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ON THE COVER - A young man, having fun at The Children's Museum in Memphis.

DISCOVER



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Signal Point at Tennessee River Gorge in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Photo courtesy of: Tennessee Department of Tourism & Hunter Lawrence

Autumn Glory:

Where to See Fall Foliage in Tennessee

Every fall, Tennessee's landscapes burst into life with vivid greens, fiery reds, warming oranges and bright yellows. According to the Farmer's Almanac 2023, the state will see peak colors Oct. 12-28. Below, discover where to see incredible fall colors in Tennessee for the 2023 season, plus some bonus autumn experiences travelers will love.

EAST TENNESSEE

The Greatest: Great Smoky Mountains National Park

The nation's most visited national park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park,

is beautiful year-round. It's especially beautiful in the fall, when temperatures cool down and a kaleidoscope of warm red, gold and orange blankets the region. The park's 800 miles of trails offer beautiful panoramas and vistas that show off fall's colorful tapestry of changing leaves. To get way above it all, the Clingman's Dome observation tower offers panoramic views. At a whopping 6,643 ft. above sea level, the foliage change will literally be beneath your feet.

Bonus Fall Experience: Take a ride on the Ober Gatlinburg Aerial Tramway for a breathtaking view of the Smoky Mountains. This two-mile ride to the Ober

Mountain Adventure Park & Ski Area provides aerial photo opportunities for fall.

A Colorful Cruise: The Southern Belle Riverboat

In Chattanooga, see a brilliant display of fall colors from the water on the Southern Belle Riverboat. The three-hour fall color ride travels down the Tennessee River to the River Gorge, nicknamed the Grand Canyon of Tennessee, for an amazing view of brightly colored foliage. It's a fun journey, including live music and a delicious lunch.

Bonus Fall Experience: Another exciting way to see the beautiful seasonal foliage

lining the Tennessee River is by biking the 16-mile paved Riverwalk. Rent a bike through the Chattanooga Bicycle Transit System or bring your own and take the path down to the picturesque Bluff View Art District.

An Appalachian Autumn: Unicoi County

Nestled in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains and surrounded by Cherokee National Forest, Unicoi County offers autumn outdoor adventures more than 50 miles of Appalachian Trail, eight waterfalls, Rocky Fork State Park, and dozens of walking and hiking trails. A few favorite spots for leaf peeping include the aptly named Beauty Spot (crowned as a “best sunset hike” recently by Travel and Leisure), Pinnacle Mountain Fire Tower and Nolichucky Ridge Cliff.

Bonus Fall Experience: The Unicoi County Apple Festival, held during the first Friday and Saturday of October each year, is a celebration of heritage, Southern Appalachian culture and history, offering more than 350 food and craft vendors, live entertainment and much more.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Urban Oasis: Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park

The Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, one of Nashville’s most popular attractions year-round, is a beautiful spot to see some fall scenery right in the center of bustling downtown. The main lawn is lined with a variety of trees that come alive with color in late October. Want to add a little spookiness to your fall adventure this year? Visit the park on Oct. 27 and stick around after dark for an open-air showing of the chilling 1978 classic Halloween.

Bonus Fall Experience: Blend foliage with fitness during the annual 7th President 7K Run, held every October at Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage in Nashville. The course takes runners through the beautiful landscape of the grounds, which is ablaze with fall color.

Fall In Love: Fall Creek Falls State Park

Fall Creek Falls State Park offers 56

miles of hiking trails ranging in length and difficulty, with the most popular being the Fall Creek Falls Trail. This moderate loop trail is around two miles in length, taking hikers to the base of a 256-foot waterfall, the highest in Tennessee. In addition to Fall Creek Falls, other scenic waterfalls within the state park include Piney Falls, Cane Creek Falls and Cane Creek Cascades.

Bonus Fall Experience: During Fall Creek Falls State Park’s Fall Colors Spectacular (try saying that three times fast!), enjoy a weekend filled with foliage, boat rides, campsite decorating competitions, hayrides, campground trick-or-treating and more. This year’s event takes place on Oct. 20.

Leave No Trace: Natchez Trace State Park

Spanning more than 48,000 pristine acres in Middle Tennessee, Natchez Trace State Park is filled with trails to explore and snap photos of the changing leaves. For an on-the-water adventure, rent a kayak on Pin Oak Lake to see a stunning display of autumnal colors reflecting off the water. Mountain biking is also available during the fall, with 50+ miles of multi-use fire trails through colorful forests and meadows.

Bonus Fall Experience: A historic roadway that winds its way through 444-miles of diverse landscapes, the Natchez Trace Parkway offers a tranquil journey through a wonderland of fall colors.

WEST TENNESSEE

Reel Fall Beauty: Reelfoot Lake State Park

Located in the Northwest corner of Tennessee, Reelfoot Lake State Park is known for its serene beauty and cypress-studded waters. The park offers fall color pontoon cruises on the weekends during October and November. See the changing leaves and water birds on a two-hour tour with an experienced naturalist. Tour guides will share their knowledge of the area’s history and ecology while helping guests find the best photo ops for fall foliage.

Bonus Fall Experience: Fall at Reelfoot is a great time to see some seriously big

birds — the White Pelican, to be exact, with a wingspan of up to nine feet! The park’s annual Pelican Festival (Oct. 20–22, 2023) offers up-close encounters with these majestic creatures as they make their way south for the winter.

Autumn Blossoms: The Memphis Botanic Garden

The flowers may bloom in the spring, but this spot is no less lovely when autumn rolls around. Celebrating its 70th year in 2023, the Memphis Botanic Garden is an absolutely gorgeous place for fall photo opportunities in West Tennessee. The 96 acres of gardens and trails have all kinds of trees displaying fall foliage in late October to early November (and some flowers are still in bloom, too!).

Bonus Fall Experience: The sixth annual Memphis Music Festival is set to return to Radians Amphitheater at Memphis Botanic Garden Sept. 29–Oct. 1, featuring headliners The Black Crowes, My Morning Jacket and Turnpike Troubadours.

Forest Foliage: Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park

Just 15 miles outside Memphis, the Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is the most visited state park in Tennessee, boasting 12,500+ acres of towering oak, tupelo and cypress forests, in addition to two lakes, a diverse wildlife population and wildflowers in bloom. The Chickasaw Bluffs Trail takes hikers on an eight-mile journey to Poplar Tree Lake, providing views of fall foliage along the water’s edge.

Bonus Fall Experience: Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is home to one of the largest and most beautiful disc golf courses in the Southeast. The 36-hole, wooded course is divided into two 18-hole courses that offer beginners and advanced players a fun (and challenging!) game.

Unique To Tennessee:

There’s beauty for more to see. Those who are colorblind can take in the beauty with the first-ever Colorblind Viewfinders featuring innovative EnChroma® lenses installed at lookouts across the state. This special lens technology enables people with colorblindness to see a broader range of clear, vibrant colors.

Joint-Friendly Exercises That Are Also Good for Your Heart

Hip or knee pain makes everything harder, especially exercising. If high-impact exercises that jostle your joints cause you pain, there's another way to stay fit: low-impact exercise. Low-impact cardio is great for everyone, and it is much gentler on joints than high-impact exercises like running. This makes low-impact options a great alternative and you can do low-impact cardio at home, in the gym, or outside.

There are many kinds of low-impact workouts that can also provide a good cardio workout and muscle strengthening without stressing your joints.

Walking is a great form of low-intensity, low-impact cardio because you can set the pace and intensity. It's perfect for all fitness levels, you can do it almost anywhere, and you don't need any equipment.

Swimming is another option for a low-impact cardio workout. It is one of the best ways to spike your heart rate without putting additional wear and tear on your joints. The buoyancy of the water helps relieve your joints of any pressure and provides resistance which helps build muscle and bone strength. Exercising in water is safer for balance and mobility, as there is no risk of falling.

There are several exercise machines which are gentle on your joints, provide a great cardio workout, strengthen muscles, improve endurance and boost range of motion.

Elliptical training machines and stair machines provide fluid-motion, aerobic exercise forms that are easy on your joints. Elliptical machines mimic the movement of running, without the impact.

Cycling is a non-weight-bearing form of exercise that lets you get your heart rate up. You can do this with a stationary bike at home, in the gym, or with your own bike outside.

Rowing offers an effective, low-impact cardio workout that is suitable for all fitness levels and will help you to build strength and endurance over time. The rowing machine works every muscle in your body head-to-toe, without placing undue stress on your knees.

Low impact cardiovascular exercises help people with pre-existing joint injuries, arthritis, and chronic pain to reap all the benefits of cardiovascular training. At the end of the day, the best form of cardio is the one you do consistently and regularly with minimal stress on the body. The benefits of exercise are well worth it. Even small increases in moderate-intensity physical activity provide many health advantages.

Before starting any of these exercises, get the okay from your doctor or physical therapist. If your joints are preventing you from getting exercise, West Tennessee Healthcare has the experts to help you get back in action safely. With providers and clinics throughout West Tennessee, WTH has the help you need close to home.



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Photo courtesy of: Your Glamping Adventure

WHAT'S NEW AND HAPPENING THIS FALL IN TENNESSEE: *Glamping Adventures, Moon Marveling, Fall Rafting And Ghostly Gatherings*

A crisp chill in the air, cozy sweaters, fiery reds, bursting oranges and bright yellows glow through the trees, fall festivals and spooky experiences abound. Here's what's new and happening this fall in Tennessee. Photos for media use only here.

NEW & UNIQUE FALL EXPERIENCES

Smithville – Nature meets luxury at Your Glamping Adventure, a unique glamping experience at Five Meadows Farms, tucked away in the mountains overlooking Center Hill Lake.

Chattanooga – Climb aboard and stay in a restored 1920s train car beginning Oct.

31 at the Hotel Chalet at the Choo Choo, a blend of nostalgia and first-class nestled in the mountains. Book your stay.

Pigeon Forge – Dollywood's HeartSong Lodge & Resort celebrates its grand opening Nov. 3, where Smoky Mountain beauty meets refined luxury.

Southeast Tennessee – Immerse yourself in the beauty of Tennessee's fall colors Rafting the Ocoee River. Ocoee River

outfitters run fall rafting trips through October, a unique and adrenaline-pumping experience on the river.

Soddy Daisy – Visitors at Flat Top Mountain Farm can delight in hayrides, handpick their favorite pumpkins, create colorful bouquets, adventure through the corn maze and savor scenic views.

Memphis – Experience Memphis' riverfront at the revitalized Tom Lee Park with a plaza, play area, covered recreational space, café pavilions, meditative paths, canopy walk, sound gardens and more.

Nashville – Artville, the city's first-ever public arts festival is FREE with 20 public art installations and murals, immersive art experiences, artisanal food, beer, wine and kids' programming Sept. 29-Oct. 1.

Franklin – The reimagined Factory at Franklin features a Grand Hall anchored by "The Skylight Bar," a new home for Studio Tenn called Turner Theatre, a hand-carved and hand-painted carousel, outdoor park-like spaces and new shops, restaurants and attractions.

Springfield – Bring a blanket, marvel at the moon, stargaze, enjoy an outdoor showing of "E.T. the Extra Terrestrial" and art activities during the International Observe the Moon Night at J. Travis Price Park.

Manchester – The Manchester Zombie Walk and Halloween Faire Friday, Oct. 13 at Fred Deadman Park will feature vendors, face-painting, axe throwing, food trucks, live bands and a spooky good time.

Huntsville – Unlock the stories of the Historic Scott County Jail with museum tours, escape games, special events, after dark tours and private paranormal tours.

Limestone – Come see the world's only spotless giraffe in Northeast Tennessee. Kipekee is an international superstar at Brights Zoo.

NEW RESTAURANTS, BREWERIES, WINES, SPIRITS & SHOPS

Memphis – Old Dominick's new Trolley Stop Series featured a collection of premium whiskeys named after four iconic Memphis trolley stops, a unique and unforgettable sipping experience.

Shelbyville – Enjoy new experiences at the world's longest bar at Humble Baron at Nearest Green Distillery. The

showpiece bar wraps around an indoor stage and guests can enjoy elevated fare, gospel brunches, creative cocktails and live music.

Lawrenceburg – Savor gourmet, creative pizzas like The Aretha Franklin, Just Peachy and Yellerbelly, cooked on a stone in a traditional pizza oven at The Pie Factory on the Downtown Square.

Knoxville – Enjoy traditional espresso, cappuccino and coffee drinks, unique teas, pastries, grab & go snacks, wine and mocktails at Partial Coffee & Wine in North Knoxville.

Johnson City – Cranky's Pump N Pints is a family-friendly beer garden featuring an outdoor patio, kid's pump track, craft beer and ciders, located on Tweetsie Trail trailhead, perfect after a scenic bike ride.

FALL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Gatlinburg (Now-Oct. 31) – Anakeesta's Bear-Varian Fall Festival is decked out with pumpkins, seasonal décor, beer tasting, haunted rides on the Rail Runner, nighttime zip line rides, live music and movie nights on weekends in October.

Nashville (Sept. 16-Oct. 29) – Cheekwood Harvest is back with sweeps of chrysanthemums, a Pumpkin Village, walk along the scarecrow trail, music in the beer garden, new P'mumpkin topiary and more.

Eagleville (Sept. 16-Oct. 29) – Pick the perfect pumpkin, wagon and pony rides, corn maze, mega slides and petting lovable animals during the Fall Family Fun Pumpkin Festival at Lucky Ladd Farms.

Kingsport (Sept. 23-24) – The Fall Folk Arts Festival at the 1850s farm, Exchange Place, celebrates the harvest with traditional folk arts, seasonal crafts, old-timey foods, music, children activities, sorghum making, blacksmithing, spinning, chair caning and more.

Columbia (Sept. 30) – The family-friendly Fall Fest downtown is the perfect way to welcome the spirit of the season with live music, food trucks, freshly-made treats, handmade goods and fall activities.

Murfreesboro (Sept. 30) – Enjoy craft beer, local food trucks and fun during Oktoberfest at Oakland's Mansion. Bring chairs, blankets and pups, just make sure they are on a leash.

Clarksville (Oct. 3-7) – Spread your creative wings during ArtsvilleFest which feature multiple community art projects, live muralists and chalk artists, vendors, kid zones with jump houses and more.

Granville (Oct. 4-28) – The Scarecrow & Artisans Festival features unique fall creations lining the streets, colorful displays for photos, artisan demonstrations and a scarecrow decorating contest.

Jonesborough (Oct. 6-8) – Enjoy world-class storytelling at the National Storytelling Festival in Tennessee's oldest town, which honors the rich and varied storytelling tradition, in-person and ways to watch from home.

McMinnville (Oct. 7) – Spend the day shopping from over 200 vendors, supporting local businesses, crafts, food, fun, games and delicious food at the Autumn Street Fair in the historic downtown.

Centerville (Oct. 7+8) – Taste the sweetness and walk the puddin' path during the National Banana Pudding Festival with two stages of live entertainment, a cook-off and fun activities.

Memphis (Oct. 13+20) – Mystery lovers can dress up and enjoy a night of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and suspense at Masquerade Mystery at The Museum of Science & History. Tickets are limited.

Sparta (Oct. 14) – Enjoy bluegrass music, crafts, classic cars and food at Liberty Square: A Lester Flatt Celebration downtown. The celebration is free.

Crossville (Oct. 21) – Calling all squatchers and cryptid curious. The Upper Cumberland Bigfoot Festival will feature Cliff Barackman from "Finding Bigfoot," Wild Bill Huckleberry and Buck from "Mountain Monsters," arts, crafts, games, Bigfoot calling and fun for just \$5 at Cumberland County Fairgrounds.

Rugby (Oct. 21 + 28) – Witness the spirits of Halloween at Historic Rugby's Ghostly Gathering around the 1880 village with spooky building tours, chili supper and ghost stories under the big tent.

Nashville (Oct. 27) – Experience The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, an interactive one-man play about the classic horror tale at The Hermitage with showings at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

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6th Annual Farm to Table Dinner Set in Downtown Savannah, Tennessee

Come celebrate “the whole barnyard” at the sixth annual Farm to Table Dinner in downtown Savannah, Tennessee. Hardin County Convention and Visitors Bureau will host the Farmers Market themed event focusing on community connection, locally grown food awareness, and a fun fall celebration of agritourism.

The outdoor dinner will be held on Monday, October 2 at the Savannah Market set against the backdrop of Savannah’s downtown. This year’s menu is themed “the whole barnyard” offering a large selection of menu choices.

The menu will be comprised of beef appetizers plus pork and chicken entrees served with regionally and locally

sourced vegetables. Preparing the meal will be Mollie Monday’s Catering and our own local UT Extension and 4-H teams pitching in to help. Guests will enjoy meats, veggies, breads, cheeses, Tennessee spirits, and delicious desserts! There will be door prizes, special treats, and music by Frankie Marlar, perfect for an after-dinner dance or two.

“We love the idea of gathering in the fall, when the air is beginning to feel crisp and folks can enjoy an outdoor social gathering,” says Beth Pippin, Hardin County Tourism Director. “It’s a perfect fit for a celebration of combining good food, good friends, and good fun. Our local farmers and bakers come together with the Hardin County Convention

and Visitors Bureau, UT Extension, the 4-H students to share food and fellowship.”

All event proceeds support our agri-tourism projects. Tickets for the sixth annual farm to table dinner are for sale at the Tennessee River Museum, 495 Main Street, in downtown Savannah or on-line at <https://www.tourhardincounty.org/farm-to-table/>. Tickets are \$60 each, table of 8 are \$480. Event sponsorships are available and appreciated.

Seating begins at 6 p.m. for drinks and appetizers with dinner to be served at 6:30 p.m.

For more information visit us on Facebook at Tour Hardin County or by calling 731-925-8181.



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presents

Farm-to-Table Dinner

6:30 Dinner

Join us for our 6th Annual Farm to Table Dinner in downtown Savannah featuring a menu that highlights locally sourced products from the Savannah Farmers Market. Meal prepared by Mollie Monday's Catering with a "whole barnyard" inspired menu plus beef appetizers, pork and chicken entrees served with regionally and locally sourced vegetables, breads, desserts, and TN spirits.

Downtown Savannah Market

- Hardin County 4-H
- UT Extension
- Hitman Bacon
- Cedar Chest Liquors

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Casey Jones Village

October Activity Calendar

Mondays: Craft Camp

Oct 2nd, Oct 9th, Oct 16th, Oct 23rd
 Craft Camp is held in the Jackson Room of the Casey Jones Museum at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesdays: Live Music Lunch Hour

Live Music Lunch Hour is held in the Delta Room from 12 p.m.-1 p.m.
 October 3rd: Music by Carl Byars
 October 10th: Music by Scott Myatt
 October 17th: Music by Bryan Moffit
 October 24th: Music by Carl Byars
 October 31st: Music by Justin White

Wednesdays: Fitness on The Farm & Story Book Station

Fitness on The Farm with Natalia begins at 10 a.m. Story Book Station is held in the Casey Jones Museum at 10:30 a.m. and is followed by a craft with light refreshments in the Jackson Room.

October 4th: Fitness on The Farm with Natalia | Story Book Station
 October 11th: Storybook Station
 October 18th: Fitness on The Farm with Natalia | Story Book Station
 October 25th: Story Book Station

Thursdays: Testimonies at the Table & Little Sprouts on the Farm

October 5th, October 12th, October 19th, October 27th
 Testimonies at the Table, where guest speakers come and share their testimonies, begin at 9 a.m. in the Delta Room. Little Sprouts on the Farm will meet (weather permitting) at 10:30 a.m. for some outdoor educational fun!

Fridays: Live Music in the Delta Room & Old Country Kids Music

Old Country Kids Music with Alice will meet on The Farm at 10:30 am for a

concert-style toddler music group. Live music in the Delta Room will be held from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

October 6th: Old Country Kids Music with Alice | Music by Michael Brewer
 October 13th: Music by John Bickers
 October 20th: Music by Hope MacGregor
 October 27: Music with Hunter Cross

Saturday, October 14th 2nd Annual Casey Jones Village Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. - Free Admission!
 Some events may have cash only concessions. There will be live music, vendors, a petting zoo with a live carousel, historical structure tours, bounce houses, games and contests, great food and fun for all!



Tennessee Tourism Thrives: 141 Million Visitors Spent a Record \$29 Billion in 2022

Tennessee tourism generated \$29 billion in direct visitor spending and saw 141 million visitors to the state in 2022, according to newly released data from Tourism Economics. Tennessee Govern-

nor Bill Lee and Department of Tourist Development Commissioner Mark Ezell announced the news today at Hospitality TN's Governor's Conference on Hospitality and Tourism in Knoxville.

The final report is good news for the state, showcasing numbers even higher than the preliminary report revealed in May 2022, which already showed the state at historic highs. All 95 counties



saw
an
increase
in visitor
spending in
2022, and 63
counties outpaced
inflation.

"Tourism drives a strong economy, creates jobs and builds a better quality of life for all Tennesseans," said Gov. Lee. "We continue to welcome visitors to see all Tennessee has to offer, from the Mississippi River to the Great Smoky Mountains."

"Tennessee is thriving as tourism is soaring," said Mark Ezell, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development. "Our industry's hard work is paying off with record levels of visitor spending and significantly outpacing inflation. It is our privilege to showcase these numbers and express our gratitude to our partners, attractions, elected leaders and visitors who made a record year for Tennessee."

Key Highlights from Economic Impact of Travel 2022 report (full fact sheet):

Tennessee Tourism generated \$28.9 billion in direct visitor spending in 2022, up 19% from 2021.

International visitation is quickly returning, as spending reached \$670 million, a 278% increase from 2021 and near pre-pandemic levels (72% recovered to 2019).

Tennessee saw 141 million visitors in 2022, up 10.5% year-over-year. Travelers in Tennessee spend an estimated \$79 million per day.

Visitor spending generated \$2.9 billion in state and local tax revenue. Without tourism, each Tennessee household would have to pay an additional \$1,100 in taxes each year.

Tennessee ranks 11th in the nation for travel spending, the highest rank ever and the fastest-growing state in the top 40 since 2018.

County Success Stories

Nashville visitor spending increased 35% year-over-year.

Sevier Co. held on to pandemic gains in visitor spending with a 9.4% year-over-year increase.

Davidson Co. and the six contiguous counties (Cheatham, Robertson, Sumner, Wilson, Rutherford, Williamson) saw a 19.5% year-over-year increase in visitor spending.

Shelby, Tipton and Fayette counties combined for a 9.75% year-over-year visitor spending increase.

Knox Co. and contiguous counties experienced an 11.9% year-over-year increase in visitor spending.

Hamilton Co. and contiguous counties saw a 9.6% year-over-year increase in visitor spending.

Tri-Cities (Kingsport, Johnson City and Bristol) saw an 11.4% year-over-year increase in visitor spending.

Six counties met or exceeded the state average year-over-year increase in visitor spending:

Davidson, Cheatham, Cannon, Van Buren, Sequatchie, and Wilson.

Two counties that recently moved off the distressed county status (Grundy and Morgan) saw a 17% and 18.5% year-

over-year increase respectively in direct visitor spending

Partners and media can utilize the online interactive dashboard for the latest state and county information of the 2022 Economic Impact on Travel Report.

The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development works with the Tennessee Tourism Committee, local convention and visitors' bureaus, chambers of commerce, city and county leaders, tourism attractions and the hospitality industry in all 95 counties to inspire travel to the state.



Discovery Park of America Selected as an Interpretive Center for the Great River Road

Discovery Park of America, located in Union City, Tenn., was unanimously selected for inclusion as an Interpretive Center on the Great River Road National Scenic Byway last week at the 2023 Mississippi River Parkway Commission (MRPC) annual meeting in Alton, Illinois.

Celebrating 85 years in 2023, the Great River Road was established in 1938 when governors of the 10 river states opted to use existing roads and

highways rather than building a new continuous road, as a means of conserving land, time and money.

Stretching for 3,000 miles through and beside 10 states—including Tennessee—the Great River Road has a separate commission in each state. These commissions coordinate through the MRPC, founded to preserve and improve the natural resources, cultural heritage, economic viability, scenic quality, recreational amenities and other features

significant to economic development in the Mississippi River Valley.

Interpretive Centers must first apply to be included and then go through an evaluation process after which they are voted on by the Culture and Heritage Committee of the MRPC.

Edmond McDavis III, director of the TN Delta Alliance, which is funded through a grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, is the point person for interpretive centers in



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Tennessee.

“With the stories they share with visitors about the history, culture and wildlife of the river and the region, Discovery Park was a great candidate for inclusion as an Interpretive Center,” said McDavis. “And when I read about the addition of their new permanent exhibit about waterfowl of the Mississippi Flyway, I knew they would really be able to enhance the experience of anyone traveling the Great River Road.”

On Nov. 10, 2023, Discovery Park will open a new, permanent exhibit, “Duck, Duck, Goose: Waterfowl of the Mississippi Flyway.” The exhibit, created in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, explores how the government, landowners, hunters, scientists and conservationists protect and restore waterfowl populations and the land needed for them to thrive.

As one of more than 100 Interpretive Centers, Discovery Park will now be included in the free 10-state Great River Road map that shows the Great River Road's route through all 10 states and highlights the Interpretive Centers along the way. Travelers can plot their route and find scenic overlooks, agritourism attractions, museums and more. Maps are distributed to tourists at various locations and can also be ordered on the Great River Road website. Discovery Park will also be included on future signage that indicates the locations of Interpretive Centers along the Great River Road.

“I am especially grateful we can announce this great news of our new partnership in September, which is Drive the Great River Road Month,” said Scott Williams, president and CEO of Discovery Park. “The annual celebration spotlights the countless things to see and do along the Great River Road, including visiting Interpretive Centers like Discovery Park and the one nearby at Reelfoot Lake State Park. We very much look forward to welcoming travelers along the Great River Road to Discovery Park.”

For more information, visit www.discoveryparkofamerica.com/greatriverroad



2023 Northwest Tennessee
Native American Educational
POW WOW
Discovery Park of America
OCT. 27 - 29, 2023



Dean Swimmer



Gabe Bullock



Jimmy Reedy

HEADSTAFF

- Host Drum **Ottetail, South Side**
- Emcee **Rob Daugherty**
- Head Lady Picked each session
- Head Man Picked each session
- Arena Director **Jimmy Reedy**
- Tabulator **Meredith Printup Higgins**
- Eagle Staff Carrier **Dean Swimmer**
- Head Judge **Gabe Bullock**

VENDORS

Niles and Jean Aseret of the Navajo Nation
Handmade Jewelry

Lola Swimmer of the Cherokee Nation
Original Paintings and Framed Feathers

Cubert and Lacey Bell of Choctaw Nation
Native American Cuisine

Emilio & Marguerite Chavez of Santo Domingo Pueblo
Stone and Shell Jewelry

Shelly Bell of the Choctaw Nation
Beaded jewelry

Paul Rene' Tamburro from the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation
Silver and Copper jewelry

Jon Tiger of the Muskogee Creek Nation
Native Paintings

Duane and Joyce Prescott of the Ho Chunk Nation
Paintings and other collectable items

Lauri Lake of the Navajo Nation
Native American Cuisine

Michael & Ramona Frerichs of the Northern Arapaho Nation
Beadwork and Flutes

David Farnham of the Onondaga Nation
Antler Carvings and Leather Work

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday has been planned with students in mind. "Birds of Prey" demonstrations from representatives from Reelfoot Lake State Park. Choctaw storytelling and dancing, exhibition of powwow drum songs and demonstrations of hoop dancing and shopping indigenous items and food. Interested in registering your student group? Schedule your group at DiscoveryParkofAmerica.com/education.

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

Vendors will be selling handmade, indigenous items and food all day.
(10 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

All powwow activities take place on Discovery Park's great lawn.

11 a.m. Opening Ceremony



Arvil Bird

12 p.m. Grand entry, round dance, intertribal dancing, contest dancing and hoop dance demonstration

5 p.m. Performance from Arvel Bird

6 p.m. Closing Ceremony includes grand entry, round dance, intertribal dancing, contest dancing and hoop dance demonstration

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

Vendors will be selling handmade, indigenous items and food all day. **(10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)**

1 p.m. Opening Ceremony

Grand entry, round dance, intertribal dancing, contest dancing and hoop dance demonstration

Announcement of dance contest winners with prizes

Closing Ceremony



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