2013 Smokies Trip Planner

Tips on Auto Touring in the National Park

Great Smoky Mountains National Park encompasses over one-half million acres, making it one of the largest natural areas in the East. An auto tour of the park offers scenic views of mountain streams, weathered historic buildings, and forests stretching to the horizon.

There are over 270 miles of road in the Smokies. Most are paved, and even the gravel roads are maintained in suitable condition for standard two-wheel drive automobiles.

Driving in the mountains presents new challenges for many drivers. When going downhill, shift to a lower gear to conserve your brakes and avoid brake failure. If your vehicle has an automatic transmission, use "L" or "2." Keep extra distance between you and the vehicle in front of you and watch for sudden stops or slowdowns.

For updated park weather and road closure information call (865) 436-1200

The following is a partial listing of some of the park's most interesting roads. To purchase a copy of the park's official road guide, visit http://shop.smokiesinformation.org or call (888) 898-9102.

Newfound Gap Road (33 miles)
This heavily used U. S. highway crosses Newfound Gap (5,046' elevation) to connect Cherokee, NC and Gatlinburg, TN. Highlights include numerous pullouts with mountain views and a variety of forest types as you ascend approximately 3,000 feet up the spine of the mountains.

Clingmans Dome Road (7 miles, open March 29-Nov 30.)
This spur road follows a high ridge to a paved walking trail that leads 0.5 mile to the park's highest peak. Highlights are mountain views and the cool, evergreen, spruce-fir forest.

Little River Road (18 miles)
This road parallels the Little River from Sugarlands Visitor Center to near Townsend, TN. Highlights include the river, waterfalls, and wildflowers.

Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (6 miles, open March 8-Nov 30. Buses and RVs are not permitted on the motor nature trail.)
A steep, narrow, and scenic route through deep forest and historic farmsteads. From downtown Gatlinburg, turn at traffic light #8 and follow Historic Nature Trail-Airport Road into the national park.

Bears in the Smokies

The Smokies are one of the few places remaining in the eastern United States where black bears can live in wild, natural surroundings. Some 1,500 black bears live in the park. Unlike black bears elsewhere, adult bears in the Smokies are always black rather than brown or cinnamon. They are also relatively small. Females often weigh 100-150 pounds; males 125-200. However, bears weighing over 400 pounds do live in the park.

Acorns, berries, grasses, and other plant materials make up over 80% of a park bear's diet. The rest consists of insects, carrion, fish, mammals, and other animal matter. Feeding bears in the park or leaving food out for bears is illegal for a number of reasons. Bears conditioned to human-related food lose their fear of people and become threats to human safety. Conditioned bears also cause property damage and are vulnerable to being shot by poachers, hit by vehicles, or dying from ingesting food packaging and other toxins.

Store your food in your vehicle (preferably in the trunk) when not in use. Never feed a bear. Dispose of all trash in bearproof cans.

For information about what to do if you see a bear, please turn to page 11.

National Park Service

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is managed by the United States National Park Service. The agency manages the park in accordance with its mission statement "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

Superintendent Dale Ditmanson asks the help of all Smokies visitors in conserving park resources. Please don't litter, feed wildlife, or disturb plants. Do your best to leave the park in better condition than it was when you came.

Lodging in the Park

Le Conte Lodge, on top of Mount Le Conte, provides the only lodging in the park. The lodge is accessible only by trail (5 miles minimum hiking one way). Reservations often must be made a year in advance. Call (865) 429-5704 or visit www.leconte-lodge.com

Accommodations Outside the Park

There are no motels or rental cabins located within the national park other than Le Conte Lodge (see information above). However, communities surrounding the national park offer a wide choice of accommodations including hotels, cabins, bed and breakfasts, and commercial campgrounds. For information about accommodations please contact the following Departments of Tourism:

North Carolina
Bryson City (800) 867-9246
Cherokee (800) 438-1601
Fontana (800) 849-2258
Graham County (800) 470-3790
Haywood County (877) 456-3073
Maggie Valley (800) 624-4431

Tennessee
Cosby/Newport (423) 623-7201
Gatlinburg (800) 267-7088
Pigeon Forge (800) 251-9100
Sevierville (800) 738-4378
Townsend (800) 525-6834

Pets

Dogs are allowed in campgrounds, picnic areas, and along roads, but must be kept on a leash at all times. The leash must not exceed 6 feet in length.

Dogs are allowed on two short walking paths—the Gatlinburg Trail and the Oconaluftee River Trail. Pets are not allowed on any other park trails.

Pet excrement must be immediately collected by the pet handler and disposed of in a trash receptacle. Pets should not be left unattended in vehicles or RVs.

Family Campgrounds

There are ten developed campgrounds in the park. Each campground has restrooms with cold running water and flush toilets, but there are no showers or electrical or water hookups in the park. Shower facilities are available in the communities surrounding the national park. Please inquire about the nearest facilities when you check-in at the campground. Each individual campsite has a fire grate and picnic table.

Advance reservations are required at Cataloochee Campground during the entire camping season. Campsites at Cades Cove, Elkmont, and Smokemont can be reserved in advance for the period May 15 - October 31, and for the entire camping season at Cosby. Other campgrounds are first-come, first-served. For reservations visit http://www.recreation.gov or call (877) 444-6777. Sites may be reserved six months in advance.

No more than six people may occupy a campsite. Your stay is limited to 14 consecutive days at a time. Leashed or otherwise confined pets are allowed in campgrounds. Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Park campgrounds are located in areas frequented by bears and other wildlife. All food, coolers, utensils, stoves, etc., must be stored out of sight in a closed vehicle when not in use. Do not throw food scraps or packaging in fire rings. Feeding wildlife is prohibited.

Group camping sites are available at Big Creek, Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Cosby, Deep Creek, Elkmont, and Smokemont. Group sites must be reserved in advance. Costs range from $26-$65. Sites may be reserved one year in advance. Visit http://www.recreation.gov or phone (877) 444-6777 for reservations.

Campground	Number of Sites	Elevation	Fee	2013 Open/Close Dates	Maximum RV Length
Abrams Creek	16	1,125'	$14	Closed	12' RVs
Balsam Mt.	46	5,310'	$14	Closed	30' RVs
Big Creek	12	1,700'	$14	March 29-Oct 31	Tents Only
Cades Cove	159	1,807'	$17-20	Open Year Round	35' RVs
Cataloochee*	27	2,610	$20	March 8-Oct 31	31' RVs
Cosby	157	2,459'	$14	March 29-Oct 31	25' RVs
Deep Creek	92	1,800'	$17	March 29-Oct 31	26' RVs
Elkmont	220	2,150'	$17-23	March 8-Nov 30	32' RVs
Look Rock	68	2,600'	$14	Closed	No Limit
Smokemont	142	2,198'	$17-20	Open Year Round	35' RVs

* Campsites in Cataloochee must be reserved in advance

Horse Camps

Four drive-in horse camps provide ready access to backcountry horse trails in the national park. Reservations are required.

Big Creek and Round Bottom horse camps are open March 29 - Oct 31, 2013. Anthony Creek and Cataloochee are open through Nov 12. For reservations, visit the web site http://www.recreation.gov or phone (877) 444-6777 between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

There is a $20 fee per site, ($25 at Big Creek). A maximum of four horses and six people are allowed per site. Sites may be reserved one year in advance.

Weather and Climate Information

When planning a trip in the park, it is helpful to keep in mind that elevations in the park range from 800 feet to 6,643 feet and that the topography can drastically affect local weather. Temperatures can easily vary 10-20 degrees Fahrenheit from mountain base to top, and clear skies lower down do not guarantee equally pleasant weather at higher elevations. Rainfall averages 55 inches per year in the lowlands to 85 inches per year at Clingmans Dome. Some prior planning and weather-wise clothing will help ensure an enjoyable visit during any time of the year.

March through May: Spring brings with it unpredictable weather. Changes occur rapidly—sunny skies can yield to snow flurries in a few hours. March is the month with the most radical changes; snow can fall at any time during the month, particularly in the higher elevations. Temperatures in the lower elevations have a mean high of 61°F. Low temperatures, which are often below freezing, have a mean of 42°F. By mid-April the weather is usually milder. Daytime temperatures often reach the 70s and occasionally the 80s. Below freezing temperatures at night are uncommon in the lower elevations but still occur higher up. April averages over four inches of rain, usually in the form of afternoon showers. May is warmer, with daytime highs in the 70s and 80s and lows in the 40s and 50s. May rainfall averages about 4.5 inches.

June through August: Summer in the Smokies means heat, haze, and humidity. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are common. Temperatures increase through the period with July and August afternoon highs in the 90s in the lower elevations. Evening lows are usually comfortable with readings in the 60s and 70s. In the higher elevations, the weather is much more pleasant. On Mount Le Conte (6,593' elevation), temperatures above 80°F are extremely rare.

To listen to the park's current weather forecast, dial (865) 436-1200 extension 630

September through mid-November: Clear skies and cooler weather signal the onset of the fall color season. Warm days alternate with cool nights. Daytime highs are usually in the 70s and 80s during September, falling to the 50s and 60s in early November. The first frosts often occur in late September. By November, the lows are usually near freezing. This is the driest period of the year with only occasional rain showers. In the higher elevations, snow is a possibility by November.

Mid-November through February: Winter in the Smokies is generally moderate, but extremes in weather do occur, especially at high elevation. It is not unusual to have warm temperatures in the low elevations and snow in the higher areas. About half the days in the winter have high temperatures of 50 degrees or more. Highs occasionally even reach the 70s. Most nights have lows at or below freezing. But lows of -20°F. are possible at high elevations. In the low elevations, snows of 1" or more occur 1-5 times a year. Snow falls more frequently in the higher mountains and up to two feet can fall during a storm. January and February are the months when one is most likely to find snow in the mountains.

The following tables give monthly averages for weather in the park. Temperatures are in degrees Fahrenheit, precipitation and snow are listed in inches, T=trace.

For Gatlinburg, TN (Low elevation area)

Month	High °F	Low °F	Monthly Precipitation Total	Monthly Snowfall	Number of Days with Precipitation
Jan.	51	28	4.8	2.3	9
Feb.	54	29	4.8	2.3	9
Mar.	61	34	5.3	2.9	9
Apr.	71	42	4.5	T	8
May	79	50	4.5	0	9
Jun.	86	58	5.2	0	9
Jul.	88	59	5.7	0	10
Aug.	87	60	5.3	0	10
Sep.	83	55	3.0	0	5
Oct.	73	43	3.1	T	6
Nov.	61	33	3.4	0.7	7
Dec.	52	28	4.5	1.0	8

For Clingmans Dome NC/TN. Based on extrapolations. (High elevation area)

Month	High °F	Low °F	Monthly Precipitation Total	Monthly Snowfall	Number of Days with Precipitation
Jan.	35	19	7.0	18	12
Feb.	35	18	8.2	20	12
Mar.	39	24	8.2	26	12
Apr.	49	34	6.5	5	10
May	57	43	6.0	T	10
Jun.	63	49	6.9	0	11
Jul.	65	53	8.3	0	13
Aug.	64	52	6.8	0	12
Sep.	60	47	5.1	T	8
Oct.	53	38	5.4	2	8
Nov.	42	28	6.4	5	9
Dec.	37	21	7.3	8	10

Things To Do in the National Park

Ranger-Guided Walks & Talks

Evening campfire programs, guided hikes, history demonstrations, and other ranger-led programs are generally conducted from June through October in the park. Additional programs may be offered at other times of the year.

Evening slide programs are traditionally held one or more nights per week at Elkmont, Cades Cove, and Smokemont campgrounds. Guided walks, ranging in length from 0.25 mile to 5.0 miles, are conducted throughout the park. Specific program times and locations are listed in the summer and fall editions of the park's free newspaper, the *Smokies Guide*. The *Smokies Guide* is available at visitor centers or by calling (865) 436-7318. Publication dates are in early June and early September.

Horses for Hire

Horseback riding is generally available from mid-March into November. Rider weight limits may apply. Rates average $30 per hour. Please call the following concessions for details.

Cades Cove (865) 448-9009
Sugarlands (865) 436-3535
Smokemont (828) 497-2373
Smoky Mountain (865) 436-5634

Hayrides

Hayrides and carriage rides are available around Cades Cove Loop Road from spring through fall. Some are ranger-guided. Cost per person is $12-$14. Call (865) 448-9009 for information. Smokemont Stables offers wagon rides for $10 per person. For information, please call (828) 497-2373.

Bicycling

Bicycling is allowed on any park road that is open to vehicle traffic. However, due to steep terrain, narrow road surfaces, and heavy automobile traffic, many park roads are not well suited for safe and enjoyable bicycle riding.

The Cades Cove Loop Road is an exception. The 11-mile-long loop road is the most popular place in the park for bicycling. Other areas suitable for bicyclists include Greenbrier, Lakeview Drive, Tremont Road, and Cataloochee.

Cades Cove Loop Road is closed to motor vehicles for the benefit of bicyclists and walkers from sunrise until 10:00 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday morning from May 8 - September 25, 2013.

Bicycles may be rented from the Cades Cove store located near Cades Cove Campground. For information call (865) 448-9034. Serious accidents occur every year along the loop road, please heed warning signs. The State of Tennessee requires that children age 16 and under wear a helmet. We strongly recommend that all riders wear helmets and ride properly fitted and well-maintained bicycles.

Bicycles are **prohibited on all trails** except the Gatlinburg Trail, Oconaluftee River Trail, and lower Deep Creek Trail. Mountain biking trails are open on national forest and recreation lands outside Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For a listing of other public lands in the region, please see page 8.

Picnicking

Picnic areas are open year-round at Cades Cove, Deep Creek, Greenbrier, and Metcalf Bottoms. In addition, picnic area at Big Creek, Chimneys, Collins Creek, and Cosby are open spring through fall. All picnic sites have a table and fire grate.

Picnic pavilions are available at Collins Creek, Cosby, Deep Creek, Greenbrier, Metcalf Bottoms, and Twin Creeks. They can be reserved for in advance on the internet at http://www.recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777.

All pavilions except Twin Creeks cost $20 per use. Twin Creeks' fee ranges from $35-75 depending on the usage.

Become A Junior Ranger

If you're between the ages of 5-12, you can become a Junior Ranger! Pick up a Junior Ranger booklet for $2.50 at any park visitor center or at the Cades Cove or Elkmont campground. Complete the activities in the booklet then stop by a visitor center to talk to a ranger and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

Older than 12? Stop at a park visitor center and pick up a brochure to participate in the park's Not So Junior Ranger program and earn a patch. The program is open to anyone from 13 to 113 years old!

Water recreation is not recommended in the park due to numerous hazards and dangers. Drowning is one of the leading causes of death in the park. In addition, numerous serious injuries have resulted from people swimming and riding inner tubes in park waters.

Tips for Watching Wildlife

Birds, mammals, reptiles, and other forms of wildlife can be found throughout the park. However viewing wildlife in the Smokies can be challenging because most of the park is covered by dense forest. Open areas like Cataloochee and Cades Cove offer some of the best opportunities to see white-tailed deer, black bear, raccoon, turkeys, woodchucks, and other animals.

In addition, the narrow, winding road of Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail encourages motorists to travel at a leisurely pace and sometimes yields sightings of bear and other wildlife.

Because many animals are most active at night, it is advantageous to look for wildlife during morning and evening. It's also a good idea to carry binoculars. (Spotlighting wildlife is prohibited.) Don't forget to scan the trees—many animals spend their days among the branches.

During winter, wildlife is more visible because deciduous trees have lost their leaves. Sit quietly beside a trail or near the edge of a field to see what wildlife will come out of hiding.

Black bears are most visible in summer and fall as they forage for food. They can be seen high in the tops of wild cherry trees or searching for acorns under oaks trees.

Bears retreat to their winter dens from mid-November through March. However, they do not truly hibernate and may leave the den for short periods on warm winter days.

Elk are most readily spotted in the fields in Cataloochee Valley. They are typically active in the early morning and evening. During the mating season in September and early October, male elk make their legendary bugling calls to challenge other bulls and attract cows. Their calls may be heard a mile or more away. Large bulls use their antlers to intimidate and spar with other males.

Don't be responsible for a bear's death! Never feed wildlife or bait animals for closer observation or photography. Feeding park wildlife usually guarantees the animal's demise.

While most visitors understand that feeding wildlife is against the law, many people do not realize that **disturbing park wildlife is also a violation of federal regulations and can result in fines and arrest.**

The laws protecting park wildlife are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Willfully approaching within 50 yards (150 feet), or any distance that disturbs or displaces bear or elk is prohibited. In addition, feeding, touching, teasing, frightening, or intentionally disturbing any wildlife is prohibited.** This includes bear, elk, deer, turkey, squirrels, snakes, and all other park animals.

Do not approach wildlife. And do not allow animals to approach you! As a rule of thumb, if you approach an animal so closely that it changes its behavior, you are too close. Instead use binoculars, spotting scopes and cameras with telephoto lenses to enjoy wildlife.

Watch for any modification in an animal's behavior that indicates that you have approached too closely. Move away from the animal until you reach a distance at which the animal feels comfortable once again and resumes whatever activity it was engaged in before you approached.

Fishing in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Great Smoky Mountains National Park has about 2,115 miles of streams within its boundaries, and protects one of the last wild trout habitats in the eastern United States. The park offers a wide variety of angling experiences from remote, headwater trout streams to large, coolwater smallmouth bass streams. Most streams remain at or near their carrying capacity of fish and offer a great opportunity to catch these species throughout the year.

A Tennessee or North Carolina fishing license is required to fish in the park. Either state license is valid throughout the park and no trout stamp is required. Special permits are required for fishing in the towns of Gatlinburg and Cherokee. Fishing licenses and permits are not available in the park, but may be purchased in nearby towns.

The park restricts fishing tackle to single-hooked artificial lures and flies. The park prohibits use of live and natural bait, including corn, minnows, salmon eggs, worms, and cheese.

Fishing is permitted year-round in the park, from 30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset. The park allows fishing in all streams **EXCEPT** the following stream and its tributaries upstream from the points described:

Closed Stream
Lynn Camp Prong in Tennessee upstream of its confluence with Thunderhead Prong

This stream is closed to fishing to allow fish to repopulate following restoration work. For the exact location, consult the appropriate USGS 1:24,000 Quadrangle Map available at park visitor centers. Detailed information, including a complete list of regulations and a map of fishable park waters, is also available at any visitor center or ranger station.

Fishing pressure tends to be highest nearest the roads. In addition, many other factors determine an angler's success—the season, time of day, skill level, type of lure, and weather conditions.

Wading in streams can drain body heat and lead to hypothermia. Rising water levels due to sudden mountain storms occur quite frequently, so monitor water level. Water currents are swifter than they appear and footing is treacherous on rocks. Please visit the park's website for additional information about water safety.

Walks To Waterfalls – *All falls are indicated on map on pages 14-16.*

Laurel Falls

The 80-foot high Laurel Falls is named for mountain laurel, an evergreen shrub which blooms along the trail in May. The paved trail is 2.6 miles roundtrip and considered moderate in difficulty.

Laurel Falls is one of the most popular destinations in the park and parking at the trailhead is limited. The area is especially busy in summer and on weekends year-round.

Access trail: Laurel Falls Trail
Trailhead: From Sugarlands Visitor Center, turn toward Cades Cove on Little River Road and drive 3.9 miles to the trailhead. There are parking areas on both sides of the road.

Hen Wallow Falls

The trip to Hen Wallow Falls is a pleasant walk through hemlock and rhododendron forest. A signed side trail leads to the base of the falls by way of steep switchbacks. Hen Wallow Falls is 90 feet high.

The hike to the falls is 4.4 miles roundtrip and is rated moderate in difficulty. Continue on the Gabes Mountain Trail beyond the falls to view an impressive old-growth forest.

Access Trail: Gabes Mountain
Trailhead: Park in the designated hiker parking area at Cosby Picnic Area (near the entrance to Cosby Campground). Then backtrack on foot approximately 100 yards along the road to the signed start of the Gabes Mountain Trail.

Indian Creek Falls

An easy 1.6 mile roundtrip hike will allow you to enjoy two beautiful waterfalls in the Deep Creek area. Walk Deep Creek Trail 0.7 mile to the junction with Indian Creek Trail. On your way you can view elegant Tom Branch Falls located on the far side of Deep Creek. Turn right at the junction with Indian Creek Trail and proceed approximately 200' to Indian Creek Falls. The falls are 25 feet in height.

Access trail: Deep Creek/Indian Creek
Trailhead: Follow the signs through downtown Bryson City to Deep Creek Campground. Continue past the campground to the trailhead at the end of Deep Creek Road.

Do not climb on waterfalls!

Over the years, several fatalities and innumerable injuries have resulted from people climbing on rocks near waterfalls. Rocks are slippery due to mist and algae. Medical assistance for persons injured around waterfalls may be many hours away. Closely supervise children at all times.

Juney Whank Falls

Juney Whank Falls is divided into an upper and lower section. Both can be viewed from the footbridge which crosses Juney Whank Branch at the falls. Together they drop 90 feet from top to bottom. The trail to the waterfall is 0.8 miles roundtrip and is considered moderate in difficulty.

Access Trail: Juney Whank Falls Trail
Trailhead: Follow the signs through downtown Bryson City to Deep Creek Campground. Continue past the campground to the trailhead at the end of Deep Creek Road. Backtrack on foot 0.1 mile along the road to the trail

Rainbow Falls

A rainbow produced by mist from this 80-foot high waterfall is visible on sunny afternoons. During extended winter cold spells, the falls freeze into a hourglass shape.

Between trailhead and falls, the trail gains about 1,500' in elevation. The 5.4 mile roundtrip hike is rated moderate in difficulty.

Access Trail: Rainbow Falls Trail
Trailhead: From the parkway in Gatlinburg, turn at traffic light #8 and follow Historic Nature Trail into Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Continue past the Noah "Bud" Ogle homesite to the clearly signed Rainbow Falls parking area.

Ramsey Cascades

Ramsey Cascades is the tallest waterfall in the park and one of the most spectacular. Water drops 100 feet over rock outcroppings and collects in a small pool where numerous well-camouflaged salamanders can be found.

The trail to the waterfall gains over 2,000' in elevation and the 8-mile roundtrip hike is considered strenuous in difficulty. It follows rushing rivers and streams for much of its length. The last 2 miles pass through old-growth cove hardwood forest with large tulip-trees, silverbells, and yellow birches.

Access Trail: Ramsey Cascades Trail
Trailhead: Drive six miles east of Gatlinburg on Highway 321 and turn at the Greenbrier entrance to the park. Follow the signs 4.7 miles to the trailhead.

Mingo Falls

Mingo Falls is on the Cherokee Indian Reservation (Qualla Boundary), just outside the national park. No special permits are required for access to the reservation. At 120 feet tall, the waterfall is one of the tallest and most spectacular in the southern mountains. The hike to the waterfall is only 0.4 miles in length, but is rated moderate in difficulty.

Access Trail: Pigeon Creek Trail
Trailhead: From Oconaluftee Visitor Center, drive south (toward Cherokee) on US-441 and take the second left onto Big Cove Road. At the first stop sign turn left and drive 4.5 miles to Mingo Falls Campground, where the trail begins.

Favorite Destinations – *Map available on pages 14-16.*

Cades Cove

Highlights: historic buildings, wildlife viewing

Cades Cove is a lush valley surrounded by mountains and one of the most popular destinations in the park. Deer are often seen in the fields and sightings of other wildlife, including bear, are possible. A wide array of historic buildings dating back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries are scattered through out the cove. These include a grist mill, a variety of barns, three churches, and a marvelous collection of log homes and outbuildings.

An 11-mile one-way loop road takes you around the cove. Traffic will be heavy during the tourist season. From sunrise until 10:00 a.m. every Saturday and Wednesday morning from May 8-September 25, 2013, only bicycle and foot traffic will be allowed on the road.

Mileage to Cades Cove:
from Cherokee—57
from Gatlinburg—27
from Townsend—9

Cataloochee

Highlights: historic buildings, wildlife viewing including elk

Encircled by mountains, Cataloochee is a secluded valley rich in cultural heritage. Historic structures include a school, church, barn, and homes. Elk and other wildlife can often be seen in the valley's fields.

The challenge is getting there. From most places it requires a fairly long trip on narrow, winding roads. At least three miles of the trip is on gravel road. To get there, exit I-40 at North Carolina exit #20. After 0.2 mile, turn right onto Cove Creek Road and follow the signs 11 miles into the Cataloochee Valley.

Mileage to Cataloochee:
from Gatlinburg—65
from Cherokee—39

Clingmans Dome

Highlights: mountain views, high elevation spruce-fir forest

At 6,643 feet, Clingmans Dome is the highest peak in the Smokies and the third highest mountain east of the Mississippi. On clear days the observation tower on the summit of the mountain offers spectacular 360° views of the Smokies and beyond.

To get there, turn onto Clingmans Dome Road, which starts 0.1 mile south of Newfound Gap on Newfound Gap Road. The road is 7 miles long and there are scenic pull-outs and a self-guiding nature trail along the way. The road is open March 29-Nov 30, 2013.

The road ends in a parking area from which a 0.5 mile trail leads to the summit. The trail is paved but steep, and leads to an observation tower. Besides the trail to the summit, several other trails start in the area, including Forney Ridge (to Andrews Bald), the Appalachian Trail, and Clingmans Dome Bypass.

Mileage to Clingmans Dome:
from Cherokee—25
from Gatlinburg—23

Oconaluftee

Highlights: historic buildings, visitor center

Oconaluftee offers both a visitor center and the Mountain Farm Museum—a collection of historic log buildings gathered from throughout the Smoky Mountains and preserved on a single site. Buildings include a house, barn, applehouse, springhouse, and smokehouse.

At the visitor center, rangers can answer your questions and there is a bookstore with a broad selection of guides, maps, and other products.

The easy, 1.5 mile Oconaluftee River Trail begins near the entrance to the museum. It is stroller-accessible and follows the river to Cherokee, N.C.

Mingus Mill, a historic, working grist mill, is 0.5 mile north of Oconaluftee. The mill is open daily from mid-March through November. Oconaluftee is 1.0 mile north of Cherokee, NC on US-441.

Mileage to Oconaluftee:
from Cherokee—2
from Gatlinburg—30

Roaring Fork

Highlights: wildflowers, historic buildings, waterfall walks

The Roaring Fork area is a favorite side trip for many visitors. The motor nature trail through Roaring Fork offers views of rushing mountain streams, glimpses of old-growth forest, and a number of well-preserved log cabins, grist mills, and other historic buildings. An inexpensive, self-guiding tour booklet is available at the beginning of the motor nature trail.

To access Roaring Fork, turn in Gatlinburg, TN at traffic light #8 and follow Historic Nature Trail-Airport Road to the Cherokee Orchard entrance to the national park. Just beyond the Rainbow Falls trailhead you have the option of taking the one-way Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (open March 8-Nov 30, 2013). This narrow, paved road winds for six miles through forests, beside waterfalls and streams. Buses, trailers, and motor homes are not permitted on the motor nature trail.

Mileage to Roaring Fork:
from Gatlinburg—1
from Cherokee—35

Venomous Snakes, Insects, and Plants

Two species of venomous snakes live in the Smokies, the northern copperhead and timber rattlesnake. Although very few snake bites occur here, visitors should be cautious where they place their hands and feet, especially around old buildings and stone fences. No fatalities from snakebites have ever been recorded in the park.

Yellowjacket wasps build nests in the ground and are aggressive when disturbed. Stings cause local swelling and can lead to severe allergic reactions in a few sensitive individuals. Such persons should carry epinephrine kits.

Due to lack of standing water, mosquitoes are not a major nuisance in the Smokies. However, biting midges and gnats are common during spring and summer.

Poison ivy is the most common poisonous plant here. Learning to identify its three leaflet form can save you much discomfort.

Regulations

The laws enforced in Great Smoky Mountains National Park are contained in two documents which are available on the park's website:

- Federal regulations covering all National Park Service lands are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter 1
- In addition, regulations pertaining specifically to Great Smoky Mountains National Park are contained in the park's Compendium of Regulations.

The following is a brief list of regulations:

- Picking, digging or damaging plants is prohibited.
- Feeding wildlife and improper food storage are illegal. Approaching and/or disturbing wildlife is illegal.
- Pets are prohibited on most park trails. They are allowed in campgrounds, picnic areas, parking areas, and along roads if leashed.

Avoiding the Crowds

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is America's most visited national park. The park receives approximately nine million visits per year. However, even in the Smokies it is possible to find solitude. Here are some practical tips for avoiding the crowds.

Visit during the "off season"
There are two peak seasons in the Smokies, mid-summer (June 15-August 15) and the entire month of October. Visitation is heaviest in the months of July and October. Weekends in October are especially crowded, and traffic delays should be expected.

Tour early in the day
Visitors can avoid the crowds by traveling early in the day. Most people tour the park from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Visit an off-the-beaten-path destination
The Cades Cove Loop Road and Newfound Gap Road are the most heavily used areas of the park and are busy year-round. Many lesser-used places are waiting to be explored. These include Cosby, Fontana Lake, Greenbrier Cove, and Foothills Parkway east and west.

Nearby Parks & Forests

The Southern Highlands region offers an amazing variety of federal public lands for recreation and enjoyment. Some public lands outside the Smokies offer a wider range of recreational opportunities than are available here, including mountain biking, off-road driving, hunting, rafting, and hiking with pets.

During summer and fall color season, these national forests, recreation areas, and historical parks offer a relatively peaceful alternative to visiting the Great Smoky Mountains. For maps and information, please call the following numbers or visit www.nps.gov

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (423) 286-7275
Blue Ridge Parkway (828) 298-0398
Chattahoochee National Forest (770) 297-3000
Cherokee National Forest (423) 476-9700
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (606) 248-2817
Nantahala National Forest (828) 257-4200
Mount Rogers National Recreation Area (800) 628-7202
Obed National Scenic River (423) 346-6294
Pisgah National Forest (828) 257-4200

Visitor Centers

Begin your exploration of the park at a visitor center. Here you can pick up a park map or newspaper, have your questions answered by a ranger, and purchase books and guides to the park.

All Visitor Centers are open year-round, except Christmas Day. Hours vary by season. A complete schedule is available on the park's website at www.nps.gov/grsm

Sugarlands 865-436-1291
Oconaluftee 828-497-1904

Accessibility

Much of the Smokies can be enjoyed from your vehicle and from accessible facilities and programs. Activities range from viewing scenery to learning about the resourceful people who called these mountains home.

Restrooms at all visitor centers in the national park (Cades Cove, Oconaluftee, and Sugarlands) are handicapped accessible. The Sugarlands Valley all-access nature trail, on the Newfound Gap Road, is now open. Please ask at a visitor center for more information about accessible facilities in the park.

Mountain Driving Tips

Most primary roads and some secondary roads in the park are kept open throughout the winter. However, all of them are subject to temporary closures during adverse weather. Restrictions requiring cars to have tire chains or four-wheel drive may be in effect when roads are snow packed or icy. Newfound Gap Road (US-441), because of its steepness and high elevation at the gap, can be especially hazardous in winter. Temporary closures occur frequently.

When driving downhill on mountain roads, shift to a lower gear (2, 1, or L on automatic transmissions) to avoid using brakes more than necessary. Leave extra room between you and the vehicle in front of you. Be aware that icy sections persist on mountain roads even when the weather is warm in the lowlands.

Below are the planned schedules for seasonal park roads in 2013. For current weather and temporary weather-related road closures updates, call (865) 436-1200.

Balsam Mountain Road — closed
Clingmans Dome Road — open March 29 - November 30
Forge Creek Road — open March 8 - December 31
Little Greenbrier Road — open March 8 - December 31
Parson Branch Road — open March 8 -November 17
Rich Mountain Road — open March 8 - November 17
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail — open March 8 - November 30
Round Bottom Road — open March 8 - November 11
Upper Tremont Road — open year round, weather permitting

"Peak" Seasons in the Park

The timing of natural events such as fall color season and wildflower blooming periods is dependent on a variety of factors and can vary significantly from year to year. "Peak" seasons are impossible to predict in advance, however typical bloom times and fall color seasons are listed below.

Spring Wildflowers
The most abundant display of spring wildflower blooming usually occurs in mid- to late April, although late March and early April feature good showings of early flowers.

Flame Azalea
This wild shrub will be in bloom at the low and mid-elevations in April and May. On Gregory Bald they bloom in late June and early July. On Andrews Bald the season is usually in early July.

Mountain Laurel
This lovely shrub shows its white and pink flowers from early May through June.

Rhododendrons
Catawba rhododendron, which grows at elevations above 3,500', blooms in June. Rosebay rhododendron is in bloom at the lower elevations in June and at mid-elevations during July.

Fall Colors
At high elevations, fall color can be seen during the first two weeks of October. At lower elevations, leaves typically change between the middle of October and the first part of November.

Hiking and Nature Study Adventures

An exciting array of opportunities exists for people who long to get out and explore the park accompanied by experienced and knowledgeable guides. Imagine hiking to the top of Mount Le Conte or observing black bears with a renowned scientist. How about striking out on an overnight backpack trip along the famed Appalachian Trail or day-hiking to Ramsey Cascades?

Dozens of such adventures are offered each year in the park by Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont and the Smoky Mountain Field School. Both nonprofit groups are educational organizations sanctioned by the National Park Service for operation in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Some of the programs available for adults include backpacking trips, elderhostels, Mount Le Conte overnights, naturalist hiking weeks, teacher weekends, geology workshops, landscape photography, and programs on spring wildflowers, birds of the smokies, park history, and Smokies wildlife.

A variety of Summer Youth Camps for children are offered by the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, including:

Discovery Camp is for ages 9-12 and lasts for six days. Activities include hiking to waterfalls, camping, tubing in a park stream, and more.

Girls In Science offers 8th grade girls a chance to explore the park and work with scientists to conduct hands-on science in the park.

Backcountry Ecological Expedition offers teenagers the chance to learn about the natural world and the methods scientists use to study it by participating in science projects in the park.

Fees range from $25 for certain day trips to $1,500 for week-long programs where room and board are provided for a family of four. For free brochures that list complete program offerings, please contact:

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont
(865) 448-6709
www.gsmit.org

Smoky Mountain Field School
(865) 974-0150
www.ce.utk.edu/Smoky/

Hiking in the Smokies

Hikers enjoy the park during all months of the year with every season offering is own special rewards. One of the most daunting tasks facing hikers is choosing a trail. Start by deciding on what you would like to see. Waterfalls? Old-growth forests? Views?

Then decide how far you would like to hike. If you haven't hiked much recently, be conservative. Five miles roundtrip is a good maximum distance for novices. Be sure to allow plenty of time to complete your hike before dark. As a rule of thumb, hikers in the Smokies travel about 1.5 miles per hour. Many people travel slower. Sunset times vary from just after 5:00 p.m. in December to almost 9:00 p.m. in June.

The Great Smoky Mountains Association sells a wide variety of hiking books, maps, and guides to help choose a hiking route and plan your backcountry trip (See selection on page 13). Visit the Association's online bookstore at www.theGreatSmokyMountains.org or phone toll-free (888) 898-9102.

Please call the Backcountry Office at (865) 436-1297 for information to plan your hiking or backpacking trip. The office is open daily from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). In addition to answering your backpacking questions, the experienced backpackers in the Backcountry Office can provide you with tips to make your trip safe and enjoyable.

What Do I Do If I See a Bear?

Bears in the park are wild and their behavior is sometimes unpredictable. Although extremely rare, attacks on humans have occurred, inflicting serious injuries and death. Treat bear encounters with extreme caution and follow these guidelines:

If you see a bear remain watchful. Do not approach it. If your presence causes the bear to change its behavior (stops feeding, changes its travel direction, watches you, etc.)—you're too close. Being too close may promote aggressive behavior from the bear such as running toward you, making loud noises, or swatting the ground. The bear is demanding more space. Don't run, but slowly back away, watching the bear. Try to increase the distance between you and the bear. The bear will probably do the same.

If a bear persistently follows or approaches you, without vocalizing, or paw swatting, try changing your direction. If the bear continues to follow you, stand your ground. If the bear gets closer, talk loudly or shout at it. Act aggressively and try to intimidate the bear. Act together as a group if you have companions. Make yourselves look as large as possible (for example, move to higher ground). Throw non-food objects such as rocks at the bear. Use a deterrent such as a stout stick. Don't run and don't turn away from the bear. Don't leave food for the bear; this encourages further problems.

Most injuries from black bear attacks are minor and result from a bear attempting to get at people's food. If the bear's behavior indicates that it is after your food and you're physically attacked, separate yourself from the food and slowly back away.

If the bear shows no interest in your food and you're physically attacked, fight back aggressively with any available object—the bear may consider you as prey! Protect others, report all bear incidents to a ranger immediately. Above all, keep your distance from bears!

You Are Responsible For Your Own Safety!

Travel in Great Smoky Mountains backcountry areas has inherent risks, and hikers assume complete responsibility for their own safety. Rescue is not a certainty. Your safety depends on your own good judgement, adequate preparation, and constant attention.

Backcountry users should be in good physical condition and be able to survive on their own. Proper equipment and the knowledge of how to use it are essential for a safe trip. Your safety is your responsibility.

Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. The park is not responsible for monitoring your whereabouts. Keep you group together, especially children.

Significant hazards that you may have to contend with include stream and river crossings, precipitous cliffs and ledges, unstable sedimentary rock, dangerous wildlife, and ever-changing weather, including snowstorms and lightning.

The following factors often result in backcountry emergencies in the Smokies:

- Failure to plan and prepare
- Inadequate footwear, clothing, or equipment
- Lack of skill or fitness level for type of terrain or outing
- Impaired or poor judgement, sometimes induced by fatigue, exhaustion, or hypothermia
- Failure to let family and/or friends know of your specific plans or route and date of return
- Failure to keep your hiking party together

Safety Tips

- Stay on officially maintained trails.
- Don't climb on rocks around waterfalls.
- Avoid hypothermia (the dangerous lowering of body temperature) by keeping dry. Don't wear cotton clothing.
- Eat before you're hungry and rest before you're tired.
- Don't attempt to cross flood-swollen streams; they will recede rapidly after precipitation stops and the wait may save your life! Never cross fast-running water that is higher than your knees. When crossing any stream more than ankle-deep, unbuckle the waist strap of your pack, wear shoes, and use a staff to steady yourself.
- Treat all water before drinking either by filtering or boiling.
- Keep your children in sight at all times.

Backcountry Regulations

Reservations and permits are required for all overnight stays in the park's backcountry. To make reservations, please visit https://smokiespermits.nps.gov.

For assistance planning your backpacking trip, please call the Backcountry Office at (865) 436-1297. The office is open daily from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

Backpackers and hikers are subject to all Backcountry Rules and Regulations. Failure to abide by park regulations may subject you to a fine and arrest.

1. Camping is permitted only at designated backcountry campsites and shelters.

2. You may not stay at any backcountry campsite for more than 3 consecutive nights. You may not stay consecutive nights at campsite 113 or at any shelter.

3. Maximum party size is 8. Two parties affiliated with the same group may not stay in the same campsite or at the same shelter on the same night(s). Special permits may be issued for a few sites that accommodate parties of up to 12.

4. Fires are only allowed at designated campsites and shelters and must be contained in a fire ring. Constructing new fire rings is prohibited. You may only burn wood that is dead and already on the ground. You may not cut any standing wood.

5. It is illegal to possess firewood originating from a location from which a federal or state firewood quarantine is in effect. Visit www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/firewood-alert.htm for information about this quarantine and the states affected.

6. Building a fire in the fireplace of any historic structure or removing any parts of a historic structure, including brick or rock, is illegal.

7. General backcountry permit holders may not use tents at shelters. AT Thru Hiker permit holders may tent at shelters under certain circumstances.

8. Hammocks may only be used within designated backcountry campsites. They may not be used inside shelters and may not be attached to shelters in any way.

9. All odorous items (e.g., food, trash, lip balm, toothpaste, stock feed, hay etc) must be hung on the bear cable system at each campsite or shelter.

10. Human waste must be disposed of at least 100 feet from any campsite, shelter, water source or trail and must be buried in a hole at least 6 inches deep.

11. All food, trash, clothing, equipment and personal items must be packed out.

12. Burning food, trash or anything other than dead wood is prohibited.

13. Carving into or defacing trees, signs, shelters or other backcountry features is illegal.

14. Soap, even biodegradable soap, may not be used in any water sources. Bathing and washing dishes should be done well away from water sources and campsites.

15. No dogs or other pets are allowed on any park trails except the Gatlinburg Trail and the Oconaluftee River Trail. No dogs or other pets may be carried into the backcountry.

16. No motorized vehicles are allowed in the backcountry.

17. No hunting is allowed.

18. Feeding, touching or teasing wildlife is prohibited. You may not willfully approach within 50 yards (150 feet) of elk or bears.

Reservations and permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry!

Reservations can be made online up to 30 days in advance of your backcountry trip by visiting: https://smokiespermits.nps.gov

For assistance planning your backpacking trip, call the Backcountry Office at (865) 436-1297. The office is open daily from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

Leave No Trace Ethics

Plan Ahead and Prepare—repackage food to reduce litter.
Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces—stay on established trails; don't cut switchbacks.
Dispose of Waste Properly—bury feces and toilet paper.
Leave What You Find—it's illegal to remove any object from a national park, including flowers and rocks.
Minimize Campfire Impacts—use a stove for cooking, candles or lantern for light.
Respect Wildlife—keep your distance.
Be Considerate of Others—keep groups small.

Recommended Reading - To Order Call (888) 898-9102 x226

General Park Information and Guides

Exploring the Smokies

This award-winning, complete guide to enjoying the Smokies has a handy "map-sized" format that fits easily into the glove-box of your car. Describes all major destinations, including Cades Cove, Greenbrier, Cataloochee, Clingmans Dome, and more. Tells where and how to pursue your favorite vacation activities: camping, fishing, photography, horseback riding, waterfall watching, and hiking. Includes a color pull-out map of destinations in the park. 128 pages #400595 $10.95

Smokies Starter Kit

A variety of booklets and folders to get you started exploring the Park.

1. BACKCOUNTRY TRAIL MAP
2. DAY HIKES Map & Guide
3. AUTO TOURING Map & Guide
4. NEWFOUND GAP ROAD AUTO TOUR Booklet
5. CLINGMANS DOME Booklet
6. CADES COVE TOUR Booklet
7. LAUREL FALLS Nature Trail Guide
8. SAFETY IN BEAR COUNTRY Flyer

#100179 All eight for just $5.00!

Smokies Explorer Packet

Includes Smokies Road Guide, Exploring the Smokies, Day Hikes Map & Guide, Waterfalls Map & Guide #100170 $19.95 Save $3.95!

Family Fun in the Smokies: A Family-friendly Guide to the Great Smoky Mountains

A definitive family guide to the park with everything your family needs to know about the park before you arrive and while you're here. You'll find suggested itineraries designed according to the length of your stay and activities from scenic drives to junior ranger programs, picnicking, day hiking, camping, biking, horseback riding, and fishing. 194 pages. #400908 $11.95

Park Map/Guides

These attractive folders feature full color park maps which highlight roads and trails of interest. The reverse sides offer color photos, charts, detailed maps, safety information, and other text. 23" X 17".

DAY HIKES #490006 $1.00
WATERFALLS #490010 $1.00
AUTO TOURS #490005 $1.00
HISTORIC AREAS #490008 $1.00
WILDLIFE VIEWING #490011 $1.00
BIRDING #490051 $1.00
TREES & FORESTS #490009 $1.00
WILDFLOWERS #490012 $1.00
GEOLOGY #490007 $1.00
BACKPACK LOOPS #490052 $1.00

Self-guiding Auto Tour Booklets

Explore some of the park's most interesting roadways with these handy booklets as your guides. Keyed to numbered posts or landmarks along the road, these tour booklets will point out the beauty along Smokies roadways.

Cades Cove #490025 $1.00
Cataloochee #490027 $1.00
Mountain Farm Museum #490036 $1.00
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Tr. #490037 $1.00
Newfound Gap Road #490034 $1.00
Clingmans Dome #490103 $1.00

Great Smoky Mountains National Park DVD

This is the "official park movie" shown at Sugarlands Visitor Center. It shows the Smokies in all their seasons and all their splendor; from butterflies to black bears. Interwoven in the natural panorama are the human stories of rugged mountain farmers, loggers, and the people who helped create the national park. 20 minutes.
#200150 DVD $10.99

Smokies Road Guide: A Complete Guide to the Roads of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

The park's official road guide takes you step-by-step along the Smokies' scenic highways and less-traveled backroads. 154 pages, #400190 $12.95

History

The Cades Cove Story

A lively history of this beautiful mountain community. Includes sections on farming, homelife, religion, and recreation in Cades Cove. Illustrated with historic photographs. 116 pages. #400055 $7.95

HIstory Hikes of the Smokies

For hikers who love history, this book features in-depth narratives of the 20 most culturally-rich trails in the Smokies. Learn the stories behind the cabins, barns, chimneys, stone walls, machinery and other features so often encountered on park trails. Includes detailed trail maps, steepness profiles and loads of historic photos. #400650 $12.95

The Walker Sisters of Little Greenbrier

This full color books tells the intriguing story of the Walker Sisters who made a rich life for themselves on a farm in the Smokies. Rose Houk, 60 pages. #400730 $7.95

The Civil War in the Smokies

The impacts of the war were far-reaching in the communities to eventually became part of the national park. Written by the winner of Peter Seaborg Award for the best nonfiction book on the Civil War. Noel C. Fisher, 190 pages. #400735 $12.95

Recommended Reading - www.SmokiesInformation.org

Hiking and Fishing Guides

Hiking Trails of the Smokies

The only guide to all designated trails in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Covers all trails with detailed narratives, including information on history, wildflowers, geology, and other features of interest. Includes full color park map, plus 150 trail profiles which show difficulty of each route. Printed on special lightweight paper. 584 pages. 11 ozs. #400161 $20.95. Add Trails Illustrated waterproof topo. map, $28.95 for both! (#100558)

Day Hikes of the Smokies

Carson Brewer's classic hiking guide is back—expanded, updated, and better than ever. It now includes highly detailed shaded relief maps and elevation profile charts for each of the 34 carefully chosen day hikes. Plus photographs of destinations. You just can't beat Mr. Brewer's folksy writing style and lifetime experience on the trails of his beloved Smokies. If you don't have at least one copy of this book in your pack or on your shelf, you're no Smokies hiker!
208 pages, 41/2" x 6" #400630 $9.95

Day Hike Map/Guides

These pocket-sized maps and guides include full color shaded relief maps, accurate mileages, and in-depth descriptions of seven rewarding day hikes in the Deep Creek area, or nine hikes in the Cades Cove area.
Cades Cove guidelet #490101 $1.50
Deep Creek Area guidelet #490102 $1.50

Smokies Backcountry Map

Official park folder shows all trails and campsites. #450002 $1.00

Great Smoky Mountains National Park Topo Map

A waterproof topographic map of the park produced by National Geographic's Trails Illustrated. Includes all maintained trails and numbered backcountry campsites. Full color. 1:62,500 scale. 36" x 25". #450008 $11.95 Add Hiking Trails of the Smokies book— both for just $28.95 (#100558)

Great Smoky Mountains National Park Angler's Companion

by Ian Rutter
This is a terrific new step-by-step, stream-by-stream guide to fishing in and around Great Smoky Mountains National Park. It covers how to stalk trout, what flies, casts, and gear to use, and what streams hold trout and smallmouth. With lots of color photos, it's one of the most valuable Smokies fishing guides ever published. 68 pages. #400656 $19.95

Nature Guides

Waterfalls of The Smokies

There are over 2,100 miles of streams in the Smokies, most dotted with sparkling cascades and waterfalls. This full-color guide to over 40 waterfalls in the Smokies. includes maps, photographs, and detailed directions to each waterfall, including elevations and difficulty of hike. Handy pocket size. 206 pages.
#400266 $12.95

Great Smoky Mountains National Park: Range of Life

You will be awed by the absolutely beautiful color photographs in this book. The text provides an excellent overview of the Smokies with sections on wildlife, wildflowers, streams, and more. A great trip primer and memento. 48 pages, #400429 $8.50

Smoky Mountain Field Guides

These handy, pocket-sized field guides feature exceptional color photos of the most interesting plants and animals in the park. Each species has its own page complete with color photo, habitat information, folk lore, and directions on when and where to see it. Introductory chapters cover suggested walks and drives.

- **Birds of the Smokies**
  167 pages, 100 color photos. #400043 $11.95
- **Wildflowers of the Smokies**
  240 pages, 165 color photos. #400282 $12.95
- **Trees of the Smokies**
  128 pages, 80 color photos. #400253 $9.95
- **Reptiles & Amphibians of the Smokies**
  144 pages, 85 color photos. #400585 $9.95
- **Ferns of the Smokies**
  100 pages, color photos. #400725 $8.95
- **Mammals of the Smokies**
  #400725 $12.95

Many other items available!

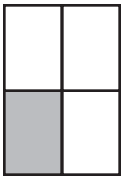
(888) 898-9102 x226
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m.

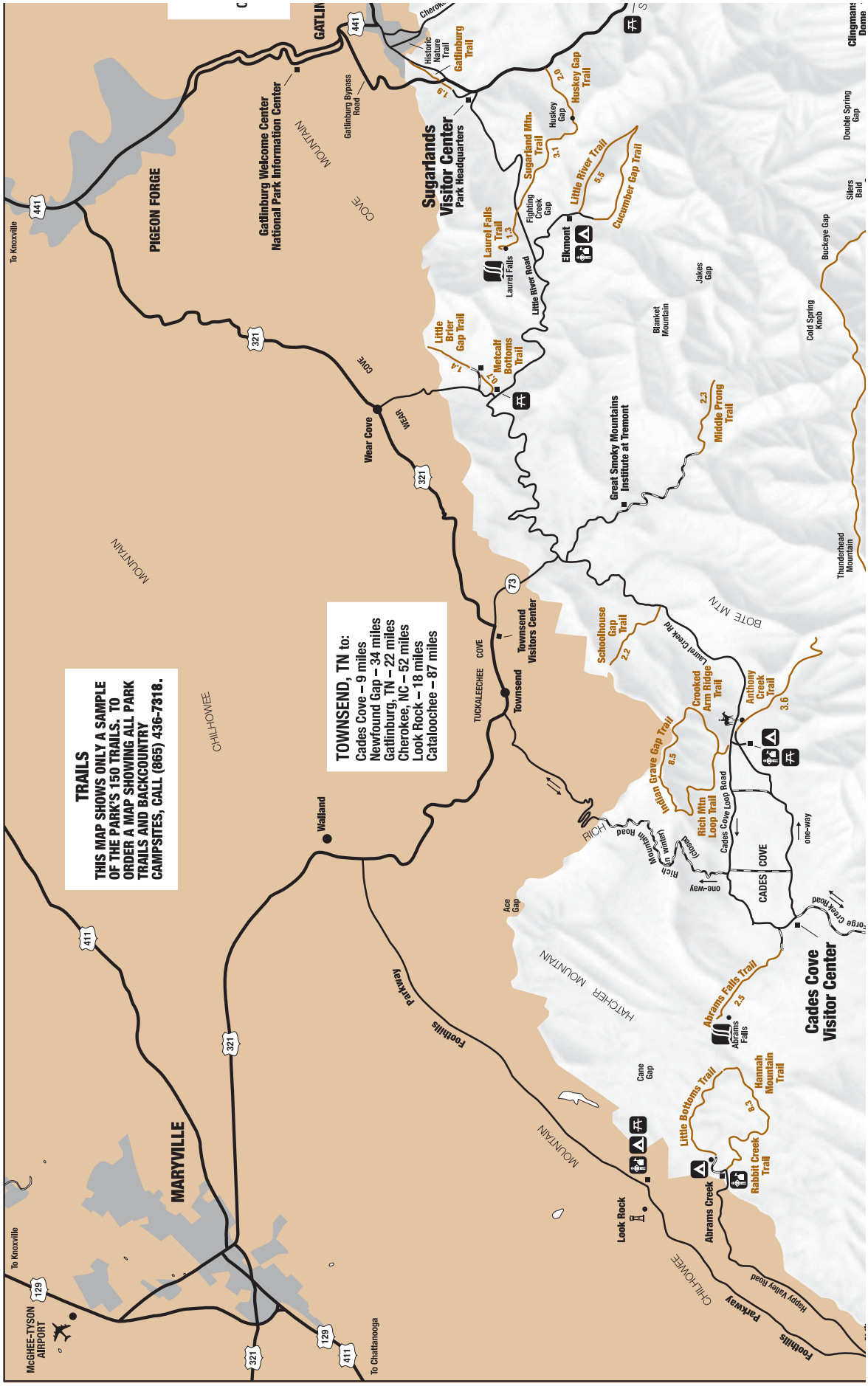
www.SmokiesInformation.org

The map on the following pages is broken up into 4 sections, with some overlap, to allow printing on standard 8.5" x 11" paper.

Hold maps side by side or trim margins and tape together to create a complete map of the park.

Page position in full map.





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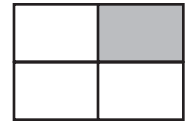

Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Vicinity

- Lookout Tower
- Ranger Station
- Horse Stables
- Camping
- Picnic Area
- Popular Waterfalls

GATLINBURG, TN to:
Cherokee, NC – 34 miles
Cades Cove – 27 miles
Newfound Gap – 16 miles
Clingmans Dome – 23 miles
Cataloochee – 65 miles
Greenbrier Cove – 5 miles

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST
PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST
WEBB MOUNTAIN
GREENBRIER PINNACLE
SUGARLAND MOUNTAIN
HUGHES RIDGE
RICHLAND MOUNTAIN
BALSAM MOUNTAIN
DIVIDE
To Newport
Foothills Parkway (closed in winter)
Cosby
Pittman Center
Greenbrier
Exit 451
Waterville
Big Creek
Cataloochee
Newfound Gap
Balsam Mountain
Heintooga
Exit 20
WATERVILLE LAKE
Appalachian Trail
Lower Mount Cammerer Trail
Gabes Mountain Trail
Maddron Bald Trail
Albright Grove Loop Trail
Ramsey Cascades Trail
Porters Creek Trail
Rainbow Falls Trail
Alum Cave Trail
Chimney Tops Trail
Kephart Prong Tr.
Kanati Fork Tr.
Thomas Divide Trail
Bradley Fork Trail
Big Creek Trail
Mt. Sterling Trail
Caldwell Fork Trail
Boogerman Trail
Spruce Mountain Trail
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (closed in winter)
Cherokee Orchard Rd
Clingmans Dome Road (closed in winter)
Newfound Gap Road
Straight Fork Road
Balsam Mountain Road (closed in winter)
Cove Creek Road
Hen Wallow Falls
Sutton Ridge Overlook
Mount Cammerer
Low Gap
Inadu Knob
Camel Gap
Walnut Bottoms
Mount Guyot
Mount Sterling
Mount Sterling Gap
Luftee Knob
Pretty Hollow Gap
Mount Chapman
Mount Sequoyah
Balsam High Top
Laurel Top
Pin Oak Gap
Round Bottom
Spruce Mountain
Cove Creek Gap
Purchase Gap
Double Gap
Albright Grove
Greenbrier Cove
Ramsey Cascades
Brushy Mountain
Porters Flat
Grotto Falls
Rainbow Falls
Balsam Point
Alum Cave Bluffs
Chimney Tops
Charlies Bunion
Icewater Spring
Indian Gap
Collins Creek
Clingmans Dome
Pittman Center
Cosby
Greenbrier
Newfound Gap
Balsam Mountain
Heintooga
Cataloochee
Waterville
Big Creek
Exit 451
Exit 20
To Newport
Foothills Parkway (closed in winter)
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (closed in winter)
Cherokee Orchard Rd
Clingmans Dome Road (closed in winter)
Newfound Gap Road
Straight Fork Road
Balsam Mountain Road (closed in winter)
Cove Creek Road
Appalachian Trail
Lower Mount Cammerer Trail
Gabes Mountain Trail
Maddron Bald Trail
Albright Grove Loop Trail
Ramsey Cascades Trail
Porters Creek Trail
Rainbow Falls Trail
Alum Cave Trail
Chimney Tops Trail
Kephart Prong Tr.
Kanati Fork Tr.
Thomas Divide Trail
Bradley Fork Trail
Big Creek Trail
Mt. Sterling Trail
Caldwell Fork Trail
Boogerman Trail
Spruce Mountain Trail
GATLINBURG
Hen Wallow Falls
Sutton Ridge Overlook
Mount Cammerer
Low Gap
Inadu Knob
Camel Gap
Walnut Bottoms
Mount Guyot
Mount Sterling
Mount Sterling Gap
Luftee Knob
Pretty Hollow Gap
Mount Chapman
Mount Sequoyah
Balsam High Top
Laurel Top
Pin Oak Gap
Round Bottom
Spruce Mountain
Cove Creek Gap
Purchase Gap
Double Gap
Albright Grove
Greenbrier Cove
Ramsey Cascades
Brushy Mountain
Porters Flat
Grotto Falls
Rainbow Falls
Balsam Point
Alum Cave Bluffs
Chimney Tops
Charlies Bunion
Icewater Spring
Indian Gap
Collins Creek
Clingmans Dome
Pittman Center
Cosby
Greenbrier
Newfound Gap
Balsam Mountain
Heintooga
Cataloochee
Waterville
Big Creek
Exit 451
Exit 20
WATERVILLE LAKE
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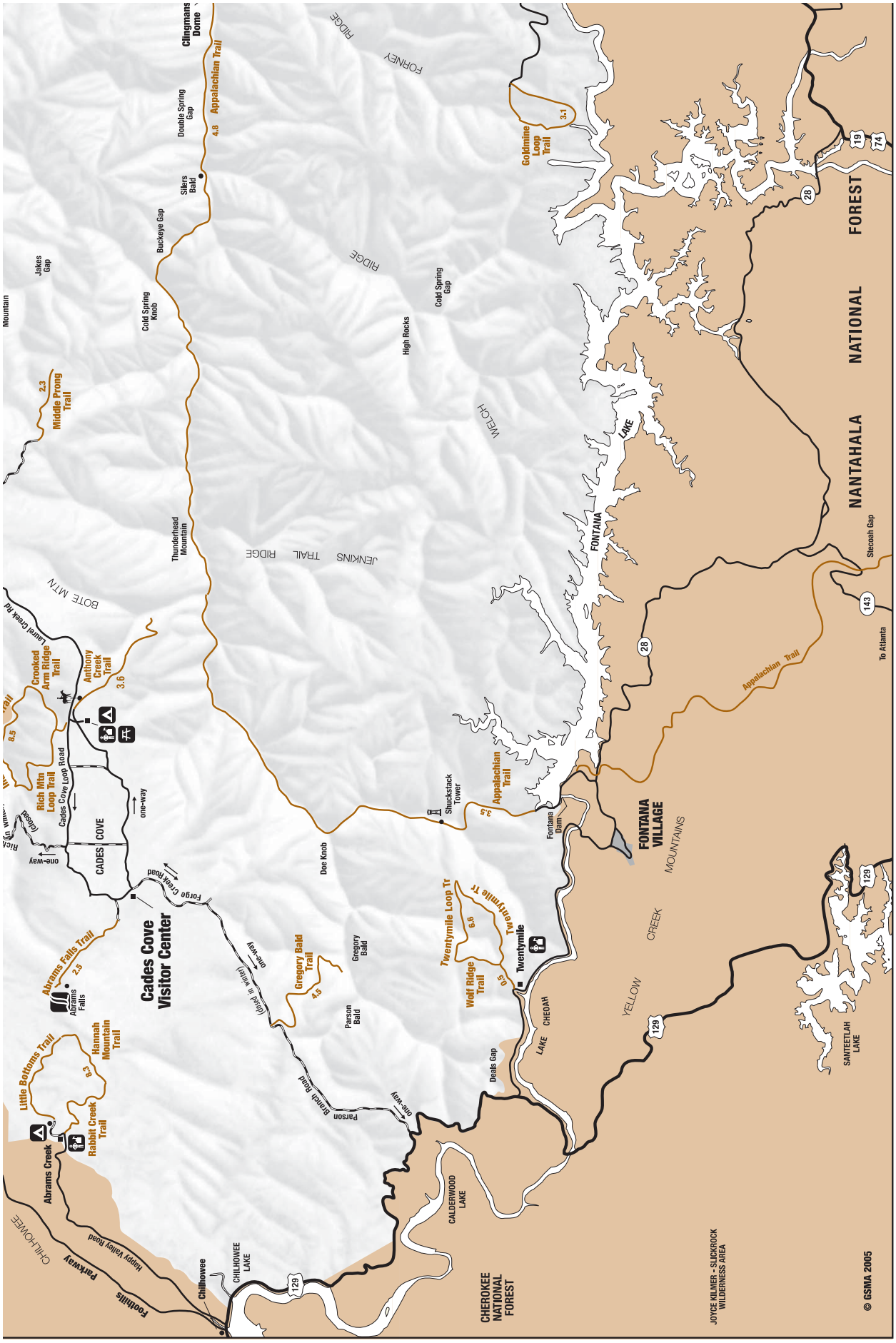

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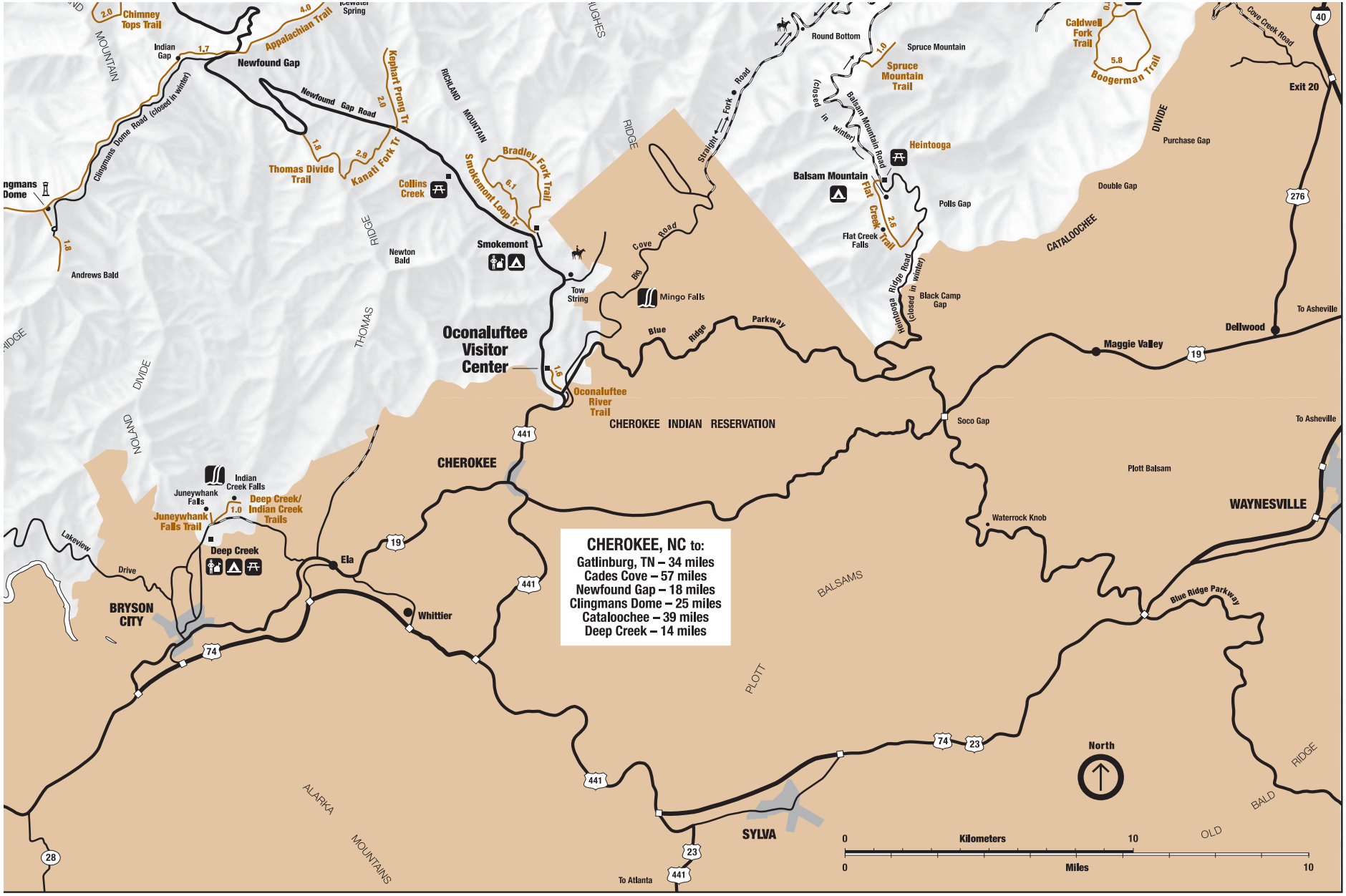

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