

POSITIVE, ENCOURAGING

# KLOVE FAN AWARDS

# 5<sup>TH</sup>

ANNIVERSARY

ULTIMATE FAN EXPERIENCE

MAY 26TH - MAY 28TH

# TRAVEL Guide



A LOOK INSIDE THE KITCHENS

# MUSIC CITY NASHVILLE, TN

FROM THE HOTTEST MUSIC TO THE HOTTEST FOOD!!!



ATTRACTIONS



TYPICAL WEATHER

PARKING . FLIGHTS . SHUTTLES

# A N D MORE

ALL FOR THE FANS

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# K-LOVE Fan Awards Travel Guide

## Nashville: An Overview

For those who have never visited the Music City, you may only know about the country music scene. What those episodes of Nashville don't get into, however, is that the **city is quickly becoming one of the biggest in the country.**

Much like the boom that Atlanta experienced in years past, Nashville is growing at an exceptional rate. Aside from being the home of country music, it is also where you'll find the majority of Christian artists today. Similar to actors and filmmakers flocking to LA for their chance at the film industry, **Nashville is a hub for musicians** seeking to register their first hit.

While music may be at the center of the city, there is a diversity of people, ideas, and influences characterizing Nashville today. The area is quickly being dubbed the **LA of the South**, as it embraces new business approaches, new cultures, and new residents.

How many new residents? Recent analysis shows that the **10 fastest-growing counties** in Tennessee either include Nashville or border the city. While this can be a little frustrating for natives that have to deal with vast construction projects and interstate renovations, it shows that there must be something in the water in the state's capital.

If you're not a music lover (bless your heart), the city also has several sports teams to cheer for year-round. The Tennessee Titans may break their fans' hearts on occasion, but the Nashville **Predators are one of the hottest hockey teams in the NHL.** You can also take in some triple-A baseball with the Nashville Sounds or venture into college athletics with Vanderbilt University.

Another staple of the city, and the South in general, is a large collection of historical sites to visit. The Hermitage is the home of President Andrew Jackson and a popular tourist destination. You can also check out plantations, Civil War forts, and a variety of other attractions.

At the end of the day, **Nashville is home to great music**, historical landmarks of the South, delicious food, and a growing population. Come for the hot chicken, stay for the Southern big city lifestyle.

**We hope to see you at the K-LOVE Fan Awards in Nashville, TN!**



## Weather

We know that there are many people traveling to Nashville for the first time or from long distances. For those who may not be accustomed to the South and its climate, we'll try to give you a general idea.

The **K-LOVE Fan Awards** generally take place around the end of May and beginning of June. For 2017, those dates are **May 26th - 28th**.

Nashville is a city with a warm humid temperate climate with hot summers. Fortunately, the weekend you'll be in town for the Fan Awards should be long before the peak of summer heat.

For late May, Nashville temperatures usually hit a high in the upper 80's and dip down to a low in the range of lower-to-mid 60's. Considering it's the summer in the South, you really can't ask for a much better scenario. You may encounter the occasional shower here and there, but the beauty of holding the Ultimate Fan Experience at the Gaylord Opryland Resort is that all of our activities are rainproof.

## Places to Eat

### At the Hotel

Before we list your dining options located in the Gaylord Opryland Resort, you should be reminded that hotels generally charge more for amenities because guests are somewhat of a captive audience. The restaurants located in the resort offer quality food in an extraordinarily convenient location, so you may want to take that into account when making your travel arrangements.

#### **Cascades American Cafe**

As you can probably expect from the name, this restaurant specializes in American food. While the dinner menu is limited, there are common entrees like a 10 oz. pork chop, salmon, or a black angus burger. The lunch menu contains more everyday items like deli sandwiches and a delicious flat iron steak.

As for breakfast, the Cascades American Cafe is one of the few restaurants that serve breakfast in the hotel. Have your choice of omelettes, french toast, or a variety of other breakfast foods. Located in the Cascades wing of the hotel, the restaurant is bordered by soothing waterfalls and stylish decor.



Hours: 6:00am - 10:00pm daily  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Findley's Irish Pub**

As you would expect from the name, Findley's serves traditional pub food. The place has separate lunch and dinner menus, so take that into account when looking at your options. The lunch menu is rather small and contains burgers, fish and chips, and a few other favorites.

On the dinner side, you'll find a more expansive menu that includes small plate options and corned beef and cabbage. Findley's Irish Pub is in the Magnolia wing.

Hours: 11:00am - 11:00pm daily  
Family Friendly: Older Kids  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Fuse Sports Bar**

In the Fuse Sports Bar, you'll find plenty of tailgating food like wings, burgers, and appetizers such as pretzels, nachos, and onion rings.

The gameday atmosphere doesn't end with the food because the restaurant has over 100 televisions on hand for all of your viewing needs.

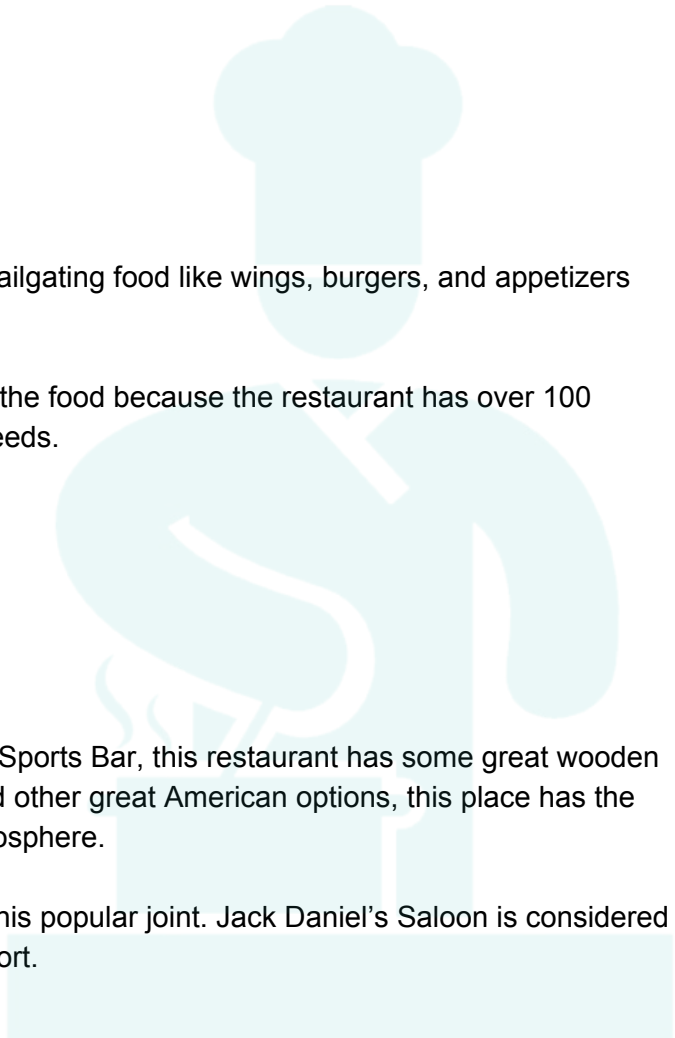
Hours: 11:00am - 12:00am daily  
Family Friendly: Older Kids  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Jack Daniel's Saloon**

Found in the Magnolia section next to Fuse Sports Bar, this restaurant has some great wooden decor. With delicious brisket quesadillas and other great American options, this place has the combination of good cooking and great atmosphere.

Some nights, you'll find some live music in this popular joint. Jack Daniel's Saloon is considered by many to be the best restaurant at the resort.

Hours: 5:00pm - 1:00am  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$



## **Old Hickory Steakhouse**

This steakhouse is considered the most upscale of all dining options at the resort, so you may want to upgrade your wardrobe. Known for high-quality meats and cheeses, this place will give you a night to remember.

Located in the Delta Atrium, this restaurant has a wonderful atmosphere and offers an elegant dining experience. Unless you're a big fan of waiting, remember to set a reservation.

Hours: 5:00pm - 10:00pm  
Family Friendly: Older Kids  
Price Range: \$\$\$\$

## **Paisano's Pizzeria and Vino**

If you're looking for quick Italian food, Paisano's is your best option. Found on the Delta Island, this place serves pizza by the slice (or whole pies), pasta, and salads.

Open for lunch or dinner, Paisano's has a very scenic spot in the atrium. Pro tip: Get some extra napkins for the pizza.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm daily  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$-\$\$

## **Ravello**

Ravello is the premier Italian restaurant at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the spot has an exceptional atmosphere in the Garden Conservatory Atrium.

For breakfast and lunch, you can expect a buffet that can get rather crowded. If having dinner, try the bronzino or the lasagna bolognese.

Hours: Open until 2:30am  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

## **Solario Cantina**

Solario is a Mexican restaurant where you and your family can expect to find classics like fish tacos, a smoked chicken quesadilla, and tortilla soup. Most of your Mexican favorites will make the menu, but the restaurant doesn't offer an exhaustive amount of choices.



Breakfast is served at Solario starting at 9:00am. Located in the Garden Conservatory, this spot is especially lovely at night.

Hours: 9:00am - 8:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$

### **Stax Burgers**

This burger spot is located in the Delta Island portion of the hotel. If you want something simple, this place will let you create your own burger and pair it with fries or kettle chips. And yes, they do have a veggie burger.

You may find Stax to be an oasis if you are the only member of your party to not be interested in shopping. The stores on Delta Island are just next door to several shops and rest spots.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$-\$\$

### **Wasabi's Sushi**

If sushi is your game, then Wasabi's is your Gaylord Opryland destination. The restaurant is located right next to the Cascades American Cafe.

With some of the best reviews among the resort's eateries, Wasabi's is a popular choice. If having lunch, try the Bento Box. Since the sushi bar is conjoined with the Cafe, there is technically breakfast there in the morning.

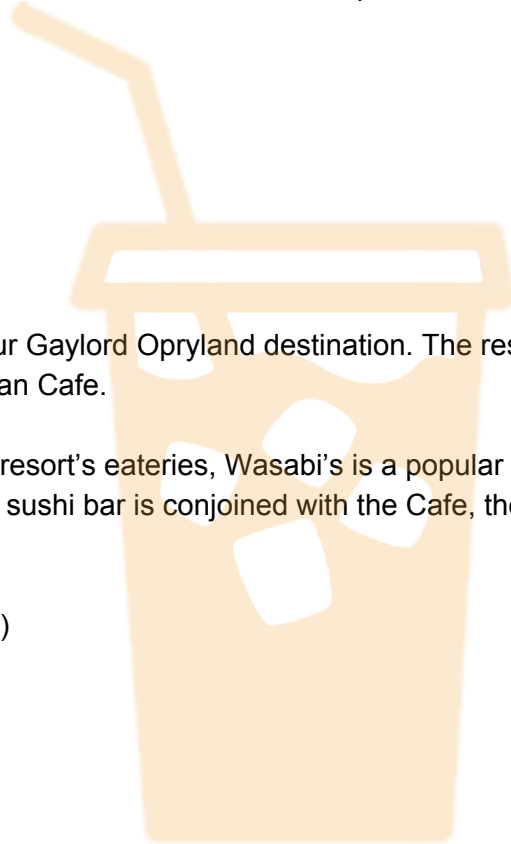
Hours: 11:00am - 10:00pm daily (for sushi)

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Coffee and Dessert**

**Cocoa Bean** will cover your basic coffee needs like any Starbuck's would. Though mornings can get a little crowded, they do have breakfast sandwiches and pastries. For those not wanting to try the Cascades American Cafe or other breakfast options, this is a quick stop in the Cascades lobby.



As for dessert, **Bravo Gelato** is located in the Garden Conservatory Atrium and **Delta Delight Frozen Yogurt** is found in the Delta Atrium.

## In the Area

For those looking to get some fresh air with their meal, we've put together a few great spots in the area near the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Check out these options below and see if any of them get your taste buds watering.

### Aquarium Restaurant

A chain restaurant found in the Opry Mills mall, this is a place you come to more for the environment than the food. Don't misunderstand, though, there's nothing wrong with the dining experience.

Similar to Rainforest Cafe (same owners), this place houses a massive aquarium that will entertain your kids and provide an atmosphere that is hard to replicate. The restaurant serves a variety of tasty shrimps and other seafood favorites.

Hours: 11:00am - 7:00pm Sun  
11:00am - 9:00pm Mon-Thu  
11:00am - 9:30pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### Caney Fork

Also within walking distance to the Opry, Caney Fork has the Cracker Barrel feel but with a personality all its own. This restaurant has an All-American menu that features Southern favorites as well as a few more eccentric choices. For the hunter in your group, there is a "wild game" menu that features alligator, elk, and bison among other choices.

Since you're in Nashville, most of the good restaurants will occasionally have live music. Caney Fork is no exception.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm Sun  
4:00pm - 10:00pm Mon-Thu  
11:00am - 11:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$



## Chuys

Although it's technically part of a franchise, this restaurant still has the quality food you would hope for in a locals only spot. Located just outside the Opry Mills mall, this Tex-Mex place offers some tasty food from the first bite of chips and salsa.

Once you get past the appetizers, order any of your favorite dishes like enchiladas, fajitas, or chile rellenos. Chuys does a good job with all of them, just make sure to inquire about the boom boom sauce.

Hours: 11:00am - 10:00pm Sun-Thu  
11:00am - 11:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$

## Claim Jumper

This is another chain restaurant that specializes in American food. If you're looking for a reference, think of something like Ruby Tuesday or O'Charley's. As part of the Opry Mills mall, it's only a short walk from both the Opry and the Opryland Resort.

If you're looking for suggestions, the clam chowder, BBQ chicken salad, and mini pizzas are very popular.

Hours: 11:00am - 7:00pm Sun  
11:00am - 9:00pm Mon-Thu  
11:00am - 9:30pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

## Hermitage Cafe

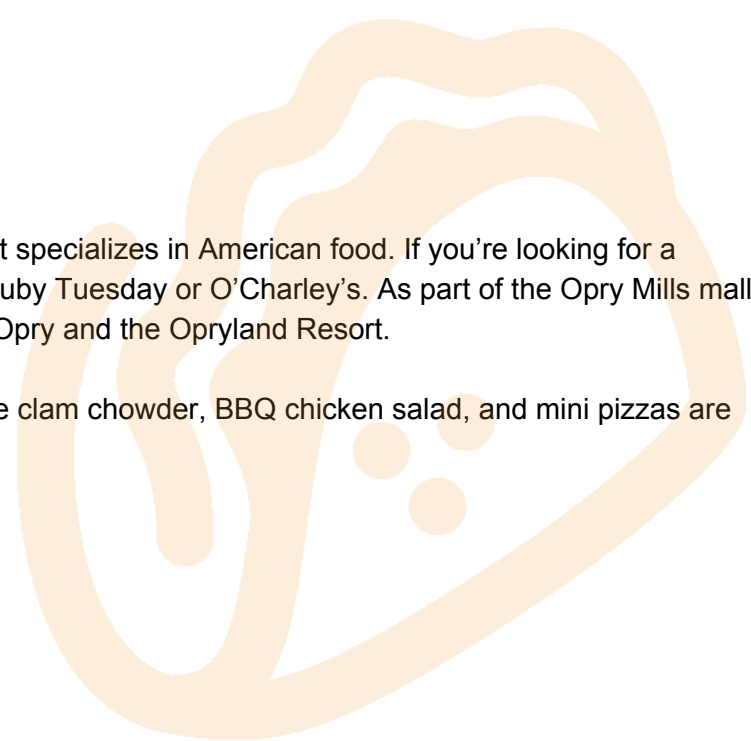
For those preferring the cuisine of old-school diners, the Hermitage Cafe is one spot to add to your list. Advertising hamburgers and chili on their sign, the restaurant specializes in American food that can be cooked on a hot plate.

About 15 minutes from the Opryland Resort, this is a place for lunch or a late-night breakfast. Keeping with the 50's vibe, the restaurant only accepts cash and has a jukebox that will kick out the song of your choosing.

Hours: 12:00pm - 1:30pm, 10:00pm-12:00am daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$





## **John A's**

Very close to the Opryland Resort, this spot is about as authentically Southern as it gets. The walls are adorned with the pictures of famous musicians and loyal patrons and the decor is decidedly simple.

Along with some good live music, you'll find a quality Reuben sandwich, chicken livers, and other staple American food. For dessert, you may want to give the fried Moon Pie and ice cream a shot.

Hours: 3:00pm - 12:00am Sun-Thu

3:00pm - 1:00am Fri

11:00am - 1:00am Sat Family Friendly: Older Kids Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

## **Mitchell's Delicatessen**

If you're looking for something simple and fast, Mitchell's Delicatessen just might be your best bet on this list. You'll find some of the best sandwiches in Nashville in this place. Flank Steak, Turkey Avocado, or a variety of other simple meals will leave you and your family full at a small price.

About 10-15 minutes from the Opryland Resort, this location is open for breakfast, lunch, and (an early) dinner. For breakfast, look at the bagel sandwiches or the mini buffet.

Hours: 7:00am - 4:00pm Sun

7:00am - 8:00pm Mon-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$

## **Nashville Biscuit House**

If you blink as you're driving past this place, you might miss it. A small neighborhood restaurant, this place is one of the best breakfast spots in Nashville. It's located around 15-20 minutes from the Gaylord Opryland Resort, so you'll have to decide if you want to drive that far.

As you can imagine, the biscuits are outstanding with or without gravy. Nashville Biscuit House is like if Waffle House were run by your mom and grandmother. For a good home-cooked breakfast at a good price, consider this place.



Hours: 6:30am - 2:00pm daily  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$

### **Opry Backstage Grill**

This Nashville staple is within a mile of both the Grand Ole Opry and the Gaylord Opryland Resort. You can find good American food with a Southern flair and live music on most nights. Due to the proximity to the Opry, you never know when you might recognize someone at the next table over.

There are a lot of popular items on the menu, but we suggest the brisket sliders or catfish for entrees. BBQ nachos and fried green tomatoes are the appetizers you'll probably want to swing for.

Hours: 11:00am - 10:00pm Sun-Thu  
11:00am - 11:00pm Fri-Sat  
Family Friendly: Yes  
Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Pepperfire Hot Chicken or Prince's Hot Chicken Shack**

If you're looking for the signature hot chicken that calls Nashville "home," these are two options that might satisfy your curiosity. Like many popular local spots, Prince's Hot Chicken Shack is in a part of town that may have you looking over your shoulder. What you really need to worry about is the parking, though. Upon making it inside, you'll find some extremely good hot chicken that is worth the hassle.

Hours: Closed Monday  
11:30am - 10:00pm Tue-Thu  
11:30am - 4:00am Fri  
2:00pm - 4:00am Sat

Found in a little up-and-coming spot in Nashville, Pepperfire Hot Chicken is another fantastic place for Nashville hot chicken. You'll find a slightly better parking situation here than at Prince's.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm daily

*For Both -*  
Family Friendly: During the daytime  
Price Range: \$



## Two Ten Jack

If you're a big fan of Asian cuisine, we haven't left you totally out of the loop. About 20 minutes from the Grand Ole Opry, this relatively new spot has some of the best Japanese food in Nashville.

While we're not aware of any bad dishes, the ramen is out of this world. You can also try the Octopus hushpuppies if you want something a little different.

Hours: 4:00pm - 10:00pm Mon-Thu

4:00pm - 11:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Maybe not for picky eaters

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

## Wild Cow Vegetarian Restaurant

For the vegan/vegetarian crowd, Wild Cow is one of the best restaurants in Nashville. Even if you love to eat beef and pork, you just might find a new favorite here.

With a variety of tacos, sandwiches, and salads, this restaurant will teach you that meat is not necessary for a meal to be great.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm Sun-Thu

11:00am - 10:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Maybe not for picky eaters

Price Range: \$\$

## Local Coffee

If you're out and about, the **Barista Parlor** might be the coffee stop for you. With a lot more atmosphere than your local Starbucks, these guys know how to create the perfect drink for your coffee habit. For food, they also have some pastries and cronuts that pair wonderfully with your beverage.

Hours: 7:00am - 8:00pm Mon-Fri

8:00am - 8:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

Only about 5 minutes from the Opryland Resort, **The Dixie Drip** is housed in a 1962 Shasta trailer. While the establishment is only a walk-up window, they do have some great coffee and the food to match.



If you're there for breakfast, the country ham biscuits are to die for. This spot may not give you four walls and a chair, but they're doing just about everything else very well.

Hours; Closed Sun-Mon

6:30am - 1:30pm Tue-Fri

8:00am - 2:00pm Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$

## For Those Willing to Drive Further

If you're feeling especially adventurous, we've put together a few other dining options that are a bit of a drive (over 20 minutes). You don't want to miss the action at the K-LOVE Fan Awards, but these might be a nice option if you're turning the weekend into a full family vacation.

### **Arnold's Country Kitchen**

Although Nashville gets the reputation of being a hipster town (justifiably), there are plenty of reminders that you're in the South. Arnold's Country Kitchen is a meat-and-three restaurant that serves patrons via cafeteria line.

With daily specials that include meatloaf, country fried steak, chicken & dumplings, and other Southern favorites. If you're a fan of banana pudding or pie, you'll have plenty to think about for dessert. For those who are fans, Arnold's has been featured on TV's "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives."

Hours: 10:30am - 2:45pm Mon-Fri

Closed on weekends

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$

### **Biscuit Love**

Another one of Nashville's great breakfast locations, Biscuit Love is home to many brunch favorites. Like you'd expect from a biscuit place, the restaurant also has some amazing sausage gravy, hash, and grits.



Be sure to make room for the bonuts, too. To educate the uninformed, a bonut is a biscuit/donut and they are spectacular. Don't let the long line scare you off, because this is one that's worth the wait.

Hours: 7:00am - 3:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$

### **Desano Pizza Bakery**

This is one of the highest-rated restaurants in all of Nashville. While there may not be any such as "bad" pizza, there are certainly different levels of good.

Specializing in Neapolitan pizza, this is less American than your average Papa John's. Cooked in giant ovens, these pies come out on their own pan family style and are served with bottled drinks. For dessert, try one of the cannolis or a Nutella pizza.

Hours: 11:00am - 10:00pm Sun-Wed

11:00am - 11:00pm Thu-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Hattie B's Hot Chicken**

There are actually two of these locations, the closer being on 19th Avenue near Music Row. Like Prince's and Pepperfire, this is one of the best hot chicken joints in Nashville. What might make it more appealing than the other two establishments is that the restaurant is larger and has some better seating areas.

As one of the highest-rated restaurants in Nashville, there will probably be a wait. As worth it as the food may be, that's something to account for on your trip.

Hours: 11:00am - 4:00pm Sun

11:00am - 10:00pm Mon-Thu

11:00am - 12:00am Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$

### **Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint**

It may not be Memphis or Kansas City barbecue, but Martin's is about as good as you're going to find in Nashville. The location on Belmont Boulevard is always bursting at the seams with people hoping to get some hog on their plate.



You can order just about anything in this place and be content. Spare ribs, wings, pulled pork, or anything else carrying the barbeque flavor will be a treat to your family. This is arguably the best BBQ in Nashville, so don't freak out if you find a big line.

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

### **Uncle Bud's Catfish Shack**

There are a few places in Nashville with some good catfish, but Uncle Bud's has a fun atmosphere that will leave a lasting impact. Aside from the fish, they also whip up some good fried chicken, chicken livers, and alligator tails.

The restaurant often has all-you-can-eat specials, so that may be something for you to check on. If nothing else, you can't go wrong with catfish.

Hours: 11:00am - 8:00pm Sun

4:00pm - 9:30pm Mon-Thu

11:00am - 9:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price Range: \$\$-\$\$\$

## Things to Do

### At the Hotel

The Gaylord Opryland Resort prides itself in being able to provide a full vacation experience within its walls. Because of that, there are a few options for entertainment on the hotel grounds. Here are some of your best choices at the resort.

### **Delta Riverboat Tour**

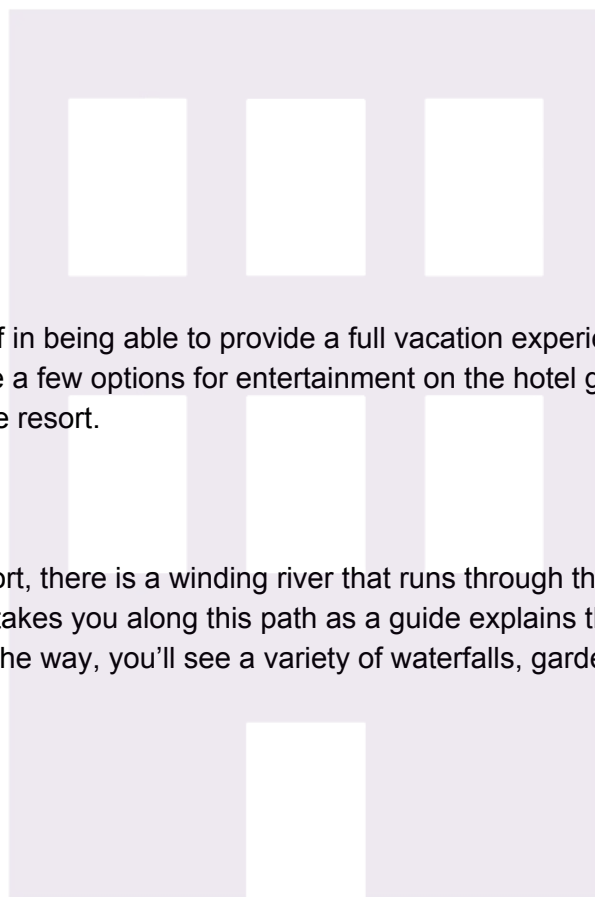
Among the many sights to see at the resort, there is a winding river that runs through the Delta portion of the hotel. The Delta Riverboat takes you along this path as a guide explains the history of the decor and the hotel. Along the way, you'll see a variety of waterfalls, gardens and other scenic views.

Hours: 11:00am - 6:00pm Sun-Thu

10:00am - 8:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$\$



## **Gardens & Fountains**

Even if you don't take the tour with the boat, there are other ways that you can enjoy the grounds at the hotel. Whether you want to sit and relax or walk the paths, there's a lot to explore. Some nights there are also fountain shows in the garden areas for you and your kids to enjoy.

Depending on the time of year that you come, there is an outdoor pool surrounded by vegetation that you can relax by as well.

## **Opry Mills**

Within walking distance of the Opryland Resort is the Opry Mills Mall. If you're looking for things to do, this mall has a movie theater and several stores to peruse. You can even find a few restaurants from this same travel guide in the mall. While it doesn't have any department stores, there are many shops carrying your favorite brands.

Hours: 11:00am - 7:00pm Sun  
10:00am - 9:00pm Mon-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

## **Shops**

If you don't feel like walking across the parking lot to Opry Mills, the resort has many shops of its own. Some of these stores carry clothing, electronics, and souvenirs. You may find more choices at the mall, but it never hurts to have some more options at the hotel.

You can even find services like massages, shoe shining, and others throughout the hotel.

Hours: Varies by store

Family Friendly: Yes

## **In the Area**

Of course, you may want to take advantage of any free time to escape the hotel grounds and take in the Nashville sights. If you're looking for any activities to take in, we've compiled a few that your family might take an interest in.

## **Adventure Science Center**



For a fun, educational experience, try out the Adventure Science Center. This place has interesting exhibits that explain physics, the human body, and a host of other scientific queries that will surprise even the smartest person in your group.

About 10 miles from the Opryland Resort, this attraction also features a planetarium with laser shows and other exciting programs.

Hours: 10:00am - 5:00pm daily; special events are after hours - check [www.adventuresci.org](http://www.adventuresci.org) for more info

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$15 for adults/teens, \$11 for kids 12-2, Free for kids under 2 (addtl cost for planetarium)

### **Belle Meade Plantation**

If you're wanting to discover a piece of Southern history, the Belle Meade Plantation offers guided tours every half hour. This historic setting captures the era of the Old South and lets visitors understand what life used to be like. If you don't feel like taking a guided tour, you can roam the grounds to yourself for \$12/person. Family rates are also available (\$60 for 2 adults/up to 4 kids)

With horse stables, a beautiful estate, and well-maintained grounds, this plantation is something for history lovers to enjoy. At nearly 30 minutes driving distance, this one might be a bit of a stretch for some staying at the Opryland Resort.

Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors 65+, \$12 for kids 13-18, \$10 for kids 6-12, free for kids 5 and under

### **Cheekwood Botanical Gardens**

Located in Southeast Nashville, aka the opposite side from the Gaylord Resort, these botanical gardens will offer a sweet sanctuary of nature for those with a few hours to kill.

On top of the gardens, the grounds also have an historic home to tour and a train exhibit that runs through a makeshift town created with only natural elements. If you want to make a day out of it, they also have a restaurant on-site.

Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm Tue-Sun, Closed Mondays

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors, \$12 for college students w/ID, \$9 for kids 3-17, free for kids 2 and under (\$5 parking fee for each vehicle)





## Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

As everyone knows, Nashville, TN, is the Music City and the home of country music, so it only makes sense that you should visit the genre's hall of fame. There are always interesting exhibits to take in and they even host concerts from time to time.

This tour will give you plenty of time to learn more about the country music genre and see memorabilia from icons of the past. If you're more of a recent fan of country music, they also have exhibits that will appeal to you.

Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$25 for adults, \$15 for kids aged 6-12, Free for kids 5 and under

Discounted tickets are available for seniors 60+, military members, and students

## Fort Negley

Another historical site that will entertain and educate is the Fort Negley Park just south of downtown Nashville. This area contains the last remains of a Civil War fort that is nestled in the middle of a busy city.

Walk the grounds and read up on the history of the city. Years from now, it may be a lot harder to find historical sites like this. The park is open from dawn til dusk, but the visitor center hours are much narrower.

Hours: Closed Monday

Noon - 4:00pm Tue-Thu

9:00am - 4:00pm Fri-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

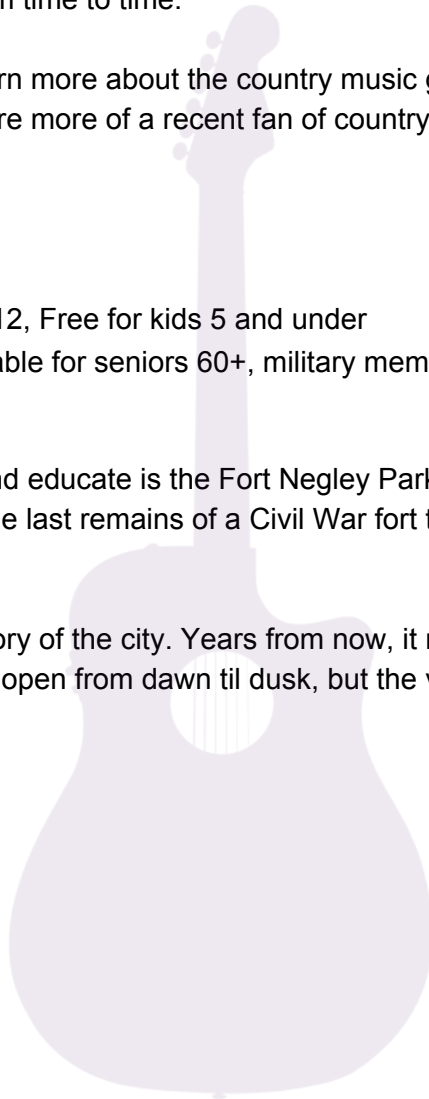
Price: Free

## The Hermitage

The home of President Andrew Jackson is one of the most iconic spots in all of Nashville. While there is more than enough history spread across Tennessee, the Hermitage is in a class all its own.

This sprawling estate features a variety of guided tours, depending on how much you want to pay, that will teach you about the era in which Jackson lived and the history of the property. While similar properties may only entertain your family for a brief while, this place has hours of exhibits. Similar to a few other places, the Hermitage does also have a family tour package for \$54. This covers two adults and two children aged 6-18.

Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm (October 16 - March 14) daily



8:30am - 5:00pm (March 15 - October 15) daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors 62+, \$15 for kids 13-18, \$10 for kids 6-12, free for kids 5 and under as well as any active military personnel, \$10 for veterans (Upgraded packages are available for those wanting a VIP experience.)

### **Nashville Zoo**

About a 20 minute drive from the Gaylord Opryland Resort, the zoo is located in South Nashville. Pretty much every major city has its own zoo, but they each have their own pleasantries. Come here to walk the spacious grounds and visit the local wildlife.

If you're looking for the highlights of the zoo, check out the kangaroo and tortoise exhibits. Never underestimate the fun in getting close to these and other exotic animals.

Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm (October 14 - March 13) daily

9:00am - 6:00pm (March 14 - October 13) daily

### **Parthenon/Centennial Park**

For an opportunity to explore nature in the heart of the city, Centennial Park provides large fields of grass, bike paths, ponds, and, of course, the iconic Parthenon at its heart.

An exact copy of the building in Greece, Nashville's Parthenon is something that should be taken in while picnicking in the park. Inside the Parthenon is an art museum that is reasonably priced.

If you want more to do, there are bikes available to rent and different areas of the park to explore.

#### *Parthenon*

Hours: Closed Monday

12:30pm - 4:30pm Sunday

9:00am - 4:30pm Tue-Sat

Family Friendly: Yes

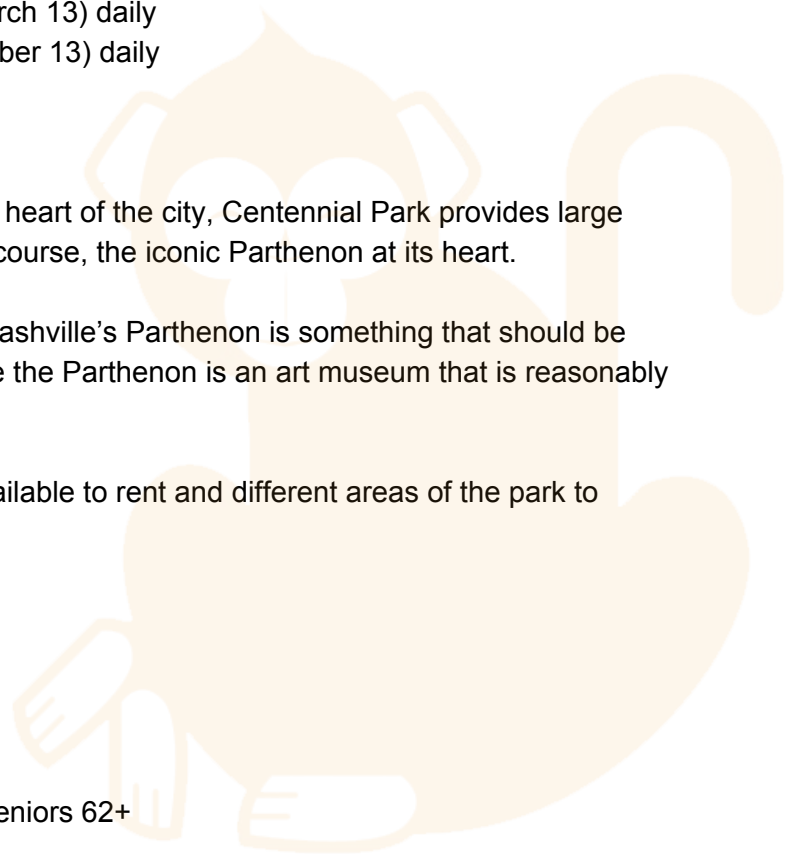
Price: \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids 4-17 and seniors 62+

#### *Centennial Park*

Hours: Dawn - 11:00pm

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: Free



## Ryman Auditorium

Whether they're coming for a concert or just to tour the grounds, the Ryman Auditorium is one of the hottest attractions in Nashville. Visit and learn the history of the building and the artists who have played there.

There are several options for how you and your family can enjoy your time at the "Mother Church of Country Music." If you want to start your musical career, you can even cut a record for \$20-30.

Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm daily

Family Friendly: Yes

Price: \$20 for adults, \$15 for kids 4-11 (Self-guided tour)

\$30 for adults, \$25 for kids 4-11 (Guided backstage tour)

## Upper Room Chapel

For those wanting to learn more about Christian art and history, the Upper Room Chapel has a little of both. One of the biggest attractions to the site is a life-size woodcarving of Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper. They also hold a weekly service at 8:30 on Wednesday morning.

Among the sights to take in are the beautiful stained-glass windows and religious paintings. Sculptures, porcelain figures, and antique Bibles are all part of the experience.

Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm Mon-Fri

Family Friendly: Older Kids

Price: Suggested donation of \$5

## Shuttles and ride-sharing services at the Gaylord Opryland Resort

Lyft and Uber are both available, as are taxi services. They have designated parking spaces near check-in. If you are unaware of Lyft and Uber, we'll give you a brief synopsis.

Both of these services work remarkably similar. For the uninitiated, these are ride-sharing services where you can contact a driver in your area through a smartphone app and have them pick you up. **Payment is done through the app**, so you don't have to worry about having money on you. These drivers are usually local people looking to make some extra money. Some of them are professional drivers as well.

To assure you of these driver's qualifications, both companies interview the drivers before letting them get on the road. **The smartphone app is also helpful because you can rate the drivers and drivers can rate you as a passenger. If either party is unsafe or overly**



**obnoxious, they can be kicked out of the system with enough bad ratings.** It isn't a perfect system, but it's more 21st century than taking a cab. As for the differences...

**Lyft** is a ride-sharing service that works similar to taxis. It is usually the travel arrangement of young millennials as they drivers tend to be more everyday people that are open to conversation. Lyft generally costs slightly more than Uber, but that can change by area or traffic situation.

On **Uber**, more of the drivers are professionals. This experience is closer to having a driver pick you up from the airport, rather than a friend giving you a ride home from a football game. The company is quickly gaining on Lyft in most markets, perhaps becoming the #1 ride-sharing service. Uber's app also gives you the fare rate in real time.

For those seeking a ride from an actual hotel shuttle, Opryland runs shuttles to the airport, Grand Ole Opry, downtown Nashville, and the General Jackson Showboat. Through these destinations, you can find a lot of fun things to do.

Be aware that only the shuttles to the Gaylord Springs Golf Course and the General Jackson Showboat are free. Roundtrip shuttle service to the Grand Ole Opry is free except for the times of year when performances are at the Ryman Auditorium, in which case the cost is \$20/person. The airport shuttle is \$30/person roundtrip or \$19/person one-way. For the downtown shuttle, you will pay \$20/person roundtrip or you can buy a 3-day pass for \$40/person.

