

# Travel Trends

## Family Travel Opportunities

(NAPSA)—Families looking for a great getaway any time of year should consider the natural attractions of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the excitement and entertainment in nearby Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is home to more than 100 species of native deciduous trees. With the onset of autumn the trees burst into a warm palette of colors, from brilliant red to sparkling gold and orange. In fact, autumn in East Tennessee is one gigantic burst of color. Peak colors traditionally can be seen during October, but travelers can view the spectacle during September and November as well.

Park visitors also can catch glimpses of mountain wildlife including black bears, whitetail deer, hawks and eagles. A walk through the woods is a great family-bonding experience. There are more than 800 miles of hiking trails that wind through the park, ranging from easy strolls to more challenging treks for the experienced hiker.

Following your visit to Great Smoky Mountains National Park you may want to check out all the entertainment and attractions in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. This popular year-round destination is home to musical productions, a wide variety of dining and lodging choices, outlet and specialty stores, and fun-filled activities for the whole family. During autumn, special events are scheduled in Pigeon Forge to coincide with the leaf-changing event in the mountains.

During Pigeon Forge Harvest Festival in September and October visitors will enjoy the decora-



tions adorning the city's businesses. Creative use is made of mums, pumpkins, cornstalks and more to bring a special touch of autumn to city streets.

Autumn in the Smokies is a great time to enjoy traditional mountain crafts, and visitors will find two outstanding craft fairs in Pigeon Forge during the Harvest Festival. Dollywood, the Smoky Mountain Family Adventure Park, joins in the fall fun during the theme park's Harvest Celebration, featuring craft demonstrations and the sweet music of the Southern Gospel Jubilee.

The American Bus Association has named Pigeon Forge Harvest Festival one of the Top 100 Events in the United States.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, offer a variety of attractions, activities and entertainment that can make your family's fall vacation one to remember. For more information, call 1-800-251-9100 or log on to [www.mypigeonforge.com](http://www.mypigeonforge.com).