

Bryson City & Swain County North Carolina

Have a Big Vacation in a Small Town!

Media Briefing

The Smokies are filled with interesting stories about history, outdoor adventures, mountain ingenuity and scenic beauty. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Bryson City – A Real, Small Town

Bordering the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Western North Carolina, Bryson City is a laid-back, non-touristy town where you don't have to worry about what to wear or having a set of concrete plans. With only 1,400 residents and more stop signs than stoplights, it's an easily stroll-able town with local bookstores, galleries with working artisans, a historical museum, two breweries, and a surprising variety of restaurants.

And a river flows through it ...enjoy standup paddleboarding, kayaking and fishing delayed harvest waters of the Tuckasegee River right in our downtown.

GreatSmokies.com/downtown

New in 2017 - Nantahala Outdoor Center's Treetop Adventure Nets

NOC's Treetop Adventure Nets is the nation's first 100% net-based aerial playground. It is a fully-netted enclosure allowing participants (ages 3+) to enjoy the course without the need for a harness. Experience walking, climbing, sliding and playing freely while being suspended at heights ranging up to 20 feet above the ground.

noc.com/trips/treetop-adventure-nets

#1702 Steam Engine Tours the Smokies

After a 12-year hiatus including a 2-year complete restoration, Great Smoky Mountains Railroad's historic #1702 steam engine is again pulling excursions from the Bryson City depot to the Nantahala Gorge and to Dillsboro, as well as six special event trains. After each ride, the people-powered turntable gets the engine set for another run. GSMR.com/steam

Treetop Soaking Cabana

Searching for something romantic and memorable? Look no further than the new treetop soaking cabana at Lakeview at Fontana, a boutique mountain inn and spa. Set on a forested hillside the secluded, open-air cabana features an oversized stand-alone tub (large enough for two), deck for two, and a spectacular view of Fontana Lake & the Smoky Mountains.

LakeviewAtFontana.com



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Bryson City in 30 Seconds



GreatSmokies.com

We Have Photos. Lots of Photos.

Need a great high-res image of the Smokies or Bryson City? You'll find over 500 on our website. If you need something else, give us a call, tell us what you need and we'll send a selection.

GreatSmokies.com/media



Restored Bank Building Now Boutique Hotel

The Everett Hotel's nine luxury suites, restaurant, bar and rooftop terrace inhabit what was built in 1908 as the Bryson City Bank. Amenities include luxuriously appointed guest rooms, upscale baths and complimentary breakfast in the Bistro, serving great Southern gourmet fare using locally grown and organic ingredients. TheEverettHotel.com

KidZip with Wildwater

Wildwater was the first company in the US to build multiple zipline courses specifically for kids 4 & older. KidZip Nantahala offers ziplines and adventure park elements for kids 4-12 years old in a scenic, wooded setting. There are 13 zipline sections – beginner, intermediate & advanced; and 8 climbing elements.

WildwaterRafting.com/adventures/nantahala-gorge-canopy-tours

Ever Been On The 'The Road to Nowhere'?

Known to locals as 'The Road to Nowhere', Lakeview Drive is a scenic mountain road that takes you six miles into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and ends at the mouth of a tunnel. What's the story? When Fontana Dam was built and the National Park was created in the 1940s, old Highway 288 above the dam was covered by water. A replacement road was promised, but construction was stopped permanently in the 1960s due to environmental issues. The 6-mile road does provide access to several trails in the Park and has a nice overlook of Fontana Lake. It's a beautiful drive by car or bike. GreatSmokies.com/roadnowhere

Our Fall Color Isn't Just On The Trees

Not only do the Smoky Mountains explode with color in the fall, Bryson City puts on a festive fall show, too: **Great Pumpkin Pursuit**, a free-for-all raft race to scoop up as many pumpkins as possible from the Nantahala River

• **Crazy Corn Maze (haunted for Halloween)** • **Haunted Hay Rides** • **Pumpkin Patch Train Ride** with games and free pumpkins • **Spooky Storytelling** • **Haunted Indian Village** • **Downtown Trick or Treat** • **Free Music on Saturday Nights**. GreatSmokies.com/Fall-Smokies

*Bryson City is 1 hour west of Asheville,
just 3 hours from Atlanta & Charlotte, and
2 hours from Greenville, Knoxville & Chattanooga.*



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