



**ADVENTURES**  
*in good company*



## **APPALACHIAN AUTUMN ADVENTURES**

### **TRIP SUMMARY**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Riding well-trained horses on forest trails and back roads
- Whitewater rafting on the Chattooga River
- Hiking on the legendary Appalachian Trail
- Savoring a sumptuous brunch at Wolf Mountain Vineyards
- Enjoying down time and camaraderie

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## TRIP AT A GLANCE

- Location:** Dahlonega, GA  
**Activities:** Multisport  
**Arrive:** Arrive 12 p.m. at the Atlanta, GA airport (ATL) on Day 1  
**Depart:** From the ATL Airport on the last day (arrive 4 p.m. at the airport, plan to fly out after 5:30 p.m. on the last day)

## TRIP OVERVIEW

Northern Georgia, the jumping off point for the Appalachian Trail, offers an astounding array of activities for those who like to get out and play in the crisp, invigorating air of fall. So on this four-day getaway, we will sample as much as we can: horseback riding, hiking, and whitewater rafting. We will also take advantage of the burgeoning foodie culture here, with dinner at one of the many fine restaurants and an outstanding brunch at a local winery. In between we'll plan time for relaxing and hanging out with each other at the hostel. Maximum group size: 12

## RATING

This trip is suitable for any healthy active woman who loves being active outdoors in the fall and exploring this beautiful area with its rich culture that ranges from its Appalachian roots. The hikes we've chosen are reasonably short, but they are in the mountains, so women should be in sufficient condition to hike uphill for a couple of hours. A rating of 2 is suitable for any woman who regularly walks at a **brisk** pace 3 to 4 days a week for 35 - 45 minutes. **Rating:** 1 [2](#) 3 4 5.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 1 - 2 experienced AGC guides based on group size
- Roundtrip transportation to and from the Atlanta Airport
- All meals from dinner on Thursday through brunch on Sunday
- Three nights lodging in rooms shared by four people or single room with supplement
- All activities on the itinerary, including horseback riding, rafting, and hiking

**Not Included:** Airfare to and from Atlanta airport (ATL) or the stable/lodging if driving (ATL), guide gratuities, alcoholic beverages and trip insurance.

## OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

### DAY 1

We pick you up at the Atlanta (ATL) airport at 12 p.m. and begin our adventure with an afternoon of horseback riding. We'll start with a short lesson, making sure that everyone is comfortable on her horse and knows the basics of riding. Our two-hour trail ride is just the right length - long enough that we can enjoy the scenery and cover some ground on forest trails and backwoods roads, but not so long that we are too stiff to walk afterwards! After our ride, we continue to our amazing vacation home for a hearty and delicious dinner. Well-fed and well exercised, we will be ready for bed tonight!

### DAY 2

After a hearty breakfast, we're off for a day of whitewater rafting on the Chattooga River. If the name of the river sounds familiar, it's because it is where Deliverance was filmed. Regardless of what else you remember about the film, you were undoubtedly struck by the beauty of this river. The section we'll be paddling is known for its breathtaking scenery, abundant plant and wildlife, and playful Class 2 and 3 rapids, ending with one big Class 4. This raft trip is suitable for women without previous rafting experience and even if you don't think rafting is your cup of tea, it's really the only way to experience the river's solitude and wildness. After a full day of excitement we'll return home for another delicious dinner and relaxing evening.

### DAY 3

After another hearty breakfast, we'll don our hiking boots for our 6-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail from Jarrard Gap to Neels Gap, crossing Blood Mountain. Blood Mountain is the highest peak on the Georgia section of the Appalachian Trail and the sixth-tallest mountain in Georgia, with an elevation of 4,458 feet. There are scenic views from the large rock formations that top the mountain, as well as a two-room stone shelter built in 1934 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Our hike will probably take about five hours, as we stop often for pictures and to eat lunch. After some significant up and down, we end our hike at the only place on the AT where the trail passes through a man-made structure: Mountain Crossings Outfitter. After we've had a chance to shower and change, it's time to head to the square in Dahlonega for the Appalachian Jam: every Saturday folks bring their instrument(s) and just start playing and/or singing on the Dahlonega square. If Appalachian music is not your style, there are also lots of shops to check out. After a couple of hours we'll meet and adjourn to a local restaurant for dinner out.

### DAY 4

Our breakfast will be rather light this morning because we need to save room for the brunch at Wolf Mountain Vineyards! Yum!! Brunch is typically buffet style and served with a glass of Estate wine. Since getting a little exercise before being presented with a feast is always a good idea, we'll first go on a casual 2-mile hike at DeSoto Falls. After savoring our last meal together, we head to the airport where you can plan a flight out after 5:30 p.m.

## ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

### GETTING THERE

For those planning to fly, plan to arrive at the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport (ATL) in Atlanta, GA in time to meet your group at 12 p.m. You will meet in the airport atrium at the center clock. Your guide(s) will be wearing their gray AGC t-shirts. For those driving, you can meet at the riding stable at 2:45 p.m., after riding you can follow the group to our “Retreat on the Ridge” where you can leave your car. Alternatively, you can leave your car at one of the airport parking lots and meet at the airport. More details on the location of the riding stable will be included in the pre-departure document.

### GETTING BACK

We will depart from the ATL Airport on the last day (arrive 4 p.m. at the airport, plan to fly out after 5:30 p.m. on the last day).

### AIRFARE

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, Exito Travel. Start by submitting this form: [https://pay2.exitotravel.com/referral\\_form?affiliate\\_id=1090&client=1](https://pay2.exitotravel.com/referral_form?affiliate_id=1090&client=1). Just fill in your dates and destinations, including any additional notes about preferred carriers, class of service, possible stopovers, etc., and an agent will typically respond via email within a few hours. If you prefer to call, the number is 800-655-4053; be sure to tell them you are traveling with Adventures in Good Company.

Please note: Most of the international airlines are in-network for Exito, so they do not charge extra for their services (and often have access to discounted rates). When necessary, processing fees out-of-network carriers are minimal at around \$35-\$50 per ticket.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

We will spend three nights at the Retreat on the Ridge. This beautiful mountain top lodge has spectacular panoramic views and if the weather is cooperating, we will relax around the fire ring on the outside patio or around the saltwater pool. There are 6 bedrooms for participants, including a bunkroom with its own full bathroom, one single with an ensuite bathroom, one single that shares a jack-n-jill bathroom with another bedroom, and the remaining bedrooms and bathrooms are all shared and assigned randomly.

There is a 20% discount for the bunkroom and the two singles are available for a single supplement fee of \$150. The single with the ensuite bathroom will be given to the first participant to select the single supplement. We can accommodate a variety of dietary preferences and restrictions but, depending on your specific circumstances, we may ask you to bring supplemental food. Please contact the office if this is a potential concern for you.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, visit [Travelex Insurance](#) or call 1-800-228-9792 and reference location number 06-0331.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. All products listed are underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges reflect the many expenses Adventures in Good Company cannot recover if you cancel, even if you must do so due to illness, injury, or personal emergencies. These fees are not meant to be punitive. The charges made reflect the expenses Adventures in Good Company has incurred in administering your reservation and planning for your participation. We recognize that the majority of those who cancel their reservations do so out of necessity. Please note that we do not make any refunds for any unused portion of your trip, not arriving, arriving late, or leaving the trip early.

[Click here for our Cancellation & Payment Policies and Booking Terms & Conditions.](#)