# THE OFFICIAL 2024 VISITOR'S GUIDE



### AT THE INTERSECTION OF . NEED FOR SPEED & FAMILY FUN

Discover the meaning of Geared For Fun with rip-roaring good times waiting around every bend in the road. Whether you've got the need for speed or long for your next great outdoor adventure, Bowling Green, Kentucky, is just a short drive away.







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### JUST 20 MILES SOUTH OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



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### Let's Explore KY

With the world's longest known cave system living up to its name at Mammoth Cave National Park, the "Niagara of the South" at Cumberland Falls, the "Grand Canyon of the South" at Breaks Interstate Park and Kentucky's own great lakes — Kentucky, Cumberland and Barkley — Kentucky is a natural outdoor playground with something for everyone.

Come celebrate a year of milestones with us: the 150th anniversary of the Kentucky Derby; the 100th anniversary of Kentucky State Parks, one of the country's most highly regarded state park systems; and the 25th anniversary of the famed Kentucky Bourbon Trail®, busier than ever as more distilleries add their mark to this uniquely Kentucky experience.

Get a front-row seat to Kentucky's sky shows. The April 8, 2024, Solar Eclipse puts southwestern Kentucky in the path of totality. Our International Dark Sky Park (Mammoth Cave) plunges viewers into darkness for the most spectacular stargazing.

Come create lifelong memories, from the rolling bluegrass of Kentucky Horse Country to Trail Towns combining rugged sites and small-town delights to miles of shoreline, hundreds of waterfalls and mountains drenched in autumn hues.

Legendary outdoor and natural wonders, a tradition of folk art and handicrafts, a musical heritage steeped in bluegrass and country, a rich culinary culture and a spirit of hospitality — it's all here in Kentucky, and we invite you to experience it, naturally.



## **EXPLORE**Kentucky's Regions



### Bluegrass, Horses, Bourbon & Boone

Fall in love with the heart of the Bluegrass, with its peaceful landscapes stretching across rolling hills. **Pg 116** 



### Bluegrass, Blues & BBQ

Explore vibrant towns full of local restaurants, quaint shops, stunning natural beauty and ... BBQ. **Pg 98** 



### **Bourbon, Horses & History**

Soak up the sights and sounds, notes and flavors, cultures and traditions that define
Kentucky. **Pg 106** 



### **Western Waterlands**

Enjoy rivers and lakes as far as the eye can see — and countless adventures on the land around them. **Pg 88** 



### UDUBON

Madisonville

Elizabethtown•

An ROUGH RIVER DAM
Rough
River Lake

NOLIN LAKE 🚑

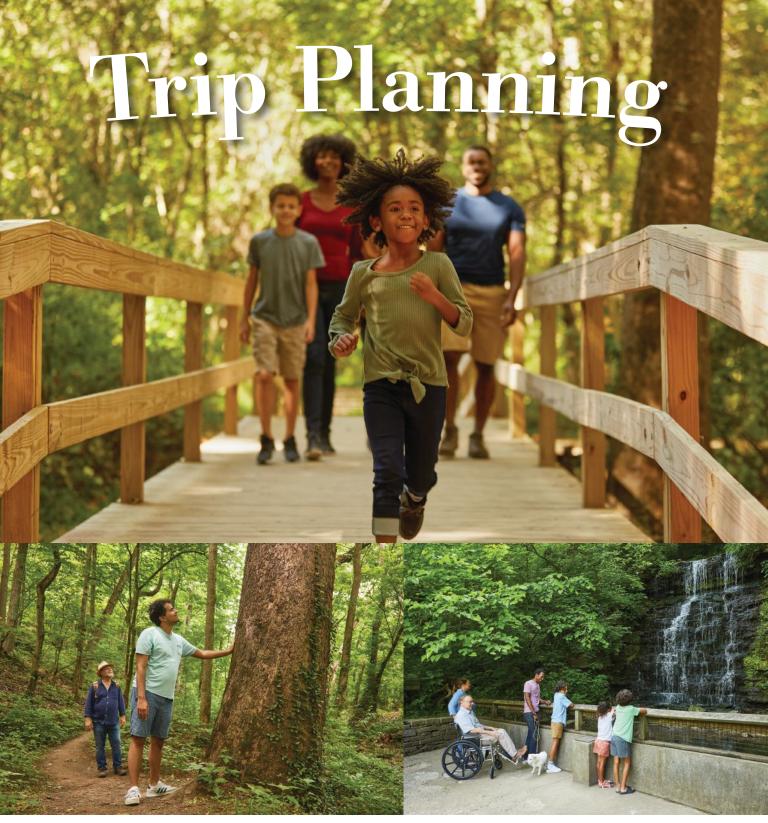




### Caves, Lakes & Corvettes Get behind the wheel or venture

deep underground to discover the history, mystery and beauty of Kentucky. **Pg 80** 





### Seasonal Info

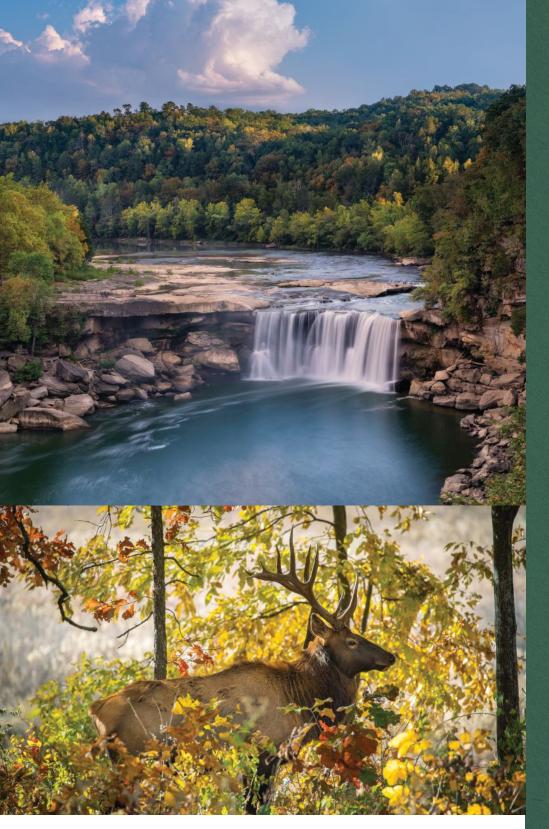
Kentucky has four distinct seasons, with spring bringing flowers and the magic of foaling season and fall so inviting with gorgeous weather and blazing color. Pack sunscreen for those lazy-hazy-days-of-summer adventures and coat and gloves for winter visits.

### Sustainability

When traveling through the Bluegrass State, please keep the words of Kentucky's Wendell Berry in mind: "The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility."

### **& Accessibility**

Kentucky is for all travelers of all abilities. The Overlook Trailhead at Natural Arch in Daniel Boone National Forest, pathways connecting with the Wetlands boardwalk at John James Audubon State Park, a kayak launch at Lake Reba — all accessible, as are so many Kentucky attractions.



### How to Get Here

Served by six major Interstates (24, 64, 65, 69, 71 and 75), Kentucky is within a day's drive of 60% of the U.S. population. Flying? Kentucky's three largest airports are Lexington's Blue Grass Airport, Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.

### Explore. Connect. Inspire.

Scale a mountain? Scuba dive? Zip line? Share your Kentucky travel experiences, pics, tips and triumphs. #TravelKY







### Welcome Centers

Kentucky's eight Welcome Centers offer travelers a hospitable respite from the open road. Stop in for maps, directions, attraction brochures and local event information, or find nearby lodging and restaurants.





Whitehaven 1845 Lone Oak Rd. Paducah

270-554-2077



**Christian County** I-24 West, Mile Marker 92 Hopkinsville 270-439-7505



**Simpson County** I-65 North, Mile Marker 0 Franklin





**Bullitt County** I-65 South, Mile Marker 114 Shepherdsville 502-543-5900



**Shelby County** I-64 East, Mile Marker 28 Shelbyville 502-722-9383



**Kentucky Artisan Center** I-75 North & South, Mile Marker 77 200 Artisan Way Berea

859-985-5548



**Whitley County** I-75 North, Mile Marker 1.5 Williamsburg 606-524-8279



**Carter County** I-64 West, Mile Marker 173 Grayson 606-474-4333

### NATURAL/frches

Magnificent and mysterious, Kentucky's motherlode of natural arches spans landscapes and millennia, casts shadows across turf and terrain and frames breathtaking views of forests, rivers and canyons. The story of Kentucky's natural arches is one etched in sandstone, of thousands of ancient geological marvels carved out by wind and water.

Kentucky boasts the most natural arches of any state east of the Mississippi River, with more than 2.000 located across the Bluegrass State.

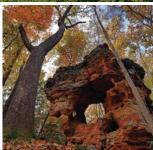
While most of the natural arches are in the eastern regions, arches can be found across the state. Hidden within Louisville's Frederick Law Olmsted-designed Cherokee Park is Double Arch. Split Bow Arch is in McCreary County in the Big South Fork National Recreation Area in southeastern Kentucky.

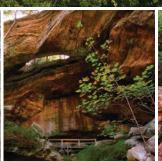
Arguably the most well-known arch is Kentucky's Natural Bridge, spanning 78 feet and rising 65 feet above the ground within Natural Bridge State Resort Park, adjacent to the Red River Gorge Geological Area in eastern Kentucky. The largest freestanding arch is western Kentucky's Mantle Rock, climbing 30 feet into the sky above Mantle Rock Nature Preserve in Smithland and sheltering a habitat of upland forest and fragile sandstone glades beneath its 188-foot span.

Featured on the cover of this publication, Natural Arch, impressive with its 100-foot span, lies within Daniel Boone National Forest, a wildland that lays claim to hundreds of sandstone arches.













"Fireside Fortune" is not only a video series of unique Kentucky experiences revealed by a paper fortune teller, but it is also a planning tool for crafting your own authentic outdoor getaways.



These are the kind of experiences that bring families together and create lifelong memories, challenging everyone to test their boundaries and achieve their personal best. These are unique experiences that travelers wouldn't find on the average vacation.

It could be hiking to one of Kentucky's many arches or waterfalls or traversing pathways below ground in one of the state's many caves. Maybe it's climbing into a 4x4 and bouncing over tight, twisty terrain, with everyone recounting the day's activities and planning the next adventure around the fire pit that evening.

It might be exploring wildlife habitats, catching dinner at the end of a fishing rod or houseboating near a hidden cove on one of Kentucky's lakes, with a chance to gather and swap stories at a charming bed-and-breakfast in Kentucky Horse Country before turning in for the night.

Tune into Fiseside Fostune, where each episode showcases Kentucky's natural side and the adventures that await.

## KENTUCKY'S OTHER SOURCE OF LEGENDARY HORSEPOWER





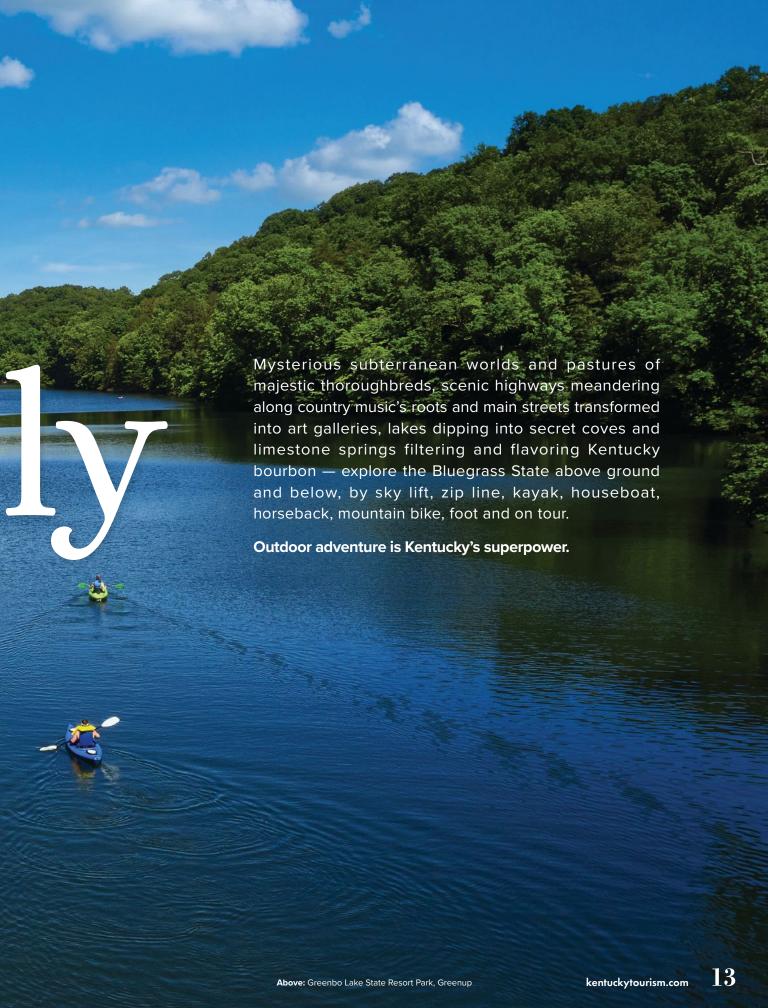


Museum

Seventy years ago, an American icon was born. See how Corvette's aerodynamic design, high performance, and speed have made a significant impression on American culture and history.

corvettemuseum.org | Bowling Green, KY



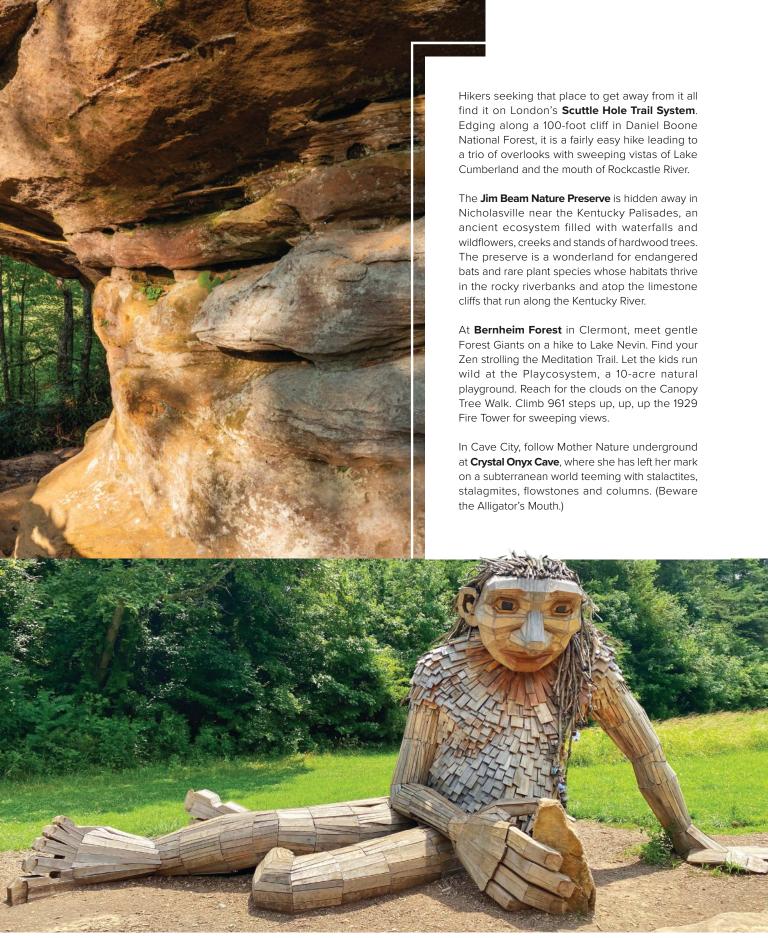




### Find Your Kentucky Escape

What did the land that became Kentucky look like when the settlers traversed westward through the Cumberland Gap and into this vast wilderness? Enter Harlan County's **Blanton Forest** on Pine Mountain — the largest old-growth forest in the state — and walk in the shade of the same towering trees those first pioneers saw.

Nature lovers revel in **Baker Natural Area Heritage Land**, tucked away in Russellville in the Big Barrens region. Walk the loop within a forest of oak and hickory trees to see limestone glades and prairie grasslands — showy in the summertime with sunflowers, black-eyed Susans and chestnut sedges.



Clockwise from top: Princess Arch, Pine Ridge; Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest, Clermont; Camp Blanton, Wallins Creek

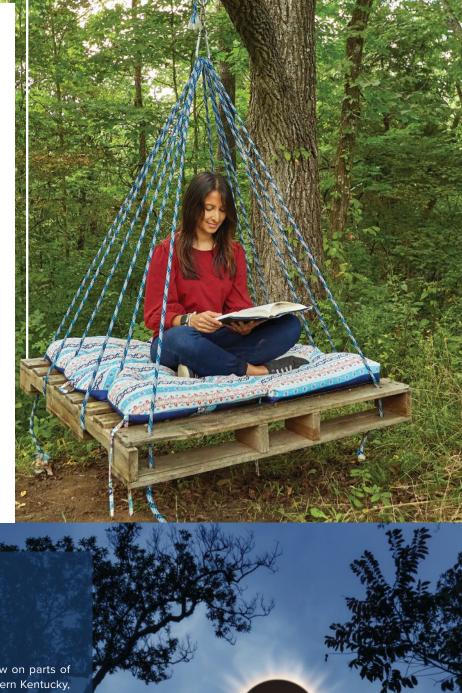
At Kentucky State Parks' resort, recreational and historic parks, vacations are always readymade but never one-size-fits-all. Swing an iron, drop a line, stroke a paddle, sun, swim what's your whim? See a show or hear live music under the stars. Take a clifftop hike and look out high above the trees.

Greenup's Dragonfly Outdoor Adventures is an all-in-one vacation destination in Kentucky Appalachia, from cabin rentals and tent camping to kayak excursions on Little Sandy River and Grayson Lake to food truck dining to special workshops and events. Nearby, visit Dragonfly Outdoor Café at Eridanus Brewing in Russell.

With private treehouses, secret "sit spots," miles of trails, guided tree climbs, stargazing, hammocks for lazing and games of "chutes and ladders" on 150-foot-long slide tunnels. Brooksville's EarthJoy Treehouse Adventures has "chill" written all over it. Oh, and you can follow the Hobbit Trail in search of miniature hobbit houses hidden in the trees.



**SCAN THE QR CODE** FOR MORE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES.



### Solar Eclipse and Dark Sky Viewing



April 8, 2024: A solar eclipse casts its shadow on parts of Kentucky. Find the path to totality in southwestern Kentucky, including the Great River Road region, Paducah and Henderson, and deep partial in Murray, Hopkinsville, Bowling Green, Mammoth Cave and Horse Cave.



### Wish I May, Wish I Might

Star light, star bright — oh, the stars you'll see in Kentucky, from Mammoth Cave National Park, a certified International Dark Sky Park, to dark sky viewing at Daniel Boone National Forest, Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park and Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Catch Night Sky programs in May and October at Abraham Lincoln's Boyhood Home at Knob Creek in Hodgenville.





Clockwise from top left: EarthJoy Treehouse Adventures, Brooksville; Dutch Country Safari Park, Horse Cave; kdshutterman - stock.adobe.com

### Up, Up and Away!

Get a bird's-eye view from above the tree tops in Red River Gorge when you ride the **Sky Lift** a mile into the wild blue yonder to Natural Bridge in Slade. Walk the 900-ton sandstone arch — a whopping 78 feet long and 65 feet high — then return to terra firma for refueling at Miguel's. The packed parking lot doesn't lie — the pizza is that good.

### **Serenity Now**

Watch tugboats, barges, a ferry — maybe even a gleaming white paddlewheel boat — chug lazily up, down and across the Ohio River from Augusta's scenic **O'Neill Riverwalk**. With historic homes and gardens lining the sidewalk behind and that million-dollar view unspooling as far as the eye can see, it is impossible to not be in the moment.

### 100 Miles Rugged

For both novice and experienced riders, family-friendly **Wildcat Off-Road Park** in East Bernstadt has the trail and terrain for you — curvy switchbacks, muddy straights, rocky inclines, old train tunnels — and around every bend: a scenic view. Camping, cabins and events, too.





### City to the West, Country to the East

Connecting downtown Lexington to Kentucky Horse Country, from the Isaac Murphy Memorial Garden to the Kentucky Horse Park, the 12-mile **Legacy Trail**, a shared-use greenway trail, offers up scenic sights around every curve on the paved path: grazing horses, old barns, open fields, rolling green hills — even sculptures.

### **Subterranean Swing**

Underground nightclub. Civil War campground. Hideout for train-robbing bandit Jesse James. Glide into history on Bowling Green's **Lost River Cave boat tour** and learn about its checkered past and the role the river played as an ancient native hunting ground. The cave is part of an urban park with a butterfly habitat, hiking trails and gem mining.

### **The Sweet Spot**

Play a round on one of Kentucky's top-ranked championship disc golf courses amidst wetlands, fishing ponds, a kayaking and pedal boat lake, nature trails and a pollinator garden at Madisonville's 265-acre **Mahr Park Arboretum**. The 18-hole course offers a challenging and scenic setting with trees, hills, bridges, water and other natural features. Short on time? Play the 9-hole recreational disc golf course.



### 🕏 Kentucky Trail Towns

So. Much. More. Than. Trails. Yes, Kentucky Trail Towns have miles and miles of trails — rugged and rural, by land and lake and winding through quiet woods — each a unique setting, all with stunning scenery. But there are also authentic Kentucky experiences: Berea's Artisan Village, Stearns' Big South Fork Scenic Railway, Jamestown's Creelsboro Historic Country Store & Restaurant — among others.

At **Dawson Springs**, paddle the tranquil waters of Lake Beshear or the lazy, meandering Tradewater River in Kentucky's First Certified Trail Town. Gear up at Tradewater Canoes & Kayaks or bring your own. Tuck into country fried steak, white beans, turnip greens and mashed potatoes at Ms. Becky's Place.

Photo op alert! The picturesque stone ruins at Bell's Tavern in **Park City** recall a popular stagecoach stop built in the late 1820s that was gutted by fire before the Civil War. Explore the labyrinthine Mammoth Cave and showy Diamond Caverns.

Near **London**, hike the Hoosier Knob Trail at Camp Wildcat Civil War Battlefield, located on the Wilderness Road, to explore original trenches, artillery emplacements and self-guided tour signs to learn about the historic battle.

Find natural beauty, frontier history and scenic views at **Estill Twin Cities**. Paddle the Kentucky River. Hike Lily Mountain Nature Preserve. See Historic Steam Engine C&O 2716 at Rail Heritage Center and munch a Kentucky Hot Brown specialty pizza at Steam Engine Pizza Pub.





At the heart of America's inland waterways, you'll find a sophisticated rivertown that inspires. Paducah, Kentucky, is a confluence of cultural heritage and creativity where art goes beyond something to appreciate – it's a way of life.

Celebrating 10 years as a UNESCO Creative City, Paducah is a destination for those who crave rich, authentic cultural experiences!



### CELEBRATE Quilting

Immerse yourself in the artistry and technique of masterpieces from around the globe at the National Quilt Museum.

Plan your experience at **Paducah.travel** 

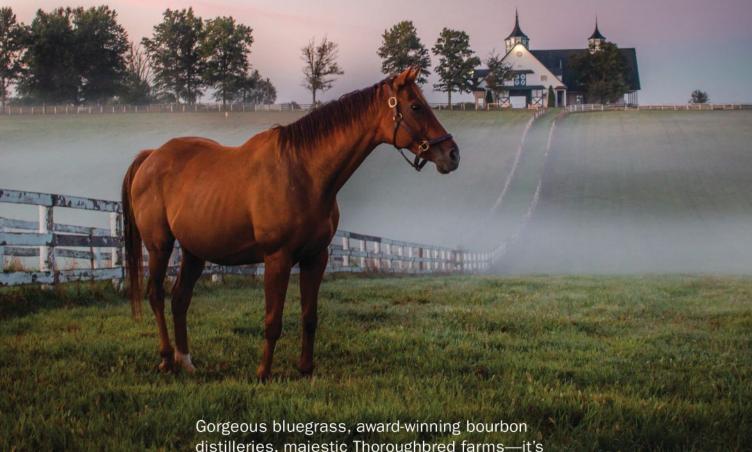
1-800-PADUCAH





## LOOKAT LEXINGTON

THE KENTUCKY-EST GETAWAY



JOY RIDE

Gorgeous bluegrass, award-winning bourbon distilleries, majestic Thoroughbred farms—it's all just minutes from the excitement of vibrant downtown Lexington, Kentucky. Think you've seen everything the Horse Capital of the World has to offer? Look again.

Plan your trip today at VisitLEX.com







Kingdom Come State Park, Cumberland; Taylorsville Lake State Park, Mt. Eden; Big Bone Lick State Historic Site, Union; Lake Cumberland State Resort Park, Jamestown



### One Word: Wow!

See the "Niagara of the South" crashing over a sandstone outcropping and into a jumble of boulders below at **Cumberland Falls State Resort Park** in Corbin. A pot of gold is overrated; what's waiting at **Cumberland Falls** is not: a moonbow — a rainbow created by mist and a full moon in a rare and awe-inspiring natural phenomenon.

### X Marks the Spot

A whole world yawns beneath your feet at **Carter Caves State Resort Park** in Olive Hill. Headache Rock, Giant Turkey and the Great Chandelier await at the bottom of **X-Cave's** stone staircase. Enter the Dragon's Lair at scenic **Cascade Cave** and see a 30-foot underground waterfall.

### **Swamp Things**

A fitting tribute to the naturalist/ornithologist for which Henderson's **John James Audubon State Park** is named: The 649-acre **Audubon Wetlands** is where a bald cypress tree slough, shrub wetland and floodplain forest converge to form a unique ecosystem. A quartermile boardwalk overlooks a habitat lively with woodland birds, beavers, bald eagles, otters, fish, waterfowl and other creatures.

### They're Back ...

A crowd-pleaser has returned to **Jenny Wiley State Resort Park** in Prestonsburg. Guided Elk Viewing Tours, which take place offsite at nearby viewing locations and include discussion of the history of the elk restoration in Kentucky, happen September through March. Eastern Kentucky reclaimed surface mines provide wildlife habitats for the nearly 11,000 elk.

### **Bison on the Horizon**

See the bison herd that links **Big Bone Lick State Historic Site** to its Ice Age past and roams about not far from a diorama capturing a scene at the salt springs where a mammoth, ground sloth and other mega mammals are trapped. This National Natural Landmark in Union is considered the Birthplace of American Vertebrate Paleontology.

### **Land of the Giants**

Once upon a time, there was a family of 14-foot giants who brought their magic to Dunmor's **Lake Malone State Park**. Meet the Twiggs: Bobber, Oakley, Happy and new additions Annette, Paige and Watson. These lovable larger-than-life characters relish the camping life — fishing, hiking, roasting marshmallows and catching fireflies and butterflies — in their beautiful lakeside setting.





### **Beachy-Keen**

Here's how to beach in Kentucky: Remove flip-flops. Dig toes in sand. Say ahh. Among Kentucky State Parks' 10 beaches are the pristine white-sand beach at **Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park** in Dawson Springs, a sunseeker's oasis with 775 feet of sandy shoreline at **Barren River Lake State Resort Park** in Lucas and a sandy swath ready for sandcastle building at **Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park**.

### On the Waterfront

Wake up with the sun as it sets the water to shimmering; turn in at night as the water laps the shore's edge and lulls you to sleep. Here is where vacation photos (and memories) happen: at scenic campsites with a forest backdrop and unobstructed views of **Green River Lake** in Campbellsville and at blue-green **Nolin Lake** in Mammoth Cave.

### Rock On

In a park known for breathtaking views, natural streams, beautiful stonework and extraordinary rock formations — like Raven Rock, soaring 290 feet into the sky — is a massive sandstone rock house that time and Mother Nature have sculpted into an amphitheater. **Kingdom Come State Park's** Cave Amphitheater has lighting and seating — a natural meeting space for small groups.



**SCAN THE QR CODE**FOR MORE ON KENTUCKY STATE PARKS.



### State Parks Facts

### **Among the First**

History, nostalgia and magnificent views characterize Pineville's **Pine Mountain State Resort Park**. Established along with Natural Bridge and two other locations to be the first four state parks, Pine Mountain is known for its trails — including Chain Rock, named for the boulder perched above Pineville and chained in place.

### From Railroad to Resort Park

Natural Bridge State Resort Park near Slade is known for its massive sandstone arch. Lesser known, it was once owned by Kentucky Union Railway, which was chartered in 1854 and built the park's first campground and trails.

### One of the Fab Four

Old Fort Harrod at Old Fort Harrod State Park in Harrodsburg is near the site of the first permanent settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains. The park is one of Kentucky's original four state parks.

### Ancient Native American Village to Newest Park

Its earthen mounds built by native people of the Mississippian culture, Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site in Wickliffe is today an archaeological site — and the latest official addition to the Kentucky State Parks system in 2004.



## Experiencing HORSE CO

Kentucky Horse Country saddles up good times, with opportunities for experiencing horses right where they live, work, show and play. Meet thoroughbred champs, American Saddlebreds — the "horse America made" — and other breeds on interactive tours and backcountry trails, in world-class museums and historic farms and barns and in picturesque settings - pastures framed by dry-laid rock walls, remote wildlands and racetracks backed by grandstands. #TravelKY



Surrounded by more than 400 horse farms and miles of storybook stone fencing, Lexington is the Horse Capital of the World and home to **Kentucky Horse Park**, which celebrates the Bluegrass State's storied horse heritage. The 1,200-acre working equine theme park is the only such facility in the world.

See daily shows at the Hall of Champions, Breeds Barn and Big Barn. Learn about different horse breeds and their roles throughout history at the park's **International Museum of the Horse**. Experience a horsey adventure firsthand with a guided trail ride or pony ride for the kids.

Hear the horses' hooves pounding 'round the track at **Keeneland**, Lexington's internationally renowned racecourse and National Historic Landmark. Take in the beautiful scenery. Tailgate on "The Hill" with food trucks and bluegrass music. Rub elbows over a country breakfast with a who's who of horse jockeys and trainers at the Track Kitchen.

A proliferation of horse farms and breeding and training facilities dedicated to the American Saddlebred has earned Shelbyville/Shelby County the official title of **American Saddlebred Capital of the World**. See these high-stepping equine athletes at the Shelbyville Horse Show, held annually in August.

The capital of edge-of-the-seat excitement? That would be Louisville's **Churchill Downs** and the Kentucky Derby — "the most exciting two minutes in sports." Don your Insta-worthy statement hat. Sip a mint julep. Find your voice and sing along: "Oh, the sun shines bright on my old Kentucky home."

Learn about the life of a thoroughbred and the history of the Derby at the interactive **Kentucky Derby Museum**. (And save time to dig into a Kentucky Hot Brown at the Derby Café and Bourbon Bar.)

See daily life unfold at a working thoroughbred horse farm at Goshen's legendary **Hermitage Farm** — known for raising winners of the Kentucky Derby, Breeder's Cup and other stakes races. Choose among themed guided tours of the farm as well as guided or self-guided tours of the gardens. Linger over a seasonal farm-to-table dinner at **Barn8**, a converted historic horse stable, and sample small-batch selections from Kentucky Bourbon Trail® distilleries.

How do racing thoroughbreds live their best lives once they've crossed the finish line of their careers?





Clockwise from top: Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington; Churchill Downs, Louisville; Kismet Farm, Simpsonville

### KENTUCKY

Yes, Kentucky is awash in bourbon — but it has plenty of wine, beer and other spirits, too: As in the 13 breweries on the **West Kentucky Brew Hop**, bopping along from Owensboro to Bowling Green to Paducah. Feeling moody? Ashland's **Tomcat Bourbons and Brew House** presents two bars and two moods: spirited convo on one side, pool and darts on the other — bourbon and craft taps, patio and music for all.

If fruit is more your jam, Augusta's **Baker-Bird Winery** offers superlative sips at the only winery to survive a Civil War battle. Logan County's only winery since Prohibition, Auburn's **Carriage House Vineyards**, tickles the tongue with strawberry, white peach and mandarin fruit wines.

Then there's good ol' Kentucky moonshine, (now) made legally at Sparta's **Neely Family Distillery**, and a chance to see how barrels are blazed to impart flavor at East Bernstadt's **Cumberland Cooperage**.





### 25th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE KENTUCKY BOURBON TRAIL®

From Ludlow's Second Sight Spirits to Franklin's Dueling Grounds, from Maysville's Old Pogue to Owensboro's Green River, the **Kentucky Bourbon Trail®** and the **Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour®** span 950-plus miles, 42 distilleries and two time zones, creating the ultimate bourbon excursion.

See, taste and smell the legendary distilleries, each offering a distinct experience with behind-the-scenes tours and tastings — and some offering hands-on opportunities, like Bardstown Bourbon Co.'s Rickhouse Barrel Thieving.

Eat cuisine curated to complement finely crafted whiskeys and witness some of the most beautiful countryside this side of Ireland. Kentucky produces 95 percent of America's Native Spirit in that old-fashioned, time-honored tradition.





### **Bourbon**ADVENTURES

### Be the Bottle

Step into the role of Master Distiller and blend your own whiskey using different flavor profiles at **Barrels & Billets** in Louisville. Learn whiskey history during this custom bourbon experience, create a bourbon recipe, taste and blend six award-winning bourbons and name your creation. As an option, you can have your custom bourbon bottled onsite.

### Small Town, Big Bourbon

In a town measuring a wee 1.6 square miles, the **Augusta Distillery** spreads over 45,000 square feet in a former carriage maker's building. In this historic Augusta setting, pop a barrel bung and thieve whiskey straight from the cask during a hands-on distillery experience. Bottle, cork and label your own spirit, and sip a rare, award-winning bourbon.

### **Bourbon in a Barn**

Steal away to a farm in rural Frankfort for a Whiskey Thief Uncut & Unfiltered Tour at **Whiskey Thief Distilling Co.** Tour the stillhouse, sample up to five bourbons and/or whiskeys straight from the barrel and fill your own bottle. A team of Stave & Thief-certified bourbon stewards guides visitors through the experience.

### From Blankets to Bourbon

Once the home of Churchill Weavers, known for its signature couch throws and blankets, this historic Berea landmark, now called Churchill's, houses the upscale **Honeysuckle Dining and Bourbon House**. Seasonally changing menus plate up Southern classics with hints of modern and world influences.

### **Cooperage Completes the Picture**

You've been to the distilleries. You've tasted the bourbons. Now go behind the scenes at Lebanon's **Kentucky Cooperage** to see how the barrels that age Kentucky bourbon are flamed to just the right char to impart flavor and color — the perfect way to round out any Kentucky bourbon experience.

### "Knockin' on Heaven's Door"

Nobel Prize- and multi Grammy Award-winning legendary rocker Bob Dylan has co-created a collection of hand-crafted American whiskeys, showcased as part of one of the country's largest selections of American whiskeys, in the new **Heaven's Door Spirits** brand center in Louisville. Co-founded by Dylan, it features the Last Refuge — a restaurant, whiskey bar and live music venue set inside a converted 1879 church.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE ABOUT KENTUCKY BOURBON.



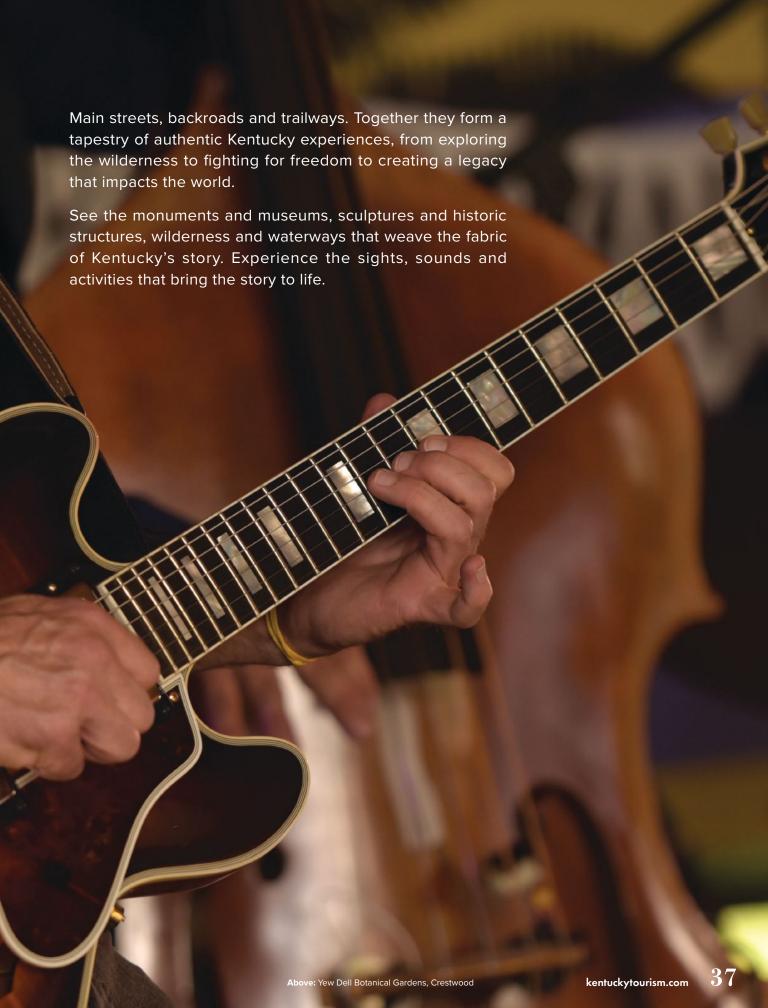
WHERE LIFE'S LITTLE REWARD IS A WHOLE WAY OF LIFE.



GoToLouisville.com



# Culture and Heritage





#### In the Frontiersman's Footsteps

At **Boone Trace Trail**, explore the road that Daniel built and that pioneers followed on their way to settling the West. In London's Levi Jackson Wilderness Road Park, check out the "Library of Mountain Millstones" — the largest such collection outside the Smithsonian Institute. The weighty disks encircle McHargue's Mill, home of a 2,000-pound millstone that dates back to 1805.

#### **Forget Me Not**

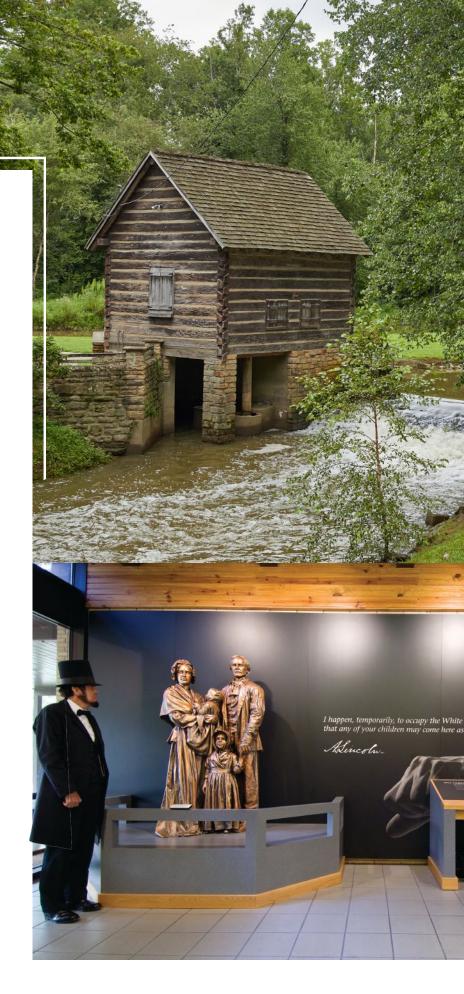
Pick up a map at Constitution Square Historic Site for a driving tour around Danville and Boyle County to visit the Forgotten Landmarks: African American Sites in Boyle County. Travel from the Amelia Sleet Burton Colored School to African American-owned Foag's Park Baseball Field to the Shelby City African American Cemetery and learn about oncethriving settlements and free towns.

#### **Munitions Manse**

Bizarre but true: The Italianate mansion rising in stately splendor amidst beautiful gardens was once filled with ammunition. Partially constructed at the time of the Civil War, Bowling Green's Riverview at Hobson Grove, on the **Civil War Heritage Trail**, was once occupied by the Confederate Army and had soldiers stationed on the grounds and explosives stored in the basement.

#### Portal to African American History

From Nicholasville and the Camp Nelson National Monument to the Kentucky/Ohio bridge, the **Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor** travels 88 miles and two centuries into the history of the African American experience. See Young's Mays Lick birth cabin, a Rosenwald School, key landmarks on the Underground Railroad, significant churches and other sights.





#### **Presidential Pathways**

Wending through the knobs of Kentucky, the **72-mile Lincoln Heritage Scenic Highway** explores the legacy of the 16th president beginning at Hodgenville's Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park. Add historic context at Bardstown's Civil War Museum and Women's Museum of the Civil War and the Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site, where Kentucky's bloodiest Civil War battle erupted in 1862.

#### "Be Great. Do Great Things."

Among the landmark locations across 15 states and Washington, D.C., that comprise the **U.S. Civil Rights Trail** is Louisville's award-winning Muhammad Ali Center. Founded by "The Greatest" himself, this multicultural, interactive museum celebrates the life and legacy of a world heavyweight champion, global humanitarian and cultural icon who stood up for his beliefs and became an inspiration to all.



#### Exploring Kentucky Main Streets

At the heart of every community lies a Main Street, a source of civic pride. Our Main Streets tell us who we are and who we were, showcasing how the past has shaped us. Preservation, national trails, nature, nostalgia and noshes — Kentucky Main Streets are hustle-bustle hubs for gathering, dining, shopping, strolling, hiking and making unexpected discoveries.

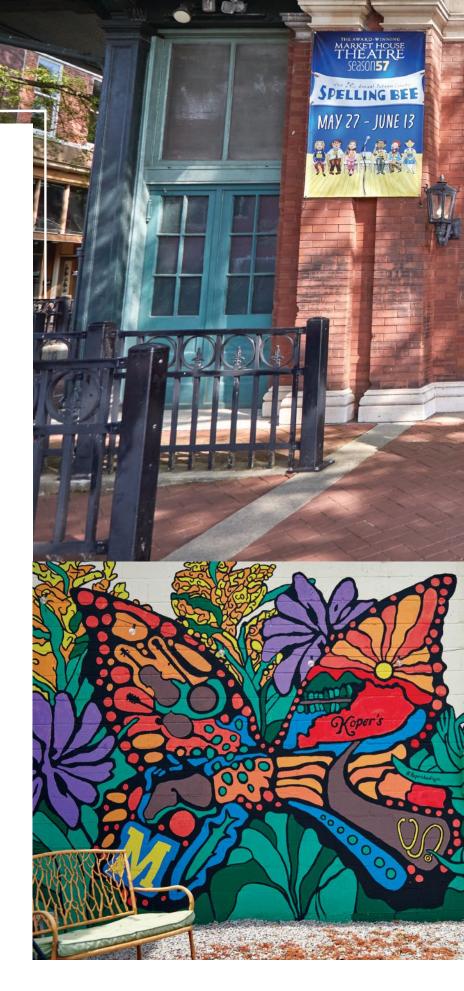
In **Morehead**, shop-hop as you hike the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail. This historic 343-mile trail runs right down Main Street, where you can enjoy music, shopping and more.

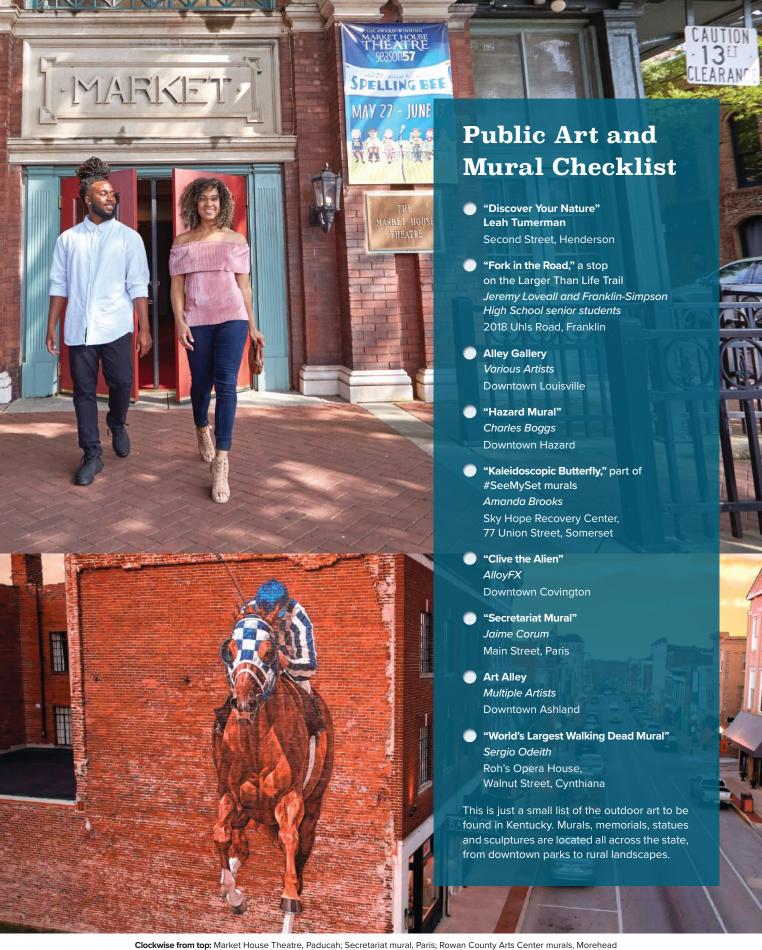
Choose your own path in downtown **Cynthiana**, where a walking tour provides public art, history, the Roh Theatre and the Walking Dead mural.

Love al fresco eats? So does **Paducah**, with cocktail trails and outdoor dining experiences — not to mention shops, sculptures and an incredible river walk where murals tell the history of the town.

And we can't forget Bourbon. **Bardstown**, the Bourbon Capital of the World, offers that and more. Art, eats and history abound in one of the most beautiful downtowns in America.

These are just a few of the wonderful Kentucky Main Street communities. Since 1979, historic downtowns have been revitalized through their participation in the Kentucky Main Street Program, which fosters a locally driven approach to rebuilding historic commercial districts. Take time to visit one of the Main Street cities across Kentucky as the Heritage Council celebrates its 45th year in revitalizing Kentucky communities.





#### Music in the Great Outdoors

Many historic music sites across the state go hand-inhand with outdoor attractions. Here are some offering the best of both worlds:

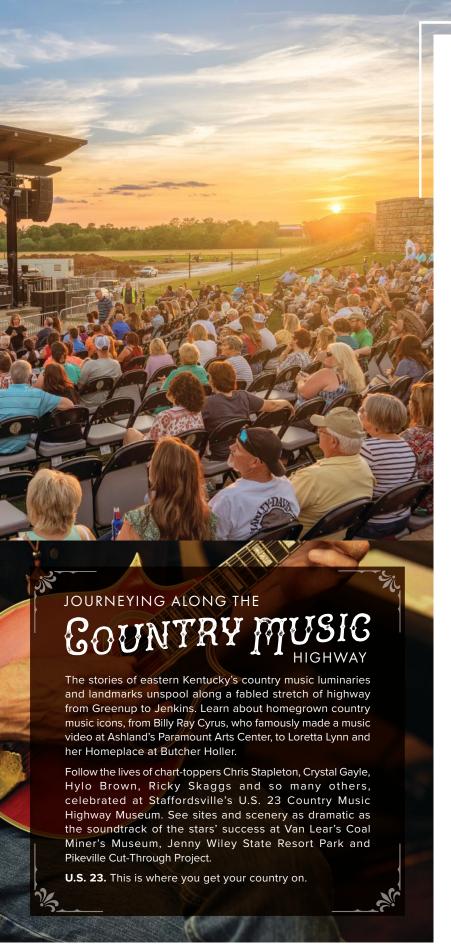
Tap and clap to the beat of marquee musicians (past performers include Little Big Town, Martina McBride, Dwight Yoakam) at **The Amp at Log Still Distillery**, where every seat feels like the best seat in the house and the "house" is acres of rolling farmland in New Haven. The experience? Entertainment under the stars in a state-of-the-art, 2,000-seat amphitheater set amidst walking paths, a fishing lake and a train depot to whisk guests to special events.

Community events and the longest-running Homecoming in Kentucky (held every August around the full moon) take place at the amphitheater in the **Levi Jackson Wilderness Road Park**. Located in London, it includes a section of the Wilderness Road early settlers trod to reach Kentucky. Hit the zip lines, suspended tunnels and rope bridges of the park's Treetop Adventure. Hike or bike Boone Trace Trail and Bro Spo — Broken Spoke Trail. Explore pioneer artifacts at the Mountain Life Museum. Play 18-hole miniature golf. Pitch a tent at the campground.









A former Appalachian railroad yard rocks out during the **Levitt Amp Whitesburg Music Series** every Thursday during June and July. On the Mountain Heritage Stage? Free family-friendly concerts that kick off with opening act musicians followed by the headliners and an impressive lineup of musical stylings. Past seasons have featured everything from folk and bluegrass to Latin and African rhythms to alternative and country rock and more.

If it looks authentic, that's because it is: The **Rosine Barn Jamboree** on Jerusalem Ridge hosts free live bluegrass, gospel and country music Friday nights, March through early December. Bill Monroe, the Father of Bluegrass Music himself, performed on this stage — one reason bluegrass music fans from around the world are drawn to this National Register of Historic Places site.

The barn is located not far from the restored **Bill Monroe Homeplace** just outside of Rosine. Built circa 1917, Monroe's boyhood home pays tribute to the man and the musician who has influenced generations of bluegrass artists.

Step back to simpler times at **Joel Ray's Lincoln Jamboree**. Hear local singing sensations perform at Kentucky's No. 1 family-owned and family-oriented country music and entertainment show since 1954. In its 70 years, Bill Monroe, Patty Loveless and Whisperin' Bill Anderson have played at this Hodgenville landmark, a short 15-minute walk from the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park.

Spread a blanket before the 1930s historic **Band Shell in Devou Park** in Covington for a concert with the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra or other musicians. The 700-acre park is home to the Behringer-Crawford Museum, a fishing lake, a golf course, hiking and biking trails and an overlook offering panoramic views of Northern Kentucky river towns on the banks of the Ohio River.

An 85-year Kentucky tradition, **Renfro Valley Entertainment Center** knows how to keep fans returning to its Barn Theaters and RV Park: a rich history of strong country music roots and a focus firmly on the music. RV camping puts fans within walking distance of two stages and the nearby **Kentucky Music Hall of Fame**, housed in the original riding stables of Renfro Valley founder John Lair.

**SCAN THE QR CODE**FOR MORE CULTURE & HERITAGE.



# Festivals and

#### How do you festival in Kentucky?

With hats and horses, handicrafts and culinary heritage. With a lineup of Colonel Sanders lookalikes and a week's worth of everything quilts. With the world's largest biscuit, biggest skillet, tallest stack of country ham and most unusual concoction — that being a delicacy called "goetta" made of pork, beef and pinhead oats. With bourbon, barbecue and bluegrass, country and gospel music.

Kentucky boasts all sorts of festivals and events, from summer concert series to Pride festivals to holiday celebrations. Be sure to check social media or the event website before you travel, as details and dates are subject to change. On the right is a snapshot of some of the Bluegrass State's biggest events:





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# KENTUCKY APPALACHIANS

Country music royalty. Canyon, caves and treed ravines. Songs and stories flourish in these mountains.





Cave Run Lake, Morehead
 Loretta Lynn's Home Place, Van Lear
 Dawkins Line Rail Trail, Paintsville
 Greenbo Lake State Resort Park, Greenup
 Yatesville Lake State Park, Louisa
 U.S. 23 Country Music Highway Museum, Staffordsville
 Tomcat Bourbon & Brew House, Ashland
 Carter Caves State Resort Park, Olive Hill
 Breaks Interstate Park, Elkhorn City
 Randall McCoy House and Well, Hardy









Lace up your hiking boots for the more than 600 miles of trails within the **Daniel Boone National Forest**. Other pursuits? Fishing, wildlife viewing and dropping your jaw at sandstone-cliffs-and-forested-slopes scenery.

Can't make it west? We gotcha. The Grand Canyon of the South stretches across the Kentucky/Virginia border at **Breaks Interstate Park** near Elkhorn City. Raft raging rapids; hike or mountain bike miles of rugged trails; scale the Appalachian sandstone.

The lure of the lake's beauty, with its wooded coves and forested shoreline, brings out anglers and boaters for getaways to Staffordsville's **Paintsville Lake State Park**, now with a wheelchair-accessible fishing boardwalk and kayak launch.

Named for Appalachian author and former poet laureate of Kentucky, the **Jesse Stuart State Nature Preserve** near Greenup is a place of peace and reflection, one filled with the hills and hollows that figured heavily into Stuart's writings.

Staffordsville's **U.S. 23 Country Music Highway Museum** brings together country music fans and Eastern Kentucky's country music legends — Keith Whitley, Loretta Lynn and

Chris Stapleton among them — through personal memorabilia and Thursday evening Front Porch Pickin' sessions. The Country Music Heritage Hall at Ashland's **Highlands Museum & Discovery Center** likewise connects fans to stars, including Billy Ray Cyrus and The Judds.

Surrounded by the historic architecture, murals and other treasures of the Mt. Sterling Art Trail is the **Gateway Regional Arts Center**, home of Kenyan art, mosaics and sculptures, gallery exhibitions of up-and-coming artists, theater performances and arts workshops.

Drama unfolds on Pikeville's **Hatfields and McCoys Historic Feud Driving Tour**. Meander through the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains to key sites connected to the bloody 30-year feud, including the Hanging Site of Ellison "Cotton Top" Mounts.

Listen to marquee bluegrass bands on top of Morehead's Poppy Mountain during **Rudy Fest**, a five-day music extravaganza held in June that has all the feels of a big family reunion. Bite into tiger ears and fried apple pies at Paintsville's October **Kentucky Apple Festival**, featuring dozens of food booths and crafters from all over the United States.

#### Regional Highlights

#### **1** Since 1794!

They don't fold up the sidewalks — quite the opposite, actually — but they do close downtown streets to traffic during **Mt. Sterling October Court Days**, Kentucky's oldest running festival. It's four days of bustling, tent-lined streets, music, crafts, antiques, shopping adventures, country ham and lively crowds.

#### 2 Level Up or Down

Adventures mild to wild happen at **Carter Caves State Resort Park** in Olive Hill — from 18-hole mini golf and gem mining to caving and rappelling, from private patio lodge rooms to backcountry "roughing-it" campsites, from rocking chair evenings fireside to hiking along cliffs and arches.

#### 4 Humble Home, Hallowed Ground

The Queen of Country Music grew up in a century-old Butcher Holler mountain cabin. **Loretta Lynn's Home Place** reflects the 1930s-1940s childhood of the singer/songwriter and self-taught guitarist who grew up in Van Lear coal country. Learn more at the **Coal Miners' Museum**, tucked in a coal company's former headquarters.

#### **5** Postcard Pastimes

The weather is fine. So are the boating and birding. Wish you were here at Prestonsburg's **Jenny Wiley State Resort Park** and **Dewey Lake**. Reel in a largemouth bass. Mountain bike the Dawkins Line Rail Trail. Learn about the park's namesake pioneer heroine at the Nature Center.





#### **Travel** Information

#### **Ashland**

606-329-1007, visitaky.com

#### **Boyd County**

606-585-4770, visitboydcounty.com

#### **Elliott County**

visitelliottcounty.com

#### Frenchburg/Menifee County

606-768-9000, frenchburgky.com

#### **Grayson/Olive Hill/Carter County**

606-474-5366

facebook.com/cartercountytourism

#### **Greenup County**

606-473-6440 greenupcountyky.gov/tourism

#### **Louisa/Lawrence County**

606-638-0078, visitlcky.com

#### Morehead/Rowan County

606-780-4342 visitmorehead.com

#### **Mount Sterling**

859-498-8732 mtsterlingtourism.com

#### **Owingsville/Bath County**

606-674-6346

facebook.com/bathcountykytourism

#### **Paintsville**

606-297-1469, paintsvilletourism.com

#### Pikeville/Pike County

606-432-5063 tourpikecounty.com visitpikeville.com

#### **Prestonsburg**

606-886-1341, prestonsburgky.org

#### **West Liberty**

606-743-3330, visitwestliberty.com

#### Plan your regional road trip!





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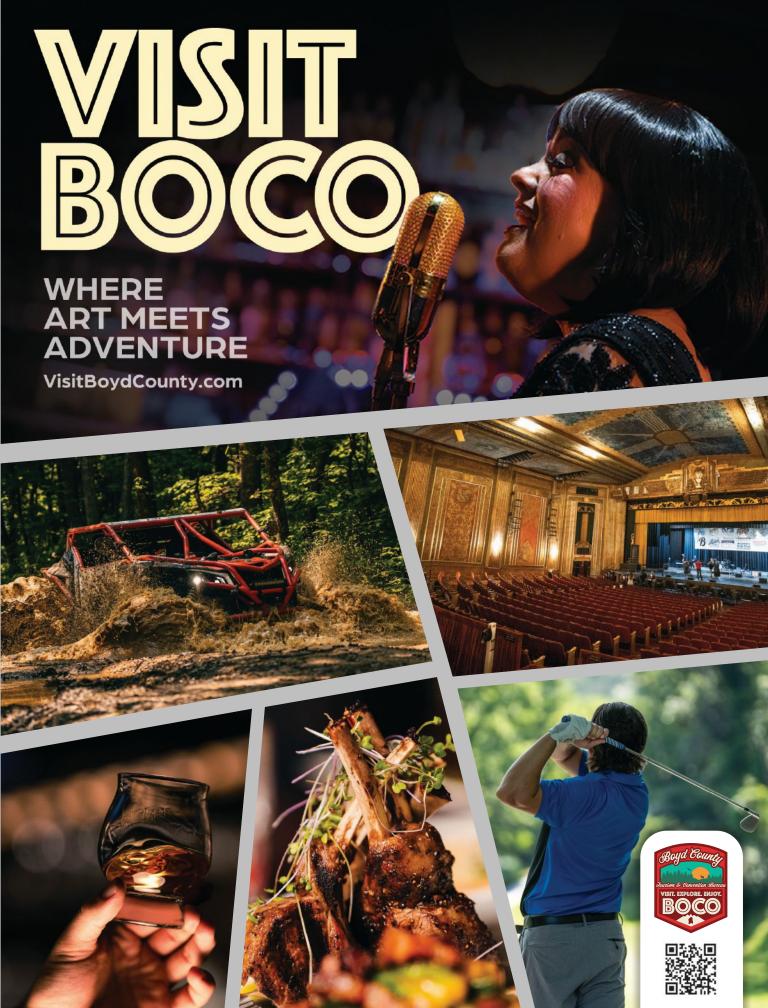


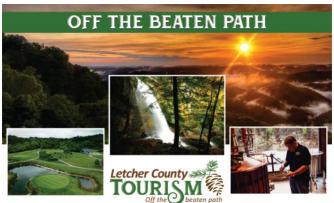


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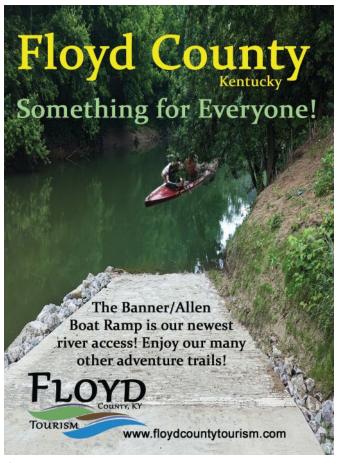


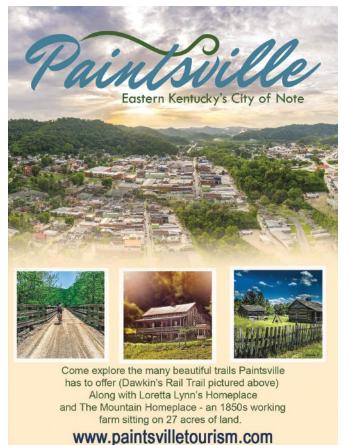


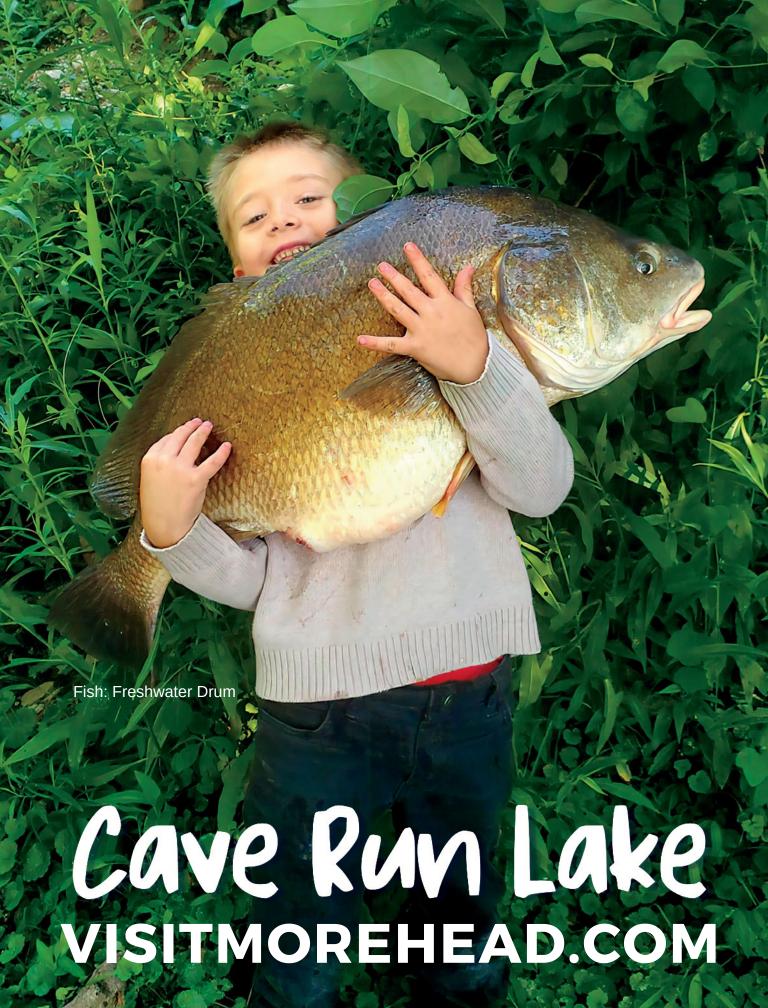


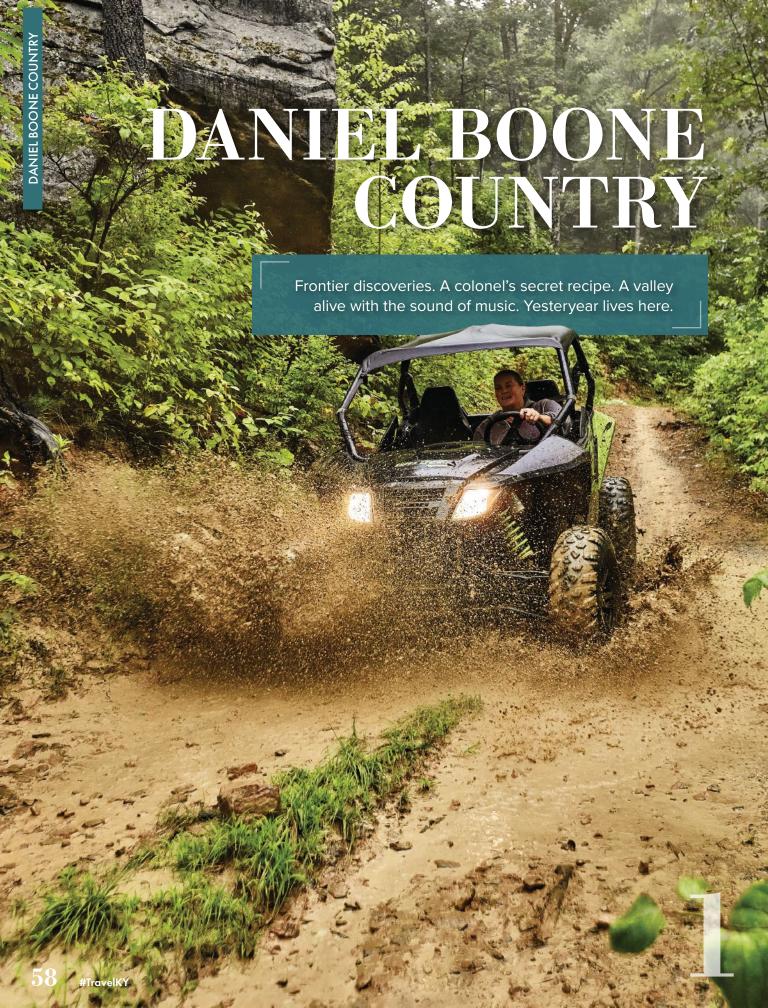
#### **BE BOLD WITH US!**

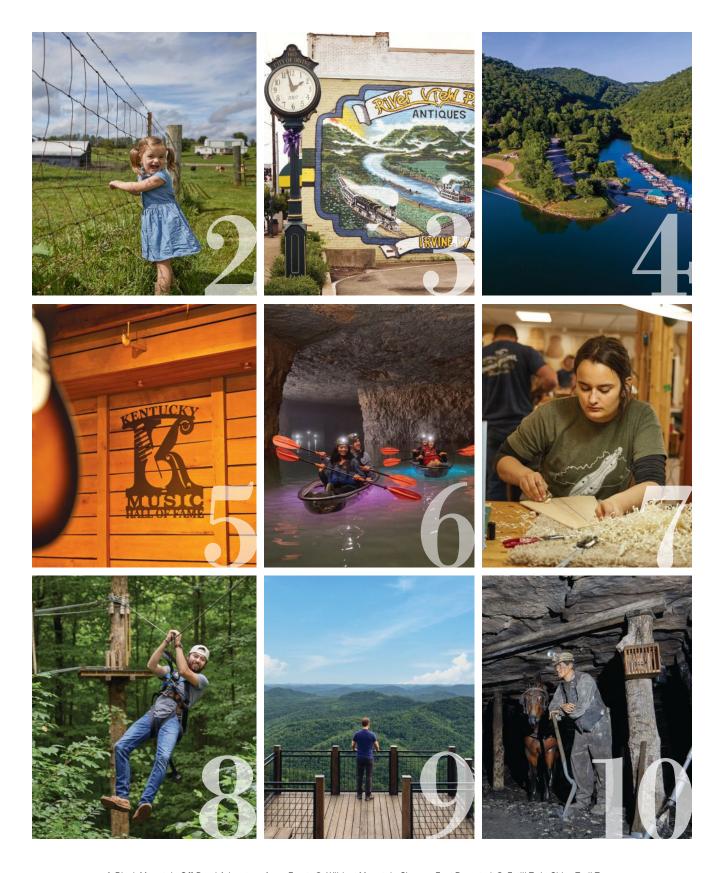
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Black Mountain Off-Road Adventure Area, Evarts 2. Wildcat Mountain Cheese, East Bernstadt 3. Estill Twin Cities Trail Town
 Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park, Buckhorn 5. Kentucky Music Hall of Fame & Museum, Mount Vernon 6. Gorge Underground, Rogers
 Appalachian School of Luthiery, Hindman 8. Treetop Adventure at Levi Jackson, London 9. Falcon Overlook, Whitesburg 10. Portal 31, Lynch

You know you've entered **Kentucky's Country Music Capital** when you spot the Old Barn Theatre and New Barn Theatre at Mount Vernon's **Renfro Valley Entertainment Center**. It's where country music magic happens.

Next door, see tributes to over 60 inductees representing all musical genres at the **Kentucky Music Hall of Fame & Museum** (also the Mount Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourism Visitor Center). Located along the U.S. 21 Bike Route, the museum is also near hidden fishing and boating haven **Lake Linville**.

Spend Labor Day weekend in downtown Manchester steeped in music, from Appalachian folk to outlaw country, during the free **Manchester Music Fest**. Ice-cold beer on tap, food truck faves, fireworks and a parade add to the fun.

Hike miles of wilderness trails once trekked by bison, Native Americans and pioneers at **Cumberland Gap National Historical Park** in Middlesboro, the first Gateway to the West. Stand in three states at once: Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Follow along a stretch of the Wilderness Road and Boone Trace in London's **Levi Jackson Wilderness Road Park**.

Hike a historic train tunnel at **Tanglewood Trail** near Whitesburg River Park that will connect to Pine Mountain

State Scenic Trail — especially striking during fall foliage forays into Letcher County and the scenic overlooks near the trail.

Drive the narrow, twisty and heavily forested **Little Shepherd Trail** from the top of Pine Mountain to **Kingdom Come State Park**. Are the indescribably beautiful vistas at the overlooks worth braving the relentless curves of this roadway? Oh yes. Yes, they are.

Crunch into KFC at the one place it is acceptable to lick your fingers — the **Sanders Museum & Café** in Corbin. See the kitchen where Colonel Sanders first blended his secret 11 herbs and spices into culinary history.

Secret garden? Garden of Eden? Livingston's picture-perfect **Rockcastle River Trading Company** gardens, tucked on the banks of Rockcastle River, are both. The grounds include a gift shop, walking path and koi pond.

Named for the poisonous but edible pokeweed, Harlan's **Poke Sallet Festival** is all about the live music entertainment, including Poke Sallet Idol, plus local artisans and crafters, a car show and more.









Opposite page: Sanders Museum & Café, Corbin Above, clockwise from top: Rockcastle Outdoor Company, Livingston;
Kentucky Coal Mining Museum, Benham; Sugar Creek Farm, McKee

#### **Regional Highlights**

#### Calling All Scuba Divers

Water babies, too. London's Laurel River Lake is an enchanted enclave of deep, clean water lapping a crescent of sandy beach and sheltered by dramatic cliffs. Boating, fishing (day and night), wildlife viewing, sunning lazily by the shoreline and quietly contemplating nature are the order of the day.

#### 2 Pack Your Hiking Boots

Streams, woodlands, rock formations, bridges - hike over, through, along and onward to the main attraction: Vanhook Falls. Located near London on the Sheltowee Trace National Recreational Trail in the Daniel Boone National Forest, it is a column of water plunging 40 feet down and splashing the boulders below.

#### Rockin' The Red

Hike the Sheltowee Trace

Red River Gorge Geological Area: Travel the winding Red River Gorge National Scenic Byway. See spectacular views of historic Nada Tunnel, sandstone arches, towering cliffs and the Wild and Scenic Red River.

Chew through miles of rugged terrain at Black Mountain Off-Road Adventure Area in Evarts. Beginner, intermediate and extreme ATV trails are joined by Kentucky's highest, fastest and longest zipline at Black Mountain Thunder Zipline. No wonder — the mountain is Kentucky's highest peak. Hike Kingdom Come's Raven Rock Trail or Knobby Rock Trail in Blanton Forest for mountain views.

4 Adventure from Path to Peak

#### 5 Art of Appalachia

At Hindman's Appalachian Artisan Center, experience Kentucky Appalachia through art exhibitions, hands-on workshops like stringed instrument-making, handcrafted items from jewelry and pottery to quilts and furniture in the shop and displays of Kentucky's state instrument in the Dulcimer Museum.

#### 6 Schooled in Coal Mining History

Lessons on Appalachian history are served at the century-old Benham Schoolhouse Inn, where original hardwood floors gleam in guest rooms and old student lockers line the hallways. Nearby in Lynch, Portal No. 31 offers tours of a once-





### Travel Information

Barbourville/Knox County

606-545-9674, barbourvilletourism.com

Beattyville/Lee County 606-464-5038, visitleecountyky.com

**Breathitt County** 606-666-4159

Corbin

606-528-8860, corbinkytourism.com

Cumberland/Benham/Lynch

606-573-4156

harlancountytrails.com/explore/tri-cities

**Evarts** 

606-837-0609, evartskentucky.com

Harlan

606-573-4156, harlancountytourism.com

**Hazard/Perry County** 

606-487-1580, hazardperrytourism.com

Irvine/Estill County

606-723-2450, exploreestill.com

London/Laurel County

606-878-6900, visitlondonky.com

**Middlesboro/Pineville/Bell County** 606-248-2482, bellcountytourism.com

Mount Vernon/Rockcastle County

606-256-9814, rockcastletourism.com

Slade/Red River Gorge/

**Powell County** 

606-663-1161, gopoco.org

Whitesburg/Letcher County

606-634-1814, discoverletcher.com

**Whitley County** 

606-549-6000

whitleycountytourism.com

Williamsburg

606-549-0530, williamsburgky.com

**Wolfe County** 

606-668-7979, visitwolfecounty.com

#### Plan your regional road trip!





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#### Discover Kentucky's Outdoor Majesty

Located in the southern and eastern parts of the state, The Kentucky Wildlands offers visitors a distinctive combination of outdoor adventures and authentic Appalachian experiences. Featuring nationally acclaimed parks and forests, with captivating historic sites, tours and Bluegrass traditions.

Breathtaking scenic byways take you through Instagram-perfect vistas and along the picturesque main streets of mountain towns. Your incredible journey begins at the crossroads of any of these quaint communities, and connects travelers to nationally celebrated parks, state parks, one-of-a-kind wonders and endless trails. Including over 300 miles of backcountry hikes on the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail.

The Daniel Boone National Forest. More than 800 waterfalls, including celebrated Cumberland Falls. And be sure you don't miss Red River Gorge and awe-inspiring natural sandstone bridges and arches. Whatever your passions – whether watersports, horseback riding, biking and off-roading – the thrills await.

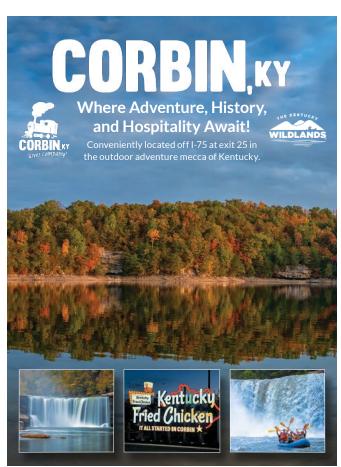
What's more, you'll find yourself fascinated by legendary Appalachian culture. Around every turn you can discover immersive historic sites, tours, storytellers and folk arts. Plus, seasonal festivals and traditional Bluegrass music. In addition to specialized local cuisine and accommodations for every type of guest. A getaway to The Kentucky Wildlands stays with you long after you return to the regular world.



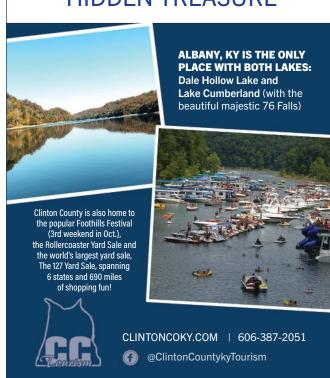


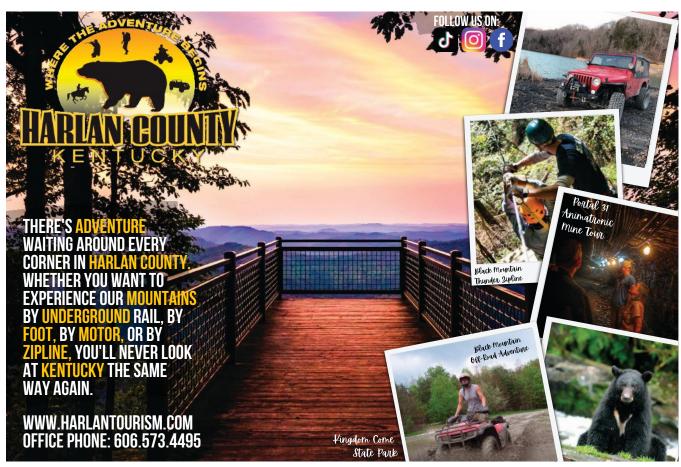


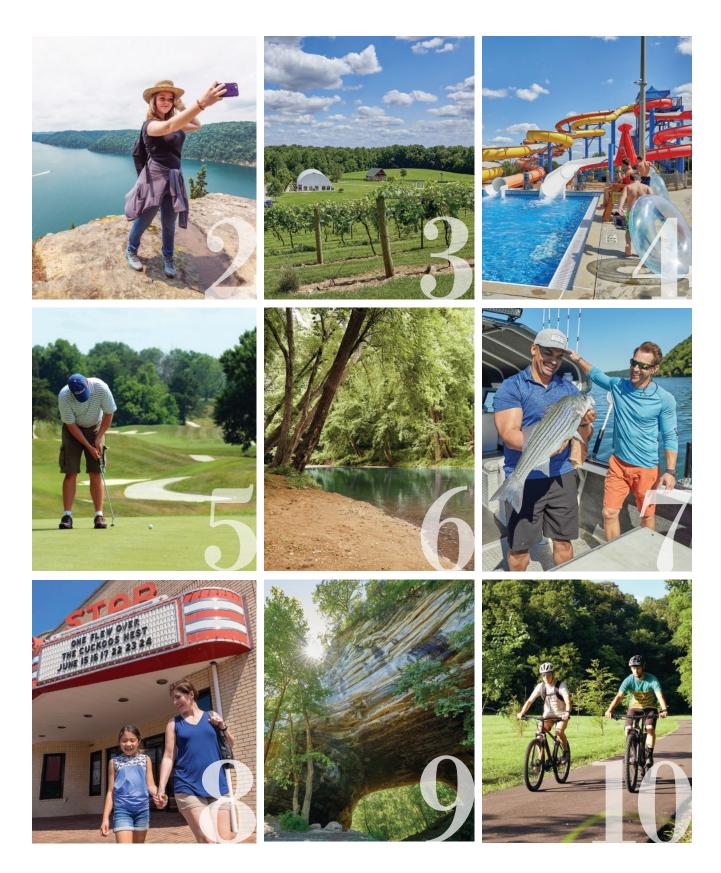
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## DISCOVER KENTUCKY'S HIDDEN TREASURE







Lake Cumberland
 Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park, Burkesville
 Cave Hill Vineyard
 Winery, Eubank
 SomerSplash Waterpark, Somerset
 General Burnside Island State Park, Burnside
 Columbia Trail Town
 Conley Bottom Resort, Monticello
 Star Theater, Russelville
 Creelsboro Natural Arch, Jamestown
 Campbellsville
 Trail Town

Attention wildflower lovers: Throughout hiking season, find a profusion of wildflowers adding their colors to the **Shut In Road Trail**, a nature trail meandering creekside and along Green River in Liberty.

Within Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area are gorges and sandstone bluffs, rivers, streams and waterfalls, including **Princess Falls**, a curtain of water splashing into Lick Creek at the end of a family-friendly 1.3-mile hike. In Whitley City in the Daniel Boone National Forest, climb several flights of stairs to a spectacular sight: the sandstone **Natural Arch**, which spans 100 feet, is a sight to behold from the overlook.

An island vacation in landlocked Kentucky? Yep. **General Burnside Island State Park** in Burnside has a gorgeous campground and award-winning golf course on an island surrounded by rolling forestland and the waters of Lake Cumberland.

See corn ground into meal at Monticello's historic **Mill Springs Mill**, located on the grounds of the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument and a stop on the history driving tour that winds through the battlefield.

When was the last time you sipped freshly squeezed apple cider from apples hand-picked from the orchard? Indulge at **Haney's Appledale Farm** in Nancy and shop for fresh produce, jarred condiments, handmade toys and more.

The **Downtown Historic District of Campbellsville** offers a Main Street shopping experience amidst a beam-to-board collection of beautifully preserved 19th-century brick, stone and iron buildings with Italianate architectural facades.

The caliber of entertainment at Somerset's July **Master Musicians Festival** is stellar, with multi-cultural and multi-generational music — from bluegrass to Celtic to jazz — ringing out from the stage. Bring a lawn chair to Russell Springs' **Lake Cumberland Bluegrass Festival** in August for regional and national touring acts paired with dusky nights and pulled pork nachos.

Feed fish in the outdoor flumes. Cast a line at Hatchery Creek. Witness the industriousness of the residents in a honeybee hive at the interactive Visitor/Environmental Education Center. It all happens at **Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery** in Jamestown — featuring a theater, gift shop and picnic area, too.









Opposite page: Princess Falls, Stearns Above, clockwise from top: Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery Visitor and Environmental Education Center, Jamestown; Haney's Appledale Farm, Nancy; Master Musicians Festival, Somerset kentuckytourism.com

#### Saddle and Saloon

Bring your horse to **Quiet Woods Green River Stables** for camping and exploring the **Green River Lake Trail System**. Located near Campbellsville, a Kentucky Trail Town and home of Green River Lake State Park, this horse and RV camp has a saloon, bathhouses and live entertainment.

#### 2 Muskie Make for Fun Fishing Challenge

Ahh, the elusive muskie. Anglers wishing to catch these predators built for speed and known as the fish of 10,000 casts head to **Green River Lake** — especially in the fall. That's when the water cools down and the odds of catching a trophy fish go up.

#### **3** Heaven on a Houseboat

Check the **Houseboat Capital of the World** off your bucket list. A fleet of houseboats. Gorgeous Lake Cumberland. Sunny days, sparkling water, secret coves. Plus, hiking, fishing, mini golfing and dining at Jamestown's **Lake Cumberland State Resort Park**. And a family that never wants to leave.

#### 4 Ready to Sling Dirt?

You may not be at the wheel, but the adrenaline rush is just as intense for Saturday night racing at **Lake Cumberland Speedway** in Burnside: openwheel modifiers, road hogs and late-model racing events on a 3/8-mile red clay oval track, April through October.

#### 5 Up a Not-So-Lazy River

Rock Creek. Dale Hollow Lake. Cumberland River. With multiple river access points, Kentucky-designated Scenic Wild Rivers and Outstanding Water Resources, Whitley City brings the whoosh of **whitewater canoeing** and beginner and intermediate rapids. Fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing, too.

#### **6** Coal Country

Step inside a former working mine on a guided tour at **Barthell Coal Camp** in Stearns. Nearby, explore an abandoned coal mining town at the **Blue Heron Mining Community**, an outdoor museum whose "ghost structures" tell the story of Mine 18.





# Travel Information

#### **Burnside**

606-561-7117, visitburnside.com

#### **Clinton County**

606-387-2051, clintoncoky.com

#### Columbia/Adair County

270-384-6020, visitcolumbiaky.com

#### **Cumberland County**

270-864-5890 cumberlandcounty.com

#### **Green County**

270-932-4298

#### Liberty

606-706-7777, explorelibertyky.com

#### **McCreary County**

606-376-3008, mccrearytourism.com

#### **Pulaski County**

606-679-6394, Ictourism.com

#### **Russell County**

270-866-4333

lakecumberlandvacation.com

#### Somerset

606-679-6366, seesomerset.com

#### **Taylor County**

270-465-3786, campbellsvilleky.com

#### Wayne County

606-348-4241

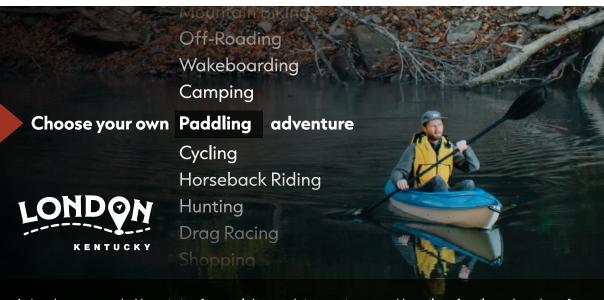
theheartoflakecumberland.com

# Plan your regional road trip!



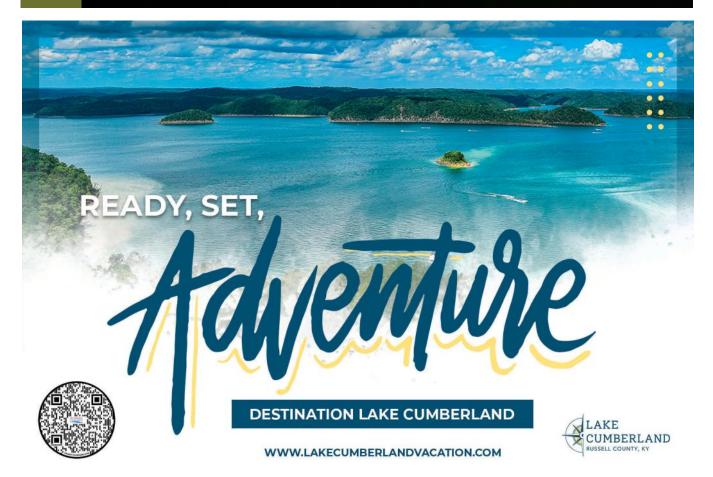


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In London, surrounded by pristine forests, lakes, and rivers, crisscrossed by miles of trails at the edge of Appalachia mountains, London is where adventure begins. Ride some wild Class IV white water one day and float serenely down a scenic flat-water river on a kayak the next. Go skiing on beautiful cliff-lined Laurel River Lake or scuba diving in its clear, deep water. And with year-round fishing, boating, and paddling, it's an angler's and recreational water lover's paradise. VisitLondonKY.com

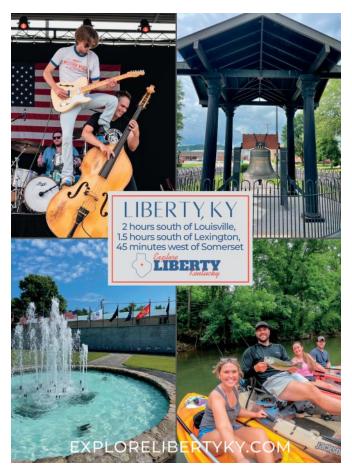
Adventure's Beginning!

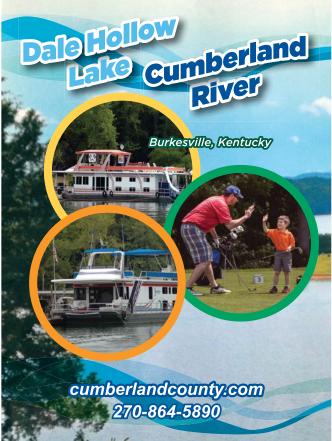


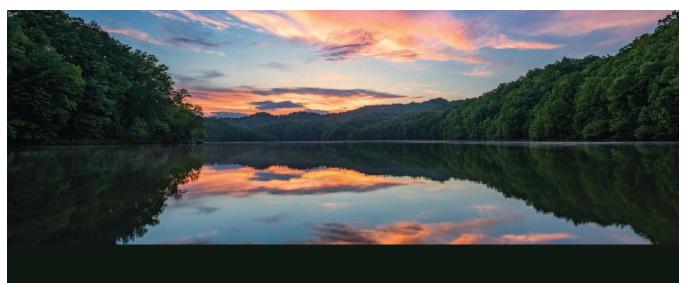
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KENTUCKY



Hidden River Cave, Horse Cave 2. SEEK Museum, Russellville 3. Nolin Lake State Park, Bee Spring 4. Kentucky Stonehenge, Munfordville
 Wigwam Village No. 2, Cave City 6. Lost River Cave Butterfly Habitat, Bowling Green 7. Red River Meeting House, Adairville
 The Mint Gaming Hall, Franklin 9. Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese, Austin 10. Brownsville Trail Town



Gothic architecture. Highly decorated caverns. A Tranquil Valley of Wondering Woods. Tunnels traversed by human footfalls for thousands of years. **Mammoth Cave National Park**, the world's longest-known cave system, World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve, is a truly magical place.

See what was voted the coolest thing made in Kentucky at Bowling Green's **National Corvette Museum**, marking its 30th anniversary in 2024. Rev the engine of America's Sports Car and bank a curve at the **NCM Motorsports Park**. Get in line for the "world's largest moving automotive event" at the National Corvette Caravan in August.

Seven historic buildings. Two National Register Districts. One long, hard-fought journey to emancipation. Hear the stories of freedom's struggles at Russellville's **SEEK Museum**. See the life's work of a world-renowned painter and sculptor at Bowling Green's **Downing Museum** in the pastoral setting of **Baker Arboretum**.

Pitch a tent or park your RV at lake's edge at Bee Spring's **Nolin Lake State Park**, whose crescent of beach beckons sandcastle builders. Go retro at this National Register of Historic Places site in Cave City: **Historic Wigwam Village No. 2**, a piece of Americana right out of the 1930s with original hickory bed frames, plus cooking grills, fire pits and lighted picnic pavilion.

"Not all who wander are lost" might not hold for Kentucky's largest Sunflower Maze, open in August at Franklin's **Ruby Branch Farms**. Fall brings a pumpkin patch, corn maze, mums and seasonal décor and, for the holidays, Christmas trees.

Jesse James Bank Robbery, cemetery tours, blessing of the animals, a craft show, a parade, a kid's zone and so much more! October's annual **Tobacco & Heritage Festival** in Russellville is Logan County's largest community event.

Got game? The **Mint Gaming Hall at Kentucky Downs** in Franklin does — 1,000 gaming machines, plus live music and entertainment, year-round simulcast racing and classic steakhouse dining.







Opposite page: Mammoth Cave National Park, Mammoth Cave Above, clockwise from top: NCM Motorsports Park, Bowling Green;
Morgantown Trail Town; South Union Shaker Village, Auburn

kentuckytourism.com

#### **1** History Happens Here

The year: 1807. The event: Auburn's **South Union Shaker Village** appears on the Kentucky frontier, growing to 200 buildings. Today, Shaker history, architecture and way of life are interpreted through nine original buildings. Special events, such as December's Holiday Market, take place throughout the year.

#### **2** Bring Your Appetite

Franklin's 21-foot-tall stainless steel eating utensil may inspire hunger for more. Rising above the landscape at 2018 Uhls Road, the **Fork in the Road** is among Franklin-Simpson County's public art installations, which also include a spaceship and more impressive pieces in Blackjack Sculpture Park. Snap pictures of Fork in the Road as you explore the emerging 12-city, multi-region **Larger than Life Trail**, featuring Louisville's giant Big Bat and Hopkinsville's oversized wheat sculpture.

#### **3** "Good Beer, Small Batches"

White Squirrel Brewery, located in downtown Bowling Green's historic Shake Rag District, serves fan faves Pale Ale, Kolsch Style and Nut Brown Ale, along with live music and theme nights like trivia. The family-friendly brewery with a full bar also offers food truck noshes, games and special drinks for kiddos.

#### 4 Sense-ation Vacation

See a Kentucky sunset slip into the lake. Feel a bluegill tugging at your line. Hear the smack of a golf ball. Taste golden-fried catfish and other Southern favorites. Smell the bluebells growing wild on the nature trail. Be in the moment at Lucas' **Barren River Lake State Resort Park**.

#### **5** Museum of the Barrens

Inside the historic 1928 former Kentucky Pants Company building, Glasgow's free-admission **South Central Kentucky Cultural Center** shares the story of the Barren community through a pioneer cabin, The General Store of the Barrens, a 1940s-era kitchen and other artifact-filled vignettes. You'll also find the Snavely Gallery with ever-changing exhibits, a genealogy library and a gift shop.

#### 6 A Town's Underground

Gather up your courage and venture across the world's longest underground suspension bridge, hovering high above the river within **Hidden River Cave**. At American Cave Museum — 200-plus steps above the cave entrance — see exhibits on the history of the cave hidden beneath Horse Cave.





# Travel Information

#### **Bowling Green**

270-782-0800, visitbgky.com

#### **Cave City**

270-773-8833, cavecity.com

#### **Edmonson County**

270-597-2222 cavesandlakes.com

#### **Edmonton/Metcalfe County**

270-432-3222 metcalfechamber.com

#### Franklin/Simpson County

270-586-3040, franklinky.com

#### Glasgow/Barren County

270-479-7259 betterinthebarrens.com

#### settermane barrens.com

**Horse Cave/Hart County** 270-218-0386, kygetaway.com

#### Logan County

270-726-1678, visitlogancounty.org

#### **Monroe County**

270-487-1314

monroecountykytourism.com

#### Morgantown/Butler County

270-526-6827 morgantowncoc.com

#### Munfordville

270-524-4752 visitmunfordville.com

#### **Park City**

270-537-1213 visitparkcityky.com

#### Scottsville/Allen County

270-237-4782, scottsvilleky.info

## Plan your regional road trip!





SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE ATTRACTIONS.















Find it all in Franklin, Ky

# SWEET ADVENTURE AWAITS.

Known for the production of globally recognizable products, like Ghirardelli brownie mix, Krusteaz products, Red Lobster Cheddar Bay Biscuit Mix, SunFlour cornmeal, flour and more, Hopkinsville, KY, is the Batter Capital of the World!

As the leading wheat-producing county in the commonwealth, we take great pride in our 46,200 acres of farmland and the amazing farmers who work tirelessly to harvest over 3 million bushels of soft red winter wheat each year. With two craft distilleries and a craft brewery, a thriving arts scene and a delicious local food tour, you will definitely make sweet memories in Hopkinsville!

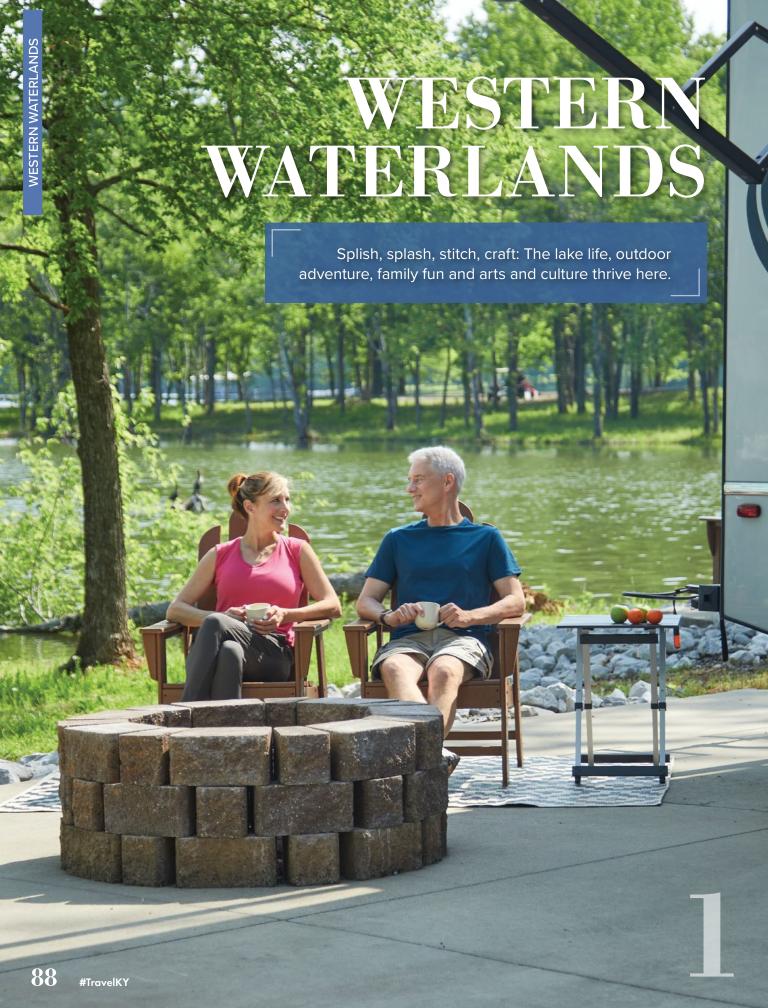


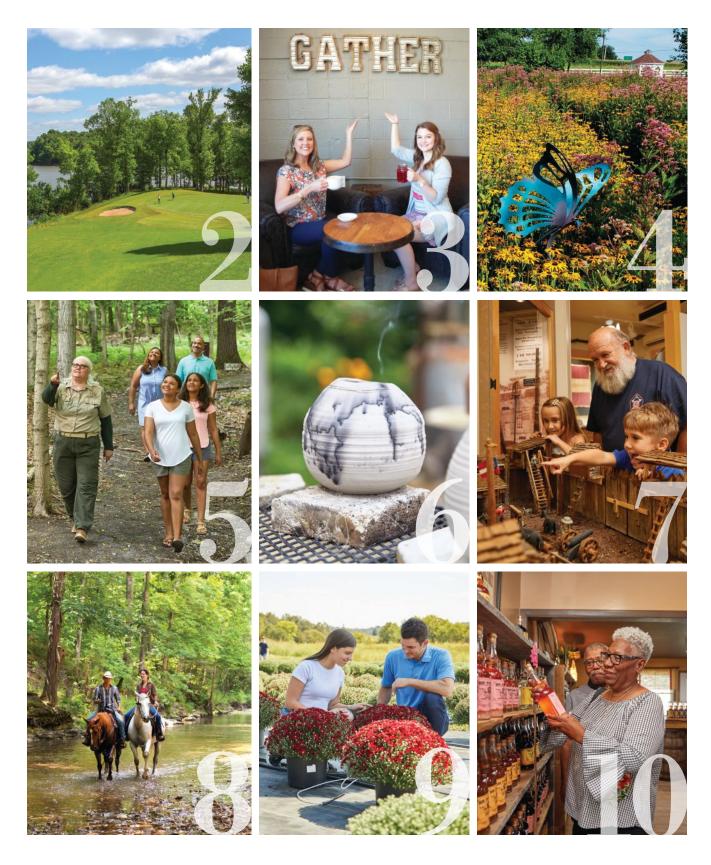
Plan your sweet trip to Hopkinsville today!



www.VisitHopkinsville.com







Prizer Point Resort & Marina, Lake Barkley
 Mineral Mound State Park, Eddyville
 Shaffer Coffee Co., Murray
 Viceroy Butterfly Garden, Oak Grove
 Wickliffe Mounds State Park, Wickliffe
 Bushy Fork Creek Gallery
 Studio, Crofton
 Columbus-Belmont State Park, Columbus
 Wranglers Horse Trail, Land Between the Lakes
 Beachy's Mum Farm, Marion
 MB Roland Distillery, Pembroke



Lazy-crazy days at **Lake Barkley** and **Kentucky Lake** are as easy-breezy as the interconnecting canal that flows between these two freshwater recreational playgrounds on either side of **Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area** near Golden Pond.

A Civil War Earthworks Trail. Civil War Museum. Giant anchor and chain. **Columbus-Belmont State Park** presents a history lesson about the 1861 Battle of Belmont and General Ulysses S. Grant's Union Army invasion.

Within the vast **Pennyrile State Forest** near Dawson Springs are **Pennyrile State Resort Park** and **Pennyrile Lake** — all named for a tiny lavender-hued fluff of a flower called pennyroyal. Golf, boat, bike, swim, sun, stroll a path encircling the lake, play horseshoes, spread a picnic — and relish every peaceful minute.

Take a respite from the workaday world at Murray's **Arboretum at Murray State University**, a burgeoning collection of primarily native plants, trees and flowers, a butterfly garden, a walking path, a Play Pocket and water cascading down rocky steps.

Black buggies rolling along rural roads near Marion signal Kentucky **Amish Country**, where visitors can buy handcrafted furniture and home-baked goods directly from individual Amish families, plus cross the Ohio River via the free Cave-In-Rock Ferry.

It's all quilts all the time during Paducah's **AQS QuiltWeek®** in April, a week of quilts, quilt workshops, quilt lectures, quilt shopping and quilt exhibits. Pencil in a pilgrimage to the **National Quilt Museum** to see its special quilt exhibits and permanent collection.

High energy and high-caliber talent headline an ambitious lineup at the **Badgett Playhouse** in Grand Rivers. Fifteen family-friendly variety shows are staged each year, filling the seats of this state-of-the-art theater known for outstanding acoustics.

Drop by Hopkinsville's **Casey Jones Distillery** for a tour and tasting, with a side of family history involving a visionary copper pot stillmaker ancestor, gangster Al Capone and axewielding revenuers. Catch live music and food truck nights, too.

Play and stay at **Oak Grove Gaming**, home to live horse racing, simulcast betting, over 1,200 games, rocking entertainment at the Moonshine Amphitheater, a sports bar, a classic steakhouse and an onsite RV park.

Banana Capital of the World? That would be Fulton, whose annual September **Banana Festival** — marking its 62nd year in 2024 — culminates with a one-ton banana pudding, the largest in the world.







**Opposite page:** Pennyroyal Scuba Center, Hopkinsville **Above, clockwise from top:** Annual Banana Festival, Fulton; The National Quilt Museum, Paducah; Sailing on Kentucky Lake

#### Perfect Playdate

In the **Great River Road Region**, comprising Kentucky's westernmost counties bordering the mighty Mississippi River, find a wildlife refuge, one of the country's few remaining riverboat ferries and plenty of outdoor recreation.

#### 2 Hallowed Ground

See hairy lipfern among glade species growing within the Nature Conservancy's **Mantle Rock Nature Preserve** in Smithland. A natural refuge anchored by a 30-foot-high sandstone bridge, it bears history's imprint as the path the Cherokee Nation trod — a certified site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

#### 3 To the Moon!

Journey through the solar system. Wish upon a shooting star. Meet Greek Mythology's dragon of the sea — the constellation, Cetus. Experience these immersive programs and others projected on the 360-degree, 40-foot domed theater with surround sound at **Golden Pond Planetarium and Observatory** within Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.

#### 4 Living History Museum

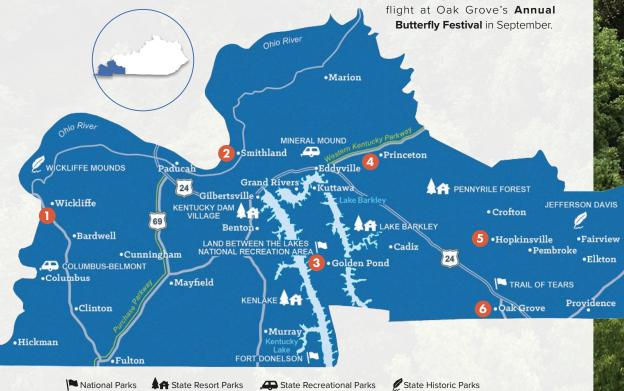
Step into the Victorian splendor of the Smith-Garrett manse at Princeton's **Adsmore Museum** and into a time capsule of top hats and tatting. Peek into the lifestyle and legacy of a prominent Kentucky family through original furnishings and four different annual exhibits, each creating a unique interactive experience.

#### 5 Hey, Batter, Batter

Batter Capital of the World? Yes! Hopkinsville celebrates its proclamation with giant sculptures — wheat stalk, pancake stack, batter bowl (all irresistible selfie stops) — as well as Batter Capital Field to Fork farm tours, a pancake art experience, a September cornbread competition and restaurants whipping up wheat-based specialty recipes.

#### **6** A Flutter of Butterflies

Kick back with a kaleidoscope of butterflies at Oak Grove's **Viceroy Butterfly Garden**, a hidden treasure that is a Certified Monarch Waystation as well as a place of refuge for both winged and wingless creatures. See more than 2,000 butterflies take





## **Travel** Information

#### Cadiz/Trigg County

888-446-6402, gocadiz.com

#### **Calloway County**

270-713-0110, experiencekylake.com

#### **Grand Rivers**

270-362-0152, grandrivers.org

#### Hickman

270-653-4369, kygrro.com

#### **Hopkinsville/Christian County**

270-887-2300, visithopkinsville.com

#### Kentucky Lake/Marshall County

270-527-3128, visitkylake.com

#### **Kentucky's Great River Road** (Ballard, Carlisle, Hickman and Fulton counties)

573-427-8348, kygrro.com

#### **Kuttawa/Lyon County**

270-601-6885, visitkuttawaky.com

#### Lake Barkley

270-388-5300, lakebarkley.org

#### **Livingston County**

270-557-9835

kentuckylakegateway.com

270-965-5015, discovermarion.com

#### **Mayfield/Graves County**

270-247-6106, visitmayfield graves.org

270-759-2199, tourmurray.com

#### Oak Grove

270-439-5675, visitoakgroveky.com

#### Paducah

270-443-8783, paducah.travel

#### **Princeton**

270-365-9575, tourprincetonky.com

### Plan your regional road trip!





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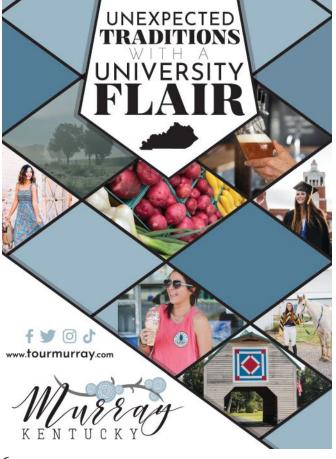


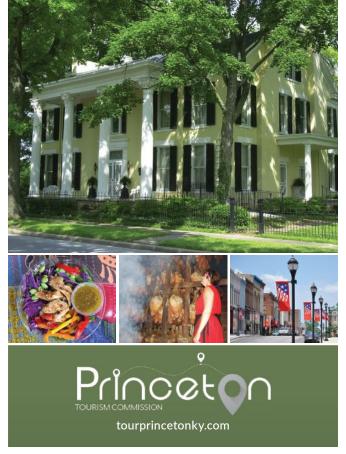






# 









Time slows down here, memories are made here, and the views happen no matter where you're standing. Visit Kentucky Lake, the South's Great Lake, for a chance to disconnect and reconnect with who matters most. Start online at www.visitkylake.com.

# BLUEGRASS, BLUES & BBQ

A musical genre, a culinary style, miles of wild. Legacies cast big shadows in these parts.





Riverfront Water Park, Henderson 2. Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, Owensboro 3. Farmer and Frenchman Winery & Cafe, Robards
 Muhlenberg Music Museum, Central City 5. Tradewater River, Dawson Springs 6. Jerusalem Ridge Music Festival, Beaver Dam
 Ellis Park Racing & Gaming, Henderson 8. Rosine Barn Jamboree, Rosine 9. Grapevine Lake Mountain Bike Trails, Madisonville
 Western Kentucky-style barbecue

Drift on down the River of Sound ... at Owensboro's **Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame & Museum**, with exhibits paying homage to the pioneers who played a role in bringing a uniquely American sound to the world and showcasing musical instruments held in the hands of the masters.

Journey to Jerusalem Ridge in Rosine, where it all began at the **Bill Monroe Homeplace** and other sites connected to the singer/songwriter who described his music as "Scottish bagpipes and ole-time fiddling." Stops include **Uncle Pen's Cabin**, the home of one of Monroe's greatest musical influences, fiddle player Pendleton Vandiver, and the **Bill Monroe Museum**, steward of the legacy.

Owensboro celebrates two Kentucky traditions over two days in May. Savor the flavor with **BBQ & Barrels**, pairing barbecue booths and food trucks with bourbon tastings and classes, plus a side of live music, car shows and more.

Barbecue also plays a role in one of the nation's largest free music festivals during the **W.C. Handy Blues & Barbecue Festival**. Held on Henderson's scenic riverfront, the June celebration honors the life and legacy of the Father of the Blues who spent a decade here.

Love the outdoors? So does this region, with opportunities for birding and fishing at Rockford's **Peabody Wildlife**Management Area, a stretch of reclaimed coal-mined land that contains a waterfowl refuge, and a chance to stop and smell the roses, herbs and other plants at the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden in Owensboro.

Got wheels? Head to Madisonville's **Grapevine Lake Mountain Bike Trails** and pedal the loop over bridges, along the lake and around obstacles. In Central City, the **Kentucky Motorsports Hall of Fame & Museum** honors the inspirations of Kentucky motorsports history, like 2022 inductee "ace driver" Billy Menser, who raced go-karts and motorcycles.

At Morganfield's James D. Veatch Camp Breckinridge Museum & Arts Center, see a 20-by-30-foot mural of the Castle of Werneck, located in the Franconia region of Germany. Kentucky's version was painted during the museum's Prisoner of War and Army camp days during WWII.









Opposite page: Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame & Museum, Owensboro Above, clockwise from top: Uncle Pen's Cabin, Cromwell; kentuckytourism.com 101Kentucky Motorsports Hall of Fame & Museum, Central City; Mahr Park Arboretum, Madisonville

#### Low and Slow

Eat your weight in barbecue from Henderson to Pilot Oak to Tompkinsville, with a hearty stop in Owensboro on the Western Kentucky Barbecue Trail. Mutton and sop (sauce), pork, chicken and other slow-cooked classics are served up in signature stylings from more than 15 restaurants.

#### 2 Lazy Days, Meandering Blueways

In Dawson Springs' Tradewater River Wildlife Management Area, paddle the gentle 80-mile-long Tradewater River to spot Lover's Leap and the Devil's Dining Table against a scenic backdrop of bluffs, small waterfalls and forest. You might chance upon your own private swimming hole along the way.

#### 3 Jackpot!

Owned and operated by Churchill Downs Incorporated, Henderson's century-old Ellis Park Racing & Gaming offers live thoroughbred horse racing in the summertime and simulcast wagering all year long. Breakfast and comfort food classics from grill and griddle are served at the Dade Park Grill.

#### 4 Hands-On History

At Green River Distilling Co. in Owensboro, sip bourbon that has been aged onsite and on land where a distillery has stood since 1885. Taste bourbon pulled directly from the barrel. Wield the tools and techniques of the trade to craft a bourbon cocktail. Take a souvenir glass home.

#### 5 Hometown Musicians

"Bye Bye Love." "Sixteen Tons." "Paradise." You know the songs. Now learn the history behind the singers and songwriters who immortalized them. Sibling harmonizers, the Everly Brothers, thumbpicker Merle Travis, lyricist extraordinaire John Prine and others are honored at the Muhlenberg Music Museum.

#### 6 What's Your Jam?

Bring your fiddle to the Rosine Barn Jamboree, the historic barn not far from where Bill Monroe spent his childhood days. Musicians come from all over to play bluegrass, country and gospel music on this stage. Enjoy free Friday night concerts from April through mid-December, including lawn chair concerts during summer.





## **Travel** Information

#### **Beaver Dam**

270-274-7106 beaverdamtourism.com

#### **Central City**

270-754-9603 cityofcentralcity.com

#### Greenville

270-338-1895, tourgreenville.com

#### **Hancock County**

hancockky.us

#### Henderson

270-826-3128, hendersonky.org

#### Madisonville/ **Hopkins County**

270-821-4171 visitmadisonvilleky.com

#### **McLean County**

270-273-9760

#### **Muhlenberg County**

270-641-0276 visitmuhlenberg.com

#### **Ohio County**

270-298-0036, ohiocounty.com

#### Owensboro/

**Daviess County** 

270-926-1100, visitowensboro.com

#### **Union County**

270-997-1007 unioncountyky.org/things-to-do

#### **Webster County**

270-639-5042 webstercountyky.com

### Plan your regional road trip!





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## Discover Henderson...



















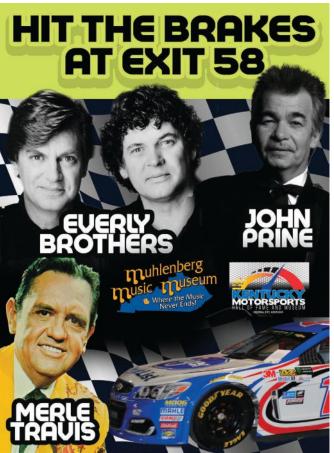


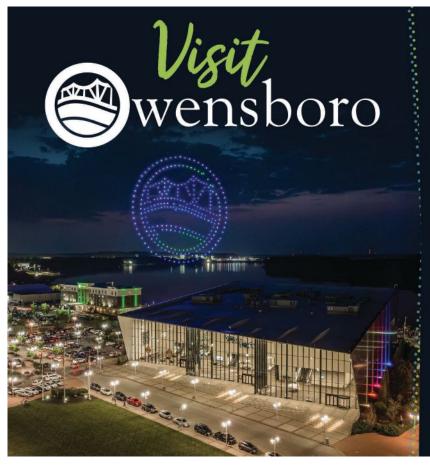




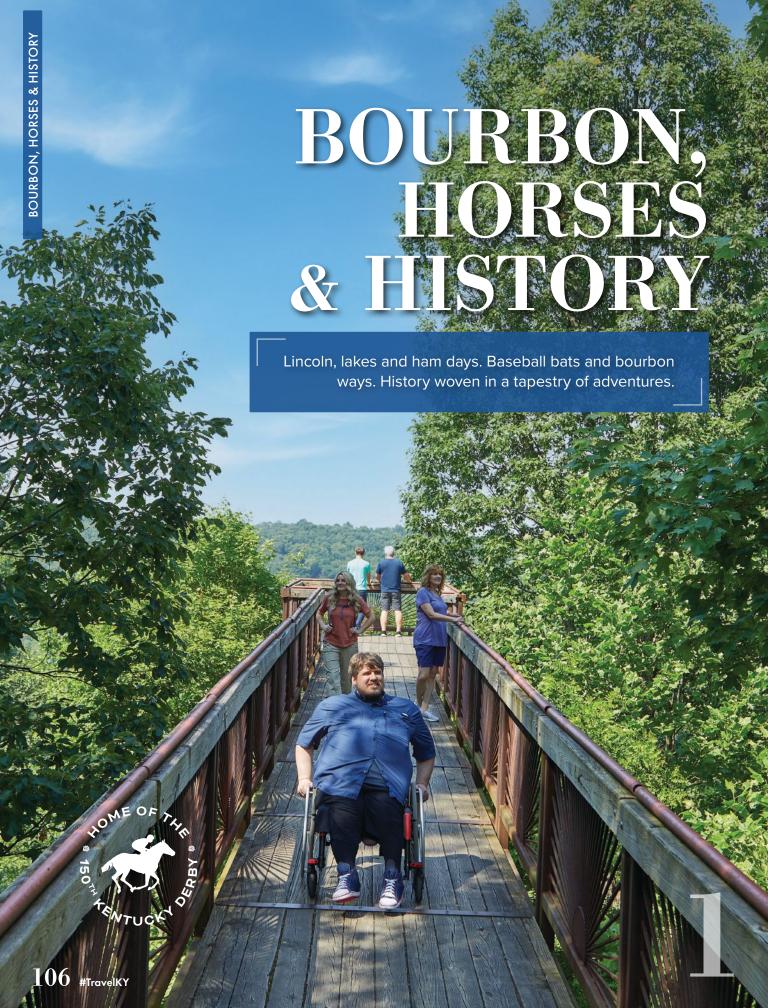
...where delicious food, friendly festivals, and the comfort and creativity of our river town retreat feed the soul, all with nature and history as its backdrop.

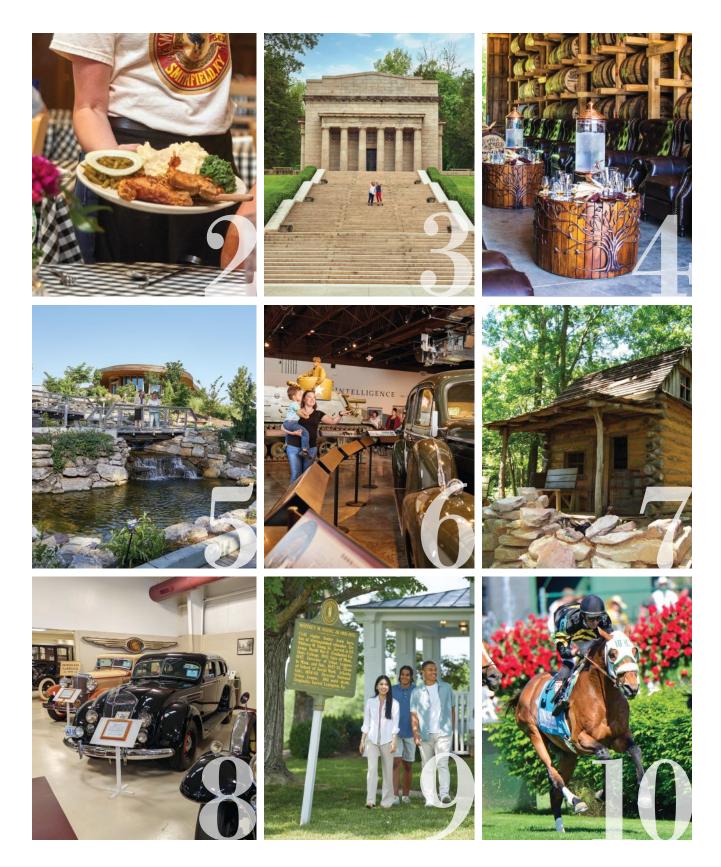






The **BLUEGRASS MUSIC CAPITAL** of the world is playing. Are you ready to listen? Visit ( OWENSBORO DAVIESS COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU VISITOWENSBORO.COM | (270) 926-1100





1. Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest, Clermont 2. Our Best Restaurant, Smithfield 3. Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park, Hodgenville 4. Jeptha Creed Distillery, Shelbyville 5. Waterfront Botanical Gardens, Louisville 6. General George Patton Museum of Leadership, Fort Knox 7. Fort Duffield Park & Historic Site, West Point 8. Swope's Cars of Yesteryear Museum, Elizabethtown 9. Whitney Young Birthplace and Museum, Simpsonville 10. Churchill Downs, Louisville

Where else would a four-day, full-on bourbon extravaganza, the **Kentucky Bourbon Festival**, take place but in Bardstown, the **Bourbon Capital of the World®**? This bourbon hub is home to the **Heaven Hill Bourbon Experience**, where You Do Bourbon offers a one-of-a-kind tasting and bottling experience, among other curated tastings. Bardstown is also where the independently family-owned and operated **Willett Distillery** invites visitors into their family history and whiskey-making process.

Neighboring Gethsemane properties, **Log Still Distillery** and **Dant Crossing**, have the bourbon afficionado covered with distillery tours, live music, lakeview walking paths, elevated cocktail and culinary experiences and bed and breakfast accommodations.

The name says it all: **Shepherdsville/Bullitt County Wine, Whiskey & Ale Trail**. Pace yourself for a spirited and sensoryrich journey to seven stops within nine miles of each other.

Need some nibbles? Head to Lebanon for **Marion County Country Ham Days** in September and 4,000 pounds of country ham plated during its famous Country Ham Breakfast. Some cheese for your ham? Get it on a Foodie Farm Tour,

one of more than a dozen interactive farm tours — horse, sheep, garden, farm-to-table — in **Oldham County, Farm Tour Capital of Kentucky**.

Filled with the largest collection of Patton artifacts in the world, the **General George Patton Museum** in Fort Knox honors one of America's most successful and unconventional military leaders. While you're here, make sure to tour the WWII Barracks Exhibit.

Rent a pontoon boat for a day of boating and fishing on **Taylorsville Lake** in Taylorsville. Saddle up at Simpsonville's **Shelby Trails Park** for an adventure on your horse, guided horseback ride or riding lessons.

Drop the reins and pick up a free mini baseball bat as you follow the timber from forest to field at the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory. Pair this museum with nearby major attractions, including the Muhammad Ali Center, Frazier History Museum and the Bourbon District for a well-rounded Louisville experience. Top it off with a music, sunset or dinner cruise aboard the iconic Belle of Louisville, America's only remaining authentic steamboat from the riverboat era, celebrating her 110th birthday in 2024.









Opposite page: Louisville Slugger Museum, Louisville Above, clockwise from top: Barn8 Restaurant, Goshen;
Log Still Distillery, New Haven; Lincoln Homestead State Park, Springfield ke

# **Regional Highlights**

#### On the Waterfront

Riverfront turkey hunting, trout fishing and horseback riding? Yes, please! These activities, plus hiking, mountain biking, an archery range, disc golf and a launch ramp for canoes, kayaks and small boats draw campers and other outdoor enthusiasts to Meade County's scenic Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area.

#### One Size Fits All

Elizabethtown's Freeman Lake Park is the perfectsize day trip: 170 acres of lake with accessible kayak dock for fishing and paddling, whiling away the hours on the 18-hole disc golf course or sports courts (tennis, pickleball, sand volleyball), munching a picnic, ambling along walking trails and poking about historic cabins.

#### 3 Old-Fashioned Fun

Begin at Frazier History Museum. End up in total bourbon immersion in "Bourbon City," home of 10-plus distilleries — many of which are downtown and within walking distance of each other — and the Urban Bourbon Trail®, a cocktail and culinary experience reveling in Louisville's bourbon bars, restaurants and official cocktail, the Old Fashioned.

#### Milk a Cow

Make cornmeal. Harvest garlic. Pet a thoroughbred racehorse. Choose from 15 interactive farm tours (April-November) in Oldham County, the Farm Tour Capital of Kentucky. Farm tours include activities as diverse as experiencing a bourbon distillery as if you were a distiller yourself at the Kentucky Artisan Distillery and strolling the gardens and greenhouse at Hermitage Farm before enjoying a farm-fresh lunch.

#### 5 Bring a Bigger Bag

Find all the labels you love at Simpsonville's Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass (aka shopping nirvana) — and at a discount: Tory Burch, Vineyard Vines, Hey Dude, Le Creuset, Fossil. Over 80 designer shops crowd this charming open-air lifestyle center, along with a variety of restaurants.

#### 6 Fresh and Flavorful

At Maker's Mark Distillery's Star Hill Provisions, nosh on farm-to-table dishes made with produce and herbs grown in the garden and sourced locally from nearby farmers, with menus

changing based on what's

apiary.





# **Travel** Information

#### **Bardstown/Nelson County**

502-348-4877, visitbardstown.com

#### **Breckinridge County**

270-756-0268 breckinridgecountychamber.com

#### Elizabethtown

270-765-2175, touretown.com

#### **Grayson County**

270-259-5587, visitgrayson.com

#### **Henry County**

502-845-9206, henrykychamber.com

#### Hodgenville/LaRue County

270-358-3163, lincolnmuseum-ky.org

#### La Grange

502-558-3904, visitlagrangeky.com

270-692-0021, visitlebanonky.com

#### Leitchfield

270-259-5587, visitleitchfield.com

#### Louisville

888-568-4784, gotolouisville.com

#### **Meade County**

270-422-3626, visitmeadecounty.org

#### **Oldham County**

502-222-0056, touroldham.com

#### Radcliff/Fort Knox

800-334-7540, radclifftourism.org

#### Shelbyville/Simpsonville/ **Shelby County**

502-633-6388, visitshelbyky.com

#### Shepherdsville/Bullitt County

502-543-8656, travelbullitt.org

#### Springfield

859-336-5412 ext. 6 springfieldkytourism.com

#### **Taylorsville/Spencer County**

502-902-7039, visittaylorsville.com

## Plan your regional road trip!





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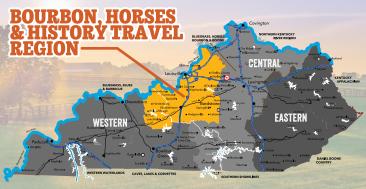










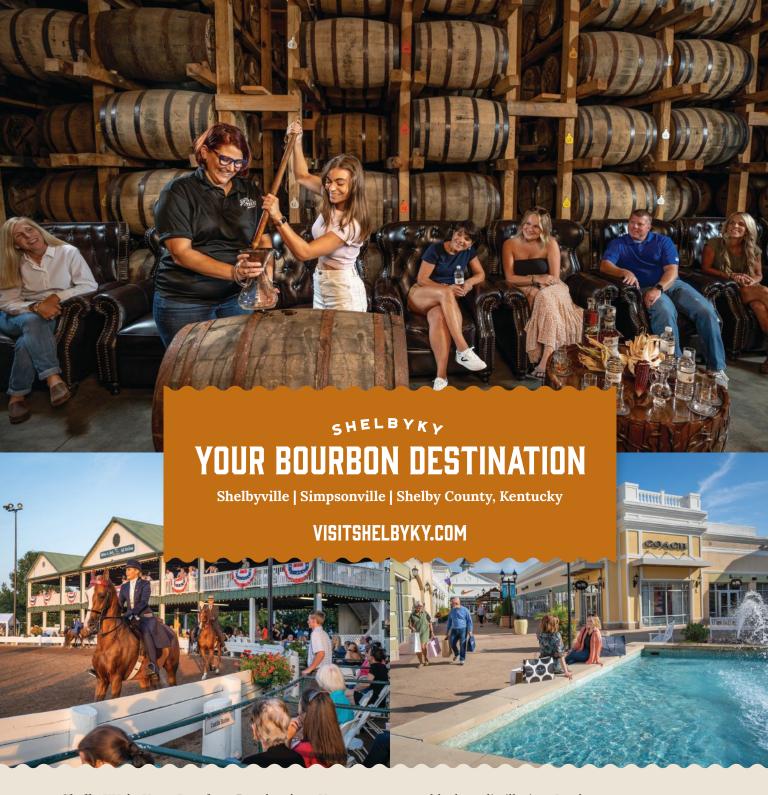










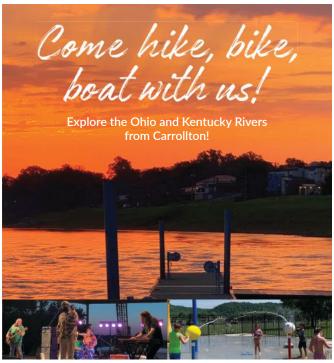


ShelbyKY is Your Bourbon Destination. Home to two world-class distilleries, Jeptha Creed Distillery and Bulleit Distilling Co., and just a short drive from your other favorite Kentucky distilleries, ShelbyKY is perfectly positioned for your Kentucky bourbon travels. With breathtaking accommodations, classic Southern culinary experiences, and fun-filled outdoor recreation, there's no shortage of adventure to find in Shelbyville, Simpsonville, and Shelby County.

Start planning at visitshelbyky.com.

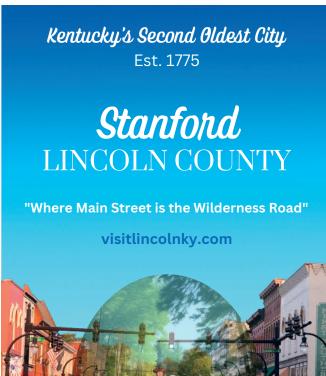








visitcarrolltonky.com | 502.732.7036





# All Things Kentucky. Only in Oldham.

















THINGS TO SEE & DO I-71 , Crestwood: Exit 14 thru La Grange: Exit 22

Craft Distillery Tours • 15 Farm Tours Botanical Gardens • Underground Railroad History Historic Downtown La Grange Shopping & Dining La Grange Railroad Museum & Learning Center Kentucky's Largest Beer Garden Historic Racehorse Farm Restaurant

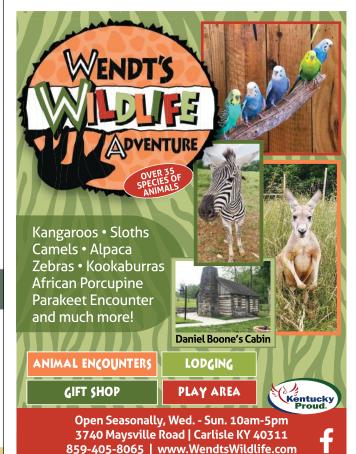
25 mins from downtown Louisville 60 mins from Cincinnati



TourOldhamKY.com

VisitLagrangeKY.com







1. Whispering Woods Riding Stables, Georgetown 2. African Cemetery No. 2, Lexington 3. Abettor Brewing Company, Winchester 4. Wendt's Wildlife Adventure, Carlisle 5. Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site, Perryville 6. Newby Country Store, Richmond 7. Four Roses Distillery, Lawrenceburg 8. Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, Harrodsburg

9. Great American Brass Band Festival, Danville 10. Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville



Poised on the Kentucky River, **Kentucky's capital city of Frankfort** is famous for its beautiful domed capitol building designed in the French Beaux-Arts style, historical architecture and walking tours, breweries and world-class bourbon distilleries, hustle-bustle downtown and alluring sculptures — including a bronze dragonfly.

**Berea: Kentucky's Folk and Arts Capital** brings it with handson LearnShops and working artisan studios, the intricate and alluring Pinnacles trail system and the Kentucky Artisan Center overflowing with traditional and contemporary crafts.

Explore the former Federal army supply depot and hospital that became one of the largest recruitment and training centers for African American soldiers during the Civil War and a place of refuge for formerly enslaved peoples at Nicholasville's **Camp Nelson National Monument**.

Sitting on 3,000 Harrodsburg acres is the largest National Historic Landmark in Kentucky: **Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill** has 34 historic structures, including the 1839 Trustees' Office, home of The Trustees' Table restaurant.

How does a horse take a bath? Where can I pet a horse? Go into the stables and behind the scenes on **Horse Country Farm Tours** at storied farms in Paris, Versailles, Nicholasville and Lexington, the **Horse Capital of the World**. Learn about draft horses, harnessing and breed history during a Stall-Side Chat at the Big Barn before stepping into the Black Stallion Experience at the Al-Marah Arabian Horse Galleries at Lexington's **Kentucky Horse Park**.

Hear a big band when the **Great American Brass Band Festival** — led by hundreds of trombonists, trumpeters and other brass musicians — marches into Danville. Be the big cheese on **Winchester's Beer Cheese Trail**, sampling special-recipe beer cheese on 16 different stops, including at the annual **Beer Cheese Festival**. Both events take place in June.

Get a taste of bourbon history at **Four Roses Distillery's** newly expanded Visitor Center in Lawrenceburg, featuring Bar 1888 and a lineup of curated cocktails. Sip on this: A new Grain to Glass Bourbon Experience is happening at Midway's **Bluegrass Distillers at Elkwood Farm**.







Opposite page: Godolphin at Jonabell Farm, Lexington Above, clockwise from top: Weston Glass Studio, Berea; Our Mims Retirement Haven, Paris; Castle & Key Distillery, Frankfort

# **Regional Highlights**

2 •Georgetown

Lexington

WAVELAND

CAMP NELSON

• Nicholasville

•Lancaster

#### "Kentucky Journey"

Abraham Lincoln's pocket watch. Daniel Boone's friend's .45 caliber longrifle, curiously etched with "D.B." onto the stock. A Civil War soldier's haunted cornet. A conjured chest of drawers. Through thousands of items on display, Kentucky's 12,000-year history unspools at Frankfort's Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, a Smithsonian Affiliate.

#### 2 Auto Immersion

Watch as a 20-foot interactive, 3D-projected map comes to life at Toyota Motor Manufacturing's Toyota Kentucky Experience Center, one of eight exhibits (some interactive) giving a behind the-scenes peek into production processes. Zoom around Georgetown's 9 million-square foot plant by tram to see vehicles being assembled.

#### 3 Destination: Distillery District

Coffee, gourmet ice cream, pizza, a brewery, bars, live music and a National Historic Landmark distillery converge in a 25-acre entertainment district in downtown Lexington on grounds where the original James E. Pepper Distillery was built in 1879. The Historic Pepper

Lawrenceburg

•Perryville

Frankfort

• Midway

Versailles

OLD FORT HARROD

6 Stanford ISAAC SHELBY CEMETERY

•Harrodsburg

PERRYVILLE BATTLEFIELD

**Distillery District** connects past to present with a mixed brew of good times.

#### 4 Daniel Boone Was Here

Tour the grounds Daniel Boone walked and worked while establishing a settlement in 1775. Richmond's Fort Boonesborough State Park is that original fort site. The reconstructed working fort with cabins and furnishings brings to life 18th-century life skills and period craft demonstrations by living historians.

#### 5 How Big Is a Capybara?

How slow is a sloth? How prickly is a porcupine? Find out on tour at Wendt's Wildlife Adventure in Carlisle. Feed the birds at the parakeet encounter. Slosh through Brushy Creek or the farm's splash pad. Cool off with ice cream and slushies at the gift shop.

#### 6 If These Walls Could Talk

Cynthiana

Paris

Winchester

FORT BOONESBOROUGH

4 • Richmond

•Berea

Stanford's William Whitley House was a gathering place for early Kentucky frontiersmen including George Rogers Clark. The fortress-like Georgian-style mansion was Kentucky's first brick home and

• Carlisle

featured a circular racetrack. See the Whitley children's hiding places on tour.



▲★ State Resort Parks State Recreational Parks

State Historic Parks



# **Travel** Information

#### Berea

859-986-2540, visitberea.com

#### Carlisle/Nicholas County

859-749-7986 carlisle-nicholascounty.org

#### **Cynthiana/Harrison County**

859-234-5236, cynthianatourism.com

#### Danville/Boyle County

859-618-6433, danvillekentucky.com

#### Frankfort/Franklin County

502-875-8687, visitfrankfort.com

#### **Georgetown/Scott County**

502-863-2547 georgetownky.com

#### Harrodsburg/Mercer County

800-355-9192 mercercountyky.com

#### **Lawrenceburg/Anderson County**

502-598-3127 visitlawrenceburgky.com

#### Lexington

859-233-7299, visitlex.com

#### Nicholasville/Wilmore

859-305-6040 visitjessamine.com

#### **Paris/Bourbon County**

859-987-8744 pariskytourism.com

#### **Richmond**

859-626-8474 richmondkytourism.com

#### Stanford/Lincoln County

606-365-4500

stanford-lincolncountytourism.com

#### Winchester/Clark County

859-744-0556 visitwinchesterky.com

#### **Woodford County**

859-873-5122 visitwoodfordky.com

## Plan your regional road trip!





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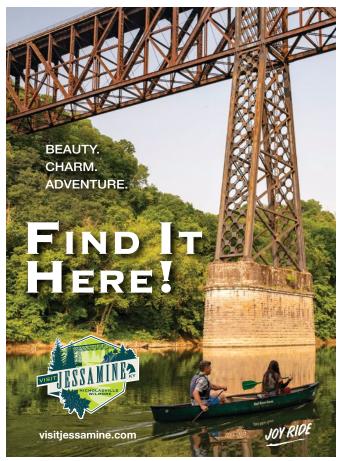


# MEMORIES ARE MADE ON THE BACKROADS

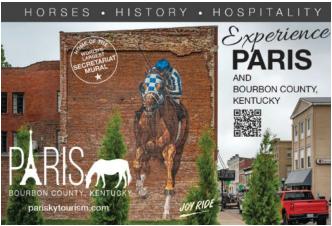


Adventure isn't a destination you arrive at. It's a journey you take. The gravel road you turn down on a whim. A mom and pop shop. A local diner with the best chicken'n dumplings you ever had in your life. Adventure is a ride. And it starts in the Bluegrass.

**BLUEGRASSKENTUCKY.COM** 

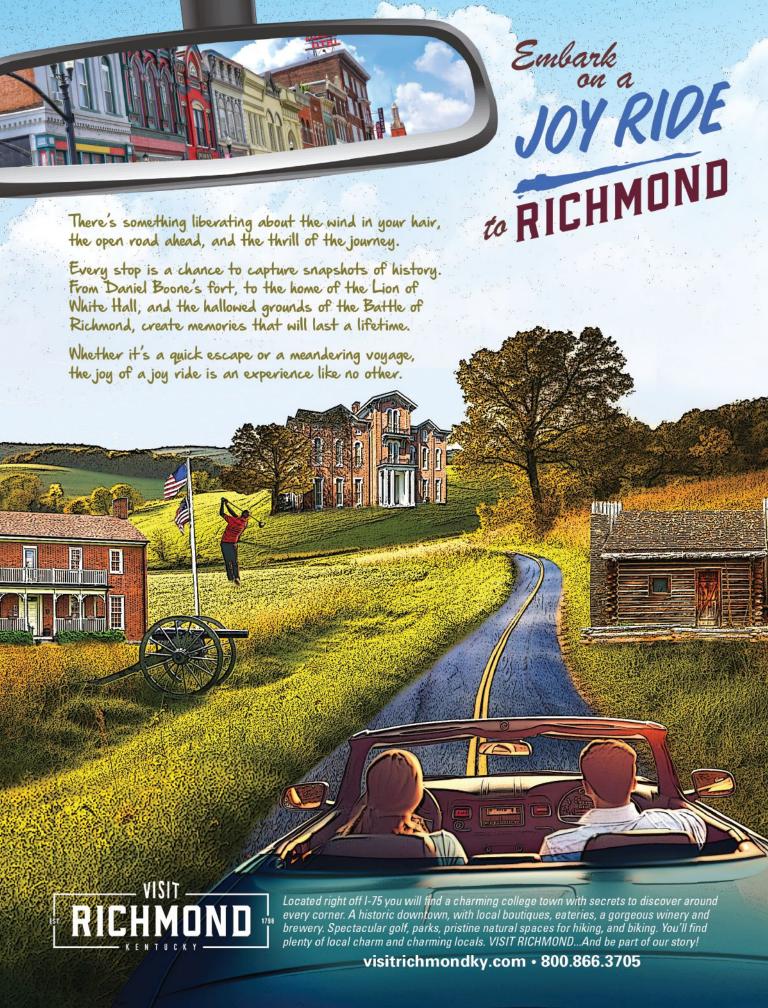






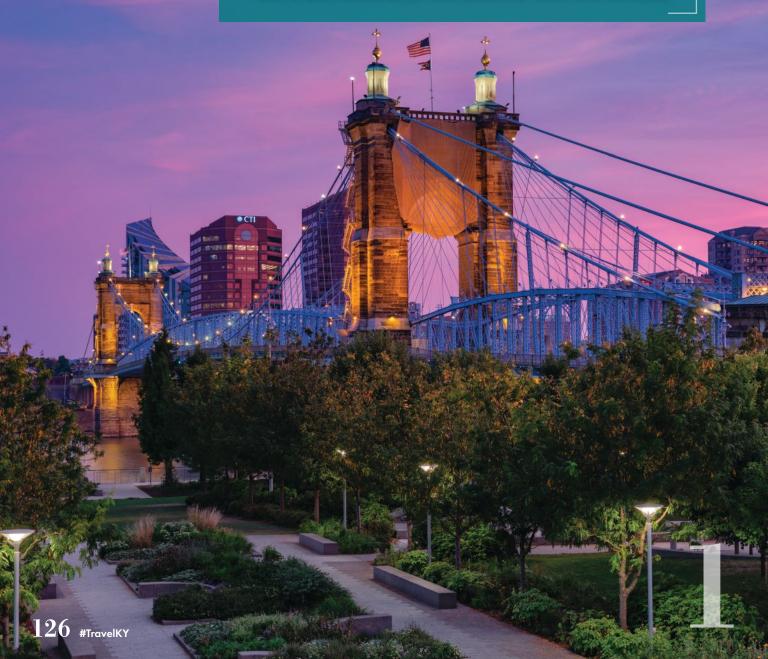






# NORTHERN KENTUCKY RIVER

Bourbon. Rest. Repeat. Riverboat. Fete. Eat. Lively river towns and restaurants meet peaceful lakes and lookouts.





1. Roebling Bridge, Covington 2. Augusta Distillery, Augusta 3. Newport Aquarium, Newport 4. Rabbit Hash General Store, Rabbit Hash 5. Elk Creek Vineyards, Owenton 6. AJ Jolly Park & Campground, Alexandria 7. Goddard Covered Bridge, Goddard 8. Colonel Charles Young Birthplace Cabin, Mays Lick 9. Otto's, Covington 10. Bircus Brewing Co., Ludlow







Hop on **The B-Line®**, Northern Kentucky's self-guided bourbon trail, for a comprehensive taste of Kentucky bourbon at more than 20 stops across the region, including craft distilleries, bourbon-centric restaurants and bourbon bars. The sipping point begins in Covington at the foot of the Roebling Bridge with spokes to Sparta, Maysville and towns in between.

Set sail with **BB Riverboats** in Newport for signature and specialty cruises on the Ohio River — jazz brunch, family dinner, sunset and music, murder mystery. Say hello to hundreds of dummies at Fort Mitchell's newly redesigned **Vent Haven**, the world's only ventriloquism museum.

Join the animals aboard a life-sized Noah's Ark at Williamstown's **Ark Encounter**, built to a biblical blueprint. The Bible bursts to life at Petersburg's **Creation Museum**, where 140 state-of-the-art exhibits include an animatronic Noah and flood dioramas.

In a setting as pretty as the "Most Picturesque Town in Kentucky," as dubbed by USA Today, dozens of local and regional artists show their work on the banks of the Ohio River during Augusta's

**Art in the Garden**, held in June. With a hearty "ein prosit der gemütlichkeit!," **Oktoberfest**, Mainstrasse Village's celebration of Covington's German heritage, gets underway in September with live music, local food and lots of beer.

Fishing, kayaking, miniature golf, Spicebush and Ironwood connecting-loop trails and camping under the stars combine to create a family's happy place at Falmouth's **Kincaid Lake State Park**. Carrollton's **General Butler State Resort Park** presents gorgeous sunset views as it slides into the waters at the confluence of the Kentucky and Ohio Rivers at **Observation Point**. Tour the fine old country home on the hilltop within the park: the Greek Revival-style **Butler-Turpin State Historic House**.

In a town that celebrates **Founder's Day Festival** (June) with the shooting of a Revolutionary cannon, pioneer games and yarn spinning, **William Arnold's Log Cabin** — the authentic 1800s log house with pioneer-era furniture and memorabilia of the town's founder — is right at home in Williamstown.



Opposite page, clockwise from top: Ark Encounter, Williamstown; Kincaid Lake State Park, Falmouth; Washington Historic District, Maysville

Above: Hofbräuhaus, Newport

# **Regional Highlights**

#### Fine Wine Times

Countryside vistas, winemaking tours, a bright and airy tasting room and 20-plus wine varietals; sandwiches, salads and pizzas at the café; live weekend entertainment and music on the patio; wine and paint parties; comfy log cabin lodging — Owenton's Elk Creek Vineyards is a wine lover's gourmet getaway.

#### 2 The House That Time Remembers

It may look like the homeowners will return any moment — and that's the intent. Frozen in rural mid- to late-1900s Burlington, Dinsmore Homestead looks as it did when the namesake family lived and farmed here. Antique bedsteads, handmade toys, personal journals — see these and the family graveyard.

#### 3 "O'Zapft Is" (It Is Tapped)

Four hundred fourteen years after the original was founded in Munich, the first Hofbrauhaus outside of Germany opened to raised steins and shouts of oom-pah-pah! It's always Oktoberfest at Hofbräuhaus Newport, known for pure traditional-style German bier, soft-dough pretzels, jägerschnitzel, apple strudel and an unabashedly festive atmosphere.

#### 4 Back to Nature

Find a place of peace at this little-known and protected parcel of nature that 40 species of birds call home. Butler's Cedar Line Nature Preserve is a 43-acre scenic trail system with cedar thickets, hickory woods, wildflowers and wildlife, marked by wooden foot bridges and rock wall ruins.

#### 5 Centuries-Old Settlement

Stroll the flagstone sidewalks of **Old Washington**, a pocket-size 1700s village that could easily be mistaken for a frontier film's movie set. Find shops, museums, tour guides ushering visitors behind the scenes (sometimes even in period dress!), tasty Kentucky fare and the country's only working log post office.

#### 6 Daniel Boone Was Here

Walk the grounds of the last battle of the American Revolutionary War at Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park located near Mount Olivet, Kentucky. Hike an ancient buffalo path. Check out the spinning wheel and other artifacts in the Pioneer Museum. Play mini golf. Relax amid beautiful views from a lodge room or the Hidden Waters Restaurant.





# **Travel** Information

Augusta/Bracken County 606-756-2183 augustaky.com

Carrollton/Carroll County

502-732-7036 visitcarrolltonky.com

**Fleming County** 

606-845-1223 flemingkychamber.com

**Gallatin County** 

859-380-0256 visitgallatincountyky.com

**Grant County** 

859-824-3332 visitgrantky.com

**Lewis County** 

606-440-0135

Maysville/Mason County

606-563-2596 visitmaysvilleky.com

Northern Kentucky/Covington/ Florence/Newport

859-261-4677 meetnky.com

**Owen County** 

502-563-5050 facebook.com/ owencountykytourism

**Pendleton County** 

pendletoncountytourism.com

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## 🖊 covington

Home to good times and true Southern style, Covington is headquarters of The B-Line. NKY's self-guided bourbon tour. Check out award-winning restaurants in German-inspired Mainstrasse Village, and don't miss a performance at the new Covington Plaza amphitheater, set beneath the iconic Roebling Bridge with the Cincinnati skyline as the backdrop. Enjoy the best local flavors, riverside atmosphere, and fun experiences for everyone in your group.

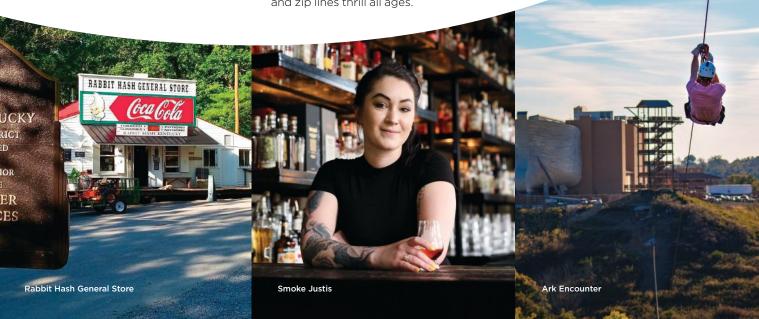


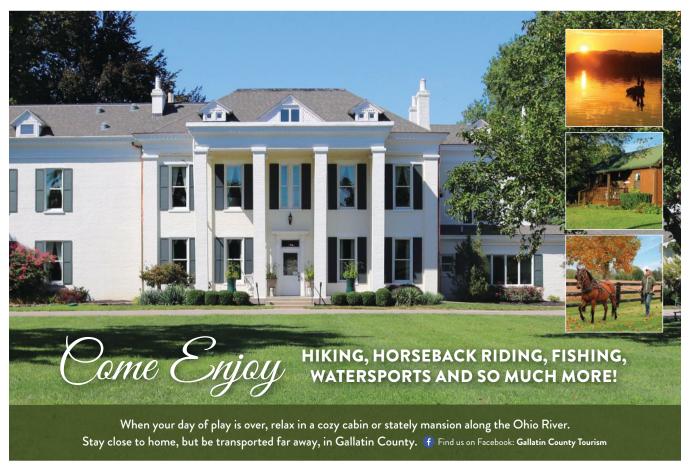
## florence

Catch a Florence Y'alls baseball game, polish your skills at World of Golf, then get some air at **DEFY Florence**! If you're looking for more horsepower, catch a live race at Turfway Park, then race around the track at Full Throttle Indoor Karting. Or maybe a history lesson and bison viewing at Big Bone Lick State Historic **Site** is more your speed. The family fun doesn't end there-you're only minutes away from Ark Encounter and Creation Museum, where state-of-the-art exhibits bring the stories of the Bible to life, botanical gardens awaken the senses, and zip lines thrill all ages.

#### **mewport**

Don't miss the underwater panorama at Newport Aquarium, and check out the newly transformed **Newport** on the Levee and Bridgeview Box Park! Enjoy NKY's German roots at **Hofbräuhaus** Newport, then experience the Ohio River in style aboard a BB Riverboats cruise. Take a tour at **New Riff Distilling**. then sample local fare in Bellevue before catching a concert at MegaCorp Pavilion.







### IMAGINE THIS...

an experience centered around seven Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour® Distilleries: Augusta Distillery, New Riff Distilling, Boone County Distilling Co., Neeley Family Distillery, The Old Pogue Distillery, Pensive Distilling Co., and Second Sight Spirits.

Local bourbon-centric bars, all with a culture of their own, and all named to The Bourbon Review's list of The Best Bourbon Bars in America. Finally, mix in amazing restaurants cultivating the freshest tastes in bourbon culinary delights, and you're on The B Line®.

> The Start of a Great Bourbon Adventure

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(18-hole disc golf course) · Hiking trails & lakes for fishing Grapevines Wine Bar

> • Brianza Gardens & Winery



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BARDSTOWN MAIN STREET BEATTYVILLE MAIN STREET CAMPBELLSVILLE MAIN STREET CARROLLTON MAIN STREET CYNTHIANA MAIN STREET **GUTHRIE MAIN STREET** 

GRAYSON MAIN STREET LA GRANGE MAIN STREET LONDON DOWNTOWN MAYSVILLE MAIN STREET MIDDLESBORO MAIN STREET DOWNTOWN MOREHEAD

MURRY MAIN STREET PADUCAH MAIN STREET PERRYVILLE MAIN STREET PIKEVILLE MAIN STREET MAIN STREET PINEVILLE MAIN STREET SALYERSVILLE HEART OF SCOTTSVILLE SHELBY MAIN STREET SPRINGFIELD MAIN STREET TAYLORSVILLE MAIN STREET TRI-CITIES MAIN STREET WILLIAMSBURG MAIN STREET



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