

Tellico Village Hiking Club



CLINGMANS DOME to NEWFOUND GAP on THE AT (SHUTTLE)

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

NOTE: Depart at 7:00AM from Lakeside Realty Parking Lot

Clingman's Dome is the highest point in the GSMNP, all of Tennessee and the Appalachian Trail. Elevation 6625. The air will average about 20 degrees cooler than the local Gatlinburg temperatures which should make it pretty nice even for August.

After a short (<0.5 miles) steep hike up to the AT, we will then be hiking DOWN the Appalachian Trail for 7.5 miles. The first 3.4 miles of this stretch coincide with the start of the Mountain to Sea Trail, which runs from Clingman's Dome through the Smokies all the way to the Outer Banks in NC.

Along the Appalachian Trail, we will pass Mount Love at 0.4 miles, Mount Collins at 2.8 miles, and at 6.5 miles we will cross old Indian Gap Road, which was the original wagon road before Newfound Gap. At the end we will cross the road to Newfound Gap.

This is a shuttle hike – we will leave half the transportation at Newfound Gap (approx 1:50 hrs), drive the rest up to Clingman's Dome (about 15 minutes). Hike down and then shuttle folks back up to pick up cars at CD. If anyone wishes to go to the observation tower, it needs to be at the end as they do not open until 10 am. To do so, we need to hike the 0.5 miles back up from the parking lot to the summit. This is the second highest point East of the Mississippi. If you then climb the 54-foot tower, and it is a clear day, you can see 100-mile views of 7 states.

Bathrooms are also available at either end.

REMINDER that a parking pass for each driver will be required in the Smoky Mountain National Park. A daily pass of \$5.00 or annual pass of \$40 may be purchased online.

Please RSVP to Laura Wehrle (912) 704-1417 in advance so we can be sure we have enough vehicles and parking passes.



Hiking boots and hiking sticks are recommended.



Driving directions will be provided the morning of the hike.



Bring water and a trail snack.

Passengers are asked to contribute \$6 to the driver to help cover gas, etc.

Check out the website: www.tellicolife.org/tv-hikers

CLINGMANS DOME to NEWFOUND GAP on THE AT)

Distance:
8 miles

Rating:
Moderate

Driving Time:
2 hours

Elevation Descent: 2691'

Leaders:

Laura Wehrle
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