

Swiss Family Robinson. You can rent a 15-foot-off-the-ground treehouse, complete with a 25-square-foot picture window looking out into the forest, at the youth hostel near Brunswick, Georgia. The cost is \$6 (\$7 if you're not a hostel member). The rest of the hostel is housed in two geodesic domes. You'll be close to the coastal islands and Okefenokee Swamp. Call 912-264-9738.



TONS O' PUN

If you've ever driven I-95 through the Carolinas, you've seen the billboards for South of the Border, the logos feature one sick pun after another. A gigantic hot dog bears the legend "YOU NEVER SAUSAGE A PLACE." Beneath that, "YOU'RE ALWAYS A WIENER AT PEDRO'S." (Pedro is the sombrero-and-poncho-clad mascot of the campground.) And so on, for a hundred miles, until you see the big cement sombrero and the South of the Border observation tower rising on the horizon near Dillon, South Carolina. Camping is just \$8 for a tent site, and you have access to two pools, a Jacuzzi, a tanning booth, a shop full of Pedro dolls, and more. Much more. More than you ever dreamed of. Just ask them: 800-845-6011, in South Carolina, 800-922-6064.



SOMEWHERE OVER THE MOONBOW

Cumberland Falls State Park, near Corbin, Kentucky, has mountains, valleys, a white-water river, and a 60-foot-wide, 90-foot-tall waterfall—the only one in the U.S. with a visible "moonbow" during a full moon.

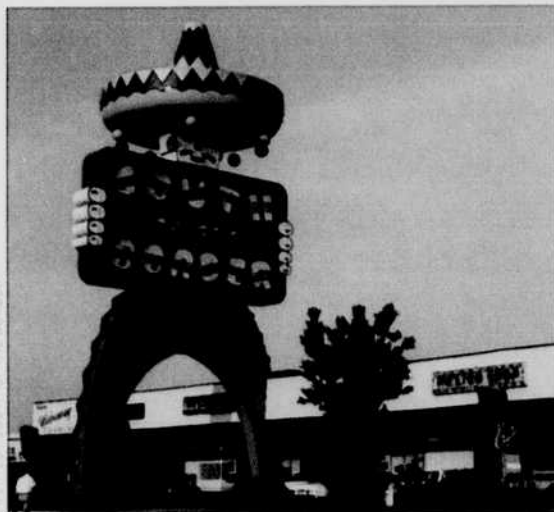


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BEAVER

Rooms at the park's lodge are \$58 (June to September), \$53 (April and May), and \$44 (November to March). Up the holler, a carpeted, air-conditioned cabin with a kitchen and color TV goes for \$62 (June to September) and \$57 (October to May) a night. Call 606-528-4121.



SWAMP THING

The South and swamps—the two go together like biscuits and gravy. And no swamp is more charming than the Okefenokee of southern Georgia. Imagine, after a hard day of slogging through the ooze, you lie back and listen to the evil grunting of feral boars and the quiet *plush* of cottonmouths dropping into the water. Then you entertain yourself by picking off ticks and leeches between swatting mosquitoes and scratching chiggers. In a one-hour swamp trek I once wound up with 23 hungry ticks. It was charming. The only developed camping within Okefenokee is at Stephen Foster State Park (912-637-5274), where sites go for \$8 per night; wimps and Yankees can stay in furnished cabins for \$45 (\$10 more on weekends).



HAVE MOUSSE, WILL TRAVEL

Besides having the highest waterfall east of the Rockies (256 feet), Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park, near Pikeville, Tennessee, offers some of the cushiest camping anywhere. The 71 rooms in the Fall Creek Falls Inn have patios, balconies, and televisions for \$34 to \$49 a night. The park has 10 cabins built on stilts over a lake and another 10 in the woods. All have porches, full kitchens, fireplaces, and color TVs. They each sleep as many as eight people for \$50 to \$63 a night (two-night minimum). You also have access to a pool, tennis courts, and an 18-hole championship golf course. Call 800-421-6683 for park information or 615-881-3241 for reservations.

You can't miss kitschy Pedro, mascot to South of the Border (LEFT). In the Okefenokee Swamp (BELOW), a gator is always nearby for company.

