

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VACATIONING CLOSE TO HOME IS AFFORDABLE SOLUTION

Maggie Valley, NC – Ghost Town In The Sky offers Western North Carolinians who plan on staying close to home for summer vacation or those opting out of a vacation entirely, an affordable and family-fun solution as a day-trip or by combining visiting the park with other WNC activities.

Because of the economic forecast of declining family travel this summer and also as an effort to show Haywood County residents our appreciation for their support since re-opening the park in May of 2007, Ghost Town has discounted their season passes to only \$30 now through June 14, 2009.

“The response has been so tremendous that we decided to extend the sale that was originally scheduled to end May 15 for another month,” explains Steve Shiver, Ghost Town’s President and CEO. “Our guests have really seemed to appreciate the low cost and great value of our season pass. **Upon further consideration, we’ve decided to include all residents who live in counties west of and those surrounding Haywood County in this season pass promotion.** Pinching pennies these days is important to all of us, and by offering our season pass at this price point will help folks to have fun without spending too much money. The National economic crisis has had an effect on us all.”

For a list of included counties, click on <http://www.ghosttowninthesky.com/special/whatsnew.html>

To receive the discounted rate, Western North Carolina residents must purchase their passes onsite at Ghost Town’s Welcome Center (A-Frame building in parking lot) off Soco Road. Proof of residency is required, such as a NC driver’s license and utility bill.

Currently the adult price for a 2009 season pass is on sale for \$49.99. Western North Carolina residents save an additional \$20 from the early bird price.

More Than Just a Day Trip

Because of its location, majestic views, rich history, rides for all ages and variety of entertainment, visiting Ghost Town can be enjoyed as a day trip or a multi-day event by tying a trip into a plethora of other activities that Western North Carolina has to offer. “It can be easy to take for granted all the beauty, history, culture and activities that we have right in our backyard when you live here. We want WNC residents to get re-acquainted with all we have to offer collectively,” Shiver explains.

Ghost Town guests can also easily enjoy the Blue Ridge Parkway since milepost 255 is only 4 miles away. The Great Smoky Mountains Railroad in Sylva is 27 miles from Ghost Town, historical Cherokee is only 14 miles from Ghost Town, and Asheville is only 34 miles. Other Maggie Valley attractions include Wheels Through Time Motorcycle Museum, Carolina Nights Dinner Theatre, Maggie Valley Carpet Golf and Eaglenest Entertainment. There is also a variety of festivals and events at Maggie Valley's Festival Grounds throughout the summer, which is less than a mile from Ghost Town.

Maggie Valley and nearby Waynesville also offers antique shopping, unique gift shops, lots of local restaurants and quaint inns and cabin rentals.

WNC Culture at Ghost Town

"When locals have out of town guests, what better way for their guests to experience the beauty of the mountains than by taking one of NC's longest chairlift rides that offer spectacular views of the mountains and valley below?" asks Shiver. "You have to ride it to truly appreciate the majestic views. Even for the locals who see mountain views constantly, seeing them while gliding on a almost-silent chairlift with 77-degree inclines, it just doesn't get much better than that!"

Ghost Town guests also experience the music that WNC is known for: bluegrass which is featured in the Red Dog Saloon on Ghost Town's Wild West Main Street. They can learn about the Native American Indian culture in the Indian Dance Hall, and about the gray wolf, which is indigenous of the mountains, through the Wolf Tales demonstrations. Ghost Town's Main Street is built as a replica of an 1880's town. The live-action actors wear costumes and act out skits that are all true to the time-period.

Because many people who visited the park in the sixties, seventies, eighties and nineties now have children and grandchildren of their own, Ghost Town has a multi-generational appeal. People who visited the park as a child in the past want to relive childhood memories. Young children today like Ghost Town for the cowboys and rides. People who've never visited before enjoy the entertainment, rides and views.

Since opening last weekend, Ghost Town has hosted several school groups and have booked several dozen church and camp groups. "We're even booking a lot of birthday parties," says Allison Montcastle, Group Sales Manager for Ghost Town. "Kids really love the whole Wild West theme that our parties offer."

More information can be found by visiting <http://www.ghosttowninthesky.com>.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST