

Horseback Riding

Enjoy scenic mountain views on horseback for a unique experience in Nelson County and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Trail rides may be customized for you at Appalachian Horse Adventures and Rebel's Run. Contact these businesses prior to arrival to plan your perfect horseback ride.

[Appalachian Horse Adventures](http://www.appalachianhorseadventures.org) at Montebello, VA offers a riding experience for everyone. From children as young as 6 who have dreamed of being on horseback, to experienced trail riders looking to explore the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains and ford the Tye River. 540-430-5128

www.appalachianhorseadventures.org

[Rebel's Run](http://www.rebelsrunaftonmountain.com) at Afton Mountain offers trail rides, English and Western lessons and summer camps. Mountain rides, vineyard rides for a few hours are all day lets you see a side of Nelson County only seen on a trail ride. 703-623-5243 www.rebelsrunaftonmountain.com

Bring your own horse and take a trail ride along on the **Blue Ridge Rail Trail** at Piney River or **James River State Park** near Gladstone, VA. Both are public parks with ample area for unloading your horse and parking for trailers.

Virginia Blue Ridge Rail Trail – 3124 Patrick Henry Highway, Piney River, Virginia, 22964 The trail is 7 miles and is opened for hiking, biking and horseback riding year round. The main trailhead is in Piney River on SR 151, Patrick Henry Hwy. It has ample parking for cars and horse trailers. A smaller trailhead (at milepost 1.7) in Rose Mill on SR 674, Rose Mill Rd can accommodate only cars. Restroom facilities (portajohns) are available at both trailheads. The mainly crushed stone trail follows a scenic route along the Piney and Tye Rivers, where wildflowers bloom from spring through summer and wildlife abounds. The trail dead ends at the 7 mile point, there is no eastern access at Tye River Depot, you must retrace your steps to your vehicle.

James River State Park and Wildlife Management Area -751 Park Road, Gladstone
(434) 933-4355

James River State Park features over 15 miles of hiking / biking / horseback riding trails that meander through 1500 acres of rolling meadows and quiet forests. Three miles of river frontage offer spectacular views, boat launches, picnic areas, primitive camping, electric/water camping for various equipment, cabins, and picnic shelters. A full service canoe livery is open seasonally. See spectacular views along the James River of Norwood in Nelson County, across the river from the park. To reach the James River Park, take US Route 60 east from Amherst to Gladstone. At the James River Bridge, turn left onto SR 605, travel seven miles, and turn left onto Route 606.

For a list of [Horse Stables and Boarding](#) in Nelson County, go to the Business Directory on www.nelsoncounty.com

Horseback Riding Events in the Nelson County

In the Fall and Spring there are organized trail rides sponsored by local organizations in the Massies Mill and Montebello areas. Spend the weekend camping and enjoy a trail ride through the valleys and mountains to view the spring wildflowers, mountain vistas, fall colors and much more.

Fleetwood Community Center Trail Ride (Spring & Fall)

1357 Crabtree Falls Highway

Roseland, VA 22967

(434) 277-5814

Contact: Audrey Evans

Montebello Trail Ride (Spring and Fall)

Montebello Volunteer Fire and Rescue

15 Fork Mountain Lane

Montebello, VA 24464

(540) 377-5712

For more information check the [Events Calendar](#) for spring and fall or contact the Nelson County Visitor Center 434-263-7015.