JANUARY
The Black Bear Plunge, an annual tradition at Fort Mountain State Park, is a fun way to start the year off with a thrilling plunge into the lake.

The Chili Run is a New Year’s Day tradition for local kayakers to paddle the icy waters of the Cartecay River, followed by hot chili and a bonfire on the riverbank at the Cartecay River Experience.

Cherry Log’s Craddock Center holds its free Songs and Stories event featuring a guest speaker from the southern Appalachian region, as well as performances by musicians who call the mountains home.

FEBRUARY
Wine about Winter is a weekend full of ground hog games, food, live music, a murder mystery dinner, and delicious wine at Ellijay Wine Country vineyards.

MARCH
“St. Petrick’s Day” is a fun day for pets and their owners with a parade, contests, music and vendors in downtown Ellijay.

APRIL
Earth Day is celebrated with volunteer litter cleanup or beautification projects to keep Gilmer County beautiful.

Ellijay Farmer’s Market is open for business Saturdays, in late April through early October from 8am to noon, on Broad Street adjacent to the courthouse in downtown Ellijay.

MAY
The Georgia Apple Blossom Festival brings hand-selected, regional vendors offering food, art, crafts, a business expo and more, the first weekend in May, next to the Gilmer Chamber in East Ellijay.

The Cartecay River Cleanup is a volunteer effort headed up by the Cartecay River Experience. Grab a tube or kayak and help keep our rivers clean!

The Garden Club of Ellijay Annual Plant Sale features plants from some of the best gardens in Ellijay.

Run for the Son 5K, Fun Run & Tot Trot benefits the Gilmer Christian Learning Center.

The Georgia Apple Festival Parade courses through downtown Ellijay, featuring floats and other entertaining entries.

The Georgia Apple Festival takes place the second and third weekends of October at the Lions Club Fairgrounds with lots of food and arts and crafts vendors.

Apple Arts is an easy-to-browse offering of arts, crafts and food the second and third weekends of October on Broad Street, in downtown Ellijay.

Halloween on the Square is a festive and safe community event, with trick or treating, fun and games.

JUNE
The Garden Club of Ellijay displays locally-grown floral displays at its summer flower show at the Gilmer County Library.

Gilmer Saddle Club Rodeo features bareback bronc riding, barrels, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping. IPRA, SPRA sanctioned.

Plein Air, Art in the Mountains Regional artists, working outdoors, "en plein air," creating art based on the stunning views and vistas of the beautiful north Georgia mountains.

JULY
Independence Day in downtown Ellijay includes a day of music, a parade in the early evening, and fireworks at dark.

AUGUST
The Gilmer County Fair brings fun rides, games and music to town the first week of August at the Lions Club Fairgrounds.

SEPTEMBER
Dancing Goats FolkFest, an old mountain shindig, features a juried folk art show, live music, storytelling, children’s activities and vittles in downtown Ellijay.

OCTOBER
The Cherry Log Festival kicks off the fall fest season the first two weekends of October at the Cherry Log Community Clubhouse.

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NOVEMBER
Veterans Day is celebrated with a day of special events for those who served, including a parade and program around the downtown square.

Light Up Ellijay kicks off the Yuletide season the weekend after Thanksgiving with a parade, a visit from Santa and a tree lighting on the downtown square.

DECEMBER
Festival of Trees features Christmas trees decorated by local organizations throughout the Gilmer County Library.

For up to date events and more information visit www.pickellijay.com calendar of events.
20 Reasons to PICK ELLIJAY

APPLES
Ellijay is the Apple Capital of Georgia with more than 10 Apple Houses and over 500 acres of orchards producing 650,000 bushels annually. During the springtime you can enjoy the beautiful apple blossoms. July brings the beginning of the apple season with apple picking beginning around Labor Day. Apple season continues through the fall with dozens of varieties available at each house as well as activities for the whole family at many.

MOUNTAIN BIKING
Ellijay is also the Mountain Bike Capital of Georgia. Ellijay has more than 10 trails with 100 miles to ride with experience levels from Black Diamond on the Pinhoti Trail P3 to beginner at Talking Rock Nature Preserve. Ellijay is also home to Cartecay Bike Shop, one of the best bike shops in the USA, as well as Mulberry Gap—a local all inclusive lodging, dining and shuttle service for bike enthusiasts.

DOWNTOWN ELLIJAY
Downtown Ellijay provides everything you desire in a quaint mountain town from delicious restaurants and taverns with live music, fantastic shopping and memorable festivities and parades.

VINEYARDS
Ellijay Wine Country has six vineyards with more opening in the next few years. Find unique tasting rooms with gorgeous views, delicious wines, live music and more.

GEORGE LINK JR., GILMER ARTS PLAYHOUSE
The playhouse was a fabulous new addition to Downtown Ellijay in 2017. This beautiful venue brings the finest in musical and theatrical entertainment, along with their local monthly jam session Acoustic Blends.

ANTIQUE & JUNKTIQUE
If you like to search for the perfect antique piece, or maybe an older piece of furniture to re-purpose into something new, Ellijay is by far the best destination to hunt for treasures.

EXPEDITION: BIGFOOT
A trip to the North Georgia mountains wouldn’t be complete without a bigfoot encounter. Just a few miles north of Ellijay in Cherry Log, visit Expedition: Bigfoot. If you weren’t a believer before, this museum will give you all the reasons to believe by the time you leave.

DINING
Ellijay has more than 30 delicious restaurants from one of the best craft beer bars in the country to the perfect spot for Sunday brunch. Enjoy fine dining, pet friendly porches and live music at one of the many dining options available in Ellijay & East Ellijay.

PET FRIENDLY
Don’t leave the furbabies at home. Ellijay offers several pet-friendly lodging options as well as many restaurants that offer outdoor eating areas that are pet friendly. Head out to the vineyards and sit on the patio with your best friend. You will even find some great shops with pet accessories and treats.

UNIQUE LODGING
Experience a true mountain vacation in a gorgeous cabin. Your cabin can be tucked away in the woods, at the top of the mountain with gorgeous views, or sitting on a river or stream.

ONE OF OUR TWO WELCOME CENTERS:
Glimmer Chamber & Welcome Center
696 First Ave East Ellijay, GA 30540
or give us a call
www.pickellijay.com
or one of our two welcome centers:
10 Broad Street Ellijay, GA 30540
Downtown Welcome Center
10 Broad Street Ellijay, GA 30540

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