

16 Things To Do In Memphis

Seeing The Best Of The Bluff City



Graceland:

No visit to Memphis is complete with a pilgrimage to the home of the King. In addition to Elvis Presley's mansion, grounds, and museums, Graceland also features a new entertainment complex and, of course, the Guest House at Graceland resort.

The National Civil Rights Museum:

Housed in the Memphis hotel where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spent his final hours pursuing his dream of equality, the museum offers a sobering but inspiring look at the struggle for equal rights in America.

Beale Street: The address of the American Blues, the Beale Street Historic District is home to dozens of clubs and live-music venues as well as the famous A. Schwab store.

Memphis Zoo:

Overton Park has one of the top zoos in the U.S., with more than 3,500 animals roaming 76 acres in the heart of the city, including a pair of Chinese pandas.

Sun Studio:

Take the free Graceland shuttle to the legendary recording studio where Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash got their start.

Mud Island River Park:

The Memphis monorail is your connection to this urban playground, home to the Riverwalk (a huge scale model of the Mississippi River), bike trails, a museum, and an open-air concert venue.

Muddy's Bake Shop: Family-run purveyor of organic cakes, cupcakes, cookies, pies, brownies, plus local favorites like banana pudding and pimiento cheese, make this the best place in Memphis to sate your sweet tooth.

Dixon Gallery and Gardens:

For 40 years, this beautiful estate museum has housed the city's finest collection of French and American Impressionist paintings among its exhibits.

The Shelby Farms Greenline:

Walk, run, bike or skate this 10.8-mile urban trail connecting midtown Memphis to the 4,500-acre Shelby Farms Park.

Memphis Rock and Soul Museum:

The Smithsonian Institution tells the story about the birth and evolution of rock 'n roll and soul music at this Beale Street museum.

Stax Museum of American Soul Music:

A replica of a Mississippi Delta church, the original Stax Records recording studio, an interactive dance floor, and Isaac Hayes' custom 1972 Cadillac Eldorado are among this fun and interactive museum's collections.

Ghost River Brewing Company:

Memphis' original craft brewery celebrates its 10th anniversary nightly by tapping seven variety of beers nightly, plus visiting food trucks and live music on weekends.

Riverbluff Walkway:

Drink in the views of the Mighty Mississippi from this mile-long downtown Memphis riverwalk.

Old Forest at Overton Park:

Four miles of trails let you explore this rare stand of old growth forest, essentially unchanged for more than 10,000 years.

The I Love Memphis Murals: Stage your social snapshots at one of the "I Love Memphis" murals scattered across the city: props if you visit all eight! (Cheat: use the map on the I Love Memphis site to find them.)