

Knoxville's *Culture & History Tour*

Enjoy a day of Knoxville's culture and history on this self-guided walking tour throughout our city.



Visitors to the Knoxville Museum of Art celebrate the art and artists of East Tennessee, including new art and new ideas with a lively and engaging schedule of exhibitions.

Begin your tour at the Knoxville Museum of Art where you will experience rich visuals in a state-of-the-art facility overlooking the site of the 1982 World's Fair in downtown Knoxville. This 53,200 square-foot facility is sheathed in the pink Tennessee marble quarried near Knoxville.

The KMA reaches over 60,000 people annually through museum visits, special events, concerts, and other programs.

The long-running Alive After Five concert series at the museum is one of Knoxville's most popular events. Concerts feature popular bands, tasty food, 2 cash bars, and a casually elegant atmosphere. This family-friendly event offers free parking and a non-smoking environment.

Next, walk or drive to the Market Square District for lunch or dinner at a trendy restaurant. While you are there, enjoy shopping in unique stores on the Square.

Your next stop will be at the Museum of East Tennessee History where you can view "Voices of the Land," the museum's signature exhibit which interprets the history and culture of East Tennessee during the past 250 years.

- The First Voices: Cherokee Indians
- New Voices: The East Tennessee Frontier
- Divided Loyalties: Civil War, Brothers Against Brothers
- Federal Power: Oak Ridge, TVA, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Birthplace of Legends: Emergence of Country Music
- Pioneers for All: Civil Rights Activists



As you reach the finale of your tour, stroll down Gay Street where you will find interesting shops, unique restaurants, the historic Tennessee Theatre, and the historic Bijou Theatre. As you navigate onto Main Street, several structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Old Courthouse and First Baptist Church Knoxville.

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The **Knox County Courthouse** is a historic building located on Main Street. Built in 1885, it served as the courthouse until the completion of the City-County building in 1979 and continues to house offices for several county departments. The courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architecture and its role in the county's political history.



John Sevier, Tennessee's first governor, is buried on the courthouse lawn.

It is worth your time to stop at First Baptist Church Knoxville, located at 510 W. Main Street, next to the City-County Building.

When young James C. Moses came to Knoxville in 1838 to work as a printer for the semi-weekly newspaper, *The Times*, he attended First Presbyterian Church, and for a while directed the choir. When his brother, John, joined him in Knoxville, the young men began to wish for a Baptist church. Through their friends in New Hampshire, the two young men approached the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and a missionary, Rev. J.A. Bullard, was sent to Knoxville in the fall of 1842.

On January 15, 1843, James and John Moses, with three young ladies and some "borrowed" Baptists from the rural churches, met in a room at the court house to adopt the Articles of Faith and organize a Baptist church. These "borrowed" Baptists agreed to come to town 'til the new church got started. On January 22, the Baptist Church of Knoxville was constituted and met to hold the first church service. On January 28, they had their first baptismal service in the cold Tennessee River near the mouth of First Creek. In a report to the Mission Society, Rev. Bullard wrote: "Thousands of people witnessed the ceremony as they had probably never seen it before. They took positions on the elevated banks of the river, on the tops of homes, and in boats on the river. Three of the persons baptized were students at the East Tennessee University and one was a publisher."

The new Baptist church had forty-six members: fifteen white men, eleven white women, eight black men and twelve black women.

While touring Knoxville, don't miss:

- Beck Cultural Exchange
- Blount Mansion
- Confederate Memorial Hall
- Emporium Center for Arts & Culture
- Farragut Folklife Museum
- Frank H. McClung Museum
- Ijams Nature Center
- James White's Fort
- Knoxville Zoological Park
- Mabry-Hazen House
- Marble Springs Historic Site
- Old Gray Cemetery
- The Ramsey House Plantation
- Three Rivers Rambler
- The Star of Knoxville Riverboat
- Volunteer Landing
- Women's Basketball Hall of Fame
- World's Fair Park