



Welcome to Nashville



The “Athens of the South”

- In the 1850’s, Nashville was nicknamed the “Athens of the South” as it had several higher education institutions and had established the first public school system in a Southern city.
- By the end of that century, Fisk, Belmont and Vanderbilt University, St. Cecelia Academy, MBA, and Meharry Medical College had all started accepting students.
- This was halted by the Civil War in 1861 that would devastate Nashville until 1865.
- Nashville is home to 14 colleges and universities drawing over 30,000 students from the US and all over the world. Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt are its two medical schools.
- Vanderbilt, Belmont, Lipscomb, Aquinas, and TSU all offer nursing schools and several of those offer Masters degrees in Nursing, however Vanderbilt is the only program that offers Nurse Practitioner degrees in over a dozen specialties.

“MUSIC CITY USA”

- Nashville is home to Country Music but embraces all forms from Christian and Blue Grass to Rock and Roll and Jazz. Nashville is a major recording and producing center with most of those offices located in the Music Row area.
- As a result, many musicians have called and do call Nashville home, from Elvis, the Everly Brothers, Kings of Leon, Bon Jovi, Bella Fleck, Jimmy Buffet and Amy Grant. And, yes, Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban, Taylor Swift, Miley Cyrus, Sheryl Crow, Kesha and Jack White.
- You can visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Grand Ole Opry or catch the Symphony at the Schermerhorn Center....a list of more venues to follow.



Outdoors in Nashville



Nashville has a large urban parks and greenway system through out the city. Many festivals with Art, Music and Food are held in these parks especially Centennial Park located across from Vanderbilt off of West End Ave. Shakespeare in the Park is offered there every Thursday through Saturday evening in the fall season.

*Multiple State Parks are located outside Nashville and offer everything from camping and rope courses to water recreation and historic battlefields.

Percy Priest Lake is popular for its beach access and Radnor Lake is beautiful 90 acre lake with hiking trails near urban Nashville.

The Natchez Trace Parkway is an historic drive and ride for biking enthusiasts.

Nashville Landmarks and Treasures

- The Ryman Auditorium (formerly the Grand Ole Opry) still hosts some of the best musical guests and concerts from every musical genre.
- The Grand Ole Opry and the Opryland Hotel bring out the new country music stars as well as the “oldie but goodies.” The Hotel is fun to tour with guests as it offers indoor gardens, gondola tours, waterfalls, restaurants, and shops. It is especially fun to visit for the Christmas lights.
- Several plantations such as the Hermitage and Belle Meade plantations offer tours, wine tastings and good food surrounded by history.*
- Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art is always beautiful and also hosts amazing landscape design and art from local and international artists.*

Nashville Landmarks and Treasures

continued....

- The Frist Center for the Visual Arts, located in an historic U.S. Post Office Building, presents exhibits of the world's greatest art and has a great kid's creative center (great place to take family members).*
- The historic Belcourt Theatre in Hillsboro Village features independent films as well as live performances.
- The Parthenon at Centennial Park (built to reinforce the "Athens of the South" nickname) is a full scale replica of the original Parthenon and houses a large statue of Athena as well as an art museum underneath the building.

Nashville Diners, Dives and other Eateries





Nashville's Diners, Dives and other Eateries

- Rotier's Restaurant: meat and three as well as burger/sandwich joint on Elliston Place.
- Brown's Diner: restaurant in a trailer on Blair Blvd known for their "Best Cheeseburger".
- Loveless Café: know for breakfast items. Can buy items at their store. Barn hosts musical and other events.
- Bobby's Dairy Dip: Ice cream shop with food options on Charlotte Ave.

Diners, Dives and Eateries cont.

- Prince's Hot Chicken Shack: one of the originators of fiery fried chicken.
- Thai Phooket: Excellent Thai food out of a trailer in East Nashville.
- Woodlands Indian Vegetarian Cuisine: self explanatory restaurant at the bottom of a condo complex on West End Ave.
- International Market and Restaurant: Thai/Asian fusion restaurant with store option at Belmont University.



Restaurant Neighborhood Clusters

- Hillsboro Village/
21st Ave.
- Sylvan Park/
McCabe
- 12 South
- East Nashville/5
Points
- The Gulch
- Germantown
- Downtown
- Green Hills
- Berry Hill



EAT OUT FOR LESS IN NASHVILLE

- www.nashvilleoriginals.com – association of locally owned and operated restaurants that offers Restaurant week twice a year with special deals of multiple courses at each restaurant. If you subscribe to their mailing list, you have the opportunity to buy discounted gift certificates twice a year.
- Nashville Groupons- local and chain restaurants will offer deeply discounted coupon/vouchers to their restaurants.
- The Farmer's Market and Food Trucks

The Music Scene: where to go and how to find out about it!

- www.nashvillescene.com : Offers “Best of Nashville” information as well as Calendars of upcoming concerts and shows.
- www.nowplayingnashville.com: Community initiated site of events and concerts in middle TN.
- Belmont, Lipscomb, and Vanderbilt student event calendars for local and international artist concerts.
- Local Venue web sites....

Local Music Venues

- The Station Inn
- Ryman Auditorium
- 12th and Porter
- The Exit/In
- TPAC
- Grand Ole Opry
- The End
- Rocketown
- Bridgestone Arena
- The Bluebird Café
- Mercy Lounge
- 3rd and Lindsley
- Cannery Ballroom
- Riverfront Park

STUDENT DISCOUNTS AND TIPS

- <https://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/vsg/projects-and-initiatives/dorebusters> : list of places, stores, and restaurants you can use your Vandy ID to get discounts.*
- Thrift shopping in Nashville: everyday 10% off and every 1st Saturday of the month is 1/2 off day with Student ID.
- Get your movie tickets at the VUH gift shop at a good discount.
- First Saturday Art Crawls are the best in Nashville and Franklin with free food & beverages, music and art genre displays (a free shuttle circulates the route).
- Nashville Symphony season passes for \$25 to Vanderbilt students as well as free concerts throughout the year.
- Get free bike rentals on the Greenways throughout the City with the “Nashville GreenBikes” program.

STUDENT DISCOUNTS AND TIPS CONT.

- Rent outdoor equipment for cheap from the Vanderbilt Outdoor Rec Rentals
- All Vanderbilt students and employees ride the public buses for free with ID.
- Great free spots to see the city include Love Circle and the Pedestrian bridge – parking is free on the LP field side of the bridge with access to Broadway and the honky tonks.
- East Nashville has free movie night on Sundays throughout the Summer.
- Vandy ID can get you discount seats at multiple sporting events at the professional and college level.

More places to take family members/friends when they visit and want a taste of Nashville...

- The Honky Tonks and stores on Broadway/2nd Ave. (the Wild Horse Saloon offers free line dancing lessons weekend evenings).
- NashTrash tours offer views of the city and some hilarious informative dialogue (not for sensitive souls).
- Full Moon Pickin Parties at Percy Warner Park Equestrian Center every full moon from May to October features bluegrass and roots musicians.*
- Sports enthusiasts can enjoy professional (Titans and Predators) as well as semi-pro teams (Nashville Sounds and Nashville Atlas) and college team sports.
- General Jackson Showboat offers food and talented musician/singer and entertainment shows with a nightline view of downtown before returning to dock.

More options to take family to in Nashville...

- Shopping in Nashville is focused in Downtown and Green Hills Mall areas.
- Cool Springs Galleria has many shopping and eating options with a large mall and nearby downtown Franklin is popular for original shops and restaurants.
- Opry Mills Mall by the the Opryland Hotel and Grand Ole Opry is the only discount mall in the area. Also is a free place to park when visiting the Hotel and Opry.

Last but not least....

“Free Cone Day” at Ben and Jerry’s once a year located down the street from the Nursing School!

