

A photograph of two women standing on a rocky path, looking at a waterfall in a lush forest. The woman on the left has a red braid and is wearing a green long-sleeved shirt and light blue shorts. The woman on the right is wearing a white hat, a white tank top, and a grey skirt. The waterfall is cascading over rocks in a dense green forest.

group  
experiences

OLD EDWARDS  
HOSPITALITY GROUP

200Main  
MOUNTAIN CHIC BY OLD EDWARDS

OLD EDWARDS  
INN and Spa

HALF-MILE FARM  
A Luxury Country Inn by Old Edwards



Highlands, North Carolina, is a little jewel of a town in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.

Created in 1875 before the term “planned community” was even a thing, Highlands is a small Southern town with a decidedly upscale attitude. How else to explain a village of approximately 1,000 people that’s home to a regionally-recognized art museum and a world-famous chamber music festival?

At its heart is a collection of unique shops, boutiques and galleries, laced with a thriving community of hotels, inns, and bed and breakfasts.

It’s ringed with a virtually untouched crazy quilt of mountains, which supports one of the most unique ecosystems in the

world. Thanks to this confluence of geology and weather, Highlands is home to a congregation of waterfalls ranging from enchanting trickles, to evocative veils to thundering explosions.

Clean air, breathtaking vistas, and an escape from maddening crowds, make Highlands the perfect backdrop for your retreat.

Whatever its alchemy, Highlands has been attracting visionaries, artists, and dreamers since its inception, and continues to whisper to those in search of something more in their lives.

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## Fly Fishing Experiences



Highlands is Fly Fishing country. Let one of our local outfitters show your team the ins and outs. Choose a fly fishing trip, casting clinic or fly tying lesson – with optional picnic with wine.

### **Highland Hiker**

[highlandhiker.com](http://highlandhiker.com) | 828-526-5298

### **Brookings Anglers**

[brookingsonline.com](http://brookingsonline.com) | 828-743-3768

4-5 hours

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## Additional Fly Fishing



Private water wader trip on the Wild and Scenic Horsepasture River (home of the NC State Record Rainbow Trout!). The private waters offer fly fishing the way it used to be: peaceful, solitude, colorful trout, in a wild, forested setting. Rainbows and browns on this trophy section run from 9-inch wild jewels to four-pound bruisers who explode in the air when hooked.

Skillful Solutions | 828-553-7718

[allisontaylor828@gmail.com](mailto:allisontaylor828@gmail.com) | 4-5 hours

## Fly Tying Class

Offered on-site at Old Edwards. Learn the basics of tying flies relevant to fishing in Western NC, including how materials work together and techniques to tie flies that are sustainable.

Skillful Solutions | 828-553-7718  
allisontaylor828@gmail.com | 2 hours



## Fly Casting Clinic

Offered within walking distance from Old Edwards at Harris Lake. Each clinic covers an intro to Tackle - including fly rods, reels, line, leader and 'tippet,' three knots you need to know, a basic introduction to aquatic insects found on local streams, how to select flies to 'match the hatch.' Participants will learn to execute a roll cast, overhead cast and bow-and-arrow cast.

Skillful Solutions | 828-553-7718  
allisontaylor828@gmail.com | 3 hours





### “Amazing Race” Type Scavenger Hunt

Your group would be split into teams. Each team is accompanied by a facilitator and given a folder of clues, trivia questions, and other pertinent information. The teams start by selecting a team name and setting goals - then they must complete a fun team activity to get the clue to go to the next location. Incorporating downtown Highlands, historical facts, and local businesses. It is a friendly competition amongst the teams, with points and time tallied to determine the winning team. | 2 Hours

### Team Drumming

The group would be led through learning and playing various drum rhythms together on hand drums. All drums and instruction will be provided. | 1 Hour

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*Skillful Solutions offers an array of team building and group activities, contact Allison Taylor at 828-553-7718 for other options.*

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## Gorges State Park Guided Waterfall Hike

Visit some of the waterfalls of Gorges State Park then learn why this area has such a unique micro-environment. Drive time is approximately 40 minutes from Old Edwards. | 5-6 Hours

## Pantertown Valley Guided Waterfall Hike

Visit some of the waterfalls of Panthertown Valley and learn why this area is known as the Yosemite of the East. Trails are approximately a one-hour drive from Old Edwards. | 5-6 Hours

## Group Painting

An art instructor will bring all supplies and will work with group to pick design options. | 2.5 Hours

## Guided Paddling Trip

Options include Signs of Spring or Colors of Fall. This guided canoe trip balances nature observation with the quiet relaxation of a morning canoe outing. Each canoe trip includes all paddling gear, river shuttle, and guide service. | 4 Hours

## Tubing Adventure

Take a lazy hour tubing adventure down the French Broad River at a location that is a one hour drive from Old Edwards. Kids and adults of all ages enjoy time on this beautiful river. The average water temperature of the French Broad River in the summer is 65 degrees and averages 6" to 4' deep. Tubes, life jackets and safety orientation are provided. | 3 Hours



## Tour & Hike Highlands

**Highland Excursion** will take your team on a Rainforest Eco tour through the Nantahala National Forest. This back road adventure takes you to amazing vistas of surrounding mountains and local waterfalls in the Nantahala Temperate Rainforest. Sunset tours, hiking tours and gem mining also available.

Justin Kingsland, Owner  
overlandunlimited.com | 864-373-4022  
justinkingsland@yahoo.com | 2.5 Hours

## Equine Adventures

**Carpe Diem Farms** creates meaningful equine experiences, offering participants the opportunity to 'whisper' to horses.

**Arrowmont Stables** offers trail horseback riding for groups.

**Carpe Diem Farms**  
carpediemfarms.org | 828-526-2854\*

**Arrowmont Stables**  
arrowmont.com | 828-743-2762\*

*\*inquire for timeframe, group size and pricing*



## Equine Coaching : A Day at Blue Star Ranch

**Blue Star Ranch's** Group Equine Experience Package includes meet & greet herd of 8 horses, including 2 petite mini horses; Equine demonstration & coaching experience with Dr. Ring; Beverages, snacks, and a gourmet lunch; Guided walking meditation in the Labyrinth; Good-bye gifts; Access to 170 acres for hiking from 10am to 5pm. Available May - October, for 1-6 guests.

bluestarranch.com | 828-743-3281  
info@bluestarranch.com | 5.5 Hours





### Mixology Master Class

Work together and shake things up with an interactive mixology experience! Our expert bartender will demonstrate how to balance flavor, color and ingredients to produce the perfect blend. Then, split into teams the cocktail to be judged. Choose from: Martini; Mule; Old Fashioned; Margarita or Seasonal Hummingbird Lounge Cocktail.

\$80++ per person | \$250+ Bartender Fee | Site Fee plus \$250+ set up  
Minimum of 1 Hour; 6-40 guests

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For Mixology Master Class, Battle of the Barrels and Sip Like a Sommelier  
contact your Catering Manager

*Enhance these events with hors d'oeuvres for pairing.  
Contact your Catering Manager for details and pricing. (Additional setup fees may apply.)*

## Battle of the Barrels

Your team will enjoy this fun & relaxing tasting experience guided by one of our expert bartenders. Discussions will include the differences between each flight, how they are made, their history, tasting notes, and more. Tastings includes five one-ounce flights of the following tasting themes: The Ages of Tequila; Scotch vs. Bourbon; A Tour around the World of Whiskeys; Bourbon Tasting

**\$80++ per person | \$250+ Bartender Fee | Site Fee plus \$250+ set up Minimum of 1 Hour; 6-40 guests**



## Sip Like a Somm

Our Sommelier will guide guests through an interactive wine tasting. Take a vino sensory journey - from the initial appearance to the final sip - by tasting five or more wines. Choose from: Old World vs. New World; Everything Bubbly; All Reds or All Whites; ABC Whites (Anything But Chardonnay); Wine Tasting Basics

**\$80++ per person  
\$300+ Sommelier Fee  
Site Fee plus \$250+ set up  
Minimum of 1 Hour; 6-25 guests**





### Cooking Class at The Barn

Private cooking classes at the Barn are a unique and festive outing for your small group! It is not a fancy place, but a rustic, authentically Southern spot oozing gracious hospitality, beauty, and plenty of old-fashioned charm.

[thebarnnc.com](http://thebarnnc.com) | 707-933-6207\*

[thebarnnc@gmail.com](mailto:thebarnnc@gmail.com)

*\*inquire for timeframe, group size and pricing*

## Bee Farm & Honey Culinary Tasting

Your team will enjoy a fun introduction to bee life with **Killer Bees Honey's** 4-hour bee tour. The experience includes discussion, hive inspection with full bee suit, a honey and food pairing lunch, and pouring a souvenir bottle of honey.

Denise Altay, Owner  
killerbeeshoney.com | 312-909-5878  
Denise@killerbeeshoney.com | 4 hours

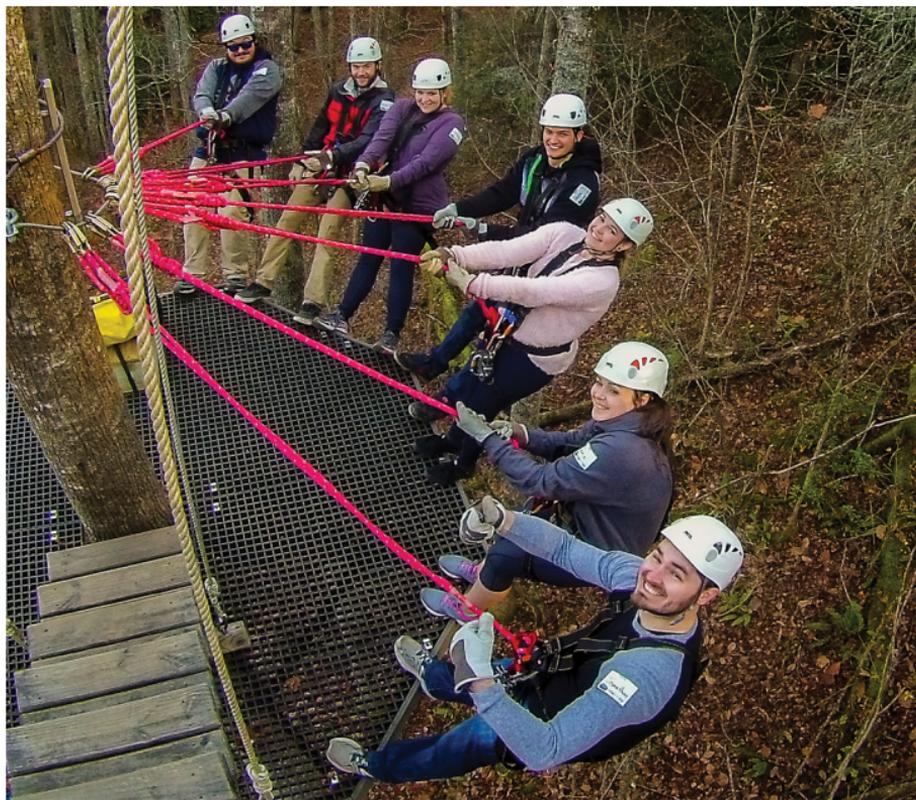


## Wine Blending Experience

Inspire and challenge your team with **Haake Scheffer's** Wine Blending Experience. Participants will blend a wine, design a label, create a story, determine the target market and pitch the brand.

Bonnie Foxworth, Marketing Director  
haakescheffer.com | 713-299-6490  
bonnie.foxwoth@gmail.com | 2 hours





## Zipline Adventures

Group Adventures and Team Bonding at **Highlands Aerial Park**. Whether you just want to enjoy some outdoor adventures together or grow your team with an objective-based, adventure-filled agenda, Highlands Aerial Park can help craft your perfect group outing. We're a flexible, friendly partner for any of your group events.

[highlandsaerialpark.com](http://highlandsaerialpark.com) | 828-372-0564  
[info@highlandsaerialpark.com](mailto:info@highlandsaerialpark.com) | 1-2 hours

## Falconry Experience

Learn the ancient sport of Falconry with **Curtis Wright Outfitters**.

Handle the raptor with a licensed falconer and experience the exhilaration of having this magnificent bird perch on their gloved fist. It will be a truly unforgettable experience as the hawk flies from tree to tree culminating with her flying to your fist.

Peter Kipp

[curtiswrightoutfitters.com/falconry/](http://curtiswrightoutfitters.com/falconry/)

828-553-5063

[falconerpete58@gmail.com](mailto:falconerpete58@gmail.com) | 1.5 hours



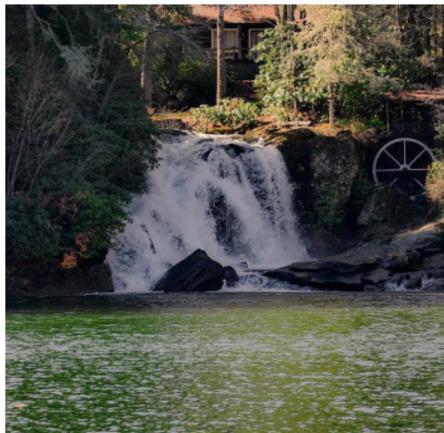
## Lake Glenville Waterfall Boat Tour

Picture your team in paradise with **Captain Mark's** Lake Glenville Waterfall Boat Tour. With 26-miles of shoreline and 4 waterfalls, there is plenty to see and enjoy.

[worldclasswaterfalls.com](http://worldclasswaterfalls.com)

828-526-6300

[blueridgegreen@aol.com](mailto:blueridgegreen@aol.com) | 2 hours





### Half-Day Hike on the Bartram Trail

This four-mile round trip hike takes place on one of western North Carolina's most spectacular and historically significant trails. Hikers will learn about the 18th-century artist and naturalist William Bartram, who explored the area around Highlands in 1775. | 4 hours

### Half-Day Kayak

This easy and leisurely four-mile paddle begins on the Cullasaja River between Highlands and Franklin. The scenery along the Cullasaja is outstanding, as is the birding and plant life. | 4 hours

### Half-Day Hike on the Upper Chattooga River

This trip consists of two short hikes totaling almost four miles – one to see the enormous Padgett Poplar in Horse Cove near Highlands, and another up the west fork of the famous Chattooga River. The Padgett poplar is almost seven feet in diameter and over 140 feet tall. | 4 hours

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*Brent Martin | [alarkaexpeditions.com](http://alarkaexpeditions.com) | 828-371-0347  
[alarkaexpeditions@gmail.com](mailto:alarkaexpeditions@gmail.com)*

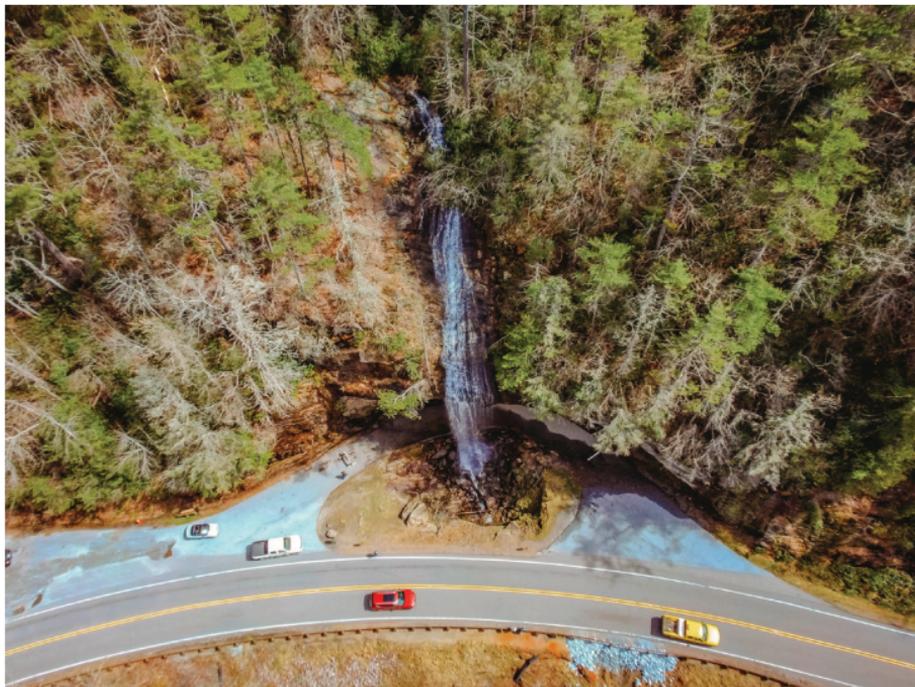
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## Outdoor Shooting Range

Your team can have the unique experience of target practice on an outdoor shooting range in Highlands. Test your accuracy with stationary and moving targets using provided handguns, shotguns and carbine rifles. Eye protection, earplugs and muffs are also provided. | 1.5 hours

Bryson Consulting  
Terry Bryson | (803) 960-9900



## Mountain Driving Tours

Take a waterfall road trip, or drive a scenic byway, or tour the Blue Ridge Parkway, either way - it's a most enjoyable way to spend the day.

828.787.2610

Contact your Catering Manager

## Outdoor Lawn Games & Other Fun Activities

Ask about Old Edwards various team activities such as Volleyball, Cornhole, Bocce Ball, Badminton, Horseshoes and Karaoke.

828-787-2625

Contact your Catering Manager



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## Hike, Bike & Zip Line

Take your group on a guided mountain excursion to **The Chinquapin Adventure** – A private eco preserve with breathtaking waterfalls and rare flora and fauna – exclusive to Old Edwards guests. Pile into a Gator when you arrive at the Chinquapin Outpost and get ready for your adventure!

828.787.2610

Contact your Catering Manager  
4 Hours (half day)





### Team Building Ceramics Turning

Offered at **The Bascom Center, a Center for the Visual Arts**. Enjoy an afternoon in the Ceramics Barn. Take turns on the turning wheel to create a wonderful ceramic piece. This is a fun, safe way to work as a team to create one piece for their home office. Or, create smaller business card holders, pencil cups, coffee mugs, etc. Up to 10 people

[thebascom.org](http://thebascom.org) | 828-526-4949 | [info@thebascom.org](mailto:info@thebascom.org) | 3 hours

## Create Together

Offered at **The Bascom Center, a Center for the Visual Arts.**

Couples can enjoy time in the Studio Barn for pottery making or the Painting / Studio Barn for art lessons by appointment. Choose from pre-made bisque ware such as wine chillers and serving trays – or create your own. Wine is provided.

thebascom.org  
828-526-4949 | info@thebascom.org  
2 hours



## Getaway to The Barn

Also offered at **The Bascom Center, a Center for the Visual Arts.** Grab up to 7 of your favorite people to experience an afternoon of creative enjoyment. Create a mug, bowl, bracelet or even a pendant to wear. Wine/beer is provided.

thebascom.org  
828-526-4949 | info@thebascom.org  
3 hours





## **At Old Edwards**

Private wine tasting with our Sommelier

Irish coffee demonstration and competition

Reserve Game Room for a private event

Pastry presentation with our  
Executive Pastry Chef

30-minute overview about healthy cooking,  
food history with our Executive Chef

Private yoga classes or breathing and  
stretching exercises with an instructor

Spa treatments at The Spa at Old Edwards

Workout at the Fitness Center

History presentation with local historian  
Ran Schafner - with wine and hors d'oeuvres

Private Scotch or Bourbon tasting

Play a round of golf at Old Edwards Club or  
GlenCove, April - November

Killer Bees honey tasting

Laser skeet shooting

Guided walking historic tour of Highlands

Guided walk and tour of Highlands Botanical  
Gardens

Guided hikes to Highlands Greenway, Sunset  
Rock, Whiteside Mountain and Glen Falls

## In the Area

Hike Whiteside Mountain or Yellow Mountain Trail - Guided hike can be arranged

Zip Lining at Highlands Aerial Park ([highlandsaerialpark.com](http://highlandsaerialpark.com))

Sunset rock hike, take a picnic - Guided hike can be arranged

Shopping and antiquing in the shops of Highlands

Visit Carpe Diem Farms or Arrowmont Stables ([carpediemfarms.org](http://carpediemfarms.org), [arrowmont.com](http://arrowmont.com))

Visit the Bascom's art exhibits, pottery barn or take classes - Private Sip and Stroke, art class with wine available. Tour the gallery. ([thebascom.org](http://thebascom.org))

Take a Chocolatiering class at Kilwins ([kilwins.com/stores/kilwins-highlands](http://kilwins.com/stores/kilwins-highlands))

Wine tasting at the Highlands Wine Shoppe or Cake Bar Creekside ([highlandswinshoppe.com](http://highlandswinshoppe.com), [lovechocolateheaven.com](http://lovechocolateheaven.com))

Take a cooking class at The Barn with our chef. Ask about picking your own lunch options. ([thebarnnc.com](http://thebarnnc.com))

Walk the Highlands Plateau Greenway with a tour guide ([highlandsgreenway.com](http://highlandsgreenway.com))

Gem mining ([jacksonholegemmine.com](http://jacksonholegemmine.com))

Fly fishing, casting clinics and fly tying lessons with optional picnic with wine with Highland Hiker ([highlandhiker.com](http://highlandhiker.com)) or Brookings ([brookingsonline.com](http://brookingsonline.com))

Take a scenic drive ([highlandsmotoringfestival.com/one-lap-book](http://highlandsmotoringfestival.com/one-lap-book))

Paint at Easely an Artist ([easelyanartist.com](http://easelyanartist.com))

Go geocaching

Tour the backroads with Highland Excursions ([overlandunlimited.com](http://overlandunlimited.com))

Guided half-day hike on the Bartram Trail with Alarka Expeditions ([alarkaexpeditions.com](http://alarkaexpeditions.com))

Play tennis

Whitewater rafting

Tour of the Highlands Nature Center and Botanical Garden - Guided tour with a naturalist can be arranged naturalist ([highlandsbiological.org/nature-center](http://highlandsbiological.org/nature-center))

Guided half-day kayaking with Alarka Expeditions ([alarkaexpeditions.com](http://alarkaexpeditions.com))

Swim at swimming holes like Secret Falls or Cliffside Lake

View The Shadow of the Bear at Whiteside Mountain (first two weeks in October)

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## **Group Experiences**

828.787.2610 | [webleads@oldedwardsinn.com](mailto:webleads@oldedwardsinn.com) | [oldedwardshospitality.com/meetings](http://oldedwardshospitality.com/meetings)