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VISITOR GUIDE 2022

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**WATER**

Your guide  
to local  
**DINING**

Camping  
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Little Duck River Greenway photo by Ashleigh Newnes



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Exchange Media Group, Inc.

**Founder** Bill Thomas (1940-2010)

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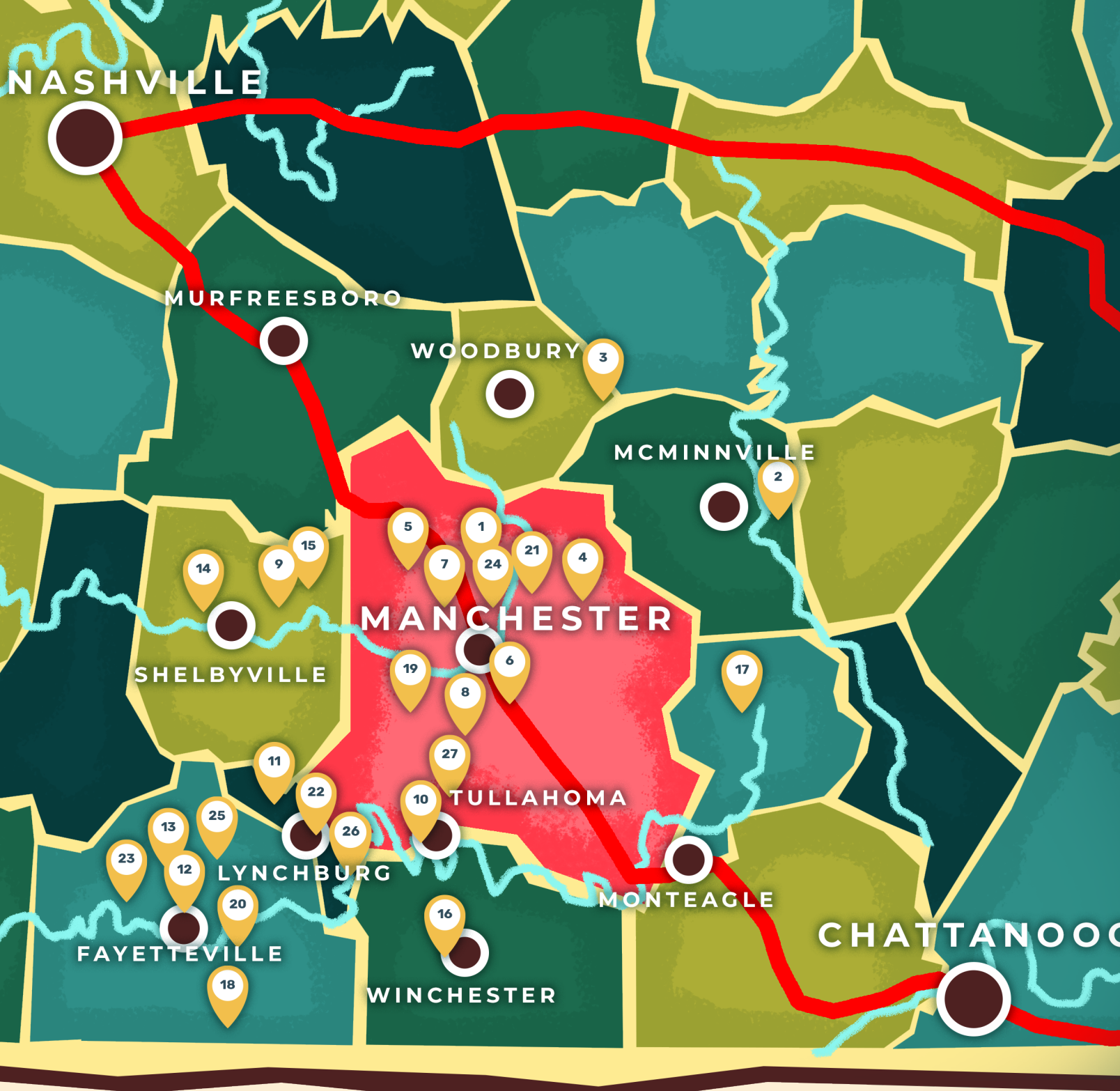


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3. Short Mountain Distillery
4. WillowBrook Golf Course
5. Common John Brewing Co.
6. Old Stone Fort Park
7. Manchester Recreation Complex
8. Duck River Greenway
9. Bell Buckle Craft Fair
10. 41A Music Festival
11. Jack Daniel Invitational BBQ Championship and Jack Daniel Distillery
12. Slawburger Festival
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# Manchester on the MAP

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14. Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration
15. RC Cola & Moon Pie Festival
16. High on the Hog BBQ Festival
17. Beersheba Springs Craft Fair
18. Southern Pride Distillery
19. George Dickel Distillery
20. Prichard's Distillery

21. Beans Creek Winery
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A photograph of a stone wall made of large, moss-covered stones, situated in a forest with many trees in the background. The wall is the central focus of the image.

# Old Stone Fort

— A place for history and  
archeology lovers —

**M**anchester, Tennessee, is home to a beautiful landscape, full of lush forests, colorful flowers, and stunning waterfalls. While there are many places throughout Coffee County that are perfect for enjoying such things, no one location shows off more of nature's beauty – while preserving a rich historical background – than Old Stone Fort State Archaeological park.





# History

Old Stone Fort has been a significant landmark to travelers in Middle Tennessee throughout the past two millennia, and it remains a landmark to travelers across the United States today. Established as a state park in 1966, the 876 acres that the archaeological park encompasses are focused on protecting one of the most complex prehistoric Native American hilltop enclosures in the South. Old Stone Fort is one of only two archaeological parks in Tennessee and has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

The stone and earth-work walls that make up the main body of the archaeological site run intermittently along the edge of the peninsula that Old Stone Fort rests upon, converging to form a small entrance that aligns with the sunrise during the summer solstice. Despite being misnamed as a fort, the site is currently believed to have been used by Native American groups for ceremonial purposes some 2,000 years ago. The park museum, located near the front entrance, exhibits

some of the various interpretations of the location's purpose as well as historical lineage of early Native Americans and their culture and some archaeological excavations.

There is considerably more than just ancient history preserved at Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park. Manchester, Tennessee, is named after Manchester, England, according to park manager Keith Wimberley. Manchester, England, is well known for its industry, and Manchester, Tennessee, followed that example. The banks of the Duck River have been home to a rope factory, paper mills, and during the Civil War, a powder factory. One such paper mill was the Stone Fort Paper Company, built in 1879, which served newspapers like the Nashville Banner and Atlanta Constitution until the early 20th century. The foundations of that mill are preserved near Big Falls, making Old Stone Fort home to one of Tennessee's largest surviving 19th century paper mills. There are signs of industry all across the park, from cut stone, to pipes, to large iron bands.

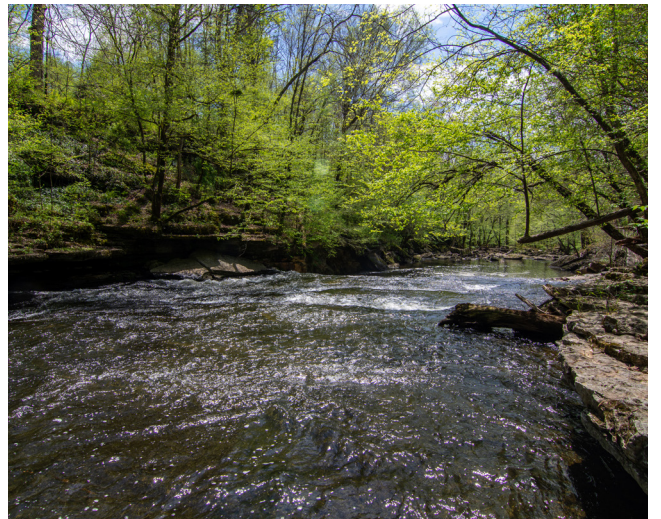


# Nature

While Old Stone Fort is a perfect place for history and archeology lovers, it is also a beautiful nature reserve. Old Stone Fort sits on a peninsula between the Big Duck River and the Little Duck River, and three beautiful waterfalls can be viewed from the Enclosure Trail that follows the perimeter of the fort: Step Falls, Blue Hole Falls, and Big Falls. While those may be the most famous, the rivers boast roughly 10 waterfalls during the peak season. The Duck River is also a wonderful place to walk and to fish; it has been recognized by National Geographic Magazine as one of the 5 most biodiverse rivers in the entire world and is a haven to 33 at-risk fish and mussel species.

A large portion of Old Stone Fort is maintained as grassland, making it a popular spot for

grassland bird species and their human watchers. Some of the birds that can be spotted include northern parula, red-eyed vireo, pileated woodpeckers, and even the occasional wood duck. The land is also home to a huge variety of other creatures, as well as a dazzling array of ferns and flowers. All of this can be enjoyed along any of the 6 hiking trails that Old Stone Fort offers; and they can be taken either as a solo hike or a guided tour with one of the park rangers. There are also paved hiking trail options.





A photograph of a forest trail. The trail is a dirt path with many exposed tree roots and patches of moss. The surrounding forest is dense with tall trees and green foliage. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a bright spot in the upper left corner.

# Hiking Trails

## **Forks of the River**

The Forks of the River Trail is a pleasant, light walk to where the Big Duck River and Little Duck River converge. This .30 mile trail forks off of the Enclosure Trail, which follows the perimeter of the fort.

## **Moat Trail**

The Moat Trail, also known as the Old River Channel Trail, connects to both the Forks of The River Trail and the Enclosure Trail. This easy .45 mile trail follows an abandoned river channel by the western wall of the fort. For a time that river channel was considered artificial, although now most researchers believe it to simply be a dry river bed.

## **Garrison Road Trail**

Although the Garrison Road Trail is a more moderate challenge, the .80 mile hike makes its way through a beautiful section of forest. A portion of the hike also follows a stretch of the earliest paved section of Highway 41.

## **Nature Trail**

The Nature Trail's .85 mile walk offers stunning views of Blue Hole Falls as well as the Big Duck River. This trail connects to the Garrison Road Trail and is easily accessible from the Old Stone Fort Campground.





### **Backbone Trail**

The Backbone Trail is a 1.25 mile trail that runs the length of Backbone Ridge: a spectacular erosional feature that separates the abandoned river channel from the current channel of the Little Duck River. For this reason the trail is also known as the Little Duck River Loop Trail, and can be traversed as an extension of the primary interpretive trail. Backbone Trail can be strenuous at times, but at its peak it provides a stellar view of the Little Duck River, the Big Duck River, and the surrounding forests. After heavy rainfall visitors can view a small waterfall where Grindstone Hollow Creek meets the Little Duck River.

### **Enclosure Trail**

The Enclosure Trail is the longest trail Old Stone Fort has to offer at 1.4 miles, but it is a relatively pleasant walk. This trail features 12 interpretive signs to help explain the history and structure of the enclosure site, and follows the perimeter of the fort. The path allows visitors to view the three largest waterfalls at Old Stone Fort, as well as the foundation of the Stone Fort Paper Company paper mill.

For those who wish to stay on site, the fort also offers 50 campsites, and RV sites that include electrical hookups, grills, picnic tables and hard-surface pads. These sites are slightly separated from each other and sit in a heavily wooded area, which gives the campgrounds a remote feel despite how close they are to the rest of Manchester. The campsites are within 10 minutes of a variety of restaurants and 1 mile of a Manchester public pool, and there are nearby pavilions that can be reserved for larger gatherings.





# Events

Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park offers events throughout the year, many of them led by the fort's well-equipped park rangers. There are many scheduled hikes throughout the year, ranging from guided tours and pet hikes, to holiday hikes like the Summer Solstice Sunrise hike. Aside from the regular activities of hiking, fishing, and birding, Old Stone Fort offers many opportunities for scholastic experiences both in the park and in the classroom, covering topics from archaeology to aquatic ecology to Native American history. There

are also many creative learning opportunities for adults, where participants can learn the basics of ancient pottery making, flintknapping, and other prehistoric skills.

Special events include World Atlatl Days, Junior Ranger Camp, and Spring Nature Day, among others. Event dates and descriptions along with other general information can be found on Facebook at @oldstonefortstatearchaeologicalpark, by visiting the website at [tnstateparks.com/parks/old-stone-fort](https://tnstateparks.com/parks/old-stone-fort), or by calling the park directly at (931) 461-7676.



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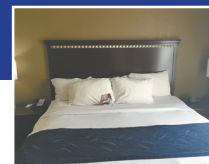
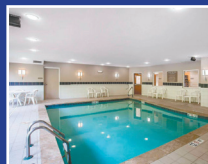
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# Vacation

## at Manchester KOA Campground

By Julia Eads // Photos  
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**C**hirp chirp chirp echoes the sound of nature's sweetest alarm clock. Groggily, you begin to stir from a deep sleep, almost forgetting where you are. Then, it dawns on you. Excitement acts as a spring, raising you up from your sleeping bag. You remember that you and your family are on a camping trip! Crawling over to the tent's opening, you fill with anticipation of what the day will bring.

A deep breath in, another one out. Waking up at a campground brings that same rousing feeling, present on Christmas mornings. Unzipping the tent can feel like unwrapping a





gift that keeps giving. Will the sky be pink and purple? Or will it be dark and misty, filled with low-lying rain clouds? Will the sun already be up, bringing warmth all around? Whatever is on the other side of this tent will be a gift. Because out in nature, every second is a new moment for discovery.

Hardly a step outside of the tent and already you're struck with a mouth-watering smell. Someone is cooking bacon over an open flame a few campsites up. After rounding up the kids and a few quick bites, it's officially go-time for an epic vacation at Manchester KOA Campground.





Nicknamed "The Secret Smokies," this campground provides many of the same opportunities that the Great Smoky Mountain National Park does without all of the additional drive time. Locals are fortunate to experience the beauty of the Cumberland Plateau right here in Coffee County. There is truly something for everyone in the family, including access to caves, waterfalls, nature trails, a natural bridge arch, a fishing pond, and ample lawn

games. More specific to children, the campground is equipped with a large playground, a pool with exhilarating waterslides, a splash pad, a sand-pit, a jump pad, and many other fun outdoor activities and games. Watch your children light up with joy as they catch their first fish out at the pond, or spend the morning on the nature trail having sweet conversation with your significant other. Whatever you decide to do, you are guaranteed to





have a blast during a vacation at Manchester KOA.

Lodging at the campground is just as pleasure-filled as the recreation. The more primitive campsites exist as a haven for those who want to connect with nature and camp in tents. For those whose backs might not survive a night on the ground, there are various ways to lodge. Choose from cabins, teepees, safari tents, and even covered wagons. Or, if you like to

sleep in your own bed, hookups are available for RVs, campers, and trailers. Of course, all guests have access to impeccably clean bathhouses and common areas. Whether you desire to relax with family and friends or simply enjoy the great outdoors, you won't be sorry if you let Manchester KOA be the next place you gather. Come create unforgettable memories. The possibilities are endless for an adventure-filled stay at Manchester KOA Campground.



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# Local Culinary

## Favorites

By Paige Cushman // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

From wood-fired pizza to craft cocktails to pork belly burgers, Manchester has an impressive variety of dining options. Whether you want a truly local experience, to try some unexpected international dishes, or for a place to take the family while in town, you'll find what you're looking for in Manchester's food scene.



**W**hether it's a pizza night, a steak night, or a "piece-of-cake-for-dinner" kind of night, J&G has you covered. This is your typical "American and Italian food, with a greek flair," at a restaurant with a retro, nostalgic, family-fun feeling, according to Kiki Sherill. Sherill is the daughter of Jim and Lisa Rouvelas, who built and opened the restaurant in 1973.

J&G is about to celebrate 50 years in Manchester and has been voted Manchester's Finest Restaurant, Best Pizza, Best Chicken, and Best Family Restaurant by members of the community.

"I can't say enough positive, wonderful things

about the community embracing my parents," Kiki said. "It's been quite a blessing and it's the community we can thank for that."

Sherill and her husband Justin run the family restaurant with her parents (who are still heavily involved) and her children. Located right off the interstate, this is a convenient option for families. But it's also so much more.

J&G is a hidden gem for marinated Greek-style chicken, Philly cheesesteak sandwiches, and pizza. Their sauce, dough, and toppings are all homemade. And you can find Jim buying tomatoes locally from Dotson's Produce every week.





**J**iffy Burger is the place to be for fresh American staples. "It's a little bitty 'hole-in-the-wall' that's been there forever ... there's nothing fancy about it," Tracy St. John said.

Her grandparents opened the restaurant in 1965 when Manchester only had a two-lane highway. She and her family continue to own and operate the Manchester go-to.

"Growing up, I didn't really know the difference between customers and family, because you see them so much," St. John said. "I see the restaurant as an extension of our family."

People love this casual diner-style burger joint for its quality burgers, top-of-the-line service, and affordable prices.

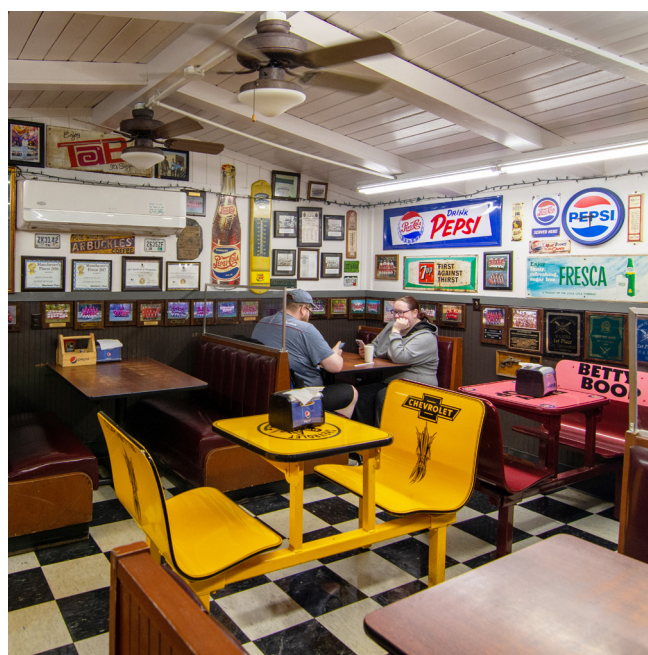
Jiffy Burger goes through 1,400 pounds of hamburger meat per week – it's always fresh, never frozen, and always comes from the same supplier. For those visiting Jiffy Burger for the first time, St. John recommends the country ham, (at breakfast) and the Bonnaroo Burger, which, she admits, she was hesitant to try at first.

"The egg thing got me," she said. "Why would you want an egg on a cheeseburger? But it seems to have worked."

Along with a fried egg, the Bonaroo burger also has crispy bacon and a tasty onion ring with tomato, mayonnaise, and lettuce.

Now, it's a Manchester must-have and a favorite among locals.

"It makes you feel good when people continue to patronize your business years later," St. John said. "It still just feels like family."







**B**ites of Europe has brought the European dining experience all the way to Tennessee with authentic fish and chips, schnitzel wiener, and Neapolitan-style pizza.

Owner Kevin Greenwood is originally from England, but works in the entertainment industry and moved himself and his company to Manchester after working at Bonnaroo (Itchycoo Park at the time) in the 1990s. He said he needed something else to do, and he wanted more for Manchester.

"So I opened up a little restaurant because I wanted some food that I missed," he said. "I just wanted to do something different."

His casual German pub-style restaurant has a large variety of imported beers from Germany, Belgium, and more. Their pizza is made with quality toppings, imported from Italy. And Greenwood said the meat is locally sourced.

When the weather is nice, Bites of Europe has a dog-friendly patio. So, this is a great place to bring your family and four-legged friends for the best fish and chips in the state.





**Y**ou can find live music, craft cocktails, and authentic Asian fusion dishes on the south side of the square at Kubo Grill. Its upscale environment and unique offerings make this a Manchester must-do.

Lynn Escobar and her mom, who are from the Philippines, were doing catering and pop-up restaurants for a couple of years. When COVID hit, their family regrouped and started searching for an area to set up a more permanent shop. Manchester, they decided, was the perfect community to invest in.

"We want this to be a place people come to as a destination because of what the Manchester community has to offer," Owner Lynn Escobar said. "It's not just us, we want to try to help everyone grow out here."

Now, the Filipino community in Manchester relies on Kubo to provide authentic Filipino food. Some order days in advance, off of Kubo's "secret menu", to get classics like dinuguan (a Filipino beef stew). But for those visiting for the first time, Escobar recommends the Chicken Ponzu Noodles and the Pork Belly Bibimbap.

"You're getting authentic food that you'd have if you were in the Philippines," Escobar said.



Kubo also has a full bar with specialty cocktails and a beer wall.

"We wanted to bring some type of nightlife to the downtown area ... to give people options, some things to do," Escobar said. "We want to try to bring more tourism and bring people to the square ... There's more to come."



# Local Shops

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## OWEN'S PROVISIONS AND APPAREL

For Terri and Will Painter, helping customers find that perfect gift is the key to their success. Since 2019 the family-owned business has been keeping their shelves stocked with unique items that have stories to tell. One can find something for everyone. From clothing, camping supplies, and even something for your four-legged friend, they've got a myriad of options. This variety of products is something that owner Will Painter says allows them to find whatever their customer needs or wants.

Now in their third year of operation, they credit the customers for their continued success. Will said he takes pride in knowing each of his customers and being able to help find something, to celebrate all of life's special



moments. Along with serving locals, the Painters say they are proud to be a part of a growing local business front. They feel small businesses create a sense of community and are grateful to call Manchester home.

[Find what you're looking for at Owen Provisions and Apparel located at 104 W Fort St.](#)



### AISLINGE BOUTIQUE

Since its beginning, this family-owned business has worked to provide women with on-trend apparel that makes them feel empowered, no matter their age or size. Owner Tanya Bell works alongside her daughters, Alyssa White, Kayleigh Bell-Cooper, Harley Bell, and Kenzie Deaton to create a shopping experience that is fun and leaves their customers looking their best. Bell and her daughters are grateful for the opportunity to help customers make a purchase that inspires self-confidence and helps them take on the world.

Now open in two locations, Manchester and Eagleville, along with an online store, women can shop at any time from anywhere.

Check out Aislinge Boutique at 109 S. Spring St. in Manchester and 115B North Main Street in Eagleville or online at [aislingeboutique.com](https://aislingeboutique.com).



### BELLA ROSE BOUTIQUE

For owner Jocelyn Duke of Bella Rose Boutique, owning her own business has been a dream come true. Duke opened the boutique in September 2021 and has been helping her customers find their own unique style ever since. Duke keeps her shop stocked with a wide array of clothing for women. She also houses home decor, candles, shoes, jewelry, and other accessories. For Duke, she takes pride in encouraging and helping her customers find those must-have items. She is proud to be a part of the small-town business community that shows up for each other and supports each other. She strives to provide excellent customer satisfaction that will keep tourists as well as local customers coming back.

The store is located at 122 McMinville Hwy in Manchester.



## THE CRACKED POT

For the past seven years, The Cracked Pot has taken a love of family, and style and creating, and made it into a successful family business that offers one-of-a-kind home decor and gifts to its customers.

Owned and operated by husband-and-wife team Pam and Tim Hook, the couple has over four decades of experience in interior design, furniture refinishing, design and construction. Pam takes care of the day-to-day business. Tim, known as "Mr. Cracked Pot," constructs unique pieces from hand that are imagined by Pam. The couple said they hope to bring, to locals and tourists, a unique and enriched experience and not just a day of shopping. They want to give each customer the feeling that they opened the doors for them each day.

Check out their unique creations by visiting their location at 111 W. Main Street, or visit their website at [crackedpotdecor.com](http://crackedpotdecor.com).



## MERLE NORMAN

Merle Norman has been a household name for beauty since 1931. Almost a century later the cosmetics company is still going strong with studios all over the country, including a location in Manchester. Independently owned and operated, Cindy West and Jenny Jackson have been helping locals with their skin and color needs since 2008.

Both West and Jackson, along with their staff, are expertly trained to help find the right products for each customer. Not only business partners, but friends, West and Jackson say they wake up each day excited about coming to work and helping their customers.

They are proud to be a part of a small-town business community that they feel is the lifeblood of the community.

Find your unique style with a visit to Merle Norman, located at 1909 McArthur St, Manchester.



## SPROUT CHILDREN'S SHOP

A mother and daughter duo, Sharon Gilliam and Emily Skinner, make the shopping experience fun and easy for children and parents. Gilliam and Skinner own and operate Sprout Children's Shop. Since 2016 the duo has been offering the best in children's clothing. Keeping new styles in stock season by season, they also offer children's gifts, toys, and more. For the past six years, the family has enjoyed interacting with and providing quality customer service to their patrons and most importantly, watching them grow.

Round up the family and check them out at 108 S Spring Street. Visit them online at [sproutchildrensshop.company.site](http://sproutchildrensshop.company.site).



## HARVEST LOCAL

If you are looking for local, then look no further than Harvest Local Foods. From locally sourced meats, bread, produce, and artisan jewelry to craft beer, they have got their customers covered. Over four years ago, Manchester native Ellen Briggs set out to offer her fellow citizens locally sourced items, while helping local farmers, artisans, and brewers who were looking for store-fronts to sell their goods. Briggs is constantly upping her store inventory with new items that include requests from her customers. Most of the items are sourced right here in Middle Tennessee, with some of the items sourced outside of the area due to customer request. The shop also serves food, with daily specials, along with an impressive craft beer selection that is on tap for patrons to enjoy.

Briggs said she is proud to be a part of such a strong small-business community.

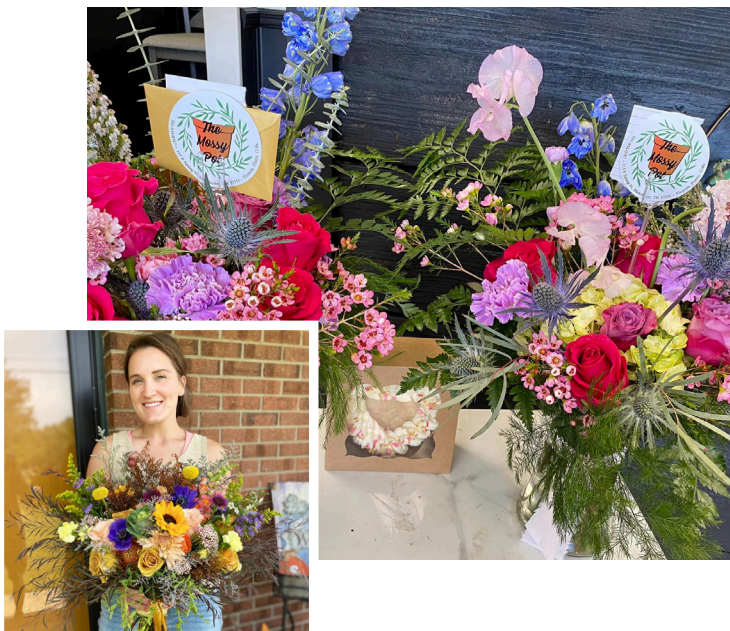
Experience her unique shop at 101 N. Irwin Street and online at [harvestlocalfoods.square.site](http://harvestlocalfoods.square.site).



### THE MOSSY POT

Taking the beauty of nature and molding it into something that can be shared with everyone is a talent for business owner Logan Stuteville. She takes flowers and plants and creates floral pieces of art that she shares with her customers for all occasions. Stuteville picks only the best plants and flowers in season. She works diligently to make sure that each one of her customers leaves with a smile and beautiful creation made by her and her staff.

Stop in and check out her beautiful creations at The Mossy Pot, located at 115 S Spring St.



### HIGH COTTON VINTAGE HOME FURNISHINGS

Just off the corner of the historic downtown square sits a charming 1875 New Orleans-style home that houses the unique and classic small business, High Cotton Vintage Home Furnishings. The business welcomes visitors both local and afar to venture in and view their carefully curated boutique. The boutique offers a beautiful collection of women's fashions, jewelry, home accents, season décor, original art, candles, kitchen accessories, and more.

Owners Lynne Jarrell and Allison Dotson opened High Cotton nine years ago during a time when the downtown business scene was on the downturn. Through their hard work and dedication, the family has helped support a small business effort that continues to grow. They look forward to many more years of welcoming customers with style.

The store is located at 213 N. Spring St. and online at [facebook.com/highcottonvintage](https://facebook.com/highcottonvintage)



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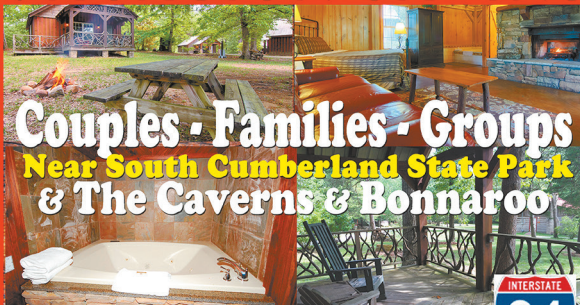
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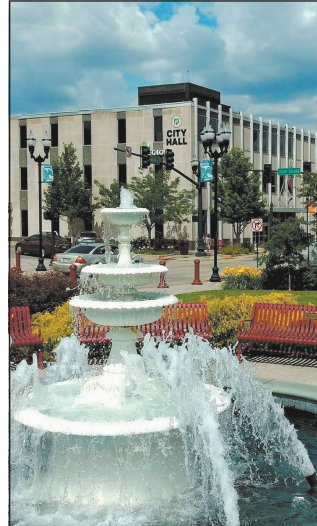
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# TOP 10

Things to see & do  
in Manchester

Start your adventure at  
these special places



BY TRISHA SANDORA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHLEIGH NEWNES

If you're looking for an unforgettable experience that's uniquely Manchester, we've got a few ideas. From taking a walk in the woods, hitting a few balls on the green, or learning about an ancient Native American gathering place, Manchester has a lot of great stories to tell. As you meet local artisans and experience authentic southern hospitality, you'll uncover some of the best-kept secrets in Tennessee. Whether you're visiting as a couple, traveling alone, or bringing family and friends along, begin your Manchester adventure at some of our favorite spots.

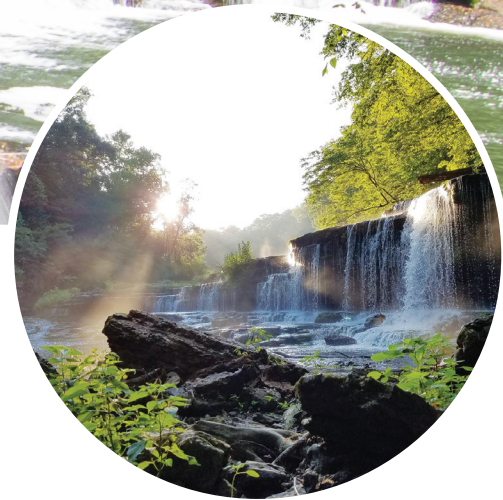




## 1 WILLOWBROOK GOLF COURSE

With its peaceful setting and beautiful rolling greens, WillowBrook Golf Course has all the amenities necessary for a picture-perfect day. Designed by well-known professional golf course designer Jerry Lemons, the Par 72 course has been a favorite among Tennessee golf courses since its beginnings in 1995. Today, the championship course draws some of the top golfers in the nation including many future champions. The friendly staff at WillowBrook go the extra distance to make everyone feel welcome, from the first-time golfer to the seasoned pro. It's a place where players of varying abilities can compete, grow their golf game, enjoy the camaraderie of friends, and soak up the natural beauty of Tennessee. The smiling faces and friendly waves throughout the fairway serve as a gentle reminder that there are no strangers at WillowBrook, just friends.

For more information visit the website at [GolfWillowBrook.net](http://GolfWillowBrook.net)



## 2 OLD STONE FORT STATE PARK

Located just 2 miles from downtown Manchester, Old Stone Fort State Archeological Park holds volumes of mysterious stories that will take you on a deep-dive into history. The 50-acre park is the home of the largest and most complex hilltop enclosure with a mound wall built 1500-2000 years ago by Native Americans. Established during the Middle Woodland period, the ceremonial site was used as a gathering place to celebrate the summer solstice, an event that traditionally marked the transition between planting and harvesting crops. Two forks of the Duck River flow on either side of the enclosure creating a peninsula-shaped area accessed by a well-maintained and relatively flat Enclosure Trail loop. The trail offers beautiful views of the Duck River, including several waterfalls. Steeper side trails allow access to sections of the river for fishing enthusiasts. It's also a terrific place to get in a trail run or take a leisurely walk in the woods. For more information visit the website at [tnstateparks.com/parks/old-stone-fort](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/old-stone-fort)





### 3 FOOTHILLS CRAFTS

Discover the extraordinary work of local artisans at Foothills Crafts. Established in 1981, Foothills Crafts is a nonprofit craft shop operated by the Coffee County Craft Association. The gift shop offers handmade one-of-a-kind pieces from local Tennessee artists. The diverse selection of handcrafted treasures includes paintings, baskets, pottery, hand-smocked dresses, wire-wrapped gemstone jewelry, and more. The shop is a co-op where juried local artists must go through a judging process to become exhibiting members. There is no paid staff and the shop is run by the member artists who take turns volunteering their time. Through the years, Foothills Crafts has become known as a place to find quality homemade, handcrafted items, many of which are crafted with skills passed down through the generations. For the past 34 years, on the 2nd weekend in November, they host the Annual Christmas Arts and Crafts Festival. [For more information visit their Facebook page.](#)



### 4 LOCAL WATERFALLS

Drink in the views and feel the cooling mists of Mother Nature's handiwork at the abundant waterfalls in the area. Less than five minutes from downtown Manchester, at Old Stone Fort State Park, you will find a series of beautiful cascading waterfalls known as Step Falls. The park is also the home of Blue Hole Falls and Big Falls, which boasts an impressive 30' drop. A short ten-minute drive toward Tullahoma will take you to Rutledge Falls where a stately female statue known as the Lady of the Falls awaits. From there, head over to Short Springs State Natural Area and discover Machine Falls, one of the tallest waterfalls in the state with a drop of more than 60 feet. When heading back up the trail, the Bobo Creek Trail loop offers views of the Lower and Upper Busby Falls. If you want to venture out a little further, Foster Falls in nearby Sequatchie and Greeter Falls at the Savage Gulf State Natural Area in Altamont, are both less than an hour away.













## 5 COMMON JOHN BREWING CO.

Founded by Manchester native LeBron Haggard, the brewery offers a wide variety of craft beer that is produced on-site along with a rotating selection of beer from other local breweries. Non-beer offerings such as ciders, seltzers, and sodas are also served up in the laid-back family-friendly atmosphere. For Haggard, the early seeds of brewing were planted almost 15 years ago with a home-brew kit he received from his wife. Since then, he has visited hundreds of breweries across the country, expanding his knowledge and his taste buds on all things craft beer. He has also spent countless hours fine-tuning recipes, submitting brews to competitions, and learning the business side of brewing. Taproom manager and assistant brewer, Shelby Haggard is adding her expertise to the company as well with a Master's degree from MTSU in Fermentation Science. [Follow @CommonJohnBC on Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter](#) or visit their website at [commonjohnbc.com](http://commonjohnbc.com).



## 6 LITTLE DUCK RIVER GREENWAY

For nature lovers, the Little Duck River Greenway is a little bit of heaven on earth with three miles of breathtaking scenery. Put on your walking shoes and soak in the sights and sounds of nature along the banks of the winding Little Duck River. This outdoor retreat located in the city limits of Manchester will make you feel like you're in another world. The paved pedestrian walkway is eight feet wide and features wooden boardwalks, bridges, an octagonal overlook, and the Keep Coffee County Beautiful Memorial Garden. Beginning at Coffee County Middle School, the greenway connects Dave King Park, Fred Deadman Park, the Manchester Recreation Complex, the historic town square, and Old Stone Fort State Park. [The greenway is not open to motorized vehicles or horses.](#)





## 7 DETENTION AT THE ELEMENTARY

This family entertainment center is located at a refurbished elementary school. Owner Bernadette Doud attended Morrison Elementary from kindergarten through eighth grade. Wanting to increase recreational opportunities in their community, the Douds added Detention for a wide variety of fun for all ages. Bumper cars, multi-level laser tag, and a climbing wall are special features of the facility. Add in the arcade, complete with both nostalgic and new video games, and you can lose yourself and be a kid again. Finish your day of fun with a competitive game of putt-putt on the nine-hole course. Then, grab a slice of pizza or relax in the massage chairs.

Find Detention at the Elementary at 615 School Street in Morrison and [detentiontn.com](http://detentiontn.com)



## 8 MANCHESTER RECREATION COMPLEX

Don't leave town without visiting the Manchester Recreation Complex. If you spend five minutes or five hours, you and your family will always have something to do. Is the hotel pool getting a little crowded? The Manchester Recreation Complex offers an indoor recreation center equipped with two swimming pools, racquetball courts, a gymnasium, a walking track, and an indoor climbing wall—the perfect antidote for a rainy day. Get your blood flowing on the racquetball court, then cool down in the lazy river. On hot summer days, the 10,000 square foot outdoor swimming pool is perfect for all ages with water slides, a lazy river, a lily pad walk, and a water playground. Located at 557 N Woodland St, Manchester, TN 37355





## 9 HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SQUARE

Experience the welcoming vibe of downtown Manchester. Whether it's enjoying a freshly brewed cup of coffee or wandering through the charming shops that surround the old courthouse, there's always something new to discover in this quaint and historic part of town. Enjoy a stroll around the block and take in the sights and sounds of downtown, where time seems to slow down, leaving plenty of time to linger and visit with friends and shop owners. There are also festivals and events throughout the year that capture the essence of small-town living including a weekly farmer's market on Saturdays and occasional live music performances at the beautifully restored and repurposed venue, The Church at 117.



## 10 BEANS CREEK WINERY

Whether it's catching up with friends, celebrating a special occasion, or listening to music amidst flickering fireflies and crooning frogs, you can find it all at Beans Creek Winery. Beans Creek Winery is all about letting each moment ripen to its fullest. Just off the busyness of Interstate 24, at Exit 111, Beans Creek Winery invites passersby to stop and smell the roses, or in this case, the wine. Slowly swirling a glass of wine and engaging in casual conversation serves as a gentle reminder that every moment matters, and taking some time to embrace the good things in life is time well spent. Beans Creek Winery also offers wine classes, dinners, winery tours, Blush and Brush paint classes, and live music events. [For hours and event schedule, follow @beanscreek on Facebook or visit the website beanscreekwinery.com.](#) Beans Creek Winery is located at 426 Ragsdale Road in Manchester.



Festivals and Events

*Celebrate!*



Photo by Nathan Zucker





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## BONNAROO MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

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## BEANS CREEK WINERY GRAPE JAM MUSIC SERIES:

### Sound Dawgs

Saturday, June 29

### Stephen Potter

Saturday, July 20

### Michael Childress

Saturday, August 17

### Southern Moss

Saturday, September 7

### 15th Anniversary Celebration with

### Uncle Tom's Band

Saturday, October 19





# Keep your tab **OPEN**

**Common John Brewing Co. invites family and fun.**

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes







**T**HE DAY'S stresses are melting away at Common John Brewing Co. (CJ). The atmosphere at CJ is about food, family, and fellowship set to music, providing a perfect place to grab a beer with your travel buddies in Manchester.

Like any good beer, CJ didn't happen overnight. LeBron Haggard's interest in craft beer brewing began almost 15 years ago with a home brewing kit. His spare time was filled with friends, family, good music, and new brews. Becoming more serious about his hobby, he began entering craft beer competitions. In 2016, a career change vision came into focus: a change from a manufacturing engineer to engineering craft beers on a larger scale. With his wife, Angela, they took their time creating a business plan and as they did, gained a partner, LeBron's aunt, Renee Haggard.

After locating a building site, LeBron and his father, Ray Haggard, commenced construction. The opening was initially targeted for April 2020, but an overall delay in parking lot construction pushed it to October. It was a delay that, in hindsight, may have contributed to their success in COVID economics.

"In October 2020, COVID restrictions had started to lighten, and people were anxious to get out and get together again," LeBron said.

CJ really is a family affair. While LeBron is the hands-on operator, his daughter, Shelby Haggard, who has a master's degree in fermentation science from MTSU, handles the science behind their brews. She can be seen doing everything from brewing, serving, and slinging food, to distributing beer to restaurant and area bar accounts.





**//**

**Our family  
built this  
place for  
your family.**

On International Women's Day, CJ shouted out on its Facebook page, "Shelby is the definition of hard work and determination. She runs the taproom, brews beer, and is a master yeast wrangler."

With five or six CJ core beers on tap, their other varieties may not be repeated, so get 'em while you can. There are 20 beers on tap and nearly 70 in cans and bottles, both CJ's and from other brewers. Some are lighter, sweeter, or darker than others, but there's something for every taste. Since opening almost two years ago, they've produced over 40 different beers.

Although they don't serve wine or liquor, their draft selection includes ciders and seltzers. Non-alcoholic drinks, soda,





tea, and lemonade are also available. Pair one with an appetizer of kettle chips, Bavarian soft pretzels, or cheesy bread while you watch a game on one of their seven TVs or listen to live music, a regular weekend event. Try a specialty pizza, build your own, or try a hot dog or sandwich. Weather permitting, take the party outside to their patio and picnic tables.

“Our family built this place for your family. This has been a crazy dream for us. We wanted to bring music to this town so people can have a good place to come to and enjoy a good beer in a safe environment,” LeBron said, at the CJ Family Reunion, which celebrated their one-year anniversary.



For business hours, schedule of events, and more information, visit [commonjohnbc.com](http://commonjohnbc.com), find them on Facebook and Instagram, or drop by 210 Woodbury Highway, Manchester.





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## *Concerts in Manchester*

By Daniel Shearon  
Photos by Nathan Zucker,  
Alive Coverage, and jorgphoto

**D**espite its proximity to Nashville, Manchester might have the edge on Music City for special and unique-to-the-area venues for live music. The Farm is the world-famous home of Bonnaroo, the yearly Music and Arts Festival. Cumberland Caverns, located near McMinnville, TN, is the second-longest cave in Tennessee and has been a designated National Natural Landmark since 1973 and has been a rite of passage for area Cub Scouts for decades. Cumberland Caverns' Volcano Room has been a popular concert spot for many years and was the home of the PBS syndicated "Bluegrass Underground" series until 2018, when the show was moved to The Caverns in Pelham, TN. The Caverns has become a must-play spot for artists of every genre, from Bluegrass to Gospel to Psychedelic Rock. Past standout shows at The Caverns featured Dawes, Guster, Brandi Carlile, The Flaming Lips, Brothers Osborne, and Gov't Mule.

Like almost every conceivable industry, COVID brought live music to a screeching halt in 2020. Shows were canceled, venues closed, and artists learned how to live stream from their living rooms. As restrictions began lifting, both Bonnaroo and The Caverns adapted to return live music to the fans. Fans also missed Bonnaroo in 2021 when rain and flooding forced another cancellation.

Bonnaroo began a series called Concerts on the Farm in May and July of 2021 with four-person, 8' x 8' pods available to shows by Billy Strings, Jon Pardi, and culminating with a three-day run by The Avett Brothers in early July. The Caverns emerged with The Caverns Above Ground Amphitheater featuring two, four, and six-person socially-distanced pods. Those long lines for concessions and merchandise were replaced with a convenient sEATz app to have your food, shirt, and/or poster delivered right to



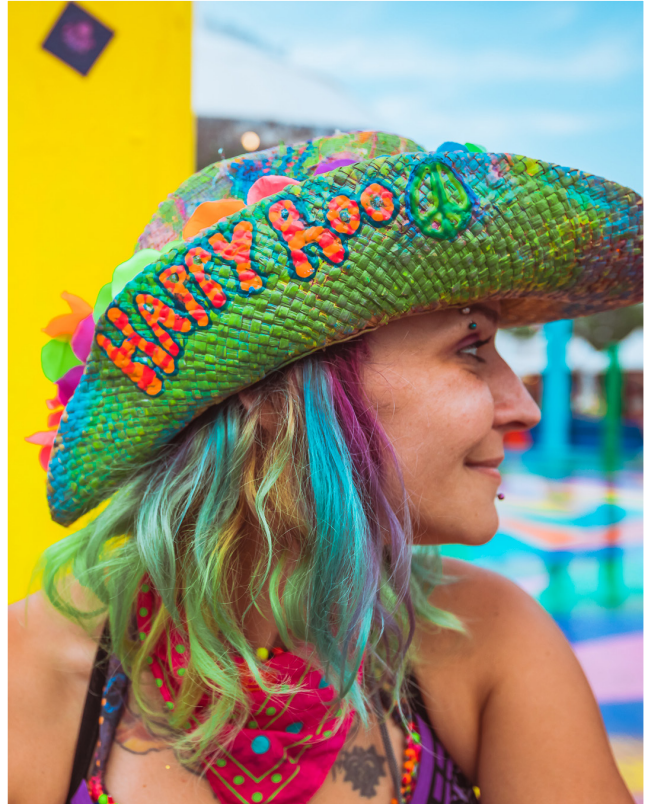






your pod. The series kicked off with Jason Isbell and The 400 Unit for a four-night series in October of 2020. Isbell was followed by shows from Margo Price, St. Paul and The Broken Bones, NEEDTOBREATHE, and many others. Concerts by Umphrey's McGee, Lettuce, and Blues Traveler rounded out the above-ground schedule for 2021.

The Bonnaroo festival returns to The Farm June 16-19, 2022. The festival is headlined by J. Cole, Tool, and Stevie Nicks and also includes The Chicks, Illenium, Flume, 21 Savage, Machine Gun Kelly, Roddy Ricch, and many more. JamTrak (a free transportation service added in 2021) will run all day and night throughout the campground and plazas to Centeroo. Check out [bonnaroo.com](https://www.bonnaroo.com) for the full lineup and more information.





# Cumberland Caverns

Want to explore one of Tennessee's longest caves or enjoy a concert hundreds of feet underground? Cumberland Caverns is calling your name.

Located off the beaten path in McMinnville, the cave, discovered in 1810, is recognized today as a National Natural Landmark and the longest show cave in Tennessee.

For cave lovers, the caverns offer daily tours that vary in difficulty from easy to moderate to extreme.

For a musical experience like none other, travel 333 feet underground and enjoy a concert

in a unique setting, the Volcano Room.

Known for its acoustically pleasing musical setting, the cave is set to welcome artists such as Jefferson Starship; 10,000 Maniacs; Reckless Kelly; Gaelic Storm; and more as upcoming performances.

For more information about exploring the cave or checking out a concert, visit online at [cumberlandcaverns.com](http://cumberlandcaverns.com). Cumberland Caverns is located at 1437 Cumberland Caverns Road in McMinnville.



## The Caverns

Located in the rolling hills of Pelham is a nature and music destination: The Caverns. Known worldwide as the home of Emmy award-winning PBS series "Bluegrass Underground," The Caverns also welcomes artists from a host of musical genres from around the world.

Patrons flock to what is known to locals as "Big Mouth Cave" to enjoy the pre-historic natural sounds that the cave boasts of.

Claustrophobic concertgoers can enjoy a different venue, The Caverns Above Ground Amphitheater. It opened to the public in 2020 to

"bring back live music in a responsible way with outdoor, socially distanced concerts" according to The Caverns website.

The Caverns is set to welcome musical performances from Old Crow Medicine Show, The Screamin' Cheetah Wheelies, Todd Snider, and many more.

Daily cave tours are also available with varying degrees of difficulty.

The Caverns is located at 555 Charlie Roberts Road in Pelham. For more information, visit online at [thecaverns.com](http://thecaverns.com).





# Relax on the WATER



Tennessee's extensive waterways offer an unparalleled outdoor experience for boaters, swimmers, explorers, and fishermen. And for those who are more of the indoor pool and lazy river type, we've got that, too. Here are our favorite ways to spend a day on the water near Manchester.

Grab a couple of poles and head southwest of town to Little Duck River, the best place for bass fishing off the shore. Or, if you're willing to trek a little bit further, fishermen from across the state come to Normandy



# Dip your toes in; the water's fine.

By Paige Cushman  
Photography by Ashleigh Newnes



Reservoir, aka Normandy Lake, to catch large and smallmouth bass, catfish, crappie, walleyes, bluegills, and sunfish. The 2,500-acre reservoir is best experienced via fishing boat, kayak, or canoe, so contact Lake Hop to snag a rental!

Visit Tullahoma to dive into Rutledge Falls, one of the most beautiful spots in central Tennessee for hiking, picnicking, and swimming. Rutledge Falls is located less than 15 minutes off Interstate 24, Exit 110. It's privately owned but open to the

public for free, from dawn to dusk.

If you're looking to enjoy the water in a more controlled environment, the Manchester Recreation Center has an indoor pool with an area for toddlers, and a large, outdoor pool with waterslides, a lazy river, a lily pad walk, and a water playground. The recreation center is open Monday through Thursday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., on Friday from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., on Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.



# Raise your glass

# *Cheers!*



If you're looking for a day trip, Manchester is a short drive away from some of the world's most recognizable whiskey distilleries as well as being home to their very own brewery and winery. Stop by for a sample of down-home excellence.

By Trisha Sandora and Wesley Bryant



### COMMON JOHN BREWERY

Founded by Manchester native LeBron Haggard, Common John Brewery offers a wide variety of craft beer, produced on-site, as well as several non-beer offerings including ciders, seltzers, & sodas. The laid-back family-friendly atmosphere of the brewery will make you feel welcome from the moment you walk through the door. Here are a few fun facts about Manchester's newest brewery.

#### *What's in a name?*

The name Common John came from a song by local rock band Creature Comfort.

#### *How did it all start?*

LeBron Haggard's love for brewing all began with a home-brew kit he received from his wife.

#### *What does science have to do with beer?*

Everything, just ask taproom manager and assistant brewer Shelby Haggard, who has a Master's degree from MTSU in Fermentation Science.

#### *What is Common John's very first brew?*

Ahhhh... the Summer Ale. Need we say more? Aside from the brewery, where else can you get a cold one? You can find it on tap at Harvest Local Foods, Prater's BBQ, Freddie's Restaurant & Jefferson's.

### OLE SHED BREWING COMPANY

Since 2011, the taproom at Ole Shed Brewing Company in Tullahoma has been serving up delicious hand-crafted artisan ales. An outdoor tented beer garden provides a relaxing atmosphere on a warm summer night. If you want to wet your whistle with an IPA, ask about the Haystack India Pale Ale aged in a Tennessee whiskey barrel for 12 weeks. The Shed also regularly features live music and food trucks.

### BEANS CREEK WINERY

Founded in 2003, Beans Creek Winery in Manchester offers a full selection of award-winning wines ranging from dry, full-bodied reds to sweet whites and fruit wines. The entire process of the winemaking, from crushing to bottling, is completed at the winery and many of the wines are made from Tennessee grown grapes. Enjoy a wine tasting and then pick out a few bottles to take home from this down-home Tennessee winery.

### BRANCHWATER DISTILLERY

Back in the Prohibition era, moonshine was hard to come by. But today, Branchwater Distillery in Winchester serves straight-up shine with a wide assortment of add-in flavors. Founder and master distiller Bud Kelley's tradition of moonshining dates back to his great grandfather Dave. Many of those old traditions are in practice today including the use of a copper still. While you're there, pick up a few bottles of their liquid hand sanitizer made from 160 proof alcohol.

### GEORGE DICKEL DISTILLERY CASCADE HOLLOW

Nestled in the picturesque rolling hills outside of Tullahoma, Cascade Hollow Distillery has stayed faithful to the recipe George A. Dickel created back in the 1800s. Today, the whisky is "Handmade the Hard Way" by people who still take temperatures by hand and weigh grains on an old weigh scale. George Dickel is the longest aged Tennessee Whisky and to this day, is the only Tennessee distillery to chill the liquid to 40 degrees before the charcoal-filtering process. George Dickel himself named the brand after the traditional Scottish 'whisky' spelling, without the 'e.'

*continued on next page*



### SHORT MOUNTAIN DISTILLERY

Short Mountain Distillery is a craft distillery and restaurant located outside of Woodbury, Tennessee on a 400-acre working farm. Original spirits include organic Tennessee Whiskey, bourbon whiskey, and many others. The distillery is owned and operated by the Kaufman brothers whose great grandfather, Jesse Shwayder, founded the iconic American brand Samsonite in 1910. The brothers honor their great grandfather with an inscription of the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" on every bottle — a tradition Shwayder started in his own company using engraved marbles.

### NEAREST GREEN

The Nearest Green Distillery is located on the 270-acre former home of Sand Creek Farms, a Tennessee Walking Horse farm in Shelbyville. Nathan "Nearest" Green, fondly known as Uncle Nearest, was the slave who taught Jack Daniel the craft of distilling. He is the first African American master distiller on record in the United States and left a legacy that marks a new chapter in the story of Tennessee Whiskey. The Welcome House features a custom-made horseshoe bar. The distillery also shares the important story of the majestic Tennessee Walking Horse, with more than 50 championship walking horses living on site.

### SOUTHERN PRIDE DISTILLERY

On a beautiful farm outside of Fayetteville, Southern Pride Distillery produces premium distilled spirits from an old family recipe. Today the moonshine is made much like it was by the family's ancestors using locally grown corn that is milled on-site, water from a natural spring on the property, and a copper pot still. Moonshine offerings include Original, Apple, Peach, Green Apple, Blackberry, and the popular Double-Charred Cinnamon Shine. They also offer Tennessee Whiskey, White Whiskey, Peach Whiskey, Double Barrel Whiskey, and Cinnamon Whiskey.

### LYNCHBURG WINERY

Lynchburg may be known as a whiskey town, but there's some fine tasting wine being made in the hollow as well. The Lynchburg Winery is located on the square in downtown Lynchburg and is owned by two families that have been growing grapes and making artisan wines for over 20 years. Taste authentic southern-style handcrafted wines including their signature Serendipity, a fragrant sweet white Muscadine with a fizz. Or try the Lynchburg Black made with sweet succulent Tennessee blackberries.

### PRICHARD'S DISTILLERY

Prichard's Distillery is located in nearby Kelso. The distillery is in a converted 1930s schoolhouse where the basketball hoops still hang on the wall. Their quality rums and whiskeys are distilled in traditional copper pot stills and stored in 15-to 53-gallon charred white oak barrels to allow for the best possible flavor. Originally the distillery made delicious award-winning rums. Now, they produce over 20 different whiskeys, bourbons, and liqueurs including the famous Double Barreled Bourbon and Double Chocolate Bourbon as well as Prichard's Sweet Lucy and Sweet Lucy Cream Liqueurs.

### JACKSON MORGAN SOUTHERN CREAM

Smooth sipping Tennessee Whiskey Cream is Jackson Morgan's specialty. Playful southern flavors include salted caramel, orange whip, and brown cinnamon sugar. It all started in 1921 when Alfred Wetherington, the great grandfather of siblings Jackson and Morgan had a whiskey still in eastern North Carolina. He later decided to become a preacher and left the whiskey life behind. Almost 100 years later, Jackson and Morgan are picking up where he left off with a new twist on the family recipe. Visit Jackson Morgan's shop on the Square in the Fayetteville Antique Mall, pick up a bottle at a local store or shop online at [sipjacksonmorgan.com](http://sipjacksonmorgan.com).

### JACK DANIEL DISTILLERY

Located in Lynchburg, Jack Daniel Distillery is the oldest registered distillery in the United States. To make great whiskey, you have to have great barrels and since 1866, every whiskey barrel has been crafted at the distillery. Every drop of the world-renown whiskey goes through a charcoal filtering process known as the Lincoln County Process, where the whiskey drips through vats of charcoal 10 feet deep. The filtering process is what makes it Tennessee Whiskey. But, the real secret is the pure, iron-free cave spring water from the hollow. Several tours are available including the 1.5-hour Angel's Share Distillery Tour where you can sample limited-edition single barrel whiskeys.





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# Weekend

# Escapes



Comfort Suites

When you're looking for a soft place to lay your head after a long stretch of driving or an adventure-filled day exploring, it's hard to beat the convenience and ease of checking into a hotel for the night. Here are a few places in Manchester that offer an extra special touch.

## COMFORT SUITES

152 Hospitality Blvd.,  
Manchester  
(931) 228-8393

Recently renovated with a beautiful entrance, Comfort Suites offers more than just a place to get a good night's sleep. During your stay, enjoy the indoor swimming pool or relax with friends on the patio where you can sit around a fire pit, grill up some burgers, or play a game of cornhole.

## LX HOTEL

201 Murfreesboro Hwy.,  
Manchester  
(931) 954-0945

Don't miss this locally owned hotel located within walking distance of the downtown historic square. The hotel has been completely renovated, and its excellent reviews on Google say it all. Many travelers have recognized the LX as the "friendliest hotel they've ever been to." Former guests also rave about the complimentary breakfast, clean rooms, thick towels, comfortable beds and pillows. Things to do nearby include Old Stone Fort, Common John Brewery, and the Manchester Rec Center. The LX Hotel is southern hospitality in action.



#### QUALITY INN

2314 Hillsboro Blvd.,  
Manchester  
(931) 728-0800

Located just minutes from Interstate 24, the hotel combines a comfortable setting with dependable, friendly service. They offer inviting accommodations and amenities, like free hot breakfast, free WiFi and a free weekday newspaper. Other amenities include premium bedding, a refrigerator, personal coffee maker, hair dryer, and an iron with ironing board. For guests who enjoy recreation, a seasonal outdoor pool is also available.

#### HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES

111 Hospitality Blvd.,  
Manchester  
(931) 728-9383

For a comfortable stay in a convenient location, Holiday Inn Express & Suites has everything you need. The family-friendly hotel offers reasonable rates with plenty of complimentary breakfast options. The clean rooms and friendly staff will make you feel welcome from the moment you arrive. Other amenities include laundry facilities, a workout room, and an inviting indoor pool.

#### HAMPTON INN & SUITES

1143 Woodbury Hwy.,  
Manchester  
(931) 728-9528

Perfectly located about halfway between Nashville and Chattanooga. Scenic history awaits at the Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park or you can do business at the Manchester-Coffee County Conference Center. Head 1.5 miles to get downtown, brimming with quaint stores and restaurants. During your stay enjoy complimentary WiFi and a delicious hot breakfast.

#### MICROTEL INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM

201 Expressway Dr.,  
Manchester  
(931) 723-7001

Enjoy a comfortable mix of value and hospitality in a great location. Begin your day with a free continental breakfast, and connect to friends and family using free WiFi. Enjoy a refreshing swim in our outdoor pool. Microwaves and refrigerators are included in select rooms. Guest suites and accessible accommodations are also available at this pet-friendly hotel.

#### RED ROOF INN & SUITES

126 Expressway Dr.,  
Manchester  
(877) 843-7663

Red Roof Inn & Suites is a budget-friendly hotel conveniently located off I-24. Nearby attractions include The Bonnaroo Music Festival, Arnold Air Force Base, Coffee County Fairgrounds and the Coffee County Convention Center. Some amenities are free Wi-Fi, a guest coin laundry facility, on-site business center and they are pet-friendly.

#### SLEEP INN

84 Relco Dr.,  
Manchester  
(931) 954-0580

Relax and unwind for an affordable price at the pet-friendly Sleep Inn & Suites® hotel off of Interstate 24. This hotel is a Designed to Dream® property with warm, modern elements inspired by nature in the guest rooms, and the amenities you're looking for when you're traveling. The hotel is honored to have earned a Gold Award for demonstrating a high level of customer satisfaction, as determined by actual guest recommendations.



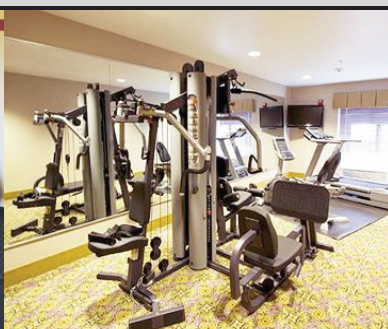
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