

Chapter 1 : High Mountain Expeditions | Nolichucky River Rafting

The Nolichucky River is a mile (km) river that flows through Western North Carolina and East Tennessee, in the southeastern United States.

Spring Fishing on the Nolichucky: Part 1 by Chris Lennon The sun is out, and the temperatures are up. The past few months have been tough. Rivers in the area were frozen for a while there they looked like slushies from a fish were hugging the bottom and waiting for the water to heat back up. After 20 plus years guiding on the Nolichucky I still get cabin fever while waiting for the cycle to start again. The thing I have done all winter is think about what or how I am going to approach the fishing for the coming year. What worked last season, will it work this season? That is honestly, my biggest question. A perfect example is a couple of seasons back there was a simple smallmouth streamer that literally made fish jump in the net. It was nothing to have a fish day using this one simple fly. That is why I love chasing smallmouth river smallmouth. They are complex, and sometimes, especially in the early season as finicky as my Lab. So, I approach this river with the spring as a testing period, the time to get out and try old and new experiment and hunt the lies that our fish are holding in. I fish, and breakdown, the Nolichucky into three sections. The lower section which runs from Erwin downstream, is the first section to wake up during the spring. Wider, slower and at lower elevation, the water warms up here first, and so that is where I tend to concentrate for fishing Smallies and Rainbow Trout. The Gorge section is our adventure class section, it is one of the most remote fishing trips that you can take in the Southern Mountains. It starts getting cranked up in May, with the higher elevation, water temps start getting where they need to be around this time. The last section is the Upper Nolichucky, above the Gorge, this section even though at higher elevation gets into motion just shortly after the lower section and fishes very similarly. It is remote, but not adventure class, and can be a lot of fun post spawn for river bass and trout. Spring in the southern mountains can be tricky, especially for a free-flowing river like the Nolichucky. March and April can be a rollercoaster ride as far as water temperature and flow levels are concerned. This is our rainy season and a good day of rain can lead to water color changes and fast flows. The Noli is a pretty diverse river and you can begin targeting multi species of fish. Rainbow Trout and Smallmouth are the two most common fish that you will find during this time. The Rainbows are in their element at these water temps and can be targeted higher up in the water column. Stay tuned next week as I dive into my favorite streamers, baits, flies, fishing styles, and everything Nolichucky fishing.

Chapter 2 : Bed and Breakfast Cabins - Nolichucky Bluffs in Greeneville, TN

The Nolichucky River is a major stream draining the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina and East Tennessee. Nolichucky River Gorge -the South's Deepest River Gorge - 3, feet. Tall mountain peaks ranging from 3, to 5, feet dominate the landscape of the Unaka Mountain vicinity.

An experienced River Guide in every raft. Our guides carry all required safety certifications. Safety is our highest concern. You will arrive at our outpost 30 minutes prior to your schedule trip time, all guests are required to sign a waiver, pre-trip safety talk, fitted with PFD, helmet and paddle, short bus ride to the put-in. Recommended for healthy active people. Please check with your physician if you have health concerns. You will end your river trip at our Outpost. Our facility offers hot showers, changing rooms, sand volleyball court, fire pits and stocked trout pond. Nolichucky Gorge Full Day with Lunch: The Nolichucky River full day trip includes a picnic riverside lunch and extra time to play, swim and surf in the rapids. Self-paddled ducks may be available at some water levels and are highly recommended because they are so much fun! Half Day Nolichucky Gorge Trip: You can choose a fully-guided raft trip during the warmest part of the day. This will allow you to enjoy the beautiful Nolichucky Gorge without spending your entire day on the river. The headwaters and tributaries of the amazing Nolichucky River begin on the slopes of Mt. Mitchell, the highest mountain on the entire east coast. From there the Nolichucky rushes along the border of North Carolina and Tennessee through a gorge rimmed with beautiful cliffs and flowery rhododendron. In the Spring you can generally expect higher water levels which means rafts are the craft of choice for our full day trip. For summer-time water levels, we give our customers the opportunity to paddle an inflatable duck or raft on the lunch trips. Sign up for our newsletter. Stay in the loop on future specials! Take me to the river

Chapter 3 : An Ode to the Beautiful Nolichucky River - Northeast Tennessee

Nolichucky River Rafting Tennessee's Blue Ridge Rush White water rafting on the Nolichucky River is an experience that challenges rafters with wavy rapids in an impressive wilderness setting.

Excellent recovery pool at the bottom. Alternate Lines - At flows starting around c. Even farther left, not far off the bank is another creek little line with a couple small eddies. Play factor - some. At higher flows a couple really fast, wide waves at the bottom are a ton of fun if you can catch them. At really low levels, the lowest hole on the left, known as Punk Hole, becomes a good little cartwheel spot. Around cfs the right side can start to get real sticky. Tuck tight when you flip upstream because the rock shelf causing the hole is never very far away no matter the level Good eddy access from either side. If necessary, it is a short hike out to the put-in involving crossing the railroad trestle. If you choose this be forewarned, the trestle is no place to be when a train comes, which can be quite often. On that note, generally if a train or engine has recently went upstream, you can pretty much bank on one coming back down very soon - so be careful! No one drop is terribly difficult or big but there are a lot of them. Scout from the left. It can be run a variety of ways. Due to the floods of the top of Quartermile has a few new wrinkles. Shortly before the hole known as Hungryjack there is now a large boulder in the center right of the main flow. At higher flows it becomes a pourover, at medium flows it is something to be avoided. Do not underestimate the force of the current here at any level, there is also a new hole just upstream of said boulder. The rest of the rapid consists of lots of boogie that is generally less difficult but more scrapey the further to river right you go. Swimming here is generally a full contact sport - not a good spot for random rollers either. This place has killed so use caution. Safest is to run far right or bang down the far left at higher flows. The higher the water, the more difficult and dangerous this rapid becomes with some seriously chunky holes towards the top and river left. Start this rapid on far river right angling left to avoid the hole quickly downstream on the right. From this eddy, ferry hard towards the left to cut behind a large rock located downstream left of center. There is brief section of slackish water separating upper and lower. At moderate water levels and up a fast wave from feet forms at the bottom of upper Rollercoaster. The straightforward route is following the main flow through some bouncy water on the river left. Route 2 is to work over to far, far river right and go through a narrow 3 ft chute. Route 3 which is the least easy to identify is to take a mini slide from right to left just to the right of an exposed rock formation found left of center. This congestion continues to build till the main flow is on river left, after about yards of this, the river bends right into a mega pile of boulders requiring careful navigation to avoid busting up your boat at lower levels and to avoid an ugly broach at any level. Keep it straight through here. Towards the center left side one can see a triangle shaped rock pointing straight up. If you can find this, things are alot easier. Turn right just about feet upstream of this rock and pick your path down. This route usually has the cleanest line and the most water. It begins with a section of class II offset ledges and culminates with a nearly river wide ft offset ledge with a munchy hole. Certain parts of the ledge are munchier than others. The stickiest part of the hole is river right of an exposed rock in about the center of the horizon line. If you take this line, go with plenty of speed. The pace begins to pick up as the river begins to bend back left. Go well to the left of this rock following the main flow through a series of large standing waves. Identified by an unusual orange-reddish outcropping of rock on the left by the railroad track. It has a couple offset ledges with a hole or two at the bottom depending on the water level. Super deep excellent recovery pool. Offers some form of play, from hole riding to funky fast wave surfing at nearly any water level. It has a fun little play spot at moderate water levels and apparently a really loopalicious hole develops around , cfs. The mystery spot known as Cowbell is about yards downstream on the left.

Chapter 4 : Nolichucky River Rafting, Erwin, Tennessee; Wahoo's Adventures

Nolichucky Gorge Campground (Class I, Mile) Take out on river right at the set of wooden steps. The mystery spot known as Cowbell is about yards downstream on the left.

Excellent recovery pool at the bottom. Alternate Lines - At flows starting around c. Even farther left, not far off the bank is another creek little line with a couple small eddies. Play factor - some. At higher flows a couple really fast, wide waves at the bottom are a ton of fun if you can catch them. At really low levels, the lowest hole on the left, known as Punk Hole, becomes a good little cartwheel spot. Going left is usually the easier of the two. Good recovery pool at the bottom. Depending on the water level many fun waves can be found toward river right all the way to Jaws. Around cfs the right side can start to get real sticky. Tuck tight when you flip upstream because the rock shelf causing the hole is never very far away no matter the level. Good eddy access from either side. If necessary, it is a short hike out to the put-in involving crossing the railroad trestle. If you choose this be forewarned, the trestle is no place to be when a train comes, which can be quite often. On that note, generally if a train or engine has recently went upstream, you can pretty much bank on one coming back down very soon - so be careful! No one drop is terribly difficult or big but there are a lot of them. Scout from the left. It can be run a variety of ways. Due to the floods of the top of Quartermile has a few new wrinkles. Shortly before the hole known as Hungryjack there is now a large boulder in the center right of the main flow. At higher flows it becomes a pourover, at medium flows it is something to be avoided. Do not underestimate the force of the current here at any level, there is also a new hole just upstream of said boulder. The rest of the rapid consists of lots of boogie that is generally less difficult but more scrapey the further to river right you go. Swimming here is generally a full contact sport - not a good spot for random rollers either. This place has killed so use caution. Safest is to run far right or bang down the far left at higher flows. The higher the water, the more difficult and dangerous this rapid becomes with some seriously chunky holes towards the top and river left. Start this rapid on far river right angling left to avoid the hole quickly downstream on the right. From this eddy, ferry hard towards the left to cut behind a large rock located downstream left of center. There is brief section of slackish water separating upper and lower. At moderate water levels and up a fast wave from feet forms at the bottom of upper Rollercoaster. The straightforward route is following the main flow through some bouncy water on the river left. Route 2 is to work over to far, far river right and go through a narrow 3 ft chute. Route 3 which is the least easy to identify is to take a mini slide from right to left just to the right of an exposed rock formation found left of center. This congestion continues to build till the main flow is on river left, after about yards of this, the river bends right into a mega pile of boulders requiring careful navigation to avoid busting up your boat at lower levels and to avoid an ugly broach at any level. Keep it straight through here. Towards the center left side one can see a triangle shaped rock pointing straight up. If you can find this, things are a lot easier. Turn right just about feet upstream of this rock and pick your path down. This route usually has the cleanest line and the most water. It begins with a section of class II offset ledges and culminates with a nearly river wide ft offset ledge with a munchy hole. Certain parts of the ledge are munchier than others. The stickiest part of the hole is river right of an exposed rock in about the center of the horizon line. If you take this line, go with plenty of speed. The pace begins to pick up as the river begins to bend back left. Go well to the left of this rock following the main flow through a series of large standing waves. Identified by an unusual orange-reddish outcropping of rock on the left by the railroad track. It has a couple offset ledges with a hole or two at the bottom depending on the water level. Super deep excellent recovery pool. Offers some form of play, from hole riding to funky fast wave surfing at nearly any water level. It has a fun little play spot at moderate water levels and apparently a really loopalicious hole develops around , cfs. The mystery spot known as Cowbell is about yards downstream on the left.

Chapter 5 : Uncle Johnnys Hostel

Nolichucky River Rafting with High Mountain Expeditions is North Carolina whitewater rafting at its best. Cutting the deepest River gorge east of the Mississippi River, the Nolichucky River offers a true world class whitewater experience.

Open Year Round, our cozy little oasis is located only 68 feet from the Appalachian Trail and 70 feet from the scenic free-flowing Nolichucky River and practically in the enchanting town of Erwin, Tennessee. A village where services are reasonably priced. No crowds or traffic jams. We are only 1. Rustic on the outside our cabins are located just 5 minutes outside of Erwin, Tennessee at the edge of the Cherokee National Forest near the Appalachian Trail and the Nolichucky River. You will be pleasantly surprised as you step into our cozy cabins for your getaway. Seclusion, peace and tranquility await you. Experience nature at its best as you breath in refreshing mountain air. Take an early morning stroll through the forest near the river and listen to the sounds of nature and see local wildlife. Within easy driving, walking or bicycling distance of lakes, waterfalls, restaurants. Free town shuttles for guests. Large restroom facility with 5 showers, 5 toilets, 6 washbasins, hot water, soap, shampoo, conditioner, towels and washcloths Laundry service, outside wash station for your pots, pans, boots, other gear. Fox River, Spenco foot beds, Exponent, Nalgene, gear repair and more. Bike rental available for town trips. Responsible, legal, insured shuttle services for section hiking, slack packing, airports, bus stations and motels. Free National Forest Service swimming beach with rest rooms, changing rooms and a beautiful picnic area only yards upstream. We have sit-on-top kayaks, canoes and tube rentals for the lower Nolichucky. We also offer the very best area rafting trips. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Although cash is preferred to keep our rates low. Responsible pet owners with well-mannered dogs are welcome. Current flow rate of Nolichucky:

Chapter 6 : NOLICHUCKY GORGE CAMPGROUND - Updated Reviews (Erwin, TN) - TripAdvisor

Fishing on the Nolichucky begins generally in March, we start getting water temperatures back into the upper 40's to the low 50's quickly after the big chill. The Noli is a pretty diverse river and you can begin targeting multi species of fish.

Trending roughly westward, it flows along the northern base of Flattop Mountain. The gorge is especially steep on its north side. Geologically, the area is predominantly underlain by metamorphic rock of Precambrian age. The Nolichucky, approaching Erwin, Tennessee from the east, as seen from the Appalachian Trail just south of Erwin. The river then enters Unicoi County, Tennessee, as it drops through a whitewater gorge, flowing between the ranges of the Bald Mountains to the south and the Unaka Mountains to the north. Turning northwest, the stream is bridged by the Appalachian Trail, and then, just beyond this, by U. Highway 19W southwest of Erwin, Tennessee. Turning more to the north, the stream is paralleled for several miles by State Route 81, which is also concurrent with Tennessee State Route for several miles crossing into Washington County. The river cuts between several mountains at this point, including Rich Mountain to the south and Buffalo Mountain to the north. Shortly after entering Washington County, the river makes a horseshoe bend near Embreeville, where it is bridged by Tennessee 81 and Tennessee for the first time. At the northeastern end of Embreeville Mountain, the stream emerges from a large gap, and, turning west-southwest, is bridged by Tennessee 81 again. Here, it exits the Blue Ridge Mountains and enters the Ridge and Valley province, which is underlain primarily by sedimentary rock of the Lower Paleozoic Era. The river then continues west-southwest for several miles, paralleled by State Route. The river leaves the roadside near Mt. Many tributary creeks join the river in Washington and Greene Counties. At the county line one of the larger tributaries, Big Limestone Creek, joins the river. Bridged by Tennessee again just east of Tusculum, the stream continues southwestward, later bridged by State Route just above an impoundment caused by Nolichucky Dam. This dam was constructed as a hydroelectric project by the former Tennessee Electric Power Company in. The TVA continued to operate the dam for electrical power purposes until the s. The degree of siltation of the reservoir, called Davy Crockett Lake, had made continued efforts to operate the facility for hydroelectric purposes impracticable. The agency retired the dam as a power source but continues to maintain it and to use it for flood control and recreational purposes. Just west of the dam, the river crosses State Route 70 and State Route for a third and final time. Continuing almost due west, the river is bridged by U. Just past this point, the river becomes the Greene Countyâ€™Cocke County line. From this point on, the meandering stream forms the Hamblen Countyâ€™Cocke County line. These settlements were aligned with the Watauga settlements in what is now Elizabethton, Tennessee. As hostilities intensified in the mids between the settlers and a faction of the Cherokee, known as the "Chickamaugas," who were opposed to the settlements, John Sevier, at the time a young militia officer, began overseeing the construction of Fort Lee. After an invasion was launched by Chickamauga leader Dragging Canoe in July, Sevier abandoned the unfinished fort and fled to the Watauga settlements. Sevier would later acquire the nickname "Nolichucky Jack," or "Chucky Jack," for his exploits along the river and in its vicinity. At least one sunken railcar sits at the bottom of the river near the entrance to the Lost Cove Settlement, a civil-war era ghost town just upriver and uphill from the once-disputed Tennessee-North Carolina border. Whitewater rafting[edit] Between Poplar, North Carolina, and Unaka Springs, Tennessee, the Nolichucky River Gorge provides one of the more scenic and technical whitewater trips in the Southern United States, due in large part to its constant and often rapid fluctuations. Rainfall upstream around Mount Mitchell makes the upper section rapids ever more impressive with significant rain causing extremely big water and un-runnable routes in otherwise ordinary areas. When that raft hit those rapids at "Rooster Tail" we were going round and round, dived into "Souse Hole", slammed into rocks here and more rocks there. Sometimes that white-faced water would stand straight up and slam you smack-kadab all over the raft, or out of it. Man, that was a wild trip! These unusually dry conditions and concomitant low water levels reveal a vast diversity of hitherto unseen features. The Tennessee Valley Authority TVA regulates flow of the Watauga River and guarantees a minimum release schedule accommodating whitewater rafting companies during the summer season with the regular release of deep,

impounded reservoir waters from behind both the Watauga Dam and the Wilbur Dam.

Chapter 7 : Nolichucky Gorge

Nolichucky River Gorge Full Day Trips, Class , Ages 10+ With over 25 named class rapids, the Nolichucky River Gorge is one of the top rafting adventures in the entire east! Experience all 25+ class rapids and 9 miles of the Nolichucky Gorge at a faster pace in all guided rafts (ducks are available on our full day lunch trip).

Chapter 8 : Nolichucky River (Erwin) - All You Need to Know BEFORE You Go (with Photos) - TripAdvisor

We had an amazing trip down the Nolichucky again this year. The exciting rapids, the beautiful outdoors, and the camaraderie that always brings people together. My year-old daughter fell out of her kayak on the first stage of a level 4 set of rapids.

Chapter 9 : USGS Current Conditions for USGS NOLICHUCKY RIVER AT EMBREEVILLE, TN

Mountain cabin rentals plus RV and tent camping along the Nolichucky River in Erwin, TN.