

*Dig A Little  
Deeper ...*

*You'll  
find all  
of our  
gems*



Alexander County is located in the beautiful foothills of western North Carolina... about 1 hour northwest of Charlotte. With a population of about 37,000, Alexander County is home to many treasures with a down-home appeal. Come visit, bring your camera, and see all that we have to offer!

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

# Alexander County, NC

**Dig a Little Deeper** -- Emerald Hollow Mine is the only public emerald mine in the United States. The largest emerald found in North America was unearthed in Alexander County.



**Scale New Heights** -- The 318-acre Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area features a 100-foot natural rock climbing wall, hiking trails, geocaching, picnic shelter, and restrooms.

**Find Diamond Jim** -- The Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center is a cultural arts mecca once home to "Diamond Jim Lucas" and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



**Ride Like the Wind** -- Brushy Mountain Motor Sports Park has 24 miles of dirtbike and 4x4 trails. Daniels Ridge Motocross is an all lighted facility with a full track sprinkler system. Open to all 2-wheeled motorcycles & ATVs.

**Grind with Smiley** -- Linney's Mill has been located in the same spot since 1790. Billy "Smiley" Linney greets visitors to a working mill that produces stone ground corn meal, grits and other products. It also serves as a general store and campground.



**Rope A Steer** -- H-N-H Arena is an equine facility hosting events including, Team Roping Jackpots and Ropings, Rodeos, Barrel Races, Cuttings, Team Pennings, along with other horse shows and and horse schools and clinics.



**Ride A Slide** -- Sun Crest Water Park offers an old fashioned swinging rope, a water slide for all ages, or you can just hang out in the sun and enjoy the relaxing scenery.

**Tour the Slammer** -- Visit the Old County Jail built in 1913. One of the oldest public buildings in Alexander County and one of the oldest jails still standing in North Carolina, it houses a small history museum.

**An Apple a Day** -- Don't forget about the many apple orchards, farm markets, and farms in Alexander County. At the orchards, you can pick your own apples, buy old-fashioned candy or local honey, or just strike up a conversation.



# Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area



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

## Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area is the premiere tourist destination in Alexander County and beyond!

- Rocky Face Mountain was a former quarry operation which began in 1922 and operations ceased in the early 1940's. A prison camp was located nearby and a railroad reached the old quarry site.
- Rocky Face is on the North Carolina Registry of Natural Heritage Areas because of its unique qualities.
- The park opened to the public on May 25, 2012.
- The quarry area features a sheer cliff face with almost 60 established climbing routes, which is attractive for qualified rock climbers. (below right)
- Aerial and wilderness rescue training missions are held at the park due to its terrain and cliff face. (right)
- The park is frequently visited by regional photographers for weddings, nature photography, and much more.
- The park offers five miles of hiking trails, some of which are strenuous, with perhaps the most popular being the Vertical Mile

Challenge (below left). Currently, almost 600 people are participating in the challenge which consists of eight 2.2-mile laps to achieve an ascent of 5,280 feet and a descent of 5,280 feet - a vertical mile. Many of those who have completed their first vertical mile are proceeding with the 5-mile and 10-mile challenges.

- The trails also include various markers depicting some of the rare plants which are located at the park.

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