



# CHRISTMAS VACATION

**BEST FOR:** Couples, Friends & Family

**STAY:** 2 Nights | 3 Days

**BEST ENJOYED:** December

Gaston County transforms into a holiday haven from Thanksgiving through the end of the Christmas holiday, offering a perfect setting for a festive vacation or getaway. Here are compelling reasons to experience the magic of Christmas in Gaston County

## [Christmas Town USA](#)

Witness the enchantment of one of the nation's top public light displays. The entire town comes alive with millions of twinkling lights, creating a mesmerizing spectacle that captures the true spirit of the season. COST: Free, TIME: 2 hrs  
McAdenville: 102 Main St., McAdenville, NC 28101

## [Holiday Lights at the Garden](#)

Immerse yourself in the dazzling displays at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden. Stroll through illuminated gardens, marvel at themed light exhibits, and experience the joyous ambiance of this magical holiday tradition. COST: \$18 - \$30, TIME: 2 hrs  
6500 S. New Hope Rd, Belmont, NC 28012

## [The Chutes: Snowless Tubing](#)

Embrace the thrill of snowless sledding at the Chutes at Crowders Ridge. Perfect for families, this outdoor activity provides a festive and exhilarating experience that captures the joy of sledding without the need for snow. From \$28.52, TIME: 1 hr  
4914 Linwood Rd., Gastonia, NC 28052

## [Ice Skating & Illuminated Winter Trail](#)

Glide into the holiday spirit with ice skating in a picturesque setting for winter fun, then embark on a magical nighttime adventure on the lit-up canyon tour with a suspension bridge, outdoor rope courses, and a captivating atmosphere that transforms the US National Whitewater Center into a winter wonderland after dark. DAY PASS: \$79 TIME: 4 hrs  
5000 Whitewater Center Pkwy., Charlotte, NC 28214

## [Other Festive Events](#)

Explore the festive events in Gaston County's towns, such as the whimsical Whoville in Cherryville. Visit Santa, take a carriage ride in Kings Mountain, and enjoy parades and other community gatherings that exemplify the warmth and joy of the season.

**BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS VACATION NOW**



# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

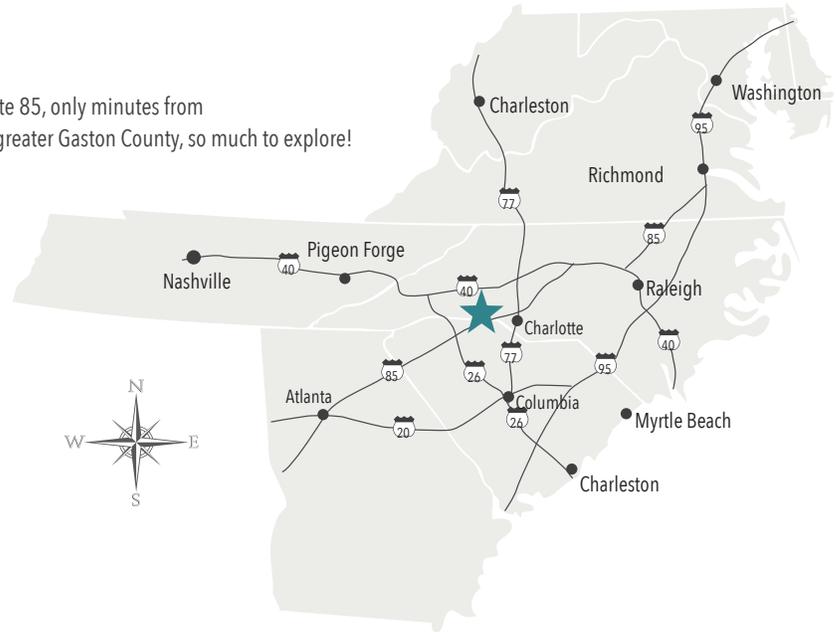
Gaston County offers the perfect mix of scenic beauty, small-town charm, and outdoor adventure. Wander along the Catawba River, explore colorful trails, or stroll through charming downtown streets — all while enjoying the warm, welcoming spirit of the locals. Whether you're after a relaxing escape or an action-packed weekend, Gaston County makes every visit feel effortless, memorable, and uniquely yours.

## GETTING HERE

Conveniently located just west of Charlotte, NC, along Interstate 85, only minutes from Charlotte Douglas Airport and surrounded by scenic beauty – greater Gaston County, so much to explore!

### Estimated Travel Times

Charlotte, NC	18 mins
Charleston, SC	3 hrs
Raleigh, NC	3 hrs
Charleston, WV	4 hrs
Pigeon Forge, TN	4 hrs
Myrtle Beach, SC	4 hrs
Atlanta, GA	4 hrs
Richmond, VA	5 hrs
Nashville, TN	6 hrs
Washington, DC	7 hrs



## WINTER WEATHER

Winter in Gaston County is crisp, festive, and full of charm. Daytime temperatures typically range from the mid-50s to low 60s°F (12–16°C), while evenings can dip into the 30s and 40s°F (0–5°C), so warm layers are essential. Mornings are often chilly and sometimes misty, making a cozy jacket or sweater a must. December can bring occasional rain, so a light waterproof layer or umbrella is helpful. While the vibrant fall foliage has faded, the county lights up with holiday decorations, seasonal events, and scenic winter landscapes perfect for exploring.

Planning a Christmas vacation to Gaston County? Here's everything you need to know to make the most of your weekend. From what to pack to where to eat (and even what to do if it rains), we've got you covered.

## INSIDER TIPS

- Gaston County glows with festive lights and decorations – bring your camera!
- Weekends fill up quickly, so book your hotel early.
- Many outdoor spots are dog-friendly, so your furry friends can join in the fun.

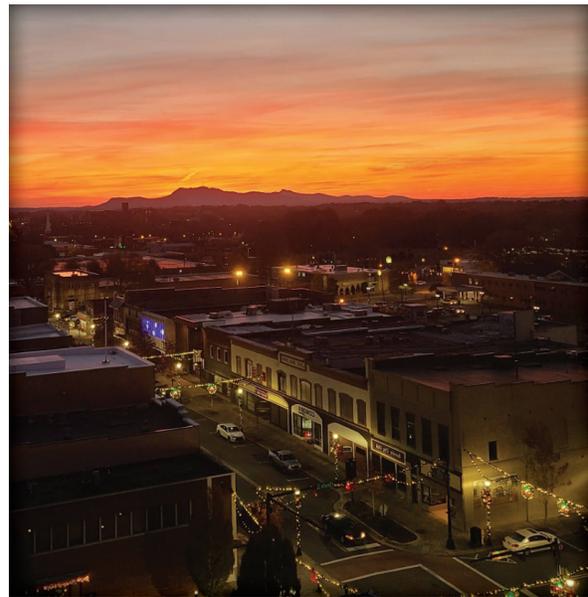
## WHAT TO BRING

- **Layers:** Daytime can be mild, but evenings are chilly – a warm jacket and a cozy sweater is a must.
- **Comfortable Shoes:** You'll be walking through festive streets, parks, and holiday events, so bring shoes ready for strolling.
- **Camera/Phone:** Capture the twinkling lights, holiday displays, and seasonal charm throughout Gaston County.
- **Thermos or Reusable Water Bottle:** Keep warm drinks or water handy while exploring holiday markets, outdoor events, and scenic areas.

# BOOK YOUR STAY

We offer a wide array of affordable accommodations conveniently located on I-85 and numerous unique places to stay, making for a fabulous getaway.

[GoGastonNC.org/stay](http://GoGastonNC.org/stay)



## GASTONIA

	Exit	Free Wi-Fi	Pool	Fitness Center	Breakfast	Bar/Lounge	Pet Friendly	Business Center	Meeting Space	Mobile Keys
<b>Affordable Suites</b> 1921 Bessemer City Rd.	14	•								
<b>Courtyard by Marriott</b> 1856 Remount Rd.	20	•	•						•	
<b>Fairfield Inn Gastonia</b> 1860 Remount Rd.	20	•	•	•	•			•	•	
<b>Hilton Garden Inn Gastonia</b> 444 Cox Rd.	21	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>WoodSpring Suites</b> 1830 Wren Turnpike	17	•					•			
<b>Best Western</b> 360 Best Western Ct.	20	•	•		•		•			
<b>Holiday Inn Express</b> 1911 Broadcast St.	17	•	•	•	•		•	•		
<b>Motel 6</b> 1901 Broadcast St.	17	•					•			
<b>The Esquire Hotel</b> 168 West Main Ave.	17	•				•				
<b>Comfort Suites Gastonia</b> 1874 Remount Rd.	20	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	
<b>Hampton by Hilton Gastonia</b> 1859 Remount Rd.	20	•	•	•	•		•			•
<b>Tru by Hilton</b> New Hope Rd & Remount Rd.	20	•	•	•	•		•		•	•

## BELMONT

<b>Home2 Suites by Hilton</b> 871 Hawley Ave.	27	•	•	•	•				•	•
<b>Hampton by Hilton Belmont</b> 820 Cecilia Alexander Dr.	26	•	•	•	•		•			
<b>Fairfield Inn Belmont</b> 1 Caldwell Dr.	27	•	•	•	•				•	•
<b>Holiday Inn Express &amp; Suites</b> 250 Beatty Dr.	27	•	•	•	•			•	•	



# WEEKEND GETAWAYS

## Adventure. Relaxation. Unforgettable Experiences.

Discover Gaston County, NC. From the breathtaking views at Crowders Mountain, rich history of the area, tranquil beauty of Daniel Stowe Botanical Conservancy, adventure awaits. Experience the thrill of whitewater rafting at the Whitewater Center and paddle along our scenic blueways. Then reminisce about your stay in our vibrant downtowns filled with shopping, unique dining, and entertainment. Book your getaway now!

### SUGGESTED ITINERARIES



#### SUMMER EXTRAVAGANZA

AVAILABLE: JUNE - AUGUST

Embark on a thrilling journey filled with excitement and exploration with our Summer Adventure Extravaganza.



#### CHRISTMAS VACATION

AVAILABLE: LATE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

Celebrate the magic of the holiday season with our festive Christmas Vacation including snowless sledding, ice skating and holiday lights.



#### SPRING BLOSSOM GETAWAY

AVAILABLE: MARCH - MAY

Celebrate the beauty of spring in Gaston County with blooming gardens, fresh trails, and crisp mountain air.



#### WINTER ESCAPE

AVAILABLE: DECEMBER - MID FEBRUARY

Dive into the enchantment of winter with beautiful landscapes and cozy retreats in our Winter Escape including snowless sledding, ice skating.

## BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY!

[GoGastonNC.org/trip-ideas](https://GastonNC.org/trip-ideas) >

