

Our State
✓ CHECKLIST

RHODO ROAD TRIP!

For some of the best rhododendron views in North Carolina, you'll have to hop in the car — and then take a hike!

CHIMNEY ROCK STATE PARK

742 Chimney Rock Park Road
Chimney Rock, NC 28720

Head down the Great Woodland Adventure Trail or Four Seasons Trail for a stunning display of bright white and pale pink Carolina rhododendron blooms.

Craggy Gardens

Milepost 364, Blue Ridge Parkway

For the best views of hundreds of pink and purple rhododendron blooms, park at the Craggy Gardens Visitor Center and take the gradual uphill hike on the one-mile Craggy Gardens Trail.

MOUNT JEFFERSON STATE NATURAL AREA

1481 Mount Jefferson Road
West Jefferson, NC 28694

Take a moderately difficult 1.5-mile round-trip hike along the Summit and Rhododendron trails, which, beginning in early June, wind through purple Catawba rhododendron flowers.

WAYAH BALD

Forest Service Road 69, near Franklin

For the best opportunity to see native rhododendron — and for a panoramic view of four surrounding states — climb the 53-foot fire tower overlooking Nantahala National Forest, just a short walk from the summit parking lot, in late May or early June.

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN

2050 Blowing Rock Highway
Linville, NC 28646

You can't go wrong at Grandfather: The vivid pink and purple flowers of Catawba rhododendron frame the trails throughout early to mid-June, and later in the month, the paler pink blooms of Rosebay rhododendron take center stage.



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