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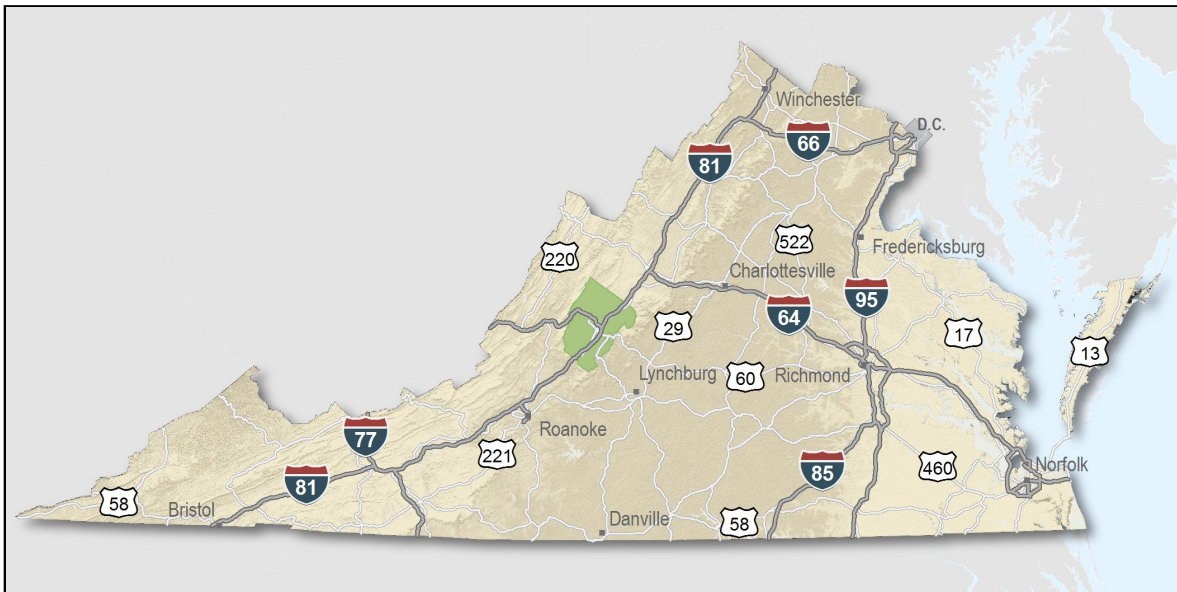
# Rockbridge Area, Virginia

# Overview

Only a few locations can guarantee the right combination of resources that are crucial to your business's success. Virginia's premier location offers excellent domestic and international access. Centrally located on the U.S. East Coast, more than 47 percent of the U.S. population is within a day's drive, and our integrated transportation system of highways, railroads, airports and seaports ensures that you can reach every one of your markets efficiently. Close proximity to Washington, D.C. facilitates contact with policy makers and the federal government system.

Virginia continues to rank among America's leading states for business by CNBC and Forbes.com. Business-first values, easy access to markets, stable and competitive operating costs, and a talented workforce all drove Virginia to the top. This unique combination of assets has encouraged businesses to prosper here for more than 400 years. Like you, they searched the world over for that convergence of resources that would help ensure their prosperity. For them, their search ended here. Chances are yours will too.

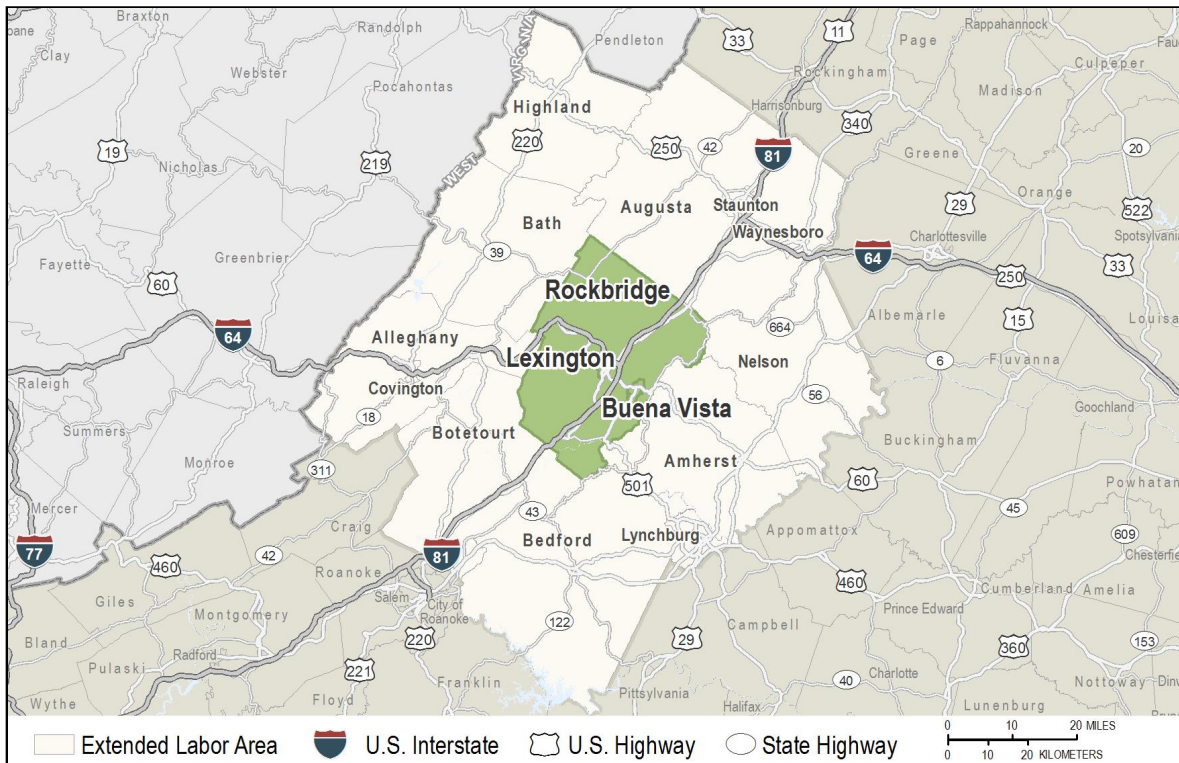
- AAA bond rating- Virginia has maintained a AAA rating since 1938, longer than any other state.
- Right-to-work law allows individuals the right to work regardless of membership in a labor union or organization.
- Corporate income tax rate of 6% has not been increased since 1972.
- Headquarters to 37 Fortune 1000 firms.
- Headquarters to 56 firms each with annual revenue over \$1 billion.
- More than 21,400 high-tech establishments operate in Virginia.
- More than 700 internationally-owned businesses from 40 countries are located in Virginia.
- Ranks third among the 50 states as a recipient of federal R&D funds.
- Streamlined permitting process.
- Recruitment training programs to help new businesses become operational faster.
- Programs at little or no cost to help businesses increase international sales.



# Location

Rockbridge County is centrally located within the historic and scenic Shenandoah Valley in west central Virginia. The independent city of Lexington is located in the approximate center of the county and is an important educational, retail, commercial, and government center. The city of Buena Vista, situated six miles east of Lexington and adjacent to the Maury River, is the industrial and manufacturing nucleus of the area. Rockbridge County is bounded to the west by the lower elevations of the Allegheny Mountains and on the east by the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Convenient interstate access to eastern and midwestern markets is available from Interstates 81 and 64 that converge in the county.

Roanoke is 50 miles south; Richmond, the state capital, is 135 miles east; and Washington, D.C. is 180 miles northeast.



# Rockbridge Area

Situated in the heart of the I-81 Corridor with the Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountains bordering the community to the east and west; great views are to be expected. Supplementing those views are Virginia Military Institute, Washington and Lee University, Southern Virginia University, and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, a transportation network that includes two interstates, telecommunications that rival larger cities, a lower than average cost of doing business, and an industrial heritage ranging from advanced manufacturing to wood products. With all of this, it is easy to see why Good Views Reveal Great Vision.

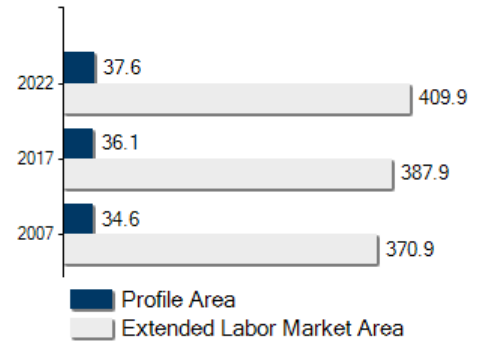


Munters Manufacturing Facility

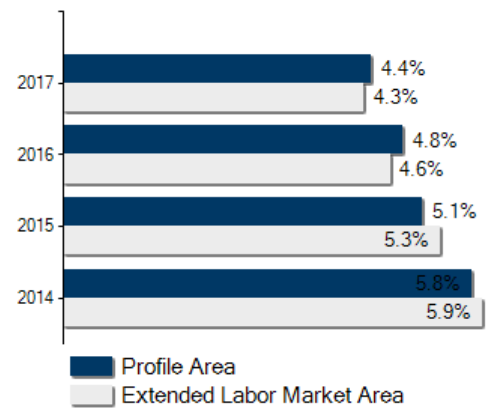
# Labor Market

Population		
<b>Gender Distribution (2017)</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Rockbridge Area	50.3%	49.7%
<b>Race/Ethnicity (2017)</b>	<b>Profile Area</b>	<b>Extended Labor Area</b>
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Labor Area</b>
White	32,963	325,445
Black	1,747	48,119
Two or More	683	7,431
Asian	428	5,127
American Indian or Alaska Native	230	1,561
Pacific Islander	41	176
Hispanic (may be of any race)	847	11,945
<b>Median Age (2017)</b>		
Buena Vista		39 years
Lexington		23 years
Rockbridge		49 years

## Population in Thousands



## Unemployment Rates





# Labor Market

## Civilian Labor Force (2017)

Rockbridge Area	16,169
Extended Labor Market Area	185,700
Total	201,869

## Labor Force Participation (2013-2017)

Rockbridge Area	52.0%
Extended Labor Market Area	59.1%

## Unemployment

<b>Unemployment Rate (September 2018)</b>	
Rockbridge Area	2.6%
Extended Labor Market Area	2.9%
Statewide	2.8%
<b>Unemployed (2017)</b>	
Rockbridge Area	706
Extended Labor Market Area	7,506
Total	8,212
<b>Underemployed (3rd Quarter 2018)</b>	
Rockbridge Area	1,712
Extended Labor Market Area	18,665
Total	20,377



# Labor Market

## Commute Time (2013-2017)

Worked from home	912	6.1%
Under 15 minutes	5,533	39.5%
15-24 minutes	4,166	29.8%
25-34 minutes	1,928	13.8%
35-44 minutes	499	3.6%
45-59 minutes	847	6.0%
Over 60 minutes	1,030	7.4%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)		
Buena Vista		18
Lexington		17
Rockbridge		24

## Additional Labor Resources

High School Graduates Not Continuing (2017-2018)	65
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2017)	1,451
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2017)	7,478
Other College and University Graduates (Spring 2017)	19,178
Total	28,172

### Career Readiness Certificate (06/30/2017-06/30/2018)

Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) assists employers by certifying that a recipient possesses core skills in applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The CRC certification is based on established Workeys® assessment tests. Virginia uses a three-tiered approach (bronze, silver, gold) to credentialing certificate holders that is based on the recipient's level of development skills.

Rockbridge Area	6
Extended Labor Market Area	5,386
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,392</b>

### Educational Attainment

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2017)	90.7%
Percentage of Rockbridge Area population age 25+ who are high school graduates (2013-2017)	85.0%
Percentage of Rockbridge Area population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher (2013-2017)	25.6%





# Labor Market

<b>Employment by Sector* (2nd Qtr. 2018)</b>		
Agriculture Forestry Fishing and Hunting	71	0.5%
Mining Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	N.D.	N.D.
Utilities	N.D.	N.D.
Construction	518	3.9%
Manufacturing	1,718	13.0%
Wholesale Trade	145	1.1%
Retail Trade	1,791	13.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	116	0.9%
Information	64	0.5%
Finance and Insurance	218	1.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	80	0.6%
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	404	3.1%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	N.D.	N.D.
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	398	3.0%
Educational Services	1,597	12.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,302	9.9%
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	157	1.2%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,560	11.8%
Other Services	365	2.8%
Total Government	2,557	19.4%
Federal Government	89	0.7%
State Government	950	7.2%
Local Government	1,518	11.5%
Unclassified	28	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,198</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

N.D. - Not Disclosed

\*By Business Establishment



# Labor Market

## Major Employers

### Manufacturing

#### Company

Advanced Drainage Systems  
 Everbrite Corporation  
 Heatex America  
 Modine Manufacturing Company  
 Mohawk  
 Munters  
 Sayre Enterprises

#### Product/Service

Plastic pipe  
 Electric signs  
 Heat Exchangers  
 Space heaters  
 Commercial carpeting  
 Air exchange units  
 Embroidery Operations

### NonManufacturing

#### Company

Byers, Inc  
 Carilion Stonewall Jackson Hospital  
 Devils Backbone Brewing Company  
 Kendal at Lexington  
 Lowes Home Center  
 Natural Bridge Hotel & Conference Center  
 Northwest Hardwoods  
 Southern Virginia University  
 Vesuvius/Lee Hi Travel Center  
 Virginia Military Institute (VMI)  
 Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
 Washington & Lee University  
 Whites Travel Center

#### Product/Service

Industrial Pipe Fitting  
 Health care  
 Beverage Production  
 Retirement Community  
 Retail  
 Hotel/Conference Center  
 Lumber  
 Higher education  
 Travel Center  
 Higher education  
 Discount store  
 Higher education  
 Travel Destination

**Closings, Reductions, Layoffs (1/2015 to date)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Product/Service</b>	<b>Employees Affected</b>
9/30/2015	Closing	Mundet Hermetite	Cigarette tipping paper	46
12/31/2016	Closing	HDT Global	Manufacturer of military tents	74
10/2/2017	Layoff	DSC Logistics	Warehousing and logistics management services	70

**Union Activity (8/1/2015 - 8/1/2018)**

Petitions filed for decertification	0
Petitions filed for representation	0
Petitions filed for raid	0
Elections won by union	0
Elections won by company	0

# Labor Market

## Estimated Earnings (May 2017)

Occupation	Median Wage (US\$)	Mean Wage (US\$)	Median Salary (US\$)	Mean Salary (US\$)
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	14.74	15.80	30,668	32,865
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	15.46	17.09	32,158	35,546
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	21.87	22.82	45,483	47,465
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	17.01	18.23	35,374	37,911
Machinists	21.47	21.22	44,670	44,132
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	22.16	23.03	46,088	47,894
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	27.35	29.44	56,884	61,231
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	18.58	19.36	38,658	40,263
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	25.81	25.94	53,685	53,943
Office Clerks, General	21.71	22.23	45,167	46,241
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	14.57	15.18	30,298	31,567
Receptionists and Information Clerks	15.78	16.13	32,831	33,564
Customer Service Representatives	13.01	13.33	27,069	27,727
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	14.40	15.44	29,960	32,105
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	17.64	18.11	36,689	37,672
Computer User Support Specialists	23.72	24.39	49,321	50,745
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	20.47	21.28	42,588	44,265
Accountants and Auditors	33.89	34.72	70,473	72,224
Human Resources Specialists	32.98	40.47	68,583	84,162
	27.05	28.22	56,247	58,688

## Per Capita Personal Income (2016)

\$37,989

## Median Family Income (2013-2017)

Rockbridge	\$64,865
Buena Vista	\$45,313
Lexington	\$62,600



# Education

## Public School Enrollment (Fall 2017)

Level	Number	Enrollment
Elementary	7	1,971
Middle	3	966
High School	2	1,358

## Student Teacher Ratio (FY 2017)

Elementary	11:1
Secondary	11:1

## Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2017) (US\$)

10,995.15
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## On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2017)

90.7%
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## High School Graduates Continuing Education (2017-2018)

78.3%
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## Advanced Programs (2017-2018)

Governor's Schools	
Jackson River Governor's School	
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	192
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	157
Students taking 1 or more Dual Enrollment Courses	330

# Education

## Workforce Development Facilities

Facility	Type
Valley Workforce Center - Harrisonburg	Comprehensive Center
Valley Workforce Center - Luray	Satellite Center
Valley Workforce Center - Rockbridge	Satellite Center
Valley Workforce Center - Staunton	Satellite Center
Valley Workforce Center - Winchester	Satellite Center

## Higher Education Facilities – Fall 2017

Facility	Enrollment
Liberty University	75,044
Central Virginia Community College	5,128
University of Lynchburg	2,808
Washington and Lee University	2,227
Virginia Military Institute	1,722
Mary Baldwin College	1,654
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College	1,260
American National University - Lynchburg Campus	1,090 <sup>‡</sup>
Southern Virginia University	808
Randolph College	684
Virginia University of Lynchburg	370 <sup>◊</sup>
Sweet Briar College	322

<sup>‡</sup> Enrollment figures are for all campuses.

<sup>◊</sup> Fall 2016 Enrollment

# Transportation

Interstates	
Name	Distance
I-64	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-81	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-581	28.0 miles (45.1 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

Highways				
Highway 11	Highway 130	Highway 251	Highway 252	Highway 39
Highway 42	Highway 48	Highway 501	Highway 56	Highway 60

Commercial Air Service		
<b>Lynchburg Regional Airport, Lynchburg -- 40.3 miles (64.9 km.)</b>		
American Eagle		
<b>Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport, Roanoke -- 50.3 miles (81.0 km.)</b>		
American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	United Airlines
Allegiant Air		
<b>Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport, Weyers Cave -- 50.7 miles (81.6 km.)</b>		
ViaAir		
<b>Greenbrier Valley Airport, Lewisburg, WV -- 72.0 miles (115.8 km.)</b>		
ViaAir		
<b>Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, Charlottesville -- 75.5 miles (121.4 km.)</b>		
American Airlines	Delta Connection	United Airlines

Note: Within a 75-mile drive of the center of the locality.



# Transportation

## General Aviation Service

Name	Runway Length
Waynesboro/Eagles Nest Airport, Waynesboro	2,004 ft (611 m)

## Freight Rail Service

Buckingham Branch Railroad CSX Transportation Norfolk Southern Railway Company
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## Seaports

Name	Distance
Port of Virginia	216.0 miles (347.6 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Virginia and any other seaports within 100 miles.

## Other Ports of Entry

Name	Distance
New River Valley Airport (Virginia TradePort)	94.5 miles (152.1 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	173.9 miles (279.8 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Washington - Dulles and any other port of entry within 100 miles.





# Utilities

Utilities	
Electric	BARC Electric Cooperative
Electric	Dominion Energy
Natural Gas	Columbia Gas of Virginia
Telecommunications	Verizon South
Telecommunications	Verizon-Virginia
Telecommunications	nTelos
Telecommunications	CenturyLink
Water	City of Buena Vista
Water	Rockbridge County Public Service Authority
Water	City of Lexington
Water	Maury Service Authority
Waste Water Treatment	City of Buena Vista
Waste Water Treatment	Rockbridge County Public Service Authority
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Glasgow
Waste Water Treatment	City of Lexington
Solid Waste Disposal	Rockbridge County Sanitary Landfill

# Financial Institutions

## Financial Institutions – 1st Qtr 2018 Assets

<b>Bank</b>	<b>Assets (US\$ Millions)</b>
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	1,716,532.0
Branch Banking and Trust Company	215,012.0
SunTrust Bank	199,970.2
Union Bank & Trust Co.	13,118.0
City National Bank of West Virginia	4,139.3
Carter Bank & Trust	4,112.8
Bank of Botetourt	411.1
CornerStone Bank, N.A.	134.7



# Government and Taxes

## Government

Rockbridge County has a County Administrator and a five-member Board of Supervisors. The city of Lexington has a City Manager and a seven-member City Council. The city of Buena Vista has a City Manager and a seven-member City Council.

Each city and the county establishes and enforces their own zoning ordinances and regulations, as well as their own Comprehensive Plans.

The City of Lexington serves as the Rockbridge County seat. Glasgow and Goshen are incorporated Towns in the County.

## Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes.

Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Buena Vista) [pdf](#)*

*Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Buena Vista) [pdf](#)*

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Lexington) [pdf](#)*

*Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Lexington) [pdf](#)*

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Rockbridge) [pdf](#)*

*Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Rockbridge) [pdf](#)*



# Community Facilities

The community is served by Carilion Stonewall Jackson Hospital in Lexington. This facility has 50 beds and operates a 24-hour emergency room. Hospital services include general medical, surgical and intensive care. A 50-bed extended-care facility adjoins the hospital.

Thirty-one physicians and 17 dentists practice in the Rockbridge Area.

A mental health clinic is available in Lexington. The Buena Vista and Lexington-Rockbridge County Health Departments both offer a wide range of medical services, including outpatient care.

The Rockbridge Regional Library is headquartered in Lexington and operates branches in Buena Vista, Goshen, and Glasgow. It maintains a collection in excess of 135,000 volumes and extends bookmobile service to the surrounding areas on a weekly basis. Additionally, library resources at Washington & Lee University, Virginia Military Institute, and Southern Virginia College are available with a total of over 1,300,000 volumes.

Most residents shopping needs are easily accommodated in the Lexington or Buena Vista areas. Recent revitalization of historic downtown Lexington has preserved much of the original architecture and provided a pleasing shopping environment. Efforts to continue the revitalization of the central business district in Buena Vista and expand shopping opportunities are underway. Additional shopping in Roanoke or Lynchburg is within one hour's drive.



# Community Facilities

**(continued)**

There are over 30 churches in the Rockbridge community. Major Protestant denominations and the Roman Catholic Church are represented. Jewish synagogues are located in Lynchburg, Roanoke, and Staunton.



# Lifestyle

The presence of Washington & Lee University and Virginia Military Institute in Lexington and Southern Virginia University and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College in Buena Vista contributes to a high level of cultural activity in the community. The colleges provide numerous lectures, concerts, art exhibits, and a variety of athletic events, most of which are available to the general public. In addition, several other community organizations, such as the Rockbridge Concert Theatre Series, the Rockbridge Historical Society, and the Rockbridge chapter of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts provide cultural activities for area residents. The Lenfest Center presents theatrical productions throughout the entire year. The summer months also bring a professional theatrical and concert series to the Lime Kiln Theatre, an outdoor amphitheater.

A variety of public and private recreational opportunities awaits area residents. This includes 29 parks and playgrounds, 7 tennis courts, 12 campgrounds, 11 swimming pools, and 18 picnic sites. Glen Maury Park in Buena Vista is notable for its multi-purpose facilities and 315-acres of land with more than one mile of river frontage. The Lexington Golf and Country Club provides full amenities for its members, including an 18-hole golf course.

Access is easy to the County's extensive inventory of natural environmental areas. Choices include the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, the Goshen Wildlife Management Area, Goshen National Area, Little North Mountain Wildlife Management Area, the renowned Blue Ridge Parkway, and the Natural Bridge State Park. The James and Maury Rivers flow through the area and provide water recreation activities. These natural assets provide excellent locations for hunting, fishing, hiking, picnicking, and other outdoor pursuits.

**(continued)**

History buffs will find over 100 culturally and historically significant sites throughout the area. The best known of these include the Natural Bridge State Park, the Cyrus McCormick Farm, Lee Chapel at Washington & Lee University, the Stonewall Jackson House, and the George C. Marshall Museum at VMI.

The horse industry is a major part of life in the community. Consequently, the Rockbridge Area is home to the Virginia Horse Center located on a 361-acre site near Lexington. The center provides a centrally located site for year-round activities including major horse sales, competition events, equine events, instructional classes, and recreation.

*Shenandoah Valley Profile*

*City of Buena Vista*

*City of Lexington*

*Rockbridge County*

*Shenandoah Valley Partnership*