Lunch Stops On The Way To The Rockcastle River Trading Company

Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea
(kyartisancenter.ky.gov)

Directions: Just off Interstate 75 at Exit 77. Visible from the interstate.

Café hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day.
Traditional Kentucky menu is only served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Entrées change but daily staples include corn pudding, green beans, soup beans, and bourbon bread pudding. There are also grilled foods, a salad bar, cold sandwiches and baked goods.
Patio dining available in warmer months.

Bonus: Besides lunch you get to browse a gallery exhibiting the work of Kentucky artisans and shop for their pottery, books, glasswork, jewelry, garments, furniture, food products and other items. On Fridays and Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. working artists demonstrate their crafts.

Historic Boone Tavern’s Dining Room
(boonetavernhotel.com)

Directions: Get off Interstate 75 at Exit 76.
Turn left, traveling east on State Road 21 (Chestnut Street) for about 1/2 miles.
At Prospect Street turn right and the hotel is immediately on your left.

Lunch hours: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Monday through Saturday.
Cheeseburger made with homemade pimento cheese; fried catfish uses Weisenberger Mills (Woodford County) fish batter; The Lexington Sandwich features ham, apples, cranberry mayonnaise and Kenny's Farmhouse Havarti cheese from Austin, Kentucky. Everyone receives a complimentary serving of Kentucky spoonbread.
White-tablecloth dining with “tastefully casual” dress code.

Bonus: You could take US 25 all the way to the Rockcastle River Trading Company after lunch at the historic tavern, mimicking the journey that many people made between Berea and the Carlotois property before the days of the interstate.

Both Kathleen Purcell, manager of the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea café, and Jeffrey Newman, chef at the Historic Boone Tavern’s Dining Room, say they use Kentucky Proud products as much as possible.

Directions from Louisville:
- Take Interstate 64 East to Interstate 75 South.
- Travel Interstate 75 South at Exit 59.
- Then take a leisurely drive down US 25 to the town of Livingston. You’ll find the Rockcastle River Trading Company on the left just before the Laurel County bridge. This approach will take you through a scenic stretch of Daniel Boone National Forest.
- Travel time: About 2 hours.

For more information:
Visit www.joncarlofts.com or call 606-843-0854.