

The Scoop On Unicoi State Park's New Adventure Lodge Program

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Looking for a unique and exciting way to explore Helen, Ga? Georgia State Parks launched a new program at [Unicoi State Park](#) (and Amicalola, for those in Dawsonville) – Adventure Programs! We stayed at Unicoi while visiting Helen recently (see our post of [AMAZING things to do in Helen](#).) and explored this new program. It's the "no-hassle" way of discovering everything wonderful about Unicoi State Park, Ga.



Staying at Unicoi State Park

Let's talk about accommodations at Unicoi. The Adventure Lodge packages come with lodge accommodations. We enjoyed plenty of space in our room, with two queen beds, a loft with another queen bed, and gorgeous views of the mountains. Yes, you read that correctly – our boys were in HEAVEN with the loft room. Don't worry, there is a tall ledge and a gate so you don't run the risk of an escaping kiddo. Unicoi also offers [barrel cabins](#), traditional cabins and camping opportunities.

I should also mention that you can enjoy these park Adventures without having to stay at Unicoi. If you are relaxing in one of Helen's amazing hotels or [cabins](#), then just pick the adventures you want to try and pay a la carte. Most are exceptionally affordable.



There are dozens of places within Helen to grab a bite, but we ate breakfast each morning at [Unicoi Restaurant](#). I loved the blintzes with berry compote, the omelet station, delicious bacon and tons more! It's the perfect place to fuel up for your day of excitement.



Our Adventure Lodge Excitement

Because we were also exploring much of Helen (with a few hours [tubing the Chattahoochee](#)) we didn't try all of the adventures – we stuck with things that would work for the whole family, including the 4 year old. First, we did a [GPS scavenger hunt](#)! We usually use our phones for Geocaching, but this time we tried the park's GPS and the boys really enjoyed that. When we checked out the GPS, the ranger gave us instructions as well as a scavenger hunt sheet with coordinates and a map to make our way around the park. Since it was in the upper 90s, we didn't make the entire loop, but did have a blast finding the caches near Unicoi Lake.

We've also taken the **canoe** out on Unicoi lake for some excitement. There is a HUGE bullfrog that lives on the lake and we adore chasing after his bellow, trying to find him. Additionally, the lake's **beach** is very fun. We played there for a few hours. Access is along the side road, on the way to Anna Ruby Falls (another can't-miss destination.)

At night, we also relaxed at the [Fire Pit Stories](#). A large campfire was made by one of the rangers and waiting on us when we arrived. We roasted marshmallows and made s'mores...the "story" part of our adventure was cut short by dancing lightning from Mother Nature, but we still had a GREAT time. Bonus Tip...I sent hubby into [Smith Creek Tavern](#) for a few glasses of red wine, which was a great treat by the fire for mom and dad!



Want More Adventure?

Both parks offer treetop **zip lines**, **GPS scavenger hunts**, **3-D archery** and **climbing walls**; and both facilities will be designated **GoPro Parks**, with classes and a rental program enabling guests to record their day using the action camera mounted on a bike, kayak or helmet.

Unicoi offers lessons in **fly fishing, paddle boarding, kayak fishing**; an introduction to **mountain biking**; and **primitive camping** under the stars. Amicalola Falls also presents **guided hikes of the falls** and guided fitness trail runs; **survivalist camping**; and the **birds of prey** experience, a close look at falcons, owls and hawks taught by an expert handler. And that's just the beginning...



OK, How Much?

Remember, you can purchase just what you want for a small fee, or take the full [Adventure Lodge](#) caboodle with these great deals.

All You Can Slam Adventures, from \$99 weekdays and from \$150 weekends*

- Overnight stay in a lodge room
- Unlimited adventure activities can be selected per day, with guided leadership and equipment for adventure activities provided

**Per person, per night, based on double occupancy; rates start at \$99 per night for Sunday through Thursday stays and start from \$150 per night for Friday and Saturday stays. Price includes park or other admission fees or permits, is exclusive of taxes and subject to availability.*

Adventure Like the Boss, from \$250**

- Two-night stay in a lodge room
- Two adventure activities per person, per day for two days, with guided leadership and equipment for adventure activities
- Additional adventure activities may be added at an extra cost

***Per room, for two nights, based on double occupancy. Price includes park or other admission fees or permits, is exclusive of taxes and subject to availability.*