

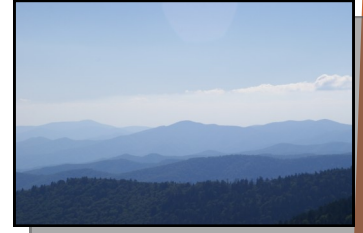
Autumn in the Smokies



9 Days: October 16-24, 2010

This travel package planned and escorted by Clara Hill

Imagine the beauty of the Smoky Mountains, awesome fall colors, a magnificent mansion, outstanding entertainment, great meals and a relaxing time. It's all planned for you on this great journey to the Great Smoky Mountains!



October 16 we pick up in our guaranteed departure cities and travel south. We stay at a beautiful hotel in St. Peters, MO, adjacent to restaurants. Enjoy an evening reception!

October 17 enjoy **breakfast** and a leisurely morning. Transportation will be provided to church, for those interested. Later, we make our way to Bowling Green, KY, with break and lunch stops along the way. Sit back, relax and enjoy the spectacular scenery as we travel along William H. Natcher Parkway. Our hotel has an indoor pool, exercise room and an evening reception. We have a steak house adjacent.

October 18 following **breakfast** we travel to Pigeon Forge, TN, nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. During the late 1700s, settlers from the Carolinas followed the Great Indian Path through the Smoky Mountains along the Pigeon River and eventually settled in what is known today as Pigeon Forge. The name Pigeon Forge came from two sources. "Pigeon" referred to the vast number of now-extinct passenger pigeons that stopped to feed along the river. "Forge" referred to the iron forge that early settler Isaac Love built along the river in 1820. We will check in at our hotel, which will be our home for the next four nights. This evening we take in the **Magic Beyond Belief** show. Terry



Evanswood, an internationally famous master of illusion who has been performing professionally since the age of 10, will entertain us. The *Chicago Tribune* says, "enter the Terry Evanswood world of illusions where reality and fantasy embrace." You'll probably be saying, "how did he do that?"

October 19 have **breakfast** before departing with our **step-on guide** to learn about the "three city area" - Sevierville, Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. Two hundred years ago Martha Jane Huskey Ogle, her children and several other family members arrived in a remote locale of Great Smoky Mountains to honor the wish of her late husband, William, to settle in the "land of paradise" he had found for them. Today, that remote locale is known as Gatlinburg. Sevierville is named for John Sevier, one of the leading figures in the state's history. Sevier was a frontiersman, soldier, war hero and politician who served under George Washington in the American Revolution. Following our informative tour of the cities, we'll have time for lunch on your own, shopping or just relaxing at the hotel. **Dixie Stampede** is on our evening agenda. Feast on the legendary four-course **dinner** while magnificent horses and talented riders amaze and entertain us. We will arrive early enough to enjoy the **Carriage Room Opening Act**.



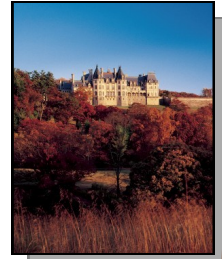
October 20 following **breakfast** we depart for **Dollywood**, where the Harvest Celebration and Southern Gospel Jubilee will be in full swing. Take in free concerts where Southern gospel and bluegrass music share a common ground with great songs deeply rooted in beautiful vocal harmonies and a powerful message. Each fall, unique artisans are on hand to share their crafts. We'll also enjoy **lunch** at one of the many food venues in the park.



October 21 fill up on **breakfast** before we journey to Asheville, NC, with our **step-on guide**. We will learn about the history of the Asheville area and visit magnificent **Biltmore Estate**. Once the home of George Vanderbilt, this 250-room mansion took 6 years and 1,000 workers to build. Resembling a

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French chateau, it is filled with fascinating treasures from around the world. The 250 acres of landscaped gardens, grounds and park are as remarkable as the house itself. During the time of our visit, Biltmore's gardens, shops and mansion will be transformed into a Harvest Home Celebration. The **audio guide to Biltmore House** is like having a tour guide in your pocket. Tour the house at your own pace while the digital MP3 player provides commentary on the architecture and art of the Biltmore House as well as the history of the Vanderbilt family. You will have an opportunity to choose the kind of **lunch** you would like in the Carriage/Stable area. Take your time, smell the flowers and imagine yourself as a resident of this awesome place be-



fore we continue our guided tour through historic Asheville and return to Pigeon Forge. Our return route will take us through **Great Smoky Mountains National Park**, part of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are a division of the larger Appalachian Mountain chain. It is the most visited national park in the U.S. Our **step-on guide** will share the history of the park and Eastern Cherokee Indian Reservation as we travel Newfound Gap Road. We return to our hotel for our final night in Pigeon Forge.

October 22 following **breakfast** we begin our homeward trek. We travel to Nashville, TN, where we will meet a **step-on guide** for a city tour. We'll learn about the history of this famous city, which is home to the Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum, Centennial Park and the Parthenon, to mention a few. Our hotel will have an evening reception. We have an indoor pool and exercise room.

October 23 enjoy **breakfast** before we travel to St. Louis, MO. Upon arrival we will visit the **Gateway Arch**, which reflects St. Louis' role in the westward expansion of the United States during the 19th century. The park is a memorial to Thomas Jefferson's role in opening the West to the pioneers who helped shape its history. We will ride to the top of the 630-foot stainless steel Gateway Arch, where we should have some fantastic views of Missouri and Illinois. This evening, we'll have a "farewell" **dinner** on the **Gateway Riverboat Cruise**. Enjoy a delicious meal as you experience the sights of the river and listen to live music.



October 24 following **breakfast** we depart for home with many memories of the Great Smoky Mountains in the fall.

Your 9-Day Autumn in the Smokies package includes: Luxury motor coach transportation, lodging for 8 nights, luggage handling, admissions/tickets to bolded attractions, 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 2 dinners (meals inclusive of tax and gratuity).

\$1,549 per person, double occupancy

\$1,489 per person with 3 or 4 persons sharing a room with 2 beds

\$1,902 single room accommodations

Reservations: anytime as long as space is available

Deposit: \$150 per person, due with reservation

Balance due: September 16

Cancel by: September 16 for penalty-free cancellation

Early Booking Discount: \$50 per person discount applied toward final balance if deposit is received by February 8.

Peace of Mind Protection: 5% of trip cost, due with payment or **Travel Insurance** is available at a group rate for this travel package. Please contact our office for information.

Guaranteed Departure Cities: Fort Dodge, Webster City, Williams, Ames, Des Moines, Newton, Coralville, Decorah, West Union, Independence, Cedar Rapids, Clear Lake, Charles City,