

atsila gatusi *Welcome to* a-tsi-la ga-tu-si...Fire Mountain

...your own private utopia where the intricate tapestry of life combines the timeless culture of the Cherokee Indian, the majesty of the Earth's oldest mountains, Southern hospitality, nature and art.

The Cherokee called it the "Land of the Red Thunders." The pioneers called it the "Promised Land." You'll think you have entered another world, where an unequalled variety of plant and animal life inhabit the Earth's oldest mountains. This is an enchanted place that inspired the native Cherokee to create a rich mythology explaining the vibrant life in the winds and waters, in the plants and animals of the forest, in the very origin of the mountains themselves.

Fire was part of the Cherokee healing rituals. SACRED
FIRE -a-tsi-la-kwe-ya-
was made of seven
kinds of wood
found here on Fire Mountain

.....Balsam Fir.....Hemlock.....Spruce.....Mountain Laurel
.....Eastern White Pine.....Rhododendron.....Eastern Red Cedar

In honor of the sacred fire, and the blazing orange, red and yellow sunsets, the hot pink sunrises, the melting fall colors and the brilliant spring and summer fireflies, we light a bonfire using the seven sacred woods at sunset each Saturday at the stone fire pit on top of Fire Mountain.....a healing ritual in itself for everyone.....At Fire Mountain you become a part of an honored tradition of people seeking serenity in a place where time itself seems to run at a different pace, where hospitality is a way of life and where nature and art become one.

Within Fire Mountain natural beauty abounds, with lush woodlands, deep gorges, clean, pure cool air, moss-covered rocks and trails, cascading streams with precious rubies and sapphires, awe-inspiring mountain views, summer crops growing in mountaintop fields, ponds fed by mountain springs, tranquil

hiking trails to breathtaking vantage points, pristine pastures with grazing cows, wildflowers of every color emanating their subtle fragrance, hawks gliding through the mountaintop peaks where wild turkey, rabbit and deer abound in a land of waterfalls.

On top of Fire Mountain sits a secluded mountaintop retreat composed of....a sophisticated contemporary Inn....our private and intimate Treehouses...real mountain luxury Cabins....The Gallery....all with 360° views....for individuals and couples who desire to get in touch with nature....themselves....someone special....or friends.

Fire Mountain is for those who have a sense of adventure..... for those who retain a childlike sense of wonder at the sight of....fireflies.....raindrops on a pond....cows grazing on a hillside.....deer tiptoeing through snowdrifts or feasting on fall apple trees.

We offer you the possibility of joining in the drama of Mother Earth's pageantry....Watch the sun rise....experience a sunset....wish on a shooting star....listen for the call of the hawk....catch a glimpse of a shy deer....breathe the fresh clean air.....Relax.....

At Fire Mountain, from season to glorious season Mother Nature turns on her charm, works her magic and orchestrates the drama of Earth's eternal rhythm.

In the Spring warm winds breathe new life into Fire Mountain. Pools of trillium appear deep in our forests, the flaming azaleas illuminate the side of the mountains, and wildflowers of every color add their subtle fragrance to our open mountaintop meadows.

Summer's warmth soon fills the trees with green, and sunlight filters playfully through our forest canopy. It's a time of

pleasant days, deliciously cool nights, and morning mists that float through the valleys below us like rivers in the air.

When our apples ripen you know Autumn has arrived. Lush green leaves change to brilliant shades of red and gold at our very high elevation before Autumn makes its way down into the valleys. The scent of crackling hickory rises from our chimney tops. Pumpkins and Indian Corn appear in our fields, apple cider is served by the fireside and we celebrate the bounties of our mountaintop harvest.

Fire Mountain winter pleasures are many....the rime ice glistening in the morning light....the rush of a downhill ski run....soft and beautiful snowfalls...the comfort of friends gathered close around a fire at the end of a perfect day.

Serenity and privacy are our gifts to you. Time here belongs to you, so feel free to do with it what you may. Now you have found your own private place....a private, serene, vibrant, and peaceful mountaintop in the Blue Ridge Mountains.....in the highlands.....of western North Carolina.



FIRE MOUNTAIN



Inn

FEATURES....

mountaintop setting
uninterrupted sunset views
expansive decks
large terraces
private baths
mountaintop breakfast
wood-burning fireplaces
queen and king beds
large windowed suites
relaxed atmosphere
library with fireplace
serene and calm ambience
uninterrupted sunrise views
sitting and writing areas
deck chairs and rocking chairs
privacy and peace
your first fire ready to be lit
contemporary art
sculpture
umbrella deck tables
hot tubs
viewing decks
complementary split firewood
mountain luxury in every respect
all non-smoking indoors
the sounds of nature

Art

Sculpture

Library

Hiking Trails

Bird Sanctuary

Gardens

Wild Flowers

Views

On top of a mountain...with uninterrupted and unsurpassed views...sits a modern-day mountain Inn.

An Inn for people who want to bask in the best that Mother Nature has to offer, and at the same time enjoy the ultimate in sophistication and comfort.

The Inn was inspired by...the extraordinary physical setting of unsurpassed beauty on top of Fire Mountain...the healthy, cool atmosphere of the highlands, in the beautiful Blue Ridges of the Great Smoky Mountains in western North Carolina...and its location just a few miles from one of the most beautiful and upscale resort mountain towns in the world...Highlands, North Carolina.

The Inn is a very private little world unto itself, resplendent with all the best that the world has to offer.

At the highest point on Fire Mountain sits the Inn.... Spectacular views abound from every single room and suite.... Each opens to large and generous fully furnished decks or terraces that are perfect for lounging in true mountain splendor all year round while you read...take in the majestic views...sun or snooze outdoors in the healthy cool blue mountain air.... Your choice of sunset or sunrise views....some accommodations have both.

Particular rooms and suites can be combined to form our mountaintop "Super Suites" for two couples...2 bedrooms with 2 full private baths, sitting area, sunset and sunrise decks, ...blazing sunsets...magnificent sunrises... the ultimate mountaintop suite in Highlands

The Inn

Fire Mountain Inn is a unique kind of retreat, continually evolving from the ordinary. The Inn is composed of many little worlds:

...the Lodge
...the Treehouses
...the Gallery
...the library
...the viewing decks
...the dining area
...the hiking trails
...the lounging areas
...the bird sanctuary
...the gardens

The Treehouses

Fire Mountain Treehouses....our most private and secluded accommodations of the Inn...all with magnificent views from your accommodation and your deck...true mountain luxury sitting in the treetops on Fire Mountain.... The Treehouses ...are the most intimate
...are the most private
...have private decks
...have private parking
...have private entrances

The Gallery

A place for
...viewing contemporary art
...enjoying the view
...meeting
...retreating
...holding celebrations
...contemplating



Cabins

Positioned for privacy and seclusion, our cabins sit at the top of Fire Mountain, offering majestic and pastoral views. Complete with all the modern conveniences while retaining the authentic feel of real mountain cabins, our cabins combine the best of the old and the new. All of our cabins have been built since 1991. Each cabin was well

built to ensure coziness and warmth in the winter, and to retain the coolness of our atmosphere in the summer.

Come and enjoy the peacefulness and serenity. Rock on your front porch and enjoy the view...or bask in the blaze of the fire in your hand-laid stone fireplace...watching the shadows it casts on your vaulted ceilings as you luxuriate in your very own private spa.

Enjoy the ultimate in mountain luxury in your private cabin...on the top of Fire Mountain...in the highlands of western North Carolina.

- FLOOR PLANS -

2-3 Guests: Fire Mountain Cabins are available in three different floor plans that accommodate two to three guests...

Galax and Cullasaja - One large great room with vaulted ceilings.....Your pencil-post, honey-pine, queen-sized bed...two-person jacuzzi tub...living area with sofa bed...dining area and full kitchen with microwave...all focus toward the hand-laid fireplace made of native stone.... Very open...light and bright.... Adjacent to the great room is a private shower bath.... A deck opens off the great room through sliding glass doors to an umbrella table and chairs with beautiful mountain views.... Your front porch with complimentary firewood and rocking chairs also connects to the deck.... Your Cabin offers warm fires and gorgeous views and is scaled perfectly for two or three guests...

Blue Moss and Red Cedar - Three rooms each with cathedral ceilings.....Your living area with sofa bed, dining area and kitchenette all focus toward your native stone storybook fireplace, which scales to the heights of your cathedral ceilings.... Separate private room holds your two-person jacuzzi tub recessed at floor level.... Bedroom with queen-sized bed, private shower bath and closet... Front porch with two-person swing, rocking chairs, and complimentary firewood opens to the entrance hall of your very own mountaintop cabin.... Views from bedroom, living area with fireplace, and front porch.... Very intimate...very cozy...very romantic...

Chickadee - Coziest and most private.....Your cabin features a queen-sized bed, kitchen, living and dining area, window shower bath.... Sliding door opens to covered terrace with table, chairs and rocking chairs.... Beautiful pastoral views.... Maximum occupancy...just two happy people...

2-6 Guests: Fire Mountain Cabin floor plans for two to six guests are large but intimate...

Hemlock - The perfect mountain cabin for...2 couples...a group of friends...or a family.Your entry foyer opens into a very large cooking kitchen fully equipped down to the ice maker in the fridge...a dining table that can accommodate eight...and a living room with a large overstuffed couch and chairs with ottomans facing the raised hearth of the wood-burning stone fireplace.... The kitchen, dining and living areas are in one large great room with vaulted ceilings.... Two large bedrooms open off the great room, each having a king sized bed, two substantial wooden bunk beds, a closet and a private shower bath.... The great room opens through sliding doors to an expansive furnished deck with an umbrella table and chairs, and best of all...a four-person hot tub...surrounded by light, bright and open views.... The absolute ultimate luxury in a mountaintop Cabin...

AMENITIES

- fully equipped kitchens
- hand-laid native stone fireplaces
- two-person indoor jacuzzi tubs
- four-person outdoor hot tubs
- mountaintop views
- private and secluded
- pencil-post queen beds
- vaulted or cathedral ceilings
- front porches
- rocking chairs
- furnished decks with umbrellas
- post-mounted grills
- linens
- iron/ironing boards
- maid service
- your first fire set for you
- complimentary split firewood
- all paper products provided
- microwave ovens
- shower baths
- porch swings



- Reservation Policy -

Rates.....No refunds are given for late arrivals or early departures. All accommodation rates are for single or double occupancy. All **rates quoted are per day**. There is a \$35 additional charge per person per day for accommodation in the Inn and a \$25 additional charge per person per day for accommodation in the Cabins. Most holiday periods carry special rates. **A 10% reduction in rates is afforded stays of five nights or longer.** A reservation made for one or more accommodation requires one responsible party to make the required reservation deposit, the security deposit if required, and the payment of any remaining balance upon arrival. All rates are subject to a 10% state and local sales and occupancy tax. No gratuity is included in your charges.

Reservations.....Reservations are required. Telephone **800-775-4446** between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. any day of the week to make a reservation or **book online** through our web site 24 hours a day. Your reservation is guaranteed and confirmed upon receipt of a reservation deposit and at that time a confirmation package is sent or emailed to you. A two-night minimum stay is required. Holiday periods and certain demand periods require a three-night to five-night minimum.

Reservation Deposits.....A reservation deposit equal to **50% of your total charges** is required to reserve and confirm your reservation and may be paid at the time of reserving your accommodation by American Express, Master Card, Visa, or Visa check card. Your reservation deposit may also be paid with a bank cashiers' check or a money order which we must receive within five days or the reservation will be voided to make room for others. A confirmed reservation obligates both the reserving guest and Fire Mountain for the entire length of the time reserved.

Cancellation Policy.....Because of our small size and secluded location cancellations affect us significantly. For these reasons we uphold a strict cancellation policy. If cancellation is made **30 days prior to your arrival** we will happily return your funds, less a \$50 processing fee per reserved accommodation. After that no refund is possible regardless of the reason. You are always welcome to send someone else in your place.

Security Deposits.....**Cabin occupancy requires a security deposit** equal to one nights' highest rate. Security deposits will be forfeited in the event of damage to any facility, out of the ordinary or excessive housekeeping services, unauthorized pet occupancies, smoking inside any structure, or for leaving a fire burning unattended.

Payments.....All remaining charges and security deposits are payable **at time of check-in**. American Express, Master Card, Visa, Visa check card, cash, or travelers checks are the only forms of payment accepted at check-in.

Check-in.....Your **check-in time is by reservation** within a two hour window, mutually agreed upon at the time of making your reservation. Your reserved arrival period will be confirmed in your confirmation letter. Because of our small size reserved arrival periods are established in order that we may schedule a staff member to welcome and assist your party. If you have not arrived by the end of your two hour reserved check-in period your reservation will be considered a cancellation and your funds will be forfeited regardless of the reason. **To change your reserved two hour arrival period you must give a minimum of 24 hours notice.**

Departure.....Departure time is **noon**. Please check-out at the Guest Services & Reception Office or leave your key in the post box located at the front entrance to the Guest Services & Reception Office.

- Amenities & Services -

• In all accommodations you will find **“The Land of the Red Thunders”** which is an expansive and customized guide to your accommodation, Fire Mountain and the Highlands. “The Land of the Red Thunders” is available for your reference during your stay at Fire Mountain.

• Your **first fire is always set for you** in accommodations having fireplaces. Complimentary **split firewood** is located on your porch, deck or terrace.

• For **guests of the Inn and the Treehouses your stay includes our mountaintop breakfast** served by candlelight each morning at 9:30 a.m. in the dining area of the Inn. Hot tea and coffee are available at 8:30 a.m. Weather permitting outdoor dining is available on the main viewing decks of the Inn.

• For Cabin guests our **“Mountaintop Cabin Breakfast for Two”**(\$35) can be delivered quietly to your front porch in a basket. These arrangements must be made at the time of making your reservation.

• Through our web site www.firemt.com you may preorder **Gourmet Box Lunches** and **Bento Box Dinners** to be ready for you on the days that you desire during your stay..

• From the phone lounge in the Inn **local phone calls may be made at no charge.**

• **Telephone message delivery service** to your accommodation is provided.

- General Information -

• **No smoking of any kind is allowed inside any structure on Fire Mountain.** Cigarettes are limited to designated outside areas of select accommodations. **No pipes or cigars are allowed on Fire Mountain.**

• The Treehouses of the Inn are located in a **“smoke free environment”** which encompasses the inside and outside of each Treehouse accommodation.

• Tariffs, rates, fees and policies are **subject to change without notice.**

• Families with **children** and young adults are welcome in Cabins. Families with **young adults** are welcome in the Inn and the Treehouses of the Inn.

• Occasional check-in delays may occur during times of heavy departure due to the **special attention** given to each accommodation. Our staff will do everything possible to make you comfortable during that time.

• **Under certain circumstances, some small animals are allowed in certain Cabins only.** Approval must be obtained prior to your arrival and your pet must be confirmed in your reservation confirmation letter by name.

• In order to **assure privacy and a restful atmosphere** use of the property is reserved exclusively for registered guests. There are no signs to Fire Mountain. Tours of the property are by advance appointment only.

• **Our guests’ privacy is our highest priority.**

- Special Notes of Interest -

Fire Mountain is a very special retreat from the outside world.....

To enhance and maintain the tranquil, serene, peaceful and very special environment at Fire Mountain we do not have televisions nor are they welcome. Radios, in-room phones, clocks, alarms, newspapers and air conditioning compressors have also been omitted. Fire Mountain does not support business services such as fax or internet access

Reserve your own special place at Fire Mountain

800.775.4446

Visit our web site at

www.firemt.com

the village of **HIGHLANDS** *North Carolina*

...sitting atop the world's oldest mountains at the highest elevation of any village, town or city in the southern part of the United States ...is a magical, enchanting and heavenly little mountain village which can only be reached by driving through scenic and winding roads to the top of the Highlands Plateau in the Blue Ridge mountains of Western North Carolina.

Highlands sits in the Land of the Red Thunders, in the middle of the original Cherokee Indian Nation. It is completely surrounded by the Nantahala National Forest, a temperate rain forest that generates more precipitation outside the Pacific rim than anywhere else in North America. That abundance nourishes the lush forests that keep us cooler, and our air and water cleaner than any other southern town in the United States.

Founded in 1875, Highlands quickly became an escape from the summer heat for southern aristocratic families. The Highlands are truly cooled by Mother Nature, making the summertime days and nights so

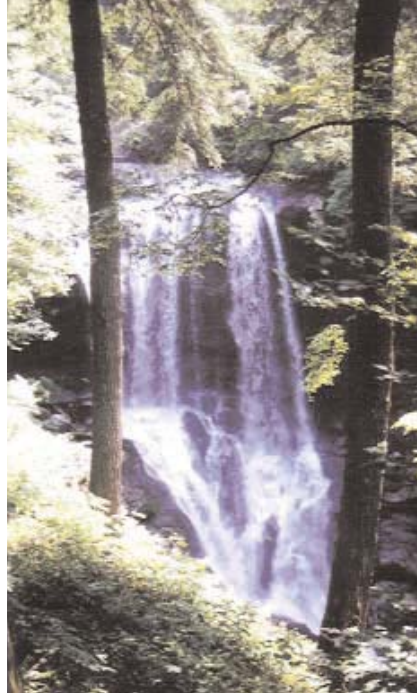
During July our average temperature is a cool 67 degrees

unbelievably heavenly.

The Highlands are the headwaters for four of the major rivers that flow down into the Southeastern part of the

United States that people come from all over the world to fish and whitewater raft. As a result of the abundance of water, Highlands resides in the midst of the "Land of Waterfalls". The Highlands Plateau is botanically and geologically one of the most unique locations in all the world. Highlands is a place where you truly gain respect for nature in all its splendid wonder.

Since the late 1800's Highlands has been a popular resort for people from around the world to enjoy the cool climate, lush mountains and laid-back atmosphere, and to rest and reclaim themselves from the fast pace of urban life. The year-round village



quartets and you have a most glorious, sophisticated and absolutely beautiful little village high-up in the Highlands of the the Blue Ridge mountains. The pace is slow ...the people friendly, warm and welcoming ...and the way of life very quiet, peaceful, and serene ...all topped by the year round beauty of mountain nature in all it's glory.

Now you are beginning to understand why Highlands has earned a world wide reputation for ...fine fare

...for luxurious and first rate lodging ...for vivid views ...and for cool and wonderful weather. It's no wonder Highlands is called the most beautiful and quintessential mountain village in America.

Highlands is absolutely wonderful all year round. Come be a part of the Highlands and fall in love with what many say is the ...best kept secret in America.

*"There can be no very black melancholy to him who lives in the midst of nature."
Thoreau*

population of Highlands is 2,500 but that number swells to more than 15,000 folks as the southern aristocracy, corporate executives, professionals, artists, craftsmen, sports enthusiasts, adventurers, naturalists, authors and other assorted incredibly nice and very interesting people from all over the world come to their second homes in the Highlands for the High Season months of the year.

The village becomes alive with over 25 renowned and critically acclaimed restaurants and over 150 unique upscale shops, galleries, and auction houses - with not a neon sign, franchise or blinking light in sight. Add live theatre in its 60th season, with chamber music concerts, cabarets and jazz

Natural wonders abound ...rare wildflowers are everywhere and magnificent to behold ...and the wildlife entrancing