

# Merry Christmas



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

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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://hikinginthesmokys.com)

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