

## Less Than One Tank Trips: Events at Tennessee State Parks for Summer 2008



You can experience Tennessee's great outdoors or some of its most compelling stories on less than a tank of gas this summer. Each week presents a new opportunity to encounter our state's natural, cultural and historical uniqueness at a state park near you. Discover authentic Tennessee on any of these **Less Than One Tank Trips** this summer:

### June 2008

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| June 7     | Fishing Rodeo at Bledsoe Creek State Park                     |
| June 14    | Louie Bluie Music and Arts Festival at Cove Lake State Park   |
| June 21-22 | 62nd annual Rhododendron Festival at Roan Mountain State Park |
| June 23-27 | Pioneer Camp Crockett at Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park  |

### July 2008

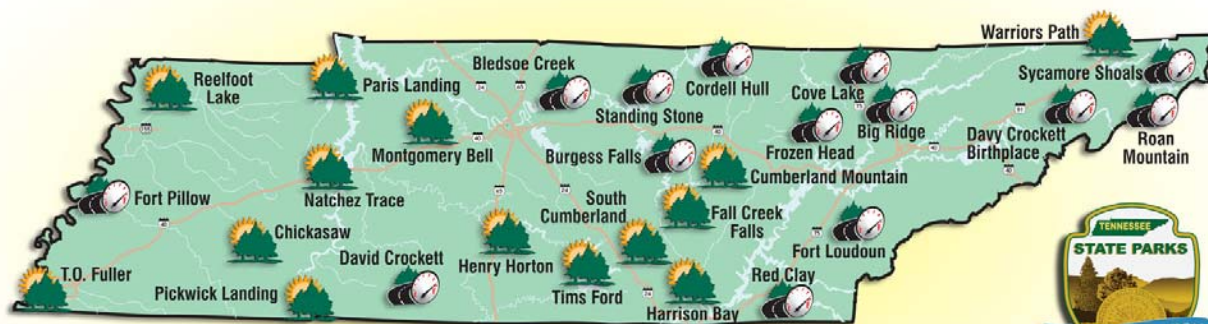
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| July 4-6   | Independence Day Celebration at Fort Pillow State Park         |
| July 10-12 | Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals at Sycamore Shoals State Park |
| July 17-19 | Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals                               |
| July 24-26 | Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals                               |
| July 26    | Folklife Festival at Warriors' Path State Park                 |

### August 2008

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|-------------|---|
| August 2-3  | 26th annual Cherokee Days of Recognition at Red Clay State Park |
| August 8-10 | Crockett Days Celebration at David Crockett State Park          |
| August 9    | Annual Butterfly Festival at Burgess Falls State Park           |
| August 15   | 27th annual Bluegrass Festival at Big Ridge State Park          |
| August 16   | Heritage Day Festival at Frozen Head State Park                 |

### September 2008

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| September 5-7 | 30th annual Mountaineer Folk Festival at Fall Creek Falls State Park |
| September 6-7 | 18th Century Trade Faire at Fort Loudoun State Park                  |
| September 13  | National Rolley Hole Championships at Standing Stone State Park      |



[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)



Be sure to check out Tennessee State Park **Super Summer Sites**

**June 7 Fishing Rodeo**  
**Bledsoe Creek State Park**  
**Gallatin**

Friends of [Bledsoe Creek State Park](#) are sponsoring a free fishing rodeo for children age 14 and younger in conjunction with Tennessee's Free Fishing Day. Registration is 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. CDT with fishing from 9 a.m. to noon CDT. Bledsoe Creek State Park offers hiking, camping, boating and fishing on Old Hickory Lake.  
**For more information contact Sharon Armistead at (615) 347-3639.**



Bledsoe Creek is a popular location during the Fishing Rodeo on June 7.

**June 14 Louie Bluie Music and Arts Festival**  
**Cove Lake State Park**  
**Caryville**

This June 14 festival at [Cove Lake State Park](#) celebrates the many musicians and artists who were influenced by Campbell County native Howard "Louie Bluie" Armstrong. The all-day event runs from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST and features a wide variety of food, music, crafts and storytelling traditions. Old-time musicians and popular regional string bands play throughout the day.  
**For more information contact Peggy Mathews at (423) 562-8189.**



Regional music draws the crowds at the Louie Bluie Music and Arts Festival on June 14.

**June 21-22 62nd annual Rhododendron Festival**  
**Roan Mountain State Park**  
**Roan Mountain**

The 62nd annual Roan Mountain Rhododendron Festival at [Roan Mountain State Park](#) features the world's largest natural rhododendron gardens. Free demonstrations and entertainment will be featured in the park amphitheater all day both days. A variety of arts, crafts, food and drink will be available. Sponsored by the Roan Mountain Citizens Club, the festival is nationally known and happens to be a favorite stopping point along the Appalachian Trail. The rhododendrons achieve peak bloom each year in mid-June. Bring the family for a weekend of fun, food, crafts, mountain music and clogging in the friendly village of Roan Mountain.  
**For more information contact Donna McKinney at (423) 772-3303.**



Blazing colors pop during the Rhododendron Festival at Roan Mountain.

**June 23-27 Pioneer Camp Crockett**  
**Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park**  
**Limestone**

This weeklong pioneer camp at [David Crockett Birthplace State Park](#) introduces young people to the Appalachian frontier heritage of the early 1800s. Kids will get hands-on experience with traditional crafts, cooking, fishing, archery, fire starting and more as park rangers, local artisans and re-enactors will provide instruction. The program is sponsored by the Pioneer Friends Group of Davy Crockett Birthplace. There is a participation fee.  
**For more information contact Dawn Coleman at (423) 253-2167.**



Children have pioneer experiences at Crockett Days Camp on June 23-27.

**July 4-6 Independence Day Celebration**  
**Fort Pillow State Park**  
**Henning**

Located in Lauderdale County on the Chickasaw Bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River, the 1,600-acre [Fort Pillow State Park](#) site is rich in both historic and archaeological significance. The extensive fortifications built by the Confederate Army in 1861 remain as well-preserved earthworks for exploration and backdrop for the life of a Civil War soldier. Celebrate American independence with outdoor activities, such as guided hikes, fishing on Fort Pillow Lake, arts and crafts demonstrations and museum tours.

**For more information contact Robby Tidwell at (731) 738-5581.**



Celebrate Independence Day with a bang at Fort Pillow State Park.

**July 10-12 July 17-19 July 24-26 Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals**

**Sycamore Shoals State Park  
Elizabethton**

*Liberty*, Tennessee's longest running outdoor drama, is the must-see event at [Sycamore Shoals State Park](#) in Carter County each summer. The drama depicts the 18th-century settlement of northeast Tennessee and tells the story of the major events surrounding the Watauga Settlement on the grounds where they actually happened. Seating is available in the Watauga Amphitheater and performances begin evenings at 7:30 p.m. EDT. Presented each year by local performers in the shadow of Fort Watauga, *Liberty* is sponsored by the Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. There is an admission fee.

**For more information contact Jennifer Bauer at (423) 543-5808.**



*Liberty: Saga of Sycamore Shoals* is the must-see drama event in northeast Tennessee.

**July 26 Folklife Festival  
Warriors' Path State Park  
Kingsport**

The folk traditions of East Tennessee skills, crafts, games, contests and music are on display in Kingsport as [Warriors' Path State Park](#) hosts its free Folklife Festival from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. EDT. Come for the traditional crafts demonstrations and old-time music, but don't miss the tales around the campfire!

**For more information contact Marty Silver at (423) 239-6786.**



Craft demonstrations are just one of the fun events at the Warriors' Path Folk Festival on July 26.

**August 2-3 26th annual Cherokee Days of Recognition  
Red Clay State Park  
Cleveland**

Living history, along with authentic crafts and food, are front and center during the Cherokee Days of Recognition at [Red Clay State Park](#) in Bradley County. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT each day. Cherokee fancy dancers, traditional dancers and storytelling bring native peoples and participants from across the southeastern United States to this former Cherokee Council Grounds site.

**For more information contact Carol Crabtree at (423) 478-0339.**



Experience living history during Cherokee Days of Recognition at Red Clay State Park on August 2-3.

**August 8-10 Crockett Days Celebration  
David Crockett State Park  
Lawrenceburg**

The second weekend of August in Lawrenceburg means it's time for David Crockett Days at [David Crockett State Park](#). An abundance of wildlife, trails and Tennessee history make this a worthwhile drive to see the park. Pioneer statesman David Crockett made his home here on the banks of Shoal Creek and also operated a powder mill, grist mill and distillery. This multiday festival features music, food and fun from Crockett's period in the early 19th century.

**For more information contact Rachel Lee at (931) 762-9408.**



Trails and Tennessee history complement David Crockett Days in Lawrenceburg.

**August 9 Annual Butterfly Festival  
Burgess Falls State Park  
Sparta**

Celebrate the award-winning Native Butterfly Garden at [Burgess Falls State Park](#) with a fun filled day of hands-on activities and educational encounters. Programs will include hikes, landscaping with native plants, butterfly identification walks and birds of prey demonstrations. The Native Butterfly Garden, created by the hard work of state parks' staff, local Master Gardeners and area volunteers, is winner of the Governor's Award for Excellence in Parks and Recreation.

**For more information contact Bill Summers at (931) 432-5312.**



Hikes and native plant gardening are part of hands-on activities during the festival at Burgess Falls on August 9.

## **August 15 27th annual Bluegrass Festival**

### **Big Ridge State Park Maynardville**

While many come throughout the summer for the sandy beach at Norris Lake, [Big Ridge State Park](#) draws folks from all over East Tennessee for its annual Bluegrass Music Festival. The festival will be held from 7 p.m. to 12 midnight EDT this year. Various local bands will be on hand to play bluegrass, country and old-time country music that really packs in the crowds.

**For more information contact Sarah Nicley at (865) 992-5523.**

## **August 16 Heritage Day Festival**

### **Frozen Head State Park Wartburg**

Celebrate traditions of the Upper Cumberland during the Heritage Day Festival at [Frozen Head State Park](#). Bluegrass music, traditional crafts and wilderness demonstrations bring crowds out to Morgan County for a hands-on experience of frontier life on the Plateau.

**For more information contact Michael Hodge at (423) 346-3318.**

## **Sept 5-7 30th annual Mountaineer Folk Festival**

### **Fall Creek Falls State Park Pikeville**

[Fall Creek Falls State Park](#) will host its 30th annual Mountaineer Folk Festival on September 5-7. The family-friendly festival features old-time music, pioneer skills demonstrations, crafts and great country cooking. All activities will be held in the park's Village Green area. Demonstrations throughout the weekend will feature sorghum molasses making, herding sheep with dogs and blacksmithing. Numerous craft booths with a wide variety of local wares will be available to celebrate the rich culture of the Cumberlands. The festival is sponsored by the Friends of Fall Creek Falls and Fall Creek Falls State Park, which has been voted by its users as one of the top family destinations in the Southeast. Facilities located within the park include a campground, a hotel and conference center and cabins.

**For more information contact Stuart Carroll at (423) 881-5162.**

## **Sept 6-7 18th Century Trade Faire**

### **Fort Loudoun State Park Vonore**

Mark the end of summer with the 18th Century Trade Faire at [Fort Loudoun State Park](#) on the banks of Lake Tellico in Monroe County. The 18th Century Trade Faire showcases one of the earliest British fortifications on the western frontier and also features period entertainment, such as a sword swallows, jugglers, magicians and traditional Celtic music. Re-enactors and costumed historians join artisans and craftspeople skilled in 18th century style production – not to mention 18th century style food.

**For more information contact Jeff Wells at (423) 884-6217.**

## **Sept 13 National Rolley Hole Championships**

### **Standing Stone State Park Hilham**

Come to [Standing Stone State Park](#) in Overton County to witness or be part of the National Rolley Hole Marbles Championship. This traditional marbles contest draws some of the country's best players to a tournament where men and women match wits and skills with special glass balls on a smooth dirt surface. It's a one of a kind event and has been featured on ESPN, ABC Evening News, CNN, CBS and National Geographic.

**For more information contact Shawn Hughes at (931) 823-6347.**



Performers and guests have a blast during the festival at Big Ridge on August 15.



Scenic Frozen Head State Park celebrates traditions on August 16.



Enjoy the scenic views at the 30th annual Mountaineer Folk Festival at Fall Creek Falls on September 5-7.



Fort Loudoun comes alive as a trading post and early British frontier fortification on September 6-7.



Youngsters learn the art of Rolley Hole at Standing Stone State Park.