

The background of the entire page is a stylized night landscape. It features several layers of mountain ranges in shades of blue and purple, receding into the distance. In the foreground, there are three bright, glowing yellow-white lights on a dark ridge. The sky is dark blue with small white stars and two larger, multi-pointed starburst graphics, one in the top left and one in the top right. The title text is positioned in the upper half of the image, slanted upwards from left to right.

BROWN MOUNTAIN LIGHTS

A VIEWING GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION

The Brown Mountain Lights are a world-famous topic of mystery and debate. For more than a century, locals, tourists, scientists and researchers have been baffled by this weird and complex phenomenon. Most people think of the lights as a wondrous, colorful display on dark ridges at night. And yet an entire sub-culture associates the enigma with UFOs, underground bases, conspiracies, reality warps, and high strangeness similar to the Bermuda Triangle. In this guidebook, we'll focus on the display itself. Despite fascinating photographs of weird illuminations presented for years, some who have never seen the lights are convinced they don't even exist. There is only one way for you to know. You must venture out and look for yourself. I have been investigating the phenomenon for decades. In this guidebook, I'll give you a solid understanding of the mythos behind the lights, and tips on how to properly observe the mountain yourself. All the while, I will maintain a somewhat cautious and neutral view on what they may be. After all, they are a great mystery, and though there are many theories, no one knows for sure; hence the beauty of this rare and mystical slice of Americana.

DESCRIPTION

Usually, the Brown Mountain Lights are described as multi-colored balls of light that either flare-up from one location, or move, as a group, through the trees. They are often reported flying, or floating, into the air above the mountain, as well. Even though Brown Mountain has become the focus of observation, they could more appropriately be called the “Linville Lights,” since the phenomenon has been reported throughout the area, especially in and around the Linville Gorge, most often witnessed from Wiseman’s View.



A close-up of a Brown Mountain Light swelling above the trees, captured by Brian Irish of Warren's L.E.M.U.R. Research Team in 2000.

The lights frequently begin as a red glow, flaring into white. They can also appear as orange, blue, green or yellow. Usually, a single ball of light only lasts 6-10 seconds before vanishing. But, on rare occasion, they can last more than a minute, especially

when floating into the air over the ridge. The movement of the lights is somewhat unpredictable. One orb can divide into several, the smaller ones eventually combining to form a large one again. They might seem to “ooze” around the trees and drift over the ridge; dwindle and fade away, or simply wink and vanish.

The illumination is most often witnessed from vantage points miles away. Because of such great distances, and the fleeting nature of the phenomenon, most people cannot see specific details. Over the decades, a handful of people claim to have seen the lights up-close. In 1982, one man, named Tommy Hunter, even claimed he touched one of the lights that came bobbing up to the 181 overlook. He, and other witnesses, said it was a few times larger than a basketball; a bright, yellowish color, and hovering 3 or 4 feet above the ground. When he touched it, Hunter said he received an electrical shock. The light dimmed, but did not dissipate, floating back off into the woods. Others who claim to have seen a light up-close usually give a similar description of how it appears.

Whether seen up close, or from afar, those who believe they have observed the lights cherish the spectacular and ghostly display.

HISTORY

Locals will tell you that Native American legends regarding the lights go back hundreds of years. And, in 1771, Gerard de Braham, a German engineer, recorded strange experiences while exploring the area. He was intrigued by unexplainable sounds in the mountains. In his diaries, he wonders, oddly, if the noises could be created by the spontaneous ignition of “nitrous vapors” carried by the wind. It is perhaps impossible to verify whether these early accounts are significant. However, reports of the lights exploded in the twentieth century.

On September 24, 1913, the Charlotte Observer published an article titled “No Explanation: Burke County’s Mysterious Light Still Baffles Investigators.” The article states, “the light rises in a southeasterly direction from the point of observation just over the lower slope of Brown Mountain, first about 7:30 p.m., again about 20 or 30 minutes later and again at 10 o’clock. It looks much like a toy fire balloon, a distinct ball, with no ‘atmosphere’ about it, and as nearly as the average observer can measure it, about the size of the toy balloon.” It further records, “Many have scoffed at this ‘spooky’ thing, and those members of the Morganton Fishing Club who first saw it more than two years ago were laughed at and accused of ‘seeing things at night’ as a result of a common human frailty. But as more and more persons have seen it, various attempts have been made to explain the mystery.” We can therefore say, with certainty, the lights were definitely a hot topic in 1911.

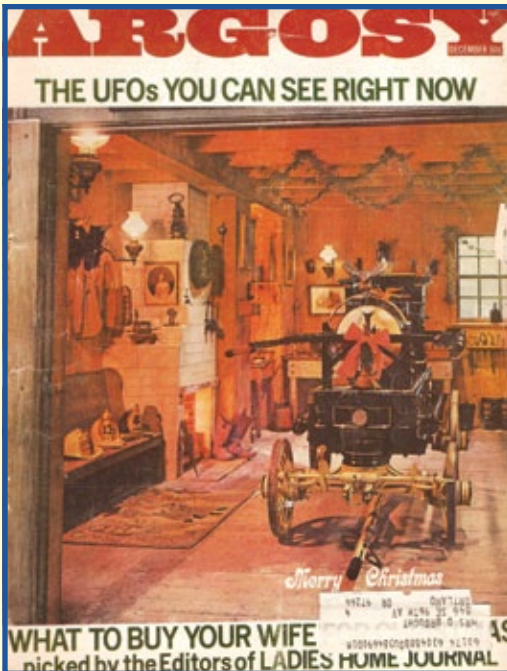
After this publicity, the lights were investigated at least three times by the U.S. government: once by the U.S. Weather Service, and twice by the U.S. Geological Survey. Even the Smithsonian conducted an expedition. In a 1922 geological survey, George Mansfield studied the mountain and its weather conditions for weeks. In his official report, titled Circular 646, he stated the lights were: 47% auto headlights, 33% locomotive lights, 10% stationary lights, and 10% brush fires. Many locals felt the

report was pure hogwash. The lights had supposedly been seen long before autos and locomotives. Plus, in 1916, a great flood wiped out transportation routes. There were no trains or autos in the area for more than a week. However, the lights continued to be seen.



USGS scientist George Mansfield

In 1965, Ralph Lael, a local UFO researcher, published a booklet called *The Brown Mountain Lights*. In it, he claimed he had voluntarily cooperated in his abduction by aliens on the mountain several times. Lael's work anchored a widespread belief that the phenomenon was perhaps more extraterrestrial than terrestrial. This is reiterated in pulp magazines of the day, such as the December, 1968 issue of *Argosy* men's magazine. The cover story, about the lights, was titled "The UFOs You Can See Right Now."



The December, 1968 issue of Argosy



The Brown Mountain Lights featured in Argosy

Numerous private groups have researched the lights throughout the years. One of the most prominent investigations was done in the mid-1970s to mid-1980s by a team of scientists from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee called ORION (Oak Ridge Isochronous Observation Network). They, along with a group called The Enigma Project, spent years analyzing the area. Though they gathered a great deal of valuable information, they, too, were unable to conclusively solve the mystery.

Many artists have been fascinated by the mountain. The lights have been featured in numerous books on the unexplained. North Carolina authors John Harden, Nancy Roberts, and John Parris have all included the phenomenon in their works. In the early 1960s, song writer Scott Wiseman's "The Legend of the Brown Mountain Lights" became a bluegrass hit, performed by Tommy Faile. It has been re-recorded by numerous artists.

The Brown Mountain Lights have also been popular on television. They were featured in a May 9, 1999 episode of The X-Files called "Field Trip." They have been showcased on the Travel Channel, Discovery Channel, and National Geographic Channel, and continue to pop up on documentaries around the world.

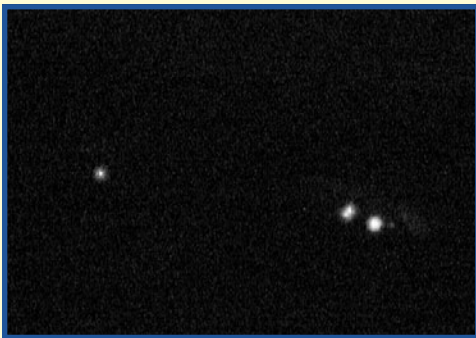
During a series of trips in November of 2000, the first good video footage of the Brown Mountain Lights was captured, using Sony night-shot, by Brian Irish, imaging specialist for my research team, L.E.M.U.R. (League of Energy Materialization & Unexplained phenomena Research). Brian and I watched a particularly amazing display on a cold, windy, rainy night. When many people think of the Brown Mountain Lights, the image that comes to mind is the footage captured those dreary fall evenings.

In 2012, the Burke County Tourism Development Authority produced the first official Brown Mountain Lights Symposium to discuss the mystery, drawing a crowd of

hundreds from around the country. The event was so popular a second one was held later that year. All viewpoints were given a stage, and diverse opinions on the lights were as passionate as ever.



Warren was present when these lights were captured by Brian Irish & L.E.M.U.R. in 2000; but he believes they may just be ATVs on the mountain.



Warren was present when these lights were captured by Brian Irish & L.E.M.U.R. in 2000; and he believes these are definitely the TRUE Brown Mountain Lights. This is a frame from dramatic video footage (see www.BrownMountainLights.com)

LEGENDS

There are countless legends surrounding the lights. One of the most popular was featured in the “Legend of the Brown Mountain Lights” bluegrass song. The author, Scott Wiseman, was the nephew of Fate Wiseman, after whom Wiseman’s View was named. Here is that version of the tale:

Brown Mountain was named after a plantation owner who lived in the area in the 1800s. He was kind to his slaves. One night, he ventured onto the mountain to hunt. When he did not return, one of his slaves took a lantern and scoured the ridge for him. He, too, was never seen again. Today, you can still see the “faithful old slave’s” lantern burning as his spirit still searches for his lost master. Of course, the mountain frequently produces multiple lights at the same time. However, Wiseman must have liked the image of a single, devoted spirit. The song using this legend was performed at the Grand Ole Opry and became quite a hit. For a while after its release, light watching reached a peak.

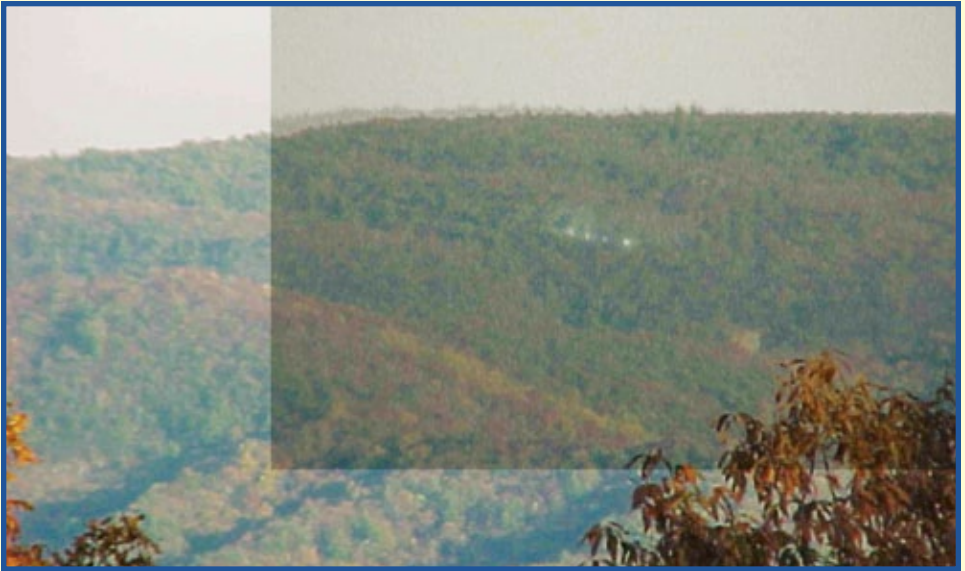
Another popular tale, which dates back to the year 1200, involves a vicious battle on the ridge between the Cherokee and Catawba Indians. Some of the best warriors died. That night, after the fight, the Indian maidens lit torches and scoured the ridge for bodies. The mournful scene was so tragic and intense it still haunts the mountain.

Others tell of a man who murdered his wife and child and secretly buried them on Brown Mountain. Shortly thereafter, the lights began appearing over their hidden graves. Locals were drawn to investigate the illumination and discovered the bodies. However, the murderer escaped and was never seen nor heard from again.

Even though most of the legends portray the lights as ghosts, tales of UFOs, aliens, inter-dimensional beings, little people, fairies and such have become widespread since the 1960s. There are some who believe the lights might even be conscious beings of energy who live inside the mountain. Brown Mountain has inspired more myths, folk tales, and superstitions than one can easily document. It’s certainly easy to understand why.

THE MOUNTAIN

Brown Mountain is one of the last formations as the Blue Ridge Mountains submit to the flat Piedmont region. It stands in the Pisgah National Forest, near Morganton, on the border of Burke and Caldwell Counties, in western North Carolina. Brown Mountain is a small peak with a low-lying ridge that runs along the horizon beside it. The peak is 2,750 feet, while the ridge stands around 2,600 feet. On the surface, they appear as ordinary as any rise of land in the surrounding mountains.



By overlaying daytime pics with nighttime pics, detailed analysis of mysterious imagery is possible.

A portion of the mountain is home to the Pisgah National Forest's only ATV (All-Terrain Vehicle) trails. These extremely rugged paths loop for miles on and around the mountain. It's one of the country's most exhilarating parks for dirt bike and 4-wheeler enthusiasts.

Hikers can enjoy the rest of the area, with the exception of a patch of private property. There is a Forest Service road that leads toward the ridge. However, it's blocked by a

locked gate used only by the Forest Service. Civilians can request a free permit and key from the Nebo, North Carolina Forest Service station to unlock the gate and drive closer to the mountain for camping.

The backside of the mountain is quite lush. Scenic streams rush through the crags, cutting mighty gapes through the mountain boulders. There are ferns, mushrooms, mosses, and other signs of moist life. However, as one ascends the mountain, the moisture dwindles. Many of the trees on the mountainside look sparse and dead, perhaps suffering from acid rain.

The ridge is primarily composed of ordinary “cranberry granite.” It contains sandstone, quartz, and mica. Iron has also been found on the mountain. The area around Brown Mountain is a black bear reserve, and it’s also well known for copperheads, one of the most deadly snakes in the country. The Brown Mountain area is extremely rugged, thus hikers and bikers in the area have died from accidents. The side of the ridge is covered with slick rock faces, especially treacherous when covered with water or fallen leaves. One of the biggest reasons the lights are still a mystery is because it’s so dangerous and difficult to navigate the ridge and surrounding land. There are also some small caves and holes around the mountain. It’s noteworthy that Brown Mountain is a short distance from the Linville Caverns, the only “show cave” in the state of North Carolina. Interestingly, the ridge is almost completely encircled by thrust faults. This fact plays into some of the theories regarding the lights being related to geologic movement.



One of the caves, or holes, discovered by Warren's team on Brown Mountain.

During the daytime, from a distance, the ridge appears quite insignificant. But at night, it can sometimes steal the spotlight from any other formation in the Appalachians.

THEORIES

There are places on earth where unexplained, ghostly lights sometimes appear at night. They're generally called spooklights, will-o-the-wisps, foxfire, jack-o'-lanterns, ignis fatuus (Latin for Fool's Fire) or simply, earth lights. Famous examples are the Marfa Lights in Texas and the Hessdalen Lights in Norway.

Some claim that "swamp gas" (principally methane) released by dying plant and animal matter spontaneously ignites and creates the effects. However, most enduring spooklights do not behave in a manner consistent with traditional gaseous activity. The Brown Mountain Lights occur on the side of a mountain where no swampy areas exist. However, they don't appear "gaseous," anyway. When gas is released into the air, it spreads and diffuses into the atmosphere. The Brown Mountain Lights appear to be self-contained, concentrated balls of light which can maneuver the mountain. While traveling, and clearly not attached to a stationary "fuel port," they can continue to "burn" for a minute or more. The lights can also be extraordinarily bright (even when viewed many miles away); seemingly far too bright for known natural gas to produce. They frequently appear when the conditions are dry. Why wouldn't balls of ignited gas burn up the mountain as they move through the trees? They've never been known to start a fire. It is true that, in the 1960s, a group of scientists on the mountain first reported feeling faint when the lights appeared, as if they were exposed to gas. And this still happens from time to time, though there is no evidence of such a gas that could affect people so far away. However, some people may be sensitive to intense blasts of electromagnetic radiation.

A strong theory is that the lights may be an electrically-charged plasma (a state of matter like a candle flame), similar to ball lightning. The formation of such manifestations in nature is, in itself, still largely a mystery to current scientists. In 2004, my team and I released a report on the cause of the Brown Mountain Lights.

By reproducing conditions found on the mountain, we were able to create a similar phenomenon on a miniature scale in our laboratory. We concluded most of the lights are indeed a kind of ball lightning produced by some special characteristics of the mountain. Essentially, we feel the mountain

is sort of a large, natural capacitor—something that stores up electrical energy over time—then releases it at a critical moment, where intersecting



Joshua P. Warren mans the base camp on a Brown Mountain Lights research expedition.

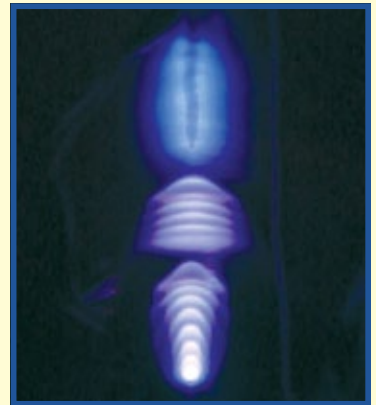
discharges merge to create spinning points of light. If so, this might explain why a man like Tommy Hunter reported an uncomfortable, but relatively harmless, shock when he touched a light. In 2000, photographer Mark-Ellis Bennett shot two rolls of infrared

and electrostatic environment when strange lights were spotted. Those who have seen a light up-close sometimes say it will tend to follow you if you walk away, or move away if you move toward it. If true, this could be due to your own body's electrical field interacting with a light's, similar to the field between two magnets.



Warren in the lab with NASA Hall-Of-Fame engineer Charles Yost, experimenting with plasmas based on Brown Mountain research.

film, through a visually-opaque filter, as the lights appeared in the distance. Both rolls were entirely over-exposed, seeming to indicate a massive amount of electromagnetic energy being produced. Additionally, on many occasions over the years, our team measured disturbances in the radio



Some of the plasma activity generated in Warren's lab experiments. Note the blob of light that appears to be hovering in mid-air, similar to a Brown Mountain light.

Our findings made the cover of the October, 2004, Electric Spacecraft journal, and have been praised by numerous researchers, including a plasma scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. In 2010, our work was documented for the National Geographic Channel. Footage of a weird light was captured by our researcher Dean Warsing. The footage was sent to the Princeton Optics Lab for analysis. Their conclusion: “We basically went through all of the wavelengths starting from ultraviolet all the way to the near infrared and were not able to replicate the blue color . . . It is unexplained at this point.”

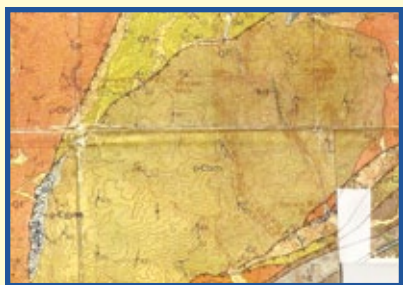


Warren and his team made the cover of the Electric Spacecraft journal.

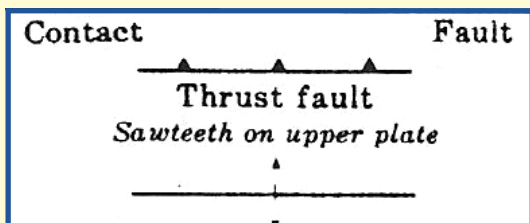
The Brevard Fault, a major force in shaping the Blue Ridge Mountains, does run through the vicinity of the ridge. However, according to geologists, it hasn't moved significantly in 185 million years. But the smaller faults around the mountain are thrust faults that are capable of sliding, perhaps as warm daytime temperatures morph into a chilly night (most drastically in the fall). Brown Mountain contains lots of quartz. Might local fault movement sometimes apply pressure to the quartz crystals, producing electricity? Great pressure applied to all rock, but especially quartz, produces electricity. This is called the piezoelectric effect, and might explain how various substances could become “excited” or ignited by energy on the mountain . . . but then, what substance exactly?



The Brevard Fault is clearly visible dividing the western part of North Carolina from the rest of the state.



Brown Mountain is almost completely encircled by thrust faults, capable of enhanced sliding.



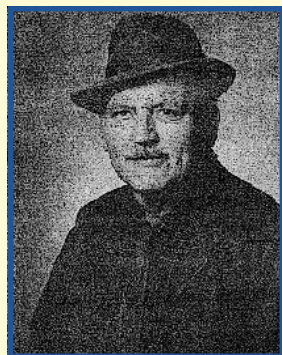
This key demonstrates how thrust faults are denoted on geologic maps.

ORION scientists detonated dynamite on the mountain in an attempt to stimulate the lights. They had some success creating odd flashes of light, but nothing as substantial as the prominent displays reported. During that same period ORION used a spectro-scope to analyze lights on the ridge, but say they found nothing distinguishable from ordinary household lights.

Others have blamed the illuminations on atmospheric reflections and refractions of both artificial and natural sources of light. Some researchers have even wondered if starlight could be refracted in some unusual way. However, evidence for these theories has never been presented. Besides, many research teams like ORION and L.E.M.U.R. have documented anomalous energy fields when the lights appear. These include readings on standard EMF meters, IR scanners, and even Geiger counters (not due to ionizing radiation, but because of high electrostatic charge affecting the tube). Optical illusions could not create these types of objective fields, nor could conventional man-made lights.

Lights from campers and off road vehicles are commonly mistaken for paranormal illuminations. However, the ORV park was only installed in the 1980s, and the lights have been seen for at least the past century. In fact, the scientists from ORION conducted most of their research in the 1970s and early 80s, before the ORV park was constructed.

Of course, the most fascinating theories involve the true fringes of the paranormal and metaphysical. Many believe the lights are the product of UFO activity. One local, a U.S. Congressional candidate named Ralph Lael, especially championed this connection in the 1960s. He claimed he had learned to communicate with the lights via a telepathic mental connection, and he was directed to a hidden cave nearby, filled with crystals. There, humanoid aliens from the planet Pewam took him into space on multiple occasions,



Ralph Lael

advising on why humans must improve to save the planet. Lael even kept a small, mummified body in the back of his local shop, The Outer Space Rock Shop Museum. He claimed it was the body of an alien! Upon Lael's death, no one is sure what happened to this bizarre little creature.



One of only two known photos of Ralph Lael's "alien mummy." This one was taken by Timothy Green Beckley.

Along these same lines, Brown Mountain is specifically noted as an underground alien base in the book titled, fittingly enough, *Underground Alien Bases*, by Commander X. It was first published in 1990, but has since been reprinted. The publisher of this book, New Yorker Timothy Green Beckley, is one of the few people who photographed Lael's "alien mummy," on a research trip in the 1960s. The theme of an underground base at Brown Mountain runs strong, whether involving aliens, the military, or both.

Over the years, hunters have reported military exercises buzzing around the mountain and Humvees that vanish into the forest, as if they disappeared down a tunnel. Many researchers and photographers claim to have been harassed by all kinds of shady

officials and “men in black” for snooping around. Why would the military be interested in Brown Mountain? Perhaps they are interested in weaponizing the energy that creates the lights, especially if it is a powerful plasma. Or if the military is in cahoots with aliens, this might be a perfect rendezvous. Or maybe Brown Mountain is simply a portal that distorts the laws of physics, and makes contact with other, advanced realms easier.

The idea that Brown Mountain is a psychic vortex, as Page Bryant claimed in her 1994 book, *The Spiritual Reawakening of the Great Smoky Mountains*, opens a supernatural can of worms. Is Brown Mountain like a miniature Bermuda Triangle, swirling with cosmic energy? If so, it would explain why airplane pilots report spinning compasses as they fly over. And it might also give us insight on the time warps, strange visions and sensations visitors have. Canadian scientist Michael Persinger has demonstrated, in lab experiments, that various electromagnetic frequencies can induce paranormal experiences when directed at the human brain.

There are countless stories of beings of light, little people, glowing fairies, a creepy “pumpkin man,” and inter-dimensional activity around Brown Mountain. Some have even attributed the lights to giant fireflies or weird worms with “flaming blowholes!” It is therefore easy to see that whether one prefers a traditionally-scientific view, or a more imaginative one, there is a vast spectrum of hypotheses, theories and opinions on what the Brown Mountain Lights may be. Maybe they are all correct. Perhaps a place that naturally produces so much energy also spawns a plethora of other paranormal events, whether considered subjective or objectively-measurable.

WHEN & HOW TO OBSERVE

Brown Mountain, seated in the Pisgah National Forest, is on the border of Burke and Caldwell counties in Western North Carolina.

Enjoy the scenic route:

Take I-40 and exit at Old Fort (Exit 72). Continue straight through the town of Old Fort. After 11.5 miles (from exit) you'll reach an intersection and traffic light with a Wal-Mart on the left. Take a left there onto 221 North, and travel 29.4 miles. There, turn right (beside a gas station) onto Highway 181 and travel 9.5 miles. At mile marker 20, you'll find a pull-off on the left side of the road. Brown Mountain is the long, low-lying ridge straight across from the overlook, 3.5 miles away. The approximate travel time is 1 hour 15 min. from the Old Fort exit.

Or, try the more direct route:

From I-40, take Exit 100 (Morganton). After coming off the exit ramp, go 3.2 miles toward Morganton (left if you're traveling East and right if you're traveling West), and take a left at the stop light onto 181 North. Travel 18.8 miles: You'll find the pull-off on the right at mile marker 20. Approx. travel time is 30 min. from the exit.

You can also see the lights from other various points in the area, like Wiseman's View (on the edge of the Linville Gorge), or Grandfather Mountain. However, the overlook on 181 is by far the best spot to see Brown Mountain.

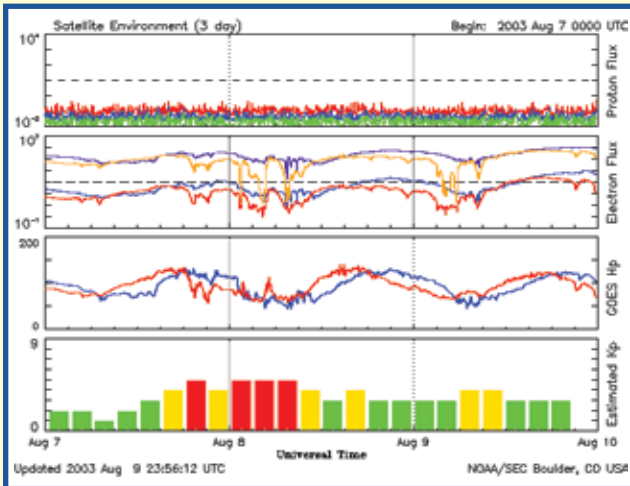
Regardless of the conditions, clear or cloudy, rainy or dry, new moon or full, the lights, when they appear, are usually bright enough to be seen. Though rare, the phenomenon apparently occurs now as much as ever. However, it certainly does not occur every night. Though the lights have been reported in virtually all weather conditions and at all times of year, they are more prominent in the fall. This may simply be due to better visibility when the leaves are off the trees. Or perhaps the additional acid, added to the ground water, from the decaying leaves, provides a nice conductive liquid, or electrolyte, for the ridge's electrical activity. In fact, numerous campers on, or near, Brown Mountain, have seen balls of light bouncing around streams, and even bobbing up or down waterfalls.

Do not be misled by lights from airplanes, towers, or the nearby towns of Lenoir and Morganton. The paranormal lights are extremely pronounced and cannot be confused with these conventional and consistent illuminations. They often move in strange ways and can change color before your eyes, unlike the stationary lights from normal sources, or car lights that always move on the same route.

As the product of a complicated natural mechanism, though no one can say for certain when they will appear, my and my team's research has indicated you have the highest chances of seeing the lights when the following four conditions are met:

1. **It is autumn:** due to the impact of the leaves; plus the temperature differential between night and day may enhance the mountain's movement, expanding and contracting to stir up energy production.

2. **It is either raining or a rain has recently occurred:** The water running on and through the mountain may build up electrical charges.
3. **There is extra carbon (smoke) in the air, perhaps from campers or a forest fire:** Such debris in the air may provide a fuel for the bright lights to consume as they “burn.”
4. **The Kp-index reads 5 or above:** The Kp-index is a measurement of how disturbed the earth’s overall magnetic field is. This field, or magnetosphere, warps drastically, moment by moment, in response to solar flares and space weather. When the field is disturbed, it induces more current flow in the planet, and enhances celestial effects like the aurora borealis and aurora australis. For a live update on the Kp-index, do an online search or simply visit www.BrownMountainLights.com for a readout. A 5 or above indicates a storm, and is represented by a red bar.



A typical example of the Kp-index and other space weather data on a graph.

If you are lucky enough to see the Brown Mountain Lights, please be sure to contact us through the site to share your experiences and the environmental conditions when you saw them! Better yet, come visit us at the Asheville Mystery Museum to see our Brown Mountain Lights display and tell your story. See: www.HauntedAsheville.com

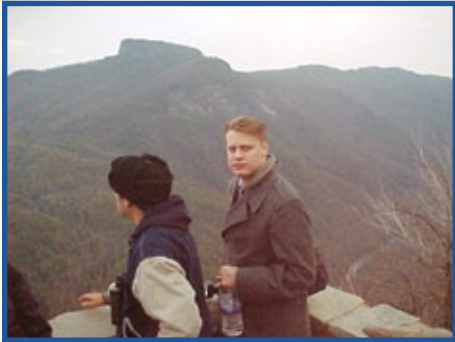
CONCLUSION

Whatever they are, the Brown Mountain Lights remind us that earth is a powerful and dynamic machine. NASA has shown us that the very gravitational field is an inconsistent and irregular force about its surface, and enhanced imaging techniques reveal spectacular, eerie flashes of light and electricity in and all around the planet. Each second, somewhere on the globe, bolts of lightning strike the ground, banging the earth like a giant drum, and strumming out cosmic harmonies. Whether the lights begin with something geologic, atmospheric, or truly inter-dimensional, there is a greater story here . . .

If we strip away all the opinions, we ultimately have a place where, for over a century, humans from all walks of life have essentially described something simple: weird lights on a dark mountainside. The geologists focus on piezoelectricity. The chemists focus on gas. The astronomers focus on optical illusions. The physicists focus on plasma. The spiritualists focus on ghosts. The UFO hunters focus on flying saucers. And the conspiracy buffs focus on mind-bending plots. Yet all the while, the songwriters, poets, and artists are just as inspired by their own, personal multi-colored visions. The mountain is a phantasmagoria of strange tales, but ultimately, it is a vast blank slate. It is the tracing board for all manner of human adventure, exploration, wonder and imagination. Regardless of what they are, the mere concept of the Brown Mountain Lights makes them important. And in this internet age, when the whole universe seems right at our fingertips, how refreshing it is to have a good, old-fashioned mystery still quietly waiting to be solved, right here, in our own backyards.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Joshua P. Warren was born in Asheville, North Carolina, and began studying the Brown Mountain Lights as a teenager. He and his team spent over a decade camping on the site and bringing a variety of scientists to supervise their work and share opinions. Warren is currently the author of fifteen books, including *Haunted Asheville*, the first book of Asheville ghost stories ever written. He owns the popular Haunted Asheville ghost tours and the Asheville Mystery Museum. Warren frequently appears on television, and is known for his work on the Travel Channel, History Channel, Discovery Channel, National Geographic Channel, Animal Planet, TLC and SyFy. He hosts the *Speaking of Strange* radio program Saturday nights, and is a correspondent for Coast to Coast AM, the largest overnight radio show in the country. You can learn more about Warren, and how you can participate in his expeditions around the world, at: www.JoshuaPWarren.com



A young Warren at Wiseman's View.



Warren during an early Brown Mountain Lights camping expedition.



It's the oldest & original ghost tour in Asheville, North Carolina,
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