

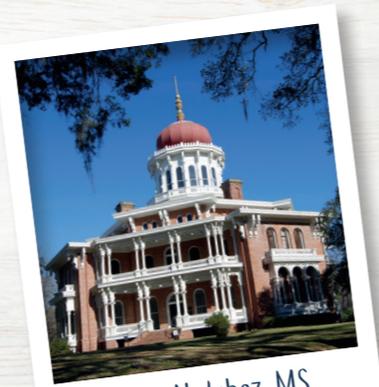


*Holiday
& Travel Guide*



WELCOME TO

Memphis & Mississippi



Longwood, Natchez, MS



Sun Studio, Memphis

Image by Justin Fox Burks

Memphis & Mississippi

The City of Memphis has always had strong connections with its Southern neighbour, Mississippi. This connection, plus a playlist that includes blues, gospel, soul, country and rock 'n' roll, makes Memphis & Mississippi the perfect road trip waiting to happen.

Here, you're only a song away from authentic adventures for music fans, history buffs and aficionados of "Only in America" while down-home cooking, star-studded cuisine and friendly smiles await around every corner.

From the music clubs on Beale Street to the beaches of the Gulf Coast, the sheer variety of Memphis & Mississippi will surprise and enthrall both seasoned and first-time visitors.

In the following pages, we'll take you on a journey from Memphis to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, zigzagging across The Magnolia State like a local.

Like a Local

In each destination covered in this guide we've detailed one highlight to help you gain a local perspective and enjoy a truly authentic Memphis & Mississippi experience.

Travel Advice

There is an extensive road network linking Memphis with the main cities and towns of Mississippi with well-numbered and clearly-marked directional signs. There are also scenic highways and parkways that enable visitors to slow down and relish the refined pace of life in Memphis & Mississippi.

A full valid or EU licence is all that's required to drive in the U.S. Drivers must be 21 or older, or 25+ for some car rental companies.

To enter the U.S. you must have a biometric e-passport valid for at least 90 days from entry and must complete the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA). For more details visit: uk.usembassy.gov.





Memphis

memphistravel.com

f memphistravel

Memphis has big city energy that moves to its own beat. From its music to its cuisine and culture, Memphis is all about authenticity and creativity.

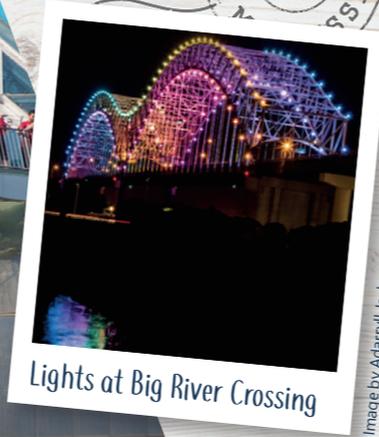


Image by Adairryll Jackson

Lights at Big River Crossing

Memphis Pyramid (image by Allen Gillespie)

Eat some non-traditional barbecue...

Ribs and a pulled pork sandwich should be on your list of things to eat in Memphis, but what about some of its more interesting barbecue dishes? We're talking about barbecue spaghetti, barbecue pizza, barbecue nachos, deep-fried Cornish game hen and even BBQ tofu for the veggie-inclined.

Visit a modern-day pyramid and ride an elevator to the top...

Memphis is named after an ancient Egyptian city which helps to explain the giant glass pyramid on the banks of the Mississippi River. Ride the nation's tallest freestanding lift to the viewing platform for panoramic vistas of downtown Memphis and the mighty Mississippi River.

Dance the night away at the most wonderful nightclub in the world...

Paula & Raiford's Disco in downtown Memphis - known to

locals simply as "Raiford's" - is a legendary nightclub and dance hall that specialises in a unique atmosphere and unforgettable energy.

Let the Beale Street Flippers flip over you...

You can't miss the famous Beale Street Flippers. This troupe of young men dazzles the crowd on Beale by backflipping, front-flipping, handspringing and performing daredevil jumps over groups of volunteers all the way down the street.

Travel back in time at a Time Warp Drive-In movie night...

Not only is the Malco Summer Drive-In Theater one of the few remaining drive-ins in the country, but it also hosts a series of movie nights featuring classic and cult films every month. Here's how it works: show up at the theater and park your car before sundown. When it's dark enough, the movies start and go all night long.

Image by The Peabody, Memphis



Watch ducks march through the Peabody Hotel lobby

Like a Local

Visit the historic Peabody Hotel with its elegantly appointed lobby, cocktail bar and...ducks? Every morning at exactly 11am, the ducks waddle from their rooftop penthouse into the elevator, making their way to the lobby's marble fountain via the red carpet and back up again at 5pm.



March of the Peabody Ducks
149 Union Avenue
Peabody Hotel
Memphis, USA



Entertainment

DISTRICTS

memphistravel.com  memphistravel

Blues, soul, rock 'n' roll—it all started in Memphis—so pay homage to the originals. Of course you'll explore Beale Street, but dive a little deeper into neighbourhood listening rooms, stages under the stars and intimate bars inside historic mansions.



Image by Brand USA

Overton Square

Beale Street
(image by Dustin Williams)

Beale Street
From the moment your foot touches the cobblestones in downtown Memphis, you realise you've officially entered a music mecca unlike any other. Beale Street is alive with blues, jazz, rock 'n' roll, R&B, soul and gospel. Its live music, outdoor concerts, clubs, restaurants and neon give you an authentic look at Memphis and its music. No other local landmark has held such mystique, intrigue, fame and infamy over the years.

Broad Avenue Arts District
Eat, drink, shop or create along Broad Avenue. Browse locally owned shops for art, home accessories, small batch maker goods, bikes, guitars, clothing, farm fresh restaurants and a local brewery with a fantastic outdoor space.

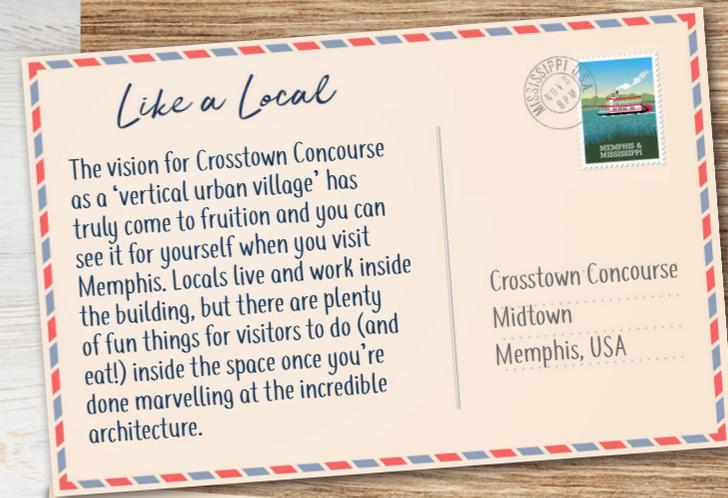
Cooper-Young
Century-old buildings are home to funky stores selling rare vinyl, vintage clothes and antiques. Coffee hangouts are just a walk

away from local restaurants and bars with live music. Dine where Priscilla Presley had her hair styled – The Beauty Shop – complete with retro hairdryers and booths.

Overton Square
Here, it's possible to eat around the world in one block of Overton Square. Share guacamole - made tableside - at Babalu Tapas & Tacos. Cozy up to a steaming bowl of ramen at Robata Ramen and Yakitori Bar or head just down the road to The Bar-B-Q Shop and try a non-traditional dish such as their Bar-B-Q Nachos or Bar-B-Q Spaghetti.

Nearby Overton Park boasts lush green spaces to play, one of the top zoos in the country, free outdoor concerts at the Levitt Shell, a public golf course, and cultural and educational exhibits at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art .

All three districts are 10-15 minutes by car or taxi from downtown.



Like a Local

The vision for Crosstown Concourse as a 'vertical urban village' has truly come to fruition and you can see it for yourself when you visit Memphis. Locals live and work inside the building, but there are plenty of fun things for visitors to do (and eat!) inside the space once you're done marvelling at the incredible architecture.

Crosstown Concourse
Midtown
Memphis, USA



Crosstown Concourse

Image by Holly Whitfield

Rock 'n' Soul

memphisrocknsoul.org



memphisrocknsoul

Rock 'n' Soul Museum

The Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum, developed by the Smithsonian Institution, traces the "History of Memphis Music," while the Memphis Music Hall of Fame celebrates the "Heroes of Memphis Music."



Image by Phillip Parker

Rock 'n' Soul Museum

The Rock 'n' Soul Museum offers a comprehensive Memphis music experience from the rural field hollers and sharecroppers of the 1930s, through the explosion of Sun, Stax and Hi Records and Memphis' musical heyday in the 70s, to its global musical influence.

Its self-guided digital audio tour is packed with over 300 minutes of information researched by the Smithsonian Institution, including more than 100 songs. Visitors can go at their own pace through the ultimate Memphis music pilgrimage, including seven galleries featuring three audio-visual programs, more than 30 instruments, 40 costumes and other musical treasures, such as original sound consoles from legendary Sun Records and Ardent Studios.

The Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum is located at the corner of Third and Beale Street.

Memphis Music Hall of Fame

This interactive museum gives a personal glimpse into the lives and belongings of many of the greatest musicians of all time... Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, B.B. King, Al Green, Justin Timberlake, Big Star, ZZ Top and so many more. This fun, fascinating and educational exhibition features never-before-seen memorabilia with rare video performances and interviews.

Check out Jerry Lee Lewis' Cadillac, see items from Elvis Presley, test your knowledge about Memphis' legendary performers and sing along to famous Memphis music lyrics on our touchscreens.

The Memphis Music Hall of Fame is one block away from Rock 'n' Soul at the corner of Second and Beale Street.

Both museums are open seven days a week. For a few dollars more, experience both museums for one great price!



Memphis Music Hall of Fame

Like a Local

The Memphis Music Hall of Fame pays tribute to those Memphis icons whose contributions to music are still inspiring and influencing people worldwide. Each year MMHOF inducts new artists during a November Induction Ceremony and among the artists who have attended and performed are Keith Richards, Eddie Floyd and Justin Timberlake.

Induction Ceremony
Cannon Center for the Performing Arts
Downtown
Memphis, USA





NATIONAL Civil Rights MUSEUM

civilrightsmuseum.org

 [ncrmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/ncrmuseum)

National Civil Rights Museum

The National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis is located at the former Lorraine Motel, where civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on 4 April, 1968.



Lorraine Motel

The Lorraine was one of only a few hotels to which African-American travellers could enjoy overnight accommodations during the segregated eras leading up to the late 1960s in America.

Although the museum pays tribute and homage to the legacy of Dr. King, it is devoted to the thousands of people who were a part of the entire American Civil Rights Movement from 1619 to the present.

The museum chronicles key episodes of the Movement, examines today's global civil and human rights issues, provokes thoughtful debate and serves as a catalyst for social positive change, while focusing on national remembrance.

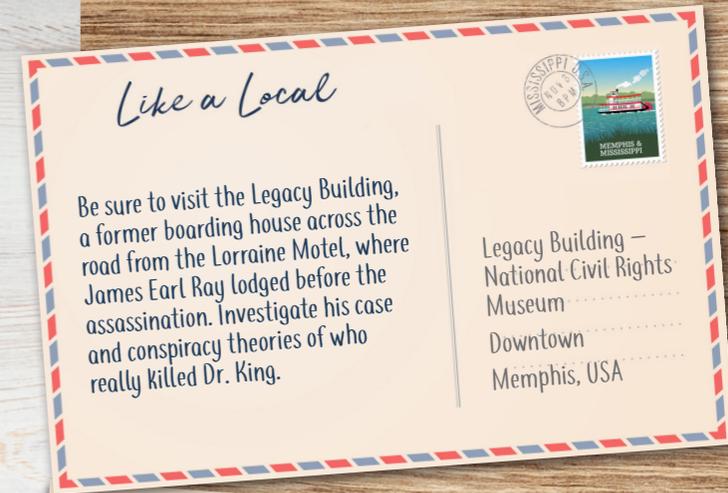
The museum was recently renovated into an immersive, interactive experience with 40+ films, touch screens and listening posts.

Visitors are transported back in time to explore galleries detailing the brutal and barbaric slave trade, the pernicious Jim Crow "separate but equal" laws which institutionalised racial segregation across America for more than 100 years, the legal battles to gain equality in employment and education as well as the sacrifice and bravery of so many activists and citizens.

Step aboard a vintage bus to hear the altercation between a public transit worker in Montgomery and Rosa Parks. Sit at a segregated lunch counter and feel the anger of a white mob.

The '1963 March on Washington' exhibit immerses the visitor into a life-like setting while an audio excerpt plays from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech.

Guests should allow at least three hours for a quality visit and experience.



Like a Local



Be sure to visit the Legacy Building, a former boarding house across the road from the Lorraine Motel, where James Earl Ray lodged before the assassination. Investigate his case and conspiracy theories of who really killed Dr. King.

- Legacy Building – National Civil Rights Museum
- Downtown
- Memphis, USA



Dr King exhibition at the Legacy Building

Image by Andrea Zucker

Stax Museum

staxmuseum.com

f staxmuseum

The Stax Museum of American Soul Music tells the story of Stax Records and other American soul music through videos, vintage musical instruments and interactive exhibits.



Soulsville USA

Thousands of items of memorabilia help explain the phenomenal and complex story of how Stax Records came to launch the careers of icons such as Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, Sam & Dave, Booker T. & the MGs, Rufus and Carla Thomas, Albert King, Eddie Floyd and numerous others.

Located at the original site of Stax Records, your soul odyssey starts with the award-winning short documentary complete with rare footage of the 1967 Stax/Volt European tour and seminal Wattstax concert in Los Angeles.

From the documentary the odyssey continues to an authentic 1906 Mississippi country church which is reconstructed inside the museum with original pews, pulpit, altar table and cornerstone to help tell the story of the African-American church influencing soul music.

Isaac Hayes' gold-trimmed, fur-lined 1972 Cadillac Eldorado, complete with television and refrigerator, is a highlight of the museum and one of the most photographed exhibits. Also on display are original instruments used to create the Stax sound, including the M3 organ Booker T. Jones played on 'Green Onions', while The Hall of Records has some 300 albums and 800 45 singles all recorded at Stax.

You can see Stax Records' founder Jim Stewart's circa-1907 French violin, the same one used to help create the string arrangements on Carla Thomas' 'Gee Whiz'. Don't miss the 'Express Yourself' dance floor complete with disco ball that continuously shows vintage 'Soul Train' television footage.

Look for local performances by the Stax Music Academy and see how the Stax legacy is being preserved by and for a new generation.



Stax Music Academy Performance

Like a Local

The Stax Museum generates income for the non-profit Soulsville Foundation, which also operates the world-renowned Stax Music Academy and The Soulsville Charter School for almost 700 inner-city middle and high school students with a 100% graduation and college acceptance rate.



Stax Music Academy
Soulsville
Memphis, USA

Stax Hall of Records



Experience Elvis Presley's home, Graceland Mansion, and then fully immerse yourself in Elvis' life and career like never before at Elvis Presley's Memphis Entertainment Complex.



Elvis Presley's Memphis

Explore the personal side of Elvis at Graceland Mansion with an interactive iPad tour featuring commentary and stories by Elvis and his daughter, Lisa Marie. The tour of Graceland Mansion includes the living room, kitchen, TV room, pool room, the famous Jungle Room, Trophy Building, Meditation Garden and more.

After the mansion tour, spend time exploring Graceland's new entertainment complex, Elvis Presley's Memphis (EPM), featuring 12 exhibits and attractions showcasing Elvis' life and career, plus themed restaurants and a wonderful collection of shops.

Elvis: The Entertainer Career Museum is the crown jewel of EPM and home to Elvis' jumpsuits, movie memorabilia, gold records and much more. Walk among some of Elvis' favourite automobiles, including his iconic Pink Cadillac, Stutz Blackhawk, Dino Ferrari and Rolls Royce sedans in the Presley Motors Automobile

Museum. Additional exhibits and attractions showcase Elvis' influences, important facets of his life and his role in launching a music and pop culture revolution.

Graceland guests can also climb aboard Elvis' "Lisa Marie" airplane to see how he travelled in luxury.

While in Memphis, stay at The Guest House at Graceland™, the beautiful resort located just steps away from the front gates of Graceland Mansion. The Guest House offers two full-service restaurants, a pool and outdoor space, a theatre plus ballrooms and meeting spaces.

Looking to get married? Nestled in the woods just beyond Graceland is the new Graceland's Chapel in the Woods. The chapel features a grand ceiling and windows throughout to allow the beautiful surrounding woods to be the backdrop for couples to be married or renew their vows.



Like a Local



See the wonderful Christmas lights on display at Graceland from Thanksgiving until Elvis' birthday on January 8th. As Elvis said: "There's something about Christmas and being at Graceland that I just can't explain, maybe it's being with my family and friends."

Christmas Lights
Graceland
Elvis Presley Boulevard
Memphis, USA



Christmas lights at Graceland

Graceland®

graceland.com

f elvispresleysgraceland

Graceland Mansion

© EPE Graceland and its marks are trademarks of EPE. All Rights Reserved. Elvis Presley™ © 2019 ABG EPE IP LLC



Outdoors

memphistravel.com

f memphistravel

Get outdoors in Memphis and experience activities you don't typically find in a city in the South and are available year-round thanks to its great outdoor weather.



Image by Craig Thompson

Cycle Trail in Memphis

Shelby Farms Park (image by Allen Gillespie)

The Harahan Bridge was once a busy corridor for cars and trains crossing the Mississippi River from downtown Memphis to Arkansas. On its 100th birthday, the bridge was transformed into Big River Crossing, a rails-to-trails project that unfurled a path for pedestrians and cyclists. At one mile in length, this is the longest pedestrian bridge across the Mississippi. The views it affords are one-of-a-kind too.

Rent a bike and follow the Green Line or squeeze in some strength work at Riverfit in Tom Lee Park. This series of fitness stations is poised along the river's edge, guaranteeing you'll never do a chin-up with a better view.

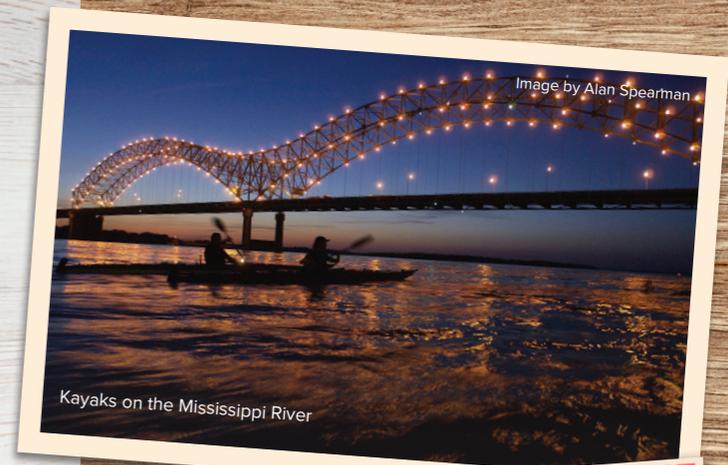
Bass Pro Shops at the Pyramid in Memphis is one of the most dynamic and immersive retail experiences in the world. It's more than a store; it's an adventure! In addition to an incredible assortment of fishing, boating, hunting and outdoor gear, the mega store includes a

103-room hotel with treehouse cabins.

If you're looking to explore your wild side, look no further than The Memphis Zoo. The meandering streams, crisp waterfalls, native plants and tranquil gardens alone are a great reason to visit. Hop on the tram and see everything from exotic animals, the petting zoo, penguins and everything in between.

Head out east to experience Shelby Farms Park. Spanning 4,500 acres, it is one of the largest urban parks in the country. At five times the size of New York City's Central Park, there is a rope climbing course, zip lining, paddle boarding, kayaking plus numerous trails for hiking, running and biking.

More of a sports fan? Watch the Memphis Grizzlies grit and grind on the basketball court, take in a Redbirds baseball game at AutoZone Park, or check out a University of Memphis football game.



Kayaks on the Mississippi River

Image by Alan Spearman



Like a Local

Allen's Kayaking Adventures will prep and outfit you for as much or as little Mississippi River adventure as you want. Want to paddle out just far enough to Instagram a pic of the Memphis skyline? You got it. But Allen's also has you covered if you want to add in a picnic, stay out for half a day or even overnight.

Kayaking along the Mississippi River
Downtown
Memphis, USA





DeSoto COUNTY

visitdesotocounty.com



visitdesotocounty

Landers Center,
Southaven

There's nothing ordinary about the exciting mix of engagements and attractions, food and fun, sports and relaxation you'll enjoy in the five cities that make up DeSoto County, just to the south of Memphis.



The DeSoto County Museum features the history and development of DeSoto County, from 1541 to the present. Artefacts and displays begin with the arrival of Spanish explorer, Hernando de Soto, and his contact with the native inhabitants of Mississippi.

If you haven't dipped your toes in the mighty Mississippi River, you ain't lived! Get your feet wet with a visit to the Hernando DeSoto River Park on the banks of the Mississippi River. There are greenways and trails for hiking. Pack a picnic, watch the river and your cares roll away.

DeSoto County is the cradle of the Mississippi blues. Come hear one of our home-grown blues bands at one of our local watering holes or annual festivals.

Famous for many things, barbecue has put DeSoto on the map. Teams from the area have more than once swept all the top awards at the Memphis

in May World Championship Barbeque Cooking Contest. For a taste of some real world-famous BBQ, grab a seat at Neely's Barbecue in Southaven, Memphis Barbecue in Horn Lake or Corky's Ribs and BBQ in Olive Branch.

Visit the long-time home of rock 'n' roll legend, Jerry Lee Lewis in Nesbit. His home is referred to as 'The Lewis Ranch' and is a popular draw for visitors. The Ranch invites small group tours, which creates an intimate, unrushed experience with a behind-the-scenes look at Jerry Lee's music and his life. Each tour lasts approximately one hour.

DeSoto County has 40+ hotels, seven B&Bs and 350+ restaurants to choose from, and is also the shopping destination for Tanger Outlets Southaven with over 70 stores and Southaven Towne Center, an open-air mall.





Tupelo

tupelo.net

f mytupelo

Statue of Elvis Presley

Located in the foothills of Northeast Mississippi, Tupelo is the epicenter of America's music where in 1935 the world's greatest entertainer was born in a two-room shotgun shack.



Tupelo Hardware Store

Visitors can experience the first part of Elvis Presley's incredible story by visiting the birthplace where he took his first breath, the church where he sang his first song and the Tupelo Hardware Store where he strummed his first guitar. Elvis fans can follow a driving tour or the new self-guided bicycle tour which highlights 13 significant places in Elvis' childhood.

The Tupelo Hardware Store was where Gladys, Elvis' mother, purchased his first guitar and put music in the hands of a boy who grew to become a musical legend. The story goes that Elvis was very upset because Gladys refused to buy him a shotgun for his 11th birthday, so a store employee tried calming him down by handing him a guitar. Elvis then decided upon the guitar! Visitors are welcome during the store's regular hours.

A larger-than-life statue commemorating his 1956 Homecoming concert stands in

Tupelo's Fairpark District, where each June all things Elvis are celebrated during the weeklong annual Tupelo Elvis Festival.

The rhythms of this Southern town that gave rise to the King of Rock 'n' Roll began with the Chickasaw natives who travelled the 444-mile Natchez Trace Parkway over 8,000 years ago. Reaching from Natchez, Mississippi to Nashville, Tennessee, this national scenic byway is headquartered in Tupelo and the music that it connects is as legendary as the views along the winding road.

Tour Tupelo's trails on the Civil Rights and African-American Heritage Trail, Civil War Trail and Chickasaw Native American Trail.

Stroll through picturesque Downtown Tupelo and peruse its many unique shops and art galleries. Enjoy delectable Southern cuisine at one of Tupelo's 160 restaurants and hear great live music in the Birthplace of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.



Johnnie's Drive-In

Like a Local

Johnnie's Drive-In is an All-American diner and one of 13 significant sites in Elvis' formative years in Tupelo marked with bronze plaques along the Elvis Presley Driving Trail. Elvis and his friends enjoyed dining at Johnnie's Drive-In and visitors can still enjoy the food Elvis liked to eat.

Johnnie's Drive-In
East Main Street
Tupelo, MS





Oxford

visitoxfordms.com  visitoxfordms

The Square, Oxford

Oxford is a vibrant city in the hills of North Mississippi known as the home of William Faulkner and the University of Mississippi which is commonly referred to as 'Ole Miss'.



Square Books



The cultural and economic hub of Oxford since the town's founding in 1837, is the historic Courthouse Square. It thrives with businesses such as Neilson's, the oldest continuously operating department store in the South and nationally famous independent bookstore, Square Books.

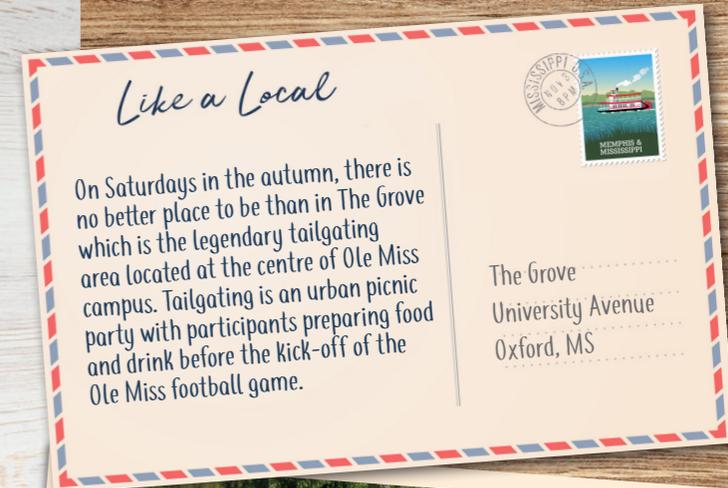
Oxford's thriving nightlife abounds with a variety of local musical offerings. The Lyric Theatre is a premier live music venue and the Thacker Mountain live radio show is broadcast live at Off Square Books on Thursday nights and features music and literature from visiting musicians and authors.

Writers and readers may visit Oxford, but those with a culinary interest will also find Oxford's many eclectic dining options have put it on the map as well. Chef and James Beard winner, John Currence owns four unique eateries that have garnered national attention.

If history is your interest, Oxford and Ole Miss certainly have a story to tell. The University of Mississippi and Oxford played a significant part in the American Civil Rights movement during the integration of Ole Miss. The campus monument and historic marker on the Freedom Trail paint a picture of the events that took place during a challenging and significant time in American history.

William Faulkner grew up in Oxford and studied for a while at Ole Miss before he worked briefly in New York and New Orleans. Except for some trips to Europe and Asia, and a few brief stays in Hollywood as a scriptwriter, he worked on his novels and short stories on his farm in Oxford, Rowan Oak.

At the end of the day, rest easy at one of Oxford's brand-name hotels or cosy up in a bed and breakfast.



Like a Local

On Saturdays in the autumn, there is no better place to be than in The Grove which is the legendary tailgating area located at the centre of Ole Miss campus. Tailgating is an urban picnic party with participants preparing food and drink before the kick-off of the Ole Miss football game.

The Grove
University Avenue
Oxford, MS



Tailgating at The Grove





Tunica

tunicatravel.com

f tunicams

Tunica is the perfect mix of excitement and Southern charm. Seven casino resorts rise above fields of cotton and soybeans. Experience a big win, Blues history and down-home cooking all in one place!



Tunica RiverPark



Tunica is the Gateway to the Blues and the Delta and is a must-see when you cross the Mississippi state line.

Begin your Mississippi Delta tour at the Gateway to the Blues Museum and Visitor Center, located on Blues Highway 61 and housed in an original 1895 train depot. It is the perfect start for your journey into the unique blues music heritage of the Delta. The gift shop offers specialty, Delta blues and Mississippi Delta items and is a one-of-a-kind venue.

The Mississippi Blues Trail starts in Tunica and features six markers on Blues stories like Son House and James Cotton. For live music, experience red-hot headliners in premier casino venues or live music from local bands at a stage bar.

Live it up at one of Tunica's eight world-class casino resorts featuring slots, table games and now Sports Betting. Or tee off at one of two 18-hole golf courses,

Tunica National Golf & Tennis or River Bend Links.

Savour Southern favourites like fried green tomatoes and catfish at the Home of the Fried Dill Pickle, Hollywood Café, made famous in the song 'Walking in Memphis'.

Tunica RiverPark allows visitors a chance to explore and better understand the history of America's Greatest River. Tunica RiverPark includes a large historic museum and interpretive center, complete with aquariums, interactive exhibits and dioramas that reveal the legends of the past. The 168-acre Tunica RiverPark includes nature trails, outdoor exhibits, an observation deck and a veranda offering spectacular views of the Mississippi River.

Downtown Tunica features multiple specialty shops and a look back in history when charm and Southern hospitality were a mainstay.



Like a Local

Enjoy a country-style breakfast at Highway 61's Blue & White Restaurant opened in 1937 inside an old Pure Oil gas station. Taste the legendary "biscuits" or grab a box of donuts for the road. In the kitchen you will find three generations of the same family cooking seventy-year old recipes.

Blue & White
Restaurant
Highway 61
Tunica, MS



Clarksdale

visitclarksdale.com

f visitclarksdale

The Blues Crossroads



Delta Blues Museum



Famous Juke Joints

365 nights of music, over 20 annual festivals, and a museum celebrating Delta blues history make Clarksdale a music and history lover's dream.

Clarksdale's Delta Blues Museum houses exhibits on the musical legacy that bluesmen have left for the world to enjoy. You'll also find the house of famous blues singer-songwriter and "father of blues" Muddy Waters as it stood on Stovall Plantation.

Follow the Mississippi Blues Trail and you'll see markers for influential artists such as John Lee Hooker, Son House and Sam Cooke, as well as The Riverside Hotel where blues singer Bessie Smith died and rock 'n roll pioneer Ike Turner lived.

Blues fans can also visit the 'Crossroads' guitar monument - a fabled spot at Highway 61 and 49 where Delta bluesman Robert Johnson is said to have sold his soul in exchange for his infamous guitar talent.

Playwright Tennessee Williams lived in Clarksdale as a youth and later based characters on the experience. Visit the newly opened Tennessee Williams Rectory Museum or attend the annual festival celebrating him in October.

Consider a Quapaw Canoe Company voyage on the mighty Mississippi River or take a Delta Bohemian or Birdsong tour of historical sites. Clarksdale features a wide array of overnight accommodations - from a three-story Hampton Inn to the one-of-a-kind Shack Up Inn, from luxurious downtown lofts to a budget-friendly downtown hostel.

As the only town in Mississippi with live blues every night of the year, Clarksdale is home to a multitude of venues, including Ground Zero Blues Club, co-owned by actor Morgan Freeman. Other popular music venues include Bluesberry Cafe, Hambone Art & Music, Levon's Bar & Grill, New Roxy and Hopson Commissary.

Like a Local

One of the last authentic Delta juke joints is Red's in Clarksdale. The hole-in-the-wall club is the real deal. It's just a small room, a few tables and a fridge full of beer. Red lights are strung around a low ceiling and live blues is played every weekend. The owner, Big Red, is a local legend and tourist favourite.

MISSISSIPPI
MEMBERS & MISSISSIPPI

Red's Lounge
395 Sunflower Avenue
Clarksdale, MS



Red's Lounge

Image by Lou Bopp



Cleveland

visitclevelandms.com

f clevelandms

GRAMMY® Museum, Mississippi

This hip little town in the Mississippi Delta is home to a charming downtown Main Street area complete with locally owned boutiques, cafes, restaurants, art galleries and museums.



The state-of-the-art GRAMMY® Museum Mississippi covers all genres of music and tells the story of the GRAMMY® and its winning artists through interactive exhibits. There is also a gallery with rotating exhibits that are changed throughout the year.

Downtown Cleveland features a walkable green strip area where visitors can discover local treasures such as the free Martin & Sue King Railroad Heritage Museum which features a large O-Gauge model train layout depicting many sites throughout the Delta.

Often called the Birthplace of the Blues, Dockery Farms sits just five miles east of Cleveland, and tells of a storied past where many blues greats, including Charley Patton, lived and worked. This free experience is a blues 'must' for music and history enthusiasts.

Cleveland and Bolivar County are home to 19 Blues Trail

Markers telling the history and stories of musicians, historic spots, landmarks and more.

Whether it be a meat-and-three soul food lunch at the Country Platter or the Senator's Place, or Mississippi Delta Hot Tamales and Barbecue at Airport Grocery, Cleveland has amazing locally owned family restaurants where you can get the best of Southern eats.

Blind artist Sharon McConnell created plaster masks of blues musicians, many of whom have passed away and the originals can be seen at the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University.

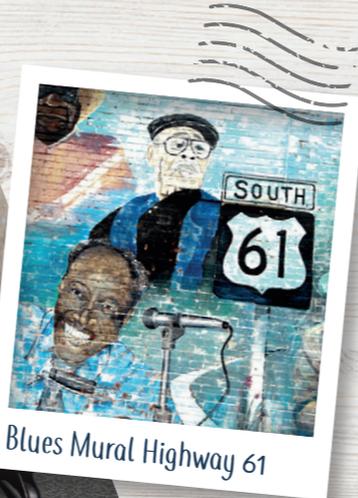
Cleveland is home to live music and entertainment at least five nights a week! Whether it be trivia, the Tuesday Night Pickers that play bluegrass every Tuesday at Grover's Corner, or a live blues or indie rock band, there is lots of entertainment to be found!



NEXT STOP
GREENVILLE
58KM
36M



In Greenville, it's not hard to find a blues festival, a quirky museum or a hot tamale that'll tingle your tastebuds. But dig a little deeper and that's when the real adventure begins.



Greenville

visitgreenville.org

 [visitgreenvillesms](https://www.facebook.com/visitgreenvillesms)

Mighty Mississippi Music Festival

That's how you'll meet the Patriot, a knight in chain mail standing guard in a quiet cemetery, or find out just where that friendly musician singing 'Highway 61 Blues' got his talent. That's how you'll learn that a 'cathead' can refer to folk art or a homemade biscuit and realise that once you open that mojo bag, your good luck just might turn bad.

Hear live music at either of our legendary festivals: the Mighty Mississippi Music Festival or the Mississippi Delta Blues and Heritage Festival.

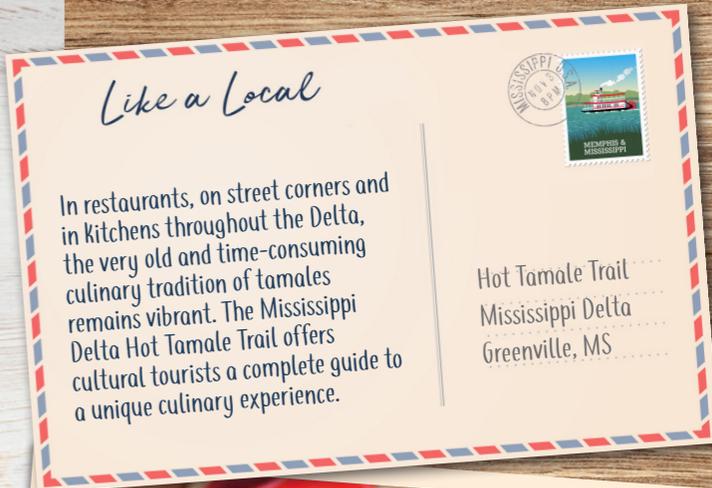
Greenville is home to seven sites on the Mississippi Blues Trail and the Highway 61 Blues Museum is a must-see stop on your blues pilgrimage. Take a stroll down the Greenville Blues Walk or step inside local hot spots on historic Walnut Street for Southern hospitality and entertainment.

Greenville has more museums than anywhere else in the Delta. A stroll along the Delta Museum Mile leads to unique collections

commemorating everything from local history to world-renowned authors, antique fire engines and an epic flood. Here you'll find artifacts from Delta Bluesmen and the world's most famous frog, Kermit. His creator, Jim Henson, was born in Greenville and raised in nearby Stoneville.

Some say tamales made their way to the Mississippi Delta in the early twentieth century from Mexican migrant labourers working the cotton harvest. The African Americans who shared the fields easily recognised the basic tamale ingredients: corn meal and pork. Others maintain that the Delta's history with tamales goes back to the U.S. - Mexican War one hundred years earlier, when U.S. soldiers from Mississippi travelled to Mexico and brought tamale recipes home with them.

Greenville is a historic city with a vibrant community.

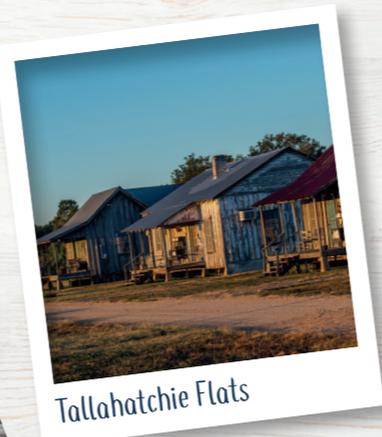




Greenwood

visitgreenwood.com

f travelgreenwoodms



Tallahatchie Flats



The Alluvian Hotel & Spa

Tallahatchie Flats

Greenwood has a rich cultural heritage born in fields of cotton that once stretched as far as the eye could see.

A land noted for warm hospitality and diverse history. A place where a meal can last for hours and the sounds of blues guitars echo all night long.

Greenwood even charmed Hollywood and became the setting for the majority of scenes filmed in the Oscar-winning movie, 'The Help.' Fans can take the self-guided driving tour and see the locations used in the film.

The epicentre of the Civil Rights Movement, Greenwood has several milestone locations integral to the crusade such as Money Road where the brutal murder of teenager Emmett Till shocked the nation in 1955.

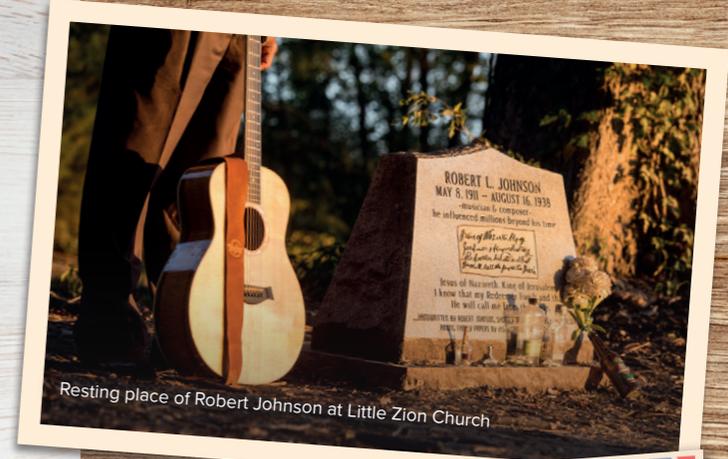
The Museum of the Mississippi Delta, founded in 1969, is at the

crossroads of Delta history and art. The extensive collection includes artefacts related to agriculture, Native America, regional military history and one of the Delta's most extensive collections of regional art.

Visit The Alluvian Hotel & Spa for luxurious, Delta-inspired spa treatments or walk across the street to try your hand at making classic Southern dishes at the Viking Cooking School for a fun culinary experience.

If cooking is not for you, then dine at one of many local restaurants known for award-winning Southern cuisine such as the enduring Lusco's or Giardina's at The Alluvian.

For a true Delta experience, stay in a modestly modernised tenant house at Tallahatchie Flats for a rustic adventure and surround yourself with the serene flat land of the Delta with exquisite sunsets included.



Resting place of Robert Johnson at Little Zion Church

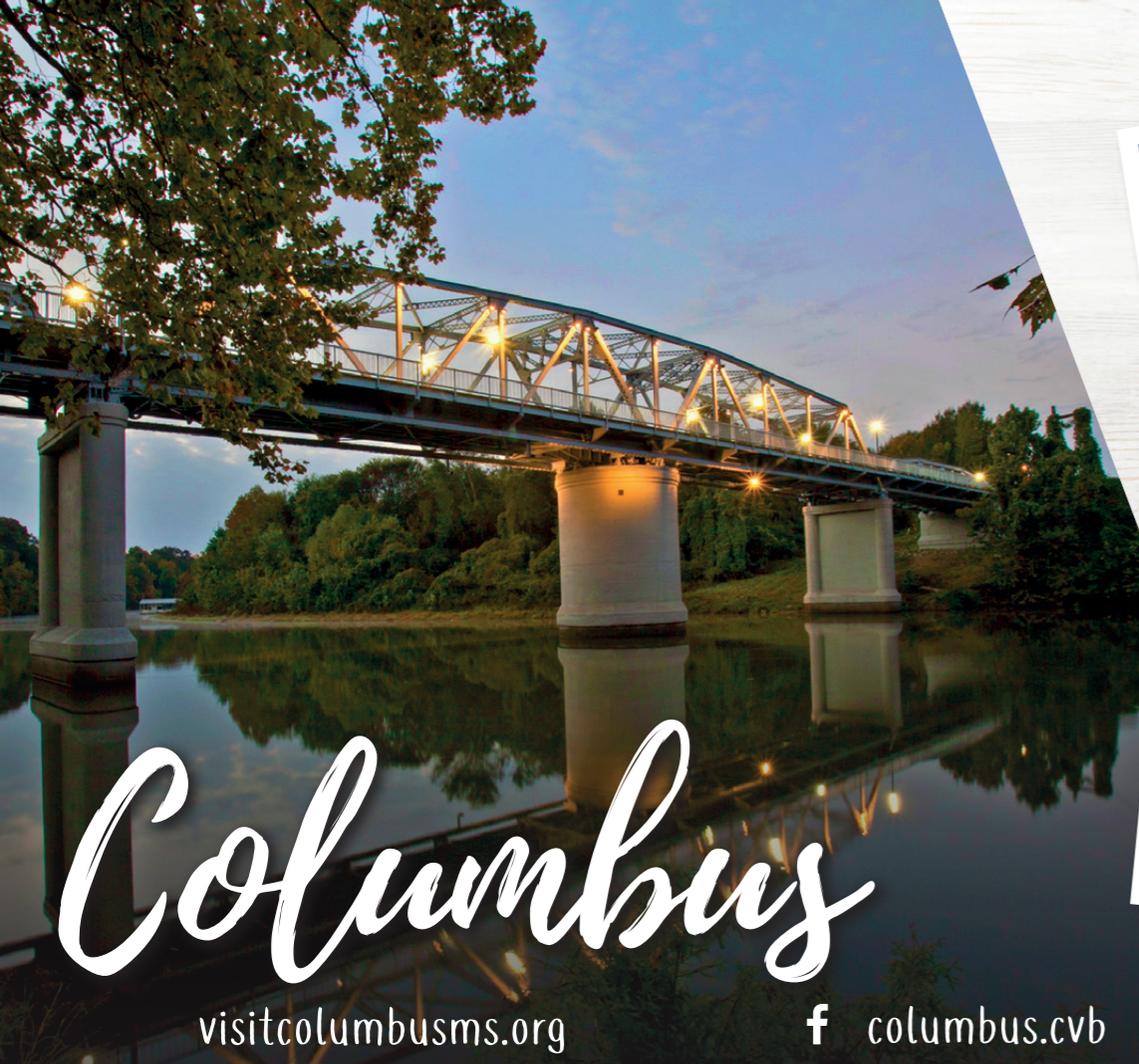


Like a Local

Blues legend claims Robert Johnson sold his soul to the Devil at a Delta crossroads to play the blues like no one else. His talent took him all over the country, but his recordings guaranteed his fame. Johnson spent time in the Baptist Town area of Greenwood just before his career and life ended by poisoning in 1938.

Robert Johnson Grave
Little Zion Church
Greenwood, MS



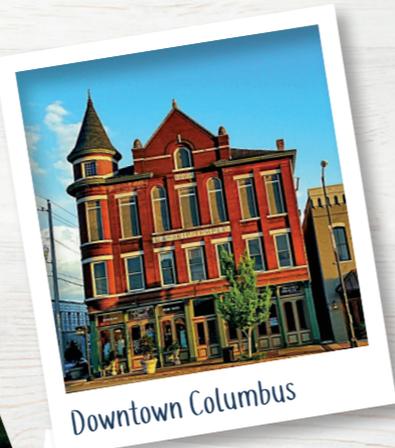


Columbus

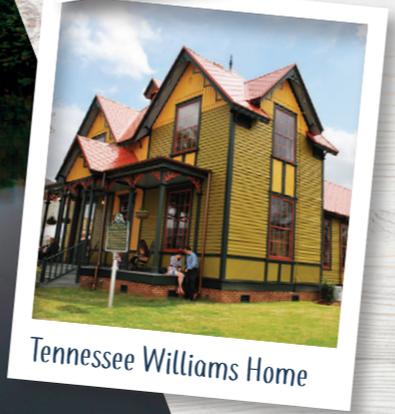
visitcolumbusms.org

f columbus.cvb

Riverwalk Bridge



Downtown Columbus



Tennessee Williams Home

Columbus, with its rich historical heritage, is the perfect destination for anyone who appreciates classic Southern architecture, food and hospitality.

Make your first stop the Tennessee Williams Home & Welcome Center. Here you'll be greeted by one of the friendly and knowledgeable tour guides who are ready to help make the most of your trip. Take the free tour of the first home of legendary playwright Tennessee Williams and enjoy a complimentary cup of gourmet coffee.

No trip to Columbus is complete without touring one of the impeccably preserved historic homes, and there are several of these architectural gems right around the corner. Whether it's the renowned Greek Revival Rosewood Manor and Gardens (c. 1835), the Italianate-style Rosedale (c. 1856) or one of many other stately antebellum

mansions, each offers a one-of-a-kind experience.

If all of the resplendent antebellum mansions have left you wanting a piece (or two) of historic splendour in your own home, plan to stop in one of many treasure-filled antique shops. Magnolia Antique Mall was voted best Antique Mall by Mississippi Magazine and is filled with an exceptional variety of period antiques and unique treasures.

Discover Main Street Columbus, a district made up of specialty shops, restaurants and historic buildings. Or wander the Riverwalk, a picturesque 4.4 mile walking and biking trail beginning at Main Street and winding along the Tombigbee River.

Columbus offers 1,500+ hotel and bed-and-breakfast rooms, 135+ dining choices, 650+ historic places and three National Register Historic Districts.

Columbus is a culinary delight, serving up dining options that range from soul food to sushi, and fine dining to home-style.

Like a Local

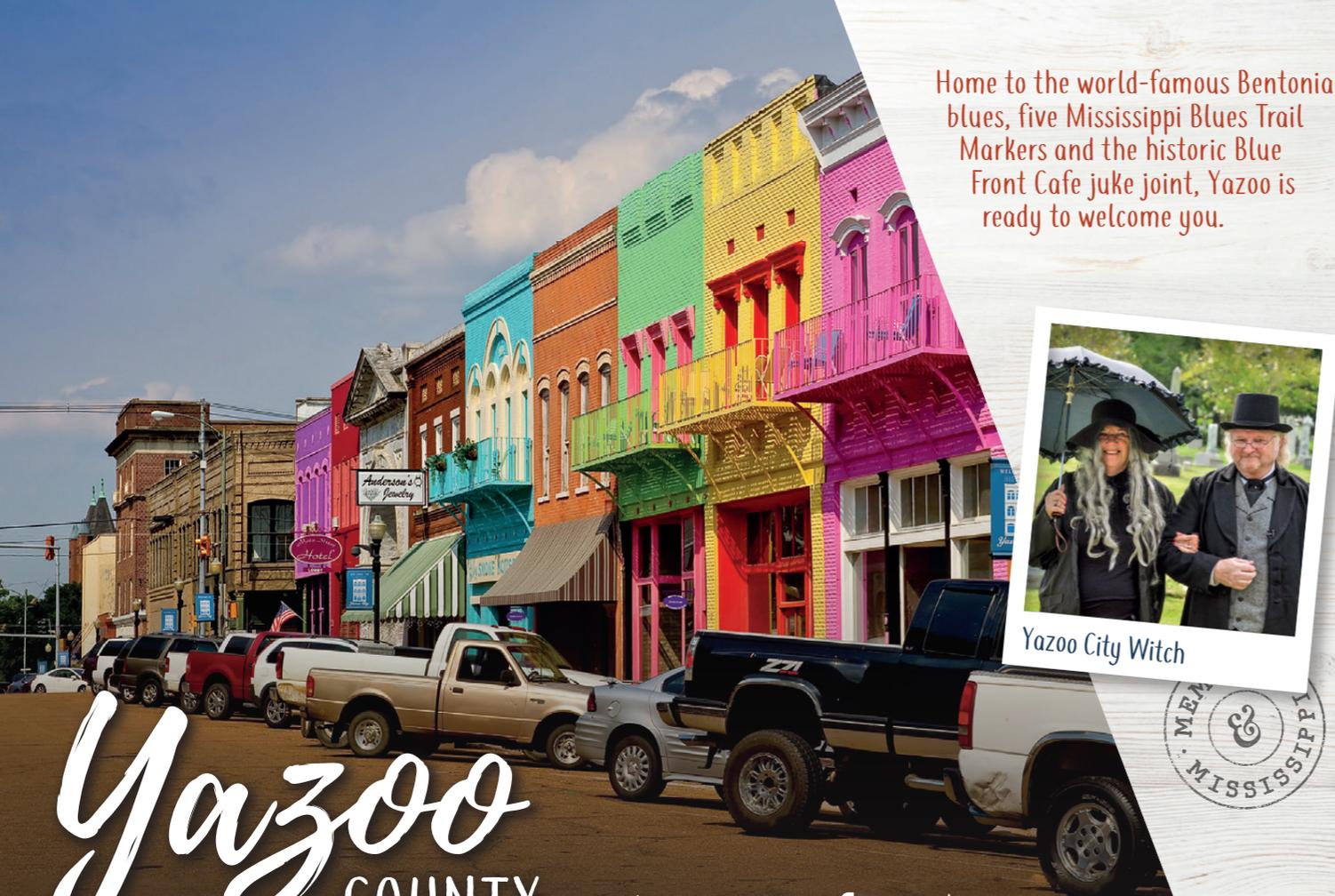
Catfish in the Alley celebrates the city's cultural and culinary heritage with a day of great food and performances by blues artists. The festival is also the kickoff event for the Columbus Spring Pilgrimage, a beloved Southern institution that draws visitors from around the world for a celebration of architecture, history and more.

Catfish in the Alley
Downtown
Columbus, MS



Catfish in the Alley festival





Yazoo COUNTY

visityazoo.org  visityazoo

Yazoo Main Street

Home to the world-famous Bentonia blues, five Mississippi Blues Trail Markers and the historic Blue Front Cafe juke joint, Yazoo is ready to welcome you.



Honouring the Bentonia guitar legacy has been critical for Yazoo County and the Bentonia Blues Festival celebrates the fascinating history of the Bentonia 'school' of blues, defined by haunting minor tunings. The icon of the Bentonia-style blues is Skip James, known for playing the guitar in open E or D minor.

But there's more to Yazoo than the blues. In fact, colourful Main Street in Yazoo City was recently dubbed one of the "most Instagrammable streets" in the US with good reason. Then there's famous literary and political figures, unique art and shopping, family-friendly festivals, Civil War history as well as African-American history and heritage.

Panther Swamp National Wildlife Refuge teaches about conservation efforts, local wildlife and offers many visitor activities. Wolf Lake, known as 'the Delta's Best-Kept Secret', offers a public boat launch and glass-like conditions for water sports.

If a good night's sleep is calling you, Yazoo County offers a mix of chain hotels and unique accommodations such as the Main Street Hotel, Perry Farms and M.J. Cabins at Wolf Lake.

Yazoo City's Glenwood Cemetery, voted the second spookiest cemetery in the US, holds a grave surrounded by chain links known as 'The Witch's Grave'.

According to the legend, an old woman lived on the Yazoo River and was caught torturing fishermen who she lured in off the river. The sheriff is said to have chased her through the swamps, where he found her drowning in quicksand and swearing her revenge on Yazoo City and on the town's people. "In 20 years, I will return and burn this town to the ground!" No one thought much of it at the time. Then came the Fire of 1904, which destroyed over 200 residences and nearly every business in Yazoo City – 324 buildings in total!



Blue Front Cafe



Like a Local

The Blue Front Cafe opened in 1948 by Carey and Mary Holmes, a local African-American couple. In its heyday, it was famed for its buffalo fish, blues and moonshine whiskey. The couple's son took over the cafe in 1970 and it has continued as a down-home blues venue, gaining international fame among blues enthusiasts. It is featured on the Mississippi Blues Trail.

Blue Front Cafe
107 East Railroad Avenue
Bentonia, MS





Jackson

visitjackson.com

f visitjacksonms

Jackson, the City with Soul, lies halfway between Memphis and New Orleans and has been Mississippi's state capital since 1821. From the Civil War to its modern urban renaissance, Jackson's story is uniquely Southern and entirely American.



State Capitol Building

Jackson served as a drum major for many moments in history that had a significant impact on the scope of America. The Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center served as the first public school for African-American students and is now the home of thousands of artefacts. The campus of Tougaloo College has a storied past and is recognised as 'The Cradle of the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi'.

Explore the Farish Street Historical District where you'll find over 100 years of rich African-American heritage. Visit the Alamo Theater and then stop in at Johnny T's (formerly known as the Crystal Palace Ballroom), where the likes of Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong once performed.

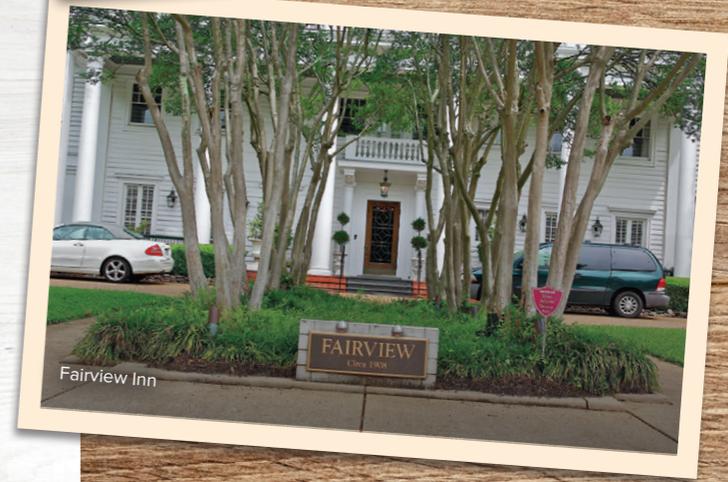
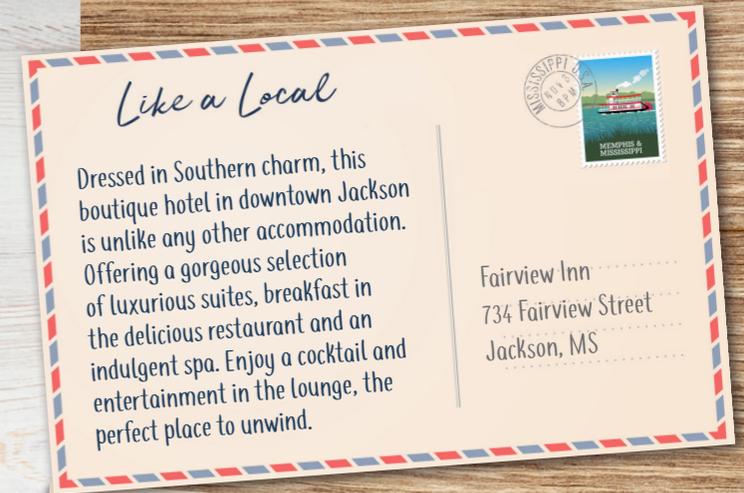
Follow the Civil Rights Driving Tour which features sites such as the Greyhound Bus Station, Freedom Corner, the former home of slain NAACP Field Secretary Medgar Evers, Jackson State University and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum.

Festivals abound all across the city including Cathead Jam and the Mississippi Food & Wine Festival in early summer, Bright Lights - Belhaven Nights in August, and the Historic Farish Street Festival in September. The Mississippi Book Festival ('Literary Lawn Party') is held every August on the grounds of the State Capitol and don't miss the International Gumbo Festival in November.

Catch authentic blues music during 'Blue Monday' at Hal & Mal's and throughout the week in the Historic Farish Street District at F. Jones Corner or Johnny T's Bistro & Blues.

Feed your soul at Jackson's iconic restaurants including the Mayflower Cafe, James Beard award winner - Bully's, Walker's Drive-In and the Big Apple Inn.

Artistic expressions appear throughout the city, with modern architecture in downtown, contemporary art at the Mississippi Museum of Art and the many murals across the city.





TWO MISSISSIPPI Museums

mdah.ms.gov/2MM/

Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

Explore Mississippi's unique and spellbinding history in two new museums in Jackson, highlighting the strength and sacrifices of its people.



The Mississippi Civil Rights Museum promotes a greater understanding of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement and its impact on the state and nation.

Eight interactive galleries offer a variety of fascinating and powerful exhibits.

Explore the essential role of church and family, and learn how black Mississippians emerged from slavery as free citizens and established strong communities - despite oppression by white Mississippians.

See how the experiences of black Mississippians who served in World War II fuelled the Civil Rights Movement. Hear first-hand accounts of veterans who fought for their country and returned to Mississippi motivated to fight for equality.

A central gallery space called 'This Little Light of Mine' features a dramatic sculpture which glows bright as the music of the Movement swells whilst visitors gather.

The Museum of Mississippi History's theme - 'One Mississippi, Many Stories' - runs throughout eight galleries, exploring the many diverse people who contributed to 15,000 years of history from prehistoric times to present day. Explore interactive exhibits, see engaging artefacts and hear stories from people who shaped the state.

Marvel at the skill and craftsmanship of Native Americans evident in carved stone vessels from thousands of years ago. Music fans will be thrilled by the sounds of Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf and Bo Diddley when they step into a recreated Delta juke joint.

Many of the homes and historic sites discussed in the museums still exist today. Journey beyond and explore the places where more than 15,000 years of history happened.



Like a Local

Every third Saturday of the month offers free admission to the two Mississippi museums, but note they are closed on Mondays. The gift shop is a great place to find made-in-Mississippi gifts and memorabilia. Visit the Nissan Cafe by Fresh Cut and enjoy homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, and entrees inspired by traditional Southern cooking.

Two MS Museums
222 North Street
Jackson, MS





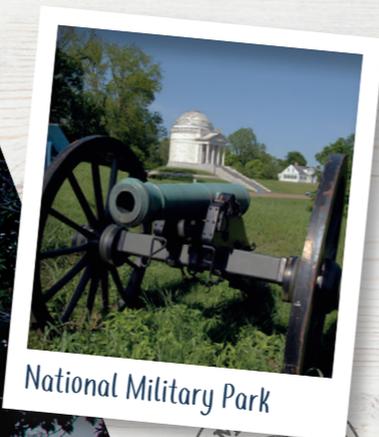
Vicksburg

visitvicksburg.com

f visitvicksburg

Vicksburg's Old Courthouse Museum

Immerse yourself in American history, Mississippi music and Southern charm. Learn about Vicksburg's history in museums, historic homes and the National Military Park.



National Military Park



During the American Civil War Vicksburg was the South's stronghold of control of the Mississippi River. President Abraham Lincoln stated that Vicksburg was the "key to winning the war" and that the war would not end until that 'key' was in his pocket.

The Vicksburg National Military Park stands in commemoration of the 47-day campaign for Vicksburg and to those who served as well as the thousands who lost their lives in battle. Step-on guides, licensed by the National Park Service, are available for tours of the park and of the city.

Nearby is McRaven which is reputedly the most haunted home in Mississippi and one of the most haunted in the South. You can also take a haunted Vicksburg walking tour if you dare!

Stroll the brick-paved streets of historic downtown filled with restaurants, boutiques and art galleries. Listen to the sounds of

authentic Delta Blues and enjoy sweeping views of the mighty Mississippi River.

Downtown Vicksburg has four museums within walking distance. Have a Coca-Cola at the first place it was ever bottled in the world in 1894 at the Biedenbarn Coca-Cola Museum.

When it comes to dining you can't beat the food of the Deep South. Vicksburg offers everything from elegant Southern suppers at an antebellum home to local BBQ and catfish.

Vicksburg has nine bed-and-breakfast inns that are all charming in their own way. Stay in one of these elegant properties, enjoy the tour and a filling Southern breakfast to begin your day of exploration.

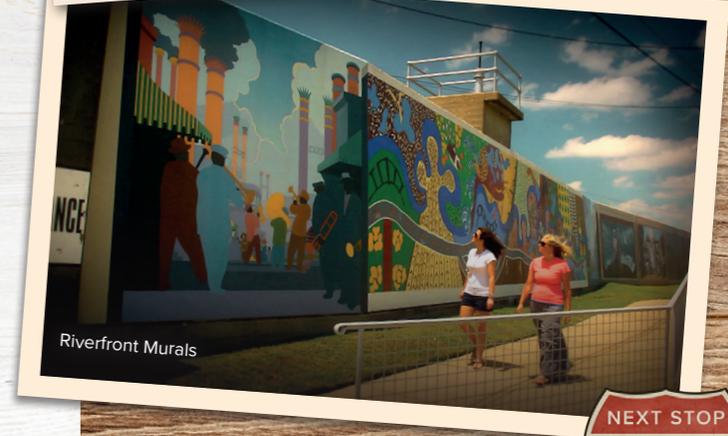
Vicksburg has live music almost every night of the week. Enjoy live blues every Tuesday at LD's Kitchen or on the weekends at local restaurants and casinos.

Like a Local

Robert Dafford's 32 life-like pictorial murals depict periods of history in Vicksburg. Also featured is an abstract mural by Vicksburg artist Martha Ferris, which was the first mural to be painted along the floodwall in 2001. In a lyrical and playful fashion, it recognises three vital arteries feeding Vicksburg's diversity: the river, the railroad and the highway.

MISSISSIPPI
MEMPHIS & MISSISSIPPI

Riverfront Murals
Levee Street
Vicksburg, MS



Riverfront Murals





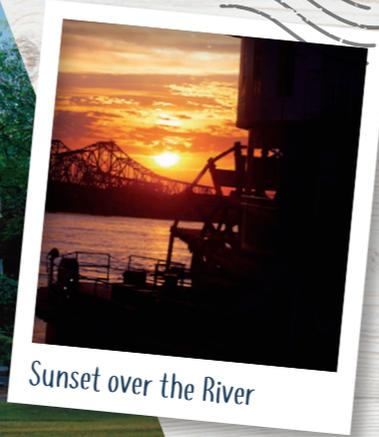
Natchez

visitnatchez.org

f visitnatchez

Rosalie Mansion

A visit to Natchez, the jewel of the Mississippi River, is a 'must' on any Southern road trip as it is the oldest permanent settlement on the Mississippi River and in the 1850's had more millionaires per capita than anywhere else in America.



Sunset over the River

Natchez was originally inhabited by Native Americans known as the Noche, a sophisticated and sun-worshipping tribe who had a flourishing commercial empire. Established first as a French fort overlooking the Mississippi River in 1716, the city was later laid out as a new town by the Spanish in the 1790s. Natchez became part of America with the establishment of the Mississippi Territory in 1798.

Natchez still maintains an antebellum atmosphere, abounding in Greek Revival mansions with immaculately maintained gardens. Many of the historic homes are open daily for tours and additional homes and gardens are opened to visitors during the annual Spring and Autumn Pilgrimages. During the Spring, the tour season lasts for six weeks and the Autumn tour season for two weeks.

Visitors can explore this history along the five Natchez Trails as interpretive panels provide

a view of the city as it was and discover the stories of African-American ancestors at the Natchez Museum of African-American History & Culture and sites like Forks of the Road or the Rhythm Night Club.

Natchez is the namesake for the Natchez Trace Parkway, a 444-mile path from Natchez to Nashville. The Old Trace was first trod by buffalo then American Indians. Today, the Trace is a National Scenic Byway and All-American Road providing a scenic and unhurried route with historic sites, wayside exhibits, picnic areas, biking and camping.

Perched on a natural bluff above the Mississippi River with 30-mile views of the river both north and south, Natchez has some of the best sunsets on Ol' Man River, which are best enjoyed while sipping a beverage in a rocking chair on the porch of one of the bars in Natchez-Under-The-Hill.



Mississippi River Balloon Race

Like a Local

Visit one of the best annual festivals in the state, Natchez's Great Mississippi River Balloon Race! Mirroring the lengthy history of the city, festival grounds are located at Rosalie Mansion's high bluffs above the River. Live, world-class musical entertainment keeps feet moving while hot air balloons drift silently overhead every October.

MISSISSIPPI
MEMPHIS & MISSISSIPPI

MS River Balloon Race
Rosalie Mansion's High Bluffs
Natchez, MS





Gulf Coast

gulfcoast.org

 [visitmscoast](https://www.facebook.com/visitmscoast)



Biloxi Schooner



Gulf Coast Seafood

The Mississippi Gulf Coast's 62 miles of scenic coastline offer an incredible variety of attractions, excursions and activities, from outdoor adventures, such as kayaking, boating, fishing and hiking, to a wide variety of attractions, museums, festivals, world-class gaming and championship golf courses.

Each coastal community across the region has something different to offer; from scenic harbour towns and beautiful, walkable downtown areas shaded with live oaks, to world-renowned shows and casino headliner entertainment.

Enjoy eco-tours of the rivers, marshes and bayous, a sunset Schooner Sail or Riverboat Paddle on the Gulf of Mexico or even a Shrimping Trip excursion to dive deep into the region's fascinating maritime heritage.

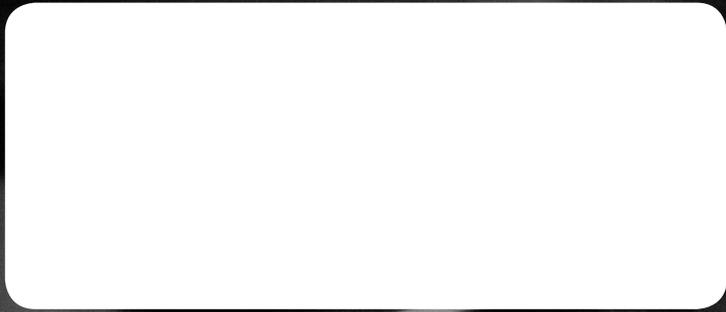
Visit the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, a nationally-rated children's museum, cheer on the Biloxi Shuckers baseball team at MGM Park, or even tour INFINITY Science Center, where you can explore the farthest reaches of outer space, uncharted depths of the oceans and more!

The culinary scene is brimming with an array of offerings, from quaint seafood spots serving the freshest Gulf seafood, to farm-to-table fine dining and fusion cuisine.

There is always something to celebrate on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, with festivals held throughout the year, showcasing the region's crafts, artisan-made items, local delicacies, seafood, talented musicians and much more.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast offers an array of lodging options to cater to any preference, from luxury casino resorts and international hotel brands, to boutique hotels and coastal bed-and-breakfast inns.





memphistravel.com

visitmississippi.org