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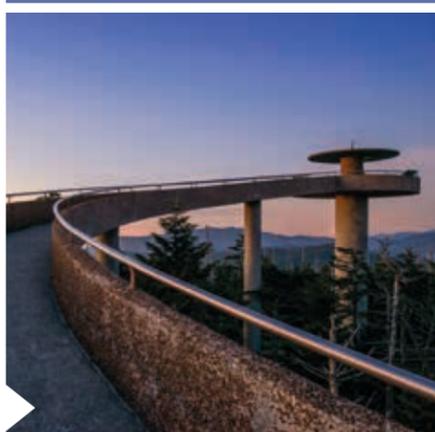


## 32 STAYCATIONS

## 18 LIBATIONS



## 28 CULTURE



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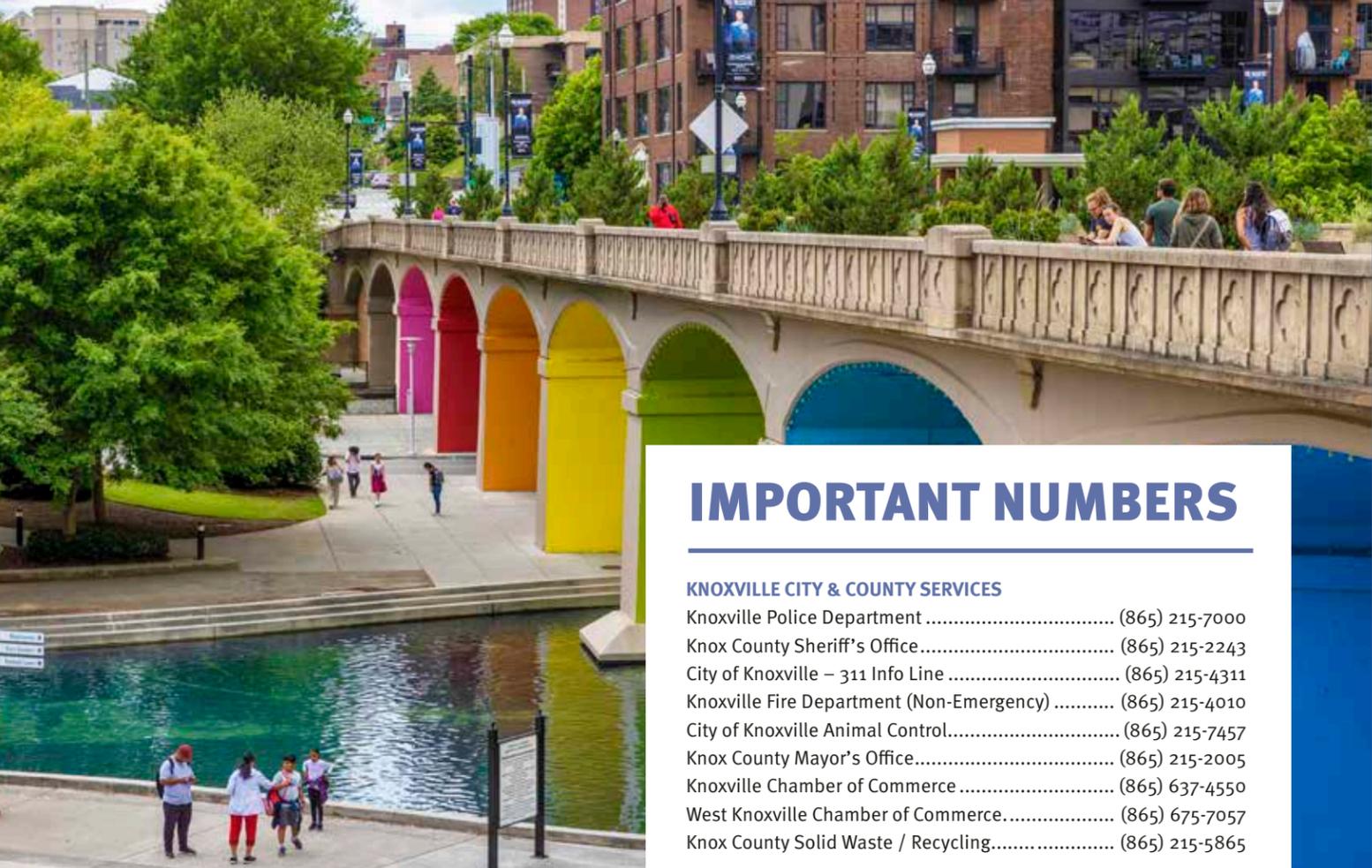
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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### KNOXVILLE CITY & COUNTY SERVICES

Knoxville Police Department .....	(865) 215-7000
Knox County Sheriff's Office.....	(865) 215-2243
City of Knoxville – 311 Info Line .....	(865) 215-4311
Knoxville Fire Department (Non-Emergency) .....	(865) 215-4010
City of Knoxville Animal Control.....	(865) 215-7457
Knox County Mayor's Office.....	(865) 215-2005
Knoxville Chamber of Commerce .....	(865) 637-4550
West Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.....	(865) 675-7057
Knox County Solid Waste / Recycling.....	(865) 215-5865

### UTILITIES & SERVICES

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Knox Chapman Utility District.....	(865) 577-4497
LCUB (Lenoir City Utilities Board – Farragut) .....	(844) 687-5282
TDS Telecom (Hardin Valley / Karns).....	(866) 571-6662
Xfinity / Comcast (TV, Internet, Phone)..	(800) 934-6489
AT&T (Fiber, Wireless, TV, Internet) .....	(800) 288-2020
Waste Connections of TN (Garbage).....	(865) 522-8161

### EMERGENCY & HOTLINES

Emergency. ....	911
Knoxville 311 Non-Emergency Info Line.....	(865) 215-4311
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.....	988
Mobile Crisis Unit (24/7 Mental Health).....	(865) 539-2409
Poison Control.....	(800) 222-1222
Domestic Violence Hotline.....	(800) 799-7233
Veterans Crisis Line .....	(800) 273-8255
Contact Care Line (TN Crisis Support) .....	(865) 584-4424

### LOCAL HOSPITALS & CLINICS

UT Medical Center. ....	(865) 305-9000
Parkwest Medical Center..	(865) 373-1000
Fort Sanders Regional.....	(865) 331-1111
Tennova North Knoxville Medical Center.....	(865) 859-8000
Children's Hospital.....	(865) 541-8000
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WELCOME TO

# K-TOWN!



**HI THERE, NEIGHBOR!** When I first moved to Knoxville, I didn't know anyone. I came here for work, thinking it would be a temporary stop or just another chapter. But this city had other plans. Somewhere between discovering the hidden gems around town, meeting kind-hearted people, and learning how to properly say "y'all" without overthinking it—I fell in love with this place.

What I didn't expect was how quickly Knoxville would feel like home. It wasn't just the beautiful mountain views or the cozy neighborhoods tucked between rolling hills. It was the people. It was the genuine kindness of strangers who became friends, the local business owners who remembered my name, and the way this city wraps you up in its charm and says, "Hey, you're one of us now."

That's the spirit behind *BeLocal Knoxville*. This isn't just a magazine—it's a welcome mat. It's your inside guide to finding the best coffee, local eats, fun family spots, date nights, and everything in between. Whether you're exploring the parks, supporting small businesses, or just trying to figure out where to grab a great taco on a Tuesday, we've got you covered.

I created this guide with new movers in mind, but even long-time residents tell me they discover something new in every issue. That's the magic of Knoxville—it always has something up its sleeve.

So whether you're here for a new job, a fresh start, or just happened to land in East Tennessee by way of the universe, I'm glad you're here. Truly. And if you ever want to share a favorite spot, collaborate, or just need a recommendation, reach out. My door's open (metaphorically—but seriously, my contact info's up front!).

Welcome home,

**TIFFANY DAVIS**  
Publisher, *BeLocal of Knoxville*



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# FROM **SCRUFFY** TO SPECTACULAR

IN 1982, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE DID SOMETHING FEW EXPECTED: IT WELCOMED THE WORLD.

OVER THE COURSE OF SIX MONTHS, MORE THAN 11 MILLION PEOPLE WALKED THROUGH THE GATES OF THE **WORLD'S FAIR**, EXPLORING INNOVATIONS IN ENERGY, CULTURE, AND DESIGN. FOR A CITY NOT KNOWN FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS, IT WAS A BOLD MOVE—AND A WILDLY SUCCESSFUL ONE.

BUT LONG BEFORE THE FIRST PAVILION OPENED, KNOXVILLE HAD ALREADY MADE HEADLINES. A NATIONAL COLUMNIST SCOFFED AT THE CITY'S SELECTION, CALLING IT "A SCRUFFY LITTLE CITY ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER." INSTEAD OF RETREATING, KNOXVILLE EMBRACED THE LABEL. "SCRUFFY CITY" STUCK—AND SO DID THE SPIRIT BEHIND IT.

TODAY, MANY KNOW IT SIMPLY AS **K-TOWN**: A PLACE SHAPED NOT JUST BY WHAT HAPPENED IN 1982, BUT BY HOW IT RESPONDED.

## TIMELINE: A FAIR TO REMEMBER

### 1975-76

Knoxville submits its bid to host the fair

### 1980

Approval granted; planning begins

### 1982

Fair opens May 1, draws over 11 million visitors

### Post-Fair

Grounds sit underused; Sunsphere closes

### 2000s

Redevelopment turns area into public park

### Today

World's Fair Park is a cultural and civic hub in downtown K-Town and the Sunsphere is open to the public

## THE LEGACY OF KNOXVILLE'S 1982 WORLD'S FAIR

### THE FAIR THAT PUT US ON THE MAP

The theme was *Energy Turns the World*, and the fair delivered on that promise. More than 20 nations took part, showcasing how energy shaped their economies and futures. Technology exhibits wowed visitors. Cultural displays brought the globe to East Tennessee.

At the center stood the **Sunsphere**, a futuristic tower topped with a shimmering gold globe. Built as a symbol of innovation, it quickly became Knoxville's most recognizable landmark.

### THE QUIET YEARS

After the fair ended, not everything went smoothly. Pavilions were dismantled. The Sunsphere closed. For a while, the site felt more like a memory than a movement.

But Knoxville wasn't done. Over time, visionaries and city leaders brought the grounds back to life.

### REBIRTH IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

Today, **World's Fair Park** is a space for everyone. Fountains splash. Music plays. Families gather on the lawns. And the Sunsphere? It's open again, offering panoramic views of the city that once proved the world wrong.

What started as a gamble became a turning point. The fair gave Knoxville more than just a moment—it gave it a voice.

### SCRUFFY, STRONG, AND STILL STANDING

Knoxville didn't erase the "scruffy" label. It redefined it. What was once a dig is now a declaration: scruffy means scrappy, resilient, proud. It means showing up when no one expects you to.

That's the legacy of the 1982 World's Fair. Not just the structures that remain—but the spirit that endures in every corner of **K-Town**.



▲ Archived photos provided by:  
[cmdc.knoxlib.org/digital/collection/p16311coll4](https://cmdc.knoxlib.org/digital/collection/p16311coll4)

## LOCAL TIP



PetSafe Downtown Dog Park: If you heading down town to check out Market Square or the University of Tennessee with your dog check out PetSafe Dog Park. This park offers a fully fenced-in area with separate areas for large and small dogs. Address: 200 S Central St  
- Dr Dalton Cousin

# coffee gems

## Knoxville's Best Coffee

By Season Bowers

Whether you're after a strong pour to kickstart your morning or a cozy corner to unwind or get some work done, Knoxville's local coffee scene is full of flavor and charm. These small-batch brewers and creative cafés offer everything from nitro cold brews to decadent pastries — and plenty of personality along the way.



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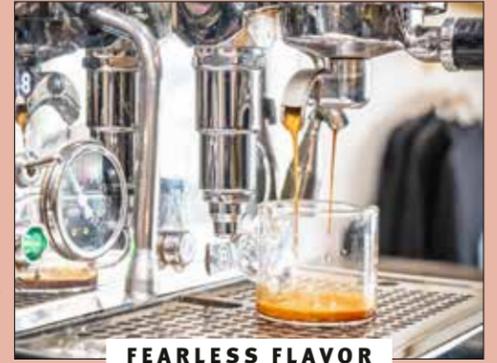
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**FEARLESS FLAVOR**

### Intrepid Nitro Named Best Coffee Shop in Tennessee

Knoxville favorite celebrates statewide recognition, a growing coffee community, and a new home in Hardin Valley. Knoxville has a lot to celebrate when it comes to coffee, and at the top of that list is **Intrepid Nitro Coffee & Tea Bar**, recently named **Best Coffee Shop in Tennessee by Guide to Tennessee**. The win marks another milestone for the local favorite, which also claimed the title of Best Specialty Coffee Shop in Knoxville two years in a row through Community Votes. Not bad for a shop that's only been open for two and a half years.

"When we found out we were nominated for Best Coffee Shop in Tennessee, we were honestly shocked," says owner Season Bowers. "We didn't even know how we were nominated! We shared the news one time on social media, and our amazing community showed up in a big way. We're so humbled and grateful."

The Guide to Tennessee award came after Intrepid was nominated alongside a dozen other standout coffee shops across the state — including two fellow Knoxville cafés, **Capybara Coffee** and **Mia Piccola Café**.

But if you ask Season and her husband, Kris, this honor is a celebration of Knoxville and the coffee community at large. "The word Intrepid means fearless — and that's exactly how we approach everything we do," says Kris. "We took a bold leap to create something different — a craft brewery for coffee and tea — and Knoxville embraced it from day one. This award isn't just a win for us; it's a win for a city that celebrates creativity, courage, and community."

For those who can't get enough of the Intrepid experience, the shop offers a monthly in-store subscription — a one-of-a-kind program that lets guests enjoy one drink every day for a flat monthly rate. With three tiers (\$39, \$79, and \$99), subscribers save up to 70% while enjoying a daily dose of coffee or tea and a welcoming "third space" to call their own. It's the perfect option for regulars who love the craft, community, and comfort of Intrepid.

#### A Coffee Community Worth Celebrating

While the awards are exciting, the Bowers are quick to emphasize that Knoxville's coffee scene as a whole deserves recognition. "This city is packed with passionate coffee people doing amazing work," says Season. "We're honored to be part of that story."

From cozy neighborhood cafés to innovative roasters, Knoxville's coffee community thrives on collaboration and creativity — and there's no shortage of great shops to be found.

Follow @intrepid\_nitro on social media or visit [www.intrepidnitro.com](http://www.intrepidnitro.com) for updates and the latest menu.

- ▶ **Likewise Coffee** ▶ 1209 E Magnolia Ave ▶ Home to Intrepid's custom espresso roast, Likewise is known for its warm community feel, locally roasted beans, and commitment to making good coffee that does good.
- ▶ **Cultivate Coffee & Flowers** ▶ 5221 N Broadway St. ▶ A stunning space blending coffee and blooms, known for its lattes and fresh, inviting atmosphere.
- ▶ **Primo Passo Coffee Co.** ▶ 2099 Thunderhead Rd ▶ Beloved for its meticulous espresso and minimalist vibe, this café puts craft and consistency front and center.
- ▶ **Capybara Coffee** ▶ 2457 University Commons Way ▶ A longtime Knoxville favorite with a loyal following, Capybara is known for creative seasonal drinks and community-centered hospitality.
- ▶ **Velocity Coffee and Roastery** ▶ 7107 Clinton Hwy, Powell ▶ A new space in Powell bringing quality roasting and bold flavors with speed to fuel your day.
- ▶ **The Empty Cup** ▶ 911 Executive Park Dr ▶ A nonprofit café that serves both coffee and community by creating space for connection and purpose.

**LOCAL TIP**



Moving to a new area? Connect with a local travel advisor! Not only can they help you explore nearby gems and weekend getaways, but they also take the stress out of planning your first vacation from your new home. Personalized help, no extra cost! - **Kathy Jenks**

# k-town bites

**FROM SUNRISE TO LAST BITE—KNOXVILLE'S BEST IN LOCAL BREAKFAST, BRUNCH, LUNCH, DESSERT, AND DINNER.**

**BRUNCH**

- ▶ **Balter Beerworks** ▶ 100 Broadway SW ▶ Brunch tacos, beer biscuits & gravy, fresh-squeezed mimosas
- ▶ **Farmacy** ▶ 5018 Kingston Pike ▶ Chicken biscuit stack, peach French toast, bloody mary flights
- ▶ **Cafe 4** ▶ 4 Market Square ▶ Shrimp & grits, chicken & waffles, pimento cheese omelet
- ▶ **The Plaid Apron** ▶ 1210 Kenesaw Ave ▶ Smoked salmon toast, lemon ricotta pancakes, seasonal quiche

**LUNCH**

- ▶ **Litton's Market, Restaurant & Bakery** ▶ 2803 Essary Dr ▶ Bacon cheeseburgers, onion rings, red velvet cake
- ▶ **Yassin's Falafel House** ▶ 706 Walnut St ▶ Chicken shawarma wrap, falafel platter, hummus & pita
- ▶ **The Burgers – Fountain City** ▶ 1420 Emory Rd ▶ Classic smash burgers, fried pickles, grilled chicken club
- ▶ **Sticky Rice Cafe** ▶ 100 Jack Dance St ▶ Lao sausage, drunken noodles, papaya salad

**BREAKFAST**

- ▶ **Nick & J's Cafe** ▶ 1526 Lovell Rd ▶ Country fried steak & eggs, biscuit & gravy, cinnamon roll pancakes
- ▶ **Pete's Coffee Shop** ▶ 540 Union Ave ▶ Two-egg breakfast, sausage patties, blueberry pancakes
- ▶ **Sami's Cafe** ▶ 9700 Kingston Pike ▶ Ham & cheese omelets, banana nut pancakes, home fries
- ▶ **Scrambled Jake's Breakfast Company** ▶ 7428 S Northshore Dr ▶ Crab cake benedict, lemon ricotta pancakes, mimosa flight



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**DINNER**

- ▶ **Not Watson's Kitchen + Bar** ▶ 15 Market Square ▶ Chicken and waffles, bison meat-loaf, pimento cheeseburger
- ▶ **Harvest Land Sea & Vine** ▶ 5200 Kingston Pike ▶ Grilled lamb chops, seasonal veggie plates, deviled eggs
- ▶ **Southern Grit** ▶ 126 S Central St ▶ Low country shrimp & grits, catfish plate, smoked wings
- ▶ **Dead End BBQ** ▶ 3621 Sutherland Ave ▶ Burnt ends platter, pork shoulder sandwich, banana pudding
- ▶ **Emma's Southern Kitchen** ▶ 3701 Sutherland Ave ▶ Smothered pork chops, fried green tomatoes, baked mac & cheese
- ▶ **Parkside Grill** ▶ 338 N Peters Rd ▶ Prime rib, chicken piccata, fire-grilled salmon

**DESSERT**

- ▶ **Cruze Farm Ice Cream** *Multiple Locations* ▶ Swirled soft serve, brownie sundaes, buttercup milkshakes
- ▶ **Buttermilk Sky Pie Shop** *Multiple Locations* ▶ Mini pies: apple, coconut cream, key lime
- ▶ **Artisan Cakery** ▶ 5803 Kingston Pike ▶ Signature cupcakes, strawberry shortcake, lemon bars
- ▶ **Schokolad Chocolate Factory** ▶ 10944 Parkside Dr ▶ Handcrafted truffles, chocolate-covered strawberries, molded gift pieces



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# raise your glass

**KNOXVILLE'S  
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CRAFT BREWS,  
COCKTAILS & WINE**

By Tiffany Davis  
Photography by Smitty Photo & Film

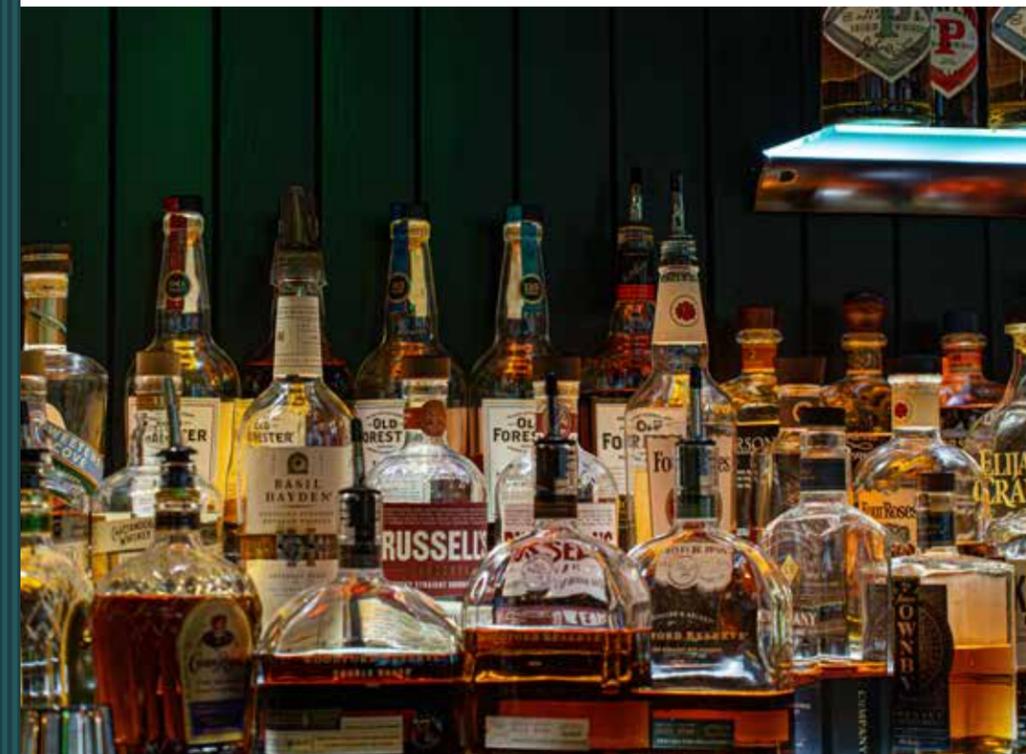
From small-batch breweries to rooftop lounges and cozy wine bars, these local favorites blend Southern charm with top-tier pours.

Tennessee's connection to drinking culture is shaped by both heritage and regulation. While the state is famously home to world-renowned distilleries like Jack Daniel's, its past also includes periods of strict alcohol laws and dry counties. Knoxville, in particular, has seen a transformation over the years — from limited options to a creative resurgence in local brewing, distilling, and wine making. Today's scene reflects not rebellion, but refinement — a celebration of craftsmanship rooted in both Appalachian resourcefulness and Southern hospitality.

These Knoxville spots offer more than just something to sip. They're gathering places — where locals meet after work, where visitors get a true taste of East Tennessee, and where every pour is backed by intention and community. Whether you're exploring a rooftop lounge downtown or a neighborhood brewery off the beaten path, these are the kinds of places that turn a night out into a local experience worth remembering.



- ▶ **FIVE THIRTY LOUNGE** ▶ 530 S Gay St  
Upscale rooftop bar offering panoramic city views and a refined cocktail menu.
- ▶ **ABRIDGED BEER COMPANY**  
Multiple Locations ▶ Popular brewpub serving flavorful small-batch beers and elevated pub fare in a lively atmosphere.



- ▶ **CRAFTY BASTARD BREWERY WEST**  
Multiple Locations ▶ Known for experimental brews and a cozy, creative taproom setting with frequent events.
- ▶ **ORANGE HAT BREWING COMPANY**  
10246 Hardin Valley Rd ▶ Community-focused brewery with rotating craft beer taps, game nights, and food trucks.
- ▶ **BALTER BEERWORKS** ▶ 100 Broadway SW  
Brewpub in a converted service station offering house-brewed beer and scratch-made meals.
- ▶ **PRETENTIOUS BEER CO.** ▶ 131 S Central St  
A brewery and glassblowing studio with bold beer styles and unique, hand-blown glassware.

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- ▶ **XUL BEER COMPANY** ▶ Multiple Locations ▶ Modern, industrial taproom pouring hazy IPAs, fruited sours, and rich stouts with flair.
- ▶ **CASUAL PINT – NORTHSHORE**  
2045 Thunderhead Rd ▶ Relaxed, neighborhood-style beer market offering dozens of rotating taps, packaged craft brews, and a laid-back patio for sipping with friends.
- ▶ **EBONY & IVORY BREWING**  
2300 N Central St, Suite 101  
Locally-owned brewery celebrating culture and diversity through approachable craft beer.
- ▶ **HEXAGON BREWING CO.** ▶ 1002 Dutch Valley Dr ▶ Welcoming neighborhood brewery known for consistent, easy-drinking house beers.
- ▶ **THE VAULT** ▶ 531 S Gay St  
Stylish cocktail bar located in a historic bank vault with luxurious seating and moody ambiance.
- ▶ **TERN CLUB** ▶ 135 S Gay St  
Tropical cocktail oasis offering rum-based drinks and creative takes in a bright setting.
- ▶ **BROTHER WOLF** ▶ 108 W Jackson Ave ▶ Italian aperitivo bar featuring classic cocktails, small bites, and a vibrant, intimate vibe.
- ▶ **PETER KERN LIBRARY** ▶ 407 Union Ave ▶ Hidden speakeasy with literary-themed cocktails and a dark, bookish lounge setting.
- ▶ **THE OAK ROOM** ▶ 109 W Anderson Ave ▶ North Knoxville cocktail bar serving oak-aged drinks and a full food menu in a moody space.



- ▶ **WATER INTO WINE** ▶ 607 N Campbell Station Rd ▶ Stylish wine bar with a full scratch kitchen, extensive wine list, and hand-crafted cocktails.
- ▶ **ZERO/ZERO** ▶ 1211 N Central St  
Natural wine bar in Happy Holler offering organic wines, small bites, and a chill hangout vibe.

- ▶ **SPARROW WINE BAR** ▶ 141 W. End Ave.  
Comfortable, low-key wine bar with a curated selection of wines, beers, and small plates.
- ▶ **VAN EDM'S WINE BAR & RESTAURANT**  
12344 S Northshore Dr ▶ Chic spot blending international wine selections with a rotating menu of seasonal cuisine.

# OX GAME DAY LINEUP

YOUR QUICK-GUIDE TO KNOXVILLE'S HOMETOWN TEAMS

## MEN'S VOLS BASKETBALL

Dec 2 (Tue)	.....7 PM ET.....	Away.....	Syracuse
Dec 6 (Sat)	.....8 PM ET.....	Neutral .....	Illinois
Dec 16 (Tue)	.....7 PM ET.....	Home.....	Louisville
Dec 21 (Sun)	.....3 PM ET.....	Home.....	Gardner-Webb
Dec 30 (Tue)	.....8 PM ET.....	Home.....	South Carolina State
Jan 3 (Sat)	.....3 PM ET.....	Away.....	Arkansas
Jan 6 (Tue)	.....9 PM ET.....	Home.....	Texas
Jan 10 (Sat)	.....12 PM ET .....	Away.....	Florida
Jan 13 (Tue)	.....7 PM ET.....	Home.....	Texas A&M
Jan 17 (Sat)	.....12 PM ET .....	Home.....	Kentucky
Jan 24 (Sat)	.....8:30 PM ET.....	Away.....	Alabama
Jan 27 (Tue)	.....7 PM ET.....	Away.....	Georgia
Jan 31 (Sat)	.....8:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Auburn
Feb 3 (Tue)	.....7 PM ET.....	Home.....	Ole Miss
Feb 7 (Sat)	.....8:30 PM ET.....	Away.....	Kentucky
Feb 11 (Wed)	.....9 PM ET.....	Away.....	Mississippi State
Feb 14 (Sat)	.....6 PM ET.....	Home.....	LSU
Feb 18 (Wed)	.....7 PM ET.....	Home.....	Oklahoma
Feb 21 (Sat)	.....2/2:30 PM ET .....	Away.....	Vanderbilt
Feb 24 (Tue)	.....9 PM ET.....	Away.....	Missouri
Feb 28 (Sat)	.....6/6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Alabama
Mar 3 (Tue)	.....6 PM ET.....	Away.....	South Carolina
Mar 7 (Sat)	.....2 PM ET.....	Home.....	Vanderbilt

## LADY VOLS BASKETBALL

Dec 3 (Wed)	.....9:15 PM ET .....	Away.....	Stanford
Dec 14 (Sun)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Home.....	Winthrop
Dec 20 (Sat)	.....10:30 AM ET.....	Neutral .....	Louisville
Dec 22 (Mon)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Southern Indiana
Jan 1 (Thu)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Home.....	Florida
Jan 4 (Sun)	.....4:00 PM ET .....	Away.....	Auburn
Jan 8 (Thu)	.....7:30 PM ET.....	Away.....	Mississippi State
Jan 11 (Sun)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Home.....	Arkansas
Jan 18 (Sun)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Away.....	Alabama
Jan 22 (Thu)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Kentucky
Jan 26 (Mon)	.....7:00 PM ET.....	Away.....	Ole Miss
Jan 29 (Thu)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Mississippi State
Feb 1 (Sun)	.....12:00 PM ET.....	Away.....	UConn
Feb 5 (Thu)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Away.....	Georgia
Feb 8 (Sun)	.....3:00 PM ET.....	Away.....	South Carolina
Feb 12 (Thu)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Missouri
Feb 15 (Sun)	.....3:00 PM ET.....	Home.....	Texas
Feb 19 (Thu)	.....6:30 PM ET.....	Home.....	Texas A&M
Feb 22 (Sun)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Away.....	Oklahoma
Feb 26 (Thu)	.....6:00 PM ET .....	Away.....	LSU
Mar 1 (Sun)	.....2:00 PM ET .....	Home.....	Vanderbilt
Mar 4 (Wed)	.....TBD ET .....	Neutral .....	SEC Tournament



# fresh finds



## Farmers Markets Around K-Town

From heirloom tomatoes to handmade soaps, Knoxville and its neighboring communities offer a bounty of fresh, local goods every week. Whether you're in the mood to sip fresh lemonade, pick up locally raised meats, or just stroll and people-watch, there's a market nearby ready to welcome you.

**MARKET SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET** ▶ Downtown Knoxville – Market St. & Union Ave ▶ Wednesdays | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Saturdays | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM ▶ Season: May through November  
A producer-only market with everything from fresh veggies to handmade jewelry, baked goods, and flowers.

**EBENEZER ROAD FARMERS' MARKET** ▶ 1001 Ebenezer Rd, Knoxville Tuesdays | 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM ▶ Season: April through November  
A mid-week stop in West Knoxville offering produce, canned goods, honey, and seasonal surprises.

**NEW HARVEST FARMERS' MARKET** ▶ New Harvest Park | 4775 New Harvest Ln, Knoxville ▶ Thursdays | 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Season: April through October ▶ Great mix of fruits, veggies, eggs, dairy, and live music or cooking demos on select dates.

**EASTSIDE SUNDAY MARKET** ▶ Dr. Walter Hardy Park | 2020 MLK Jr Ave, Knoxville ▶ Sundays | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ▶ Season: June through September ▶ A family-friendly afternoon market spotlighting Black-owned farms and food businesses.

**DIXIE LEE FARMERS' MARKET** ▶ Renaissance | 12740 Kingston Pike, Farragut ▶ Saturdays | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Season: April through November (Winter Market: January–April, same hours) ▶ Fresh produce, meats, breads, coffee, and local artisans all in one walkable outdoor setting.

LOOKING FOR EVEN MORE MARKETS AND POP-UPS?  
Visit [nourishknoxville.org](http://nourishknoxville.org) for updates and vendor lists across the region.

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# EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

Explore more local parks at: [knoxville.gov/parks](http://knoxville.gov/parks)

By Tiffany Davis  
Photography by  
Smitty Photo & Film

From shady groves to open fields and winding trails, Knoxville is a city wrapped in green. Whether you're walking the dog, chasing a sunrise, or watching your kids burn off steam, the natural beauty here invites everyone outdoors.



## FAN FAVE PARKS IN KNOXVILLE

From riverside trails to shady playgrounds, these local parks offer space to roam, relax, and reconnect with nature.

### VICTOR ASHE PARK

4901 Bradshaw Rd // 120 acres of trails, disc golf, dog park, and sports fields

### TOMMY SCHUMPERT PARK

6400 Fountain City Rd // Multi-use trails, dog parks, disc golf, ballfields, and more

### CARL COWAN PARK

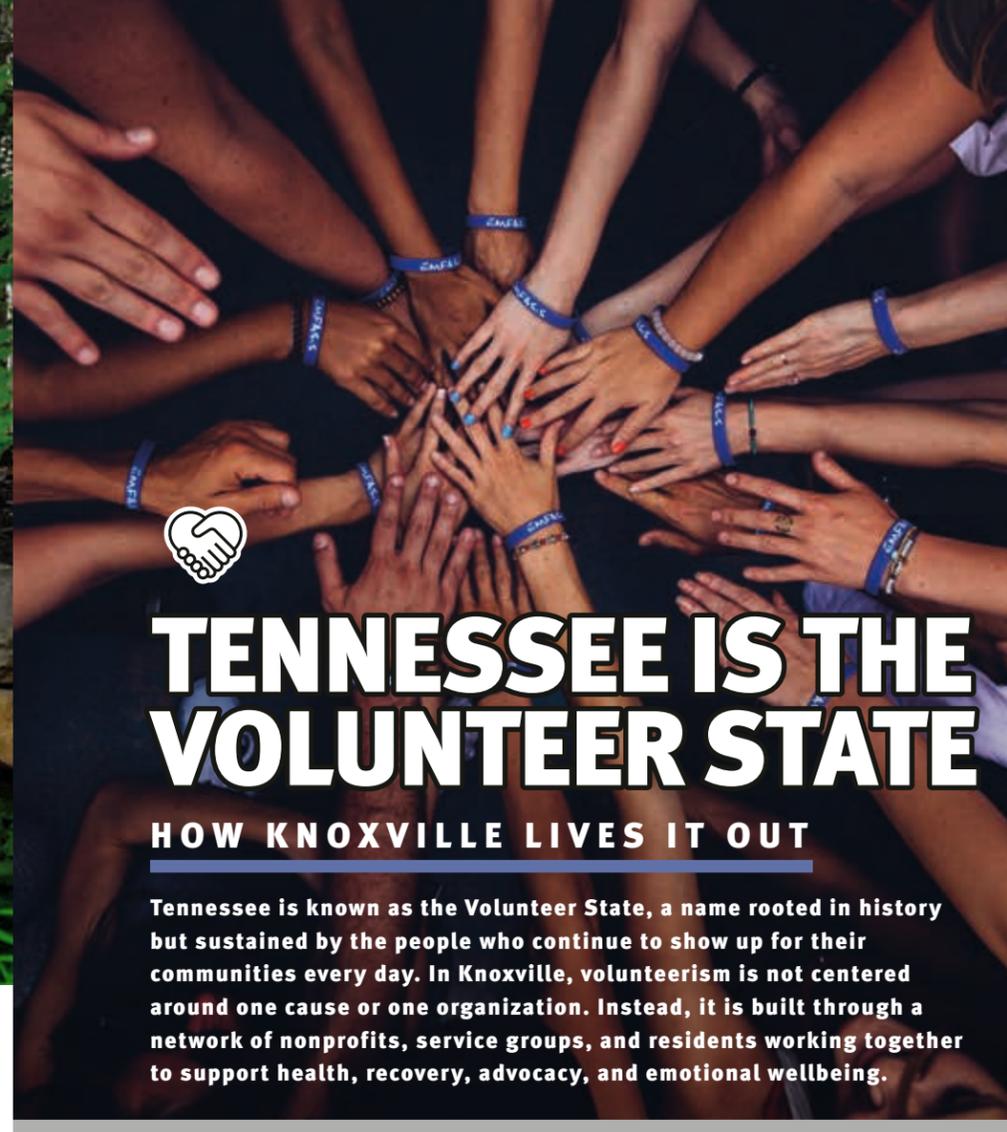
10058 S Northshore Dr // Lakefront access, walking trails, playgrounds, and picnic shelters

### CONCORD PARK

10960 Concord Park Dr // Greenways, water activities, skate park, and athletic fields

### LAKESHORE PARK

5930 Lyons View Pike // Over 185 acres with scenic river views, playgrounds, trails, and pavilions



# TENNESSEE IS THE VOLUNTEER STATE

## HOW KNOXVILLE LIVES IT OUT

Tennessee is known as the Volunteer State, a name rooted in history but sustained by the people who continue to show up for their communities every day. In Knoxville, volunteerism is not centered around one cause or one organization. Instead, it is built through a network of nonprofits, service groups, and residents working together to support health, recovery, advocacy, and emotional wellbeing.

For many people new to Knoxville, volunteering becomes one of the fastest ways to understand the city's culture. Service here is practical, relational, and often collaborative. Organizations regularly intersect, refer individuals to one another, and rely on volunteers who want to contribute in meaningful, hands-on ways.

### A connected culture of service

One defining feature of Knoxville's volunteer landscape is how interconnected it is. Rather than operating in isolation, nonprofits often serve overlapping populations and work alongside healthcare providers, social services, and advocacy organizations. Volunteers become the common thread, offering consistency, compassion, and presence where it matters most.

Healthcare and recovery environments, in particular, benefit from this kind of

community involvement. While medical professionals provide treatment, volunteers help fill emotional gaps through encouragement, human connection, and simple acts of care.

### Random Acts of Flowers: kindness through small gestures

One organization that reflects this volunteer-driven spirit is Random Acts of Flowers. Based in Knoxville, the nonprofit relies primarily on volunteers to repurpose donated flowers into arrangements delivered to hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and senior care facilities.

Founded by Larson Jay after a near-fatal accident in 2007, the organization grew from a simple realization. During his recovery, Jay noticed how flowers lifted the mood of everyone who entered his hospital room. When he saw how many nearby

patients had no visitors or flowers at all, he began sharing his own arrangements.

Today, volunteers gather to sort, trim, and arrange flowers that would otherwise be discarded after weddings, funerals, or store displays. Each bouquet is delivered with a handwritten note, offering a reminder that someone in the community cares.

### Advocacy and guidance through partner organizations

Volunteerism in Knoxville also includes advocacy, education, and navigation support. Street Hope TN works to prevent human trafficking through awareness, training, and survivor support, relying on volunteers to assist with outreach and education.

Similarly, Breast Connect helps individuals navigate breast cancer diagnoses by connecting them with trusted providers and resources. Volunteers and advocates help ensure patients feel informed and supported during a challenging time.

Together, these organizations reflect how volunteer efforts across Knoxville complement one another, forming a broader system of care.

### Volunteering as a way to belong

For new residents, volunteering offers a meaningful way to build relationships while learning the city. Many opportunities do not require specialized skills, making it easy to get started and stay involved.

### Where to find volunteer opportunities

A central place to begin is Volunteer East Tennessee at [volunteereasttennessee.org](http://volunteereasttennessee.org). The site connects residents with hundreds of local nonprofits and allows users to search opportunities by cause, schedule, and interest.

Many organizations also list opportunities directly on their websites, including Random Acts of Flowers, Street Hope TN, and Breast Connect. Through service, collaboration, and compassion, volunteers continue to strengthen the community — one act at a time.



# Paws & Play

WHERE PETS ARE MORE THAN FAMILY—

THEY'RE LOCALS TOO By Tiffany Davis | Photography by Smitty Photo & Film

**IN KNOXVILLE, PETS AREN'T JUST WELCOME—THEY'RE PART OF THE COMMUNITY. FROM HIGH-END GROOMING TO LEASH-FREE PARKS, LOCAL DOGS ARE LIVING THEIR BEST LIVES. WHETHER YOU'RE NEW TO THE AREA OR JUST LOOKING TO UPGRADE YOUR PET'S SOCIAL CALENDAR, HERE ARE SOME STANDOUT SPOTS FOR PLAY, CARE, AND STYLE.**



## WHERE TO DROP OFF YOUR DOG FOR THE DAY ▼

**The Dog Stop** | 4589 Kingston Pike | [thedogstop.com](http://thedogstop.com)  
A full-service dog care facility offering daycare, grooming, and overnight boarding. Their clean indoor/outdoor play yards and attentive staff make it easy to leave your dog guilt-free.

**Ultimutt Knoxville**  
11225 Threadstone Ln  
[ultimuttknoxville.com](http://ultimuttknoxville.com)  
Focused on structure, enrichment, training and exercise, Ultimutt is perfect for high-energy dogs who need more than just a nap during the day. They offer small group play, personalized care, and enrichment add-ons.

**CitiFid-O** | 429 Union Ave  
[citifido.com](http://citifido.com) | Downtown  
Knoxville's go-to shop for premium pet food, durable toys, collars, leashes, and locally made pet gifts. Friendly staff and a downtown vibe make it a great stop after a walk through Market Square.



## LOCAL TIP



Get on the Greenways: Did you know Knoxville has over 100 miles of greenways and trails—great for biking, walking, or jogging? Try the Third Creek Greenway or Ijams Nature Center trails.  
- Tim Shaughnessy



## LOCAL DOG PARKS WORTH A VISIT ▼

**Dogwood Park (in Victor Ashe Park)** | 4901 Bradshaw Rd | A fenced, off-leash area with open space for running, shaded seating for owners, and water access for pups who love to splash.

**The Bark** | 601 Lamar St | [thebarkknoxville.com](http://thebarkknoxville.com) | A membership-based dog park and beer garden in the Old City, The Bark offers both indoor and outdoor spaces for dogs to play while humans relax and enjoy drinks and events.

**PetSafe Village Dog Park** | 10424 PetSafe Way | Well-maintained with separate areas for small and large dogs, agility features, and shaded areas. Popular with locals who want a quiet, secure place to play.

For a full list of Knoxville dog parks, visit:

[knoxvilletn.gov/parks/dog\\_parks](http://knoxvilletn.gov/parks/dog_parks)



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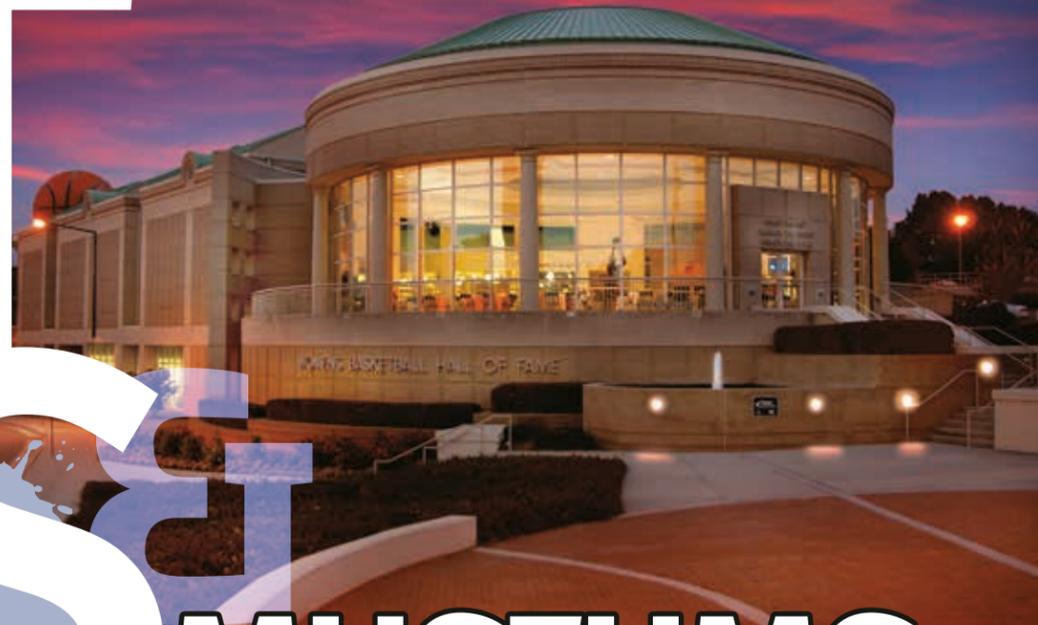
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# ART & MUSEUMS

By Kalli Buckner & Tiffany Davis

KNOXVILLE IS HOME TO A WIDE RANGE OF MUSEUMS THAT BRING HISTORY, ART, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE TO LIFE—AND YOU’LL FIND SEVERAL OF THEM LISTED THROUGHOUT THIS ARTICLE. BUT FIRST, WE’RE SPOTLIGHTING ONE OF THE CITY’S TRUE STANDOUTS: A MUSEUM UNLIKE ANY OTHER IN THE WORLD, RIGHT HERE IN K-TOWN.

## INSIDE THE WOMEN’S

## BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME



The Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame is a one-of-a-kind experience located in Knoxville, Tennessee. Since its opening in 1999, it has been the only facility in the world dedicated to supporting all levels of women’s basketball. The Hall of Fame breathes life into the game’s history every day, featuring incredible artifacts, immersive exhibits, and a state-of-the-art theater. The mission is simple: to honor the past, celebrate the present, and promote the future of women’s basketball.

As visitors enter the Hall of Fame, they are greeted with a 17-foot statue of the Berenson trophy, which honors the mother of Women’s Basketball, Senda Berenson. Walking through the exhibits, fans can learn more about those who pushed the game forward to what it is today. While the Hall highlights key players whose talent transformed women’s basketball, the museum highlights multiple facets of the sport. There are exhibits committed to the

history of the locker room and the uniform, the contributions of coaches, and the evolution of officiating. Taking a comprehensive approach, the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame has something for everyone. Beyond the educational aspects, the museum features ball courts for visitors to put their skills to the test. One of the hoops even resembles an older basketball goal model, allowing people to experience the game’s evolution firsthand.

Community outreach is a cornerstone of the Hall of Fame’s work. While basketball remains their primary focus, the Hall hosts dedicated events yearly to give back to the Knoxville community and beyond. A favorite place for birthday parties, school field trips, weddings, and proms, the Hall of Fame is a vibrant hub for events in East Tennessee. However, their most significant event of the year is the prestigious Induction Ceremony at the Tennessee Theatre, annually celebrating a specially selected class of game changers. The 2025 class features Alana Beard (player), Sue Bird (player), Mark Campbell (coach), Danielle Donehew (contributor), Sylvia Fowles (player), Lucille Kyvallos (veteran coach), and Cappie Pondexter (player).

The Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame is an integral part of the women’s basketball community, continuously championing its mission of honoring the past, celebrating the present, and promoting the future. It is a special place, offering a once-in-a-lifetime experience for anyone who walks through the doors. Visit today!

For more information: Call (865) 633-9000 or visit our website at [wbhof.com](http://wbhof.com).

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**MCCLUNG MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY & CULTURE**

1327 Circle Park Dr  
 mcclungmuseum.utk.edu  
 Situated on the University of Tennessee campus, this museum offers exhibits on archaeology, geology, and cultural history. Admission is free.

**MUSE KNOXVILLE**

516 N Beaman St  
 themuseumknoxville.org > A children's science museum offering hands-on STEM-based learning experiences. Plus unlimited planetarium shows included in general admission. Admission: General \$12, Seniors (65+), Military, and Educators \$6, Children under 1 free.

**MABRY-HAZEN HOUSE**

1711 Dandridge Ave > mabryhazen.com  
 A historic home museum preserving over 130 years of Knoxville history with original furnishings and artifacts. Admission: Adults \$10, Students \$8, Children under 13 free.

**BLOUNT MANSION**

200 W Hill Ave > blountmansion.org  
 Known as the "Birthplace of Tennessee," this historic home offers insights into the state's early history. Admission: Adults \$15, Seniors/AAA/CAA Members \$12, Children \$10.

**MUSEUM OF APPALACHIA**

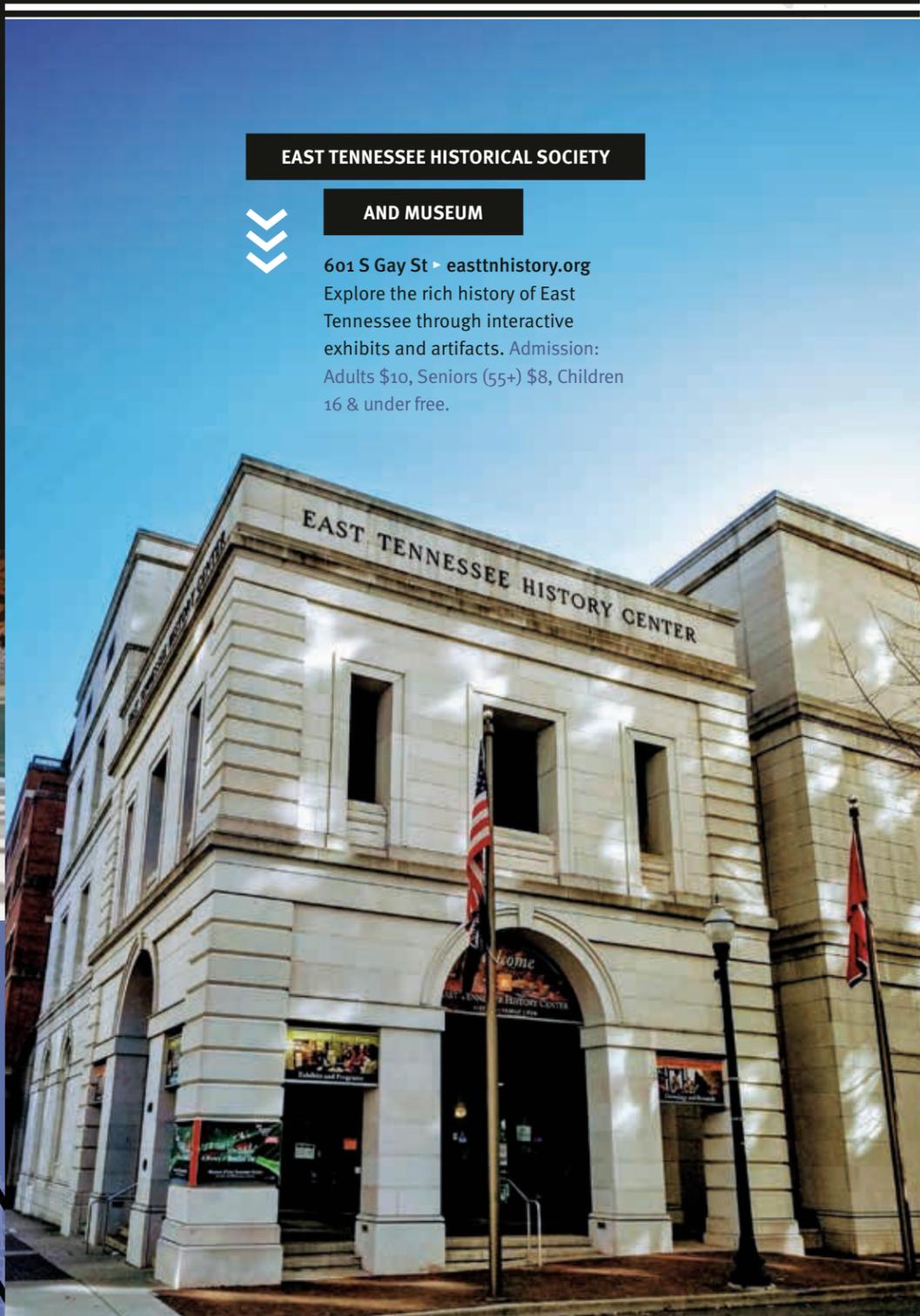
2819 Andersonville Hwy, Clinton  
 museumofappalachia.org > A living history museum featuring pioneer-era structures and artifacts. Admission: Adults (18-64) \$20, Seniors (65+) \$18, Youth (6-17) \$10, Children under 6 free.

**EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**AND MUSEUM**

601 S Gay St > easttnhistory.org  
 Explore the rich history of East Tennessee through interactive exhibits and artifacts. Admission: Adults \$10, Seniors (55+) \$8, Children 16 & under free.



**KNOXVILLE MUSEUM OF ART (KMA)**

1050 World's Fair Park Dr  
 knoxart.org > Located in World's Fair Park, KMA showcases the art and artists of East Tennessee. Admission is always free.

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Staycation  
in the  
Smokies

# STAY CLOSE, GO FAR

By Tiffany Davis

From moonshine tastings and mountaintop adventures to Dolly's dreamland and scenic hikes, East Tennessee makes the perfect weekend escape—no plane ticket required.

*The Smoky Mountains are calling—and they're just up the road*

Looking for an easy getaway that doesn't involve a plane ticket or complicated planning? The Smoky Mountains serve up the perfect staycation or weekend escape—complete with local flavor, mountain air, and memories worth repeating. Whether you're into live music, handcrafted spirits, roller coasters, scenic views, or winding forest trails, East Tennessee offers all the fun of a full vacation with none of the fuss.



## SIP AND SWAY AT OLE SMOKY DISTILLERY

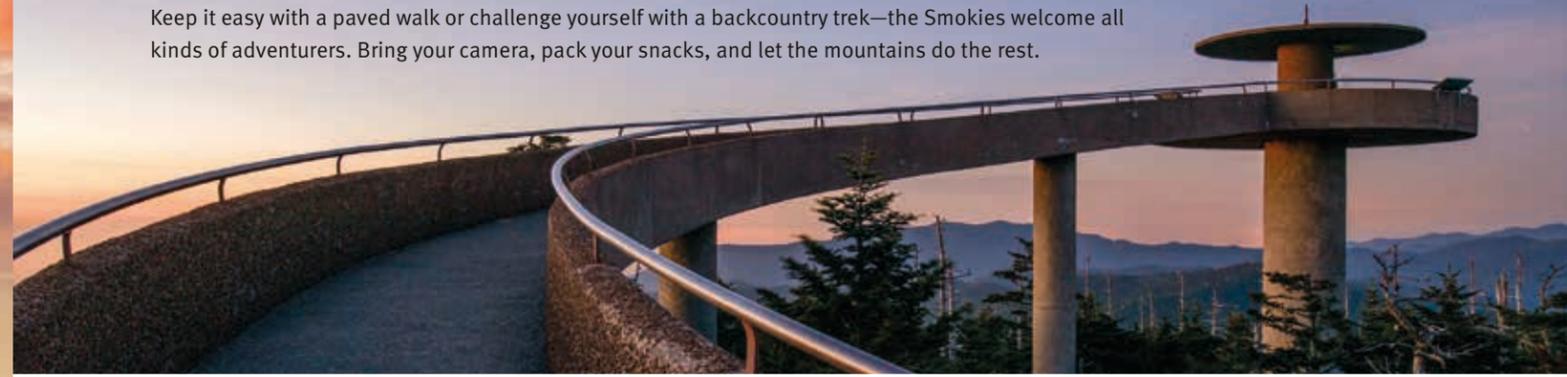
Step into The Holler at Ole Smoky Distillery and you'll find the world's most visited moonshine brand, pouring Southern hospitality with every tasting. Johnny Baker, a fourth-generation family member, welcomes guests with stories, laughs, and hundreds of rotating moonshine flavors. Tastings come in signature "communion cups" (Ole Smoky once bought nearly all available supply), and live bands play daily from afternoon through the evening.

Guests can tour the distillery to see the process up close, browse a large retail shop for jars, gifts, and gear, or just relax in a rocking chair near the outdoor stage. Their products—including fruit- and pickle-infused options—can be shipped as gifts. The original location, built from old barn wood, is open every day except Christmas. Since its founding in 2009–2010, Ole Smoky has grown into the largest moonshine distributor in the world, now available in 43 countries. And if you've ever wondered about the three X's on the label—that means it's been distilled three times, just like the old-timers used to do.

## TAKE A HIKE IN THE SMOKIES

More than 800 miles of trails wind through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and many are just minutes from the bustle of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge. Whether you're strolling to Laurel Falls, biking Cades Cove, or hiking up to the Clingmans Dome observation tower, the views never disappoint.

Keep it easy with a paved walk or challenge yourself with a backcountry trek—the Smokies welcome all kinds of adventurers. Bring your camera, pack your snacks, and let the mountains do the rest.



## REACH NEW HEIGHTS AT OBER MOUNTAIN

Just above downtown Gatlinburg sits Ober Mountain, a mountaintop adventure that's been part of East Tennessee tradition since 1962. Originally a ski resort, Ober added its iconic aerial tramway in 1973—still one of the best ways to take in the Smokies from above.

While it's the only ski and snowboard area in Tennessee during winter, Ober thrives all year. In the summer and fall, visitors can enjoy an alpine slide, mountain coaster, scenic chairlift, wildlife encounter, and indoor ice skating—plus dining and live music at the lodge. Whether you're chasing the snow or the view, Ober Mountain offers a high-altitude getaway full of nostalgia, nature, and good old-fashioned fun.



## DOLLYWOOD: WHERE BIG DREAMS TAKE CENTER STAGE

Since 1986, Dollywood has been one of Tennessee's most beloved attractions, drawing millions each year with its blend of thrilling rides, world-class entertainment, and Southern charm—straight from the heart of Dolly Parton herself.

The park's story began in 1961 as Rebel Railroad and evolved through several names before Dolly joined forces with the Herschend Family in 1986 to create

Dollywood. Today, the 160-acre park includes top-ranked roller coasters, award-winning festivals, artisan craft villages, and iconic attractions like Klondike Katie, the 110-ton coal-fired steam train.

Guests can explore Dolly's Home-on-Wheels tour bus, visit a replica of her two-room childhood home, or wander through the immersive Dolly Parton Experience. Dollywood also boasts live music, Southern dining (Aunt Granny's is still the top spot), and a calendar packed

with seasonal events. From the spring Flower & Food Festival to Smoky Mountain Christmas, Dollywood blends Appalachian roots with world-class flair—and it's all just a short drive away.



# EAST TENNESSEE

## TENNESSEE

### VALLEY FAIR

This is one of the largest and longest-running fairs in East Tennessee, featuring rides, games, food, livestock shows, and live entertainment. It's a major community tradition that brings together families, schools, and local organizations.



## FESTIVALS

### BIG EARS

An internationally acclaimed music and arts festival that brings boundary-pushing performances to historic venues throughout downtown Knoxville. It attracts artists and audiences from around the world for a truly immersive cultural experience.

### DOGWOOD ARTS FESTIVAL

A beloved outdoor art festival featuring juried fine art, live music, craft vendors, and food trucks. It showcases regional creativity and celebrates Knoxville's commitment to the arts and natural beauty.

### HOLA FESTIVAL

A vibrant celebration of Hispanic culture with live music, folkloric dancing, food vendors, and artisan booths from across Latin America. The event promotes cultural understanding and community unity through art and heritage.

### KNOXVILLE ASIAN FESTIVAL

This event showcases traditional and contemporary Asian cultures through performances, a colorful parade, food, and educational booths. It highlights the rich diversity of the region's Asian communities.



## RECURRING EVENTS

### FIRST FRIDAY ARTWALK

Downtown Knoxville comes alive with gallery openings, street performers, pop-up art shows, and live music. Locals and visitors explore the city's creative scene in a festive, walkable atmosphere.

### CONCERTS ON THE SQUARE

Live music fills Market Square with a mix of jazz, classical, and local bands playing in a relaxed, outdoor setting. It's a favorite gathering spot for people to enjoy free performances in the heart of the city.

### BELOCAL BINGO

A high-energy free community bingo night that highlights a different local nonprofit at each event. It's free to play, packed with prizes, and designed to bring people together while giving back. Held at Kern's Food Hall and Maple Hall.

# BeLOCAL PREFERRED PARTNERS

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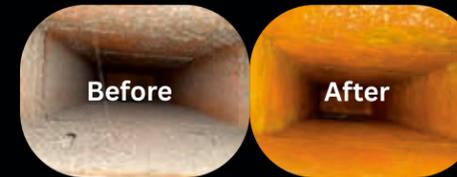
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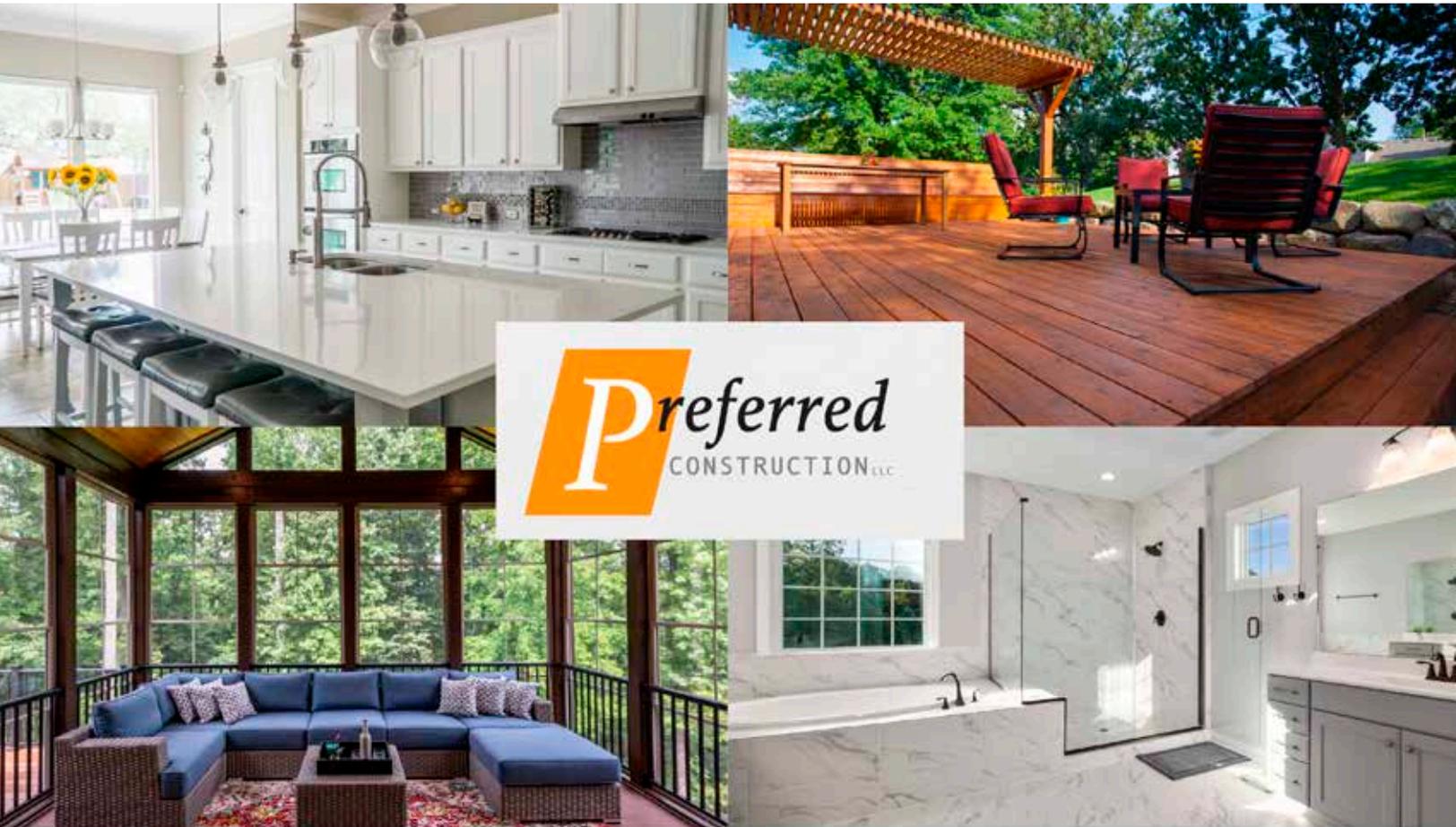
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