

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

ACCOMMODATIONS AND CAMPING FACILITIES
1959

There are no Government-operated cabins, lodgings or eating accommodations within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Department of the Interior has adopted the policy that so long as adequate facilities are conveniently available outside the Park, no concessions will be permitted within the Park. Cabins and lodgings may be obtained in any of the nearby towns, and information regarding such facilities may be obtained from the Chamber of Commerce in such towns. LeConte Lodge, on the summit of Mt. LeConte, accessible only by foot or horseback, is operated under a concession permit from the National Park Service; information regarding it may be obtained by writing direct to LeConte Lodge, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

All campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis, and reservations are not taken for camping space. There are no sewer or electric connections for trailers. Camping Permits are not required, but visitors must register upon arrival. The campgrounds are open on a year-long basis, but water supply and comfort stations are closed during the period of November to April inclusive. Six modern public campgrounds are located in the Park, as follows:

CHIMNEY CAMPGROUND: Five miles from Park Headquarters on U.S. 441. During June, July, and August a 15-day camping limit is in effect, remainder of the year, 30-day camping limit. Contains 99 sites with tables and fireplaces. Running water, restrooms, and garbage collection furnished. Wood for sale in campground. Extremely crowded during summer.

SMOKEMONT CAMPGROUND: Adjacent to U.S. 441, 6 miles north of Cherokee, N.C., 15-day camping limit during June, July, and August, and 30-day limit during remainder of year. There are 171 sites with tables and fireplaces. Restrooms, running water, and garbage collection furnished. Wood and camper supplies available at the campground store from May 15 to September 15. Extremely crowded during summer.

DEEP CREEK CAMPGROUND: Located 2 miles north of Bryson City N. C., 30-day camping limit. There are 64 sites with tables and fireplaces. Restrooms, running water and garbage collection services provided. Wood and supplies available in Bryson City. Usually very crowded during the summer.

BALSAM MOUNTAIN CAMPGROUND: Located 10 miles north of Soco Gap (on US 19) via Blue Ridge Parkway. 30-day camping limit. There are 47 sites with tables and fireplaces. Restrooms, running water and garbage collection services provided. Wood sold at the campground. Often full during summer. Access road closed to public during winter months.

CADES COVE CAMPGROUND: Located in Cades Cove, 10 miles from the Townsend entrance. 30-day camping limit. There are 224 sites available with tables and fireplaces. Restrooms, running water, and garbage collection services provided. Wood and camper supplies available at campground store from May 15 to September 15. Camping space usually available.

COSBY CAMPGROUND: An excellent area, located 3 miles from the Cosby entrance, 21 miles from Gatlinburg, via highways Tennessee 73 and 32, 30-day camping limit. There are 82 sites with fireplaces and tables. Restrooms, running water, and garbage collection service provided. Wood and supplies available in privately owned store near Cosby entrance. Camp sites usually available.

There are meagerly furnished primitive campgrounds, with pit toilets and no developed water supply, located in Greenbrier, Elkmont, Abrams Creek, and on the Middle Prong of Little River in Tennessee, and in Round Bottom, Cataloochee, and Big Creek in North Carolina. Camping permit is not required.

Wilderness campsites are located on Little River at the junction of the main prong and Fish Camp Prong; mouth of Lost Cove on Eagle Creek; near the Hazel Creek Ranger Station, junction of Bone Valley and Hazel Creeks; the head of Forney Creek Bay, and 4 miles up Forney Creek; on Noland Creek; at the Bryson Place on Deep Creek; and at Walnut Bottoms on Big Creek. Camping Permits are required at these sites, and may be obtained from any of the Park Rangers, or upon application to the Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Such application must contain dates on which camping will be done, location of the camping, and number in party.

Bears frequently appear in all of the campgrounds. Take no chances. Do not tease or molest the bears. Bears will steal food. Campers should not store food in their tents, but lock it in their auto. If using a convertible, food should be locked in the car trunk. Portable refrigerators should be put in the autos at night, otherwise the bears will roll them around in an attempt to open them, which is frequently a successful attempt.

KEEP YOUR CAMPSITE CLEAN. BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE. DO NOT FEED THE BEARS.