Hiking The Smoky Mountains

November 5 - 10, 2020

A Guided Group Hiking Experience!

Great Accommodations

Delicious Food

Small Groups!
Great Leaders!
Interesting People!

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Overview
Explore the some of the highest peaks of the breathtakingly beautiful Appalachian Mountains with spectacular waterfalls, oak and pine trees, and endless vistas. Follow wooded trails in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, home to elk, black bears and over 200 bird species. Immerse yourself in nature and hike through high-country meadowlands, along pristine streams and rivers, and amid natural beauty along the Appalachian Trail.

Formed approximately 300 million years ago, the Appalachian Mountains are the oldest mountain range in North America, and one of the oldest on the planet. Although much shorter than younger mountain ranges like the Rockies, the Appalachians are home to multiple different habitats. In fact, the Smoky Mountains are home to the southernmost breeding populations of multiple species such as Northern Saw-whet Owl, Winter Wren, and Golden-crowned Kinglets that normally breed in the boreal forests of Canada.

Participants should be fit enough to take part in all-day exploration and hiking over hilly terrain. The Great Smoky Mountains, which lie west of the Black Mountains across the valley of the French Broad River, are perhaps the most imposing nest of peaks in the eastern U.S. Not only do they encompass several of the highest peaks east of the Mississippi, they also showcase, particularly in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, large tracts of rugged, federally protected wilderness and old-growth forests of astounding biodiversity. The name stems from the range’s reliable mists, partly derived from evapotranspiration off the heavy timber blanketing most of the highlands.

Accommodations
The group will spend all nights at a pleasant and highly rated B & B in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee close to the National Park.

Leader
Rami Haxhi works part-time at the Connecticut Audubon Society Deer Pond location and leads trips with Connecticut Audubon EcoTravel. Rami is an experienced hiker and leads a group called Litchfield County Explorers with over 1,200 members. He is certified in Wilderness First Aid by the National Outdoor Leadership School and leads hikes professionally for the Mayflower Inn in Washington, CT. A trained concert pianist and naturalist, Rami’s favorite hiking spots include America’s National Parks and the Appalachian Trail.

Tour Fees
Fee: $2,498. With Member Discount: $1,998. Nonmembers add $45 for single and $55 for family membership and to take advantage of the discount. Single Supplement: $375.

Includes
Transportation from Connecticut, lodging, meals as outlined (B,L,D), park fees, and guide services.

Not Included
Meals not specified, alcoholic beverages, gratuities for housekeepers, phone calls, and other personal items.