

Get Your Thrills with Monster-Size Smoky Mountain Attractions

For some people, Smoky Mountain attractions are all about the serene, majestic beauty of the outdoors. For others, it's the excitement and glitz of Dollywood or the Hollywood Wax Museum. But for a few brave souls who're in the know, the best attractions in the Smokies are all about the *monsters!*

We're not talking about the mysterious Skunk Ape or famed Bigfoot roaming around, but if you're interested in monster-sized attractions, or those that have monsters waiting to scare you, the Smokies have many to fit the bill. T-Rexs, monsters of the deep, monster trucks, and a plethora of generally creepy things all await you in the Smokies.

Monster Trucks

If you're looking for the *loudest* fun you can have, look no further than Sevierville, Tennessee, where you'll not only watch monster trucks, but actually ride in one. Each truck is 12 feet tall, has 66-inch wheels, and weighs a whopping 12,000 pounds. Each truck can carry up to 12 passengers around its dirt track.

Dinosaur Walk Museum

If you prefer your harrowing roars with fewer decibels, there's Dinosaur Walk Museum in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Here there are over 50 life-size dinosaurs, including an Allosaurus, a Stegosaurus, and a two-story-tall Tyrannosaurus Rex. These aren't staid old museum bones, either: they're realistic, scary dinosaurs that seem to have been frozen in their tracks. Add to that their monstrous roars, and it's easy for a kid (of any age) to tremble in front of T-Rex's mighty jaws.

But perhaps the most appealing part of this Smoky Mountain attraction is the interactive attractions. From videos to drawing to digging for fossils, there's plenty to keep the kids engaged.

Ripley's Believe It or Not & Aquarium

Finally, in your tour of monster Smoky Mountain attractions, there's the king of the odd, unusual, and creepy: Ripley's Believe It or Not Odditorium and the Ripley's Aquarium. One has old monsters preserved, the other features live monsters of the deep.

As the self-proclaimed "strangest place in Gatlinburg," the Odditorium is a creepy place with a surreal, eerie atmosphere. You can run through it, just glancing from display to display, but if you stop to read the history behind the items, it's easy to scare yourself silly...

