

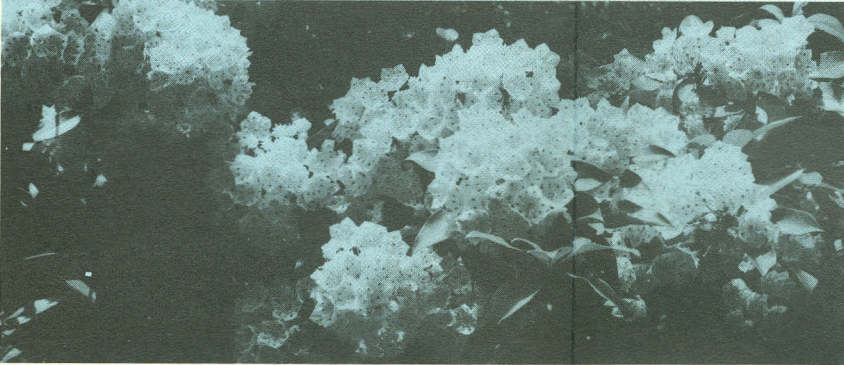
Great Smoky Mountains

NATIONAL PARK • NORTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE

The Chimney Tops



Mountain Laurel



Pileated Woodpecker



The Great Smoky Mountains, which form the boundary between North Carolina and Tennessee, are a majestic climax to the Appalachian Highlands. With outlines softened by a dense forest mantle, the mountains stretch in sweeping troughs and mighty-billows to the horizon. The name "Great Smokies" is derived from the smoke-like haze that envelops these mountains.

Much of the park contains virtually unspoiled forests, similar to those found by the early pioneers who settled in isolated mountain valleys. Many of their log cabins and barns still stand as monuments to a pioneer way of life that has all but disappeared from these mountains. Today, visitors enjoy a wilderness that is a sanctuary for all plants and animals.

Fertile soils and heavy rains, over a long period, have caused a world-renowned variety of flora to develop. Some 1,400 kinds of flowering plants grow in the park. Within the coves, broadleaf trees predominate, while along the crest, which rises to more than 6,000 feet, conifer forests like those of Central Canada find suitable climate.

HOW TO ENJOY THE PARK

The park is maintained in its natural and wild condition. Motorists must drive defensively, with caution, and be alert for hazards caused by changing natural conditions. Hikers must be prepared to enjoy nature on its own terms. For your safety, be informed, don't travel alone, let someone know your schedule, have proper clothes and equipment, and observe park regulations.

The main roads offer only an introduction to the Smokies. At Cades Cove an 11-mile loop road leads past open fields, pioneer homesteads, and little frame churches where mountain people lived

and worshiped almost unnoticed for a century. At the Oconaluftee Pioneer Museum in North Carolina, exhibits, live demonstrations, and a 19th-century farmstead tell the story of the mountain people more fully.

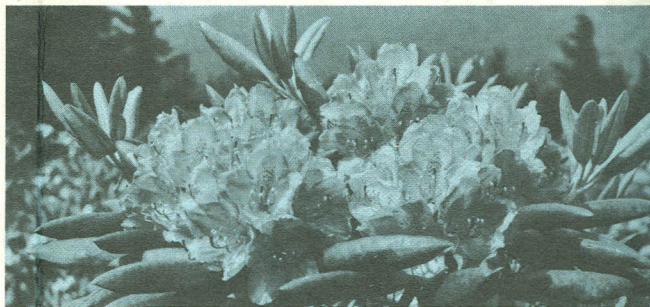
A scenic, high mountain road winds its way through Newfound Gap to Clingmans Dome; there, a 1/2-mile walk to an observation tower on a clear day provides an excellent panorama of the countryside. In summer you can expect extremely heavy traffic on this route.

Park roads were designed as access to scenic points of interest and are not high-speed highways. Park only in designated areas. Report any accidents to the nearest ranger station.

Naturalist Activities. From mid-June to Labor Day you may enjoy campfire programs and nature walks at most developed campgrounds. During the spring and fall these activities are scheduled on a limited basis at Sugarlands Visitor Center. For further information about interpretive events, inquire at any park visitor center or ranger station.

Trails and hiking. The 600 miles of horse and foot trails offer the most rewarding experiences; trails wind along streams and through forests into the high country. Spectacular views and waterfalls on many of the streams are popular objectives. For a most enjoyable experience, pick a trail and hike into the forest stillness of the Smokies; forget the hustle and bustle of modern-day living.

For the "do-it-yourself" naturalist, there are several short, self-guiding nature trails. Pick up the explanatory leaflet at the beginning of each trail. As you walk, read about the variety of plantlife and learn, on your own, a little of the relationship of plants to their woodland habitat.



A WORD ABOUT BEARS

It is reckless to approach bears closely; even though they appear tame they may turn impulsively and inflict serious injury. They are particularly dangerous when accompanied by cubs. Do not feed, tease, frighten, or molest them in any way; such acts are violations of park regulations. On foot, give all bears a wide berth; if one approaches your car, stay inside with the windows closed.

Old Homestead



A backcountry camping permit is required for all overnight hiking parties and can be obtained free of charge at any ranger station, visitor center or Park Headquarters. Because of overcrowding, it has become necessary to ration overnight use of the 68 miles of Appalachian Trail within the park. Four other popular areas, Mt. LeConte, Laurel Gap, Kephart Prong and Moore Spring are rationed also. Arrangements for a permit must be made after you arrive in the park.

There are many uncrowded trails in the park. A listing of trailside campsites, for use in planning alternate hiking routes, is available upon request.

Today it is more necessary than ever that all who visit the wilderness share the responsibility of maintaining its beauty unspoiled and unmarred.

For a winter camping experience from November through March, the camping permit will be issued only after winter gear and clothing are approved by a ranger as adequate for survival in deep snow and 20° temperatures. All unburnables must be carried out.

Pets are permitted in the park if on a leash or under other physical control at all times. They may not be taken on trails or cross-country hikes.

Camping. There are seven developed campgrounds and four primitive camping areas in the park. No reservations can be made.

Developed campgrounds have water, fireplaces, tables, comfort stations, and tent and limited trailer space. You must bring your own tent and other camping equipment, since no shelters are provided. There are no showers or hookups for trailers. From June 1 through Labor Day, the camping limit is 7 days.

Disposal stations for trailer holding tanks are located at Smokemont, Cades Cove, and Cosby Campgrounds, and across the road from Sugarlands Visitor Center.

Primitive campgrounds have no developed water supply. All water must be boiled or chemically treated before it is safe to drink. Pit toilets are provided. Camping is limited to 7 days.

You won't need a camping permit for campgrounds reached by car, but registration is required upon arrival. Fees are charged at developed campgrounds.

Fishing. Many of the park's streams provide fishing for rainbow, brook, and brown trout. In certain streams, managed on a fishing-for-fun plan, you may fish the year round but you must carefully release all fish under 16 inches. The regular season is from April 15 through September 15; Tennessee or North Carolina fishing licenses are required, but not trout stamps. Local regulations are posted on streams and can be obtained at any park ranger station or visitor center.

Accidents spoil vacations—we are concerned for your safety. Please

- Stay on the trails.
- Keep off waterfalls and cliff faces.
- Closely watch and control children.

SEASONS

Wildflowers and migrating birds attract many spring visitors. Spring weather can begin as early as January. If you intend to hike or camp at this season, bring warm clothing, and be prepared for a variety of weather conditions.

Summer days are warm, and nights are usually cool. At higher elevations, temperatures may

Orchid



Large Flowered Trillium



range from 15 to 20 degrees lower than those in the valleys. During June and July, the blooming of rhododendron is the outstanding natural event. July and August usually bring the heaviest rainfall, and thunderstorms sometimes come without warning. For greatest comfort on summer hikes, carry a raincoat and insect repellent.

Autumn's pageantry of color usually reaches its peak during the last 2 weeks of October. To many visitors, this is the finest time of the year. Autumn days are cool and clear—ideal for hiking.

Winter is the most unpredictable season; yet, you shouldn't discount it as a time to visit the Smokies. A quiet peace pervades the park. At times, the fog, moving over the mountaintops, blankets the conifers in frost.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Most neighboring towns have gas, food, lodging, and camping supplies. Many private campgrounds operate outside the park. For information, write the chambers of commerce of nearby towns in North Carolina and Tennessee.

Fontana Village, southwest of the park, offers a lodge, 300 furnished cottages, and several activities. For information, write Government Services, Inc., Fontana Dam, NC 28733.

Accessible only by trail, LeConte Lodge offers accommodations within the park from mid-April to late October. Allow a 1/2 day hike up a mountain trail to reach this secluded retreat. Reservations are necessary; call or write LeConte Lodge, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



TO KNOXVILLE

73
129

ALCOA
MARYVILLE

411

73



LITTLE RIVER

Walland

Wear Cove

Kinzel Springs

PARKWAY

Townsend

LOOK ROCK

The Sirks
Commercial

FOOTHILLS

ABRAMS FALLS

RICH MT ROAD
(Closed in Winter)

Middle Prong
West Prong

Tremont

Abrams Creek

CADES COVE

Spence Field

Thunderhead

Derrick Knob

APPALACHIAN

CHILHOWEE LAKE

PARSON BRANCH ROAD
(Closed in Winter)

Russell Field

Mollies Ridge

Gregory Bald

Moore Spring

Eagle Creek

CALDERWOOD LAKE

Birch Spring Gap

Twentymile Creek

Hazel Creek

CHEOAH LAKE

CHEOAH LAKE

FONTANA LAKE

Tapoco

Fontana Village

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

TENNESSEE
NORTH CAROLINA

JOYCE KILMER
MEMORIAL
FOREST

129

28

TO ATLANTA & MACON

TO KNOXVILLE VIA SEVIERVILLE

Pigeon Forge

Pittman Center

GATLINBURG

PARK ENTRANCE

Motor Nature Trail
(Closed in Winter)

VISITOR CENTER
PARK HEADQUARTERS

LAUREL FALLS

Roaring Fork

GROTTO FALLS

ELKMONT

Mt. Le Conte
6593'

The Jumpoff

Alum Cave Bluffs

Charles Bunion

ROAD (Vehicles)

Chimney Tops

NEWFOUND GAP
5048'

Kephart Prong

CLINGMANS DOME
6642'

Silers Bald

Double Springs Gap

Andrews Bald

SMOKEMONT

Mingus Mill

OCONALUFTEE VISITOR CENTER

Forney Creek

Noland Creek

Deep Creek

DEEP CREEK

BRYSON CITY

28

LITTLE TENNESSEE RIVER

RAILROAD

19

441

19

441

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OCONALUFTEE RIVER

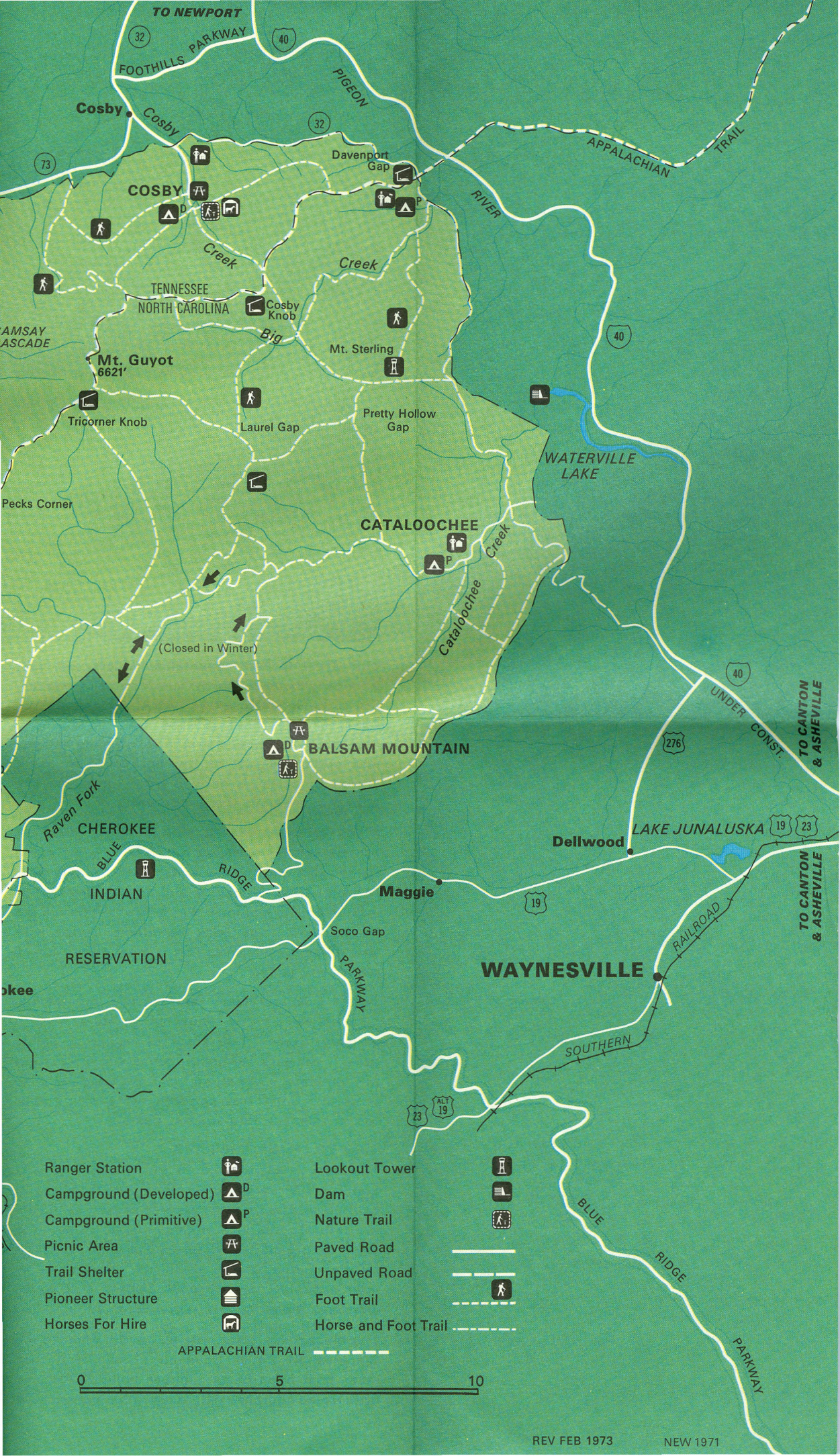
OCONALUFTEE RIVER

OCONALUFTEE RIVER

OCONALUFTEE RIVER

OCONALUFTEE RIVER

TO ATLANTA & MACON



TO NEWPORT
FOOTHILLS PARKWAY

PIGEON RIVER

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Cosby

COSBY

Davenport Gap

TENNESSEE NORTH CAROLINA

Mt. Guyot 6621'

Mt. Sterling

WATERVILLE LAKE

CATALOOCHEE

BALSAM MOUNTAIN

CHEROKEE

LAKE JUNALUSKA








INDIAN RESERVATION








Maggie


WAYNESVILLE

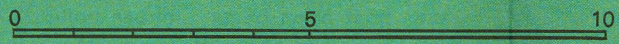
TO CANTON & ASHEVILLE

TO CANTON & ASHEVILLE

- Ranger Station 
- Campground (Developed) 
- Campground (Primitive) 
- Picnic Area 
- Trail Shelter 
- Pioneer Structure 
- Horses For Hire 

- Lookout Tower 
- Dam 
- Nature Trail 
- Paved Road 
- Unpaved Road 
- Foot Trail 
- Horse and Foot Trail 

APPALACHIAN TRAIL 



ADMINISTRATION

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Gatlinburg, TN 37738, is in immediate charge. Park headquarters is 2 miles south of Gatlinburg.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

National Park Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR