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A Peek Inside



30
Lake Life

44
Local Parks

58
Accommodations



36
Local Favorites

48
Hiking Trails

62
Annual Events



40
History & Tours

52
Family Fun

64
Murals

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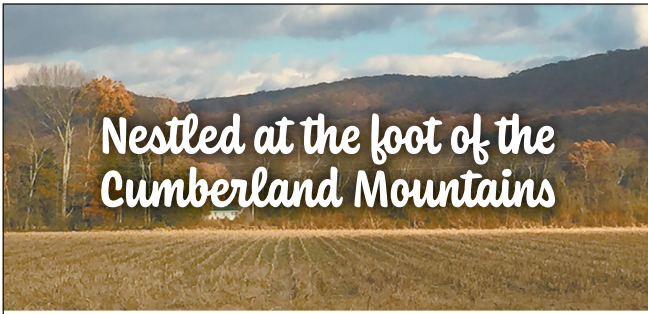
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Welcome to Franklin County, Tennessee

Franklin County, Tennessee, is a place like no other. It provides a time of peace and relaxation to thousands of guests from all over the country. While its lakes, nature, things to do, and businesses make this county fun, it's the people who make it memorable. Franklin County sits in the southern middle of the state and rests on the border with Alabama. In 2019, it was reported that more than 42,000 people reside in the county.

We welcome visitors from all fifty states to enjoy our beautiful county. Bring the family. Bring the camper. And have some fun.

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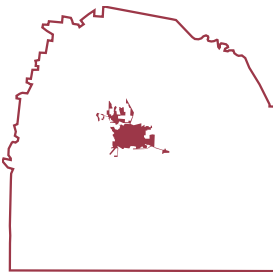


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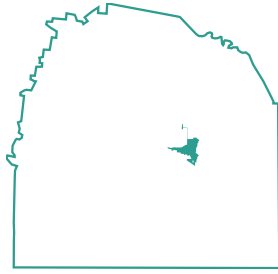
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WINCHESTER

ON THE EDGE OF TIMS FORD LAKE AND THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Balancing perfectly between the world-famous Smoky Mountains and the exciting Tims Ford Lake, Winchester, Tennessee, is home to more than 8,000 people. The town is alive and well and offers a wide variety of activities for tourists and guests from all over the world. The large parks and family areas let the family have fun in the sun. The nice small town is just over 77 miles from Nashville, and the location of Winchester allows for a quick trip to almost anywhere in the southeast of the United States. This safe-haven of natural beauty rests in southern middle Tennessee.

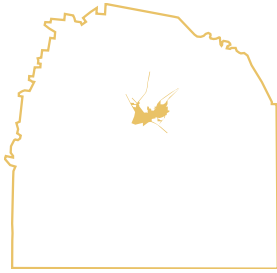


COWAN

SMALL-TOWN BEAUTY NESTED IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE CUMBERLANDS

The small town of Cowan, Tennessee, in Franklin County has a population of just under 2,000 people, providing a nice and comfortable atmosphere for guests of southern Tennessee. The town is nestled in the natural beauty of the foothills of the Cumberland Mountains. The town of Cowan dates back to the mid 1800s and began to boom with the railroad industry. Guests from all over the country love to stop by and get seasonal gifts, products, and accessories from the multitude of specialty shops!



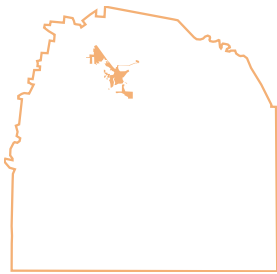


DECHERD

THE PERFECT STOP ON
YOUR WAY TO AND FROM
TIMS FORD LAKE.

86 miles from Nashville, Tennessee, sits Decherd of Franklin County. The population is just over 2,400 people in the town. It's a perfect middle point resting in the triangle of Nashville; Chattanooga; and Huntsville, Alabama. The three main employers help keep the local economy alive: Nissan Powertrain Assembly, Kroger, and Henley Supply & Millworks. The two city parks provide a great place for a family picnic, walking trail, and playgrounds to enjoy. Make sure to stop on your visit to Tims Ford Lake!

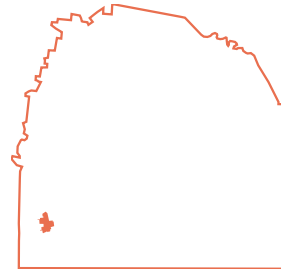




ESTILL SPRINGS

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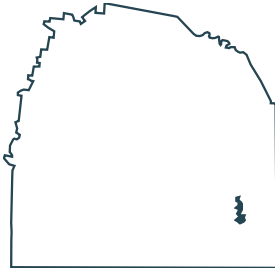
With a little more than 2,000 people, Estill Springs is a welcoming small town in Franklin County, Tennessee. As you're visiting, you may not hear "Estill Springs" from the locals; it's often referred to as just simply "Estill" here locally. Estill Springs offers many amenities such as little league baseball, monthly horse shows, pee wee football, and many other events throughout the year. Estill is also known for its drinking water that comes from a natural spring located off of Spring Creek Road.



HUNTLAND

SUNSETS AND THE HOMETOWN FEEL.

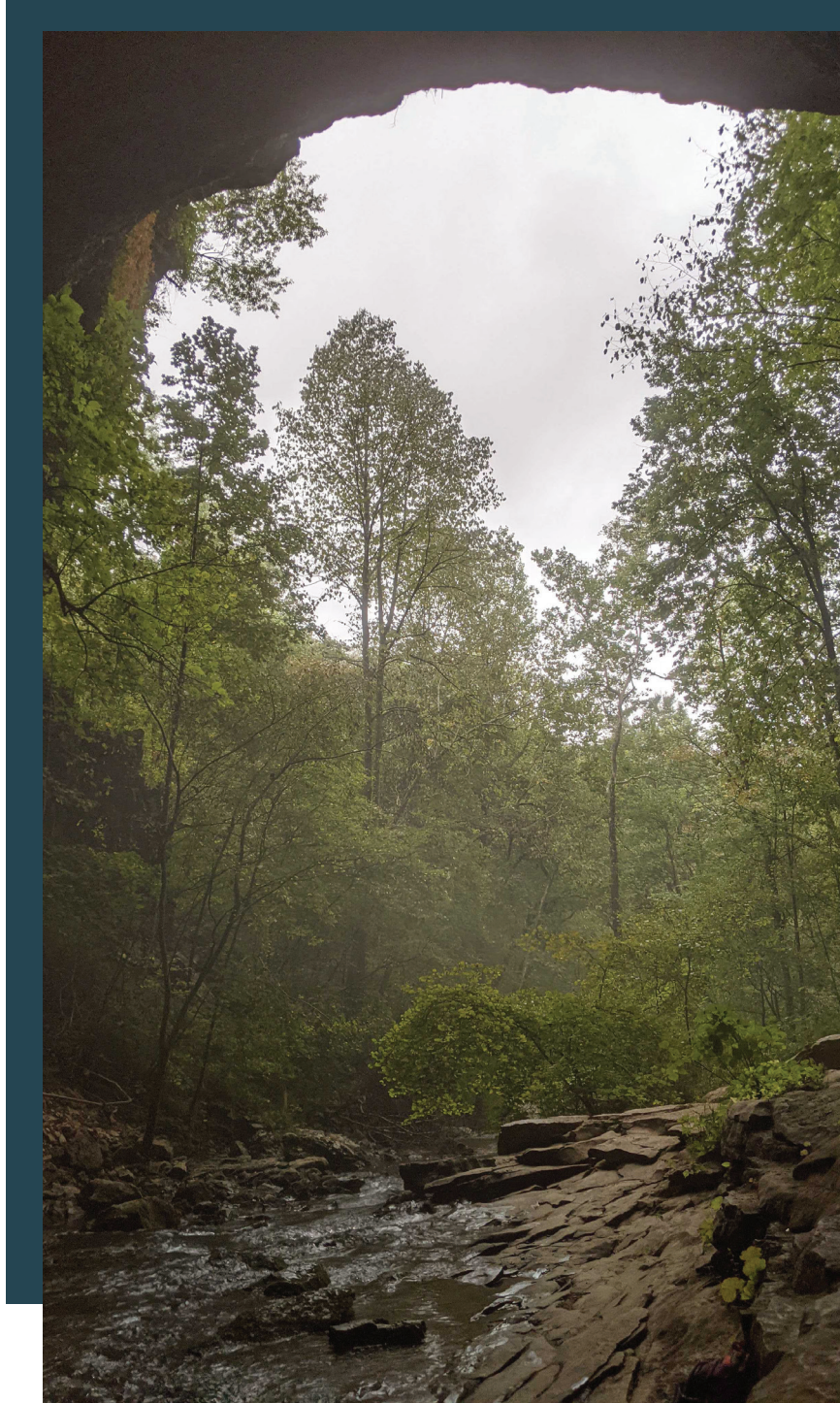
You won't find a better sunset than on your drive through Huntland, Tennessee. As a part of Franklin County, it is one of the most untouched areas with a population just under 900 people. The town recently was able to improve the local park and playgrounds with almost a million dollars in grants from BlueCross BlueShield. The town was established in the early 1900s by Clinton Armstrong Hunt. You're sure to drive through Huntland if you're coming from the west of the county. Take in the good views and the hometown feel.



SHERWOOD

**LOST COVE CAVE,
CROW CREEK VALLEY,
AND SINKING COVE.**

Technically an unincorporated community, Sherwood rests at the north end of Crow Creek Valley in Franklin County. It is just 13 miles southeast of Winchester, Tennessee. Generations of people have happy memories of family, friends, and baseball here in Sherwood. The Crow Creek, which flows from Lost Cove Cave, offers a local and natural swimming environment. Other notable locations in Sherwood include Posey Field, Sinking Cove, and the Crow Creek Valley Volunteer Fire Department and Station.





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BY WESLEY BRYANT

Inspiring Places

SEWANEES: THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Sewanee: The University of the South, commonly known as Sewanee, is a private Episcopal liberal arts college in Sewanee, Tennessee. Sewanee offers 38 majors, 44 minors, three certificates, and pre-professional programs in business, health/medicine, engineering, and law. The area is a must-see campus. The landscape and architecture solidifies the University as a beacon in the county.



TWIN CREEKS AREA ON TIMS FORD LAKE

Give Twin Creeks on Tims Ford Lake a call as you're planning your time in Franklin County. Twin Creeks provides something for everyone; go on walking tours of the premises and see housing options—or visit the public marina. Park your boat and visit the on-site store to get everything for your boating needs. The store offers gas, beverages, sunscreen, apparel and so much more. Then, make a stop at the Bar & Grill restaurant, which was voted as the “Best Meal on Tims Ford Lake.”



BEAR TRACE GOLF COURSE

This golf course in Franklin County is just a quick hour-and-a-half away from the great city of Nashville. “The course at Tims Ford features Champion Bermuda greens and 419 Bermuda fairways,” Tennessee State Parks explains. “The opening holes are a blend of links-style creations that gently roll across former pasture land, then gradually transition to wooded sites dominated by giant oak trees.” Bear Trace rests near the Tims Ford Reservoir, and several of the holes interact with the reservoir. This offers a unique golfing experience while also providing a gorgeous backdrop.



Scenic Views

TIMS FORD LAKE

Do you like fishing? Tims Ford Lake is considered one of the best places in the south for bass fishing. This popular lake offers options for those wanting to enjoy a lazy lake day, bass fishing on the water, or taking the boat out. This picturesque lake is perfect for families and friends wanting to enjoy the great outdoors.



THE CROSS AT SEWANEE

On your way to visit this eye-opening cross at Sewanee, you'll see it appear right in front of you as you approach. Either day or night, and in every season of the year, the area is beautiful and provides a once-in-a-lifetime experience right here in Franklin County. The loop around the cross lets you drive all the way around the memorial.



Source: Kristin Luna



Source: Thomas Liddell

TEMPLETON LIBRARY IN SEWANEE

The Templeton Library, named after the late John Templeton, is a gorgeous stop while in Franklin County. The building has an interesting and quite mysterious history and auroma. There are stories of tragedy and mystery that pique the interest of explorers everywhere. Add this location to your itinerary and research the stories that revolve around the Templeton Library.



Source: AVS Illustration

FALLS MILL

Falls Mill is listed on the national registry for historic places. The mill is nearly 150 years old and has changed hands and purposes many times over the past century. The 32-foot waterwheel powers the building today, which is the Museum of Power and Industry, Inc. This location encapsulates true nature and true beauty. Guests from across the country visit the mill and it never ceases to amaze.



Source: sewanee-inn.com

SEWANEE INN VIEW

Book a stay at the Sewanee Inn. It offers a view of the marvelous beauty in Franklin County. In the fall, the autumn colors pop from east to west and make an image only seen best from the Sewanee Inn. The Inn is a casual, but elegant solution to those visiting the area.

Recreation and Fun

CIRCLE E GUEST RANCH

Eight miles from downtown Winchester, the Circle E Guest Ranch is a home for horse and ATV enthusiasts from coast to coast. Bring your ATV and make a reservation to join other ATV enthusiasts for gorgeous trails and rides through this one-of-a-kind ranch. ATV not your thing? Bring your horse! There are designated dates for ATV and horse events, so contact Circle E Guest Ranch before your visit. (931) 962-1790.



WINCHESTER CITY PARK

Bound on three sides by the beautiful Tims Ford Lake, the City of Winchester offers and maintains an additional City Park. The park includes an indoor and outdoor swimplex; a one-million-dollar minor league baseball facility; a multitude of softball fields; Babe Ruth baseball facilities; and several little league practice fields. The Winchester City Park also offers walking/jogging trails; tennis courts; outdoor and indoor public pavilions; boat launch ramp to Tims Ford Lake; two handicapped accessible fishing piers; children's playgrounds; disc golf; and camping facilities.



BLUECROSS HEALTHY PLACE AT HUNTLAND CITY PARK

After raising local money, the community of Huntland applied for a grant from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Foundation. The Franklin County community was successful in receiving the grant and was able to build a fenced playground with additional seating for parents. This allows an outdoor and safe environment for the children of the community. While you're in town, swing by and let your children enjoy this city park! 🏡



Source: bcbstnews.com



Cowan Railroad Museum

108 Front St S, Cowan, TN

www.CowanRailroadMuseum.org

Facebook.com/CowanRailroadMuseum

Come learn the history of the railroads in Cowan through graphic displays, model railroading, and prototype equipment. Open to the public May thru October, Thursday thru Sunday.

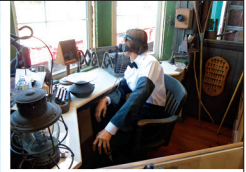


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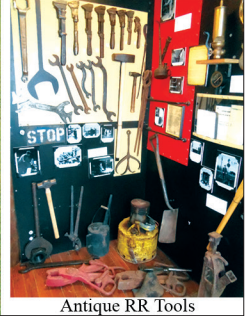
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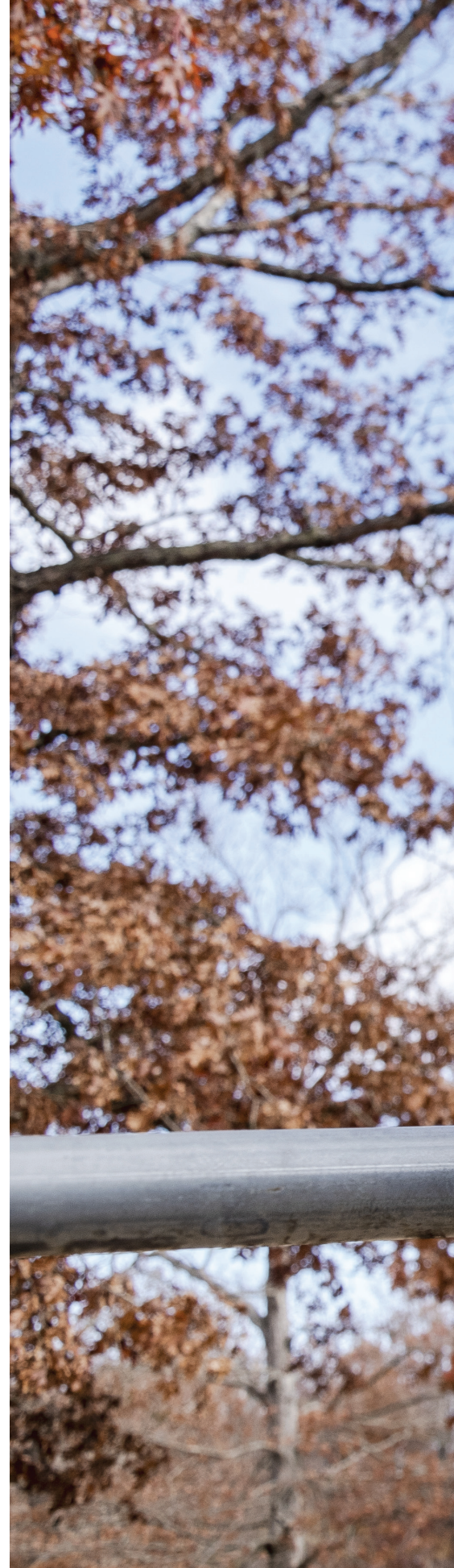
RIDE IN FRANKLIN COUNTY'S BEAUTY: HORSEBACK AND ATV RIDING

CIRCLE E GUEST RANCH IS A TOURIST FAVORITE

BY WESLEY BRYANT //

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES JORDAN

Imagine waking up at a gorgeous and comfortable location. You can get breakfast from the on-site restaurant. You eat your favorite meal and get ready to go horseback riding. You're here for a week and get to explore the gorgeous nature that Franklin County has to offer. You'll go camping with the people you love and meet other equestrians just like you. When you're back, you can stay in one of the 10 cabins on location—or set up camp at one of the 250 campsites. You'll stable your horse into one of the 370 rental horse stalls. It's nice and accommodating for the horse, where he or she will spend the night in comfort. →







That is the experience at Circle E Guest Ranch in Belvidere—eight miles south of Winchester. Sometimes you just need to travel off the beaten path, and there’s no better way to do that than on horseback at the Circle E Guest Ranch. They’ve experienced horse riders from more than 20 different states. And while they may come for the equestrian events, Circle E Guest Ranch has much more to offer.

If horse riding isn’t your thing, maybe ATV riding is. They offer ATV events, where people from all over the country bring their four-wheelers, side-by-sides, razors, and other ATVs. At the ATV events and the equestrian events, they are protected from each other. While a highway parts the ranch into two areas, they want to offer the entire experience to everyone. To accomplish this, no ATVs are allowed at the equestrian events—and no horses are allowed at the ATV events.

But more than just the events, Circle E Guest Ranch offers dinner and

entertainment! After long rides and camping, guests can eat at the restaurant on location and enjoy live music from local bands on designated days. Then, if customers bring items they want to sell, the ranch will host an auction. It’s always enjoyable when guests are bidding on the items of their fellow guests. Contact the ranch for more information on auctions.

While the entertainment, events, and accommodations are enough to make anyone want to come to Circle E Guest Ranch, the lush surroundings of forests, rolling hills, waterfalls, and breathtaking lookouts put the cherry on top. This is a getaway that can truly change your perspective and peacefully center yourself.

Those who are interested in booking a stay at the Circle E Guest Ranch or attending one of the many events can contact the ranch at (931) 962-1790. See all of the options the ranch offers at circleeguest ranch.com. 🏡



Tims Ford Lake Life

Tims Ford State Park



ADVENTURE AWAITS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

Marinas, Tims Ford State Park, and Local Fishing

BY JULIA EADS // PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

BY TOM LIDDELL

It's no secret that Tims Ford Lake is a fan favorite not only for locals, but also for those traveling from further away. The man-made lake is stunning year-round with the luscious greens of the spring and summertime, and the vivid, yet warm oranges, reds, and yellows of fall. It truly is a great place to be; and visiting the eclectic marinas is more than half the appeal of a day spent out on the water.



Twin Creeks Marina

MARINAS

Twin Creeks Marina

Twin Creeks Marina is the new shiny toy on the lake. It is a modern development crafted with supreme hospitality in mind. The marina and its surrounding village has so much to offer. Visitors have many lodging options whether it's renting a waterfront cottage or opting to stay at the pristine RV resort. Unpack your bags, settle in, and then walk down to the marina for a steak dinner or a simple drink overlooking the water on a beautiful summer night. If the karaoke singers become rowdy, walk back up to sit around a firepit or decompress completely with an evening boat ride.

Holiday Landing Marina

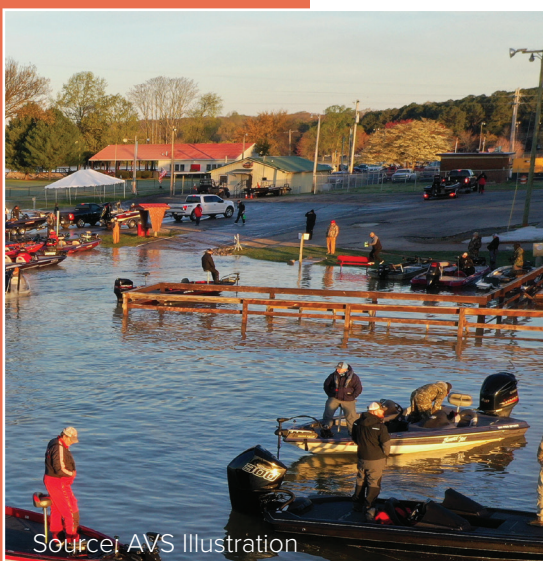
While it's nice to have the shiny new toy, there is something to be said about going to a place where you know every squeak of the floor before you put your foot down. Holiday Landing Marina is that to so many. Holiday Landing has felt like home since the 70s. While you wouldn't suspect it by looking at Bluegill Grill and the long shiny docks, if you look closely, you'll catch some of that nostalgic charm. Rent a chalet or party barge—but whatever you do, don't be late coming to the Grill on concert nights! The place fills up fast! Lastly, don't you dare leave without trying a famous Dickel Drop drink which includes Tullahoma's very own Sundrop soda and George Dickel whiskey frozen together in perfect bliss.



Tims Ford Marina

Tims Ford Marina

Tims Ford Marina is centrally located on the water, so it's a perfect place to take a break from wakeboarding and hanging out at Party Cove. Satisfy your sweet tooth with an ice cream sandwich or stock up on more ice and gas at the marina! It has plenty of places for overnight lodging or docking your boat. Tims Ford Marina also hosts the quaint Hard Dock Cafe which is open year-round for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It's a perfect spot to land in between all the fun activities on the water. Best of all, it is only a few short miles to Tims Ford State Park where more adventure awaits.



TIMS FORD STATE PARK

Nestled on 3,546 acres, Tims Ford State Park is a perfect space for outdoorsmen of all skill levels to escape. A novice who may want the beauty of nature, but the comfort of home would fit well in one of the 20 cabins available. For those who are desiring to get more in touch with the earth, the RV park, primitive camping sites, or the backcountry camping sites would be more suitable.

The park has over 20 miles of hiking trails, as well as seven miles of paved biking/hiking trails that connect all the major areas of the park. The paved trail is a wonderful feature for those who have a harder time getting around or for families with young children who prefer to use a stroller.

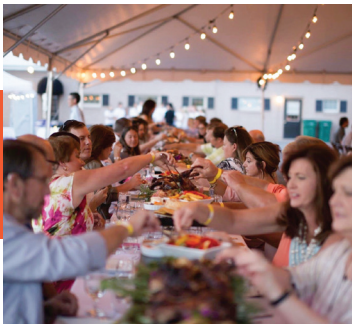
Not a fan of hiking or biking? Let's tee off at Bear Trace Golf course instead. It is an eighteen-hole golf course within the state park itself. It is situated on a peninsula with glimmering water each way you look—this golf course is one of Middle Tennessee's best-kept secrets. If golf is not your thing, feel free to stroll down to the Lakeview Marina (also located within the park) and rent a pontoon, canoe, or kayak for a little water play. In addition to the many recreational activities at your fingertips, the park rangers do a great job at providing southern hospitality to travelers by hosting seasonal events all year long. Their Facebook page, [facebook.com/TimsFordStatePark](https://www.facebook.com/TimsFordStatePark), has more information.

Local Fishing

Of all of the leisurely activities to do on Tims Ford Lake, fishing is what keeps locals and visitors toting down the boat ramps all year long. Tims Ford is well known for largemouth, spotted, and smallmouth bass. The lake is stocked annually and the cold tailwaters below the dam are stocked numerous times each year. On any given foggy morning you can find anglers suiting up to fish for both brown trout and rainbow trout in the Elk River tailwaters or gassing up their Bumblebee® fishing boats getting ready to troll the treelines on Tims Ford Lake. If you are planning to fish in any public waters and are above the age of 13, make sure to obtain a Tennessee Fishing License. If you do not have one, you can purchase one online at license.gooutdoorstennessee.com/Licensing/CustomerLookup. 🎣



Jump off Tims Ford Lake and into Historic Downtown Winchester for a stroll back in time. You will enjoy our quaint shops, unique restaurants, and frequent community events. By land and water, Winchester has you covered.



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Local Favorites

Winchester Courthouse



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THE THINGS IN BETWEEN.

BY KENNEDEE MCADAMS // PHOTOS
CONTRIBUTED BY TOM LIDDELL

Small Town, Big Fun - The Downtown Square

The city of Winchester is bursting with life, and the downtown area is proof. The area recently underwent a few renovations, all of which are aiding in preserving the history and exciting the surrounding community. There are a wide variety of activities that can be found within the city's square. While walking around, you will bear witness to beautifully painted murals, unique shops, locally-owned restaurants—and if you're lucky, you may even get to attend one of the many community events hosted annually. The downtown area centers around the Franklin County courthouse built in the Art Deco style of the early 1900s. The downtown area is full of interesting things, whether it is watching the newest movie at the theatre, eating a meal at one of the many amazing restaurants, or shopping for a unique item, you are guaranteed to have an amazing time.

The University of the South

The University of the South, also known as Sewanee, is an Episcopal private liberal arts college. Consisting of 13,000 acres, it is situated on top of the Cumberland Plateau. With an enrollment of around 1,800, they teach students from 45 different states and 30 countries. Located right in the center of the campus is All Saints Chapel, which is a place of worship for those who belong to the Episcopal faith. It just so happens that it is also a beautiful historic building with the history of the university being able to be read on the chapel's stained-glass windows. Outside of the main campus area, you can find a multitude of hiking trails and scenic destinations of the like that are ready to be explored. The campus has many breathtaking sites, some of which are located right in the heart of campus and some require venturing outside a bit—regardless, you are guaranteed that your visit to Sewanee will be one for the books.

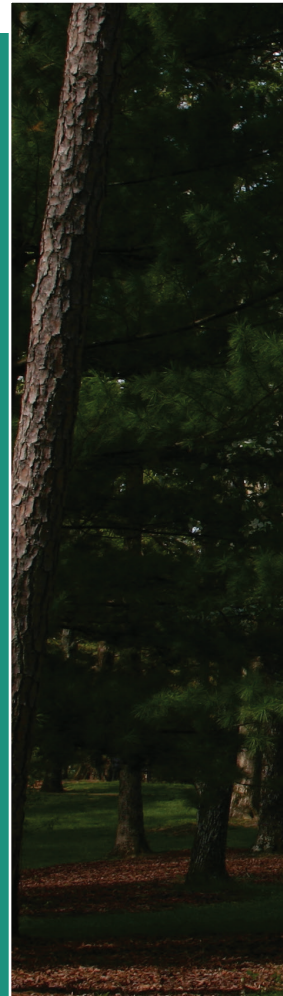
Branchwater Distillery

Branchwater Distillery was founded years ago by Dave Johnson. It is believed you need three things in

order to be a successful moonshiner: ingenuity, patience, and luck. Dave had all three, so he launched a business. The characteristic of ingenuity was put into action when the threat of law officials finding out his operations seemed nearby. Dave devised a plan where he would use a strong branch and pulley system to keep the equipment suspended high above everyone else. This is how the name Branchwater was born. Since then, the business has been passed down and is currently owned and operated by Bud Kelly. The tradition of the past is still alive and well. At Branchwater, all of the cooking is done in the old copper still which is now fittingly named Dave after his grandfather. The goal of Branchwater is to not only create a good product, but to also create an experience along with it. They hope that with every sip, the feeling of the past flutters back in.

Franklin County Farmers' Market

The Franklin County Farmers' Market, located in downtown Winchester, is home to many types of fresh goods from local farmers, bakers, and even artists. To name a few of what the market has to offer, it features things



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Sewanee Memorial Cross

such as produce; eggs; baked goods; crafts; meats; jams; and canned goods. However, the market also offers a slew of other items besides these few. The Franklin farmers market is one of the many joys Franklin County has to offer. If you find yourself in need of fresh goods, wanting to support local farmers or desiring to have fellowship with the community, then the farmers market is the perfect place.

The Sewanee Memorial Cross

In August of 1922, a symbol of remembrance was constructed. Today it still stands tall—60 feet tall to be exact—and its beauty is something everyone should witness. The Sewanee Memorial Cross is a monument designed in honor of those who died in “the war to end all wars.” It sits on the edge of the campus of The University of the South. At the base of the cross, you can find dedication plaques outlining specific groups that the cross commemorates. The cross’s location also offers a view of the valley that is unmatched; a nearby hiking trail will take you to another overlook. You cannot go wrong with adding this to your must-see list. 🏰

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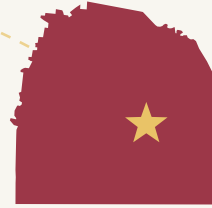
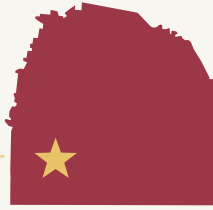




Experience
HISTORY
-through-
TOURS &
MUSEUMS

BY SPARKY BARNES

Falls Mill



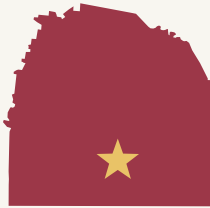
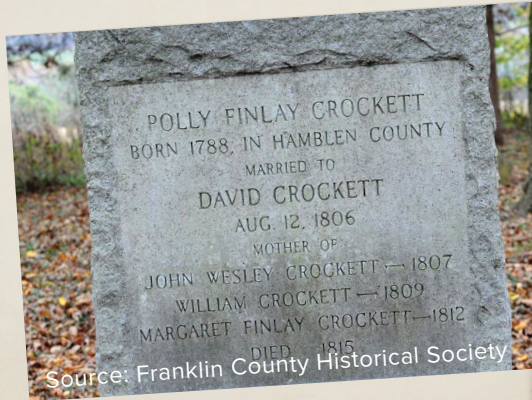
Falls Mill

A towering sentinel of the past, powered by the rushing waters of Factory Creek, Falls Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It's home to a museum as well as a country store. Falls Mill began serving its community in 1873, and has been a thread, cotton, woolen, and grist mill. A printing press and a variety of weaving looms, spinning wheels, and wool carding machines are exhibited in the Museum of Power and Industry. Visitors may want to consider an overnight stay to enjoy bed and breakfast accommodation in the 1895 log cabin on the grounds. Falls Mill is located in Belvidere.

Cowan Railroad Museum

Cowan's railroad history started in the mid-1800s and proudly prevails in this museum, which is housed in a 1904 depot building and surrounded by a landscaped park area. Outside exhibits include a caboose, a 1920 steam locomotive, and a General Electric Diesel switch engine. Around 1,000 artifacts are on display, many of which have been donated or loaned from individual collections. Visitors can glean intriguing information about Cowan's railroad history, and can view scale model trains (a number of which are richly detailed and created by hand); maps; tools; photographs; and even hear modern freight trains rumbling close by. A gift shop offers railroad-related items for sale.





Polly Crockett's Grave Site

Born in Hamblen County in 1788, Polly Finlay wed David “Davy” Crockett in August 1806 at her parents’ home. They lived in that area while their two sons were born. The Crockett family then moved to Middle Tennessee to “Kentuck,” a homestead they established near Belvidere around 1813, where they had a daughter, Margaret. After Davy returned from the Creek War, Polly died in 1815. She was laid to rest in a small cemetery overlooking Beans Creek. Davy later became known as a legendary frontiersman and remarried. The Tennessee Historical Commission erected a historical marker along U.S. 64 in Belvidere and placed a large stone monument at Polly’s grave.



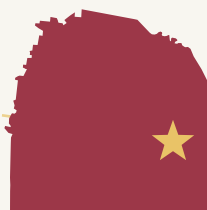
Old Jail Museum

Winchester is home to the Franklin County Old Jail Museum, which is one of the Tennessee Civil War Trails sites, as well as being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This brick jail dates back to 1897 and was in use until the early 1970s. There are eight rooms in the jail, which include a restored jail cell, and displays including handcuffs; leg irons; Civil War and Native American artifacts; weapons; and farming implements. Other exhibits portray information regarding World War I and II, and about the famous singer and actress Dinah Shore, who was born in Winchester in 1917.



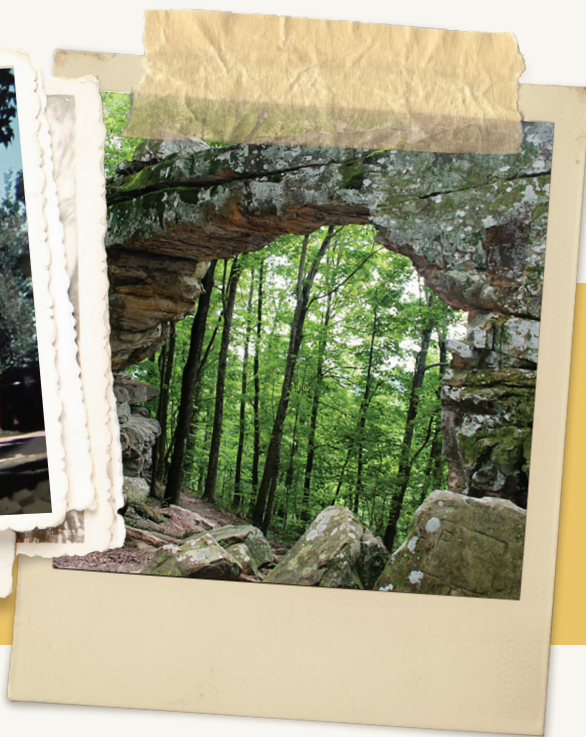
Hundred Oaks Castle

One of very few American castles, Hundred Oaks in Winchester is imbued with a rich and romantic history. Its construction as a plantation-style farmhouse began in 1830 for railroad tycoon Benjamin Dechard. Then it was acquired in 1860 by Albert Marks, who later became the 21st governor of Tennessee. For more than half a century, the castle was a monastery for Paulist Fathers, and in more recent times, the castle served as an Adult Activity Center. Lovingly restored by the Kent Bramlett Foundation, Inc. after a horrendous fire in 1990, Hundred Oaks Castle's splendor is reflected by elegant furnishings and paintings, and neatly-manicured gardens.



Natural Bridge

In the midst of lush hardwoods and moss-covered boulders, a 25-foot tall and 50-foot wide sandstone arch is the namesake of the three-acre Natural Bridge area. Located within the larger South Cumberland Recreation Area south of Sewanee, the bridge was owned at one time by the University of the South, which donated it to the Tennessee Conservation Department. This amazing formation, shaped by Mother Nature's tireless elemental forces, is operated by Tennessee Parks. It's a short hike from the parking area to the Natural Bridge, and those inclined to venture across the top of the bridge can see Lost Cove. 🌲



Visit Local Parks

BY SPARKY BARNES



Tims Ford State Park

Sprawling over more than 3,500 acres in the midst of the nearly 11,000-acre Tims Ford Reservoir, those who thrive in the great outdoors can enjoy a wide variety of activities available at this park, including: fishing, boating, biking and hiking, camping, and swimming. The marina has boat rentals and supplies; there are cabins for rent; a conference center; and those who enjoy a picnic outing will find more than 40 tables and grills available. Daily family activities are offered during the summer season, and the 18-hole Bear Trace Golf Course is a popular venue. The vast lake was formed when the Tims Ford Dam was built on the Elk River.

BlueCross Healthy Place at Huntland City Park Huntland City's town center boasts a community park which features a basketball court and bleachers, fitness equipment and a walking track, and a playground with seating. Of special note is the fact that the playground equipment (such as the merry-go-round and see-saws) may accommodate children of all needs and abilities. Picnic tables, grills, and water fountains are in the park as well as a pavilion. This thoughtfully-designed and well-equipped park is primarily funded by a \$936,000 grant from BlueCross and BlueShield of Tennessee Foundation. Popular among local residents, this welcoming outdoor area has served as a community gathering place since 2019.

Winchester City Park

Occupying 100 acres and adjacent to Tims Ford Lake, this park offers a variety of recreational opportunities. Winchester residents may enjoy a nearly 2-mile trail that loops through a woodland setting; playing disc golf on a dedicated course; utilizing an indoor/outdoor swimming complex; baseball facilities and little league fields; softball fields; and tennis courts. Public pavilions are available, and a boat launch ramp and fishing piers facilitate access to the lake. Additionally, Independence Day activities and



outdoor performances such as live music are held at the park; as well as an annual Kansas City Bar-B-Q cook off; and fishing tournaments.

Taylor Creek Greenway

This interesting recreational property near Estill Springs encompasses 54 rambling acres which include a variety of natural environments. Hiking/walking paths with bridges lead visitors through an open area bordering Tims Ford Lake; a wetlands area ecosystem; a woodland area through which two spring-fed creeks run, and a hilly area which is accessible by more primitive trails. Along the way, covered swings and benches provide places to rest and reflect upon natural beautiful surroundings. An historical marker placed within the forested creekside portion highlights native Tennessean Miss Will Allen Dromgoole, whose appreciation of this peaceful area was memorialized in her poetry.

Harvey's Garden

This floral garden near Winchester offers a soothing and relaxing environment for all to enjoy a colorful, blossoming respite from the hectic pace of life. Named for Harvey Templeton, who wanted to establish and share a flourishing garden with the public, it was his son and daughter-in-law, Handy and Becky Templeton, who began creating the garden in 2003 as a memorial to Harvey. Work is ongoing, and more than 30 acres feature meandering grassy pathways bordered by stones. While strolling along, visitors are treated to the delightful sights and scents of a wide variety of blooming perennials, bushes, and trees.

Dennis Parm Panter Park

This small town park in Estill Springs has picnic pavilions with benches, tables, and grills, which are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Some playground equipment is in the park, as well as



Source: estillspringstn.com



Source: Harvey's Garden on Facebook

baseball fields, which are used at times by the local little league. Occasionally, events such as horse shows may be held at the small track. Flanked by a railroad track on one side and Tims Ford

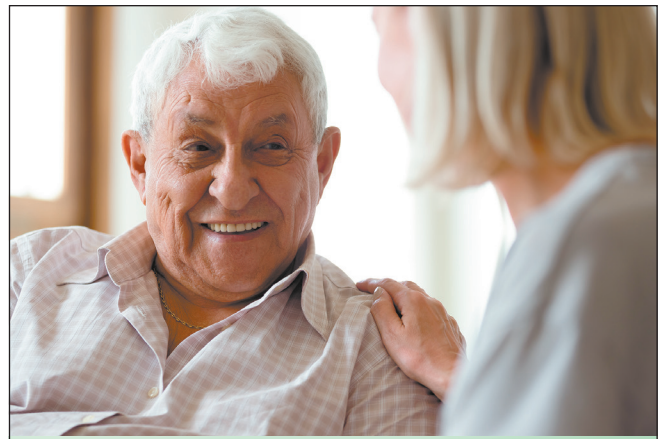
Lake on the other side, visitors may fish from the shoreline. A few primitive camp sites exist. The park was named as a memorial tribute to teenager Dennis Parm Panter. ■

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BY TINA NEELEY

Sewanee Perimeter Trail

The Sewanee Perimeter Trail is a private mixed-use mountain top trail of 20 miles owned and maintained by the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Open year-round, the trail difficulty is easy to moderate and includes Thumping Dick Cove, Sewanee War Memorial Cross, Green's View, and Morgan's Steep.

The trail follows the perimeter of the Cumberland Plateau bluff line and encircles the campus of the University and will take you to scenic overlooks, waterfalls, and bluffs. Open for use by students, faculty, and alumni of the University as well as local Sewanee residents, the trail includes mixed-use sections suited to hiking, running, horseback riding, and mountain biking.

There are 10 designated trails, and access points are found at the Memorial Cross, Lake Cheston, Green's View, and the University Gates, with signs noting hiking and camping policies of the property at the access points.

Tims Ford State Park

The 3,546-acre Tims Ford State Park sits in the shadows of the Cumberland Plateau in south central Tennessee. Its lake is considered one of the most picturesque in the state and regarded as one of the top bass fishing and recreational lakes in the Southeast.

Cabins; boat rentals; campgrounds; The Bear Trace at Tims Ford, a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course; marinas; dining; birding; hiking trails; biking; picnic pavilions; and playgrounds invite visitors to experience nature and the beauty of the seasons. Hunting is allowed by permit on Tims Ford's huntable lands.

The multiple lodging opportunities include completely equipped cabins, two campgrounds for tent or RV campers, and



tent campers may camp on any of the six islands on the lake or at Turkey Creek area. Tims Ford State Park Fairview Camp Store or the State Park's Visitors' Center Gift Shop offer gear, snacks, accessories, and something special to remember your trip to the park.

Walls of Jericho

The Walls of Jericho Trailhead is a 7.5-mile out-and-back trail located near Belvidere, Tennessee, on the border of Tennessee and Alabama.

"Walls of Jericho" refers to narrow canyons, about a half-mile long, with 200-foot-high vertical limestone bluffs on each side. The hike culminates in the impressive geological feature that forms a large bowl-shaped amphitheater with unique water features from which water drips and spouts. Turkey Creek drains through the Walls and has been an active geological force in creating the amphitheater.

An itinerant preacher performing baptisms there gave the Walls their biblical name in the late 1800s.

There are two trailheads hikers can take to the Walls: from Alabama Highway 79/ Tennessee Highway 16, one on each side of the state line and about 2.25 miles apart. The hike from the Tennessee trailhead is less steep than the Alabama Trail. Either way involves an approximately 1,000-foot descent in and climb out. 🏔️

Dining

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BY KENNEDEE MCADAMS



SWISS PANTRY

Swiss Pantry, a local bakery owned by the Miller family, rests in the sweet town of Belvidere. Back in 1987, the Miller's made a big move from Virginia to Belvidere, Tennessee. The family was drawn to the area because of its large amount of beautiful farmland. Shortly after the move, the Millers discovered they had something in common with the people of the area. Both groups had a rich Swiss heritage. This inspired the Millers to open a bakery that not only reflected this heritage, but paid tribute to it. Thus, Swiss Pantry was born. The bakery has a wide selection of goods ranging from breads to pastries to deli meats. All of which are homemade from the freshest ingredients possible. They even offer gluten free and sugar free options! On Mondays and Thursdays, they make fried pies, which are a must try. So, mark your calendar and make sure you check this quaint little place out the next time you're in the area!



THE BLUE CHAIR CAFE & TAVERN

The Blue Chair Cafe and Tavern is a charming little stop located in the lovely University Village of Sewanee, Tennessee. It is both a café and a tavern, allowing it to cater to a variety of different crowds. They have cultivated a space that is homey and friendly, allowing all of their visitors to feel comfortable. Along with great hospitality, the Blue Chair Cafe and Tavern also serves outstanding food. The café side is known for their homemade baked goods along with a slew of other breakfast and lunch items. The tavern portion serves a selection of bar foods and offers craft beers from Jackalope Brewery. Their multiple HD TVs allow for sport viewing while you enjoy your food. So if you're wishing to have a morning filled with great conversation over a good cup of coffee or watching your favorite sports team with an ice-cold beer in hand, this is the place for you.



WALNUT HILL COFFEE

Walnut Hill Coffee is the perfect one-stop shop that will fulfill all of your coffee shop dreams. What once started in the summer of 2019 as one of Franklin County's first food trucks is now a full-blown shop that is located on the square in downtown Winchester. They serve a variety of coffee and tea options and even have a rotating seasonal menu that offers a little excitement and uniqueness to their shop. Along with coffee, they serve a few options of house-made bakery items that will satisfy any sweet tooth and their breakfast menu is full of many savory dishes that are more filling and substantial. The environment of Walnut Hill Coffee is that of peace. Their goal is said that they wish to impact individuals positively through connection and conversation every day. So if you're looking to enjoy a good cup of joe, eat a pastry, or just need a good place to sit and be with your friends, Walnut Hill Coffee has what you're looking for. ☕



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Family Fun

WHERE THE FUN FAMILIES ARE

BY PAIGE CUSHMAN

From shaved ice and historic landmarks to horse trails and sandy shores, Franklin County is full of family-friendly entertainment. Whether you prefer to get outdoors, get active, or get to the movies, these local staples are worth a visit.



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WINCHESTER SWIMPLEX

Nobody throws a better pool party than the folks at the David R. Bean Swimplex in Winchester. During the summer, you can catch some sun by the outdoor pool, practice your freestyle inside, or brave the water slides with your whole family. Don't swim? Swim lessons are available for people of all ages. And for more experienced swimmers, the swimplex offers Lifeguard and Aerobics classes. Daily admission is \$4 for all ages, and annual passes are available to families, individuals, and senior citizens at a discount.

MONTANA DRIVE-IN

There are only 13 drive-in movie theaters still operating in the state of Tennessee and Estill Springs is home to one of the finest. The Montana Drive-In, opened in 2004, shows a variety of new movies all year long and offers a full restaurant menu—trade in your popcorn for a cheeseburger and deep-fried oreos! The three-screen theater is open seven days a week during the summer and Thursday-Sunday during winter. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$7 for kids age 11 and under.

CIRCLE E GUEST RANCH

Sometimes you just need to travel off the beaten path, and there's no better way to do that than on horseback at the Circle E Guest Ranch. Nestled in the Cumberland Mountains, Circle E has over 120 miles of horse/ATV trails that wind through lush forests, rolling hills, waterfalls, and breathtaking lookouts. The ranch offers log cabin and campsite rentals, horseback and ATV day riding, plus events, archery, and lodge rentals for events. It'll be your family's favorite getaway.

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DRY CREEK BEACH

Some say an ocean breeze puts the mind at ease. And while Winchester is far from the ocean, the breeze at Dry Creek Beach will do the trick. The family-friendly site includes a playground; a pavilion for family gatherings and picnics; access to the Twin Creeks Marina; a sandy beach; and a designated swimming area in the Dry Creek. The beach is open every day from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and is free to the public.



OLDHAM THEATRE

Winchester's historic Oldham Theatre will take you back to a simpler time—a time when seeing a movie was an exciting opportunity to dress up and celebrate cinema, not the unglamorous task of choosing between Netflix® new movie releases from your couch. The Oldham opened in 1950 and has held onto its original grandeur for over 70 years. Grab some popcorn and catch a new movie at this iconic, old theatre.



MOT'S SHAVED ICE

Located in an unassuming, tiny blue building on South College Street in Winchester, Mot's Shaved Ice is home to a local delicacy: Tennessee Shaved Ice. The restaurant serves fun, unique flavors like candy corn, pineapple upside down cake, and even dill pickle! The shaved ice shop closes during the winter months, but Mot's has hosted pop-ups to serve other sweet treats like caramel apples, rice krispy treats, and popcorn balls! This is the perfect place to treat yourself. 🍷

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BY PAIGE CUSHMAN



THE BEAR TRACE AT TIMS FORD

Located on a peninsula in Tims Ford State Park, you won't find a more tranquil or beautiful golf course than The Bear Trace. Play 18-holes designed by legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus on Champion Bermuda greens and 419 Bermuda fairways. After that, visit the driving range or hit up the snack bar at the clubhouse. If you want to stay awhile (you will), rent one of their cabins, equipped with appliances and all of the essentials, a gas fireplace and an outdoor balcony to overlook the park's wooded hills and waterways.



THE COURSE AT SEWANEE

When famed architect Gil Hanse, named *Golf Magazine's* 2009 Architect of the Year, redesigned The Course at Sewanee in 2013, he gave golfers a unique opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the Cumberland Plateau while playing a complex and challenging course. The Sewanee Inn sits at the edge of the course and offers a beautiful golf lodge and bar; southern comfort food at its in-house restaurants; gorgeous views; and luxury amenities—so, you can stay and play! Both the inn and golf course are located on the sprawling campus of The University of the South.



FRANKLIN COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB

For those looking for a resort-caliber golf course with family-friendly amenities, the Franklin County Country Club is the place to be. Golfers navigate well-maintained, tree-lined Zoysia fairways; water hazards; earth berms; and bunkers on the 18-hole, 6,600-yard course. And the rest of the family can enjoy the facility's pro shop; swimming pool (equipped with umbrellas and lounge chairs); clubhouse; restaurant; and banquet space for events and gatherings. Opened over 100 years ago, the Franklin County Country Club has become a community staple.

SCENIC VIEW GOLF COURSE

Family-owned and operated in Winchester, Scenic View Golf Course offers a great golfing experience for all skill levels. After spending some time practicing at putting and chipping, you'll be able to take on Scenic View's Bermuda fairways and Bent Grass greens. Get your clubs repaired or take golf lessons with a PGA professional on-site. And if you've got a competitive streak, the Scenic View Golf Course hosts a variety of scrambles and events for all ages. It is open to the public for open play seven days a week, weather permitting. But membership options are available. 🏌️‍♂️



Rest at Bed & Breakfasts and Campgrounds

YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

By Tina Neeley

Campgrounds

FAIRVIEW CAMPGROUND

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1260 Lynchburg Rd.
Winchester

This is an RV resort with 30 premium waterfront and water-view RV sites, trading post with laundry, bathhouse, and clean bathrooms with access to everything Twin Creeks Marina has to offer. Twin Creeks Cottages offer lakeside rentals.

TURKEY CREEK

570 Tims Ford Dr.
Winchester

The tent-only primitive campsites are located nine miles north of the main park with 20 tent-only primitive sites. There is no water or electricity. Each site is limited to two tents and six people.

CLEARWATER COVE RV RESORT

1804 Galloway Lane
Winchester

This RV resort offers boat ramps and paved campsites, Wi-Fi, in-ground swimming pool, and boat park. It includes full utility and waste connections and clean bathhouses.

EVANS LOOP BACKCOUNTRY CAMPSITE

570 Tims Ford Dr.
Winchester

This campsite is located on the Evans Loop Trail and is a hike-in or paddle-in campsite. The hike is approximately six miles with no water or electricity.

TIMS FORD MARINA AND RESORT

175 Marina Lane
Winchester

This area has 15 fully-furnished cabins, 30 RV spaces with electric, water, and sewer,—and the Hard Dock Café.

Bed and Breakfasts

FALLS MILL

134 Falls Mill Rd.
Belvidere

Falls Mill is a log cabin bed and breakfast open year round and located on the National Register of Historical Places, and includes a water-powered mill and museum. Built in 1873 as a cotton and woolen factory, today it houses the Museum of Power and Industry, Inc.

MAGNOLIA HILL MANOR

974 Lynchburg Rd.
Winchester

Escape to the historic south while still enjoying convenience, comfort, and elegance. Personal bathrooms; wireless internet access; continental breakfast; morning coffee; and tea service—with personal home tours available upon request.

EDGEWORTH INN

19 Wilkins Ave., Cottage 23
Monteagle Assembly
Monteagle

Edgeworth Inn is located on the historic grounds of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly atop the Cumberland Plateau. The inn has seven spacious rooms and three suites and ushers you into a world frozen in time. 🏡

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PLAN A TENNESSEE WHISKEY DAY TOUR

THE SMOOTH taste of Tennessee whiskey is famous around the world. There's nothing more American than sitting around a backyard campfire with bourbon circling in a glass. The *click* of a glass, cheers, in appreciation of every day—even the stressful ones, even the boring ones.

If you have a free Saturday, spend the day with someone you love trying the famous Tennessee whiskey from distilleries that circle the Franklin County area. Drink responsibly and taste the history around us.



NEAREST GREEN DISTILLERY

Nearest Green Distillery held a post-pandemic reopening on Saturday, June 19, 2021. We encourage you to taste the smooth Uncle Nearest whiskey, named after the freed slave who taught Jack Daniels how to make whiskey. Learn about the Lincoln County process used to make whiskey as you sample.



CASCADE HOLLOW DISTILLING CO.

Enjoy a whisky tasting inside the Cascade Hollow Distilling Co. Visitors should make a reservation, and a ticket must be purchased for everyone attending, even if they do not drink alcohol. George Dickel No. 1, George Dickel No. 12, George Dickel Barrel Select, and George Dickel Tabasco Barrel Finished are included in the tasting.



CHATTANOOGA

SHELBYVILLE

TULLAHOMA

LYNCHBURG

FAYETTEVILLE

PRICHARDS DISTILLERY

Granddaddy Prichard welcomed old friends, and now, the guides at the distillery treat you the same way. You can sample from the exceptional line of handcrafted and traditionally authentic products. Taste and buy this traditional whiskey from the old school house. Welcome to the family!



JACK DANIELS

Fill the shoes of a distiller and taste the smooth Jack Daniels whiskey from individual barrels. Get a look behind the curtain at how the famous whiskey is made. Follow up with shopping at the historic Barrelhouse.



Annual Events

FIND AN EVENT AND BRING THE FAMILY ALL YEAR LONG!

SPRING

Hike at Sewanee
Enjoy one of the many hiking trails off campus.

Bike Trails at Tims Ford State Park
Grab your bike and and hit the trails.

Winchester Wriggle Art and Music Crawl
Wriggle through historic downtown to promote fine art, musical talent & cultural diversity.



SUMMER

Poker Run on Tims Ford Lake
Enjoy games of five-card poker, good food, and great views.

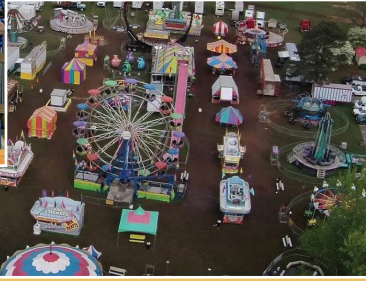
Waves on the Water
Bring your friends to a country music concert series in Franklin Co.

Herald Chronicle Softball Tournament & Molly Abby Softball Tournament
Join in one of the annual softball tournaments.

Sewanee 4th of July Celebration
Enjoy live music, a parade, and a pet show. Then finish the night with fireworks.

Winchester 4th of July Celebration
Celebrate America and freedom at the "Lights Over the Lake" event.





FALL

Franklin Co. Fair
Enjoy fun for the whole family at the Franklin County Fair.

Fall Heritage Festival
Browse different crafts at the craft show, listen to live music, and shop at local vendors.

Sewanee Angel Fest
Enjoy a children's fair and games, plus hear a free concert!

Arts & Ales
Get a glass of beer, look at local art, and shop with local vendors.

Boo Bash
A family-friendly Halloween event hosted in historic downtown Winchester. You can expect trick-or-treating, music, activities, and more!

Tims Ford State Park Heritage Day and Fall Festival
Eat delicious food, play games, listen to music, and explore the Haunted Island with the family.

Huntland Fall Festival
Visit booths of games, fun, food, and other vendors.



Tims Ford Bass Classic
Join in a fishing tournament and take home the big one!

WINTER

Merry Little Downtown Christmas
Bring your family and visit vendors in the downtown area.

Cowan Christmas Market & Parade
Explore different vendors the community offers and enjoy the parade.

Dechard Christmas Parade
Watch the Christmas parade in Dechard, Tennessee.



Lessons & Carols
Enjoy one of the University of the South's most cherished traditions in choir. 🎵





USING LOCAL TALENT TO HIGHLIGHT LOCAL LEGENDS

THE NEW MURALS IN DOWNTOWN WINCHESTER HELP SUPPORT ART AND HISTORY.

BY WESLEY BRYANT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES JORDAN



The downtown Winchester area wanted to cultivate local arts and music by shining a light on the heritage and history for Franklin County. With the help of Grant Coordinator, Yvonne Stewart, that dream became a reality. The City of Winchester received a generous grant of funds to beautify the downtown area with murals. The funds were able to boost the community through adding a tourist appeal and making the downtown area even more of a place people want to be. Two of the three artists who painted the murals are Franklin County locals, using the grant funds to support talented artists in the county.

The funds from the Tennessee Arts Commission were not easy to obtain. The competition to receive the grant was decently competitive with several towns and cities in Tennessee submitting for the funds. The entire process took roughly a year from the time of writing the proposals for the grant and the finished paintings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to Yvonne and other city officials, the downtown area of Winchester looks better and better every day. 🍷

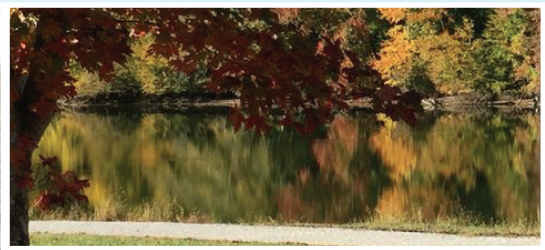


THE DOWNTOWN MURALS HIGHLIGHT:

- *Tims Ford Lake - the heart of the community*
- *Rosebud Trees - the memorable trees downtown*
- *Mike Farris - local Grammy-award-winning musician*
- *UT Football coaches from Winchester*
- *And more!*



The City Between the Lakes



The Tims Ford Blueway is designed to meet the growing population of paddlers in the area.

- Dennis Parm Panter Park
- Community Center
- Camping Sites

Taylor Creek Greenway - over 1 mile of gravel walking paths, 7 covered benches/swings, bridges, primitive trails, 2 creeks, wake-free headwater of Tims Ford Lake, & native vegetation, birds, and animals

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Advertiser's Index

About Town Apparel	25
Animal Care Center	18
Bennetts Pharmacy	10
Best Western Inn, Winchester	19
Blessings Thrift Store	54
Century 21 Mid-State Realty - Pam Peck	68
Citizens Tri-County Bank	8
City of Decherd	6
City of Huntland	51
City of Winchester	35
Clark's Home Solutions, LLC	55
Clearwater Cove RV Resort	6
Cowan Railroad Museum	25
El Charro Southern Mexican Grill	39
Elk River Health & Nursing of Winchester	18
Elk River Public Utility District	4
Elk River Trading Company	66
First Bank Decherd	38
Franklin County Chamber of Commerce	66
Franklin Farmers Co-op	59
Franklin Manor	47
Grant Funeral Services	8

Jackson Nursery	9
Lakeview Marina	18
Las Margaritas Mexican Restaraunt	19
Lu Lu's Cafe	53
Lynch-Rigsby Realty and Auction	3
Meshed on the Square	10
Moore Cortner Funeral Home	5
Professional Health Service	2
Southern TN Regional Health System	7
Sunrise	19
Swiss Pantry	8
The Lake Store	10
Tims Ford Marina	51
Town of Estill Springs	65
Treasures	47
Twin Creeks Marina, Resort, Village	67
Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey	11
V. R. Williams & Co.	25
Walmart	54
Walnut Hill Coffee Co.	10
Western Sirloin Steak House	18
Winchester Downtown Program	34



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