

BEAR PAWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF SMOKY MOUNTAIN TOURISM

Summer 2014



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Hiking Trails & Ziplines!

There are over 800 miles of hiking trails in the Smoky Mountains. Along the way you might see wildflowers, rivers and streams, historic buildings, and nature at its finest. You might also have an opportunity to view wildlife such as Black bear, coyote, fox, wild boar, elk, wild turkey, and other mammals.

The Smoky Mountains are full of ziplines. You will get a bird's eye view of the mountains while experiencing an exciting outdoor adventure.

(Photo courtesy of www.foxfiremountain.com)



Smoky Mountain Summer Events

June 1-8

Gatlinburg Smoky Mountain Spring: It's a Spring Thing!

June is jam packed with special events and activities for the whole family.

June 1-8

Dollywood's Barbeque & Bluegrass Festival

June 6-7, 13-30 and July 1-31

Smoky Mountain Tunes & Tales

All summer long visitors can meet characters, hear mountain music, and learn about life long ago in the Smokies on the streets of Gatlinburg. Storytellers, musicians and cloggers perform along the Parkway every evening during this 8th annual event.

June 11-16

Father's Day Sidewalk Sale

Pigeon River Crossings

June 12-14

Parker's Greatest Knife Show on Earth

Sevierville Convention Center

June 14-30 and July 1-August 16

Free Parkway Trolley along the Parkway in downtown Gatlinburg. 10am-10pm daily.

July 3-7

Independence Day Sidewalk Sale

Pigeon River Crossings, Pigeon Forge

July 4

24th Annual Patriot Festival

Patriot Park, Pigeon Forge

Celebrate America's independence with food, fun, entertainment, and fireworks. Activities are free of charge.

July 4-6

July 4th Weekend Sale

Tanger Five Oaks Factory Outlet Center
Sevierville

July 3

4th of July Midnight Parade

This 39th annual showcase salutes the valiant men and women of our military services in the "First July Fourth Parade in the Nation." Parade starts at the stroke of midnight to begin Independence Day.

July 4

River Raft Regatta

Ripley's Aquarium Bridge at 10am.

July 4

4th of July Fireworks Show

Downtown Gatlinburg. Show begins at 10pm.

July 18-27

Gatlinburg Craftsmen's Fair

Over 200 booths of art and crafts by some of the nation's finest artisans and craftspeople.

www.craftsmenfair.com

Scenic Roadway - Little River Rd

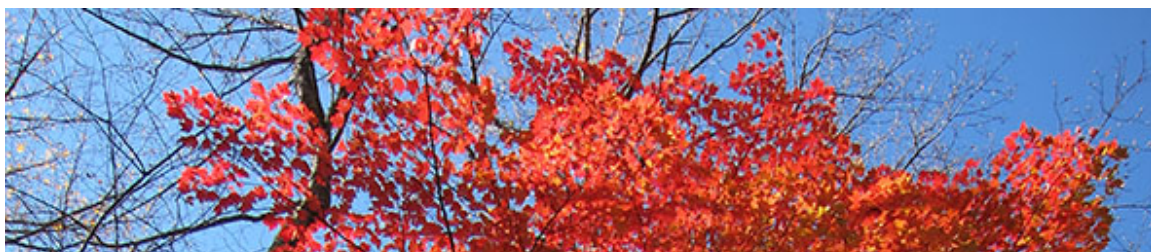


Little River Road is one of the most scenic byways in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This 18 mile paved road parallels the beautiful Little River from Sugarlands Visitor Center at the Gatlinburg entrance to the Park to Townsend, Tennessee.

Highlights of Little River Road include the cool mountain river, wildlife viewing, waterfalls, and wildflowers. Little River Road ventures off into Elkmont where you will find a large campground, the Historic Elkmont District, and thick floral & fauna.

In the Spring and Summer, Elkmont has an abundance of mountain laurel and rhododendron. In the Fall, you will enjoy the beauty of fall foliage.

On Little River Road you will find picturesque scenery at The Sinks. You will also pass Metcalf Bottoms which has a large picnic area on the river. Several popular hiking trailheads are along Little River Road, including Abrams Falls. Meigs Falls is one of the most favorite waterfalls.



Learn about area events and things to do at our Blog!

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Featured Cabin



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Mountain Air Cabin Rentals offers you a variety of cabins for your Smoky Mountain vacation, romantic honeymoon or getaway!

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Mountain Air Cabin Rentals vacation homes are located throughout the Smoky Mountains: Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg and Wears Valley. We are close to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Dollywood, Ripley's Aquarium, many dinner shows and theaters, local arts and crafts, and a variety of other activities like horseback riding, indoor skydiving, zip lining, miniature golf, and miles and miles of go cart tracks! Plus several great outlet malls with over 250 shops to choose from! So if you're looking for family fun, fine dining, and hours of shopping, stay with us at Mountain Air Cabin Rentals and you won't be further than a few minutes of all the activity. Our knowledgeable and courteous staff will be glad to help you plan your vacation, honeymoon or weekend getaway and choose the perfect cabin that will fit all your needs and your budget! Plan your mountain getaway today!

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Getting Married in the Smoky Mountains

Getting married on the Tennessee side of the Smokies is easy. To apply for a marriage license you must be at least 18 years of age. Each party must present either a Valid Driver's License or a Certified Birth Certificate, or a Valid Passport. If your Driver's License does not list your social security number, bring your social security card with you to the Courthouse.

The license application is good for a period of 30 days.

For more information on getting married in the area, including inside the national park, please visit
www.abouththegreatsmokies.com/weddings.html.



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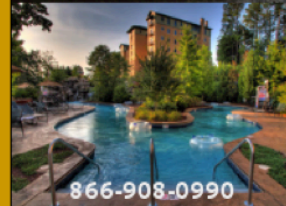


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Clingman's Dome

One of the most popular points of interest in the Smoky Mountains is Clingmans Dome. Vistas from Clingmans Dome are spectacular. On clear, pollution-free days, views expand over 100 miles and into seven states.

Clingmans Dome is Great Smoky Mountains National Park's highest point; 6,643 feet. It is the highest point in Tennessee and the second highest point east of the Mississippi. Located along the state-line ridge, it is half in North Carolina and half in Tennessee. The peak is accessible from driving Clingmans Dome Road for Newfound Gap (Hwy 441 between Gatlinburg TN and Cherokee NC). You will then walk a steep half-mile trail. A paved trail leads to a 54-foot observation tower.

The Appalachian Trail crosses Clingmans Dome, marking the highest point along its 2,144 mile journey.

Weather conditions change quickly at Clingmans Dome.

For more information, visit www.clingmansdome.com