

# THE GORGE GAZETTE

YOUR GUIDE TO FAMILY FUN  
IN THE RED RIVER GORGE



*The Official (only!) Newspaper of The Red River Gorge*

Vol. 3 No. 4 Adventure ~ Relaxation ~ Accommodations ~ Awe Inspiring Natural Beauty ~ Friendly People

JUNE 2023



## Ten Reasons You're Gonna Love The Red River Gorge Area

The Red River Gorge Earth Shop is an eclectic local art gallery and gift shop. You may remember this location as the Gorge Outfitters or Wild Things. We are proud to announce that our location is newly updated & renovated!

We carry a selection of local artisans' goods including photography, books, pottery, fine art prints, paintings, wood carvings, and more. We also carry a vast collection of crystals & minerals from all over the world, and we still have the original beloved gem mine on the front deck, which has been fun for the whole family in the past few years.

The Earth Shop also highlights artwork from graphic artist and entrepreneur Ingrid Miller, who has been running the business for several years behind the scenes.

Please stop by, say hi, and support our local artisans!

888 Natural Bridge road  
RRGEarthshop@gmail.com  
606.668.5228

1. Beautiful Scenery unsurpassed anywhere.
2. An incredible variety of plants: Trees, Flowers, Ferns, Mosses, Grasses. Some found only here in the Red River Gorge Area.
3. Also a myriad of Wildlife: From deer to salamanders. Hundreds of bird species including flocks of wild turkeys. Mammals like raccoons, weasels, skunks, flying squirrels and tree squirrels. Chipmunks, black bears and many, many more. Reptiles such as turtles, terrapins, snakes and lizards.
4. Miles and miles of trails and foot paths.
5. Hundreds of sandstone arches.
6. Many levels of accommodations ranging from Primitive and RV Camping to Motels, to a variety of Rental Cabins and luxurious yet cozy Lodges with full kitchens for guests' use. Rental cabins and lodges range in size and locations that will appeal to and accommodate any size group. There are even luxury Yurts complete with air conditioning, WiFi and cable TV available.
7. Adventures galore planned with families in mind. Ziplines, Under Ground Water-Bourne Tours, Off Road Vehicle excitement, Horseback Riding, Canoe and Kayak rentals, Hiking, Fishing, the opportunities to photograph some breath-taking vistas' natural beauty.
8. Restaurants offering a wide variety of foods. Good ole American style steaks, chops, home style cooking, grass fed beef burgers. TexMex: tacos, fajitas, burritos. Pizza, vegan menus, deli style sandwiches and salads, craft beers and spirits.
9. Facilities that can provide all one's outdoors needs such as hiking, camping and fishing gear abound. So do antique, craft and souvenir shops and stores. Grocery and ice cream shops such as the Red River General Store can supply the entire family with clothing and necessities as well as other travel needs.
10. And we must not forget what you take home; the experiences and memories that will last a life time and can be enhanced every time you return to the Gorge. And we bet you will return!

### Electrifying News!

At Cliffview Resort we have three Tesla Charging Stations, one of which is universal. Now you can recharge your Tesla, Prius, Leaf, Volt, or any electric or hybrid car while enjoying unforgettable time in the Gorge zipping, hiking or just napping. And, we offer this service to anyone, you do not have to be a guest at Cliffview. Oh yeah, I almost forgot - you can charge absolutely free! Uh huh. Free!

# THE GORGE GAZETTE

The official Red River Gorge Newsletter

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We gratefully acknowledge the information and assistance given us by the State of Kentucky Parks Department and the staff of the Natural Bridge State Park.

The Gorge Gazette is published monthly except January and February for entertainment of Red River Gorge Guests, Owners, Visitors, Staff, Tourists and Friends.

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## HELPFUL WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

### State, County & City Facilities

#### Natural Bridge State Resort Park General Information

**606.663-2214 or 1-800-325-1710** (reservations) 2135 Natural Bridge Rd. Slade, KY 40376 Trail map & descriptions, park laws and regulations, lodging, camping, group meeting facilities, group programs  
*"Natural Bridge State Resort Park is hiking, arches, exploring, scenery, reflection, and making memories."*

[www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/nb](http://www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/nb)

#### Kentucky State Nature Preserve Commission

[www.naturepreserves.ky.gov](http://www.naturepreserves.ky.gov)

#### Red River Gorge National Geological Area **606) 663-8100**

[www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/redriver\\_gorge.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/redriver_gorge.shtml)

#### Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center **606.663-8100**

[www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/gladie.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/gladie.shtml)

#### Red River Gorge Trail Crew (Volunteers) [www.RRGTC.com](http://www.RRGTC.com)

#### Leave No Trace – Outdoor Ethics [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

#### Kentucky State Parks - Create your own Experience.

[www.parks.ky.gov](http://www.parks.ky.gov) Become a KYSP fan at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kentucky-State-Parks/152588316577>

#### Lee County Tourism Commission

Dedra Brandenburg Director **606.464.5038**

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

### Private Facilities

#### Cliffview Resort & Cliffview Retreat 606.668.6222

[www.cliffviewresort.com](http://www.cliffviewresort.com) 455 Cliff View Road, Campton, KY 41031

**The Lodge, The Retreat and Lakeside Lodges are available for groups, weddings and retreats. Also available is the 8,000 sq foot Reception Hall**

#### Red River Gorge Zip Lines **855.ZIP.TOUR 855.947.8687**

**606.668.6222** [www.redrivergorgezipline.com](http://www.redrivergorgezipline.com)

#### Scenic Cabin Rentals **606.663.0000** [www.sceniccabin.com](http://www.sceniccabin.com)

#### Black Bear Lodge Motel **606.663.0061**

#### Red River Gorge Cabin Rentals **844.692.2246**

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

#### The Gorge Underground **844.254.6244** [Thrillsville.org](http://Thrillsville.org)

#### The Red River Inn On Parkway, Campton

#### **The Gorge Gazette** Jenny or Jerry Ison **865.674.6740**

*Email stories, ideas, suggestions, news to: [jerrywrison@gmail.com](mailto:jerrywrison@gmail.com)*

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## Things To Do, Places To Visit, Where To Eat In The Red River Gorge



- **Red River Gorge Earth Shop** Local Art gallery & Gift Shop 606.668.5228 Nat Bridge Rd. Slade
- **Red River Climbing Guides** where “*Your Adventure Awaits!*” Catering to all ages and experience levels. Visit: [RedRiverClimbingGuides.com](http://RedRiverClimbingGuides.com) or call 629.207.0697
- **HillTop Pizza:** Pizza, Salads, Subs, Spaghetti, Lasagna.  
Delivery to Cliffview available. 606.464.9990 2034 Hwy 11N Beattyville.
- **Daniel Boone Coffee Shoppe & Deli:** Gourmet Coffees, Deli Foods, Camping Supplies 606-663-2549 Natural Bridge Road (KY Rt. 11) near Slade Exit 33
- **Gorge Underground:** A Unique Waterborne Family Adventure *On The Water, Underground!* Kayak and Pontoon Boat Tours 844-254-6244 [Thegorgeunderground.com](http://Thegorgeunderground.com)
- **Natural Bridge State Park, Lodge & Sky Lift:** Camping, Hiking, Rooms, Fine Dining [parks.ky.gov/resortparks/nb/index.htm](http://parks.ky.gov/resortparks/nb/index.htm)
- **Mill Creek Lake: Kayak & SUP Rentals** 859.300.1330
- **Red River General Store:** Hand Dipped Ice Cream, Hoodies, Gifts, Camping Supplies, T-Shirts Fudge, Local Artisan Crafts 1321 Natural Bridge Road (KY Rt. 11) Slade, KY 606.663.885
- **Daniel Boone Liquor:** 606-663-2549; Natural Bridge Rd (KY Rt 11)
- **Red River Gorge Hiking, Rock Climbing:** [fs.fed.us/r8/boone/](http://fs.fed.us/r8/boone/)
- **Red River Adventure:** Kayaking and Canoeing [redriveradventure.net](http://redriveradventure.net) 606-663-1012
- **Via Ferrata Rock Climbing Park:** Great for beginners 606-668-6441 [torrentfalls.com](http://torrentfalls.com)
- **Mr. Ed’s Hot Dogs** Great Hot Dogs smothered with Famous Chili Sauce 209 N. Main Stanton, KY 606.569.8170 Check us on Facebook
- **The Well** Beattyville’s only liquor store selling Liquor, Beer & Wine Come down and sip a glass sitting on the patio watching the Kentucky River flow. On rte 52 Beattyville 606.208.8017 [tony@theboneyardwell.com](mailto:tony@theboneyardwell.com)
- **Beech Fork Golf Club:** In Clay City - 606-663-9479
- **Sag Hollow Golf Course:** In Booneville 606-593-4653
- **Beattyville Public Golf Course:** Off Rt. 52 in Beattyville, KY 606.356.4199

If a **Holiday Party, any Party, Family Reunion, Corporate Meeting, Church Retreat or Wedding** is on your to-do list, go ahead and check it off. We have the perfect solution to party planning from catering to lodging to activities. The **Lodge at Cliffview** will sleep 64. The 7000 square foot **Reception/Activity Center** seats up to 250 and has a fully equipped *commercial grade kitchen*. Our newest Lodges, the **Retreat** and **Lakeside** will each sleep up to 50. Both have *double appliances* kitchens and technically compatible *theater style media rooms*.

**Call: 606.668.6222 for details.**

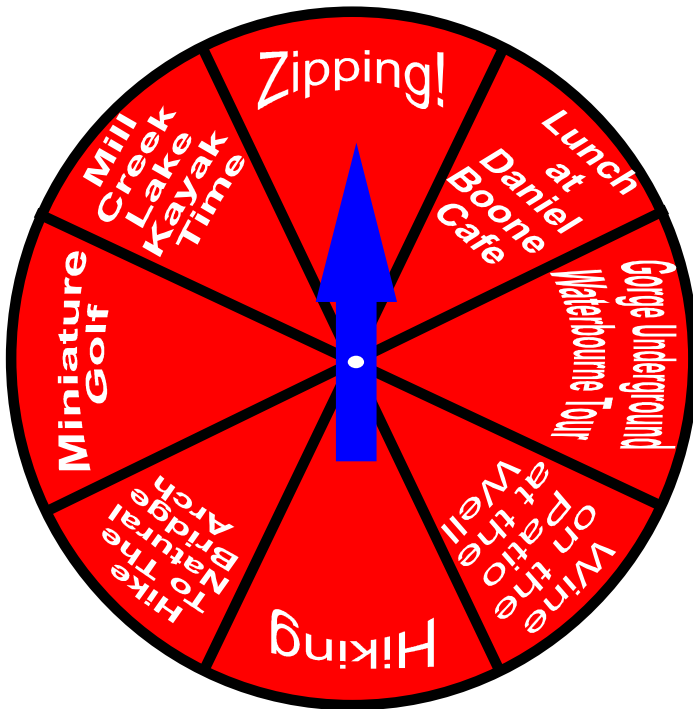
**Thrillville Adventure Golf**  
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**RED RIVER GORGE ZIPLINES**  
and  
**CANOPY TOUR**  
**606.668.6222**  
[RedRiverGorgeZipline.com](http://RedRiverGorgeZipline.com)

# Red River Gorge Fun Selector



There are so many things to see, so many adventures to visit and enjoy, that it's almost overwhelming. So, we have invented the Fun Selector to help make up your mind as to what to do next.

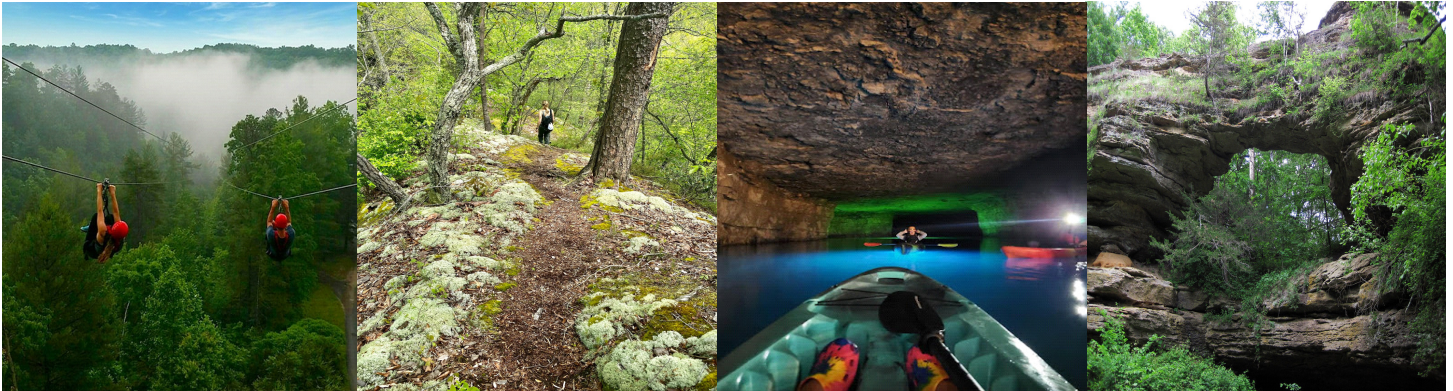
However, since there are only 360 degrees in a circle, we couldn't fit all the fun in.

(Besides, this being a graphic, it doesn't actually spin!)

Anyway, on page three, you'll find a more comprehensive list of truly fun things and places to visit. If you still have questions, check out the ads in this issue and call or log on to the one that interests you. We are certain, it doesn't matter which you choose, you're gonna have a great time!

Plus, you can always call 844.692.2246. Someone there can answer your questions. They know everything there is to know about the Red River Gorge Area.

But no matter how you find your Adventure, Meal, Tour Hike or Zip, we know you and your family are going to have a wonderful time here in this very special place.





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Red River Gorge

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# The Blue Jay's Song

by Jerry Ison



A long, long time ago, when I was just a little boy, my grandfather took me for a walk through a pine woods. We were strolling along, talking

about those things only a grandfather and grandson find important. Things like why pine trees are always green. Where do the butterflies go in the winter?

Suddenly, the quiet of the woods was disturbed by the raucous screech of a blue jay. Grandpa held out his arm to stop me and said, "Listen carefully. See if you can catch what he's saying."

I strained to make out some familiar words from the harsh call.

Before any thought of a certain word formed, Grandpa said, "It sounds like he's saying "Thief!" "Thief!", doesn't it?"

Sure enough, now that I was listening for it, "Thief!", "Thief!" was what I was hearing.

"Why does that bird call "Thief!" like that?" I asked.

"Well," began Grandpa, "it all started during the days of The Creation".

"Back to when God was filling the air and the streams and seas and forests with the wild animals. He wanted all of them to have as many wonders as possible. He wanted the fishes to glisten, the foxes and bears to be covered with beautiful furs. He wanted the lions, the eagles and the whales to be majestic.

He was especially fond of His birds and wanted all of them to be beautiful to look upon and have voices that were pleasing to the ear.

When He started to endow the creatures with these traits. He had a bountiful supply to draw from, but in His joy of creating, God had created so many different kinds. He soon saw that He would run out of both lovely songs and beautiful plumage if He gave each bird both. God had to decide which bird got the song and which one got the plumage. As it was to be, the jay was to get a glorious voice, but a very dull coat. The next bird was the mockingbird. It was given the gift of appearance but a voice that was harsh and without melody. The blue jay was instantly jealous of the mockingbird's gorgeous plumage, wanting both it *and* song for himself. That night the jay stole the mockingbird's feathers, leaving his own dull ones behind.

When God found out about the theft. He called the two birds before Him. He told the jay that He was going to allow him to keep the lovely plumage. In return, the jay would give his beautiful song to the mockingbird. The jay, being a vain and shallow bird, readily agreed. God then decreed that as punishment for the theft the jay must proclaim to all that could hear that he was a thief. From now on, the only sound the jay would be able to utter would be "Thief!"

"That, Grandpa explained," is why to this very day the mockingbird has one of the most pleasing voices of all birds. And celebrates his wondrous gift by singing even into the dusk."

"And that is why the blue jay has one of the most beautiful of plumages yet must announce to all that he and every one of his kind is a ....

"THIEF!" "THIEF!" "THIEF!"



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# Bluegrass Bits



## Powell County Attractions

*We Have So Many Varied, Exciting and Unique Venues, There's Something For The Entire Family*

- The Red River Museum in Clay City
- Natural Bridge Skylift and Gift Shop
- Natural Bridge State Resort Park
- Pilot Knob
- Auxier Ridge Trailhead
- Double Arch Trail
- The Gray's Arch Trail
- Battleship Rock
- Mill Creek Lake
- Kentucky Dragway
- The Earth Shop
- Kentucky Reptile Zoo
- The Gorge Underground
- Meadowgreen Music Park
- And So Much More: Antique Stores, Restaurants, Souvenir Shops, Horseback Riding, ATV Trails



**Powell County Tourism Commission**  
info@gopoco.org  
606.663.1161

For information about these and much more, visit **GoPoCo.Org** Or **Call 606.663.1161**

## Fine Food, Spirits and Live Music

**Daniel Boone Liquor** - Stop in after your hike for a cocktail or cold beer of your choice or grab a bottle from our **Daniel Boone Liquor Store** to take back to the cabin and enjoy your own private party!

At the Boone Coffee Shop and Deli. 769 Natural Bridge Rd. (KY Hwy 11) 606.663.2549.

**145 SteakOut**- 148 Main St, Downtown Campton, KY 606-668-7500. Great Steaks and more.

**Redpoint Barbeque** - On Jim Smith Rd, Rogers, KY Serving American dishes with a full bar. Has indoor and outdoor seating. 606.668.7000.

**Sweet Art by Stephanie** - 101 Main St., Campton, KY 606-668-7277 Not just a bakery, serves home cooked meals. Only open Monday to Friday.

**The Pit BBQ (Thatcher's BBQ)** - Slade, KY 606-947-8040. Serves pork, beef and chicken BBQ. Serves beer. Live music Friday & Saturday nights.

**The Well** Rte 52 Beattyville 606.208.8017 Liquor, beer & Wine Riverside Patio bryan@theboneyardwell.com



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 Climbed • Hiked • Paddled • Fished • Slept in a Yurt  
 Rappelled • Ridden A Horse • Slung Mud • Walked In Nature  
 Zipped • Picnicked • Had a Hot Dog • Camped Under the Stars  
 Visited the Gorge Underground • Listened to Live Bluegrass  
**Today?**  
 You can do all that and more right here  
 in the Beautiful, Natural and Unique  
**Red River Gorge**

Check Page 3 or Ask One of our Staff



*Okay, Let's get to the bottom of this.*  
**The Well** *The Well is the one and only liquor store in Beattyville selling liquor, beer and wine.*

Located in Beattyville on KY Rte 52 in the Boneyard Building at River's Edge.  
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