



# THE GATLINBURG UPDATE

*Quarterly Newsletter*

November 2017

## *Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau*

As we begin November and look forward to the holiday season, the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau would like to thank all our wonderful clients who have done and continue to do business in Gatlinburg. To all our prospective customers and friends, please consider Gatlinburg for your future conventions, conferences and events.

The Gatlinburg hospitality community prides itself on offering first rate meeting facilities, sleeping accommodations, shopping, attractions and restaurants ensuring that your event has everything it needs to offer your attendees a first rate experience.

Please reach out to Dave Esslinger at [dave@gatlinburg.com](mailto:dave@gatlinburg.com) to set up your personal tour with one of our experienced sales team members. There is nothing like seeing our beautiful city first hand while having a knowledgeable Gatlinburg representative showing you all Gatlinburg has to offer making your next event so unique and successful.

Dave Esslinger – Director of Sales  
Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau

## *Gatlinburg at a glance*

- **Convention Center:** (148,000 square feet of total space)
- **Sleeping Rooms** (4,000+ surrounding convention center including full and limited service hotels, condominiums, chalets and cabins)
- **Dining Options:** (100+ restaurants, from casual to elegant gourmet establishments with the majority within walking distance to hotels and convention center)
- **Shopping:** (500+ shops with 5 malls plus largest Arts & Crafts Community in the U.S.)
- **Attractions:** (40+ along with many other entertainment options with the majority within walking distance to hotels and convention center)
- **Rocky Top Sports Complex:** (Named 2017 top Multi-Use Sports Facility by SportsEvents Magazine)
- **Gatlinburg Golf Course:** (Named Best Municipal Golf Course in Tennessee by Golf Digest Magazine)

## *What's new* **IN GATLINBURG** *LODGING*



### **HAMPTON INN**

Hampton Inn has 114 guest rooms located within one block from the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Wireless High Speed Internet Access. Complimentary Hot Breakfast. Outdoor Heated Pool and Spa. Now Open!  
[www.hospitalitysolutions.net/smokies](http://www.hospitalitysolutions.net/smokies)



### **MARGARITAVILLE HOTEL**

The resort will include a seven-story, 174-room hotel and will be located within a 10 minute walk to Gatlinburg Convention Center. Signature Margaritaville food and beverage concepts, a 4,000 square-foot outdoor pool, hot tub, indoor heated pool, St. Somewhere Spa, shops and other amenities. Scheduled to open in late 2018.



### **FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES**

Fairfield Inn & Suites will have 98 guest rooms located within one block from the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Wireless High Speed Internet Access. Complimentary Hot Breakfast. Outdoor Heated Pool and Spa. Outdoor Fire Pit. Now Open! [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)

## Attraction

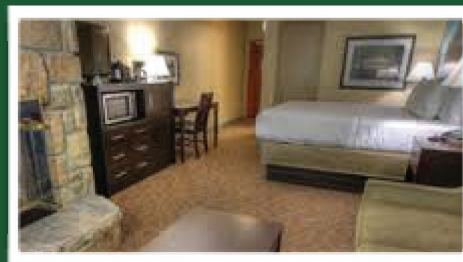


# ANAKEESTA

Anakeesta, Gatlinburg's newest family attraction is designed to be an outdoor entertainment destination for the whole family. Anakeesta offers a unique outdoor experience for all ages. Begin with a scenic 12-minute ride from Downtown Gatlinburg to the summit of Anakeesta Mountain on the Chondola's quad chairs or enclosed 6-person gondola cabins where you will arrive at Firefly Village, a whimsical tree house-themed village that features local craftsmen, quaint gift shops and casual dining options. [www.anakeesta.com](http://www.anakeesta.com)



## Gatlinburg HOTEL SPOTLIGHT



A Gatlinburg Hotel on the River in the Heart of Gatlinburg...

The Greystone Lodge On The River is the perfect location for lodging in downtown Gatlinburg located next to Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies. The Greystone Lodge On The River is situated close to everything the Smokies has to offer. You will find your favorite Gatlinburg restaurants, shopping and popular attractions all with walking distance. Plus, all Gatlinburg trolleys stop right outside of the main entrance of the hotel. Private balconies, most of them overlooking the river, give you a sense of seclusion and peacefulness during your stay. [www.greystonelodgetn.com](http://www.greystonelodgetn.com)

247 Spacious Sleeping Rooms  
10 minute walk to Convention Center  
Private Balconies  
Specialty Rooms with Fireplaces

Complimentary WiFi  
Complimentary Hot Breakfast  
Outdoor Heated Pool  
2,400 sq ft of meeting space

# Rocky Top SPORTS WORLD

SPORTS FACILITY



**ROCKY TOP** is an 80 acre state-of-the-art sports campus in the heart of the Smoky Mountains. Rocky Top Sports World in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, is a new indoor/outdoor sports destination that is bigger, better and more accommodating than any other venue in the region. And, in its first year, it's rapidly becoming the most talked about tournament destination in the Southeast. Less than 10 minutes from the entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and scenic downtown, Rocky Top Sports World is a tournament and event organizer's dream. [www.rockytopsportsworld.com](http://www.rockytopsportsworld.com)

7 Outdoor Fields  
6 State-of-the-Art Synthetic Turf Fields  
6 Fully Lit Fields  
Championship Stadium Field

86,000 Sq Ft Indoor Facility  
6 Basketball Courts + 4 more on site  
12 Volleyball Courts + 5 more on site  
Team Rooms

Referee Locker Rooms  
Champs Grill  
Ample parking on site

## Gatlinburg CONVENTION CENTER

### LIST OF EVENTS

<i>November</i>		<i>December</i>		<i>January</i>	
Event Name	Dates	Event Name	Dates	Event Name	Dates
Smoky Mountain Gift Show	11/1-5/17	Americas Best Gatlinburg Nationals	12/1-3/17	Xtreme 2017-2018	12/26-1/2/18
VRM Conference	11/6-8/17	Cheeriffic Practice Room	12/2-3/17	TN Christian Teen	1/4-7/18
Gatlinburg Apparel, Jewelry & Gift Market	11/8-13/17	East Tennessee Federal Programs	12/5-8/17	Crossroads Ministries	1/11-15/18
GSACC Thanksgiving Craft Show	11/20-26/17	Hospitality Solutions Holiday Banquet	12/11/17	Accelerant	1/24-28/18
GSACC Christmas Craft Show	11/26-12/3/17	Peachy - Pross Wedding	12/16/17	Holston Conference Divine Rhythm	1/25-28/18
				Special Olympics	1/28-29/18

## Gatlinburg ACCOLADES

**FORBES MAGAZINE** listed Gatlinburg one of it's top 20 prettiest towns in America in April of this year.

**ROCKY TOP SPORTS WORLD** Voted 2017 Top Multi Use Sports Facility

**MSN** listed Gatlinburg "The Prettiest Town in Every State" for the state of Tennessee in April of this year.

**RIPLEY'S AQUARIUM OF THE SMOKIES** Named Best U.S. Aquarium for 2017 by USA Today Readers' Choice.



Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau receives ConventionSouth Magazine's Annual Reader's Choice Award for 2017!

**GULF SHORES, Ala. (Oct. 17, 2017)**—ConventionSouth, the national multimedia resource for planning events in the South, presented Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau with a 2017 Readers' Choice Award. "ConventionSouth readers and fans have voted to decide the best meeting sites in the South, and it is no surprise to us that the Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau has been selected to receive our annual Readers' Choice Award," said ConventionSouth Publisher J. Talty O'Connor. "The value in receiving this prestigious recognition is that it comes from the United States' top meeting professionals who hold events in the South. These planners demand the highest level of customer service and quality facilities, and they have contributed in determining that Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau indeed displays the commitment to professionalism, creativity and service that they require." Since creation in 2001, this is the sixth time that Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau has received the award, making it an even greater honor to present it with a 2017 Readers' Choice Award. Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau

## Customer TESTIMONIAL

### TENNESSEE DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Conference Dates – May 18-20, 2017 (150<sup>th</sup> Year Conference)

Attendance – 1,300

**Regarding the City of Gatlinburg, Hotels, Restaurants & Attractions,** "Gatlinburg is a special and unique place that provides attendees with many social, dining, lodging and entertainment options.

The hotels in the area served us great and I would be remiss if I did not share the positive feedback of our board members regarding the Courtyard Marriott".

**Regarding the Convention Center,** "I cannot think of a single thing they could have done differently or better for us". "The convention center is a beautiful building and suitable for a conference of any size".

**Regarding the Gatlinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau,** "I would also like to thank you for the personal service that you provided us with leading up to the convention. I appreciate how you were able to work with us on the set-up for the meeting, the hotels and the venue".

*This edition of the Gatlinburg Update Quarterly Newsletter is the second of two. If you are interested in receiving our first edition, please go to our web page at [meetings.gatlinburg.com](http://meetings.gatlinburg.com) and select CVB Sales Quarterly Newsletters.*

