On the Cherokee Trail into Southeast Tennessee

rail excursion • fall foliage • unique cultural and natural sites

November 6 – 8

Join regional historian, Chumley Cope, on a 3-day excursion into the old Cherokee Indian country of NC’s Snowbird Mountains and Southeast Tennessee. Highlights will include a driving excursion on the beautiful Cherohala Skyway; a rail excursion along the Hiwassee River; and visits to several fascinating Cherokee Indian sites (including museums / memorials). If you like trains, beautiful scenery, mountain stories, or good food, then this trip is for you! Everyone else is also welcome to join.
itinerary:

We’ll depart the Upstate region, traveling through lovely Northeast Georgia to Tennessee’s “Copper Basin.” We’ll visit the Ducktown Basin Museum, which chronicles the story of copper mining in the region, its effects, and the landscape’s “recovery.” Our trail will follow the scenic and cascading gorge of the Ocoee River, to Cleveland, Tennessee.

In the Cleveland area, we’ll visit sites related to Nancy Ward, famous Cherokee “war woman,” and the Trail of Tears.

On our second day, we’ll visit two outstanding historic sites framed by a gorgeous country: Fort Loudon (a reproduced 1758 British fort, which played a role in SC’s Cherokee War of 1760); and the nearby Sequoyah Museum, which tells the story of the inventor of the Cherokee syllabary. After lunch, we’ll board the train to ascend the valley of the Hiwassee River – an important mountain tributary of the Tennessee River. Fall foliage and the continuous views of the river should be lovely.

On our last day, we’ll drive one of eastern America’s lovely byways, the Cherohala Skyway, linking Tennessee to North Carolina through the Snowbird Mountains. Highlights will include a side-trip to Bald River Falls, scenic overlooks, and the grave of the legendary Cherokee chief, Junaluska.

Trip Price:

$649 / person (double occupancy; single supplement, $110); price is all-inclusive except for 1 lunch, 1 dinner, and alcohol. [If you are not yet a member of Clemson – OLLI, you may join this
trip by paying the $30 semester membership fee. Either make your check to Explore Up Close for $679 (and Chumley will process your Clemson – OLLI membership) or pay $30 directly to Clemson – OLLI. Call Amanda Turner at (864) 633-5243 to join Clemson – OLLI.

Deposit and Refund information:

Please mail a deposit (check, payable to Explore Up Close) in the amount of $250 / person, when registering for this regional trip. Refunds, minus a $75 service fee, can be granted before bookings are made, but not less than 30 days prior to trip departure. Full trip payment is due 30 days prior to the trip start date.

Register for the trip:

To register for the trip, please return the registration form (page 4 of this pdf file), and your $250 / person deposit (check, payable to Explore Up Close). The mailing address is on the registration form. Please contact Chumley Cope at Explore Up Close, LLC, with any questions.
Trip Registration – On the Cherokee Trail, November 6 – 8

Please print and mail this registration form, along with your deposit, to:

Explore Up Close, LLC
613 Poplar St.
Spartanburg, SC  29302

Your Name: ________________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________

Telephone: _________________________  Email: ________________________________

Name of person(s) traveling with you (if applicable):

_________________________________________ ; _______________________________________

Contact information (if different from yours):

Telephone: ____________________________  Email: ________________________________

Lodging specifics (requests will be honored to the degree possible):

_____  room with two (2) beds    _____  room with one (1) bed

Enclosed is my check, payable to “Explore Up Close,” in the amount of ____________.

If this amount includes your enrollment in Clemson – OLLI, please check here __________.

www.exploreupclose.com  •  (864) 431-7567  •  chumley@exploreupclose.com