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OUTDOORS

OUTDOORS | BALLS | THE LIFE | PERFECT FIT

EDITED BY NOAH JOHNSON

INSIDE: WATERPROOF JACKETS

Heading along
2,000-foot trails in
the Smoky Mountains
is great for the forest,
too. In places,

Earth-Friendly Treks

FIVE ACTION-PACKED ECO ADVENTURES

By Jesse Hoffman

Sustainable tourism used to be little more than a travel-industry buzz phrase. Now it stands for healthy, guilt-free, eco-friendly vacations. Consider one of these adventures when planning your next escape. ▶

BACKPACKING

Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, Kentucky

On a three-day backpacking trek through Kentucky's rugged backwoods, you can hike the same Wilderness Road that pioneers like Daniel Boone once followed. Green Earth Outdoors' lead guide and owner Douglas Wagoner instills the Leave No Trace outdoor ethic. "We try to show the clients what we're doing and why we're doing it," Wagoner says. "Most of our clients enjoy the outdoors as much as we do and are open to being taught ways to minimize their impact on the Earth."

Temperatures in the spring will be mild as you ascend to a ridgeline and take in panoramic views of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. Plus, you'll learn how to minimize campfire impact, respect wildlife, and properly dispose of waste. April 24 to 26 (call to arrange other dates), \$265 per person. greenearthoutdoors.com

