FAQ

Q: How do I register for a trip?
A: Complete all three of the following steps to register for a Venture Trip:
1. Join “Venture Outdoor Adventure Leadership” at orgsync.com/login/university-of-north-carolina-charlotte
2. Within Venture’s OrgSync website, complete a Medical History Form and the Online Registration Form for your trip
3. Submit payment at venture.uncc.edu/trips/payment

The registration deadline for Venture Trips is noon on Tuesday of the week preceding the trip, and spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that we reserve the right to deny your registration on the basis of medical concerns.

Q: Do I have to attend the pre-trip meeting?
A: YES. If you have an academic or work-related conflict with the pre-trip meeting, you MUST e-mail Brian Holcomb at brian.holcomb@uncc.edu BEFORE the pre-trip to arrange an alternate time to meet. Pre-trip meetings always start at Venture’s office in the Cone Center (see venture.uncc.edu for directions). Please note that Venture will not be holding pre-trip meetings for rock climbing or hiking day trips this Fall.

Q: Do I need any experience?
A: NO! Venture staff will provide instruction to teach you the skills needed for a successful trip. Most of our trips are not overly rigorous unless listed as so in the trip description. Individuals in general good health should do fine. We do recommend participants engage in some regular exercise, so as to feel more comfortable with the level of activity that does occur on most trips.

Q: How can I find out more?
A: Visit Venture’s website, venture.uncc.edu, find us on Facebook (Venture UNC Charlotte) or contact Brian Holcomb, Assistant Director for Trips, at brian.holcomb@uncc.edu or 704-687-0698. You can also stop by our office in the Cone Center.

More about Venture Trips

Venture trips are led by highly qualified staff who not only organize an exciting adventure, but also facilitate learning from the experience. At Venture, we are passionate about facilitating leadership development and character formation through the use of tailored challenge and guided reflection. Our program is accredited by the Association for Experiential Education and adheres to high standards for safety. The challenges encountered on trips are intended to move you beyond your “comfort zone” and into areas of personal growth and empowerment. We also provide opportunities for reflection about your trip experience.

As part of our commitment to promote teamwork, community and trust within groups, everyone works together to complete tasks such as setting up tents, cooking, and cleaning. Participants should expect to involve themselves in these tasks to support their group. During a Venture trip, there are many opportunities for involvement in group decision-making and leadership roles. We value cooperation and support through shared decision making and ask that people remain flexible and willing to go along with the majority when consensus cannot be reached.

Food, transportation, equipment, and instruction are included in the cost of the trip. The trip fee is all-inclusive (except for meals while on the road).

Venture’s operations on National Forest System Lands are authorized under Special Use Permit by the Pisgah National Forest.
Crowders Mountain Rock Climbing
Trip Date: Saturday, August 29
Crowders Mountain is an iconic outdoor adventure destination just down the road from Charlotte — with rugged cliffs overlooking the city and the Piedmont of North and South Carolina. On this trip, you will learn and develop top rope climbing skills, including belaying and climbing technique. No experience is necessary. With the purchase of this trip, participants will also receive one free day of climbing at UNC Charlotte’s climbing wall!
Price: UNC Charlotte Students $27 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $50 / Community $72

Grandfather Mountain Day Hike
Trip Date: Sunday, September 13
Grandfather Mountain is famous for its breathtaking scenery, exposed cliffs, and rare and endangered species. Experience this beautiful mountain on this challenging day hike, which will include a summit of Calloway Peak, 5,964 feet above sea level.
Price: UNC Charlotte Students $19 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $34 / Community $56

Whitewater Canoeing Overnight in the Western Carolina Mountains
Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, September 15 5-7pm
Trip Dates: Saturday, September 19 – Sunday, September 20
Looking for a new challenge? Whitewater canoeing is a great way to expand your comfort zone and try out a new sport! This trip is an introduction to white-water canoeing and includes an instructional session to help you get ready for your river experience, paddling Class I-II whitewater in the mountains of Western North Carolina. The trip includes two days of paddling on the river and one night of camping. Swimming skills are required for all participants.
Price: UNC Charlotte Students $70 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $105 / Community $130

First AdVenture: Rafting and Hiking
Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, September 1 5-7pm
Trip Dates: Saturday, September 5 – Sunday, September 6
This trip is designed for first-year students interested in meeting other people, building solid friendships, enjoying the outdoors, and getting involved with Venture! Come enjoy beautiful Hot Springs, North Carolina, as we camp out, whitewater raft on the scenic French Broad River, and hike on the world famous Appalachian trail. A perfect first Venture trip!
Price: UNC Charlotte Students $70

Venture Interest Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 5:30-7:30pm
Come learn about Venture and find out how YOU can be involved with Venture’s trips, trainings, climbing wall, challenge course, academic classes, and more! Food will be provided. This meeting is for anyone and everyone interested in learning about Venture. No previous experience with Venture OR the outdoors is necessary. This event is free!
**Little Lost Cove Hike and Climb Overnight Adventure**

*Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, September 22 5-6:30pm*

*Trip Dates: Friday, September 25 – Saturday, September 26*

Looking for an opportunity to escape Charlotte and connect with the wilderness? We’ll car camp in Pisgah National Forest on Friday night, hike up to Little Lost Cove Cliffs and rock climb and rappel on Saturday while overlooking the stunning views of Grandfather Mountain during this adventurous overnight trip.  

*Price: UNC Charlotte students $45 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $70 / Community $96*

**Whitewater Rafting Day Trip**

*Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, September 22 5:30-6:30pm*

*Trip Date: Sunday, September 27*

Join us for this classic rafting run on Section 9 of the French Broad River. We’ll paddle fun and challenging Class II-III rapids while travelling through a beautiful part of Pisgah National Forest north of Asheville. Swimming skills are required for all participants.  

*Price: UNC Charlotte students $40 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $55 / Community $70*

**October**

**Ladies’ Grayson Highlands Backpacking Trip**

*Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, September 29 5-6:30pm*

*Trip Dates: Saturday, October 3 - Sunday, October 4*

Grayson Highlands State Park in Virginia is home to sprawling meadows, rocky balds, and herds of wild ponies! Join Venture for an all-women’s backpacking trip and explore this epic landscape.  

*Price: UNC Charlotte students $45 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $70 / Community $96*

**Fall Break Roan Mountain Backpacking Expedition**

*Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, October 6 5-7pm*

*Trip Dates: Saturday, October 10 – Monday, October 12*

Hike what has been named as one of the most beautiful sections of the Appalachian Trail on this Fall Break Expedition. Develop your backpacking skills, summit grassy mountain balds and challenge yourself on this unforgettable trip!  

*Price: UNC Charlotte Students $62 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $87 / Community $113*
**Intro to Bouldering**  
**Trip Date:** Saturday, October 17  
Bouldering is a fantastic way to improve your climbing technique and confront the challenge of climbing without ropes. Spend the day bouldering in one of the best spots in the Southeast, Rumbling Bald! We will introduce beginner boulderers to spotting and climbing techniques while managing risk and providing guidance for more advanced boulderers as they explore the hidden gems of Rumbling Bald.  
**Price:** UNC Charlotte Students $19 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $34 / Community $56

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**Stone Mountain Waterfall Day Hike**  
**Trip Date:** Sunday, October 18  
Join Venture as we explore Stone Mountain State Park in Roaring Gap, North Carolina. Hike within view of the magnificent 600-foot granite dome of Stone Mountain, and check out the 200 foot-tall Stone Mountain Falls on this moderate day hike!  
**Price:** UNC Charlotte Students $19 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $34 / Community $56

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**November**

**Backpacking 301 Expedition**  
**Pre-Trip Meeting:**  
Tuesday, October 20, 5-7pm  
**Trip Dates:** Friday, October 23 – Sunday, October 25  
This trip is designed for current or aspiring Venture backpacking leaders with previous backpacking experience. Develop and practice your teaching and outdoor leadership skills on this staff development weekend.  
**Price:** UNC Charlotte Students $15 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $50 / Community $72

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**Rumbling Bald 201 Climbing Trip**  
**Trip Date:** Sunday, November 1  
Are you an experienced rock climber looking to take your skills to the next level? Check out this 201 Climbing Day Trip where we’ll get on some routes that will challenge you and push you to improve your climbing techniques. Not to be missed for those who have been climbing with Venture during the Fall semester!  
**Price:** UNC Charlotte Students $27 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $50 / Community $72
Fall 2015 Climbing Wall Hours of Operation
Venture’s Climbing Wall, located in the SAC, is open from late August through December.

No cost for your first time at the wall!

Fees:
- Semester Pass: $5
- Harness: $3 per night or $10 Semester Rental
- Shoes: $2 per visit or $20 Semester Rental
- Helmet: no charge
- Chalk Bag: no charge

Please see Venture’s website at venture.uncc.edu/climbingwall for more information

Operation Hours:
Check out venture.uncc.edu/climbing-wall-and-campus-events for Fall 2015 Wall opening hours.

Want to Learn?
Climbing Intro Workshops:
Everything you ever wanted to know about rock climbing and then some! Includes belaying instructions, how to tie the knots, rental equipment, climbing tips and climbing time. Workshops are taught during wall operation hours.

Price:
$5 for 3 hours
Pre-register by emailing Brian Holcomb at brian.holcomb@uncc.edu

Have experience?
Belay Test: ask any wall staff to test your knots, belay skills and climbing commands. Must pass test to be an approved belayer. No pre-registration needed.

Caving Day Trip
Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, November 3 5-6pm
Trip Date: Sunday, November 8
Experience the unique and awe-inspiring cave environment on this adventure to Worley’s Cave. Located in eastern Tennessee, Worley’s is miles long and has tight crawl spaces (optional!) and enormous 100-foot-high rooms. It remains at a constant temperature of about 55 degrees all year long. Get excited to get wet and muddy and join us for this adventurous day trip!
Price: UNC Charlotte Students $33 / Faculty, Staff, Alumni $53 / Community $78