

Sumner County, TN

Adventure Tourism Business Plan

The 2035 Comprehensive Plan, Sumner County's Blueprint to the Future, documented the importance of maintaining and preserving Sumner County's natural, cultural, and historical resources. There is potential to develop a tourism industry encompassing the County's natural and cultural heritage. These activities offer economic development opportunities.

Sumner County's attractive for Adventure Tourism for the following areas:

- 1) Old Hickory Lake and Corps of Engineer property: Recreation and park areas, watersports, marinas, boating, rowing, picnicking, camping. Old Hickory Lake has more than 22,000 acres of water. Old Hickory Lake is known as one of Tennessee's best fishing spots. With stunning landscapes, scenic Old Hickory Lake offers something for everyone. (Examples: Lock 4, Cages Bend Campground, boat ramps/access to Old Hickory Lake, marinas of Anchor High, Drakes Creek, and Creekwood).
- 2) Red River: Headwaters are in Sumner County, Scenic River, Watersports – canoeing, kayaking, and hiking.
- 3) Bledsoe Creek State Park: The park area is rich in history, Native American history along with various historical sites nearby. The Bledsoe Creek territory became a Tennessee State Park in 1973. Activities: Visitor Center, Hiking, Biking, Picnic Facilities, Camping, Fishing, Boating.
- 4) State Historic Sites and Local Historic Sites: Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park is an 80 acre County Park with historic structures and a hiking/walking trail. The Castalian Springs area has other historic sites such as Cragfont, Wynnewood, Hawthorne Hill, and the Castalian Springs Mound Site. Rock Castle and the grounds is a state historic site which is located on Old Hickory Lake with recreation opportunities. The Douglass Clark House and Mansker's Station at Moss Wright Park are other historic sites which present opportunities for recreation.
- 5) State Natural Areas and Local Parks: city parks, county parks, and Taylor Hollow State Natural Area. The park areas and open space provide opportunities to experience the natural environment.
- 6) Sport Shooting: shooting events and facilities. This activity could draw recreational facilities for shooting for recreation and competitive shooters, such areas primed for this type of facility can be found south of Castalian Springs, along the river's edge.
- 7) Equestrian: Mule Days are currently held in Westmoreland at the Expo Center. The Mule Days event is one of the largest mule sales which attracts visitors from around the

world. Throughout Sumner County, there is local equestrian opportunity and trail riding. Facilities to attract riders could boost tourism.

- 8) Designated Bicycle Routes/Hiking/Mountain Biking/Greenway Trails: Scenic areas, parks, recreational opportunities. (Bledsoe Creek State Park, Long Hollow Pike, Hwy 25, Hwy 31, Hwy 52, BMX trail – mountain biking, greenway trails within the District are some examples of opportunities).
- 9) Rock Climbing: Sumner County has a mostly forested Ridge area that extends from near Millersville traversing northeast and south of Westmoreland. The ridge area consists of hilltops, steep-walled valleys, and dissected ridges. There are steep slopes along some of the major streams. The ridge area and areas north of Westmoreland near the state line may present an opportunity for the climbing enthusiast.
- 10) Zip Lining Facilities: Sumner County has many areas within the County boundary that are undeveloped that would provide opportunities for a zip lining facility.
- 11) Triathlons: With opportunities within Sumner County for swimming, biking, and running, the area is a good candidate for triathlons. The use of scenic Old Hickory Lake for swimming activities poses opportunities for recreation events.
- 12) Off Road Vehicle Trails: OHV trails, ATV's. Off road vehicle activity is growing, there are many areas within the County that are suitable for this activity. An approved facility could draw participants from the county and surrounding jurisdictions.
- 13) Restaurants and hotels, along with support businesses, within the Adventure Tourism District.

Sources:

1. 2035 Comprehensive Plan, Sumner County's Blueprint to the Future
2. Sumner County Convention and Visitors Bureau
3. Participating Cities: City of Hendersonville, City of Gallatin, City of Goodlettsville, City of Millersville, City of Portland, City of White House, City of Westmoreland