

Welcome to our Home!

The Chantal Verdugo House

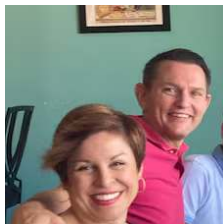
Floyd, VA

EXPLORE FLOYD, VIRGINIA

A local guide from the hosts of The Chantal Verdugo House



Our home in the Blue Ridge Mountains



Your hosts

Rahim Chantal

thechantalverdugohouse@gmail.com

CONTENTS

- 1. Welcome to Floyd** Why we fell for this town, and our home in it
- 2. Food & drink** 22 places to eat and drink, from breweries to a soda fountain
- 3. Things to do & events** Markets, festivals, galleries and the Friday Night Jamboree
- 4. Shops, gifts & souvenirs** Where to take a piece of Floyd home
- 5. Sightseeing & the outdoors** Mountains, mills, parkway stops and trails
- 6. Getting around** How to reach Floyd and how to move once you are here
- 7. Good to know before you book** House rules, times and what the house offers

1. WELCOME TO FLOYD

The town

Floyd is a small town in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia with an outsized personality: a bluegrass jamboree that has run every Friday night for decades, a Saturday farmers' market, galleries and craft studios, wineries and a distillery, and more good places to eat than a town this size has any right to. Everything in this guide is within easy reach, and most of it is walkable from our front door.

Our home

The Chantal Verdugo House sits just off Route 221, a few minutes from the only stoplight in town. This is actually our home, which we use several times a year. It was fully renovated in June 2023, and all the furniture, appliances, kitchen items, linens and towels are new. We have equipped it to a high standard and tried to anticipate what you might want for a relaxing, comfortable stay.

Our philosophy

You want to have a wonderful trip to Floyd, and we want that for you too. We believe that while you are here this should feel like your own home, for however long you stay. The guide that follows is everything we would tell a friend who came to visit.

The two things nobody should miss

Saturday Farmers' Market — 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, May to December.

Friday Night Jamboree at the Floyd Country Store — doors 6:30 PM, music 7:30 PM.

2. FOOD & DRINK

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Floyd is a hidden gem for food lovers. For such a small town it has a remarkable range: farm-to-table restaurants, local breweries and distilleries, wineries, artisanal cafes and a genuine soda fountain. Many places serve fresh, locally sourced dishes that celebrate the region's agricultural heritage, and several have live music while you eat.



Buffalo Mountain Brewery & McDaniel's Tavern

65 locals recommend

Floyd's own craft brewery, pouring everything from hoppy IPAs to rich stouts. There is a welcoming taproom plus an outdoor space, and it is one of the busiest social spots in town.



El Charro Mexican Grill

50 locals recommend

Traditional Mexican cooking in the centre of Floyd: sizzling fajitas, homemade tamales and margaritas. Casual, family-friendly and reliably good.



Camino Viejo Mexican Grill

The town's second Mexican option, with tacos, enchiladas, tamales and a signature mole. It has a full tequila bar, outdoor seating, live music nights and rotating weekly specials.



Gerald's of Floyd

6 locals recommend

Italian cooking done simply: fresh pasta, hand-tossed pizza and classic dishes. A cosy room that works equally well for a family dinner or a night out.



Chateau Morrisette Winery

208 locals recommend

The single most recommended place in this guide. An established winery and restaurant in the Blue Ridge Mountains offering tastings, sit-down dining and long mountain views. Worth booking ahead for dinner.



Villa Appalaccia Winery

79 locals recommend

An Italian-style winery making award-winning wines from Virginia-grown grapes. The vineyard setting and Italian-inspired architecture make it a relaxed afternoon stop.



5 Mile Mountain Distillery

30 locals recommend

A small-batch distillery producing moonshine and whiskey in the Appalachian tradition. Drop in for a tasting in the bar.



Pantoufle's Bistro

14 locals recommend

A small French-inspired bistro in the heart of town, cooking with locally sourced ingredients. Savoury crepes, pastries and wine; good for both a quiet lunch and a romantic dinner.



Red Rooster Coffee

53 locals recommend

A roastery and cafe serving carefully sourced, house-roasted beans. Best of all, it is a one-minute walk from the house.



The Pharm House

A cosy cafe with fresh local ingredients and plenty of vegetarian and vegan options. Hearty breakfasts, baked goods, sandwiches, flavoured lattes and milkshakes. Hours are generally 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM on weekdays, shorter on Saturdays, closed Sundays.



Blue Ridge Diner

39 locals recommend

Southern cooking with locally sourced ingredients, from big breakfasts to lunches and desserts. A cosy, unfussy spot right in Floyd.



The Soda Fountain at the Floyd Country Store

15 locals recommend

A restored vintage soda fountain inside the Country Store, complete with bar stools and retro fittings. Hand-mixed sodas, milkshakes and sundaes, including root beer floats, cherry colas and lavender lemonade. The store has offered a 10% discount on a first soda fountain purchase when you mention this recommendation.



Cocoa Mia

33 locals recommend

A chocolate shop and cafe with handcrafted chocolates, pastries and good coffee. The obvious stop for something sweet in the middle of the afternoon.



American Pie Restaurant

9 locals recommend

American comfort food and pies baked fresh daily, in flavours such as apple, cherry, pecan and seasonal specials. On the savoury side expect chicken pot pie, meatloaf and mac 'n' cheese, all made from scratch.



Casey's Pizza House

Family-friendly pizzeria serving hand-tossed pizzas with fresh toppings alongside classic Italian dishes. Straightforward, casual and good value.



Bootleg BBQ

16 locals recommend

Slow-smoked meats, savoury sides and homemade sauces served in a laid-back outdoor setting. Ideal for a casual family meal.



Dino's

12 locals recommend

Fresh, made-from-scratch home cooking in the heart of Floyd, often using local ingredients. Casual and family-friendly, and well placed for a meal while exploring the Country Store and the galleries.



The Bread Basket

20 locals recommend

A bakery and cafe turning out artisanal breads, pastries and savoury treats baked fresh each day. A good stop for a relaxed breakfast or lunch with specialty coffee and tea.



OuterSpace

28 locals recommend

An eclectic cafe and venue that doubles as a gathering place for artists and musicians, with live performances and art exhibits. Go as much for the atmosphere as for the food.



Tuggle's Gap Roadside Inn

11 locals recommend

A rustic restaurant and roadside inn along the Blue Ridge Parkway, with mountain views. Southern comfort food, including chicken fried steak and fresh mountain trout. Rooms are also available.



Floyd Xpress Market

A convenience store for daily essentials: groceries, snacks and drinks. Clean restrooms, free Wi-Fi and plenty of parking.



Subway

The one chain option in town, for a quick sandwich when nothing else is open.

3. THINGS TO DO & EVENTS



Floyd Country Store & the Friday Night Jamboree

183 locals recommend

A cornerstone of the town since the early 1900s and the heart of its musical life. Every Friday night the Jamboree fills the store with bluegrass, old-time and Americana played by local musicians. Location: 206 South Locust Street; doors open at 6:30 PM, music starts at 7:30 PM, and tickets are inexpensive. The store also has a cafe and the soda fountain (see Food & Drink).



Floyd Farmers Market

40 locals recommend

Every Saturday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, May through December. Organic fruit and vegetables, artisanal bread, homemade jams and hand-crafted goods, with live music and family activities. A community gathering as much as a market.



FloydFest

43 locals recommend

The area's big music festival, held roughly 11 miles from the house and now a substantial tourist draw, with attendance in the region of 14,000. Tickets typically go on sale in November, with previous ticket-holders given first refusal. Check the current year's dates and line-up before you travel.



Floyd Yoga Jam

A gathering for culture-lovers combining yoga, music, poetry, meditation, dance, and arts and crafts, with activities for children of all ages. Local food vendors are set up on site.



The June Bug Center

8 locals recommend

A community arts hub running concerts, classes, workshops and performances for all ages. Worth checking the schedule for whatever is on during your stay.



Apple Ridge Farm

A farm offering hands-on time outdoors: hiking, zip-lining, organic farming and educational programmes. Set up for families and groups.



Bell Gallery and Garden

10 locals recommend

A gallery and garden in one. Rotating exhibits of painting, sculpture and photography by local and regional artists, plus themed gardens including a butterfly garden, Zen garden and sculpture garden. Workshops and artist talks are held regularly.



Old Church Gallery

A cultural and educational organisation founded in the 1970s, preserving Floyd County's history, crafts and folk art through exhibits, archives and the Floyd Story Center's oral history recordings. Open seasonally, typically April to December.



The Maggie Gallery

8 locals recommend

An art space and gift shop at 187 North Locust Street, open since 2018, showing paintings, pottery and jewellery by local artists and offering custom framing. Hosts events such as 'Art on the Lawn' and 'Art After Dark'.

4. SHOPS, GIFTS & SOUVENIRS



Republic of Floyd Emporium

20 locals recommend

A curated selection of craft beers, wines and locally distilled spirits chosen to reflect the region. Knowledgeable staff and a good place to taste before you buy.



The Book House

7 locals recommend

An independent bookshop stocking bestsellers, classics, local authors and rare finds, alongside locally made gifts and literary-themed merchandise. Author readings, signings and discussion groups, plus a reading nook to sit in.



Harvest Moon Food Store

46 locals recommend

A natural food store at 227 North Locust Street selling local produce, organic groceries and homemade food. Also runs workshops, tastings and community events.



Troika Contemporary Crafts

16 locals recommend

Artisanal crafts, handmade jewellery and one-of-a-kind home decor from local makers. The best single stop if you want a craft souvenir.



New Mountain Mercantile

12 locals recommend

A shop in the heart of town with handcrafted pottery, textiles and jewellery from local artisans, plus local produce and gourmet treats.



Phoenix Hardwoods

11 locals recommend

Locally sourced hardwoods, custom milling and remarkable handcrafted furniture and art. A personal note from your hosts: the island table in the kitchen of the house came from Phoenix.



Lichen or Knot Plant Company

21 locals recommend

Downtown Floyd's plant shop, with indoor and outdoor plants, unusual pots and gardening essentials.



Jeanie O'Neill Boutique & Gallery

At 105 E Main Street, combining upscale women's clothing, handbags, jewellery and accessories with a gallery of curated art and furniture, including J. O'Neill's own line. Open Wednesday to Sunday, afternoon hours.



Angels in the Attic

A thrift store with gently used clothing, home goods and antiques. Every purchase supports local charities.

5. SIGHTSEEING & THE OUTDOORS



Buffalo Mountain

12 locals recommend

At 3,971 feet, the summit gives panoramic views over the Blue Ridge, the Piedmont and beyond, with unusual rock formations, open meadows and several rare plant species. The trail to the top is about a mile long: a moderate climb, but short enough for families and casual walkers.



Buffalo Mountain Ziplines

24 locals recommend

A zipline course running through the treetops on multiple lines, with views over the surrounding mountains. Works both as a family outing and as a proper adrenaline hit.



Mabry Mill

56 locals recommend

The iconic Blue Ridge Parkway landmark: a fully operational gristmill in a picture-perfect setting, with historical exhibits and short nature walks. Bring a camera.



Epperly Mill

A historic mill offering a quiet look into the region's agricultural past. A short, peaceful stop for history and photographs.



Rocky Knob Picnic Area

On the Blue Ridge Parkway, with wide vistas, hiking trails and picnic spots. Good for birdwatching and an easy afternoon outdoors.



Warren G. Lineberry Community Park

The town park, with walking trails, a playground and picnic areas. The closest green space for a short walk or an hour with the children.



Floyd Center for the Arts

29 locals recommend

A hub for the local arts scene with exhibitions, workshops and classes showcasing local and regional artists.



Floyd / Blue Ridge Parkway KOA

8 locals recommend

A campground with spacious sites and modern amenities, plus hiking, fishing and campfire areas. Useful to know about if extra guests need somewhere to stay nearby.

6. GETTING AROUND

Reaching Floyd

Floyd has two main roads, Route 8 and Route 221, which intersect at the centre of town, so it is hard to get lost. Coming from North Carolina you will usually arrive from the south on Route 8; from Tennessee, from the west on 221; from Blacksburg, Radford or Christiansburg, from the north-west on Route 8; and from Washington DC or Roanoke, from the north-east on 221. The house is a short drive from that central intersection, and we send exact directions once you book.

Once you are here

Out here in the country, public transport is scarce, and to our knowledge it is non-existent or very limited at best. We recommend bringing your own vehicle, your bike if you are a cyclist, and your own two feet. The town centre itself is easily walkable from the house, and there is room to park several cars off the road.

7. GOOD TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

So there are no surprises, here is how we run the house. Full arrival instructions, access details and a departure checklist are sent to you after booking.

Times

- Check-in: any time between 4:00 PM and 11:59 PM. We can occasionally accommodate other times if you contact us in advance.
- Check-out: strictly before 10:00 AM.
- Entry is keyless, and we send you the access code on the day of arrival.

House rules

- No parties or events. The house is in a quiet residential neighbourhood.
- Quiet hours are 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM.
- No pets on the property.
- Strictly no smoking inside the house. If you smoke outside, please clean up all remnants.
- No unregistered guests, and no illegal substances on the premises.
- The house is suitable for toddlers and children under 12.
- Please don't eat or drink in the bedrooms, and take care of the furnishings.

The simple version

If you open it, close it. If you borrow it, return it. If you turn it on, turn it off. If you use it, take care of it. If you make a mess, clean it up. If you move it, put it back.

We hope to welcome you to Floyd soon.

thechantalverdugohouse@gmail.com