Appalachian Trail 3 day/2 night backpacking

DAY 1 approximately 5 miles

Our trip begins in Gatlinburg, TN with a pre-trip orientation and pack up. We are then shuttled to New Found Gap where we step on the renowned Appalachian Trail and begin our journey. We travel North and have a scenic and leisure start to our trip where we get comfortable with our gear and the rugged terrain. As we traverse at 5000', our views are incredible. We will continue with breathtaking views and vegetation as we travel to our first nights shelter. This communal shelter allows for a unique gathering of hikers sharing a space and stories as we enjoy the incredible skies in this remote area of wilderness.

DAY 2 approximately 8-12 miles

After a filling breakfast, we set out into a remote section of the AT to catch our stride and start setting into the rhythm of Appalachian trail traveling. We will get a taste of the ascending and descending these mountains are known for with great reward in views, wildlife, diverse vegetation and stories of the mountain culture that has shaped this area for years. As we arrive at shelter number 2, we enjoy a well-deserved dinner and solitude in some of the most remote sections of the GSMNP.

Day 3 approximately 6-10miles

Our last day on the trail will continue along remote sections of the AT before we descend into the valleys with streams that are crystal clear. We experience what the Smokies are known for as we learn about the diverse ecosystems at a variety of elevation zones. We will end our hiking as we encounter our shuttle van that will bring us back to Gatlinburg, TN

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All group gear: Expedition quality tents, group tarp, all cooking equipment & eating utensils
- Safety Equipment: phone, maps, GPS, and medical kit
- Trekking poles
- Round-trip transportation from Gatlinburg to GSMNP
- Professional guide service with wilderness medicine certification
- All meals & snacks from lunch on day one through lunch on the final day of the itinerary
- Storage for your extra travel items while in the field
- High quality backpacks & sleeping bags

What's not included:

- Lodging in Gatlinburg prior to and after your adventure
- Personal gear (rain gear, etc.) See Equipment Lists and available rental items
- Trip cancellation insurance
- Additional hotel nights
- Alcoholic beverages
- Guide gratuities

Reservation & Cancellation Policy

This Smoky Mountain Guides trip requires payment in full at the time of reservation. If the participant cancels a reservation earlier than 60 days prior to the starting date, the deposit will be refunded, minus a \$100.00 administration fee.

If the participant cancels within 59-31 days of the starting date, 50% of the trip balance will be refunded. If cancellation is made within 30-0 days of the trip starting date, there will be no refund of any costs. Smoky Mountain Guides recommends cancellation insurance available through <u>Travel Guard</u>. Please call or email us for details.

Trip Cancellations or Delays

Smoky Mountain guides reserves the right to cancel or change the itinerary of a trip. In the event that Smoky Mountain guides cancels your trip and you are unable to participate, the total balance will be refunded. Occasionally, weather or other factors may cause delays or make completing a trip impossible. In these circumstances, there will be no refund of fees. Furthermore, Smoky Mountain Guides is not responsible for any other costs, (e.g. airline flight changes, additional hotel nights, etc.) associated with trip delays or itinerary changes due to weather or other factors.

Trip Minimums

In order to assure any Smoky Mountain Guides departure, a minimum number of participants must sign up. Our 4-day trip requires a minimum of 3 guests to guarantee departure. However we will operate our adventures at below the minimum required for a modest surcharge.