



**Good times and good friends await you in Knoxville,**  
a vibrant and beautiful river city with an abundance of great restaurants,  
nightlife, museums, shopping, family fun and national championship sports.  
It's a warm, welcoming place with its own distinct history, spirited arts  
community and blessed with the natural beauty of the Tennessee River and the  
Great Smoky Mountains.

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## **EDUCATION, ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Looking for a vacation destination for the whole family? Wondering if Knoxville has activities that will entertain your sometimes hard-to-please children? The answer to both these questions is, "Yes, Knoxville!" Here are some ideas that are sure to please everyone.

*Knoxville Zoo* – Open the doors to a world of beauty and amazement as you explore the wonders of more than 230 species of animals inhabiting the Knoxville Zoo. One popular exhibit, "Kids Cove," is based loosely on life in the 1900s in the Cades Cove section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. However, it is a more grand and theatrical version. While kids of all ages enjoy the Knoxville Zoo, the "Kids Cove" design team aimed specifically at thrilling the newborn to 12-year-old audience. There is a play cabin, vegetable gardens, animals and play spaces with an East Tennessee theme. It is a place where children can observe and interact with animals that live in the area, role-play as farmers and zookeepers, or have the props and opportunities provided to stimulate their imaginations as they pretend to be the animals they experience in "Kids Cove."

Another well-liked exhibit at the zoo is the "Stokely African Elephant Preserve," which is part of "Grasslands Africa!," an expansion of the current African Plains area that features giraffes, zebras and elands. The new elephant preserve includes a barn, three pools, a mud hole and man-made trees. Not only does it provide visitors with a better view of the elephants, but it also improves the quality of life for these large, loveable creatures.

The zoo also features many other natural environment exhibits, including "Black Bear Falls," "Chimp Ridge," "Pride Lands," "Meerkat Lookout," "Penguin Rock," "North American River Otter

Exhibit,” “Birds of Central America Aviary,” “The Boyd Family Red Panda Village” and “Tortoise Territory.”

***Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame*** – The Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame encourages you to dream big as you tour the exciting hall with more than 32,000 square feet of fun for everyone. Visitors will find an assortment of hands-on interactive experiences, along with the history and personalities of the growing sport of women’s basketball. In addition to a comprehensive collection of artifacts, the facility features three indoor basketball courts, a dribble racecourse and an interactive locker room where visitors can hear a coach’s actual half-time talk.

***Ijams Nature Center*** – Ijams Nature Center is a non-profit regional environmental education center surrounded by more than 160 acres of beautiful forests, meadows, ponds and gardens that are all connected by five miles of trails. Visitors can see a variety of wildflowers, grasses and native trees providing homes to a diverse wildlife population including turtles, raccoons, opossums and more than 40 species of birds. Ijams offers several programs built upon encouraging visitors to experience the great outdoors while educating them on wildlife preservation.

***Volunteer Landing*** – Volunteer Landing is a scenic one-mile paved riverwalk along the Tennessee River that houses several attractions. There are three unique restaurants serving everything from award-winning barbecue to pan-seared Ahi Tuna to American cuisine with a southern attitude – all while dining in top-notch but casual atmospheres. Water-lovers will enjoy the full-service marina offering paddle, pontoon and houseboat rentals. The beautiful landscape with refreshing waterfalls and fountains create a place so peaceful you might forget that the cosmopolitan city sits just feet away or that the majestic Great Smoky Mountains that paint the horizon are closer than they appear.

From Volunteer Landing you can take a scenic ride on either the Star of Knoxville Riverboat, the Volunteer Princess yacht or the Three Rivers Rambler train. The Star of Knoxville Riverboat gives an old-fashioned feel of luxury as it rolls you down the Tennessee River, while the Volunteer Princess may entertain events, dinners and weddings – or a casual brunch on the river! The Three Rivers Rambler is a fully restored 1925 steam locomotion that takes its visitors on a 90-minute sightseeing tour highlighting Knoxville’s history and beauty.

***Historic Market Square District*** – The Market Square District is Knoxville’s most unique and vibrant collection of restaurants, boutiques, galleries, antique stores and nightclubs located in restored, turn-of-the-century office buildings and warehouses which provide a lively place for both locals and visitors to shop, dine and be entertained.

*American Museum of Science and Energy (AMSE)*– Located in Oak Ridge, Tenn., the site of the now famous Manhattan Project and home of one of America’s National Laboratories, the AMSE is a center for exploration dedicated to personalizing science and technology. Exhibits include a civil defense station, science and technology station and interaction with real robots.

*East Tennessee History Center* – As home of a regional history museum, a premiere genealogy research library and historical archives, the ETHC brings visitors face to face with our regions history makers. The center houses one of the largest genealogy exhibits in the southeast. Researchers come to the First Families of Tennessee and Civil War Families of Tennessee files to learn about family life in Tennessee and find their collection to Volunteer State history. They also offer Genealogy Workshop for individuals looking into their family history.

*Three Rivers Rambler* – This vintage steam engine train takes guests on a 90-minute excursion to the Forks of the River and back, through some of Knoxville’s most historic and beautiful countryside including Knoxville’s first settlement area, and several quarries that were mined to build the United States Capitol Building.

Come and discover all the great family fun, restaurants, attractions, shopping and nightlife Knoxville has to offer!

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*The Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation promotes the Knoxville/Knox County area as a premier destination for conventions, sports-related events & leisure travelers to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the City and County, while generating economic impact & development.*

**“It’s All Here, Just for You. Enjoy!”**

[www.Knoxville.org](http://www.Knoxville.org)