

Photo by Christopher Reyes

MEMPHIS

It's More Than You Think.

To music pilgrims around the world, Memphis is the Promised Land—the land of legend, a mythic place of musical alchemy. But there is another Memphis, where international commerce took flight on the wings of jets bearing the FedEx logo, where cultural riches inspire Ballet Memphis performances on Memphis themes and innovative chefs stake out culinary territory far beyond barbecue and fried chicken, and where breathtaking research at a hospital named for the patron saint of lost causes offers cures to the world's children.

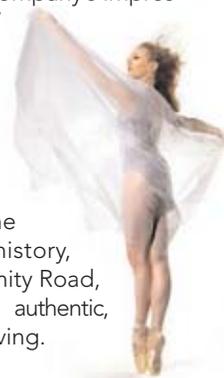
So explore the real Memphis, always eclectic, ever surprising. Start early and stay up late to see all there is, because Memphis: It's More Than You Think.

53

*ways to explore
Memphis!*

1 Club It. Finding live music in Memphis is as hard as finding sideburns at Graceland. *Hi-Tone Café* (1913 Poplar, 901-278-TONE) mixes acts from Iris DeMent to Elvis Costello, but also touring bands and local favorites. *The New Daisy* (330 Beale, 901-525-8979) offers a range of singers and bands, from Bob Dylan to Saliva. *Young Avenue Deli* (2119 Young, 901-278-0034) is proving ground for local bands, and has some hip touring bands. *Newby's* (539 S. Highland, 901-452-8408) offers a range of mainly regional bands. Some funky favorites are *Otherlands Coffee Bar* (641 S. Cooper, 901-278-4994), *P&H Café* (1532 Madison Ave, 901-726-0906), *Earnestine and Hazel's* (531 S. Main, 901-523-9754), and *Wild Bill's Juke Joint* (1580 Vollentine, 901-726-5473).

2 Attend a Memphis Ballet by Ballet Memphis. The nationally known ballet company's impressive "Memphis Project" interprets the city's history and heritage, frequently to regional music, present and past. From original interpretations of Memphis music to soulful stories of the region's heroes and history, *Ballet Memphis* (7950 Trinity Road, Cordova, 901-737-7322) is authentic, talented, and always moving.



3 Get High. The Mississippi River must be seen from at least three places. The best view is from the top floors of Commerce Square at Monroe at Main. The roof of the *Madison Hotel* (79 Madison, 901-333-1200) affords a lower but spectacular view. For a view from

higher ground, nothing beats Ashburn-Coppock Park (adjacent to the south end of Tom Lee Park). Its panoramic views are a dramatic backdrop for photographers.

4 Get Current. More than 400 songs have Memphis in their lyrics—from Chuck Berry to Memphis Bleek, Elvis to Bryan Adams, Eric Clapton to Sheryl Crow. The Memphis magic continues, and the most striking testament is heard in Memphis bands today. To learn more about them and hear them, visit <http://www.livefrommemphis.com>. Two record stores pride themselves on their distinctly Memphis offerings from classic to grunge to garage – *Shangri-La Records* (1916 Madison, 901-274-1916) and *Goner Records* (2152 Young, 901-722-0095).

5 Bike It, Hike It, Boat It, Float It. *Mud Island* (125 N. Front St., 901-516-7241), between the Mississippi River and Wolf River, became a park after stubbornly refusing to be blown away by dynamite. It is free, accessible by monorail, has a river museum and a nine-block scale model of the Mississippi River. The park is closed for the winter. In summer, it rents bicycles and kayaks as well as tents for overnight camping to the sounds of lapping waves and passing barges.

6 Be Cool in a Hot Neighborhood. Cooper Young neighborhood is one of the hottest spots in the city. *The Beauty Shop* (966 S. Cooper, 901-272-7111) and its Japanese sister next door, *Do* (964 S. Cooper, 901-272-0830), *Dish* (948 S. Cooper, 901-276-0002) and *Tsunami* (928 S. Cooper, 901-274-2556) serve upscale cuisine; *Café Ole* (959 S. Cooper, 901-274-1504) dishes up Mexican; *Blue Fish* (2149 Young, 901-725-0230) serves seafood, *A Pie In the Sky* (2149 Young Ave, 901-276 7437) offers great pizza and *Young Avenue Deli* (2119 Young Ave. 901-278-0034) anchors the area. New restaurants are nearby, and any night in Cooper-Young is a good night.

7 The Heart of Downtown. The center of downtown has long been considered to be at Union and Main, but it may arguably now be one block north at Main and Monroe. Fine cuisine is found at *Felicia Suzanne's* (80 Monroe, 901-523-0877), *McEwen's on Monroe* (122

Monroe, 901-527-7085), *Lolo's Table* (126 Monroe, 901-522-9449) and *Stella* (395 Main, 901-525-4950). Southern home cooking is at *Little Tea Shop* (69 Monroe, 901-525-6000) and sandwiches at *Zoë's Kitchen* (80 Monroe, 901-523-2203) and *Bogie's Deli* (80 Monroe, 901-525-6764) round out the congregation of eating options. While you are in the area, a side trip to the lobby of *First Tennessee Bank* (165 Madison, 901-523-4444) is time well-spent, giving you a chance to enjoy its exceptional regional art collection and the breath-taking murals of Tennessee history by Memphis artist Ted Faiers.

8 Picnic on the River. To touch the pulse of Memphis and feel its heartbeat, grab a sandwich at *Miss Cordelia's Grocery* (737 Harbor Bend Road, 901-526-4772) or the *Front Street Deli* (77 S. Front Street, 901-522-8943) and head to the river. Special spots abound—the banks of the greenbelt on Mud Island, the bluff at shady Ashburn-Coppock Park, tranquil Martyrs' Park, a bench at the Visitor's Center, or in expansive Tom Lee Park. It's a powerful sight guaranteed to lower your pulse rate and raise your spirits.

10 Eat Your Way Around the World and Never Leave Downtown. There was a time when eating downtown meant barbecue and home cooking. Fortunately, barbecue is still the star at *The Rendezvous* (52 S. Second, 901-523-2746) and *Cozy Corner* (745 N. Parkway, 901-527-9158), and the *Little Tea Shop* (69 Monroe Avenue, 901-525-6000) offers the best in Southern cooking and hospitality. But these days there are all the pleasures of a United Nations food court: Russian at *Café Samovar* (83 Union Avenue, 901-529-9607), Mexican at *Pancho's* (87 S. Second, 901-522-0011), German at *Erika's* (52 S. Second, 901-526-5522), Thai at *Sawaddii* (121 Union, 901-523-0001), Brazilian churrascaria *Texas de Brazil* (119 S. Main, Peabody Place, 901-529-2376), Caribbean influenced at *Automatic Slim's* (83 S. Second, 901-525-7948), and Italian at *Capriccio* (in the Peabody Hotel, 149 Union, 901-529-4199).

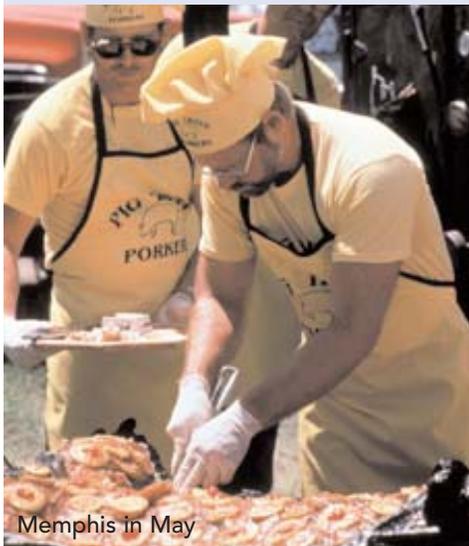
11 Get Green with Envy. In a city where the King of Rock and Roll is buried and the Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin was born, there seem to be musical mileposts on every corner. You



9 The Cheapest Tour in Town. The trolley, which rumbles along the riverfront and Main Street before wandering down Madison Avenue, is the bargain-on-wheels tour. Traveling south, the vintage trolley passes new restaurants, shops and attractions on its way across Beale Street to the South Main Historic District, looping to run parallel to the Mississippi River past the Pyramid, and through the Pinch District and back down Main. The Madison Avenue extension is the first phase of a system to connect Downtown with Midtown and Memphis International Airport.

find silky-voiced Al Green these days behind the pulpit of his church, *The Full Gospel Tabernacle* (787 Hale Rd., 901-396-9192). The voice that melted women's hearts is now dedicated to saving souls.

12 Bike Memphis. Cyclists now have more than 60 miles of bike routes on city streets. There are five neighborhood tours and one longer tour. Signs are posted on the routes throughout Memphis. Also, *The Mississippi River Trail* (MRT), part of a nationally designated bike route, is part of North Memphis Tour Route 20. MRT takes cyclists along the river, through country lanes and urban settings on its way along the Mississippi River.



Memphis in May

13 Find a Festival. Memphis loves a festival from massive – *Memphis in May International Festival* – to neighborhood – *Cooper-Young Festival* and *Germantown Festival*; crafts – *Pink Palace Arts and Crafts Fair* and *Collierville's Fair on the Square*; film – *Indie Memphis Film Festival*; food – *Crawfish Festival*; ethnic – *Africa in April*; and off beat – *International Goat Days* in Millington. Memphis always seems to be celebrating something. It's not exactly a festival, but it feels like it – *Zoo Rendezvous* (Overton Park, 2000 Prentiss Place, 901-276-9453) is a mix of food and fauna in a highly popular event that features outstanding cuisine on the grounds of the zoo, held one weekend in autumn of each year.

14 Right Makes Might. The site of the assassination of civil rights giant Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is transformed into the National Civil Rights Museum. The exhibitions, including a Freedom Riders bus, sanitation workers' garbage truck, and evidence from the murder, climax with Dr. King's room in the former Lorraine Motel. *The National Civil Rights Museum* (450 Mulberry, 901-521-9699) has been expanded to celebrate world leaders for human rights.

15 Antiquing. Antique stores dot the city, but two areas offer a concentration—Midtown (the 500 and 600 blocks of Cooper between Union and Central and the 2200 block of Central between Cooper and East Parkway) and the Collierville Town Square. The stores run the gamut from fine antiques to junk-tique and from European to Southern. If antique clothes are more your liking, *Flashback* (2304 Central, 901-278-8443) is a "vintage department store" that specializes in fashions and furnishings from 1920s to 1970s.

16 Film Memphis. Even a first-time visitor to Memphis has a sense of déjà vu. It's not just the music, it's the movies: "The Firm," "Poor and Hungry," "21 Grams," "The Rainmaker," "A Family Thing," "Walk The Line," "Cast Away," "Mystery Train," "The Reivers," "The Road to Graceland," "The People vs. Larry Flynt," "The Client," "A Face In the Crowd," "Hustle and Flow," and "Forty Shades of Blues." Some are commercial, some are cult, but all are uniquely Memphis. *Memphis MeDiA Co-op* offers digital filmmakers help to produce and show their films (First Congregational Church, 1000 S. Cooper, 901-278-9077).

17 Get Out of Town. Memphis is a river city, and like all river cities, it is best understood from this perspective. Drive across the Mississippi River to Arkansas, exit at the first street and return across the bridge to see a powerful portrait of the River City. Or walk down the cobblestones (watch your step!) to the river, bend down, touch the water, and turn to see Memphis on the bluffs. For a different view of the river, aerial sightseeing rides for two can be taken in a 1930s-era biplane with *Belle Aire Biplane Rides* (3870 Fite Road, Millington, 901-481-1935).

18 Witness the Rebirth. Main Street south of the Orpheum Theater is alive with new shops like *Gestures* (523 S. Main, 901-525-4438), *MUSE* (517 S. Main, 901-526-8737) and *Neopolitan* (546 S. Main, 901-526-4533); restaurants like chef *Wendell Price's World Beat Grill* (414 S. Main, 901-525-3490), *Harry's Detour* (106 G.E. Patterson, 901-523-9090), *5 Spot* (84 G.E. Patterson, 901-523-9754) and *Blue Monkey* (529 S. Front, 901-527-6665); art galleries like *Jay Etkin Gallery* (409 S. Main, 901-543-0035), *Glass House 383* (383 S. Main, 901-527-0055), *Joysmith Gallery*

(46 Huling, 901-543-0505), *Second Floor Contemporary* (431 S. Main, 901-521-1514), *Jack Robinson Photography Gallery* (44 Huling, 901-576-0708) and *Power House* (45 East, G. E. Patterson, 901-578-5545); vibe at *Café Soul* (492 S. Main, 901-521-4677) and the *National Civil Rights Museum* (450 Mulberry, 901-521-9699). The trolley slices through the heart of South Main, turning around near the *Arcade* (540 S. Main, 901-526-5757), a longtime restaurant featured in a number of movies. During the “Trolley Art Tour” held the last Friday of each month, trolley rides to and from South Main’s galleries, shops, and restaurants are free.

to be found. It’s a step into a quieter world.

21 Some Barbecue to Surprise You. Arguing about the best barbecue in town is a popular past-time in Memphis. There are wet ribs and dry ribs, chopped barbecue and pulled barbecue. There are enough barbecue restaurants and joints to provide lunch and dinner every day for a month and just get started. But *Cozy Corner* (745 N. Parkway, 901-527-9158) has something like no one else—barbecued Rock Cornish game hens.

Winchester Street runs beside the Marriott Hotel Downtown and St. Mary’s Catholic Church just south of I-40. For information about staying there, call (901) 521-8129. (Another Elvis home was at 1034 Audubon in East Memphis, a house he bought May 11, 1956, with his first royalty checks from RCA, and now a private residence.)

23 Room with a View: Free Nightly. The best show in Memphis takes place every night at sunset. As the sun goes down, the sky is streaked with colors that would challenge the palettes of Memphis’ best artists.



19 Park It. The queen of Memphis parks is Overton Park, which is entered from Poplar at Tucker. It has a golf course, *Memphis Zoo* (901-276-WILD), *Memphis Brooks Museum of Art* (901-544-6200) which houses *Brushmark Restaurant* (901-544-6225), the *Memphis College of Art* (901-272-5100) and trails through the park’s old growth forest. For Elvis fans, there is the *Overton Park Shell* where some early concerts by the King were held and where concerts by Memphis bands still take place. Further east is *Audubon Park*, home to tennis, golf and *The Memphis Botanical Garden* (750 Cherry Road, 901-685-1566). The mother of all parks is *Shelby Farms Park* (901-382-2249) on Walnut Grove between I-240 and Germantown Road. Twice the size of New York’s Central Park and San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park combined, the 4,500 acre park is an embarrassment of riches: walking and jogging trails, bike trails, nature trails, fishing, canoeing, horseback riding, picnicking, shooting range and a visitor’s center.

20 Read a Regional Writer. Memphis likes to read, especially regional writers. Homegrown are Shelby Foote and Peter Taylor. Area writers include John Grisham, Willie Morris and William Faulkner. Memphis’ literary voices are always on display – if not present signing books themselves – at *Burke’s Book Store* (1719 Poplar, 901-278-7484) where the shelves hold treasures waiting

22 Sleep Like “The King.” Elvis Presley’s first Memphis home was in public housing downtown, and you can spend the night in his apartment. From September 1949, to January 1953, his family lived at 185 Winchester #328 in *Lauderdale Courts*. Within walking distance were Pop Tunes Record Store, Beale Street and Sun Records, all of which would shape the future of Elvis’ life.

Colors streak and swirl in patterns that are never the same. Even those who have lived on the riverfront for decades say they have never seen two sunsets that are alike. Add a blanket, wine and cheese for perfection.

24 A Bit of India. *The India Cultural Center and Temple* is religious home to Hindus in the Memphis region. Located just off U.S. Highway 64 in rural Eads, TN, at 12005 U.S. 64, the center has nine shrines and is central to the Hindu observances held throughout the year.

25 Take a Midtown Stroll. The bumper stickers say “Midtown Is Memphis,” and this section of Memphis is home to international business executives and the multi-pierced, blue-haired twenty-somethings, fine-dining and retro hippie coffee houses, funky stores and sophisticated boutiques. The blocks and blocks of beautiful homes under ancient oaks offer special pleasures. The boundaries are informal, but a manageable section is roughly Cleveland on the west, East Parkway on the east, Union on the north and Central on the south. Grab a bite at an old-fashioned drug store, *Wiles-Smith Drug Store* (1635 Union, 901-278-6416). Don't miss the classic drug store milkshake. A Central Gardens Walking Tour booklet can be purchased at the *Deliberate Literate* (1997 Union, 901-276-0174).

26 Friday Night in the Studio. Ballet Memphis opens up its studio, providing an always enjoyable lesson in personal commitment and the arts. It is an intimate inside look into the life of a company that attracts national kudos. The special evenings with *Ballet Memphis* (7950 Trinity Road, 901-737-7322) include fascinating commentaries by the ballet's artistic director.

27 Play Around. While touring Broadway companies visit the grand old *Orpheum Theater* (203 S. Main, 901-525-7800), Memphis has a long, healthy tradition of local theater. *Playhouse on the Square* (51 S. Cooper, 901-726-4656) and *Circuit Playhouse* (1705 Poplar, 901-726-4656) perform in two former movie houses, offering a wide-ranging calendar of plays each year. *Theatreworks* (2085 Monroe, 901-27403179) is home to five organizations: Project Motion, Playwright's Forum, Our Own Voice Theatre, Emerald Theatre Co. and Memphis Black Repertory Theatre. *Voices of the South* (901-323-0128), theater in the narrative style, translates litera-

ture for the stage. Meanwhile, further east, *Theatre Memphis* (630 Perkins Extd, 901-682-8323) performs in its own building. Even further east, *Germantown Community Theatre* (3037 Forest Hill-Irene Road, 901-754-2680) is best known for its yearly rendition of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.”

28 Take a Dream Safari. A special view of Memphis comes from the seat of a 1955 Cadillac driven by a guide who seems to know more than anyone else in town. *American Dream Safari* (99 S. Second St., 901-527-8870) gives a personalized tour of Memphis' musical heritage. In addition, *Heritage Tours* (280 Hernando, 901-527-3427) highlights African-American sites.

29 Listen to Real Radio. While other radio stations become homogenized, *WEVL-FM* (901-528-0561), 88.9 on the dial, stakes out its own distinctive direction. With Memphis disc jockeys known more for their passion than their professionalism, *WEVL-FM* offers fresh, eclectic music everyday; from folk music you marched to, traditional country you courted to, and work music you groove to. Everyday is an aural adventure.

31 Tap into Your Poetic Side. Events spotlighting the spoken work are on the agenda of several places around town. *DWB* (3279 Kirby, 901-864-7196) has poetic Thursdays; *Empire Coffee* (2 S. Main; 901-216-0660) hosts poetry slams; *Java Cabana* (2170 Young; 901-272-7210) has Thursday poetry readings; *Cultural Crossroads* (2288 Dunn; 901-213-3341) sponsors Friday's Thought Exchange for song, poems, hip-hop, readings, etc.; and *It's My Time Entertainment and Café* (1289 Madison; 901-729-4947) is home to Wednesday's Improv-oetry with skits, dance, poems, and spoken word.

32 View Judaica. Tucked away on a shady road in an exclusive part of East Memphis is the *Herta and Justin H. Adler Judaica Collection at Temple Israel*. Known for their sophisticated tastes, they collected pieces from Israel, Europe and Africa. About 155 pieces are on display (1376 E. Massey Rd., 901-761-3130), including yads, spice containers, a 19th Century Chanukah menorah and ketubah, and several Meggillot Esther.



Gibson Guitar Factory

30 String Along with the Experts. Memphis has two places on the map of guitarists—*Gibson Guitar Factory* and *Strings-N-Things*. The factory tour at Gibson is a firsthand look at the handmade guitars assembled in the factory and sold in the gift store (145 George W. Lee St., 901-544-7998). *Strings-N-Things* (1555 Madison Ave., 901-278-0500) is a frequent stop for touring bands and performers who need help from the best.



33 See Why We Built This City on Rock and Roll. *Graceland*, Elvis Presley's home (3734 Elvis Presley Blvd., 901-332-3322), and *Sun Studios* (706 Union, 901-521-0664) are ground zero for rock and roll fans. Frequently overlooked are two fascinating attractions that deserve attention – *Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum* (145 George W. Lee, 901-543-4872), and *The Stax Museum of American Soul Music* (870 E. McLemore Ave., 901-946-2535). The Smithsonian Institution originated the Rock 'n' Soul Museum, located on legendary Highway 61 in the FedEx Forum, to pay tribute to Memphis' role as midwife to America's greatest music. The Stax Museum of American Soul Music is built where the hypnotic Stax Sound was first recorded. Both offer fascinating exhibits—instruments, clothing, and even a gold-plated car – but ultimately, music is the star at both places. The FedEx Forum, with its Memphis Music theming, offers its own collection of music exhibits throughout the new arena.

34 Make Room For Danny. Even if you have to ask your mother who Danny Thomas is, the exhibits and memorabilia under the golden dome of *St. Jude Children's Research Hospital* are sure to entertain. In the hospital pavilion (501 St. Jude Pl., 901-578-2000) are images from a bygone day—the earliest days of black and white television and the dying gasps of vaudeville. Wildly popular in his prime, the vaudeville comedian and early television star built St. Jude in Memphis to fight childhood catastrophic diseases. The exhibits tell the story of a comedian and his dream.

35 Visit a Cemetery. The history of Memphis can be traced through the graves at *Elmwood Cemetery* (824 S. Dudley, 901-774-3212). Among the 70,000 people buried here are 18 Confederate generals, two Union gen-

erals, veterans from every U.S. war including the Revolutionary War, senators, mayors, governors, river folks and madames. Tour maps are available. In East Memphis, *Memphis Memorial Park* (5668 Poplar) is home to the Crystal Grotto, an artistic confection portraying the life of Christ in beautiful sculptures within a manmade cave, making this cemetery a favorite for children. Also worth seeing is the tapestry by Memphis artist Henry Easterwood in the mausoleum.

36 Kayak the River. Sliding into a kayak and paddling into the Mississippi River is Memphis' version of climbing Mt. Everest. It is taking on a powerful force of nature on its own terms. Information on kayaking is available at *Outdoors Inc.* (1710 Union, 901-722-8988). The annual Canoe and Kayak Race held each spring is a highlight on Memphis' calendar.

37 Paddle a Canoe. Canoeing on the "Ghost River" is an invigorating experience, beginning a county away in a still, pastoral countryside. Moving toward downtown, Wolf River gains strength and width before it empties into Old Man River. The nine-mile tour has five wetland ecosystems, and it is one of the most scenic and surprising rivers in the U.S. Information available at *Wolf River Conservancy* (901-452-6500).

38 Enjoy Saturday Night Salsa. Salsa dancing has become a popular attraction for the "in" crowd. On Saturday night, they can be found dancing the night away at *High Point Café* (330 N. Main, 901-525-4444).

39 Go South of the Border.

Memphis has one of the fastest growing Hispanic populations in the country, and with it, the city is being treated to wonderful food and culture. To get a taste of authenticity, visit *La Guadalupana Taqueria* (4818 Summer Ave., 901-685-6857).

40 See How Square You Can Get.

When growth threatened Collierville's town square, it fought back by turning it into an antiques center. The charming town square survives, complete with chimneys in the park. On three sides of the park are stores and restaurants. On the fourth side is the town's historic train depot replete with vintage train cars. In the park are a bandstand and a historic stagecoach stop. Twice a year, the square hosts arts and crafts fairs. Collierville is located in southeast Shelby County and is easily accessible via Bill Morris Parkway.

41 Tour the Music Statues.

Downtown statues pay tribute to music. There are the two portrayals of Elvis Presley, the young rocker on Beale Street between Main and Second, and the older, more confident looking singer at the *Tennessee Welcome Center* on Riverside Drive across from the monorail station at Mud Island. Also at the Welcome Center is a powerful statue of another music giant, B.B. King. Two blocks from Presley's statue on Beale Street, in Handy Park between Third and Fourth Streets is a statue of the Father of the Blues, W.C. Handy. The statue in front of *The Pyramid* (1 Auction, 901-521-7909) is not, strictly speaking, related to music unless it's because musicians entertained him—Rameses. The statue is an exact replica of one found in the sands of Egypt and restored for a major exhibition in Memphis.

42 Indulge in Guilty Pleasures.

Memphians like to eat, and there are times when only something special is good enough. Some of them are handmade milkshakes at *Wiles Smith Drug Store* (1635 Union, 901-278-6416), French fries from *Dyer's* (205 Beale, 901-527-3937), fried chicken from *Four Way Grill* (998 Mississippi Blvd, 901-507-1519) or *Gus' Fried Chicken* (310 S. Front, 901-527-4877), fried catfish and tamales at *Blues City Café* (138 Beale, 901-526-3637),

corn sticks at *Little Tea Shop* (69 Monroe, 901-525-6000), rolls at *Erika's* (52 S. 2nd, 901-526-5522), bread pudding from *Harry's Detour* (106 G.E. Patterson, 901-523-9070) or any imaginable kind of cheesecake from the *Cheesecake Corner* (113 East G.E. Patterson, 901-525-CAKE).



43 Explore Egypt.

Memphis was named for the influential, fabled city of the same name, and it has maintained an interest in the country of its namesake. In addition to the Rameses Statue in front of *The Pyramid* (1 Auction Avenue, 901-521-9675), *University of Memphis* showcases Egyptian antiquities in its *Arts Museum* (3750 Norriswood, 142 Communications and Fine Arts Building, 901-678-2224).

44 Treat Yourself.

Two Memphis institutions offer time-tested sweets and nuts. The family-owned *Dinstuhl's* has made candies for generations and has stores in several locations. The other is as famous for a sound as its smells. For more than 40 years, the "peanut man" has been tapping on the window of the *Peanut Shoppe* (24 S. Main St., 901-525-1115), a shotgun store for nuts and candies.

45 Climb the Mountaintop.

The night before his murder, civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his prophetic, riveting "I Have Been to the Mountaintop" speech at *Mason Temple* (938 Mason, 901-578-3800). Another shrine to the Civil Rights Movement is *Clayborn Temple* (280 Hernando), where Dr. King began many of his marches in support of the strike by Memphis sanitation workers.

46 Shop Off the Beaten Path.

All attractions in Memphis feature gift shops. Deserving special note are the gift shops of the *National Ornamental Metal Museum* (374 Metal Museum, 901-774-6380), *Gibson Guitar Factory* (145 George W. Lee St., 901-544-7998), *Center for Southern Folklore & Café* (123 S. Main, 901-525-3655) and *Memphis Brooks Museum of Art* (Overton Park, 901-544-6200). All have the expected tourist items but many more unexpected treats.



Memphis Brooks Museum of Art





47 Show Your Mettle. In a city flush with museums, *The National Ornamental Metal Museum* is a trump card (374 Metal Museum, 901-774-6380). Exhibitions never fail to surprise and inspire. The location on the riverbluff with the spectacular view of the river bending away from Memphis is as impressive as the museum itself. In a location reached by a circuitous route, the Museum is on the less traveled side of the "old" bridge, but it's always worth the trip.

48 Worship Buddha. The thriving Vietnamese population in Midtown offers outstanding cuisine, New Year's celebrations and Buddhism. *The Temple* is located at 5111 Bryndale Avenue (901-365-6175). If you need information or directions, you can get them at nearby Vietnamese restaurants, *Saigon Le* (51 N. Cleveland, 901-276-5326) and *Pho Saigon* (38 N. Cleveland, 901-728-4711). In fact a Buddhist monk or two has even been seen working in them.

49 Have a Jaded Visit. Jack Belz is a business legend, particularly in downtown development, but he is also an inveterate collector of Chinese art. *Peabody Place Museum* (119 South Main St., 901-523-ARTS) displays his collection in the lower level of Pembroke Square Building.



Beale Street



Peabody Place Entertainment and Retail Center

50 Tangled Up in Blues. Legend has it that the blues were born in the horn of W. C. Handy on historic Beale Street, but these days, no one gets the blues there, because it is just too much fun. In the heart of downtown, its three blocks have more than 30 nightclubs, restaurants and shops. Everyone's favorite is *A. Schwab's Dry Good Store* (163 Beale, 901-523-9782), a Beale Street landmark since 1876, a retail time machine to another era, with its voodoo potions, giant-sized overalls, good luck candles and millineres. *Strange Cargo* (172 Beale, 901-527-7762) has unusual gift items and conversation pieces, and for all your mojo and voodoo needs, check out the home of King Daddy Blues Rat, *Tater Red's Lucky Mojoes* and *Voodoo Healings* (153 Beale, 901-578-7234). A block north of Beale is *Peabody Place Entertainment and Retail Center* (150 Peabody Place, 901-261-PLAY) with a variety of shops, multi-screen movie theater, *Isaac Hayes' Blues Club* (150 Peabody Place, 901-529-9222) and several eateries. Neaby is *Swig Martini Bar* (100 Peabody Place, 901-522-8515), *Flying Saucer Draught Emporium* (130 Peabody Place, 901-523-7468), and chic *Blue Fin* (135 S. Main, 901-528-1010).

51 Pinch Yourself. *The Pinch District*, sandwiched between St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and The Pyramid, was early home to many of Memphis' immigrants, particularly Irish and Jewish newcomers. The district's name is abbreviated from its original name, Pinch Gut, when residents were said to be so hungry that a pinch would touch their backs to their stomachs. It is home these days to several restaurants, *Café Francisco* (400 N. Main, 901-578-0800), *Alcenia's Desserts and Preserves Shop* (317 N. Main, 901-523-0200, and *Westy's* (346 N. Main, 901-543-3287).

52 Groove on Some Memphis Music. The city has music of all kinds, and frequent performances throughout the year pay tribute to the Memphis passion for music. There is *Memphis Symphony Orchestra* (3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 501, 901-324-3627), *Germantown Symphony Orchestra* (901-755-8708) and *Opera Memphis* (6745 Wolf River Boulevard, 901-257-3100). Meanwhile, the *Cultural Development Foundation of Memphis* (516 Tennessee, Suite 224, 901-312-9787) offers various ethnic and minority performances that address multi-cultural themes.

53 Artfully Done. Memphis is home to a fascinating array of artists, and the galleries reflect the diversity. Memphis arts champion Delta Axis makes it possible to enjoy two venues – *Marshall Arts* (639 Marshall, 901-522-9483) which features artists - many of whom are Rhodes students, faculty and alumni - who are unconcerned with staying within normal artistic boundaries, and *Power House* (45 East GE Patterson, 901-578-5545) a neglected industrial building transformed into a laboratory for artistic expression. More conventional galleries are *David Lusk Gallery* (4540 Poplar, 901-767-3800), *Lisa Kurts Gallery* (766 S. White Station, 901-683-6200), *Jay Etkin Gallery* (409 S. Main, 901-543-0035), *Perry Nicole Fine Art* (3086 Poplar, 901-458-0141), *Art Village Gallery* (410 S. Main, 901-521-0782), *d'Edge Art* (550 S. Main, 901-521-0054), *Durden Gallery* (408 S. Front, Suite 107, 901-543-0340), and *Fountain Art Gallery* (5101 Sanderlin, Suite 106, 901-681-0535).

Memphis: It's More Than You Think

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