

Appalachian Trek

North America, in search of Bigfoot



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Appalachian Trek

Explore the Mountains of Northeast Tennessee, Western North Carolina and Southwest Virginia

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was the former homeland of the Cherokee, a native American tribe indigenous to the South Eastern United States. The Smokies as they are known for short, have been designated a UNESCO world heritage site and the national park is one of the largest protected areas in the Eastern United States.

During this trek you will get to experience part of the famous Appalachian Trail. This trail is approximately 2,190 miles long , running from Georgia all the way down through to Maine crossing through 14 States .

Many before have tackled the full trail but this trek will just incorporate a small section. The trail claims to be the longest hiking only trail in the world and around 3 million people come to visit the trail every year. Legend also has it that walking the Appalachian Trail at dawn or dusk is a good bet for an encounter with the mysterious creature that is big foot!



Detailed itinerary

Day 1: London to Knoxville

Day flight to Knoxville, Tennessee. Overnight hotel.

Day 2: Cosby- Sugarlands- Clingmans Dome 4km

We start the day with a short transfer to your base for the week in the Cosby camping ground of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. After our trek briefing we will travel to the main entrance of the park, a World Heritage site. This afternoon we will do a short trek up to Clingmans Dome, the second highest peak East of the Rockies. We will end the day in camp and there will be an optional night hike.

Day 3: Porter's Creek trail- 12km

Today after a hearty breakfast we will take a short transfer to the quiet Greenbrier section of the park. We will trek by a pristine, clear stream surrounded by beautiful forest.

Today we will get to learn about the rich Southern Appalachian and Cherokee history. We will end the day at a beautiful backcountry campsite and gaze at the ridge which will be our vantage point tomorrow.



Day 4: The Appalachian Trek- 12km

After breakfast we make our way into the heart of the park for a beautiful trek on the famous Appalachian Trail. We will trek through Boreal forest and explore the classic features of Charlie's Bunion gazing down into the valley we explored yesterday. As we trek we will have the opportunity to learn about the history of the trail and the amazing legends who have hiked all 2200 miles. Some of us may even be inspired to add the entire hike to the bucket list! We will finish the day in downtown Gatlinburg where we will enjoy a true Southern BBQ and visit a moonshine museum.



Detailed itinerary

Day 5: Ramsey Cascade- 12km

Today we will spend the day hiking and exploring Ramsey's Cascade, which is a beautiful waterfall located in a gorgeous section of old woodland. We will also have the option to head on a trail upwards to explore a huge old moonshine cave. We will get to enjoy beautiful views and small waterfalls during this trail. The afternoon will be spent exploring other iconic Smokies trails before heading back to camp for dinner.

Day 6: Smoky Mountains- Hartford

Today we will pack up camp and head to Hartford for our zip line and white water rafting adventure. The rest of the day will be at our own leisure before our gala meal in the evening to celebrate the end of the trip.



Day 7: Overnight flight Knoxville- UK

Day 8: Arrive UK

Grade

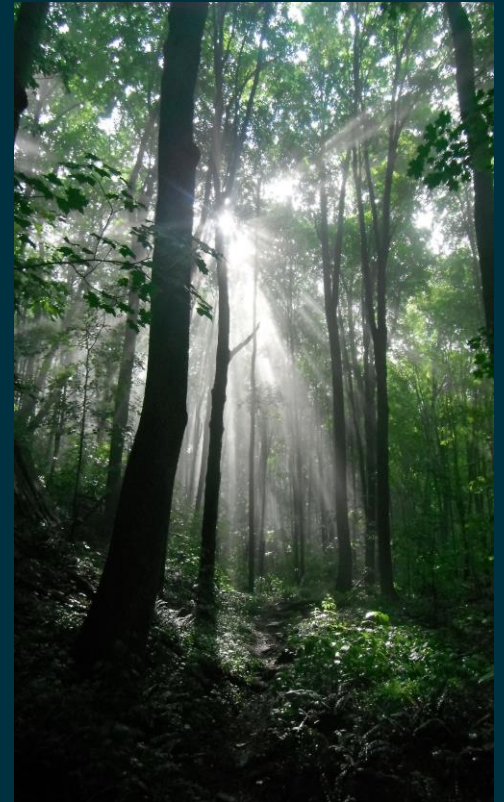
Moderate/Tough

Best time of year:

June to September

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change



Breakdown of costs

Included

- Scheduled international return flights from London to Knoxville, via Atlanta
- In country transfers
- English speaking local guides
- Luggage transfers
- Shared accommodation in hotels and camping
- Full board except lunch on departure day
- 1 free charity place

Not Included

- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- Single supplement
- Gratuities
- Personal expenses
- Visas
- Personal travel insurance

Approx 2017 Costs

30 participants - £1955

40 participants - £1880

*Airport taxes and fuel surcharges are not included in the above (currently £321 Oct '15.)

Our pricing policy

We believe that we are very competitive and offer excellent value for money. However, it can be confusing when comparing prices, a small alteration in an itinerary, can make a substantial difference. We would be happy to review proposals you may have received from other tour operators, as we are confident that we can beat any genuine quote.

Why choose Ultimate Challenges?

- We have over 18 years experience running pioneering charity challenges e.g. Kilimanjaro , the Inca Trail, California Bike
- We choose the most unexplored and upcoming regions for our amazing expeditions
- We are built on a team of Senior Event Fundraisers
- Our team is driven to provide inspiring, life changing and effective fundraising events for our charity partners
- We use the best ground agents, the most experienced trek staff and doctors to ensure your supporters have a safe and memorable challenge
- We operate an Ethical Code of Conduct with all our ground handlers to ensure fair treatment of all our local staff. We have high health and safety expectations and all our partnerships are conducted with respect for local cultures and environmental concerns
- We offer an end-to-end service to ensure our charity partners are given full support from our experienced staff ensuring you maximize your income

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‘ Choose your Tour Operator with your head, so your supporters can follow their hearts when they travel’