

My Drift

Title: Nashville

Written By: Jerry D. Petersen

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I like country and western music! Nashville is best known for is being the capital of the country music world. Being that it is the location of the Country Music Hall of Fame, many of the biggest names in country music have come from this great city. I have visited most states and most large cities in the United States but for some reason I have never been to Nashville. In fact, I have never been to Tennessee. Darn - Nashville is one place I really wanted to go.



The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum



As you can see in the above map, Nashville is located in the north central part of Tennessee. It is the capital and most populated city with 716,000 people. The second biggest city is Memphis (population 634,000) located in the southwest corner. Knoxville is the third largest city (population 191,000) and is located in the east central part of the state. Chattanooga is the fourth largest city (population 181,000) and is located in the southeastern part of the state.

History of Nashville

Nashville was founded by James Robertson and a party of Wataugans in 1779, and was originally called Fort Nashborough, after the American Revolutionary War hero Francis Nash. Nashborough was changed to Nashville in 1784. Nashville quickly grew because of its prime location, accessibility as a river port, and its later status as a major railroad center. In 1784 it was incorporated as a town by the North Carolina legislature; it became a city in 1806. Tennessee became a state in 1796 and in 1843 Nashville became the state capital.

A major center for the music industry, especially country music, Nashville is commonly known as "Music City". It is also home to numerous colleges and universities, including Tennessee State University, Vanderbilt University, Belmont University, Fisk University, Trevecca Nazarene University, and Lipscomb University. Nashville is sometimes referred to as "Athens of the South" due to the large number of educational institutions.





Broadway is a major thoroughfare in the downtown area of Nashville. It includes Lower Broadway, an entertainment district renowned for honky-tonks and live country music. There are more than 32 bars on Broadway. The street is also home to retail shops, restaurants, hotels, and other tourist attractions.

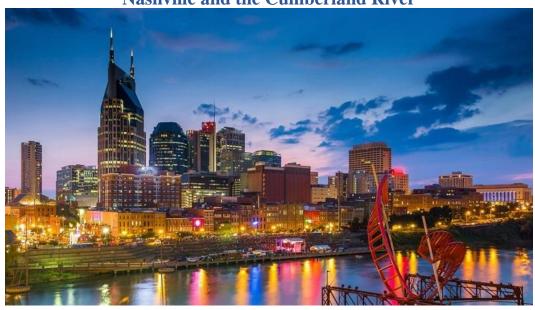
If I ever did go to Nashville, you now know where you can find me.



GRAND OLE OPRY

The Grand Ole Opry is a weekly country music stage concert that was founded in 1925 as a one-hour radio "barn dance" on WSM. It is the longest-running radio broadcast in US history. Dedicated to honoring country music and its history, the Opry showcases a mix of famous singers and contemporary chart-toppers performing country, bluegrass, Americana, folk, and gospel music as well as comedic performances and skits. It attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world and millions of radio and internet listeners.

Nashville and the Cumberland River







Some more Nashville Attractions



Johnny Cash Museum



Nashville Parthenon



Tropical Gardens at the Gaylord Opryland Resort



Nashville Zoo

Is Nashville a good place to live?

Yes. It's one of the nation's best places to live. Nashville has been named the 15th best place to live in the country — and it's not because of the honky-tonks.

Well, not just because of the honky-tonks and the great food.

Even with local gripes, many justified, about housing costs, commutes and too many tourists, the city on the Cumberland River made the list between San Jose, California, and Asheville, North Carolina, in an analysis of 125 metro areas nationwide.

Nashville at a glance:

- The average cost of a 3-bedroom house in Nashville is about \$420,000.
- The average rent for a 1-bedroom apartment is about \$1,600 per month.

- Temperatures in Nashville average 85 degrees in the summer months, and 50 degrees in the winter months.
- Outside of music, the major industries in Nashville include education, manufacturing, health services, and hospitality
- Nashville has two major sports teams, the Tennessee Titans (NFL) and the Nashville Predators (NHL).
- You will probably need a car and expect to sit in some gridlock traffic when commuting to work. The mass transit system is not too good!
- Its unemployment rate is just 3.5% which means it won't be too tough to find a job in Nashville.
- The Nashville violent crime rate is higher than the U.S. national average, but the city is still generally safe for residents and tourists.
- Nashville is a fun city to live in and there are many things to do, especially if you like country music, cold beverages, and great food.



Alan Jackson's Lower Broadway bar has been voted the number one honkytonk in Nashville by Billboard Magazine. The three-story hot spot offers something different on each level: a sports bar, karaoke bar, and rooftop bar.

I wouldn't want to live there but I'm pretty sure I would have a good time in Nashville.

Bigdrifter44@gmail.com

Bigdrifter.com