

Women's Wilderness 2017 Excursion Overview

Welcome! Thank you for considering joining us for WW 2017. This year's trip is scheduled for Monday April 24th– Saturday, April 29th, 2017. This will be our tenth year in the Smoky Mountains in Townsend, TN. Our time will include various elements including corporate worship, hiking, communion, fasting, prayer, solitude and silence. We will eat healthy all week and turn off our cell phones. Our motto is “Seek Simplicity, Enjoy Jesus, Find Intimacy”.

We will gather at a beautiful cabin, Wind Rider Lodge, (www.bluesmokecabins.com) to start our trip and unwind in the hot tub and in front of the fireplace. The next morning we will divide into our three tracks of the Main Cabin, Solitude Cabin and Camping. On Friday we will come back together for a celebration dinner and spend one more night together at the cabin before leaving Sat morning after breakfast.

The main focus of the Camping track is solitude and simplicity. Each woman will need to bring her own tent so solitude is more achievable. We will do a challenging but accessible seven-mile hike into the backcountry to a quiet location at the summit of a mountain. We will need to hike in all of our supplies for 3 days, excluding water. The camp area is set up near a water source, and a water filter will be provided. In the past, participants have been able to borrow nearly all of the gear they need, so don't let the expense of gear deter you. Two of our days in the backcountry will involve hiking and time spent in fellowship together. The two middle days will include a combination of fasting and solitude. The first of these two days will include both fasting and solitude. The second will be only solitude without fasting. The trip facilitator is Chelsea Rinehart. Chelsea has been on the trip many times and has wilderness experience including training in Wilderness First Aid. The total cost for the Camping track is \$325.

The main focus of the Main Cabin track is refreshment. We spend more time together as a team with scheduled times of solitude, silence and hiking. The cabin is equipped with an amazing jet bathtub and a back porch with a stunning view. Our evenings are often spent around the fireplace in worship and prayer or laughing together. The trip facilitator is Andrea Replogle. Andrea is also trained in Wilderness First Aid. The total cost of the Main Cabin track is \$375 with all your food provided.

Last year we started a new track. The main focus of the Solitude Cabin is solitude and refreshment. A couple of our hikers last year were injured just prior to the trip so we opened up this new option that combines both worlds for those who want the quiet but may not be able to handle the hike and camping option. The Solitude Cabin is within walking distance of the Main Cabin and we share evening meals together, but there will be food available in the Solitude Cabin for breakfast and lunches. We are still developing this track and there is some flexibility in how it will play out. The total cost of the Solitude Cabin track is \$375 with all your food provided.

All three tracks will have a day of fasting (24 hours) and have a list of required equipment to bring. There are only 15 spots available and the application deadline is April 1st along with a \$25 non-refundable application fee. (Your deposit will go towards your total trip costs.) Spots will be filled based on a list of criteria, but largely based on God's leading in prayer. We have discovered that God leads this trip and we are just the facilitators. We desire to work with whatever plan He has for the trip, so plan to be flexible.

If you are looking to turn off the world's distractions and reconnect with Jesus in a meaningful way, WW is for you. All we do is designed to set you at the feet of Jesus and allow Him to minister directly to your heart. We have seen Him use a variety of ways to care for women's hearts and we always walk away amazed at the wonderful things He has done. We know it's hard to make time for a week-long program, but we guarantee it will be worth it!

We have both a paper and online application available. See the website for both options. We also have a Paypal option for payment or you can send in both the application and payment to the address on the application.

Please let us know if you have any questions. You can email us at: womenswildernessprogram@gmail.org.