



# GENSPORT UNITED'S

9th Annual Spring Run of the Dragon



## THE DRAGON WELCOME PACKET

Within this packet you will find a ton of useful information about this event. We have gone to extraordinary lengths to make sure you are as prepared as you possibly can be and have prepared this packet to provide you with all of the vital information you need to make this the highlight of your year. Please take time to print and use this packet.

The GenSport United Team



# Welcome!

The GenSport United Admin Team and Event Organizers would like to welcome each of you to the 2019 Spring Run on the Tail of the Dragon. It's an exciting time for the GenSport Community as we continue to grow and explore new things, remaining always adaptable, motivated and responsive to the ideas and comradery that the group was founded on. Our organization is experiencing a time of growth and building for what the community has spoken out wanting while still maintaining the fun and respectful atmosphere that we have strived to make a standard from the very beginning. The Hyundai Genesis Coupe world is an exciting area in which to work/study/play, and we'll continue to meet and bring inspired people together in forums and events like this to ensure GenSport remains as your top go to organization.

We would like to give you an idea of what you can expect during this event. The goal is to have fun, make memories, and to simply enjoy the time that you spend with each other while here. Through various group activities and scheduled events, we hope to provide an atmosphere of respect and entertainment. Whether it's your first time with us or you are a "repeat offender", we anticipate that all of the planning and effort will help to provide you the best weekend you have ever had. So, whether you are tearing up a mountain road solo or with a group, helping a fellow friend to install that particular mod to their car, or just sitting around a warm camp fire at night enjoying the stars and a drink, please keep an open mind and enjoy your time to the fullest.

To assist you, please see the attached pages for some general information about driving up here in the mountains, a tentative schedule, and maps with Google Maps links. Please take some time to review the information in this packet. We ask that you print a copy and keep it with you in your car throughout the weekend so that we can all have an understanding of what is going on at any given time since cell phone service is next to impossible up there.

Finally, we would like to personally offer our thanks to all of you for making this event possible. From vendors to members, driving just a few short miles to over a thousand, this event wouldn't be what it has become today without your generous support and donations.

Without further ado, once again, we welcome you, hope you have fun, and stay safe!

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## General Information

Upon arriving and checking in with Fontana to get your room key/information, please check in with GenSport at **Cabin 952**. This is important for numerous reasons such as making sure we include you in on communication, marking you present for potential vendor gifts and prize drawings, etc.

If you haven't already, please tune your 2 way radio to Channel 4, sub channel 0 (if your radio supports sub channels). This will be our primary means to communicate as there is very limited to no cell phone reception at and around Fontana or the roads we will be out enjoying. Most of the veterans honestly turn off their phones until they hit a bigger town where reception can be found such as Maryville, TN or Robbinsville, NC to avoid draining their battery. These radios are extremely important to keep with you at all times as they allow us to relay upcoming events, start/return time estimates,

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*“But it is one thing to read about dragons and another to meet them.”*

*— Ursula K. Le Guin, A Wizard of Earthsea*

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### The More You Know...

Fontana Village has limited cellular service around the main lodge through Verizon, but did you know that if you have a newer phone that it may support Wi-Fi Calling? Wi-Fi Calling lets you talk and text from indoor locations where it's hard even for a strong cellular signal to reach. Wi-Fi Calling can be used in the Domestic Coverage Area. For most major carriers, calling over Wi-Fi is included with your cellular service. If you are not sure if your phone or cell service supports Wi-Fi calling, just contact your service provider and find out.

If your phone or provider does not support the carrier's Wi-Fi calling scheme, don't give up... you can also do Wi-Fi calling through apps like Skype, Google Hangouts, Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp make it easier to use a phone to place calls and send texts over the internet and forgo mobile networks altogether.

ask questions for needed information from specific people, and to quickly communicate while driving along the mountain roads various conditions such as debris or wild animals. While we want you to enjoy your time here, please be respectful of each other. Someone may have a particular personality, style, or preference that you do not prefer. Please understand that things like this are subjective and we want to focus on having fun. Simply put, if you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all.

A tentative schedule is provided in this packet. Please keep in mind that the times listed are general estimations. While we try to stick to it as closely as possible, sometimes things happen beyond our control that may cause it to be adjusted slightly. If and when this happens, an announcement will be made through the two way radios spoken.

The meeting point to line up for most runs will be the parking lot of the Fontana Grill in the center of Fontana unless otherwise noted over the 2 way radios. This also usually is the core meeting place for other activities that tend to occur such as dinners, evening activities, etc.

While at Fontana Resort, please be mindful of all the activities going on while driving for safety reasons. The speed limit throughout Fontana is between 5 and 10 MPH and the roads in places are a bit rough. Please do not speed, swerve, burn out, rev your engine, and etc. while at Fontana during the weekend. We do not want to cause them any trouble so that we can return to this nice location nor cause an escalation of LEOs (Local Enforcement Officer) to come to the area.

Along the above lines, please also pick up after yourselves and follow any rules and regulations explained to you by Fontana Personnel. Once again, this is their "home" that they are graciously letting us stay at, let's not abuse the privilege.

Lastly, it is very important for you all to attend the Driver's Meetings announced over the radio. Please show up on time to event roll outs to get the most out of your weekend. We can't stress this enough. Your weekend will not be as enjoyable if you are standing by yourself wondering where everyone has gone.



## Radio Etiquette

As mentioned earlier, our main means of communication at Fontana Village and on the runs is via FRS portable radios. This is a proven and effective means of getting information out, but it can also become an annoyance. Unnecessary chatter and “drunk” calls can motivate folks to turn their radios off. When important information needs to get out, it can’t. We ask that all participants use some radio discipline and keep your announcements short and to the point. If you like to have a long conversation with another person or group, have everyone change to a different channel so you don’t hog the event’s communication channel.

When using your radio, press the PTT (Push to talk) button and hold for 3 or so seconds before you speak. Speak clearly and calmly at least 2 to 3 inches from the microphone. If you get closer, you may come across garbled. Additionally, if you do not wait the 3 or so seconds, you may cut off the first half of what you say making the message confusing.

**DO NOT USE THE AUTOMATED CALL BUTTON!** This causes a very loud and long audio page to come across every single radio within distance on that channel including your own to occur. It’s annoying and rude and can cause communication issues between others that could be important. This should **ONLY** be used in an emergency.

When using the radios to relay information, such as debris in the road or a LEO around a corner to be mindful of, be short and sweet with your statements. Please do not want to hog the channel and or broadcast garbage that other people outside of our group pickup.

Understand that we are in the mountains and reception can at times be very short distances. In these cases, please help to relay back important information through the group. The last thing we want is an easily avoidable obstacle to cause damage to someone’s car and ruin the rest of their weekend.

There is a lot of jargon used to expedite communications, such as LEO = Law Enforcement Officer. Due to this, please plan to pay attention and learn these the first day or so you are here. It will help everyone to be on the same page to directly and efficiently communicate what needs said.

## Fontana Village Resort

Fontana Village Resort, a year round destination resort, is set amidst the pristine beauty of the Nantahala National Forest of western North Carolina, gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The area’s breathtaking mountain vistas and panoramic views from Fontana & Cheoah lakes provide memories to last a lifetime.

The Village has a wide range of accommodations, including rooms in our intimate Lodge, and cabins with a beautiful view of the Little Tennessee River. It’s easy to see why Fontana Village Resort is the Great Smoky Mountain Destination. Resort amenities also includes:

- Conference Spaces
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Restaurants
- General Store and Gift Shops
- Outdoor Pools and Lazy River
- Putt-Putt Golf
- Marina
- Fitness Center
- Miles of On-Site Trails Suitable for Biking and Hiking



## Event Tips:

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN ACTIONS!** If you choose to go drive like a maniac and/or break any laws, you are responsible for your own actions. GenSport is about organizing a meet and cruise of the runs and not about racing.

**BECAUSE THERE MAY BE ALCOHOL AS PART OF THE ACTIVITIES, IF YOU CHOSE TO CONSUME AT ANY TIME, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DRIVE YOUR CAR, PERIOD!** Again, there is too great a risk, even with low speeds around Fontana that someone could get very badly injured or killed due to someone's negligence. Let's keep this event fun, but responsible. If you need a lift back to your cabin, there are plenty of people who can help you out.

**NEVER DRIVE BEYOND YOUR LIMITS!** Listen to the little voice in the back of your head. If you hear it or feel like something is wrong, it probably is and you need to back off and take a second look and listen to see what is happening. Along these lines, never force yourself to try to keep up with someone beyond your comfort zone. It is not a race. There are no prizes to the winner.

**LEAVE SPACE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CARS AROUND YOU!** At any given time, you should always have a car length or two between the car in front of you and your car. Additionally, you should periodically check behind you to be sure the driver behind is also following this best practice. If at any time you feel like the person behind you is driving a quicker pace, politely call out over the radio for them to give you some more space and or that you will pull off at the next spot there is a paved area to so that they can pass you and go the pace they wish to go. Again, it's not a race and you shouldn't feel pushed to take a pace you are not comfortable driving.

**REMEMBER TO BREATHE AND DRINK PLENTY OF FLUIDS DURING RUNS.** Driving on these types of roads, especially if you haven't done it before can be very taxing on you and your passengers both physically and mentally. When this happens, mistakes occur and things like shallow breathing, stiffening up, and focused tunnel vision can occur. These can further compound simple mistakes and make a possible bad situation worse. So, please remember to stay focused, but relaxed. Take deep breathes, and drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.

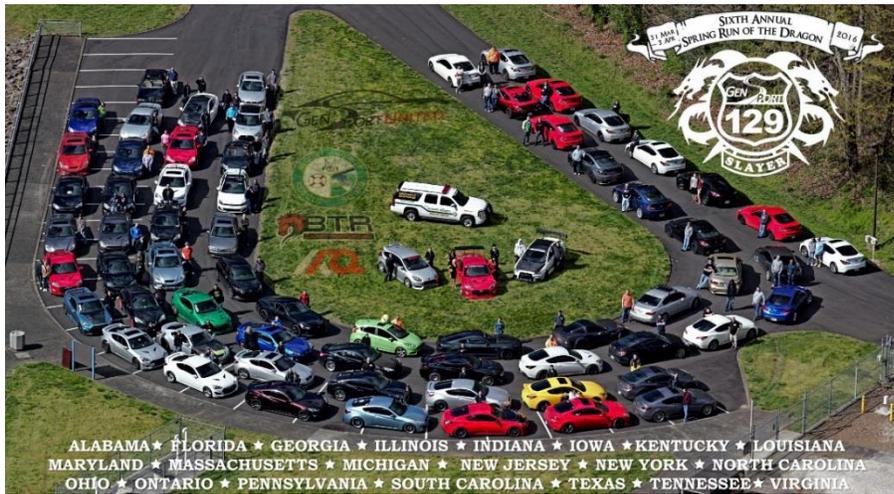
**ALWAYS DO A QUICK CHECK OF YOUR CAR EACH MORNING.** Taking 5 to 10 minutes each morning when your car is cold to visually check your fluid levels under the hood as well as do a quick visual pass around the exterior of the car can save you from potential car problems later when you are in the middle of a run with little to no access to tools, help, or cell phone reception to get help. If you need assistance with this, please ask over the radio as there are usually several knowledgeable people around with tools who can assist you.

**WHEN YOU GET TO HALF A TANK OF GAS OR LESS, PLAN TO FILL UP AT THE NEXT AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.** Given the area and the fact that gas stations at times can be few and far between and have shortened operation hours, plan to fill up early and often. The last thing you want to do is to run out of gas on a gamble that you can make it to the next station.

**SECURE LOOSE ITEMS INSIDE YOUR CAR.** You don't need items (camera, drink cup, etc.) flying around inside your car distracting you as you drive.

**ALWAYS PAY ATTENTION; YOU ARE NOT ALONE ON THE ROAD!** There will be numerous other cars on the road from motorcycles, both street bikes and cruisers/choppers, to local residents, to scenic viewing tourists, to even the possible 18 wheeler. Never get complacent about where you are and always scan ahead with your head and eyes up. Don't stare down the nose of your car at the straight you are on, look ahead to the next turn so you can catch these things early and adjust where needed. Remember, it is a public road way and they have just as much right to use it as we do. So, if they are not going the pace you prefer, be patient and don't tailgate, honk, etc. Most will pull off for you, but if you piss them off, they will just continue along as a roadblock.

**HAVE FUN, BUT IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE ASK!** The last thing we want have someone not have a great time due to questions or concerns that they have. Remember, we can't help to resolve little things before they become big things if we don't know about it. Please look for and speak with one of the organizers so we can do our best to help you. These people would include **Robert Wolff, Mike Faunce, Jim Schaal, Bob Seale, Scott Hayes, Tina Rutledge and RJ Scott.**



## Shopping and Services

### Gift Shops for T-Shirts, Stickers, and Dragon Swag:

#### Deal's Gap

The store is located at Deals Gap on the corner of NC 28 and US 129 (Hellbender and the Tail of the Dragon). The store is open 7 days a week throughout the riding season, and sells Dragon memorabilia from several different styles of Dragon t-shirts and apparel, maps, decals, patches, pins, and keychains, as well as Dragon décor and other accessories.

Additionally, there is a restaurant that is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner as well as a gas station stocked with regular and premium fuels.

#### The Tail of the Dragon Store

Right across US 129 from Deal's Gap is the Tail of the Dragon Store, offering souvenirs, T-shirts, decals, and signs to mark your drive at the Tail of the Dragon, Cherochala Skyway, Devils Triangle, Moonshiner28, Diamondback 226, and the twisties of Six Gap North Georgia. Look for the Big Metal Dragon.

#### Fontana General Store

The Ice Cream Fountain located in the General Store is the main stop for all things frozen. The Fountain serves cones, sundaes, floats, milkshakes, and more. Additional cold sweets are available inside the General Store. The General Store also carries unique gifts and small grocery items.

**Note:** There is a gas station located at the entrance of the Fontana Village Resort; however, the price of gasoline can be as much as two times the going rate for gasoline in the area. Fill up before you go back to Fontana. An air compressor is available for use free of charge.

## Maps

### THURSDAY April 04

#### FOOTHILLS PARKWAY TWILIGHT RUN MEET AT: FONTANA GRILL Leaving 6:15 PM

Head to the Foothills Parkway Look Rock observation deck to watch the sun set in the mountains. (Weather Permitting) **Approximate driving time - 2+ hours**

<http://tinyurl.com/phsy532>

#### FRIDAY April 05 – Safety Meeting at the General Store @ 9:30 AM

#### WOLF MOUNTAIN MEET AT: GENERAL STORE Leaving 10:30 AM

We will be taking a drive from Fontana down the twisty parts of HWY 28 to US 74 to Sylvia to the upper portion of HWY 281 (Canada Road). The first part of the journey consists of a combination of long twisty bends with interruptions of tight switchback corners and magnificent vistas down to Lake Toxaway. We will be turning left on US 64 for a few miles and then turn north on HWY 215 back up the mountain to Blue Ridge Parkway. The drive from Sylvia to HWY 281 and from US 64 up HWY 215 to the Blue Ridge Parkway is very lightly traveled by locals and the pace will be quick. Once on the Blue Ridge Parkway, the pace will slow a bit as the traffic tends to slow down a bit due to heavier tourist traffic; however, the views are spectacular revealing stunning long-range vistas and close-up views of the rugged mountains and pastoral landscapes of the Appalachian Highlands over several mountain bridges and through several tunnels.

**Google Maps Link for the Route:** [Wolf Mountain](#)

**Approximate driving time – 7+ hours – Longer with stop offs**

#### THE MISSING LINK - TOURIST MEET AT: FONTANA GRILL Leaving 11:00 AM

The Foothills Parkway is a planned 72 Mile scenic road. The southern most 17 miles running from US 129 at the Chilhowee Lake to US 321 at Walland is the stretch most of us are familiar with. There is also a 5.6 Mile stretch open from I-40 South to US 321 near Crosby. In December of 2018, an additional 16 Mile section (aka the missing link) was completed and open to the public that extends the Foothills parkway north to Wears Valley. The vistas along the new section of highway are reminiscent of those that can be seen on the Blue Ridge Parkway. There is an additional 33 miles of highway that has not been built.

**Approximate driving time – 6+ hours - Longer with stop offs** [The Missing Link](#)

#### SATURDAY April 06 – Safety Meeting after the Group Photo @ 10:30 AM

#### GROUP PHOTO MEET AT: FONTANA GRILL - 10:00 AM

#### CHEROHALA SKYWAY– Leaving 11:00 AM after the group photo

A short drive from the dragon. This road has long sweeping turns taking you up to 5000 ft. overlooking the valley below. Several areas to turn off and grab photos.

<http://tinyurl.com/z3f8gdc>

# Spring 2019 Run of the Dragon Schedule

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday April 04, 2019</b></p> <p>Attendees begin meeting up Thursday afternoon at various times</p> <p><b>3:00 PM</b> – Registration opens Cabin 952</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> – Depart Afternoon Run of the Dragon Meet at the Grill @ 4:45 PM</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> - Registration closes for the day</p> <p><b>6:15 PM</b> – Depart Foothills Twilight Run Meet at the Grill @ 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> – Dinner at Fontana Options include bringing/making your own dinner in your cabin, hitting the Grill at Fontana, or the Lodge restaurant up at the top of the hill</p> <p><b>9:30 PM</b> – Depart Night Run of the Dragon</p> <p><b>(Not recommended if you haven't driven the Dragon with the group during daylight hours. Also, if you have consumed any alcohol, you are not allowed to drive the night run)</b></p> <p>Meet at the Grill @ 9:15 PM</p> <p><b>10:00 PM</b> – Bonfire Buffoonery - Meet at Stonehenge</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday April 05, 2019</b></p> <p><b>7:00 AM</b> – Depart Morning Dragon Run Meet at the Grill @ 6:45 AM</p> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> – Breakfast at Tapoco Lodge 9:00 AM – Return from Morning Dragon Run and regroup at Fontana</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> – Drivers Safety Meeting - Blount County Rescue Squad Meet next to the General Store</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> – WOLF MOUNTAIN – Meet next to the General Store</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> – THE MISSING LINK Meet @ The Grill</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> – Registration Re-Opens (Radio for location)</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> – Dinner around Fontana</p> <p><b>9:00 PM</b> – Registration closes for the day</p> <p><b>9:30 PM</b> – Depart Night Run of the Dragon</p> <p><b>(Not recommended if you haven't driven the Dragon with the group during daylight hours. Also, if you have consumed any alcohol, you are not allowed to drive the night run)</b></p> <p><b>Meet at the Grill @ 9:15 PM</b></p> <p><b>10:00 PM</b> – Bonfire Buffoonery - Meet at Stonehenge</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday April 06, 2019</b></p> <p><b>7:00 AM</b> – Depart Morning Dragon Run Meet at the Grill @ 6:45 AM</p> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> – Breakfast at Tapoco Lodge</p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> – Return from Morning Dragon Run and regroup at Fontana</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> – Depart for Group Photo at the bottom of the dam Meet at the Grill @ 9:30 AM</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> – Depart for the Cherohala Skyway Runs leave from Group Photo: Follow instructions to line up</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> – Registration Re-Opens (Radio for location)</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> – Dinner around Fontana</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> – Registration closed</p> <p><b>9:30 PM</b> – Depart Night Run of the Dragon</p> <p><b>(Not recommended if you haven't driven the Dragon with the group during daylight hours. Also, if you have consumed any alcohol, you are not allowed to drive the night run)</b></p> <p>Meet at the Grill @ 9:15 PM</p> <p><b>10:00 PM</b> – Bonfire Buffoonery - Meet at Stonehenge</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday April 07, 2019</b></p> <p><b>7:00 AM</b> – Depart Morning Dragon Run Meet at the Grill @ 6:45 AM</p> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> – Breakfast at Tapoco Lodge</p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> – Return from Morning Dragon Run and regroup at Fontana</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> – Tear down and cleanup of your cabin and surrounding areas</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> - Departure from Fontana to home for most, all other will have an open agenda</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Helpful Reminders</u></b></p> <p>Registration Cabin is Number 952</p> <p>Radio Channel is 4 sub channel 0</p> <p>Fill up whenever you can</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Contact Information</u></b></p> <p>NC Fontana Village Resort 800-849-2258          NC Blount County Rescue 865-984-9315          NC Cheoah Ranger Station 828-479-6431          NC Graham County Sheriff 828-479-3352          NC Graham County Rescue 828-4797985          TN Monroe Sheriff 423-442-3911          TN Tellico Ranger Station 423-253-2520          TN H&amp;H Towing and Recovery 865-804-0526</p>

# We have the runs, now you have the runs

Every year we get asked about doing this run or that run because it's a favorite or one that they have not been on. We're going to try a different format where we provide the locations and GPS entry and exit points for runs that we have done in the past along with a brief description and allow you to decide whether to go on an organized run in a group or head off and do some exploring on your own. We do highly recommend that if you choose this option that you bring another friend in another car with you as many of these locations are quite isolated and we don't want anyone to get stranded in the middle of nowhere hoping help will drive by.

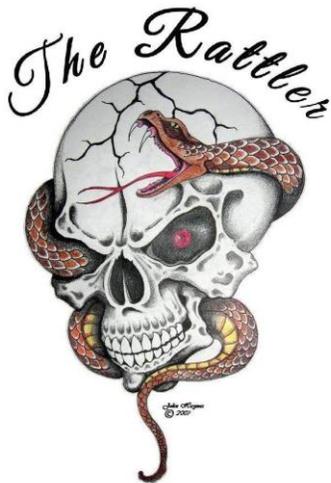
## Sandy Mush and the Rattler

GPS Start: 865 Beaverdam Rd, Canton, NC 28716  
Waypoint 1: 495 Sandy Mush Rd, Leicester, NC 28748  
Waypoint 2: 11 N Turkey Creek Rd, Leicester, NC 28748  
Waypoint 3: 14248 NC-209, Hot Springs, NC 28743  
GPS End: 55 High Mountain Rd, Hot Springs, NC 28743

The Sandy Mush portion of the drive takes you back in time to a time where life was much simpler. Long sweeping turns on narrow two lane roads with an occasional heart stopping switchback or two along with majestic valley views of the surrounding mountains will make you feel like you have been transported back to a time where the land was unspoiled by modernization and technology. Your turn north to the Trust General Store, the road condition improves and you are challenged with switchbacks and frequent sharp turns. Gas and food are available at the Trust General Store before you head north towards Hot Springs up NC 209 for the Rattler. The road ascends the side of a mountain adjacent to a valley with a challenging winding roads and steep dropoffs.

Low Friendly: No  
Driver Skill Level: Intermediate  
Road Conditions: Fair (watch for gravel)

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y3evw76k>



## Devil's Triangle

GPS Start: 7024 TN-62, Oliver Springs, TN 37840  
Waypoint 1: 4223 Knoxville Hwy, Oliver Springs, TN 37840  
Waypoint 2: 6112 New River Hwy, Briceville, TN 37710  
Waypoint 3: 3607 New River Hwy, Briceville, TN 37710  
GPS End: 1001 Winter Gap Rd, Oliver Springs, TN 37840

The Devils Triangle, just north of Oak Ridge (TN) in the mountains of the Cumberland Plateau, is made up of some of the most unusual two lane twisty roads in eastern Tennessee. The adventure ranges from the bucolic rural Tennessee scenery to a view of Brushy Mountain State Prison; from gentle country road sweepers to gnarly steep switchbacks; from serene straights to Dragon like twisties with guard rails of death; from gentle pull-offs to three foot deep rock strewn gullies just inches from the pavement; from peaceful farmsteads to sections of rutted roadway right out of a horror movie.

Low Friendly: No  
Driver Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced  
Road Condition: Good

Google Map Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/eBwCVCvPMB32>



# More runs to run with...

## Waterfall Run

GPS Start: 1964 Highlands Rd, Franklin, NC 28734

GPS End: 115 S 4th St, Highlands, NC 28741

US 64 between Franklin and Highlands, NC have several waterfalls along the route including, Bust Your Butt Falls, Ranger Falls, Dry Falls, and Bridal Veil Falls. Because of the traffic on this road, travel is usually slow and some parts of the road are quite narrow for two way traffic. This has been one of the most requested tourist drives that we get because of the number of falls located alongside of the route. Highland, NC offers a number of both fast food and sit down restaurants for your dining pleasure.

Low Friendly: Yes

Driver Skill: Novice

Road Condition: Good

Google Map Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/tPey2q8qdKF2+>

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## Thunder Road

GPS Start: 17838 Wayah Rd, Tipton, NC 28781

Waypoint 1: 4578 Patton Rd, Franklin, NC 28734

Waypoint 2: 1 State Rd 1001, Franklin, NC 28734

Waypoint 3: 398 Cullowhee Mountain Rd, Cullowhee, NC 28723

GPS End: 702 W Main St, Sylva, NC 28779

Pick up this road on US19 just a few miles north of the 129/19 junction. Follow Wayah Creek up the gorge crossing over the creek several times. The road travels past Nantahala Lake then over the mountain range and into Franklin. The return trip is back on Thunder Road. It's 56 miles of twisting fun.

Low Friendly: Yes

Driver Skill: Novice

Road Condition: Good

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y3jo6ghz>

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## Blue Ridge Parkway Run

GPS Start: 1623 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, NC 28719

Waypoint 1: Blue Ridge Pkwy, Waynesville, NC 28786

Waypoint 2: 5415 Lake Logan Rd, Canton, NC 28716

GPS End: 1623 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, NC 28719

The Blue Ridge Parkway run is an experience is unlike any other: a moderate-paced and relaxing drive revealing stunning long-range vistas and close-up views of the rugged mountains and pastoral landscapes of the Appalachian Highlands. The Parkway meanders for 469 miles; however, our run only take us from the Southwestern entrance in Cherokee 57 miles down to Brevard. A turn North on NC 215 takes you back up to Waynesville where you can pick up US 74 back to Fontana.

Low Friendly: Yes

Driver Skill: Novice

Road Condition: Excellent

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yvlgptbw>

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## Newfound Gap/Clingman's Dome

GPS Start: 3469 Wears Valley Rd, Sevierville, TN 37862

Waypoint 1: Sugarlands Visitor Center Loop Rd,

Gatlinburg, TN 37738

GPS End: 564 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC 28719

The lowest drivable pass in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Newfound Gap Road (US 441) has an elevation of 5,046 feet. The 31-mile stretch of mountain road is the only fully paved road in the park and the only one that travels through the park's center. A few miles down on US 441, you will see signs for the turn off to Clingman's Dome which is the highest point in Tennessee. Clingmans Dome sits at 6,643 feet above sea level. Visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park can travel along the seven-mile stretch of Clingmans Dome Road to Visitors Center and trailhead that leads to the summit's observation tower. Along Clingmans Dome Road are several scenic areas with pullouts that allow for photo opportunities of the Smoky Mountain range. Finish your drive along US 441 down to Cherokee, N.C. that has numerous places to eat and fuel before heading back to Fontana.

Low Friendly: Yes

Driver Skill: Novice

Road Condition: Excellent

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yy2ndmaa>

## And if you are really feeling ambitious

The following runs are epic and they are some of the best that the Great Smoky Mountains have to offer, but they are a drive to get out to and a drive to get back. Our planned runs are usually set to complete within about 8-9 hours of driving with stops. These drives will require a full day of driving to get out to and back from. These are not your typical day drives.

### The Snake

GPS Start: 281 Edgemont Ave, Bristol, TN 37620  
GPS End: 5791 US-421, Vilas, NC 28692

The Snake 421 is also known as "The Best of the Snake," and is a sample of some of the best of the combination of roads that make up the rides known collectively as "The Snake". The series of roads that make up the entire Snake travels 112 miles and is a heavily traveled sports car route. The Snake 421, aka The Best of the Snake, is a really nice 37 mile section of The Snake, offering 489 curves while crossing three mountains and traveling through one beautiful valley.

Low Friendly: Yes  
Driver Skill: Novice-Intermediate  
Road Conditions: Excellent

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y2z7k5wt>



### Diamondback

GPS Start: Taxi Stand Craft Market, 9496 NC-226A, Little Switzerland, NC 28749  
Waypoint 1: 5312 Nc 226 S, Marion, NC 28752  
GPS End: 35 NC-226A, Marion, NC 28752

The Diamondback is located in the area of Little Switzerland and the Blue Ridge Parkway about 50 miles north of Asheville, North Carolina. This 38 mile diamond shaped loop includes NC 226A, US 221, Toms Creek Road, NC 80 and the Blue Ridge Parkway. This is one thrilling loop for driving. The surrounding area has some of the best driving roads that can be found in the Great Smoky Mountains. You have the option of grabbing the Blue Ridge Parkway and taking it back all the way to Cherokee, NC before heading back to Fontana.

Low Friendly: Yes  
Driver Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced  
Road Condition: Good

Google Map Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6gtvgtg>



## GenSport United

Find us on the Web:  
<http://gensportunited.com>



Email:  
[gensport@gensportunited.com](mailto:gensport@gensportunited.com)

Find us on the Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GenSportUnited/>



## Directions to Fontana Village

Fontana Village Resort is located in western North Carolina, 20 miles north of Robbinsville on Highway 28 North on the western end of Fontana Lake.

**From Knoxville, Tennessee**, take Hwy 129 south from Knoxville to Maryville, TN. Just past Maryville, Hwy 129 turns left off of the four lane highway. Drive carefully. This section of this route is a beautiful, but curvy mountain road known as the "Dragon" by car & bike enthusiasts. One mile past the TN/NC state line turn left on Hwy 28 at Deals Gap. Continue on Hwy 28 for 8.6 miles.

**From Asheville, North Carolina** take I-40 west. Take the exit for Hwy 74 (Great Smoky Mountain Expressway). Stay on Hwy 74 (four lane) you will pass Clyde, Sylva, and 8 miles past Bryson City turn right on Hwy 28. Continue on Hwy 28 for 25 miles.

**From north Atlanta**, travel north on I-75, I-575, GA 5, US 76, GA & NC 60 North, US 64 east to US 129/19. North of Andrews, take US 129 to Robbinsville. Take NC 143 east to Hwy 28, follow Hwy 28 to Fontana Village.

Another route from North Atlanta, north on GA 400 to Dhlonega then US 19 North to US 129, then US 129 North to Robbinsville. Take NC 143 east to Hwy 28, follow Hwy 28 to Fontana Village.

**From east Atlanta**, take I-85 north to 985 north which turns into US 441. Continue into NC to the town of Dillsboro. Merge on to Hwy 74 west to Bryson City (last chance for groceries) turn right on Hwy 28. Continue on Hwy 28 for 25 miles.

**From Chattanooga, Tennessee** take I-75 north to exit 20 onto US 64 E. towards Cleveland and merge onto the US 74E/US 64E via the ramp to the Ocoee River Gorge. Travel 81 miles to Tipton, NC. Turn left on US 129. Travel 11 miles and turn right on NC 143 in Robbinsville, NC. Travel 9 miles and turn left onto NC 28. Fontana will be 11.7 miles north on your left.

