



Boone, NC



Boone, North Carolina, is located in the Blue Ridge Mountains portion of the Appalachian Mountain range at an elevation of 3,300 feet. The city was named for the famous explorer Daniel Boone, who camped on a site considered to be within the present city limits on several occasions in the 1767-1773 period. Boone was incorporated in 1872.

Hickory Ridge Living History Museum is located on the grounds of the Daniel Boone Park. The museum is staffed by interpreters dressed in period clothing. The 18th-century homestead provides a glimpse into the daily lives of early mountain settlers by showing the routines and skills they possessed, such as hearthside cooking, weaving, making candles, spinning, and black-smithing, and by showing what constituted a typical mountain homestead.

Appalachian State University's Turchin Center for the Visual Arts features works of art from local, regional, and international artists.

The Jones House Community and Cultural Center is both a historic building and a community center that hosts an art gallery and concerts.

"Horn in the West" is a popular outdoor drama that tells the story of Daniel Boone's adventures and the role local pioneers played in winning the American Revolutionary War at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The theater is located in Daniel Boone Park, and performances run throughout the summer.

The Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts is a local performance arts venue located on the campus of Appalachian State University and home to the university's Appalachian Symphony Orchestra. The Schaefer Center also houses the Catherine J. Smith Gallery, which features works by faculty and students.

Mountain Home Music performs at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Grace Lutheran Church, and Baptist Church.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Boone is a commercial area with some apartments available.

Boone is built into the side of a mountain and therefore has many irregular sized lots and curvy, narrow roads. The Grand Boulevard neighborhood was Boone's first planned neighborhood and consists of small stone or brick bungalow homes built in the 1920s and 1930s. This neighborhood is very close to downtown and the university, which has made it popular with faculty. University Village is another neighborhood popular with university faculty and was built in the 1970s. It features ranch, two-story, and Craftsman-style houses.

The Poplar Hill Drive and New River neighborhoods date from the 1950s and 1960s and feature many brick ranches on large lots.

The Blairmont neighborhood is located near the hospital and was built in the 1970s and 1980s. Housing styles include ranch and two-story.

Councill Oaks is a 92-acre planned gated residential community located in the heart of Boone. The community currently contains 15 mountain- and cottage-style homes with many additional lots available for new construction.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Boone has three public parks: Junaluska, Boone Jaycee, and North Street. Park amenities include basketball courts, playground equipment, and ball fields.

The Daniel Boone Native Gardens consists of bog, fern, and rock gardens; a rhododendron grove; a rock wishing well; vine-covered arbor; and a pond alongside the historic Squire Boone Cabin. A descendant of Daniel Boone created the wrought-iron gates at the entrance.

The Watauga County Recreation Complex features a state-of-the-art

Tot Lot playground with separate play areas for 2- to 5-year-olds and 6- to 11-year-olds, baseball/softball fields, and the Watauga County Swim Complex. Other county parks include Brookshire Park, which is home to the Ted Mackorell Soccer Complex; Howard Knob Park, which overlooks the town; and the recently opened Rocky Knob Mountain Bike Park, which has five trails with different skill levels and a natural playground.

Grandfather Mountain and Elk Knob State Parks are located in the Boone area. Grandfather Mountain State Park consists of two-thirds of the mountain that is accessible only on foot, where several miles of rugged alpine trails lead across or around rock walls and pinnacle through high-elevation terrain. Access to the Mile High Swinging Bridge, which connects two peaks at one mile above sea level and is the country's highest suspension footbridge, is available from the trails. One-third of the mountain is operated as a scenic travel attraction by the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation. Paid admission includes access to gentle hiking trails, paved roads for vehicle travel, the Nature Museum, Animal Habitats, and the Mile High Swinging Bridge. Elk Knob State Park, a new park, offers a 1.9-mile hiking trail to its summit.

The scenic Blue Ridge Parkway runs 469 miles along crests of the Southern Appalachians and links Shenandoah National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Blue Ridge Parkway is seven miles from Boone.

EDUCATION

Watauga County Schools educates approximately 4,400 students in 8 elementary schools (kindergarten through grade 8) and 1 high school.

Appalachian State University is a public university that offers more than 140 undergraduate and graduate major programs within the four the academic colleges of Arts and Sciences, Fine and Applied Arts, Education and Business, and the School of Music. Appalachian also offers a doctorate of education.

The Watauga Campus of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute is located in Boone and offers an Associate of Arts degree and associate degrees in nursing, medical assisting, and general occupational technology.

HEALTH CARE

Watauga Medical Center is licensed as a 117-bed regional medical complex, offering both primary and secondary acute and specialty care. In addition to the main hospital, the campus includes centers for cardiology, sleep, wound, and cancer care.

CITY STATS

2013

City Population	18,211
Micropolitan Statistical Area Population	52,372
Per Capita Personal Income, Micropolitan Statistical Area Boone, NC	\$31,520