

NORTH CAROLINA

86. **Outer Banks**, North Carolina - The Narrow barrier islands of the Outer Banks stretch over 100 miles along the Atlantic coast of North Carolina. They include the Cape Hatteras and the Cape Lookout National Seashores and the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge. Jockey's Ridge State Park has the highest sand dunes in the east and are popular with hang gliders. A hang gliding festival and competition is held in May each year. Sunrises and sunsets can both be spectacular from the outer banks. Visit the Wright Brothers National Memorial at Kill Devil Hills and the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. The lighthouse is an especially good place for photographing surfers.

<http://www.outerbanks.org/>

87. **Manteo**, NC - Manteo is reached from the Outer Banks via a causeway to historic Roanoke Island. Across the Manteo waterfront is the reproduction of the Elizabethan ship used by Sir Walter Raleigh over 400 years ago. Visit the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site and the Elizabethan Gardens.

<http://www.outerbanks.com/manteo/>

88. **Blue Ridge Parkway**, Virginia & North Carolina - "America's most scenic drive". The 469 mile Parkway connects the southern terminus of Skyline Drive with The Great Smoky Mountains National Park on the North Carolina - Tennessee border.

<http://www.blueridgeparkway.org/>

89. The **Great Smoky Mountains National Park** - Most visited of America's National Parks, the 520,000 acre park straddles the North Carolina - Tennessee border. Newfound Gap Road crosses the park with 16 summits of 6,000 feet or higher. The park contains a great variety of plant life and from mid-March to mid-May creates a spectacular display of wildflowers with many lasting well into the summer. Streams are bordered with rhododendron and dogwood. Waterfalls and wildlife abound. The Cades Cove area is rich in wildlife and history. The 11 mile loop drive passes primitive churches, log cabins, barns and the restored Cable Mill.

<http://www.nps.gov/grsm/>