## **GEARS**

# **On Top of Ole Smoky**

### **November 3-8**



#### ITINERARY

#### Day 1, Sunday, November 3, 2024

Depart this morning and make your way toward Bristol, VA where you will stop for the night. On the way, make a rest stop/ fast food lunch stop before arriving at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. This awe-inspiring memorial pays tribute to the Allied troops who battled insurmountable odds to secure freedom for the world on June 6, 1944. Their stories are shared as you pay tribute to their valor, fidelity, and unimaginable sacrifice. Depart for the Hilton Garden Inn Bristol where you will check in for the night. You can enjoy dinner at your leisure tonight as a gift card will be included for the Cracker Barrel located just outside the hotel's back door. (D)

#### Day 2, Monday, November 4, 2024

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before checking out. Today you'll make your way into the Smoky Mountains! Enjoy a guided bus tour through the beautiful scenery of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, American's most visited National Park, before stopping at The Island for time on your own. Boasting 23 acres of entertainment, with over 80 shops, restaurants and attractions, it makes a great one-stop-shop for all ages. The Island Show Fountains are programmed to music and lights, and you can purchase a ticket to ride "The Wheel" which is 200 foot tall ferris wheel. There truly is something for everyone to enjoy at The Island. After enjoying your time here we will head to the Country Cascades Resort to check in for 3 nights as we explore Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg! Tonight will be a fun and entertaining dinner as you visit Dolly Parton's Stampede Christmas Dinner Show! Snow falls softly as breathtaking scenes fill you with tidings of good cheer. The arena is magically transformed into a true fantasy land. No show is complete without some fun and games, though! Watch as the elves from the North Pole and the South Pole compete in some friendly competitions while serving up a festive, four-course feast! The entire Dolly Parton's Stampede cast of performers, including 32 magnificent horses, will take you on a nostalgic holiday adventure with all of your favorite Christmas songs. You'll see the live nativity; both dramatic and spectacular, along with the three kings riding camels on their way to Bethlehem. The stunning beauty of angels ascending from above will amaze you as the songs inspire audience members of all ages! After the show, return to the resort for the evening. (B, D)

#### Day 3, Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Enjoy breakfast at hotel before departing for Ober Mountain. Experience one of America's Largest Aerial Tramways with majestic views of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Included in your wrist band admission; aerial tram ride, ice skating, carousel, alpine slide, scenic chairlift, Wildlife Encounter, Ice Bumper Cars, Summer Tubing, and the Ski Mountain Coaster! Once you are "on top of Ole' Smoky" enjoy a delicious lunch with panoramic majestic views of the Great Smoky Mountains. Next you'll make your way to the Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery where you'll enjoy a tour & tasting. You'll see authentic working moonshine stills and experience the process from beginning to end. Up next is Paula Deen's Lumberjack Feud Show! High-Energy Axe Throwing, Chopping, Sawing, Speed Climbing, Log Rolling and other competitive events will be view from a covered grandstand with padded seating. Dinner at Puckett's Grocery & Restaurant will round out your day. Puckett's roots stretch way back to the '50s and a little grocery store in the village of Leiper's Fork, TN. Ever since then, they have focused on providing friends new and old with great food and Southern hospitality. Puckett's has built a name on hosting live, local music and serving Southern staples. Return to the resort for the evening. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4, Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before departing for the Titanic Museum. Take a fascinating guided tour of the Titanic Museum where they open the door to the past in it's one-of-a-kind way letting "passengers" experience what it was like to walk the hallways, parlors, cabins and Grand Staircase of the Titanic while surrounded by more than 400 artifacts directly from the ship and its passengers. As visitors touch a real iceberg, walk the Grand Staircase and third class hallways, reach their hands into 28-degree water, and try to stand on the sloping decks, they learn what it was like on the RMS Titanic by experiencing it first-hand. Each guest entering the ship will receive a boarding pass of an actual Titanic passenger or crew member. Discover your passenger or crew member's fate at the end of your tour in the Titanic Memorial Room where 2,208 names line this historic wall. After your tour you will be escorted to the 3rd floor secret dining room to enjoy a 1st Class Caption's Meal just as they did on the ship! Next, spend the afternoon at the Dollywood Theme Park! While in the park enjoy, "Dollywood's Smoky Mountain Christmas Festival", which is the eight-time award winner of America's Best Christmas Event. You'll find this park features four million holiday lights, more than 20 rides and attractions with elaborate Christmas decorations, twinkling lights and holiday-themed menus. Once in the park there are many spectacular holiday performances you won't want to miss. One is, "Christmas in the Smokies", a 12-member cast performing hometown holiday favorites that celebrate the joy of the season. Dinner will be on your own while visiting Dollywood. Return to the resort for the evening. (B, L)

#### Day 5, Thursday, November 7, 2024

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before checking out. Visit SkyLand Ranch before leaving Pigeon Forge. Set on a 100 acre farm in the Great Smoky Mountains, visitors can take a ride on a scenic chairlift to the top of Skyland Ranch, where hours of fun await. Experience a mountain coaster that's over a mile long, a suspended bridge with a canopy walk, the ranch is home to a variety of miniature animals, food barns, and retail shops. A boxed lunch will be given as you board the bus to eat as you depart for the Birthplace of Country Music Museum in Bristol, VA. A short guided tour of the museum will provide an introduction and overview of the history, music and technology related to the Bristol Sessions. After the guided portion of the tour, you are free to explore on your own, and the docent will be available throughout the exhibit space for those who have questions or would be interested in additional information. Next, you'll make a rest/fast food stop before arriving at the Hampton Inn Salem for the night. (B, L)

#### Day 6, Friday, November 8, 2024

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before checking out and departing for home with many fond memories of your time 'On Top of Ole Smoky'! A stop will be made in Old Town Winchester for time on your own to shop and grab lunch. (B)

#### <u>COST</u>

\$1,499 per person Double Occupancy

\$1,899 per person Single Occupancy

#### TO REGISTER

Call & Send Payment To: GEARS 717-367-0355 GEARS@GetintoGEARS.org

Or Sign Up Online At: GetintoGEARS.org

#### TRIP INCLUDES

Transportation, 5 nights Lodging, Luggage Handling when available, 5 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 3 Dinners, Smoky Mountain Guided Tour, Dolly Parton's Stampede Christmas Show, Ober Mountain, Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery Tour & Tasting, Paula Deen's Lumberjack Show, Titanic Museum, Dollywood Christmas Festival, Skyland Ranch, Meal Gratuities, and Taxes. Driver gratuity and any local guide gratuities are not included.

#### Terms & Conditions

#### **Baggage**

Portage of baggage is included when available, it is based upon a maximum of 1 piece of standard baggage per person. We recommend that passengers limit baggage to 1 suitcase per person plus 1 carry on.

#### Items Not Included

Our tours do not include items of a personal nature such as laundry, room service, telephone charges or other hotel extras. All passengers are responsible for settling any such costs incurred before checking out of each hotel or returning home.

#### **Gratuities**

Gratuities are included for all meals.

#### <u>Taxes</u>

Our prices include all government taxes as levied as of the date of this proposal. In the event that additional taxes are introduced by governing bodies or existing taxes increased, we will have to pass on all such additional charges to the individual passengers concerned.

#### **Insurance**

We strongly recommend that all passengers be adequately insured for medical expenses, baggage loss or damage and trip cancellation or interruption. This is the responsibility of individual tour participants.

For travel insurance please call Lowee's Group Tours at 717-657-9658 Trip insurance must be purchased within two weeks of your initial trip deposit.

Trip Cancellation Trip Interruption Missed Connection	Trip Cost (Up to \$100,000) 150% of Trip Cost* \$2,500
Travel Delay (Up to \$150 Per Day)	\$750
Baggage and Personal Effects	\$2,500
Baggage Delay	\$250
Medical Expense	\$100,000
Emergency Medical Evacuation	\$1,000,000
Non-Medical Emergency Evacuation	\$25,000

Trip cancellation will need to be certified by your doctor if you are not able to travel. This is not a cancel for any reason policy.

#### <u>Hotels</u>

Hilton Garden Inn 325 Village Cir, Bristol, VA 24201 (276) 644-4000 Amenities: Mini-Fridge, Microwave, Coffee Maker, Hair Dryer, Iron/Ironing Board, Complimentary Wi-Fi, Indoor Pool, Fitness Center, On-site Restaurant

Country Cascades Resort 204 Sharon Dr, Pigeon Forge, TN 37863 (877) 686-7829 Amenities: Refrigerator, Hair Dryer, Iron/Ironing Board, Complimentary Wi-Fi, Fitness Center, On-site Restaurant

Hampton Inn

450 Litchell Rd, Salem, VA 24153 (540) 389-2424

Amenities: Mini-Fridge, Microwave, Coffee Maker, Hair Dryer, Iron/Ironing Board, Complimentary Wi-Fi, Indoor Pool, Fitness Center