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Pigeon Forge: Top 9 Tips for Exploring with the Family

Our Friends · Sunday, July 14th, 2024

Pigeon Forge is a great vacation spot for families, offering a blend of thrilling attractions, natural beauty, and engaging entertainment. Nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, this charming town is known for its friendly atmosphere and a plethora of activities that cater to all ages. From theme parks to dinner shows, there's something for everyone in Pigeon Forge. Here are nine tips to help you make the most of your family adventure.

1. Plan Ahead for Dollywood

Dollywood is one of Pigeon Forge's most famous attractions and a must-visit for families. To make the most of your visit, plan ahead by purchasing tickets online to avoid long lines. Check the show schedules and plan which rides and attractions you want to hit first. Dollywood offers a variety of family-friendly attractions, from exhilarating roller coasters to entertaining musical shows. Don't forget to explore the kid-friendly areas like the Country Fair, where younger children can enjoy gentler rides and games. Planning your visit ensures you maximize your time and experience everything this iconic theme park has to offer.

2. Take Everyone Out for a Family-Friendly Dinner Show

Dinner shows in Pigeon Forge offer a unique blend of entertainment and delicious food, making them perfect for family outings. Enjoy the **Hatfield and McCoy Dinner Show**, a hilarious and action-packed performance filled with comedy, music, and dance. This show brings the legendary family feud to life with an all-you-can-eat Southern feast, including fried chicken, pulled pork, and more. The interactive nature of the show keeps everyone entertained, and the hearty meal ensures no one leaves hungry. It's an experience that combines fun and dining in a way that's sure to be a highlight of your trip.

3. Visit the Island in Pigeon Forge

The Island in Pigeon Forge is a vibrant entertainment complex packed with activities for all ages. Start with a ride on the Great Smoky Mountain Wheel, a 200-foot-tall Ferris wheel offering stunning views of the area. Kids will love the dancing fountains, which perform synchronized shows to music. The Island also features a variety of family-friendly shops and eateries, making it a great spot for an afternoon or evening outing. Whether you're indulging in a sweet treat or playing arcade games, The Island offers a fun-filled experience that the entire family will enjoy.

4. Have Fun at the Pigeon Forge Snow

Pigeon Forge Snow is the first indoor snow park in the United States, and it's open year-round.

This unique attraction allows families to experience snow tubing and snow play regardless of the season. The climate-controlled environment means you can enjoy all the fun of winter activities without braving the cold. Kids can build snowmen, have snowball fights, and race down the snow tubing lanes. It's a great way to add some variety to your trip and give the family a memorable experience.

5. Spend a Day at Splash Country

Dollywood's Splash Country is a family-friendly water park that offers a fun way to cool off during the warmer months. With a variety of attractions, from thrilling water slides to relaxing lazy rivers, there's something for everyone. The younger kids will enjoy the Little Creek Falls area, which is designed just for them with smaller slides and splash zones. For those seeking more excitement, the Big Bear Plunge and RiverRush offer adrenaline-pumping fun. Don't forget to bring sunscreen, towels, and water shoes to make your day more comfortable. Renting a cabana can also provide a great base for your family to relax and regroup throughout the day. Splash Country promises a day full of wet and wild fun that will delight the entire family.

6. Check Out the Titanic Museum Attraction

The Titanic Museum Attraction in Pigeon Forge offers an educational and immersive experience that's perfect for families. This half-scale replica of the original ship provides a fascinating look into the history and legacy of the Titanic. Visitors receive boarding passes of actual passengers and can explore exhibits featuring over 400 artifacts recovered from the wreck. The interactive displays, such as touching an iceberg and feeling the cold Atlantic water, engage kids and parents alike. The museum also offers a self-guided audio tour that enhances the educational experience. Exploring the museum is a great way to combine learning with entertainment, making it a must-visit attraction in Pigeon Forge.

7. Enjoy Mini Golf and Go-Karts

Pigeon Forge is home to numerous mini-golf courses and go-kart tracks, providing plenty of family-friendly fun. Places like The Track offer a variety of activities, including go-kart racing, mini-golf, bumper boats, and more. Professor Hacker's Lost Treasure Golf features a unique adventure-themed course with waterfalls, caves, and even a mining train ride. These attractions offer a mix of competition and outdoor adventure that's perfect for the whole family. Whether you're putting your way through whimsical mini-golf courses or racing around go-kart tracks, these activities provide hours of entertainment and are a great way to bond with your family.

8. Experience the Old Mill Square

Old Mill Square is a historic and charming area that offers a variety of activities and dining options for families. The centerpiece is the Old Mill, a gristmill built in 1830 that still operates today. You can take a tour of the mill to learn about its history and see how it grinds grain into flour. The area also features several shops and restaurants, such as the Old Mill Restaurant and the Pottery House Café & Grille, which serve delicious Southern cuisine. Kids will enjoy watching the candy being made at the Old Mill Candy Kitchen and trying their hand at pottery at Pigeon River Pottery. A visit to Old Mill Square provides a blend of history, shopping, and dining that everyone in the family will enjoy.

9. Take a Scenic Helicopter Tour

For a unique and unforgettable experience, consider taking a scenic helicopter tour of Pigeon Forge and the surrounding Smoky Mountains. You'll see the sprawling mountain ranges, lush forests, and possibly even wildlife from a perspective you can't get from the ground. The tours

are typically short, making them a great addition to your itinerary without taking up too much of your day. Ensure to book in advance, especially during peak seasons, to secure your spot. A helicopter tour is a fantastic way to see the beauty of the Smoky Mountains and create lasting family memories.

Conclusion

Pigeon Forge is a treasure trove of family-friendly activities and attractions, making it an ideal vacation spot for families seeking fun and adventure. From the thrills of Dollywood and the enchanting dinner shows to the natural beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains and the educational exploration at the Titanic Museum, there's something for everyone. By following these tips and planning your visit, you'll ensure a memorable and enjoyable trip to Pigeon Forge. Whether it's your first visit or a returning favorite, Pigeon Forge offers endless opportunities for creating cherished family memories.

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