

# SAMPLE STUDENT TOUR

## History, Adventure and Fun in Kingsport, Tennessee

### 1st day

Arrive in Kingsport and check in to hotel

### 2nd day

START THE DAY breathing the fresh, clean mountain air at Bays Mountain Park and Planetarium, one of America's largest city owned parks where environmental education is an intricate part of the park's purpose. Choose three nature programs from the following: snake program, wolf program, rapture program, habitat tour and introduction to animals, ecology program OR choose two nature programs and a planetarium show. (3 hours minimum)

DEPART BAYS MOUNTAIN AND BE MET BY MA & PA HUGGINS looking for a groom (can be one of the chaperones) for their oldest daughter. After this "country" couple boards the bus and chooses a wedding party, the coach is guided to Exchange Place where a hilarious wedding is performed followed by a country wedding lunch. After lunch be an 1850's child - play old fashioned games, attend school in original 1850's schoolhouse atmosphere, visit the original springhouse, smokehouse, old store building and learn how to make hoecakes. (3.5 hours)

HEAD TO ROCKY MOUNT MUSEUM where costumed interpreters help you experience life on the frontier with daily tasks of cooking, weaving and candle making in this living history museum. (2 hrs)

END THIS DAY OF LEARNING EXPERIENCES AT FUN EXPEDITION for the BoxCar Buffet featuring pizzas, salad, pasta & dessert. Then enjoy an hour of fun in the arcade and afterwards choose 2 attractions from laser tag, mini bowling, climbing wall, batting cages, and bumper cars to end the evening.

### 3rd day

BEGIN WITH A MOTORCOACH CRUISE THROUGH "THUNDER VALLEY," THE HOME OF BRISTOL DRAGWAY AND BRISTOL MOTOR SPEEDWAY. As you cruise down the legendary quarter-mile, try to imagine a top fueler blasting past you topping 320 mph. Then head up to Bruton Smith's suite and look over the magnificent high-banked half-mile wonder with seating for 160,000 fans. Experience the feel of centrifugal force when you take a lap around the track, which includes Bristol's famous 36-degree banked turns. It's "Thunder Valley" and "The World's Fastest Half-Mile!" (1.5 hours)

DISCOVER how bats influence our ecological system with a bat seminar followed by a tour of APPALACHIAN CAVERNS. Explore giant underground chambers, made colorful by deposits of manganese, copper, calcium, and other elements, served Native Americans in need of shelter, hid soldiers during the Civil War, and protected moonshiners during Prohibition. One mile of walkways, some winding through great rooms with ceilings reaching an impressive height of 135 feet, provide a full hour of excitement and adventure. Then enjoy a pizza picnic under the shelters outside the caverns. (2.5 hours)

GO BACK IN TIME 4.5 - 7 MILLION YEARS (LATE MIOCENE) AT THE GRAY FOSSIL SITE. Core samples indicate that the deposit covers roughly 4-5 acres and is up to 40 meters thick making it one of the largest palaeontology digs in the world. The 33,000 sq. ft. visitors' center includes a preparation lab, a museum, an education center, and a workshop for display, construction and assembly of the fossils. (2.5 hours)

TRAVEL TO JONESBOROUGH, Tennessee's oldest town for a kid oriented fun dinner. Enjoy an interactive storytelling concert with stories woven from many exciting cultures. The stories will take you around the world without even having to leave your seat.

### 4th day

DEPART HOTEL