

Merry Christmas



Gatlinburg kicks off the holiday season with our 34th annual Fantasy of Lights Christmas parade on Friday December 4th.

Gatlinburg Winter Magic Tunes and Tales runs the month of December every **Friday and Saturday night**. The main street of the city transforms to an enchanted stage with singing, dancing and storytelling performed by brightly-dressed, immaculate Elves from the Land of Elfdom created especially for the sidewalks of Gatlinburg.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is hosting a "Christmas Past" at the Sugarlands Visitor Center on December 12th 9:00am-4:00pm and the Holiday Homecoming at Oconaluftee on December 19 (10 am-2 pm). There will be kid's activities, live seasonal music, heritage crafts demonstrations, a chance to visit with old-time residents, and a living history presentation.

The Gatlinburg convention center is hosting The Great Smoky Mountains Arts and Crafts Holiday Arts and Crafts Show November 30 through December 6th. For those who want to find handcrafted, one of a kind gifts for the holiday season.

Don't forget about the outlet malls in Pigeon Forge and Sevierville for more gift giving options, just a few miles away from Johnson's Inn .

I recently went on a hike with friends to see a giant Tulip Poplar tree in the Park. It was fascinating.

Here's a video that I found on youtube that looks like the tree we visited

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRCZEVEcAik>



Elijah and Sabrina Gray with Giant Tulip Poplar, GSMNP

I love to hike in the winter. It is not too hot, less crowded and the views are terrific.

For more pictures of our hike check us out on [Facebook](#)

I found this web site that lists hikes and has some good pictures of the trail highlights hikinginthesmokys.com

All of us at Johnson's Inn wish you and your family the very merriest Christmas and a happy New Year.