



*AAA Ohio Auto Club
Escorted Motorcoach Vacations*

Smoky Mountain Getaway

September 21-25, 2011

The Smoky Mountains offer some of America's most beautiful scenery, winding back roads, mountain vistas, forests and meandering streams. Known also for its country music with patriotic themes and down home humor, this tour combines it all for an unforgettable get-away.

Day 1: (D) Today we travel to **Pigeon Forge, Tennessee**, nestled in the foothills of the **Smoky Mountains**. The roots of this community reach back to the latter 1700s when pioneers from the Carolinas followed the Great Indian Path through the Smoky Mountains to settle here. Upon arrival, we check into the *Sidney James Mountain Lodge*, our home for the next four nights. This evening we'll dine at the **Hatfield and McCoy Dinner Feud & Stunt Show**. This new production is based on one of America's most famous family feuds. The audience will participate in the good natured rivalry by being divided into two special seating areas designated for the "Hatfield and McCoy" families. The show presents a family friendly atmosphere with the focus on fun! After the show, we return to our hotel.

Day 2: (B,L,D) After an included breakfast at the hotel, we meet our local step-on guide for a **3-hour tour of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park**. Divided between North Carolina and Tennessee, the park covers more than 520,000 acres. A blue, smoke-like haze almost always hangs over the mountains – hence the name.

Interestingly, AAA had a part in the creation of this national park. After visiting Yellowstone National Park in 1923, Knoxville businessman Willis Davis, a director of the Knoxville Automobile Club, envisioned the Smoky Mountains as a national park. Davis' fellow board members believed that, in addition to protecting the area's natural resources, establishing a national park might stimulate tourism and economic growth. On the club's behalf, Davis approached the Department of Interior and the seed of a movement was planted. In 1934, the Great Smoky Mountains became the 21st addition to the national park system. Each year, nearly 8 to 10 million people visit the park!

A **boxed lunch** is included during our tour.

Day 2 continued...

This afternoon we head to **Ober Gatlinburg Ski Resort & Amusement Park**. During the winter, the slopes are filled with skiers and snowboarders, but summer offers a variety of attractions as well. Today we board the **Aerial Tramway** for the 2.1 mile ride up to the resort and a magnificent view of the Smoky Mountains. Later, we visit the **Wildlife Encounter** for an up-close look at native Smokies wildlife including the black bear. This evening we've included another popular **dinner show** at the **Smith Family Theatre**. This show is packed with an outstanding blend of classic country music, heartfelt gospel, rock-n-roll plus clean family comedy and impersonations. Who knows, you might have a chance to compete in a Hula Hoop contest!

Day 3: (B,D) Following breakfast, we depart for **Dollywood**, conceived and operated by Dolly Parton. This 150-acre theme park is more than an amusement park. Visitors can view craft demonstrations, tour the Southern Gospel Museum and Hall of Fame, browse its many shops or enjoy one or more of the 40 live performances performed daily. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the parks many restaurants. Don't eat too much, though, as **dinner is included** tonight at the **Great Smoky Mountain Murder Mystery**. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show, but be prepared to help solve this comedic "who-dun-it!"

Day 4: (B,L,D) After breakfast, we depart for **Asheville, North Carolina** and the historic **Biltmore Estate**. Surrounded by 8,000 acres, the mansion was begun in 1889 and opened to family and friends on Christmas Eve 1895 by George Washington Vanderbilt, grandson of railroad magnate Cornelius Vanderbilt. The 250-room French-Renaissance-style chateau contains 34 bedrooms, 43 bathrooms and 65 fireplaces. Guests can tour the house at their own pace on the **self-guided tour** which includes four floors of the Biltmore House and the formal gardens. Lunch is included at the **Deer Park Restaurant**, located elsewhere on the estate. Later, we return to Pigeon Forge. Tonight, your tour director will host a farewell dinner at **Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede**. This fun-filled, action-packed show includes thrilling horse riding stunts, spectacular special effects and phenomenal musical productions.

Day 5: (B) Following breakfast, we depart for home.

Departure cities: Mansfield, Worthington, West Chester

Deposit: \$100.00

Final payment date: July 27, 2011

<u>Single</u>	<u>Double</u>	<u>Triple</u>	<u>Quad</u>
\$1065	\$815	\$731	\$689

*Prices are per person

AAA highly recommends the purchase of cancellation insurance to protect your travel investment.
Check with your AAA travel consultant for details.

For More Information:

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