



BMT Trail Town Community East Ellijay and Ellijay/Gilmer County, GA

East Ellijay, Ellijay and Gilmer County became a BMT Trail Town Community on April 22, 2023.

Just an hours' drive from Atlanta, the community offers a glimpse back to a time when life was far simpler. Visitors experience a much slower-paced lifestyle as they enjoy the friendly hospitality and sense of peace and security that is the very essence of small-town America.

The Trail Town Community (TTC) is the perfect "homebase" for a getaway for a weekend of fun and adventure. When it comes to opportunities for day hikes and weekend backpacking trips, the Benton MacKaye Trail (BMT) is at the top of the list. Day hikers love to visit Fall Branch Falls, Long Creek Falls, Shadow Falls, the Suspension Bridge Over the Toccoa River Springer Mountain Loop. Long-distance hikes in the area include Loops near Springer Mountain, Three Forks to Skeenah Gap, the challenging Georgia Loop, Bushy Head Gap to Watson Gap and more.

Within easy driving distance of the TTC are the southern termini of both the Appalachian Trail and the BMT on Springer Mountain, the western terminus for the rugged Duncan Ridge Trail at Three Forks, 17 miles of hiking/mountain biking trails in the Aska Adventure Area, the Cohutta/Big Frog Wilderness trails known for their secluded forest pathways and the former location of Tennessee's Ocoee Whitewater Center (that burned down in 2022) is famous for the Tanasi Trail System for hikers and bikers as well as opportunities for rafting, canoeing and kayaking.

Known as the 'Apple Capital of Georgia' as well as the Mountain Bike Capital of Georgia, the community's amenities offer everything a hiker may need – lodging rooms, cabins, restaurants, grocery stores, pharmacies, a theatre, a laundromat, outfitter stores, shuttle services, a post office and more!



Benton MacKaye Trail Association

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