



Guide to:

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

VOLUME 7 NO. 2

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 1983



JUST LISTEN!!

"Silence," said the old man, "is hard to come by these days." The three of us—the old man, a friend and I—were sitting on a bench along one of the Park's quiet walkways. "Used to be you could get up in the morning and have a few minutes of peace before you went to work. In the early dawn, nothing was stirring, and then, as the sun came up, you'd hear a cow bell far off or a bird would start to sing. Nowadays you wake up to the noise of a knocking engine, and before you've finished breakfast, someone's turned the TV on."

We sat a while longer without saying anything. The river sounds filled us until it seemed there was nothing in the world except ourselves and clear, running water. Then somehow, with the simultaneity that comes from common purpose, we got up and wandered on, still not speaking.

As we walked by a fallen log, there was a slight rustling and the old man stopped. A small snake was slowly moving through the leaves, where its well-blended brown and gold pattern made him difficult to see. "Now," said the old man, "that's a little copperhead, and he's as pretty as he is poisonous. I'm glad you two have stopped chattering or we would have walked right by him and not heard or seen him." The little fellow didn't seem to notice us, so we left him undisturbed and headed upstream. Before we had gone a hundred yards, there was a low thumping sound which accelerated into a fast drumming.

"That's the ruffed grouse, showing off for the ladies. Wait a minute and he'll start again." We stood quietly. Sure enough, the grouse gathered his energy and drummed once more. Try as we would though, we couldn't see him through the brush. The grouse was soon drowned out by the scolding

of a chipmunk, who was telling us in no uncertain terms to get off his front door step. The old man smiled: "That chipmunk talks almost as much as the two of you. We should ask him to join us."

Shuffling along, we slowed here and there to listen to a bird. We discussed the various songs and tried to choose the best singers. There were votes for wrens, thrushes, warblers and vireos. "Oh, each one has his own song," sighed my friend. "And he sings it better than anyone else can," added the old man. "Among the birds, most only sing their own songs and don't try to imitate someone else's. Sometimes I think that is why they all sing so well. Of course, even the tough old rattlesnake sings."

Suddenly there was a crash on the slope behind us. I froze and looked for a tree to climb as a large animal bolted through the rhododendron. "It's a doe with a fawn," exclaimed my friend, and I relaxed a little. We could see the flash of a white tail as they moved away.

"How many is that now, we've heard before we've seen?" asked the old man. "Sometimes listening is more important than looking."

On the way home we stopped for a while to watch the sunset from a knoll high above the stream. The leaves of the trees murmured gently in the light wind. "Sometimes when the trees talk low like that, I think to myself they must be saying their evening prayers," whispered the old man. "Oh, I don't know," countered my friend, "to me it sounds like they are singing."

"For one who listens," I thought to myself, "the trees both pray and sing. But for one who has no time, or never walks through the forest alone, or never cares to stay still, the trees say nothing, and he passes through the world having never heard."

BARNs

Farmsteads throughout the southern mountains, as in most rural areas, were made up of a number of buildings, each serving a specific purpose. Besides the family dwelling, there were structures for housing various types of livestock; such as pig pens, chicken houses and barns. There were also buildings for storing and protecting food like spring houses, corn cribs and meat houses.

In earlier times, most of the buildings on a mountain farm, including the house, were made of logs. This was due primarily to the ease and speed with which log buildings could be built and because of the abundance of trees available. Farm buildings often continued to be constructed with logs long after a family might have moved out of a log dwelling and into a frame house.

One of the most important buildings on the farm was the barn. It was used not only for stabling the livestock and storing winter feed, but also often provided storage space for wagons, plows and other implements.

The size and location of a farm often determined the size of the barn. Farms located in broad, fertile valleys were usually capable of producing more and could support more livestock and normally had larger barns. On the other hand, many of the smaller hillside farms supported only a few head of livestock, since most of the farmable land was needed to help feed and clothe the family. These barns were often nothing more than corn cribs with lean-tos or sheds added on. They could be used to stable a few cows or for storing farm tools.

At the time of the formation of the Great Smoky Mountains

National Park in the mid 1930's, a survey of older buildings in the Park at that time identified approximately 175 log barns. A number of large frame barns were also identified. The largest was located in Cades Cove, a broad valley in the western end of the Park.

Another of the larger barns in the Park was restored and is still in existence. It is located on the Oconaluftee Farmstead just north of Cherokee, North Carolina. Located along a river in a wide section of bottom land, it is a good example of the larger barn that could often be found in valley areas where greater agricultural activity was possible.

Several other log barns are to be found in the Park. The Tipton-Oliver Place at sign post number 20 along the Cades Cove Loop Road has a cantilever barn with the large overhanging loft. In the Cable Mill Area, also in Cades Cove, are two barns. One is a smaller double crib barn with a loft connecting the two cribs, and a passageway for wagons between the cribs. The other is a larger cantilever barn that has part of the overhanging portion of the loft enclosed to provide additional storage space.

Take the time to examine some of these buildings a little more closely. Rub your hand across the logs, feel the marks left by the axe. Try to imagine the labor that went into constructing the building. Try to discover something about the builder. Notice the latches and hinges, some often made from reworked iron wagon parts, or from mule or horse shoes. Visiting some of the old barns in the Park offers an opportunity to step back into the past and experience life on a farmstead.



OCONALUFTEE

OCONALUFTEE VISITOR CENTER:
Open daily 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Information,
publications, exhibits.

PIONEER FARMSTEAD: A recreated,
turn-of-the-century mountain farm where
everyday chores are still done the old-timey
way. A variety of period history
demonstrations (cooking, housekeeping,
blacksmithing, weaving, spinning, shake
making and others) can be observed daily
between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

MINGUS MILL: An old water-powered
turbine mill, located one-half mile north of
the visitor center. Corn ground daily 9 a.m.
to 5 p.m. Cornmeal sold at the mill.

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS

1:30 p.m. **COLLINS CREEK WALK:**
*Meet in the upper loop of Collins Creek
Picnic Area for an easy 1-mile walk along a
cool mountain stream. 1½ hours.*

TUESDAYS

10 a.m. (June only) **ANDREWS BALD
HIKE:** *Meet at the start of the trail to
Clingmans Dome Tower for a hike thru a
spruce-fir forest to a grassy bald. 4 miles; 5
hours. Bring lunch and rain gear. Wear
sturdy shoes.*

10 a.m. (July and August) **WATERFALL
HIKE:** *Meet at the shelter in Smokemont
Campground for a 6-mile round trip leg-
stretcher through a cove hardwood forest. 6
hours. Bring lunch and rain gear. Wear
sturdy shoes.*

1:30 p.m. **COLLINS CREEK WALK:**
*Meet in the upper loop of Collins Creek
Picnic Area for an easy 1-mile walk along a
cool mountain stream. 1½ hours.*

SMOKEMONT

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All talks are given at amphitheater.
Walks originate at the campground shelter,
unless otherwise indicated.

SUNDAYS

8:30 p.m. **NIGHT PROWL:** A 1-mile
easy walk to discover some of the sights
and sounds of the Smokemont area after
dark. 1½ hours. *Limit: 40 people. Sign up
at entrance station. Bring flashlight and
meet at gate at upper end of section D.*

1:30 p.m. **COLLINS CREEK WALK:**
*Meet in the upper loop of Collins Creek
Picnic Area for an easy 1-mile walk along a
cool mountain stream. 1½ hours.*

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT NATURE STROLL:**
A 1-mile walk in the Smokemont area. 1
hour.

9 p.m. **FORESTS AND WILD-
FLOWERS:** An illustrated talk about the
great variety of plant communities in the
Smokies.

10 a.m. (June only). **ANDREWS BALD
HIKE:** *Meet at the start of the trail to
Clingmans Dome Tower for a 4-mile hike
through a spruce-fir forest to a grassy bald.
5 hours. Bring lunch and rain gear. Wear
sturdy shoes.*

10 a.m. (July and August). **WATER-
FALL HIKE:** A 6-mile round trip leg-
stretcher thru a second-growth forest to a
small cascade. 6 hours. *Bring lunch and
rain gear. Wear sturdy shoes.*

9 p.m. **EXPLORING THE SMOKIES:**
An illustrated talk about things that make
the Smokies special.

WEDNESDAYS

1:30 p.m. **NATURE/HISTORY WALK:**
To the Carver Homesite and family
cemetery to learn some of the history of
Smokemont before it became a cam-
pground. 1½ miles; 2 hours.

9 p.m. **DAYS PAST:** An illustrated talk
about the people who settled these
mountains.

THURSDAYS

1:30 p.m. **COLLINS CREEK WALK:**
*Meet on the upper loop of Collins Creek
Picnic Area for an easy 1-mile walk along a
cool mountain stream. 1½ hours.*

9 p.m. **ANIMALS - THEIR HOMES
AND HABITS:** An illustrated talk about
the diversity of animal life found in the
Smokies.

FRIDAYS

9 a.m. **JUST FOR KIDS:** A discovery
program for 6 to 9-year-old kids only. *No
parents, please!* ½ mile; 1 hour.

10:30 a.m. **JUST FOR KIDS:** A
discovery program for 10 to 12-year-old
kids only. *No parents, please!* 1 mile; 1
hour.

7 p.m. **CHURCH WALK:** A short walk
to an old church to discover some in-
teresting history about Smokemont. ½
mile; 1½ hours. *Meet at amphitheater.*

9 p.m. **A SMOKY WILDERNESS:** An
illustrated talk about this mountain
wilderness called the Great Smokies.

SATURDAYS

9 p.m. **THE SMOKIES TOMORROW:**
An illustrated talk about some of the
problems facing the park today, including
bears, wild boars, endangered species and
visitor impacts.

BALSAM MOUNTAIN

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Talks are given at the campfire circle at
the south end of the campground.

TUESDAYS

8 a.m. **A SMOKY WILDERNESS:** A
talk about this mountain wilderness called
the Great Smokies.

WEDNESDAYS

8 a.m. **LET'S TALK ABOUT THE
SMOKIES:** What makes this park so
special? A talk about the outstanding
features of the Smokies.

THURSDAYS

7 a.m. **SUNSET WALK:** *Meet at the
campground entrance station for an easy
1½-mile walk to discover some of the
secrets of the Balsam Mountain forest and
view the Smokies at sunset. Bring flashlight.
2 hours.*

DEEP CREEK

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All activities take place or originate at the
amphitheater.

SUNDAYS

9 p.m. **FORESTS AND WILD-
FLOWERS:** An illustrated talk about the
great variety of plant communities in the
Smokies.

MONDAYS

9 p.m. **ANIMALS - THEIR HOMES
AND HABITS:** An illustrated talk about
the diverse animal life found in the park.

WEDNESDAYS

8:30 p.m. **NIGHT PROWL:** A short 1-
mile walk to discover some of the sights,
sounds and odors of the nocturnal world
along Deep Creek. 1½ hours. *Limit: 30
people. Sign up at campground entrance
station. Bring flashlight.*

THURSDAYS

9 p.m. **DAYS PAST:** An illustrated talk
about the people who settled these
mountains.

SATURDAYS

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT NATURE WALK:**
An easy ½-mile walk to Juneywhank Falls,
returning before dark. 2 hours. *Limit: 30
people. Sign up at campground entrance
station.*



ELKMONT

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All walks originate from the campground
bridge unless otherwise specified. Evening
programs are in the campground am-
phitheater. An * indicates transportation
needed.

SUNDAYS

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL:** An easy
walk into the hemlock forest along Bear
Wallow Branch. 1 mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **FOREST AND WILDFLOWERS:**
An illustrated talk about the forested slopes
of the Great Smoky Mountains and the
plant communities found within the Park.

MONDAYS

*2:30 p.m. **QUIET POOLS AND
CASCADES WALK:** Take a closer look on
this short walk and observe the refreshing
beauty along the Little River Quiet
Walkway. 2 miles; 2 hours.

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL:** A leisurely
walk along Slick Limb Branch. 1 mile; 1
hour.

9 p.m. **MOUNTAIN TRAILS:** An illus-
trated talk designed to help you explore
some of the resources available by walking
trails in the Park.

TUESDAYS

9 a.m. and 1 p.m. **WALK TO LITTLE
GREENBRIER SCHOOL:** *Meet at Metcalf
Bottoms Picnic Area for a 1-mile walk to a
hundred-year-old school. Teacher Elsie
Burrell gives 1930s lessons in spelling and
history. 3 hours.*

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL** through the
campground to recreate what the town of
Elkmont looked like prior to the Park's
establishment. 1 hour.

9 p.m. **WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT THE
SMOKIES:** An illustrated talk on things to
see and do in the Park.

WEDNESDAYS

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL:** An easy
walk into the hemlock forest along Bear
Wallow Branch. 1 mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **ANIMALS OF THE SMOKIES:**
An illustrated talk about wildlife in the
Great Smokies.

THURSDAYS

2:30 p.m. **MIDS BRANCH WALK:**
Learn how forest communities change from
slope to slope and through time. 1 mile; 2
hours.

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL:** A leisurely
walk along Slick Limb Branch. 1 mile; 1
hour.

9 p.m. **A SMOKY WILDERNESS:** An
illustrated talk on one of the Smokies'
finest assets, and what effect wilderness
values may have on Park visitors.

FRIDAYS

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL** just for kids
(ages 6-12) to look at ways plants and animals
live together. ½-1 mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **DAYS PAST:** An illustrated talk
about the customs, traditions and life styles
of people who once lived in the Great Smoky
Mountains.

SATURDAYS

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL** through the
campground to recreate what the town of
Elkmont looked like prior to the Park's
establishment. 1 hour.

9 p.m. **THE SMOKY CHALLENGE:** An
illustrated talk about how the Park can be
managed to resolve conflicting interactions
between man and the natural and cultural
resources of the Park.

SUGARLANDS

DAILY ACTIVITIES

SUGARLANDS VISITOR CENTER:
Open daily 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. In-
formation, orientation programs, exhibits,
publications.

9:30 a.m. A special 20-minute orientation
program on special features of the Park.

11 a.m. **WALK TO CATARACT
FALLS:** An easy 45-minute leg-stretcher to
a small waterfall to explore the Park's
natural and historical resources.

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All scheduled activities take place or
originate at Sugarlands Visitor Center,
unless otherwise indicated.

SUNDAYS

1 p.m. **ASH HOPPER BRANCH
WALK:** To a cool, green and shady place
to identify plants and learn about other
natural and cultural features of the park. 1
mile; 2 hours.

2:30 p.m. **GROTTO FALLS WALK:**
Walk thru a hemlock forest and behind a
waterfall. *Meet at Grotto Falls Parking area
on the Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail.
(Turn on Airport Road in Gatlinburg.) 1½
miles; 2½ hours.*

MONDAYS

1 p.m. **SUGARLANDS VENTURE:**
Nature is never static. Read the landscape
as you explore the sights, sounds, and odors
of a natural environment. 1-2 miles; 2
hours.

6:30 p.m. In June and July; 6 p.m. in
August. **SUNSET WALK TO CHIMNEY
TOPS:** *Meet at Chimney Tops Parking
Area on Newfound Gap Road for a 2-mile
climb to an outstanding view in the
Smokies. Bring flashlight, wear sturdy
shoes, and be ready to scramble up a rock
cliff the last 100 feet. 3½ hours.*

Schedule of Interpretive Activities

June 12 thru August 27

The people who work in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park invite you to participate in the Park interpretive activities. There is an endless array of discoveries and perceptions for you to make in these mist-draped mountains. Share a "different way of looking at things" as you participate in walks and programs offered by the Park interpreters.

All programs are free of charge. The walks and hikes are unhurried and usually cover less than 3 miles round trip.

TUESDAYS

9 a.m. and 1 p.m. **WALK TO LITTLE GREENBRIER SCHOOL:** Meet at Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area for a 1-mile walk to a hundred-year-old school. Teacher Elsie Burrell gives 1930s lessons in spelling and history. 3 hours.

10 a.m. (June only) **ANDREWS BALD HIKE:** Meet at start of trail to Clingmans Dome Tower for a hike thru a spruce-fir forest to a grassy bald. 4 miles; 5 hours. Bring lunch and rain gear. Wear sturdy shoes.

1 p.m. **STREAM STROLL:** A ½-1 mile stroll to discover stream-dwelling animals and plants that exist in or around Ash Hopper Branch, Fighting Creek, or Little Pigeon River. 2 hours.

2:30 p.m. **INSPIRATION POINT:** Meet at Alum Cave Bluffs Parking Area on the Newfound Gap Road. A 2-mile walk along Alum Cave Creek to a heath bald. Breathtaking view. 3 hours.

WEDNESDAYS

6:40 a.m. in June and July; 7:10 a.m. in August: **SUNRISE WALK TO LAUREL FALLS:** An easy walk as you wake up with the sights and sounds of a pine-oak forest. Meet at Laurel Falls Parking Area on Little River Road for this 2½ mile morning stroll. 2½ hours.

1 p.m. **ASH HOPPER BRANCH WALK:** To a cool, green and shady place to identify plants and learn about other natural and cultural features of the area. 1 mile; 2 hours.

2:30 p.m. **APPALACHIAN TRAIL:** This spruce-fir walk offers you the experience of a Canadian woods. Meet at the Newfound Gap Parking Area for a 1-mile walk into this "crowning glory of the Great Smokies." 2½ hours.

THURSDAYS

9 a.m. **GROTTO FALLS WALK:** Walk thru a hemlock forest and behind a waterfall. Meet at Grotto Falls Parking Area on the Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (Turn on Airport Road in Gatlinburg). 1½ miles; 2½ hours.

1 p.m. **COVE HARDWOOD FOREST:** Meet at Chimney Tops Picnic Area for a 1-mile walk thru one of the Park's outstanding forest types. ½ mile; 2 hours.

FRIDAYS

1 p.m. **SUGARLANDS NATURE TRAIL:** The abandoned farms of the 1930s reveal nature's changes and the effects of time upon the land. What will the forest of the future be like? 1 mile; 2 hours.

2:30 p.m. **INSPIRATION POINT:** Meet at Alum Cave Bluffs Parking Area on the Newfound Gap Road. A 2-mile walk along Alum Cave Creek and a heath bald. Breathtaking view. 3 hours.

SATURDAYS

8:30 a.m. **LAUREL FALLS:** Become acquainted with a pine-oak forest on an easy 2½-mile walk to one of the Park's most beautiful waterfalls. Meet at Laurel Falls Parking Area on Little River Road. 2½ hours.

1 p.m. **STREAM STROLL:** A ½ - 1-mile stroll to discover stream-dwelling animals and plants that exist in or around Ash Hopper Branch, Fighting Creek, or Little Pigeon River. 2 hours.

CADES COVE

DAILY ACTIVITIES

CABLE MILL AREA: See corn being ground by a water-powered grist mill and other demonstrations of pioneer life in the Cove. Demonstrations daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CADES COVE VISITOR CENTER: Information and exhibits on pioneer life in the Smokies. Open daily 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MILL AREA TOURS: Short 30-minute talks are presented daily at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tours begin just outside the visitor center.

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All activities take place or originate at the campground amphitheater unless otherwise indicated. Additional activities may be added throughout the season. Check campground bulletin boards or ask park naturalists for more information.

SUNDAYS

6:15 a.m. June and July; 6:30 a.m. August. **WILDLIFE IN THE MORNING MIST:** Glimpse the Cove's animal life on a ride around the loop in the tranquil morning hours. 1½ hours. Transportation provided - \$2.00. Wear warm clothes. Meet at entrance to loop road.

8:30 a.m. **CHAT WITH A RANGER:** Informal chat with Park employees. Hot water provided, but bring your own cup and instant coffee, tea or cocoa.

1 p.m. and 3 p.m. **SPIRIT IN THE MOUNTAINS:** What can the silence of an old church tell about the lives of the early settlers of Cades Cove? ¾ hour. Meet at the Primitive Baptist Church for a talk on religious customs. Turn at sign post no. 4 on the loop road.

4 p.m. **THE FOREST AND YOU:** A short walk to explore the diverse functions of the forest ecosystem. 1 mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **ANIMALS OF THE SMOKIES:** An illustrated slide program.

MONDAYS

2 p.m. **STREAM STROLL:** Meet the animals that live in Anthony Creek. Be prepared to get wet! An activity with families in mind. 1½ hours.

4 p.m. **EXOTICS IN THE SMOKIES:** A talk about non-native species which have invaded the Smokies. You may walk out to find evidences of these new plants and animals. 1 hour.

8:30 p.m. **NIGHT PROWL:** Discover some of the sights, sounds and odors after dark in Cades Cove. 2 miles; 1½ hours. Bring flashlight. Meet at entrance to loop road.

TUESDAYS

9:30 a.m. **JUST FOR KIDS:** A discovery program for kids 10-12 only. No parents, please. 1 hour.

4 p.m. **FUNGUS AND MOSS WALK:** Investigate these small, but surprising members of the forest community. ½ mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **FORESTS AND WILDFLOWERS:** An illustrated slide program.

WEDNESDAYS

2 p.m. **GREGORY CAVE TOUR:** An underground adventure! 2½ hours; 1 mile. Bring a jacket and flashlight. Limit: 30; sign-up sheet posted in amphitheater on Tuesday evening.

6:15 p.m. **ON NIGHTS LIKE THESE:** A walk to the John Oliver Cabin for stories and riddles of mountain life. 2½ miles; 2½ hours. Meet at entrance to loop road.

9 p.m. **DAYS PAST - THE HISTORY OF CADES COVE:** An illustrated slide program.

THURSDAYS

4 p.m. **IF THESE SKULLS COULD TALK:** A hands-on wildlife talk. 1 hour.

9 p.m. **THE SMOKY CHALLENGE:** An illustrated slide program.

FRIDAYS

10 a.m. **THE FOREST AND YOU:** A short walk to explore the diverse functions of the forest ecosystem. 1 mile; 1 hour.

1 p.m. **STREAM STROLL:** Meet the animals of Anthony Creek. Be prepared to get wet! An activity with the family in mind. 1½ hours.

4 p.m. **SWAY WITH THE MOUNTAINS:** A musical experience with Southern Appalachian tunes and dances.

9 p.m. **A SONG OF LIFE,** Southern Appalachian Music: An evening program tracing the development of mountain music with traditional instruments and tunes.

SATURDAYS

8 a.m. **A STROLL INTO THE PAST:** A walk to the John Oliver Cabin for riddles and stories about mountain life. 2½ miles; 2 hours. Meet at entrance to loop road.

10 a.m. **LIFESTYLES PAST AND PRESENT:** Walk along a woody trail to the Elijah Oliver Farmstead. 1½ miles; 2½ hours. Meet at Abrams Falls parking lot, just off the loop road at sign posts no. 10 and 11.

1 p.m. **ACID RAIN EXPERIMENT:** A look at one of the pressing issues of the century. 1 hour.

2 p.m. **COMMON SENSE CONSTRUCTION:** The hows and whys of building to accommodate functions. 1 hour. Meet at Cades Cove Visitor Center near Cable Mill.

4 p.m. **JUST FOR KIDS:** A discovery program for kids 6-9 only. No parents, please. 1 hour.

9 p.m. **PIONEER LIFE STYLES:** An illustrated program.

COSBY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

All programs and walks begin at the Amphitheater.

SUNDAYS

3 p.m. **HEN WALLOW FALLS WALK:** Enjoy the coolness and the view from the overlook above the falls. Along the way see old homesites and remnants of a chestnut forest. 4 miles; 3-4 hours.

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL:** Clues in the landscape suggest what Cosby looked like in pioneer days. ½ mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **THE SMOKY CHALLENGE:** An illustrated talk about how the Park can be managed to resolve conflicting interactions between man and the natural and cultural resources of the Park.

MONDAYS

9 p.m. **FOREST AND WILDFLOWERS:** An illustrated talk about the forested slopes of the Great Smoky Mountains and its variety of plant communities.

TUESDAYS

7 p.m. **COSBY CREEK WALK:** Walk to a cool spot in the forest and learn something about the creek and its effect on the area's ecology. ½ mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **MOUNTAIN TRAILS:** An illustrated talk designed to help you explore some of the resources available by walking trails in the Park.

WEDNESDAYS

3 p.m. **HEN WALLOW FALLS WALK:** Enjoy the coolness and the view from the overlook above the falls. Along the way see old homesites and remnants of a chestnut forest. 4 miles; 3-4 hours.

7 p.m. **TWILIGHT STROLL** just for kids (ages 6-12) to look at ways plants and animals live together. ½ mile; ½-1 hour.

9 p.m. **WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT THE SMOKIES:** An illustrated talk on things to see and do in the Park.

THURSDAYS

7 p.m. **MOUNTAIN MUSIC:** Lee and Jean Schilling, Cosby musicians and volunteer performers, relate their Appalachian heritage with the music of old-timey gospel, ballad and dance tunes.

FRIDAYS

3 p.m. **COSBY HISTORY WALK:** Discover man's impact on the land, visit an old cemetery, and enjoy one of Cosby's most beautiful streams. 3 miles; 3 hours.

7 p.m. **COSBY CREEK WALK:** Walk to a cool spot in the forest and learn something about the creek and its effect on the area's ecology. ½ mile; 1 hour.

9 p.m. **A SMOKY WILDERNESS:** An illustrated talk on one of the Smokies' finest assets, and what effect wilderness values may have on Park visitors.

SATURDAYS

7 p.m. **SUTTON RIDGE SUNSET WALK:** Experience the sights and sounds of the Smokies as night approaches. Bring a flashlight. 3 miles; 2-3 hours.

Worship Service

A Christian Ministry in the Park will sponsor interdenominational services on Sundays. Check campground bulletin boards for times.

Smokies Guide

Accommodations

LECONTE LODGE—A secluded retreat on top of Mt. LeConte, provides meals and lodging. The Lodge is accessible only by foot or horse trail and advance reservations should be made. You should carry a lunch for a noontime pause along one of the 5 trails that reach Mt. LeConte. The Lodge is open from Mar. 25 to Oct. 31. For rates and other information, write or call LeConte Lodge, P.O. Box 350, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. Phone (615) 436-4473.

WONDERLAND CLUB HOTEL—A rustic, semi-secluded hotel of the early 1900's, provides lodging and meals. The hotel is accessible by car and is located about 7½ miles west of Gatlinburg, TN via Little River Road and Elkmont Road. The Hotel is open from May 27 through October. For rates and other information write or call Wonderland Club Hotel, Route 2, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. Phone (615) 436-5490. This is a leased operation and not a Park concession.

Campground Store

The only store in the National Park is located at the Cades Cove Campground. Picnic supplies may be bought here daily after April 29.

Water Activities

There are no designated waters for swimming, tubing, canoeing, rafting and other water sports in the Park. Although not encouraged, these activities are not prohibited. All visitors should be aware of the potential hazards caused by flash floods, innocent looking rapids and submerged rocks or logs. No lifeguard service is provided within the Park. Bathing or shampooing in streams is prohibited.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is usually available from April through October. You may find further information about riding in the Park, hourly rates, and facilities and services provided by writing or calling the stables listed below:

McCARTER'S Riding Stables—located at Two Mile Branch near Park Headquarters on Newfound Gap Road. Address: Gatlinburg, TN 37738. Phone 615/436-5354. Opened March 26.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN Riding Stable—about 2 miles east of Gatlinburg on TN 73. Address: Box 728, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. Phone: 615/436-5634. Opened March 26.

CADES COVE Riding Stables—located in Cades Cove. Address: RFD 1, Box 2885, Walland, TN 37886; Phone 615/448-6286. Hayrides offered Thursday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. 1½-2 hours. Opened March 27.

COSBY STABLES—operated out of Cosby Campground. Address: E. G. Bryant, Route 2, Newport, TN 37821. No phone. Opens June 1.

SMEKEMONT Riding Stable—located near the Smokemont Campground. Address: P.O. Box 72, Cherokee, NC 28719. Phone 704/497-2373. Opened March 26.

There are no stabling facilities for visitor's own horses inside the Park. Horses may be ridden only on trails designated as "horse" trails.



On Foot

The Smokies have over 800 miles of hiking trails. Two trails are paved for easy walking: Clingmans Dome and Laurel Falls. Trail maps and lists of suggested day hikes are available from visitor centers and ranger stations. Motorcycles, bicycles, and pets are prohibited on all Park trails.

Required overnight backcountry reservations may be made by calling (615) 436-9564, Mon. thru Fri. between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., except holidays.

On a Bike

Although much of the Park terrain is too steep for any but the most avid bicyclers, two-wheeling is a great way to see Cades Cove. To provide an opportunity for leisurely biking around Cades Cove, the 11-mile loop drive will be closed to automobile traffic every Saturday evening, after 6:00 p.m., starting April 16 thru September 17.

Bikers are welcome to ride the loop at any time, practicing courtesy and caution while sharing the road with motor-driven vehicles.

Please ride defensively. Obey signs and walk your bike down steep hills. Be aware of traffic behind you.

Emergency Message Service

This service is available throughout the Park by contacting Park Headquarters, Gatlinburg, TN daily 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Phone (615) 436-5615. To make it easier to deliver emergency messages, we suggest that, prior to leaving your home, you provide the following information to family, friends or neighbors; type vehicle or camper unit, color, vehicle license number and state, approximate dates you will be in the Park, and backcountry trip itinerary.

After-Hours
Emergency Phone Numbers
Listed below are some numbers to call for emergencies which arise after closing hours.

Park Headquarters - 436-5615
Cherokee Police - 497-4131
Gatlinburg Police - 436-5181

Lost & Found

The Park offers this service to visitors. Persons either losing or finding items should make a report at the nearest ranger station or visitor center. The number to call to report lost and found items is (615) 436-5615.

Sightseeing/Tour Service

Sightseeing and/or tour service is available in most of the nearby towns. Write to the Chamber of Commerce at: Gatlinburg, TN 37738; Cherokee, NC 28719; Townsend, TN 37882; Pigeon Forge, TN 37863; Sevierville, TN 37862; Bryson City, NC 28713; or Newport, TN 37821.

Medical Services and First Aid

Report all accidents or injuries to the nearest ranger station or visitor center. There will usually be someone on duty who can render first aid or who can summon help. For after-hours emergencies, or for cases requiring medical attention there are hospitals in the surrounding communities with emergency rooms open 24 hours a day. See list below:

Sevier County Hospital

(615) 453-7111

Middle Creek Rd., Sevierville, TN

17 mi. from Park Headquarters

Blount Memorial Hospital

(615) 983-7211

U.S. 321, Maryville, TN

25 mi. from Cades Cove

Swain County Hospital

(704) 488-2155

Bryson City, NC

13 mi. from Oconaluftee Visitor Center

Valentine-Shultz Hospital and Clinic

(615) 623-9041

501 E. Main, Newport, TN

Cocke County Memorial Hospital

(615) 623-8631

702 2nd Street, Newport, TN

The following centers are open during business hours only:

Gatlinburg Medical Center

(615) 436-5313 & 436-5314

256 Reagan Dr., Gatlinburg, TN

2½ mi. from Park Hqtrs.

Prater Memorial Clinic

(615) 436-6900

U.S. 321, Gatlinburg, TN

6 mi. from Park Hqtrs.

Instamed

(615) 436-3112

U.S. 321 N., Gatlinburg, TN

Townsend Medical Clinic

(615) 448-6307

Rt. 1, U.S. 321, Townsend, TN

By Car

There are about 170 miles of paved Park roads and over 100 miles of gravel roads, which offer an introduction to the Smokies. The two major routes are the Newfound Gap Road (U.S. 441) which extends approximately 34 miles from Gatlinburg to Cherokee and the Little River Road (TN 73) from Sugarlands Visitor Center toward Cades Cove, exiting at Townsend, Tennessee.

A 7-mile spur road climbs from Newfound Gap to the Clingmans Dome Parking Lot, from which a ½-mile trail leads to the highest peak in the Park. Some popular gravel roads include the Parsons Branch Road and the Rich Mountain Road, both originating in Cades Cove; and the Heintooga-Round Bottom Road, a 14-mile extension of the Balsam Mountain Road reached from the Blue Ridge Parkway. These are one-way, narrow gravel roads. Scenic pullouts are located along major routes to give you an opportunity to get out of your car and view the mountains.

Motorcyclists are bound by the same rules of the road as cars. They may be ridden only upon roads open to the general public; not on trails or administrative roads.

NOTICE TO VISITORS

Sometime during your visit to Great Smoky Mountains National Park you may be contacted by members of religious organizations.

They are exercising their freedom of religion as guaranteed under the First Amendment of the Constitution which allows them the right to contact people, solicit contributions and distribute literature.

The activities of these groups are in no way connected with nor endorsed by the National Park. The literature being distributed by them relates only to the organizations and their religious doctrines.



This guide is published by the Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association and the Park staff for the Park visitor. Editor: Stephanie Gibert.

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