

## Knoxville, Tennessee *The Scruffy Little City*

*“Nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, against the banks of the Tennessee River, Knoxville serves as the perfect blend of southern hospitality and modern development. Rich in culture and natural beauty, the unique destinations in Knoxville reflect the diversity of this historic city and its charming people.” – VisitKnoxville.com*

### ABOUT THE “SCRUFFY LITTLE CITY” NAME

In 1980, the Wall Street Journal published a skeptical story in response to the selection of Knoxville, Tennessee as the location for the 1982 World’s Fair. The article was entitled, “What if you gave a World’s Fair and nobody came?” It scoffed Knoxville as, “A scruffy little city of 180,000 on the Tennessee River.” When the World’s Fair ended on October 31, 1982, after receiving over 11 million visitors, Knoxville proved the Wall Street Journal wrong. Decades later, the “Scruffy Little City” name is fully embraced by citizens, and serves as a platform for community pride and local empowerment.

### KNOXVILLE QUICK FACTS

- Knoxville was established in 1792 and named after Henry Knox, President Washington’s war secretary.
- Boomsday is the largest Labor Day fireworks show in the nation and it takes place in Knoxville along the Tennessee River.
- According to 2010 Census data, the city of Knoxville’s population is approximately 180,000 while the surrounding Knox County has over 430,000 residents.
- Knoxville is situated at the crossroads of two major interstates, I-75 and I-40.
- Seven lakes surround Knoxville: Cherokee, Douglas, Ft. Loudon, Melton Hill, Norris, Watts Bar, and Tellico.
- In 1982, Knoxville was home to the World’s Fair.

### THINGS TO DO

#### *Tours & Attractions:*

- **Sunsphere:** This unique Knoxville landmark was built for the 1982 World’s Fair Park and features an observation deck for a great 360-degree view of downtown and beyond. 810 Clinch Avenue. [Worldsfairpark.org](http://Worldsfairpark.org)
- **Three Rivers Rambler:** This vintage steam engine train takes guests on a 90-minute excursion through some of Knoxville’s most historic and beautiful country side. 300 Neyland Drive. 865-525-7827.
- **Outdoor Knoxville Adventure Center:** Located in downtown Knoxville alongside the Tennessee River and the city’s major greenway, the Center offers bike and boat rentals seven days a week as well as group activities and programs. 900 Volunteer Landing Lane. 865-525-2585.
- **Knoxville Food Tour:** Sample food and drink from a rotating selection of locally owned restaurants and specialty food shops. 865-201-7270.
- **Knoxville Ghost Tours:** This is Knoxville’s original investigations-based ghost tour, offering private and public tours. 865-377-9677.

#### *Arts & Entertainment:*

- **Bijou Theatre:** Has the perfect atmosphere for live music and the performing arts. 803 S. Gay Street. 865-522-0832.
- **WDVX Blue Plate Special:** Brings back the Knoxville tradition of a downtown midday live radio show with the “Blue Plate Special” at the Knoxville Visitor Center. Enjoy live Bluegrass and Americana music Monday through Saturday at noon. 301 S. Gay Street. 865-544-1029.
- **Tennessee Theatre:** One of the few great movie palaces from the Roaring ‘20s still in operation, the theatre hosts

live music, dance, and drama. 604 S. Gay Street. 865-684-1200.

- **Preservation Pub:** Live music seven nights a week, from up-and-coming local bands to national roots and rock performers. 28 Market Square. 865-524-2224.

#### *Museums & Galleries:*

- **The Emporium Center:** Originally built in 1898, the Emporium Center is home to seven arts organizations, nine artist studios, and two art galleries showcasing local and regional artists. 100 S. Gay Street. 865-523-7543.
- **Bennett Galleries:** Filled with unique, one-of-a-kind arts, crafts, gifts, jewelry and furnishings from all over the world. 5308 Kingston Pike. 865-584-6791.
- **Knoxville Museum of Art:** Celebrates the art and artists of East Tennessee and presents new art and ideas from around the world. 1050 World’s Fair Park Drive. 865-525-6101.

#### *History & Heritage:*

- **East Tennessee History Center:** regional history museum, premier genealogy research library, and historical archives. 601 S. Gay Street. 865-215-8824
- **Beck Cultural Exchange Center:** Black history museum with rotating exhibits. 1927 Dandridge Avenue. 865-524-8461.
- **Blount Mansion:** The 1792 home of Gov. Williams Blount, signer of the U.S. Constitution, featuring historical exhibits and an art gallery. 200 West Hill Avenue. 865-525-2375.

## PLACES TO EAT

### **Downtown**

- Knox Mason:
  - o 131 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-544-2004
- Stock & Barrel
  - o 35 Market Square, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-766-2075
- Downtown Grill & Brewery
  - o 424 South Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-633-8111
- The Tomato Head
  - o 12 Market Square, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-637-4067
- Café 4
  - o 4 Market Square, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-544-4144
- The Casual Pint – Downtown
  - o 421 Union Street, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-951-2160
- Tupelo Honey Café
  - o 1 Market Square, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-522-0004
- Crown & Goose
  - o 123 South Central Street, Knoxville, TN 37902
  - o 865-524-2100

### **West Knox**

- Savellis
  - o 3055 Sutherland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37919
  - o 865-521-9085
- Dead End BBQ
  - o 3621 Sutherland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37919
  - o 865-212-5655
- Gourmet 's Market & Cosmo's Café
  - o 5107 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919
  - o 865-584-8739
- Ham N Goodys
  - o 314 S. Northshore Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919
  - o 865-584-2246
- Chez Guevara
  - o 8025 Kingston Pike, Suite A, Knoxville, TN 37919
  - o 865-690-5250
- Sunspot
  - o 2200 Cumberland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916
  - o 865-637-4663

### **East Knox**

- Chandlers Deli:
  - o 3101 East Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37914
  - o 865-595-0212
- Pizza Palace:
  - o 3132 East Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37914
  - o 865-524-4388
- Cardin's Drive-In
  - o 8529 Asheville Hwy, Knoxville, TN 37924
  - o 865-933-3251

### **South Knox**

- Kays Ice Cream:
  - o 6200 Chapman Highway, Knoxville, TN 37920
  - o 865-577-9272
- Ye Olde Steak House
  - o 6838 Chapman Highway, Knoxville, TN 37920
  - o 865-577-9328
- Bayou Bay Seafood House
  - o 7117 Chapman Highway, Knoxville, TN 37920
  - o 865-573-7936
- Sweet P's BBQ and Soul House
  - o 3725 Maryville Pike, Knoxville, TN 37920
  - o 865-247-7748

### **North Knox**

- Magpies Bakery:
  - o 846 North Central Street, Knoxville, TN 37917
  - o 865-673-0471
- Hops & Hollers:
  - o 931 N. Central Street, Knoxville, TN 37917
  - o 865-312-5733
- Central Flats & Taps:
  - o 1204 N. Central Street, Knoxville, TN 37917
  - o 865-247-0392
- Time Warp Tea Room:
  - o 1209 N. Central Street, Knoxville, TN 37917
  - o 865-524-1155
- K Brew Coffee House
  - o 1328 North Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917
  - o 865-216-3357
- Litton's Market & Restaurant
  - o 2803 Essary Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918
  - o 865-687-8788

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- Visitors Guide:  
<http://www.visitknoxville.com/request-visitors-guide>
- Events Calendar:  
<http://www.visitknoxville.com/content/events-calendar>
- City Maps:  
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/map/list.asp>
- Knoxville area hospitals:  
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/newcomers/hospitals.asp>
- Knox County Schools:  
<http://www.knoxschools.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=1>
- Knoxville Area Association of Realtors:  
<http://www.kaarmls.com>
- Childcare Assistance:  
<http://www.tnccrr.org>
- Knoxville Area Transit Bus System:  
<http://www.katbus.com>
- Local News:  
<http://www.wbir.com/>  
<http://www.local8now.com/>  
<http://www.wate.com/>

