River flows over 200 miles southeast into South Carolina, making it one of the

Fly fishing, waterfall and biking photos courtesy of Tourism Partnership of Surry County





Trout Waters Many streams offer excellent opportunities for trout fishing

such as: Upper Yadkin River Buffalo Creek Lewis Fork Creek Elk Creek Stoney Fork Creek Reddies River **Roaring River** Big Elkin Creek Mitchell River

Fisher River **Ararat River**

...and other smaller streams

Delayed Harvest October 1 until the first Saturday in June Only single-hook artificial lures, no possession. All other times hatchery-supported regulations apply.

Hatchery Supported First Saturday in April until last day in February No lure or size restrictions. Seven fish daily limit.

The Blue Ridge Parkway Hatchery supported streams on the Blue Ridge Parkway are stocked by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission but are regulated by the Blue Ridge Parkway. To check the current regulations for the Parkway, call 336-373-8568.

NC Trout Stream Information ncwildlife.org



• Before taking your first boat trip, learn the basics

Plan your trip carefully, stay off flooded rivers

Wear an approved personal floatation device

Never boat alone

Do not overload your boat

Carry a map and emergency phone numbers

• Share your river location and return time

Carry a first aid kit, repair kit, and flashlight

• Take sunscreen, insect repellant, sunglasses, brimmed hat

Take rain gear, change of clothes

SAFETY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Rapid Classification System Class I Rapid: Easy. Fast moving water with riffles and small

Class II Rapid: Novice. Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels. Easy to maneuver. Little risk. Class III Rapid: Intermediate. Rapids with moderate, irregular

waves with complex maneuvers. Some risk. Class IV Rapid: Advanced. Intense, powerful but predictable rapids that require skill and experience with risks including the possibility of injury.

Class V Rapid: Expert. Extremely long, obstructed, or violent rapids where risks may result in severe injury or death. Class VI Rapid: Extreme and exploratory rapids. Rarely attempted. Extreme difficulty, unpredictable, and dangerous. Risk of errors are severe, and rescue may be impossible.

SAFETY GEAR

Dry Bag: A waterproof, sealable bag that keeps contents dry. First Aid Kit: A set of materials and tools used for giving emergency treatment to an injured person. **Helmet:** A hard or padded hat that protects the head. **Painter:** Usually 10 feet long, a line attached to the bow and stern of a boat to aid in boat rescue and to secure the boat to

the shoreline. **PFD/Lifejacket:** Personal Floatation Device in the form of a vest or suit to prevent drowning.

River Knife: Small knife used to cut small lines or use as a tool. **Spray Skirt:** A piece of waterproof material that fits around a paddler and opening of a kayak to prevent water from entering the craft.

Throw Bag: A rescue device with a rope stuffed loosely into a bag that can be thrown to a paddler or swimmer in trouble.

DESCRIPTIVE TERMS

Boat Scouting: Observing a rapid from a boat by judging multiple eddies at the top of and on the way down the rapid. CFS/CMS: Cubic Feet Per Second/Cubic Meters Per Second Hydrological terms for measuring water flow on a river. **Downstream/Upstream:** The direction the current is flowing. **Downstream V:** A tongue of dark water that loosely forms a 'V' shape with whitewater at the edges that indicates the deepest and most obstacle-free entry into or path through a rapid. **Eddy:** A river feature formed when the current flows around an obstacle and water flows back upstream to create a calmer and slower current. An area to rest, avoid the current,

Ferry: A river-running technique used to cross a downstream current to get from one side of the river to the other without being carried downstream with the current. **Gauge:** Used to measure the water height of a river.

Wear non-slip shoes

• Tie an extra paddle to the boat

Secure a 10' painter line to the bow and stern

 Place food, clothes, etc., in containers tied to the boat

• Be aware of weather conditions and risks

Avoid downed trees and strainers

• Use portage trail around dams

 Complete your trip before dark (2-3 miles per hour boating in normal conditions; twice as long for tubing)

Plan your shuttle

Do not trespass on private property

Gradient: Refers to the amount of drop or loss of elevation in a river from put in to take out.

Horizon Line: A point in the river where the current drops off, and the rapid below cannot be seen from upstream. **Hydraulic/Hole:** Created when water flows over a rock or ledge forcefully downstream and water from downstream flows back upstream to fill in the depression.

Keeper Hole: Powerful hole or hydraulic in which the foam pile or backwash is so strong that it does not easily release boats, debris, etc., and recirculates them in the hole. Open Water: A large body of water that is not protected from the wind by trees or shoreline. Should only be attempted by experienced boaters.

Portage: The act of carrying your boat around a rapid due to an obstruction or the route lacking a safe runnable passage. Rapid: A section of river where the gradient increases causing the flow of the water to speed up creating more turbulence. Reading Water: The technique used to decipher and recognize the safest paths through turbulent whitewater. River Right/River Left: Describes the river reference when facing downstream.

Scouting a Rapid: The act of pulling over above a rapid, exiting the boat, and walking to the edge of the rapid to look at it from land, discern the safest path, and decide to continue or portage. **Standing Wave:** A tall wave that has no foam pile and that

water is flowing through quickly. **Strainer:** A tree or tree branches in the current that allow for the water to flow through but that can trap a boat. Swiftwater Rescue: Rescue techniques for situations involving current or fast-flowing water by specially trained personnel,

ropes, and mechanical systems that are more robust than

those used in standard rope rescue.

Wave: A feature formed when the gradient increases, the river constricts, or the current flows over rocks and other debris on the riverbed.

White Water: Formed when flowing water mixes with air creating aerated water. On rivers, white water is formed when water flows over obstacles such as rocks in the riverbed or when the gradient of a river increases, quickening the flow, and creating turbulence.



Know the Conditions Check the weather forecast and never paddle during flood conditions. Be aware that hypothermia is possible even in warm weather if the water is cold. A good rule of thumb is that if the water temperature plus the air temperature is less than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, then hypothermia may occur.

Avoid Downed Trees and Strainers Downed trees and strainers are a dangerous hazard on any river. Avoid paddling close to a downed tree or any structure that could trap you between the object and your boat.

Respect Property The rivers are public but flow through private property. Do not trespass, abuse, or litter the waters, banks, or shorelines. Collect your refuse and dispose of properly when your trip is over. Do not cut or damage plant life on the riverbanks. Refer to the public access point shown on the brochure map.

BOATING TERMS

Bow/Stern: Front and rear of the boat. **Deck/Hull:** Top and bottom of the boat. **Outfitting:** Adding additional features that improve comfort, fit, and convenience to a boat.

and end their trip. **Shuttle:** The ability to leave your boat and gear at your launch point and having a vehicle at your take out location to transport your boat, gear, and passengers.

Put In/Take Out: The river access points where paddlers start

