



Bedford Welcome Center
Survey Answers

Survey Conducted
February 19th thru March 5, 2010

Any Questions regarding this information, please contact Sue Trussell

Live Bedford City County Area?

79 YES

11 NO

TOTAL RESPONSES 90

Best Place for Coffee?	TOTALS
Cup-A-Joe	25
McDonald's	5
Blue Ridge Bagels	4
Caffeind	3
Blimpie's	2
Good Cherry in Forest	2
Huddle House	2
Liberty Station	2
Bedford Restaurant	1
Bedford Welcome Center	1
Grubbs in Huddleston	1
Hardee's	1
Ivy Bridge Café	1
Sonic	1
Stillwaters Coffee House	1
Stop In	1

Best Donuts	TOTALS
Blue Ridge Bagels	29
Duchess of Bedford	6
Court Street Pizza	2
Wal-Mart	2
Blue Bird Bakery	2
Shell at Burger King	1
Stop In on Burks Hill	1

Best Pizza	TOTALS
Court Street Pizza	24
Frank's Pizza	15
OIP (Original Italian Pizza)	13
Pizza Hut	16
Papa John's	8
Little Caesar's	5
Diamond Hill General Store	1
Downtown Pizzeria Moneta	1
Lori's Pizza Forest	1
Lago Pizza	1

Best Pastries	TOTALS
Duchess of Bedford	36
Ivy Bridge Café	5
Liberty Station	2
Blue Ridge Bagels	2
Court Street Pizza	1
Cup-A-joe	1
Millstone Tea Room	1
Blue Bird Bakery	1
Ivy Bridge Café	1

Favorite Restaurant?	TOTALS
Liberty Station Restaurant	46
Millstone Tea Room	7
El Cazador Mexican Restaurant	6
Ivy Bridge Café	5
Ruby Tuesday's	5
Bedford Social Club	4
Clam Diggers	3
Mexico Veijo	2
Artisan Café	2
Applebee's	2
Benjamin's	1
Court Street Pizza	1
Double Dragon	1
OIP (Original Italian Pizza)	1
Peaks of Otter	1
Bob & Cheryl's Rainbow Restaurant	1
La Caretta Mexican Restaurant	1

Best Place to go for Breakfast?	TOTALS
Hardee's	12
Blue Ridge Bagels	10
Fork's Restaurant	10
Peaks of Otter Restaurant	6
Bedford Restaurant	6
Huddle House	5
Blimpie's	1
Blue Dahlia in Forest	1
Carol's Place	1
Duchess of Bedford	1
Grubbs in Huddleston	1
Ivy Bridge Café	1
Millstone Tea Room	1
Nana's Home Cooking	1
Liberty Lake Diner	1
Mayberry Diner	1
McDonald's	1

Best Hamburger	TOTALS
Ruby's Tuesday's	15
Bob & Cheryl's Rainbow Restaurant	10
Liberty Lake Diner	9
Liberty Station Restaurant	8
Bedford Social Club	6
Wendy's	6
Hardee's	5
Burger King	3
Diamond Hill General Store	1
Grubb's in Huddleston	1
Applebee's	1

Best Hot Dog?	TOTALS
Bob & Cheryl's Rainbow Restaurant	19
Arrington's Tire Service	5
Northside Supply	3
Sonic	3
Blue Ridge Bagels	2
Sedalia Country Store	2
Owen's Market	2
Hardee's	2
Blimpie's	1
Diamond Hill General Store	1
Liberty Station	1
Stop In - Montvale	1
Liberty Lake Diner	1

Most Interesting Attraction?	TOTALS
National D-Day Memorial	42
Peaks of Otter	20
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest	11
Smith Mountain Lake	5
Bedford Wine Trail	2
Blue Ridge Parkway	2
Falling Creek Park	1
Gross' Apple Festival	1
Local Orchards	1
Bedford Museum	1
Peaks of Otter Winery	1
Virginia Dare	1
Liberty Station Restaurant	1

Most Photogenic Spot?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	46
Blue Ridge Parkway	9
Smith Mountain Lake	5
Top of Sharp Top	3
View from D-Day Memorial	3
Abbott Lake	2
From behind Bedford Hospital	2
Route 122 toward Big Island	1
460 West just before last Bedford exit	1
Appalachian Trail	1
Saunders Point at Smith Mtn. Lake	1
Various areas along Rt. 122 N&S	1
View from 221 at 811	1
Peaks of Otter from 43 North	1
Johnson's Orchards	1
Gross' Orchards	1
View of Peaks from Claytor Nature Center	1
Bore Auger Road Pastoral Scene	1

Best Way to See Smith Mountain Lake?	TOTALS
Boat	53
Virginia Dare	11
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	2
Deck of Lakeside Home	2
Air	2
Hales Ford Bridge	1
Sail Boat	1

Best Place for Local History?	TOTALS
Bedford Museum	44
National D-Day Memorial	8
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest	5
Johnson Farm	2
Bedford Historical Society	1
Bedford Public Library	1
Bedford Public Library Tharp Room	1
Centertown Bedford	1
Bedford County Court House	1
Whole Bedford Area	1
Questionable, not real impressed with this...WAY too many historic homes not recognized (county especially). New London also is an unknown treasure, HUGE role in the Revolutionary War and yet not getting any support. The whole 460 coddidor is fascinating yet so unknown. This could be a bigger draw.	1
Historical Society	1
Circuit Court Land Records	1
Avenel House	1

Best Kept Secret of the Arts?	TOTALS
Bower Center for the Arts	15
Sedalia Center	4
Little Town Players	4
Bedford Hardware	3
Don't Know Must Still Be a Secret	2
Centerfest	1
Emerson Creek Pottery	1
Friends of the Library Concerts	1
Goose Creek Studio	1
Welcome Center	1
Arts of Depot	1
Centertown	1
Gross' Orchard Apple Festival	1

Must See Destination?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	25
National D-Day Memorial	23
Smith Mountain Lake	7
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest	6
Blue Ridge Parkway	4
Sharp Top	3
Apple Orchard Falls	1
Centertown	1
Diamond Hill General Store	1
Poplar Tree	1
Any Mountain Spot	1
St. John's Episcopal Church Tiffany Window	1
Mill at Kelso	1
Avenel	1
Claytor Nature Center	1
Wineries	1
Falling Creek Park	1
Johnson Farm	1

Best Walking Trail?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	23
Falling Creek Park	10
Sharp Top Trail	7
The Loop	7
Johnson Farm Trail	5
Liberty Lake Park	4
Abbott Lake Trail	2
Appalachian Trail	2
Flat Top Trail	1
Harkening Hill Trail	1
Walking Trails at Savoy-Lee Winery	1

Best Motorcycle Route?	TOTALS
Blue Ridge Parkway	20
Peaks of Otter North	3
Big Island Rattlesnake Trail	1
Big Island to Parkway	1
Blue Ridge Parkway MP 105-65	1
Route 43 North	1
Route 122 Big Island to Blue Ridge Parkway, to 43 south to Bedford	1
43 North to Peaks of Otter north on Parkway 501 South to 122 South	1
460 East	1

Best Hill for Sled Riding?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	7
Bedford Elementary School	3
Bus Stop for Sharp Top	3
Behind Bedford Primary School	2
Private Farms	2
Lake Drive	1
Liberty Lake Park	1
Montvale Elementary School	1
Near Bank of the James	1
Peaks of Otter at 43 Blue Ridge Pky	1
Any Elementary School in Bedford County	1
Parker Road	1
Stewartsville Elementary School	1
Westview Avenue	1

Favorite View?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	27
Coming up Kelso Mill Road just as you make the curve looing toward the Mountains	2
From the Peaks of Otter Dining Room overlooking the Lake and looking at Sharp Top	2
From the Peaks of Otter looking down onto Bedford	2
Sharp Top	2
Blue Ridge Parkway	1
Centerville Road view of the Peaks	1
National D-Day Memorial	1
Driving down Route 122 toward Big Island	1
From the end of Solaridge Terrace looking to the Peaks of Otter	1
Looking at the Mountains going north on Route 122	1
Looking straight ahead at point where 811 intersects with 221	1
Peaks of Otter from Parker Road	1
Peaks of Otter from points along 43	1
Peaks of Otter with Snow	1
Rose Hill Farm on Route 43 looking at the Peaks of Otter	1
Sedalia Area	1
Traveling North on 501 from Coleman Falls to Big Island	1
Under arch at National D-Day Memorial	1
View of the Peaks from the Lodge area	1
Vista of the City and the Peaks in the background from Ruby Tuesday	1
From Centertown Looking West	1
Smith Mountain Lake	1
Peaks of Otter as you come around the Route 460 West Bypass	1
Halesford Bridge	1

Best Place to Pick Your Own Berries?	TOTALS
Scott's Strawberry Farm	34
Gross's Orchard	2
Johnson's Orchard	2
TLC Orchards	4

Best Place to go Horseback Riding?	TOTALS
Reba Farm	8
Rose Hill Farm	2
Sedalia	1
Blue Ridge Parkway at Overstreet Creek	1
Hunting Creek	1
Circle K Farm	1

Favorite Fishing Spot?	TOTALS
Smith Mountain Lake	17
Liberty Lake Park	7
Not Telling - It's a Secret!	3
North Creek off of Blue Ridge Parkway	2
James River	3
Hunting Creek	1
Abbott Lake	1
Reid Creek	1
Goose Creek	1
Trout Streams near Peaks in Spring when Stocked	1

Best Spot for a Nature Walk?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	25
Falling Creek Park	6
Abbott Lake Loop Trail	5
Blue Ridge Parkway	4
Claytor Nature Center	3
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	3
Johnson's Farm Trail	2
Liberty Lake Park	2
Apple Orchard Falls Trail	1
Elk Run Loop Trail	1
Reynolds Park	1
The Mountains	1
Sharp Top	1
National Forest	1

Best Spot for a Picnic?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	47
Falling Creek Park	8
Blue Ridge Parkway	7
Liberty Lake Park	6
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	4
Bedford Welcome Center	1
Sharp Top	1
Abbott Lake	1
Johnson's Orchard	1

Best Spot to Bird Watch?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	7
Falling Creek Park	5
Blue Ridge Parkway	4
Claytor Nature Center	2
Johnson's Orchards	2
Liberty Lake Park	2
Smith Mountain Lake	2
Bird Trails	1

Favorite Scenic Spot?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	19
Blue Ridge Parkway	8
Sharp Top	5
Blue Ridge Parkway Overlooks	1
McDaniel Road	1
National D-Day Memorial	2
Peaks of Otter Lodge	2
Route 122	1
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	1
Wheats Valley Road looking west to the Peaks of Otter	1
Abbott Lake	1
Thaxton Mountains	1
Route 122 North of Bedford	1
Right in front of Blue Ridge Animal Hospital view of Smith Mountain	1
Overstreet's Creek, Big Island	1
Apple Orchard Overlook	1
Bore Auger Road, Bedford County	1

Best Hike?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter	17
Sharp Top	16
Flat Top	4
Johnson Farm Trail	3
Appalachian Trail at James River Footbridge between Bedford Co. and Amherst Co.	2
Blue Ridge Parkway	1
Falling Creek Park	1
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	1
Cascade Falls	1

Best Golf Course?	TOTALS
Mariner's Landing Golf and Lake Community	8
Bedford Country Club	7
London Downs Golf Club	4
Ivy Hills Golf Club	1

Favorite Bike Trail?	TOTALS
Falling Creek Park	14
Liberty Lake Park	1
Blue Ridge Parkway	1
Smith Mountain Lake	1

Favorite Park?	TOTALS
Falling Creek Park	30
Liberty Lake Park	15
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	11
Blue Ridge Parkway	2
Greenwood Park	1
Peaks of Otter	1
Wharton Garden	1

Best Store to Buy Local Products?	TOTALS
Mountain Fruit and Produce	12
Vista	9
Bedford Farmer's Market	6
Gross'	6
Coffey and Saunders	4
Art on Depot	3
Wal-mart	3
Bedford Hardware	2
Emerson Creek Pottery	2
Bedford Welcome Center	2
Bedford Antique Mall	1
D. Reynolds	1
Diamond Hill General Store	1
Peaks of Otter Gift Shop	1
Savoy-Lee Winery	1
Southern States	1
The Keeping Room	1
The Well	1
Shell Station by Burger King	1
Local Orchards	1
Prissy Parrot	1
Centertown Bedford	1

Best Spot to Find Undiscovered Bargains?	TOTALS
Centertown Antique Stores	7
Goodwill	4
Bedford Hardware	3
Bedford Antique Mall	3
Bell Treasures	3
Gilded Era Antique Store	3
Dollar Store	3
Antique Shops	2
Pebbles	2
Centertown Bedford	2
Bella Books	1
Blue Bird Antiques	1
Craft Show at Bedford Elementary in	1
Sister to Sister	1
Smith Mountain Lake Flea Market	1
Taylors New & Used Furniture Store	1
Yard Sale across from Roadside Mkt in	1
Vista Foods	1
Wal-mart	1
Gingers Galleria	1
Coffey & Saunders	1

Best Spot to find Local Honey?	TOTALS
Gross' Orchard	14
Mountain Fruit and Produce	7
Farmer's Market	5
Johnson's Orchard	4
Southern States	3
Coffey & Saunders	3
Vista Food	3
Dumpling Mountain Farm 297-5682	2
Vanquility Acres Inn B&B	2
Bedford Welcome Center Gift Shop	1
Crazy AZ Farm	1
Keeping Room	1
Kennedy's Orchard	1
North Side Supply	1
Sedalia	1
Thaxton Market	1
Peaks of Otter	1
Bedford Hardware	1
Orchards	1
Artisan Café	1
Local Bee Keeper, John Singer	1

Best Place to go Antiquing?	TOTALS
Centertown Bedford	31
Gilded Era Antique Store	7
Bedford Antique Mall	7
The Peddlar Antique Mall	2
Blue Bird Antiques	1
Bob's Antiques	1

Favorite Place to Buy Local Produce?	TOTALS
Bedford Famer's Market	36
Mountain Fruit and Produce	11
Gross' Orchards	9
Vista Foods	6
Johnson's Orchard	1
Kenndy's Orchard	1
Scott's Strawberry Farm	1
Communiy Market by Resurrection Catholic Church	1
Smith Mountain Lake Florist	1

Favorite Orchard?	TOTALS
Gross' Orchard	42
Johnson's Orchard	18
Kennedy's Orchard	5
Arrington's Orchard	1
TLC Orchards	1

Favorite Winery?	TOTALS
Peaks of Otter Winery	23
Hickory Hill Vineyards and Winery	9
LeoGrande Vineyards and Winery	4
Savoy-Lee Winery	2
White Rock Vineyards and Winery	1

Best Place to Party?	TOTALS
Avenel	3
Liberty Station Restaurant	2
Bedford Social Club	1
El Cazador Mexican Restaurant	1
Fallon's Restaurant	1
Poplar Forest Wine Festival	1
Sedalia	1
Virginia Dare	1
Bedford Moose Lodge	1
Bedford Famer's Market	1
Benjamin's Restaurant	1
Smith Mountain Lake	1
Huddleston Ruritan	1

Best Place to Hear Live Music?	TOTALS
Bedford Farmer's Market	9
Sedalia	6
Benjamin's Restaurant	4
Bedford Library Concerts	4
Centerfest	3
Clam Digger's	2
Bedford Community Orchestra	2
Fallon's Restaurant	2
Stillwaters Coffee House	2
Bower Center for the Arts	1
Festivals	1
Lancer Mart at Rt. 122 & 24	1
Montvale	1
Parkway Marina	1
Savoy-Lee Winery	1
Social Club	1
Bedford Choral Society Performances	1
New London Dance	1

Best Place to Watch 4th of July Fireworks?	TOTALS
Bedford Welcome Center	14
Liberty Lake Park	13
Smith Mountain Lake	5
Bedford Primary School	3
Bedford Farmer's Market	3
Bedford Middle School	2
Peaks of Otter at Sharp Top	2
Old Golden Coral Parking Lot	2
Bedford County Recreation Field	2
Downtown Bedford	1
From the Health Department	1
Happy Food Mart	1
Parking Lot of Bedford Christian Ministry	1
Bedford County School Board Office	1
Wal-Mart Parking Lot	1
Route 122 South toward Smith Mountain Lake	1
Saunders Point Smith Mountain Lake	1

Best Family Festival?	TOTALS
Centerfest	30
Horse and Hound Festival	7
Celtic Festival at Sedalia	4
Country Fair at Sedalia	3
Sedalia Center - Any Festival	2
Chili Cook-Off at Sedalia	2
Gross' Apple Festival	2
Department of Social Services Family Festival	1
Fiber Festival at Sedalia	1
Christmas Season After Hours Festivities in Centertown Bedford	1
Craft Show in November at Bedford Elementary School	1

Worst Road?	TOTALS
Route 122 South	3
Route 43	3
Route 221	2
Route 43 South	2
Goodview Road	2
Dickerson Mill Road	2
Route 122 South at Twin Bridges	1
501 South	1
All Intersections on Franklin Street	1
Back Roads in Montvale	1
Diamond Hill Road	1
Joppa Mill Road	1
Macon Street	1
Old Firetrail Road	1
Route 501	1
Route 692	1
Rucker Road	1
Bells Mill Road	1
Route 122 North	1
Union Church Road	1
Crab Orchard Road	1
Route 24	1
Jeters Chapel Road	1

Recommended Spot to take Kids and Grandkids?	TOTALS
Falling Creek Park	13
Peaks of Otter	12
Smith Mtn. Lake State Park	10
National D-Day Memorial	8
Liberty Lake Park	6
Blue Ridge Parkway	3
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest	3
Johnson's Orchards	2
Sedalia	2
Orchards	2
Elks Home Christmas Lights	1
Gross' Orchards	1
Peaks of Otter - Picnic Area by Creek	1
YMCA	1
Bedford Primary School Playground	1
Abbott Lake at Peaks of Otter Saturday	1
Mayberry Drive-In	1
Centerfest	1
Bedford Welcome Center	1

A Place you want to go but haven't yet?	TOTALS
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest	6
Sharp Top	3
Bedford Museum	2
Emerson Creek Pottery	2
Flat Top	2
Boat Ridge on the James River	1
Clam Digger's Restaurant	1
Claytor Nature Center	1
Goose Creek Studio	1
Newly opened Station Restaurant	1
Big Otter Mill	1
William Foot Footbridge	1
Wine Trail Tour	1
Balloon Ride	1
Cascade Falls	1
Millstone Tea Room Restaurant	1
Mayberry Drive-In and Diner	1
Smith Mountain Lake State Park	1
National D-Day Memorial	1

Comments

Love Bedford Area - Favorite place in the U.s. and I have traveled the globe.

Bedford has it all!

Bedford has changed over the past eight years we have lived here. It's growing up so to speak with lots of cultural events, Bower Center, concerts, fantastic Liberty Station. We need to be very careful of the downtown area as it makes a statement of who we are. We do not and I mean do not want to have smuddy posters in our store windows advertizing skimpy underwear for Valentine's Day. I wasn't happy to see that no one put a stop to the pawn shop's trashy advertising. I think that doesn't really say who we are as a community trying to encourage tourism. It reminds me of streets in shabby parts of cities. That's not who we are. How do you intervene?

Bedford needs a few more "restaurants" instead of fast food joints. We need a Red Lobster, an O'Charley's or an Olive Garden or all three!!

Thanks

Beautiful Scenic Place filled with warm wonderful people. A diamond shining bright bordered by the Blue Ridge Mountains and the James River.

Since I have 2 places in Bedford County-I eat, party, fish, drive mstly at home. When friends are in-the mountains or the Lake are the best!

How about most romantic spot or best first date spot?

Also like hiking Peaks of Otter--Is that Bedford?

Lynchburg and Roanoke have or are adding a dog park, the county has done a great job with the new park but it would be nice if there was an area where dogs could run free in their own space

Great Survey

This survey is too long

Bedford has to many choices

Bedford was a terrific place to grow up. I miss the way it was, with a vibrant downtown and a local radio station. Progress is both good and bad. Bedford is still a great place!!!

Bedford is a great place to live but doesn't offer much after dark activities.

NO

Bedford needs more things for teenagers to do in this area

Bedford needs more restaurants, more meeting and conference facilities, and more activities for children: bowling, skating, movies, etc.

It sure would be nice to have more options for recreation like a movie theater, bowling alley, roller skating place so you don't have to go to Roanoke or Lynchburg all the time. (I'm sure you've heard that on a lot!!!)

I would love to see you do more extensive and specific surveys. So many people think the only shopping option in Bedford is Walmart. Or that there is nothing to do in and around Bedford. Once you start to look around you discover how much Bedford has to offer.

<p>Born and raised in Bedford County and wouldn't think of living anywhere else.</p>
<p>I was born and raised in Bedford County and miss the quiet communities we used to have. People need to appreciate the country life and their homes more rather than always wanting to be going somewhere and changing everything around them to better suit "their" habits.</p>
<p>Bedford County has so much to offer, but I do not think it is being advertised. We have a wonderful opportunity to attract visitors to Bedford County, if only we had the person to promote it. I have been to other places that offer carriage rides around town and tell the history of the town. This would be a wonderful program for Bedford. We have so much history. We could offer a package deal for visitors. I seems Bedford does not want to promote our wonderful county or allow new ideas.</p>
<p>WOULD ATTEND SOME ACTIVITIES IF ALCOHOL DID NOT HAVE TO BE INVOLVED WHEN WE ARE TRYING TO HAVE FAMILY ACTIVITIES (CENTERFEST, ETC.)</p>
<p>My answers may seem cheeky but I find the best places in Bedford are right at home. I love living in Bedford County. Without kids, I don't do a lot off of my farm. Working in downtown Bedford is great but I could use more places to get out to at lunch. I would really like some downtown walking opportunities and picnic tables to eat lunch out.</p>
<p>Lets save the tax payers \$500,000 and get rid of the tourism department. Or at least answer the questions what do they do and do they generate more then \$500,000 tax revenue. ie is this department a +/- to tax payers.</p>
<p>The bedford area really needs some activities and attractions geared toward the younger generation. do you realize that we lose hundreds of thousands of dollars every year to roanoke and lynchburg? they have putt putt golf, movies, game rooms, sports bars, etc. We, as a community, are missing out on serving the younger generation.</p>
<p>We need more activities for the community that are free</p>
<p>Bedford is such a great spot to live and raise your children. I have lived here all of my life and can't think of anywhere else in the world I would rather live!</p>