



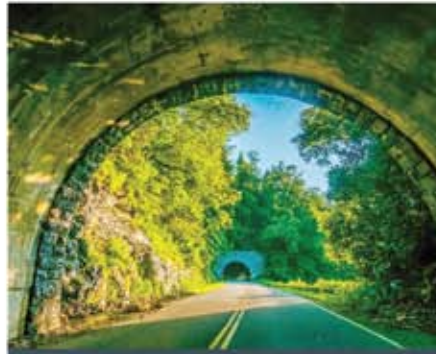
## Diamondback

### **Little Switzerland, NC and the DiamondbackNC**

**Little Switzerland, NC** began as a vacation colony created in 1909 by Charlotte Judge Heriot Clarkson. The original land restrictions created a mountain community with extraordinary views and curvy roads.

There are four hotels/motels in Little Switzerland. Three are seasonal properties with the Big Lynn Lodge remaining open year-round. The Alpine Inn, Skyline Village Inn, and the Switzerland Inn open late spring through October. Most Little Switzerland businesses are open May through October.

**The DiamondbackNC** (226-A) meanders across twelve miles of switchbacks and S curves. A smooth and beautiful ride.



## The Blue Ridge Parkway

The section of Blue Ridge Parkway between Linville Falls and Mount Mitchell encompasses the communities of Linville, Altapass, and Little Switzerland.

Along the ride, attractions include Linville Caverns, English Farmstead Cheese, the North Cove Social Club, the Orchard at Altapass, the NC Minerals Museum, Emerald Village, and downtown Little Switzerland.



**McDowell Tourism Authority**

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

**828-668-4282**

*Updates and news are on our website or call with questions.*

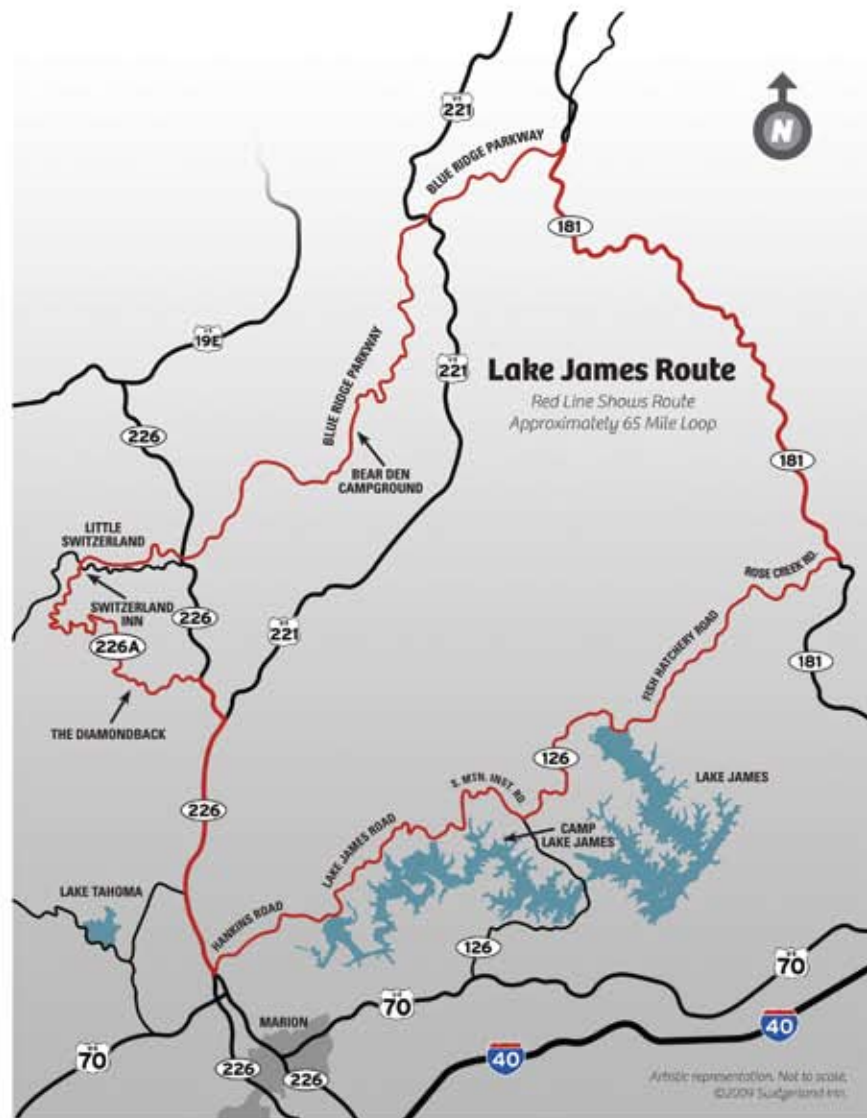
## Lake James Loop



*An exceptional  
90 +/- mile ride*

**merging two iconic attractions,  
Lake James and  
the Blue Ridge Parkway**





Begin your ride in Little Switzerland, NC at Milepost 334/Blue Ridge Parkway. Travel south on the Parkway to enjoy tunnels and overlooks. The valley descent is fun and easy as you approach Lake James. Hundreds of curves and awesome views!

**Mile 0** – START at Milepost 334 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Travel south.

**Mile 2.8** – Wild Acres Tunnel

**Mile 3.1** – Deer Lick Gap Overlook

**Mile 5.0** – Three Knob Overlook

**Mile 5.2** – Crabtree Meadows

**Mile 8.3** – Blk. Mountain Overlook

**Mile 10.2** – Exit BRP to your left at intersection Hwy. 80. Note an overlook with parking area for the Eastern Continental Divide, elevation is 3,350. Turn right to begin descent on Hwy. 80 South, aka The Devil's Staircase.

**Mile 13.8** – Trout farms, camping.

**Mile 18.5** – Lake Tahoma and dam at Mile 19.8.

**Mile 22.3** – Intersection Hwy. 70, turn left onto 70 eastbound.

**Mile 22.7** – Historic Carson House

**Mile 24.2** – Intersecting Hwy. 221 in Marion, continue straight.

**Mile 24.6** – Turn left on 221B north

**Mile 24.9** – Turn right Hankins Rd.

**Mile 28.3** – Intersect Lake James Rd, turn left following lake shore.

**Mile 30.8** – Black Bear Boat Access

**Mile 31.2** – Black Bear Marina – Food, drinks, views.

**Mile 33.5** – Right turn on South Mtn. Institute Rd.

**Mile 36.8** – Left turn on Hwy. 126 East.

**Mile 42.7** – Left turn on Fish Hatchery Road.

**Mile 48.6** – Fish Hatchery

**Mile 50.1** – Left turn on Rose Creek Rd. This is a 2 mile dirt back country road.

**Mile 52.1** – Intersection at Hwy. 181, left turn driving north on Hwy. 181.

**Mile 61.4** – Brown Mtn. Overlook – 2760 ft.

**Mile 67.7** – Turn left onto Hwy. 183 driving west towards Linville Gorge.

**Mile 71.6** – Entrance to Linville Gorge Wilderness

**Mile 72.3** – Hwy. 183 & Hwy. 221, turn right.

**Mile 73** – Blue Ridge Parkway, enter to the right, top of entrance turn right driving south on Parkway.

**Mile 84.1** – Orchard at Altapass/Milepost 328.3

**Mile 89.1** – Enter Little Switzerland Tunnel

**Mile 89.7** – End of ride! Intersection of BRP and DiamondbackNC/Hwy. 226A