



**The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Professional & Personal Development**

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Historic Cataloochee Valley, Smoky Mountain Elk & More:

Saturday, August 25 @ 2:30 p.m. - Course #18SU887

Instructor: Esther Blakely - Email: tourguide@cataloocheevalleytours.com

Cell: 828-450-7985

Welcome to the Smoky Mountain Field School. In order to ensure the safety and enjoyment of your chosen experience, please carefully review the information below well in advance of the meeting date. If you have any concerns or questions about the class contact the instructor(s). For issues related to registration contact Personal and Professional Development at 865-974-0150.

MEETING PLACE/TIME: Meet at 2:30 p.m. Saturday in Waynesville, NC at the Lake Junaluska Bethea Welcome Center. The address is 91 North Lakeshore Drive, Lake Junaluska, NC. Park in front of the welcome center. We will carpool to Cataloochee Valley. Allow ample travel time in consideration of restroom stops, weather conditions, traffic, and speed limits – Be on time! Classes generally end back at the meeting place by late afternoon.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Participation in all classes is voluntary and each participant will be required to sign a Release of Liability as part of the class roster. Participants should **advise** their instructor(s) of any medical issues that could become a concern or place themselves or others at risk. Everyone is asked to refrain from the use of cell phones or tobacco products during the experience. **Classes are held rain or shine and refunds are not issued for ‘no-shows’.**

WHAT TO EXPECT AND WEAR: Much of the Smokies consists of rugged, remote terrain and participants must make themselves aware of the potential risks involved. The weather in the Park is often unpredictable and can change rapidly producing strong winds, a sudden drop in temperature and even winter-like conditions, especially at the higher elevations. **Do not underestimate the year-round need for adequate rain protection and warm layers including a hat and gloves and secure them in waterproof bags.** For most day sessions expensive, high-tech clothing and hiking boots are not necessary but comfortable field clothes and sturdy footwear are essential.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS: Make adjustments according to your needs and those of the class.

- _____ Daypack/Hiking stick or trekking poles
- _____ One to two quarts (liters) of fluid/snacks/lunch and/or dinner
- _____ First aid items and personal medications
- _____ Emergency items: Compass, light source, small knife, waterproof matches and whistle
- _____ Sunscreen (year round) and insect repellent (seasonal)
- _____ Field guides/notepad and pen or pencil/small hand lens/binoculars/camera and accessories

Program Outline-

- Cataloochee Divide Trail at entrance to Cataloochee Valley- Geology of Park
- Palmer House – Cultural History
- Restroom break at campground
- Palmer Chapel – Cultural History
- Hike to site of former elk acclimation pen – Reintroduction of Elk
- Elk viewing
- Restroom break at campground
- Return to Lake Junaluska

Please bring water, lunch, snacks and wear comfortable walking shoes. Dress appropriate for outdoor weather conditions.

Driving Directions:

COMING FROM EAST (FROM ASHEVILLE-25 MILES):

- From I-40, take exit 27 onto US 19-23.
- Drive 3-4 miles.
- Do not take exit 104 -- it is easy to get lost.
- Take exit 103 and drive about 1 mile until you see Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center front entrance gates on the right.
- Bear right and follow the main road to the Bethea Welcome Center.

COMING FROM WEST (FROM KNOXVILLE- 92 MILES):

- From I-40, take exit 20 toward "Lake Junaluska, Maggie Valley".
- Bear right on the ramp.
- Drive 7 miles until you come to the stop light.
- Turn left at the light and drive 3 more miles, and pass through 1 stop light.
- The Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center front gates will be on your left shortly after the stop
- Turn left and follow the main road to the Bethea Welcome Center.

COMING FROM ATLANTA- 172 MILES FROM MIDTOWN:

- Take I-85 North to I-985 North.
- At Gainesville, GA take 365 North to 441 North into NC.
- Just past Dillsboro, NC, 441 merges with US 74 which will turn into 23/74.
- Take Hwy 23/74 North Lake Junaluska/Maggie Valley Exit (102-B).
- Travel two miles then turn right on US 19. The entrance to Lake Junaluska is approximately ¼ mile on left.
- Turn left and follow the main road to the Bethea Welcome Center.

Using a GPS:

BELOW IS THE STREET ADDRESS OF THE BETHEA WELCOME CENTER.

Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center
91 N. Lakeshore Drive
Lake Junaluska, NC 28745