

Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Adventure

4 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT-SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Tennessee Great Smoky **Mountains Adventure**

Your experience begins amidst misty valleys dotted with homesteads. Trees tower above the forest floor and waterfalls cascade down lush hillsides. We hike the park's most beloved paths-including the iconic Appalachian Trail-and explore moonshine caves and old Civil War roads. For thrills, we raft down the rollicking Class II and III rapids of the Nantahala River and soar high above the forest floor on a mountaintop zip line tour. Each night our private deluxe camp awaits. Scrumptious meals next to cozy campfires and stories shared under a starlit sky create memories to last a lifetime. Finally, the warmth of a cozy sleeping bag beckons and we fall asleep to the sounds of the forest.

Details

Arrive: Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Gatlinburg, Tennessee Depart:

Duration: 4 Days

Group Size: 4-12 Guests

Minimum Age: 18 Years Old

Activity Level:

Testimonials

We have traveled throughout the world, but never experienced a level of service and attention to detail as we did with MT Sobek.

Dennis G.

MTS delivers remote adventure with the smoothest logistics and unrivaled depth of local experience. One call and you are expedition ready. Booking our eighth trip now!!

Helen S.

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

Our expert guides provide travelers with helpful hints, techniques and hiking tips, plus knowledge on local wildlife, geology, and history.

REASON #02

MT Sobek's legacy of preservation and protection enables us to operate over 30 Global National Park adventures.

REASON #03

This adventure covers some of the best of the iconic Appalachian Trail, as well as classic trails and hidden gems.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Hiking 5-8 hours each day, up to 11 miles. Ziplining and rafting (Class II-IV) are suitable for beginners.



LODGING

Private deluxe campground with cozy campfires and delicious meals.



CLIMATI

Daytime temperatures in the 60s-70s with nighttime temperatures in the 40s-50s.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Ansley grew up in the city of Atlanta and spent weekends and holidays in the southern Appalachian mountains. After college she worked in Wilderness Therapy in the North Carolina mountains with troubled youth. In the winters, Ansley goes out west to Utah to ski. She has hiked all around the United States, but the Smoky Mountains always call her back. Her favorite activities include, rock climbing, whitewater kayaking, rafting, scuba diving, yoga, canyoneering, skiing and, of course, backpacking.

Ansley Still

Jack Lloyd was raised in Shelby, North Carolina. He grew up playing in creeks and chasing critters in the foothills of Western North Carolina. Before coming to A Walk in the Woods, Jack was a head guide for the Nantahala Outdoor Center, leading ziplining trips and guiding rafts down the river. Over the winters, Jack is a ski instructor working with kids on the slopes. As an avid whitewater paddler, he loves spending hot summer days on the water. He also enjoys gardening and foraging.

Jack Lloyd

Itinerary

DAY 1 WELCOME TO GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Meet your guides and fellow traveling companions this morning in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. After introductions and a trip orientation we'll hop aboard our provided shuttle for a quick transfer to our first trailhead. The Cucumber Gap Loop is a perfect introduction to the rich biodiversity, beauty, and history of the Great Smoky Mountains. This hike takes place along an old logging railroad that passes old homesteads and small waterfalls. Plenty of small stream crossings enliven our walk. At the end of the day, our friendly camp host welcomes us to Signature Camp where we enjoy a barbecue dinner around a roaring campfire. All meals included.

Activity: 5.4 miles hiking with 800' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 2 HIKE THE AT IN ROUTE TO BREATHTAKING VIEWS AT THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT CAMMERER

After a tasty backcountry breakfast, we transfer to Low Gap Trailhead for an out-and-back hike to the summit of Mount Cammerer. A series of switchbacks climbs 2,000 feet through beautiful hardwood forest before joining the famous Appalachian Trail. We let the famous white blaze lead the way as our guides share stories of intrepid travelers who have hiked the over 2,000 miles of trail from Springer Mountain, GA to Mount Katahdin, ME. Our reward is the summit of Mount Cammerer, with its 360-degree views of the majestic Smoky Mountains. Our day finishes at our comfortable camp where we enjoy another scrumptious dinner. All meals included.

Activity: 11 miles hiking with 3,000 elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 3 EXPLORE HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND CLIMB TO A MOUNTAIN VISTA

Our mission today is to explore a unique section of trails; home to the largest collection of human artifacts in the National Park system. Walk along a beautiful mountain stream through an old growth forest. Climb to one of the most picturesque mountain vistas with expansive views of breathtaking rock formations. Our celebration of this spectacular region continues as we head back for a tasty meal around a roaring campfire. We'll spend our final evening together sharing stories and reflecting on our last few days of adventure. All meals included.

Activity: 4.5-6 miles hiking with 1,500' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

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An approximately two hour drive gets us to the Nantahala Outdoor Center. The NOC is a mecca for outdoor adventure and located at the intersection of the Appalachian Trail and the Nantahala River. After three days of exploring on foot, we take to the air to experience the park from above. We soar mountaintop to mountaintop along two adrenaline pumping miles of premier zip-line. Next we load into whitewater rafts to enjoy a fun, Class II and III ride down the scenic Nantahala River. After rounding out our exploration of the Great Smoky Mountains by land, sky and water we make our way back to Gatlinburg. We expect to arrive back in Gatlinburg early this evening. Breakfast and lunch included.

Inclement weather may impact the accessibility of the zip-lining course. If this is the case, we may substitute the NOC's adventure rope course for the zip-lining activity. In the event of lightening all aerial courses will be closed.

Activity: 2 miles zip-lining; 8 miles rafting

Meals: B, L

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Dates

| Jun 12 - 15, 2025 | Oct 16 - 19, 2025 |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Jun 16 - 19, 2025 | Oct 23 - 26, 2025 |
| Jul 3 - 6, 2025 | Apr 9 - 12, 2026 |
| Jul 14 - 17, 2025 | May 21 - 24, 2026 |
| Aug 28 - 31, 2025 | Jun 18 - 21, 2026 |
| Sep 1 - 4, 2025 | Jul 16 - 19, 2026 |
| Sep 21 - 24, 2025 | Aug 20 - 23, 2026 |
| Sep 28 - Oct 1, 2025 | Sep 10 - 13, 2026 |
| Oct 9 - 12, 2025 | Sep 24 - 27, 2026 |
| | Oct 22 - 25, 2026 |

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

Inclusions & Exclusions

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums,
- wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and porterage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- **Travel Protection Program**
- Personal expenses

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The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.

Awards











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