

Directions to Penland School

Penland School of Crafts is located near Spruce Pine in Mitchell County, North Carolina, northeast of Asheville.



PLEASE NOTE: In our experience, some online mapping services and GPS devices may not list Penland School and may give inaccurate directions to Penland, so we suggest that you bring our directions with you just in case. Our official street address (67 Doras Trail, Penland, NC, 28765) does not show up in many of these systems. Using our GPS coordinates is likely to be more accurate. They are as follows: **35.94467,-82.115706**

If you are unfamiliar with the area, we strongly advise that you arrive before dark; it's easy to get lost. Penland is one hour from Asheville, one hour from Johnson City, three hours from Charlotte, one hour from Marion, three hours from Knoxville.

From Asheville:

Take US 19/23 (future I-26) North past Mars Hill, then take exit 9 to stay on US 19 towards Burnsville. This road will turn into US 19E (DO NOT take US 19W). Go through Burnsville and continue approximately 12 miles until the lights at the junction with 226. Turn left onto 226 and continue for 2.8 miles. Turn left onto Penland Road; there's a green Penland School sign at this turn. Drive 1.1 miles on Penland Road to a big curve. Turn sharply to the right onto Conley Ridge Road (there is a large, steel Penland School sign here) and go all the way up the hill.

From Eastern North Carolina:

Take I-40 West to Marion, exit 86. Turn right at the end of the ramp onto NC 226 North. This road will take you all the way to Penland Road (about one hour), but you will need to make several turns to stay on 226; watch for signs and be careful you don't end up on 221 or 226A. Several miles after you cross under the Blue Ridge Parkway, you will pass a shopping strip on the right, then crest a steep hill. At the bottom of that hill, turn left at the light onto 226/19E. Drive through one light and turn right at the second light, and then continue on 226 for 2.8 miles. Turn left onto Penland Road; there's a green Penland School sign at this turn. Drive 1.1 miles on Penland Road to a big curve. Turn sharply to the right onto Conley Ridge Road (there is a large, steel Penland School sign here) and go all the way up the hill.

From the North via I-95:

Turn onto I-85 South at Petersburg, VA, continue to Greensboro, pick up I-40 West, then follow directions from Eastern NC (above).

From the North via I-81:

Resist the temptation to take the Skyline Drive/Blue Ridge Parkway; it's straight and beautiful, but very slow. Exit onto I-26 East (Exit 57A). Go through Johnson City and continue on I-26 into North Carolina. Nine miles after you cross the state line, take exit 9 onto US 19 towards Burnsville. This road will turn into US 19E (DO NOT take US 19W). Go through Burnsville and continue approximately 10 miles. Turn left at the green Penland School sign onto Penland Road. Follow Penland Road for 3 miles, when you will cross a bridge and railroad tracks. One mile past the railroad tracks, bear left at the big curve onto Conley Ridge Road (there is a large, steel Penland School sign here). Go all the way up the hill.

From the Deep South, the Midwest, the Southwest, etc.:

Find your way to Asheville, NC and then follow the directions listed above.

Area Accommodations
Penland Campus Map (PDF)

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