



2021 NEWCOMER'S GUIDE

FOR HOUSESTAFF & THEIR FAMILIES

VHA is a nonprofit social and philanthropic organization, which fosters community & provides support for spouses and significant others of Vanderbilt University Medicine Center residents and fellows.

<http://vhalliance.org/>

THE FINE PRINT:

The information contained in this guide is obtained from numerous sources. We relied heavily on member of Vanderbilt Housestaff Alliance (VHA) to create this guide. These responses, and all other information contained herein, are provided for informational purposes and should not be considered a formal recommendation or endorsement from VHA of services or companies included in this guide.

Taylor Santarelli, President (2021-2022) and Kenzie Sandoval, Vice President (2021-2022) of VHA, completed the most recent edits to this guide. Any questions or comments should be directed to vp@vhalliance.org.

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Former Vanderbilt University Medical Center residents and fellows created a community of support and resources available to you.

V•H•A

vanderbilt•housestaff•alliance

What does that mean? Spouses and significant others... we are here for you! We are a group of people who have something in common: a resident or fellow! When you join the VHA, you will have opportunities to explore Nashville and get connected with others in the Vanderbilt community. We look forward to meeting you along the way!

Our active members take part in...

- **Monthly Events:** Date Night In (themed dinners), Virtual Wine Tastings, Welcome Picnic, Wine and Tacos at Arrington Vineyards, Breakfast with Santa, Easter Egg Hunt, "Sendoff" Brunch at Loveless Café, Kayaking the Cumberland, and more!
- **Groups:** Children's Playgroup, Hiking Club, Nondenominational Bible Study Club, Book Club, Cooking/Food Club, Wine Club, and more!
- **"Matters of the Heart"** you and your spouse or significant other can enjoy a night out with Matters of the Heart – *dinner, drinks, and childcare are provided.*
- **VHA Mentors** who can help you answer questions and help you adjust to life in Nashville! [Email us](#) and we'll connect you with a mentor! VHA Mentors are a great resource – they've been there and are here to help.
- **The VHA Newcomers Guide:** Our Newcomers guide can help you in your transition to Nashville - from areas of town, to restaurants, to childcare and much more! Need a local real estate agent, loan officer, dentist, bank, etc? Our VHA Newcomer Guide has it all!

Join the VHA today – check out the Membership Form on the next page or go to **www.vhalliance.org**
Mentors are available for incoming members!

Join the VHA Mentors Program!

We have a mentor just for you.

Email us at president@vhalliance.org and we'll have your mentor connect with you. Your mentor has been there. Your mentor has made the move, lived in Nashville and experienced life with a resident. She or he will answer your questions about Nashville and Vanderbilt.

It's great to have someone who's been there help you get there.

VHA – We're here for you.

Welcome to Nashville!

Whether you are visiting and learning about the Vanderbilt University Medical Center community or are already planning a relocation to the “Athens of the South,” we’re confident that you’ll soon be happy to call Nashville and Vanderbilt, your new home.

The Vanderbilt community is warm and friendly with multiple avenues of support available to you. If you are relocating to be part of the Vanderbilt Medical Center house staff, one of these supports is Vanderbilt Housestaff Alliance (“VHA”). VHA is a nonprofit social and philanthropic organization. Membership is open to the spouses and significant others of the Vanderbilt house staff and alumni. Our mission is a simple one: to promote friendship among members, foster a supportive environment, and serve the Nashville community. We provide numerous opportunities to meet and socialize with other resident families -- forging friendships and offering support during a particularly difficult time of medical training. We also do various service projects throughout the year and have numerous groups for our members to join. We hope you’ll inquire further about VHA and ultimately join our organization!

One of VHA service projects is to generate this guide to life in Nashville, the “Newcomer’s Guide.” Our members update this guide annually, and many of us have continued to draw upon it throughout our stay here in Nashville. It contains information you will need for relocating (including information on real estate agents who sponsor the VHA) as well as information about fun things to do. You’ll quickly discover what many of us already have – that Nashville is a great city and community and a wonderful place to call home.

If you are interested in receiving more information about the VHA or have questions, please feel free to e-mail us at president@vhalliance.org or vp@vhalliance.org, or visit the VHA website at <http://vhalliance.org/>. We look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Taylor Santarelli and Kenzie Sandoval
Vanderbilt Housestaff Alliance President and Vice President, 2021-2022

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GENERAL INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County:

<http://www.nashville.gov>, 615-862-8750

The official website of the city/county government, which includes all sorts of resources about ways to live, work, and play effectively in Nashville.

Nashville Convention and Visitors' Bureau:

<http://www.visitmusiccity.com>, 800-657-6910

Website includes information on the many attractions and things to do when visiting Nashville – great for ideas when you're still new to the city.

Tennessee State Government:

<http://www.tn.gov>

The official state government website can answer numerous relocation questions about moving to Tennessee, including information on obtaining your driver's license, registering your vehicle, and registering to vote.

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce:

<http://www.nashvillechamber.com>, (615) 743-3000

Website includes a wealth of information useful when planning a move to Nashville.

Now Playing Nashville:

<http://www.nowplayingnashville.com>

Nashville and Middle Tennessee's ultimate guide to arts and entertainment events.

VUMC DUAL CAREER PROGRAM

The Dual Career Program offers free job search assistance for up to one year for spouses and partners of newly recruited residents. Services include consultation session via phone, resume critique, access to dual career website, and more. Find out more at <https://hr.vumc.org/dualcareer/>

HOUSING

Vanderbilt's "Off Campus Referral Service"

The Off-Campus Referral Service has a great deal of information about rental properties provided to Vanderbilt by individuals interested in renting to members of the Vanderbilt community. They maintain files that are updated daily about everything from rental homes/duplexes, to efficiency apartments, to locating a roommate. They can also provide information about utilities, school districts, realtors, etc. The office is located at Branscomb Quadrangle, 2601 Vanderbilt Place, Rm 4119 and the office hours are Monday -Friday, 8-5. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Kathy Hutchison in the Office of Housing and Residence Life at kathy.hutchison@vanderbilt.edu or at (615) 322-2594 and at their website: <https://apphost2.its.vanderbilt.edu/studentbiz/OCReferral/>

Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME)

The Office of Graduate Medical Education has also collected a number of useful informational links on its website: <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/gme> - click on "New House Staff" on the left hand side of the page. Among the information is a number of links to various sources of housing information, including some links for housing and roommate listings.

Realtors

A listing of area realtors can be found in the Professionals section, beginning on page 14.

Apartment Locator Services

Free national apartment rental publications with local listings are available at most Nashville area supermarkets. You may also contact the publishers directly at:

Apartment List	https://www.apartmentlist.com/tn/nashville
Apartment Finder	http://www.apartmentfinder.com/
Apartment Guide	http://www.apartmentguide.com/
Apartments.com	http://www.apartments.com/
Zillow	http://www.zillow.com/nashville-tn/rent/

GREATER NASHVILLE - WHERE TO LIVE?

The residential districts of greater Nashville are subdivided into 14 general areas. While Vanderbilt residents literally reside all over the map, listed below are descriptions of seven areas where many Vanderbilt Housestaff Alliance members reside, both as renters and homeowners. If you expect to be in Nashville long enough to buy, we recommend working with a buyer's agent to get the best available information about public safety, schools, and quality of life. A map of the greater Nashville area, divided into these residential sections, follows.

Vanderbilt/ Belmont/Sylvan Park/West End

The Vanderbilt/Belmont/Sylvan Park/West End area has many well-constructed older homes (predominantly 1920s-1960s), as well as a number of apartments, town homes, and condominiums. These in-town neighborhoods are pedestrian-friendly, near Vanderbilt and Hillsboro Village, convenient to downtown, and loaded with amenities. This area has coffee houses, brew pubs, good restaurants, banks and unique shopping. The biggest advantage to living in this area is its proximity to Vanderbilt. Some residents live close enough to even walk or ride a bike. Of course, this close proximity has a price. Housing in the Vandy/West End area can be expensive, but some reasonably priced housing is available (but will usually require some fixing up). This area is in Area 2 on the map, close to Vanderbilt between West End Avenue and Charlotte Pike.

Green Hills

Green Hills is an upscale area about five miles southwest of downtown Nashville. Consisting of mostly older homes and newer condominium complexes, this area offers safety, good neighborhoods, quiet streets for walking and running, as well as good schools. Green Hills is convenient to both Vanderbilt and the interstates. The Mall at Green Hills is a favorite of Nashville shoppers because of its variety of stores: Coach, Bebe, Restoration Hardware, Pottery Barn, Kiehl's, Macy's, etc. It also has several great restaurants including Cheesecake Factory, Carraba's Italian Grill and Panera Bread. The two main disadvantages to the Green Hills area are that the housing is very expensive and the traffic in the area can be heavy. On the map provided, Green Hills is in northeastern portion of Area 2.

Bellevue

With plentiful housing in the rolling hills west of downtown Nashville, it's easy to see what makes Bellevue so popular. This area has a lot of apartments, condos and subdivisions that are affordable. (If you're looking for a big yard or an older house, this isn't the suburb for you.) The Bellevue area is quiet and safe, making it a good place to raise children. The area offers easy access to Interstate 40, but requires at least a 20-minute drive to Vanderbilt. Bellevue also has a good public grade school, Harpeth Valley Elementary, and a relatively new YMCA. The downside is that, being on the western edge of Nashville, it is a longer drive to get any other part of town, especially areas south of Nashville like Cool Springs. On the map provided, Bellevue is in the western most part of Area 2, located right off I-40 west (or straight west on West End Ave).

The Capitol District

The area just North of downtown but inside the urban interstate loop has grown and changed dramatically in the past few years. Best known for Germantown, home to well-known Nashville eateries Mad Platter, Monell's, Germantown Café, City House, and Rolf & Daughters, other nearby neighborhoods include Salemtown, Hope Gardens, and Historic Buena Vista. Located at the Eastern end of Nashville's legendary Jefferson Street, this area provides convenient access to downtown, Vanderbilt, and most of the rest of the city. Other points of interest include Nashville's brand new minor league ballpark at Sulphur Dell, the Nashville Farmer's Market, and the Bicentennial Mall state park. This area is basically right at the middle of the map.

East Nashville

If you enjoy urban living, East Nashville's got the right stuff. It sits right across the Cumberland River from downtown and was Nashville's first urban neighborhood, full of beautiful historic homes offering everything from Victorian cottages built before the turn of the century, and quaint 1920's bungalows to modern homes and condos. Its low-key vibe, neighborly feel, and down-to-earth personality make this community a great place to escape the city without leaving town. Shelby Park offers a 16-mile run/bike path, several playgrounds, two golf courses and a dog park. Walk from your house to a variety of unique shops, art galleries, coffee shops and eateries in East Nashville or cross the pedestrian bridge and stroll through downtown! Research more at <http://www.eastnashville.org/>. On the map provided, East Nashville is in Area 6 & 7, in the North East quadrant near downtown Nashville.

Crieve Hall/Nippers Corner

Residents are attracted to the Crieve Hall area for its modest housing prices and prime location. From here, almost any destination in the area is a short (10 to 15 minute) drive. The area is full of subdivisions built in the early 1960s. It is a quiet and relatively safe area where you can buy an older house (predominantly ranch-style) with a nice yard for an affordable price. Crieve Hall has several good public grade schools (but some that are less desirable, so be sure to do some research when looking at homes) and a beautiful new public library. This centrally located area (northern Area 1 on the map) is about 8 miles from Vanderbilt and has great access to I-65, making a trip to Vanderbilt about 12-15 minutes.

Hermitage/Mount Juliet

From Vanderbilt, go east on I40 or I440. Right past the airport you will find Hermitage (Davidson County) and Mount Juliet (Wilson County). Both areas are still more affordable; Mount Juliet is a great option for families because of the excellent Wilson County school district (and lower property taxes). Expect commute times to Vanderbilt to be 25-45min depending on traffic.

Brentwood/Cool Springs/Franklin

From Vanderbilt, go South on I-65 and you will find the areas of Brentwood, Cool Springs, and Franklin (in that order as you travel south). These three areas are located in Williamson County and provide a fantastic school system and a booming local economy. The Cool Springs area, which has grown significantly in recent years, has many movie theaters, restaurants and strip malls. Traffic during rush hour can be heavy and housing costs more than in the most areas in Davidson County. On the map provided, this area is located south of Nashville off I-65 and Franklin Road (Area 10 and the southern portion of Area 1).

Woodbine

Woodbine is an up and coming area in the heart of Nashville. Residents of Woodbine are attracted to the affordable prices and proximity to so much of the city (only an 11-minute drive from both Vanderbilt and downtown). There is a lot of diversity in this area (including great ethnic restaurants), as well as a growing sense of community fostered by the Woodbine Neighborhood Association. Most of the housing choices are older homes, though there are some new condominiums. The nearby Thompson Lane branch library and adjacent Coleman Park playground are great places to take children for an outing, and the Coleman Community Center offers a very affordable gym and exercise classes. Woodbine is also very close to the Nashville Zoo and Adventure Science Center. Some downsides include that the nearby businesses along Nolensville road are not very attractive. If you are looking for a pristine suburban-looking area, this is not it. Also, though local Whitsitt Elementary has a safe and friendly environment, its test scores are historically low, so many families in the neighborhood choose to homeschool or drive their children to an optional school instead. To visit Woodbine, take the Nolensville exit off of I-440.

PROFESSIONALS — VHA SPONSORS

The following professionals are all supporters of the Vanderbilt Housestaff Alliance and many have provided services to its members in a variety of areas.

Banking & Mortgage Services

TMA Medical Banking

James Nicholson, Vice President, Relationship Manager
(615) 573-9812 (cell)
(615) 777-2173 (office)
jnicholson@insbank.com
<https://tmamedicalbanking.com/>

Regions Bank

John Whitaker, Mortgage Loan Officer
(615) 748-1594, (615) 414-1466 (cell)
<https://www.regions.com/MLO/johnwhitaker>
john.whitaker@regions.com

Truist

Stuart Clamp, Vice President, Senior Loan Officer
(615) 297-7270, (615) 668-2392 (cell)
<https://www.suntrust.com/profile/stuart-clamp-loan-officer-nashville-tn-37203>
stuart.clamp@truist.com

Renasant Bank

Barbara Lyons, Senior Managing Director
Cell: 615-292-4444
Office: 615-279-2944
barbara.lyons@renasant.com
<http://www.renasantbank.com>

Synovus Financial

Alene Gnyp, Mortgage Loan Originator
(615) 582-2334 (cell)
(615) 271-2111 (office)
www.synovus.com/AleneGnyp

Insurance and Financial Services

Northwestern Mutual

Brock Allender
(615) 742-8709
brock.allender@nmfn.com

Burke Financial Group

Daniel Burke
(615) 224-9553, (615) 406-9478 (cell)
Daniel@BurkeFG.com
www.BurkeFG.com

Shoemaker Financial

Jeremy Smith
(615) 383-0262
jsmith@shoemakerfinancial.com

Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC

Long Term Disability

Marc Flur Senior, Consultant I Executive Benefits
(919) 786-5605
marc.flur@marshmma.com
www.marshmma.com

MEDQUITY

Medical Student Loan Refinance

James Nicholson, Vice President, Relationship Manager
(615) 573-9812 (cell)
(615) 777-2173 (office)
jnicholson@insbank.com
<https://tmamedicalbanking.com/>

Jim Durham CPA

Jim Durham
(615) 662-2808
jim@jimdurhamcpa.com
<http://www.jimdurhamcpa.com>

Vanderbilt Credit Union

<https://vanderbiltcu.org/>
creditunion@vanderbilt.edu

Realtors

Keri Cannon, Fridrich and Clark Realty, 3825 Bedford Avenue, Suite 102, Nashville, 37215
(615) 327-4800, (615) 482-1593 (cell)
<http://www.homestheplace.com>
keri.cannon@comcast.net

Carolyn Akins, Carolyn Akins Real Estate
(615) 504-2447
<https://www.carolynakins.com/>
carolyndakins@icloud.com

Josh Anderson, Josh Anderson Real estate
(615) 823-1555
josh@joshandersonrealestate.com
www.joshandersonrealestate.com

Mary Kate Jordan, MD, Fridrich & Clark Realty, LLC
(205) 821-0165
RealtorMKJ@gmail.com

Other Services

Moxie Pest Control
(615) 469-5710
www.moxiepestcontrol.com
nashville@moxiepestcontrol.com

On The Move Moving & Storage
(615) 793-0500
www.onthemovetn.com

Game Point Cafe
107 S. 11th Street, Nashville
615-777-3278
www.gamepointcafe.com

COUNSELING

The Faculty and Physician Wellness Program

(615-936-1327)

<https://www.vumc.org/health-wellness/work-life>

The Faculty and Physician Wellness Program is available to provide psychological support to the Vanderbilt faculty as well as housestaff, and their spouses or significant others. The Faculty and Physician Wellness Program at Work/Life Connections-EAP offers brief individual, pre-marital, and counseling for couples. It is a confidential, employee benefit.

UTILITIES

Before moving into your new home, you should make arrangements with the following utility companies for services.

Electricity:

Nashville Electric Service (NES)

1214 Church St, Nashville, (615) 7366900, <http://www.nespower.com>

Call Center Hours: M-F 6 a.m. - 11 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Walk up Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

To start service call 615-736-6900. At the prompt, press 2 to reach an advisor.

To sign up in person, visit our office at 1214 Church Street (M-F, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and enter the middle door labeled Customer Lobby.

You need two current forms of identification (i.e., driver's license, social security card, passport, birth certificate). One must be U.S. government issued (or a political subdivision thereof), one must include a photograph.

Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation (MTEMC)

555 New Salem Highway

Murfreesboro, TN 37128

1-877-777-9020 www.mtemc.com

Start service by visiting <https://www.mtemc.com/Service-Requests>

Natural Gas:

Piedmont Natural Gas

(800) 752-7504, (615) 734-0665, <http://www.piedmontng.com>

Call Center Hours: M-F 6 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat 7 a.m. – 6 p.m., Closed Sunday

To establish service, call customer service at the above number or make a service request through their online system (company is based out of North Carolina—no local office available). New customers will need to provide social security and driver's license numbers and give permission to undergo a credit check or leave a deposit with the utility. If a deposit is required, it will be based on the two previous highest bills at the location. If the prior customers at your location were delinquent, you will need to provide a notarized copy of the lease showing your date of occupancy. Electricity and water will need to be active prior to your gas service start date.

Water:

Metro Water Services

1700 3rd Ave N, Nashville, (615) 862-4600, <http://www.nashville.gov/water>

Business Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Residential customers starting water service must pay a non-refundable service initiation fee of \$35.00 for guaranteed same day service or \$25.00 for any day thereafter. When you call, be prepared to provide them with your driver's license information. If there is an outstanding balance on the address, you'll have to set up service with Nashville Electric Service before your water service can be established.

Garbage Collection & Recycling:

Metropolitan Department of Public Works

(615) 862-8750, <http://www.nashville.gov/pw/>

Each home in the Nashville Urban Services District is given two 96-gallon containers. One is tan and designated for trash and the other is green for recycling. The trash containers are picked up weekly and the recycling containers are picked up monthly. Consult the underside of the container's lid for pickup information. Nashville recycles paper, cardboard, metal cans (aluminum and food cans) and plastics (1-7, but not black plastic trays). Glass bottles (and any other recyclable material if you don't have a container) can be taken to centers located throughout the community. Metro Public Works also offers brush pick up three times per year.

If you live outside the Urban Services District or outside of Davidson County, you must contact the local trash removal company (e.g.: PDQ, BFI, Hudgins, etc.). This service costs approximately \$15 a month but is sometimes covered by the Home Owner's Association fee in some subdivisions. You can also now add recycling service for \$11-20/month through Earth Savers (<http://www.earthsavers.org>). Check your phone book for listings.

Cable, Internet and Telephone Service Providers

The following is a list of providers that have registered with the Nashville Chamber of Commerce.

Cable/Satellite/Television

Comcast is the cable provider for most of Greater Nashville. You can also get TV service through AT&T and TDS. Locals are also offered through IP TV services like Hulu, DirecTV NOW, and YouTube TV.

Internet Service Providers

Depending on your neighborhood, AT&T, Comcast, Google Fiber, and TDS offer internet services. Gigabit speeds are available in most parts of Greater Nashville.

DRIVER'S LICENSE

Upon establishing residency in the state, a Tennessee driver's license must be issued within 30 days. If your old license is still valid, you can surrender it in exchange for a TN license. In that case, you will only have to take a vision test, have a new picture taken, and pay a fee. To exchange a license from your former state of residence, you must present:

- Your current license (or certified copy of driving record or other acceptable ID).
- Proof of name change, such as original certified court order, marriage certificate, or divorce decree as needed.
- Two Proofs of Tennessee Residency with your name and resident address - NO P.O. BOXES (Documents must be current. Must be dated within last 4 months.)
- **Proof of U.S. Citizenship, Lawful Permanent Resident Status or Proof of authorized stay in the United States** (most people overlook this one, especially because it is a recent addition).
- A Social Security Number or sworn affidavit if no Social Security number has been issued.

*Please visit the website listed below to be sure you have all proper identification information.

If your old license is expired by more than six months, you may be required to take a written and/or road test in order to get your license.

The fee is typically \$19.50 for a five-year license and must be paid with cash, check or money order. However, the fee could be slightly more or less as it will be prorated in order to set your license expiration date to fall on a birthday divisible by five (i.e. 25, 30, 35, etc.). Also, if you are recently married and will require a name change on your new driver's license, remember to bring along your original marriage license. All your driver's licensing questions can likely be answered at

<https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/classd.html>

Driver's License Testing Centers:

A complete list of driver service locations can be found on the [TN.gov website](#).

Full service locations include [Nashville/Hartlane](#) (624 Hart Lane, Nashville, TN 37216) in Davidson County; the [Franklin Driver Center](#) (3830 Carothers Pkwy, Franklin, TN 37067) in Williamson County; and the [Lebanon Driver Services Center](#) (204 Maddox Simpson Parkway, Lebanon, TN 37090) in Wilson County.

AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION

Upon establishing state residency, you must purchase a Tennessee license plate for your car. Prior to purchasing your license plate, all vehicles (except motorcycles and vehicles with a model year before 1975) must pass the Middle TN Vehicle Inspection Program's emission test. Emission testing costs \$10 (no checks or bills larger than \$20 accepted, credit and debit accepted) and can be done at any of the stations in the Metro area. You'll need to have your current registration (from your previous state) to have the inspection completed.

For additional information, please visit the [TN Vehicle Inspection website](#).

Visit your county's website for more information regarding registration fees (typically around \$90) and other details:

Davidson County: <http://www.nashvilleclerk.com>

Williamson County: <https://www.williamsoncounty-tn.gov/161/County-Clerk>

Wilson County: <https://www.wilsoncountyclerk.com/>

VOTER REGISTRATION

To vote in Nashville or the surrounding area, a person must be a citizen of the United States, be at least 18 years old, and be a resident of Tennessee. A federal or state issued government photo ID is now required to vote. You need to register to vote at least 30 days before an election. In Nashville there is a permanent registration.

To register, appear in person at the Davidson County Election Commission, 800 Second Avenue South, 4th Floor or pick up a mail-in form at any post office or public library. Mail this form to the Davidson County Election Commission, P.O. Box 650, Nashville, TN, 37202. You can also register while getting your driver's license. Additional information is available at the Election Commission's website: <http://www.nashville.gov/vote>

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Anyone over the age of 18 can purchase a Marriage License. It must be purchased no more than 30 days prior to the marriage ceremony at the County Clerk's Office, 700 Second Avenue South. Both parties must be present with valid ID (that has proof of your SSN) and birth certificate to purchase the license. For more information, contact your respective County Court Clerk's Office for [Davidson County](#), [Williamson County](#), or [Wilson County](#).

Tennessee law does not allow for common law marriages, but Tennessee will recognize the common law marriage of a couple relocating from a state that legally recognizes such unions.

VARIOUS LAWS

Liquor Laws:

The legal drinking age in Tennessee is 21. Bars are permitted to stay open until 2 a.m. seven days a week. Liquor is only sold through licensed package stores, wine and beer can be purchased in grocery stores as well.

DUI:

Tennessee has one of the strictest DUI laws in the United States with .08 being the legal limit. If you are convicted of a first offense DUI, you will incur a jail sentence, probation, required public service, a \$350 fine, court costs, and loss of your driver's license for one year.

Traffic Laws:

Right turns on red lights after stop are legal at most intersections unless otherwise posted. Tennessee drivers are required to "move over" when passing a stopped emergency vehicle by switching lanes where applicable (four lane road) or slowing down while passing where "moving over" is not possible. Seat belts are required for vehicle drivers and all passengers regardless of age, and a vehicle can be stopped solely for a belt related offense. The driver of a vehicle is responsible for insuring that all children under the age of 16 are properly restrained in any vehicle, this includes requiring the use of car seats and belt positioning boosters. For a detailed list of the Child Restraint Laws, please refer to the state's website at <https://www.tn.gov/safety/publicsafety/newcrd.html>

TAXES

Currently, there is no personal income tax on most income, including salaries, in Tennessee. However, Tennessee does have a tax on certain interest and dividend income over \$1250 per person. The current state sales tax is 7% and the city sales tax is 2.25%, making a total of 9.25%. This combined tax is assessed against virtually all retail goods sold in Tennessee. For information on property taxes find your respective property tax assessor on:

https://www.assessment.cot.tn.gov/RE_Assessment/

PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Downtown Nashville Public Library is located at 615 Church St., Nashville, (615) 862-5800. It is open Tues-Fri 9-6; Sat 9-5; Sun 2-5 p.m. Garage parking is available, and the first hour is free with library desk validation. In order to obtain a Davidson County library card, you must present a valid Tennessee driver's license (military ID or passport) with a Davidson County address. If your ID doesn't have your current Davidson County address, you will need to verify your address with a utility bill, pay stub, voter registration card, or similar documentation of current address. There are a number of branch libraries in the system. For information on all the branches and the library's programs, visit the library's website at: <http://www.library.nashville.org>

[Williamson County](#) and [Wilson County](#) also have public libraries available.

NEWSPAPERS & LOCAL PUBLICATIONS

The Tennessean is Nashville's daily newspaper. The office is located at 1100 Broadway. For a subscription, call 800-342-8237. For placing a classified ad you can call (615) 242-SALE. <http://www.tennessean.com/>

There are also several free publications with large circulations that are great resources. These publications may be picked up at many newsstands, local stores and YMCA locations:

- **The Nashville Scene** is a great source for Nashville politics, arts, and entertainment. It is published weekly with distribution beginning on Wednesday. Visit their web site at <http://www.nashvillescene.com>
- **Nashville Parent** and **Williamson Parent** are a great resource for anything relating to children. Each issue features articles regarding parenting tips, family finances, baby pages, educational pages, community connections, book and video reviews, and children's health issues. Most useful, however, is a detailed day-by-day calendar that includes virtually every family activity occurring in the greater Nashville area for the upcoming month. Visit <http://www.parentworld.com/> for more information about Nashville Parent.
- **Native** is reflective of the new Nashville, with a focus on hip and emerging businesses, boutiques, bars. <http://native.is>
- **The Nashville Business Journal** is a local business-oriented paper published weekly. <http://www.bizjournals.com/nashville/>

GETTING AROUND

The Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) located at 130 Nester St., and can be reached at (615) 862-5950. The MTA operates approximately 40 bus and trolley routes in the Nashville area. A monthly pass for unlimited rides on the MTA currently costs \$78, but Vanderbilt will pay for any employee's pass. Schedules and routes can be accessed via the MTA's website at: <http://www.nashvillemta.org/>

Music City Star Commuter Rail Service – Recently, Nashville's first commuter rail service opened. It runs from Nashville to points east, including station stops at: Donelson, Hermitage, Mt. Juliet, Lebanon, and Martha. A monthly pass ranges from \$64-\$168 depending on the stop from which you normally originate. More information can be found on the website: <http://www.musiccitystar.org>

Mayor's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Maintains several good links and resources for getting around on two wheels or two feet. Pay special attention to the Groove map for helpful safe ways to use a bike as transportation for getting around Nashville. Information can be found [on the Nashville.gov website](#).

Ride Sharing – Lyft and Uber operate across Davidson County as well as neighboring counties and suburbs. Costs vary, but expect to pay around \$20 for a ride from the outskirts to downtown Nashville.

VUMC PERKS AND DISCOUNTS

Train Tickets - 60% off (purchase in MCN)

Regal Cinema - \$8.50 per ticket (purchase in MCH)

Verizon - 20% off select plans (excluding unlimited plans)

PET INFORMATION

Dog Parks

<http://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/Dog-Parks.aspx>

Centennial Dog Park, 2500 West End Avenue, On Flag Pole Hill

Edwin Warner Dog Park, 50 Vaughn Road, Across from the sports complex

Pitts Dog Park, 299 Tusculum Road

Shelby Dog Park, Shelby Avenue at S. 20th Street, Behind the Shelby Park Community Center

Two Rivers Dog Park, 3150 McGavock Pike

Frankie Pierce Dog Park and Playground, 130 Lifeway Plaza, Behind Capitol View Apartments

EDUCATION

Public School System

Nashville has one school system for Davidson County. For kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before August 15. A birth certificate is mandatory. Kindergarten is mandatory for enrollment in first grade. For more information concerning public schools, call Metro Nashville School System at (615) 259-4636 or visit <http://www.mnps.org>

The Metro school system also includes a number of magnet schools. For these magnet schools students are chosen by lottery for places in entry-level grades. If your child is already above the entry-level grade of the school, he or she can be placed on a waiting list. While applications are accepted year-round for the waiting list, the deadline for the entry-level lottery is usually in very early December.

Williamson County has the state's number one rate school system. Information can be found at <https://www.wcs.edu/>.

Wilson County also has a highly rated school system — especially when it comes to Elementary and Middle Schools.

Information can be found at <https://www.wcschools.com/>.

Private Schools:

In addition to the public schools of Davidson County, there are numerous private schools in Nashville and its surrounding areas. For a good summary of private schools broken down by their religious affiliation, if any, visit the Nashville Chamber of Commerce's website.

CHILDCARE INFORMATION

Vanderbilt Child and Family Center (VCFC)

VUMC Child and Family Centers offer early childhood care and education for the children of VUMC employees in a safe and nurturing environment. The childcare program serves children from six weeks old to age 5. Vanderbilt University Medical Center full-time employees who are fully benefits-eligible are eligible to apply. A waiting list application form must be completed before your child can be placed on the waitlist. A \$100 waiting list fee is required and will be payroll deducted in accordance with your pay schedule. As our programs are employee sponsored, our departmental policy requires each applicant to be an active VUMC employee with all the required employee identifiers to join the waiting list. Bulk enrollment is completed each summer on an annual basis, and VUMC cannot otherwise predict or guarantee when a space will become available at the time of application.

VUMC Child and Family Centers are open 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday – Friday. Center locations are as follows:

- Belcourt Child and Family Center - 2140 Belcourt Avenue
- Patterson Child and Family Center – 1817 Patterson Street
- Knob Child and Family Center – 5701 Knob Road
- Dakota Child and Family Center – 4108 Dakota Avenue

Vanderbilt Sitter Service: Do You Need a Sitter?

The Sitter Service is a great resource for connecting faculty and staff who need sitter services with Vanderbilt students who are interested in providing care for infants, preschoolers, school-agers, and adults. Sitters can be located by logging into the [Health & Wellness Information Portal](#).

Vanderbilt: Back-Up Childcare Care.com

VUMC employees, who are full-time, fully benefits eligible may receive up to 20 days (per fiscal year — July 1 through June 30) of subsidized backup childcare at home or at local, vetted childcare centers. The vumc.care.com portal includes a dashboard to show you how many days of backup care you have used.

- The subsidized co-pay for eligible employees at a center is \$25/day/child
- Co-pays for in-home backup care & personal network
 - Tier 1: \$0-74,999 = \$3
 - Tier 2 \$75,000-124,999 = \$7
 - Tier 3: \$125K+ = \$13
- When in-center care is used, it counts as one of the 20 days available

CAREGIVERS AND HOUSEHOLD HELP

As a VUMC employee, you have unlimited access to the largest online community for part-time and full-time care, including nannies and sitters, special needs and senior caregivers. You also can use Care.com to find helper, such as dogwalkers, sitters and groomers; house cleaners; tutors; personal assistants and even errand runners.

- Access the Care.com network of caregivers and helpers via a digital platform, available 24/7
- Post jobs, search, and reach out to local caregivers
- No “finder’s fee” charge to employees
- Pay through Care.com online platform or [Care@work](#) app

Website Link: For more detailed information about our program or other resources provided, please visit: <https://hr.vumc.org/cfc>

Other Area Childcare Centers

TN.gov, has a [search feature for all registered daycares](#) in Middle Tennessee that includes information such as facility hours, ages accepted, special needs facilities, and includes the state’s ranking system. Additionally, for a complete list of family home (5 to 7 kids), group home (8 to 12 kids), and day care center (more than 12 kids) facilities in Davidson County, you can contact the Tennessee Department of Human Services of Davidson County Resource and Referral at (615) 313-4778 or (800) 462-8261. The Department does try to respond to requests within 48 hours. Other childcare resources include churches, local universities, gyms, neighbors, and word of mouth from other parents. Programs in the Vanderbilt area typically have long waiting lists—call early!

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Playgrounds and Parks

The Metro Parks and Recreation Department has a lot to offer Nashville families. In addition to the many beautiful parks, there are many free activities offered throughout the year. Some of the family favorites are Movies in the Park, Music in the Park, Stories under the Stars, Concerts in the Park, Jazz on the Porch, and the Shakespeare Festival. They also offer a full schedule of visual art classes, music classes, and dance classes. <http://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation.aspx>

Here are a few of the “Housestaff Alliance Family Favorite Parks”:

Centennial Park – 25th Ave. S. and West End Ave., Vanderbilt area
Crockett Park – Crockett Rd., Brentwood
Cumberland Park – 592 S 1st St, on the East bank of the riverfront, Nashville 37213
Elmington Park – 3531 West End Ave., Vanderbilt area
Fannie Mae Dees Park/Lilly’s Garden – 2400 Blakemore Ave., Vanderbilt area
Granny White Park – 610 Granny White Pike, Brentwood
The Jungle Gym at the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere – 3777 Nolensville Road, (615) 833-1534
McCabe – 46th Avenue and Murphy Road, Sylvan Park, 8628457
Parmer Park – Leake Ave., Belle Meade
Radnor Lake – 1160 Otter Creek Road, Brentwood (615) 373-3467
Red Caboose Park – 656 Colice Jeanne Road, Bellevue
Sevier Park – 3000 Granny White Pike, Green Hills/Berry Hill, 37204, (615) 862-7974
Shelby Park / Shelby Bottoms Nature Center – 1900 Davidson St, East Nashville 37206
Warner Parks Nature Center – 7311 Hwy. 100, Bellevue

Art and Science Activities

Adventure Science Center –800 Fort Negley Blvd., (615) 862-5160,
<http://www.adventuresci.com>
Hands-on science museum and planetarium for children.

Cheekwood – 1200 Forrest Park Dr., (615) 356-8000, <http://www.cheekwood.org>
Nashville’s Home of Arts and Gardens offers classes for all ages – paint, plant, sculpt, build, create, dig, and play. Annual family memberships are available.

Dyer Observatory – 1000 Oman Dr. (615) 373-4897, <http://www.dyer.vanderbilt.edu>
The Observatory sponsors Scheduled Kids' Night for programs about outer space and viewing through telescopes.

Nashville Zoo at Grassmere - 3777 Nolensville Pike, (615) 833-1534, <https://www.nashvillezoo.org/>
The Nashville Zoo is a 200-acre zoo and historic plantation farmhouse. The zoo's Jungle Gym is the largest community-built playground in the United States.

Schermerhorn Symphony Center - (615) 687-6500, <http://www.nashvillesymphony.org>
On the website, under Education and Community Engagement, you will find programs for children of all ages.

Frist Art Museum – 919 Broadway, (615) 244-3340, <http://fristartmuseum.org/>
There are periodic free family weekend-days with activities especially for children (guests 18 and under always enjoy free admission).

Music and Play Activities

Gymboree Play & Music –1731-A Mallory Lane, Suite 108, Brentwood 37027, <http://www.gymboreeclases.com>
Kids 0 months to 5 years can have fun with singing, dancing, playing simple rhythm instruments and more.

Harpeth Gymnastics: 2204 Hillsboro Road, Franklin, TN 37069
<http://harpethgym.com>
Amazing! Fun and easy-going for the littles, but a super competitive gymnastics center winning over five years in a row.

Kindermusik - Fun and interactive music classes for children of all ages (2 months – 5 years). Over a dozen locations in Nashville. Go to <http://www.kindermusik.com> for locations and educators. The Jan Williams School of Music, <http://www.janwilliamsmusic.com>, in Brentwood (500 Wilson Pike Circle, Ste 204 371-8086) is a highly recommended Kindermusik educator.

The Music Class – Early Childhood Music and Movement Classes. With various Nashville locations, and classes for a variety of ages, The Music Class offers many opportunities for music and fun! Visit <http://www.themusicclass.com> for more information.

Let it Shine – 1892 General George Patton Drive, Franklin (615) 377-9005, <http://www.letitshinegym.com>
Gymnastics for kids 12 months and up. Parent-child classes, preschool classes, and more!

Little Gym - 99 Seaboard Lane, Suite 1000, Brentwood, (615) 661-6700
<http://www.thelittlegym.com>
Programs include movement, music, gymnastics, sports, exercise, games, listening and cooperation. Each child receives individual attention and progresses at their own pace in a non-threatening, warm and nurturing environment.

Children's Story Time and Entertainment

Nashville Children's Theatre –724 Second Ave., (615) 254-9103,
<http://www.nashvillechildrenstheatre.org>

Nashville's premier theater for kids and the whole family performs a series of five to six shows throughout the year.

Nashville Public Library story time and theatrical performances – Story times are available at the many public libraries throughout the week. Be sure to experience the main library's story time, which includes singing, dancing, juggling and a memorable cast of characters (both real and puppets). Then come back on the weekend for the main library marionette shows! For a full schedule of children's programs at all area libraries, including marionette theater performances, visit <http://www.library.nashville.org> and go to the "kids zone" link.

Books from Birth of Middle Tennessee program – This is a pro-literacy program in middle TN that provides monthly free books by mail for children under the age of 5 who live in Davidson, Sumner or Williamson counties. All children who meet these criteria are eligible, regardless of income bracket. For more information and to sign up your child, visit <http://www.governorsfoundation.org>

Other Kid Activities

Bellevue Community Center – 656 Colice Jeanne Road, Bellevue, (615) 862-8435
Offers a variety of activities for children, including free-play in gym on winter mornings.

Monkey Joe's - 1648 Westgate Circle, Brentwood, (615) 377-5900,
<http://www.monkeyjoes.com/locations/cool-springs>

A fun indoor inflatable play center for kids 12 and under, with a Mini Monkey Zone set aside especially for toddlers.

The Monkey's Treehouse – 8074 Highway 100, Bellevue, (615) 646-5002,
<http://www.themonkeystreehouse.com>

The ultimate indoor playground, perfect for casual afternoon playdates or planned birthday celebrations.

Nashville Zoo at Grassmere – 3777 Nolensville Road, (615) 833-1534,
<http://www.nashvillezoo.org>

Summer classes for toddlers; zoo members receive discount on class tuition.

Strike & Spare –3710 Annex Avenue, Nashville - (615) 425-2695

Bowling, video games, bumper cars, virtual roller coaster, food, and karaoke abound.

Pump It Up – 7104 Crossroad Blvd, Suite 128, (615) 373-8340, <http://www.pumpitupparty.com>

Pump It Up has the latest inflatable designs that are engaging, challenging and interactive.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

NASHVILLE PREDATORS

(615) 770-PUCK (2355), <http://www.nashvillepredators.com>

Nashville's NHL team, home ice is the downtown Bridgestone Arena.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS

(615) 242-4371, <http://www.nashvillesounds.com>

Nashville's baseball team is an AAA affiliate of the Oakland Athletics. Sounds games are family-oriented entertainment playing at their home field, First Tennessee Park.

TENNESSEE TITANS

One Titans Way, Nashville 37213, <http://www.titansonline.com>

615-565-4200 (Ticket Office), 615-565-4300 (Nissan Stadium Administration)

Home to Tennessee's NFL team, Nissan Stadium is located downtown along the river. Tickets can be hard to come by on game day.

VANDERBILT COMMODORES

McGugin Center Ticket Office, 2601 Jess Neely Drive, Nashville 37212,
<http://www.vucommodores.com/tickets/vand-tickets.html>, (615)322-GOLD

Mon – Fri 8:30am-5:00pm

NASHVILLE SC

<https://www.nashvillefc.com/>

Nashville SC is Nashville's professional soccer team — currently playing in the USL and soon in the MLS. The team currently plays its home games at First Tennessee Park and Nissan Stadium.

QUICK GUIDE TO SHOPPING

Malls & Outlets:

Cool Springs Galleria – 1800 Galleria Blvd., Brentwood, (I-65, exit 69) (615) 771-2050 (office), (615) 771-2128 (Customer Service) <http://www.coolspringsgalleria.com>
Features: Parisian, Macy's, Sears, Dillard's, JC Penney, Abercrombie & Fitch, Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Bombay Co., Disney Store, Eddie Bauer, Talbot's, Toys R Us, Williams Sonoma, several sporting goods, card and electronic stores, and a large food court. One of the highlights of this mall is that it is surrounded by tons of restaurants (such as Logan's Steakhouse, Romano's Macaroni Grill and J. Alexanders) as well as many specialty stores and even your local Target. See website for complete listing.

The Factory at Franklin – 230 Franklin Rd., Franklin, (615) 791-1777,
<http://www.factoryatfranklin.com>

A new group of shops were established in this renovated 1929 Jamison Bedding Factory building. It includes a fun and eclectic mix of arts, antiques, home décor, jewelry, gifts, food & dining, and entertainment & classes. (including Viking Culinary Arts Store, The Flying Horse Restaurant, Saffire Restaurant, and Happy Tales Humane).

Mall at Green Hills – 2126 Abbott Martin Rd, Green Hills (off Hillsboro Rd.), (615) 298-5478,
<http://www.themallatgreenhills.com>

Upscale shopping mall featuring Dillard's, Macy's, Ann Taylor, Ann Taylor Loft, Banana Republic, Benetton, Betsy Johnson, Brooks Brothers, Brookstone, Express, J. Crew, Williams Sonoma, Louis Vuitton, Anne Klein, Cheesecake Factory, Tiffany and Co., Pottery Barn Kids, Restoration Hardware, Pottery Barn, Jos. A. Bank, Baby Gap, Gap Kids The Gap, Talbots Kids, Gymboree, Lucky Kid, Coach, Mimi Maternity, Kiehl's, MAC Cosmetics, Nordstrom, Apple Store a small food court, several restaurants, a movie theatre with stadium seating and more! Surrounded by many restaurants and small specialty stores. See website for complete listing.

Nashville West – Charlotte Pike (Approximately 1 mile off I-40 near exit 201, visible from interstate)

This shopping center, which opened in 2007, features Target, Marshall's, Ross, Old Navy, Costco, Books-a-Million, World Market, and more.

Hill Center at Green Hills – 4013 Hillsboro Pike, Green Hills

This relatively recent addition to the crowded Green Hills area features a mixed-use lifestyle center with merchants such as Anthropologie, west elm, Merrell, Swoozies's and Francesca's Collections, clothing retailer Posh, children's wear retailer Snap, and Whole Foods Market. Also has restaurants including Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Pei Wei, California Pizza Kitchen, Provence and Zoe's Kitchen.

100 Oaks – 719 Thompson Lane (at Powell Dr.), (615) 383-6002

Features: TJ Maxx, Burlington Coat Factory, Michael's craft store, Pet Smart, Regal 27 movie theater with stadium seating, etc. Most of this mall is now home to a number of Vanderbilt clinics.

Prime Outlets at Lebanon – 1 Outlet Village Blvd., Lebanon (25 mi. east of Nashville on I-40, exit 238), (615) 444-0433, <http://www.primeoutlets.com>

Outdoor outlet mall with over 50 brand name merchants featuring: Brooks Brothers, DKNY, Duck Head, Eddie Bauer, Elisabeth, Jones New York, Gap, Liz Claiborne, Polo Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger, Nautica, OshKosh B'Gosh, Coach, Lenox, Samsonite, a small food court and more! See website for complete listing and special offers.

Rivergate – 1000 Rivergate Pkwy, Goodlettsville (I-65, exit 96), (615) 859-3456, <http://www.rivergate-mall.com>

Features: Dillard's, Macy's, The Disney Store, T, Gymboree, KB Toys, The Children's Place, Limited Too, Lane Bryant, Abercrombie & Fitch, Victoria's Secret, Linens & Things, Yankee Candle Co., a food court, & Rivergate 8 Carmike Cinema, etc. See website for complete listing and special offers.

PARKS AND RECREATION

A complete list of parks (with maps and events) can be found by visiting the **Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation** at

<https://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks.aspx>

or calling (615) 862-8400, 8am-4:30 pm Monday-Friday.

The **Metro Greenways Commission** is currently in the process of developing a greenways system located throughout the larger Nashville area. Many of these paths are located near neighborhoods or work areas, and also coincide with historic sites. For more information, locations, and directions to trailheads, visit <http://www.nashville.gov/greenways/>

Radnor Lake State Natural Area

1160 Otter Creek Road off Granny White Pike, (615) 3733467

Boasting a 1,000-acre wildlife sanctuary providing outstanding scenic beauty, it's arguably Nashville's best place to take a hike. A hike in the spring promises turtle-lined logs and wild blooming Dogwoods while autumn is just as impressive with all the fall foliage. Along with hiking trails, Radnor also has interpretive programs, a museum and a visitor center. No pets allowed on trails but you can walk them on the paved walking path through the sanctuary.

Percy Warner and Edwin Warner Parks

<https://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/Warner-Parks.aspx>

The Warner Parks are located at Old Hickory Boulevard and Highway 100 in Belle Meade. The Warner parks includes 2,681 acres-including the Susan Warner Bass Learning Center, picnic areas, two golf courses, 12 miles of hiking trails, 10 miles of bridle paths, 20 miles of scenic drives, and 6 miles of paved roadways for pedestrians, pets and bicyclists and a dog park. For more information about Warner Parks events and facilities call the Headquarters at (615) 370-8051 or The Nature Center at (615) 352-6299.

Percy Priest Lake

<http://www.tennesseeelakeinfo.com/percypriest>

Percy Priest Lake is home to Nashville's boating scene with a sandy beach, grills, bathhouses, launch ramps for boats, fishing, scenic hiking trails, and a playground.

Beaman Park

4111 Little Marrowbone Road

This park boasts 1500 acres on the Highland Rim. The hiking trails wind through native hardwood forests and by a stream. Abundant spring wildflowers are to be found in one of Metro Parks' newest additions to the system.

Tennessee Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park

James Robertson Pkwy. 7415280.

Located downtown, this 19 acre park and outdoor history museum can be found north of the State Capitol. Tour Tennessee's history via a 200 foot granite map of the state and 31 fountains designating the major rivers of Tennessee. The park also features an amphitheater, a bell carillon, a botanical garden, and a 1,400 ft. wall engraved with Tennessee's historic events. Some fountains are open for children's play.

Centennial Park

West End Avenue and 25th Avenue North, (615) 8628411.

Centennial Park holds several events including the **TN Crafts Fair** in May, the annual **American Artisan Festival** in June, and the **Performing Arts Series** from June to August, movies in the park, **dog shows/competitions** held in the summer months. Most notably it is home of **The Parthenon**, housing Nashville's official art collection (see *The Parthenon*, page ___ for details). Other points of interest are a playground, walk through train, flower garden, fitness trail, the dog park, and, of course, the ducks. Call (615) 862-8431 for info on the latest art exhibits.

Granny White Park (Brentwood city park)

610 Granny White Pike, Brentwood, 371-2208.

This is a cozy little park nestled in a nice Brentwood neighborhood. It features a big playground, bathrooms, ball fields, and a large covered pavilion.

Sevier Park

3000 Granny White Pike, Green Hills/Berry Hill, 37204

This is a large park with multiple playgrounds, small walking trail, and two covered pavilions. Located close to all of the new retailers on 12 St. South. One of Nashville's best-kept secrets is right across the street, Las Paletas Gourmet Popsicle.

Other notable parks to check out:

Shelby Park - Shelby Ave. at S. 20th St., 8628467. Picnic shelters, fishing, golf courses, tennis courts, ball fields, dog park, and nature trail. Great place to roller blade.

Two Rivers - 3130 McGavock Pike. Wave Country and waterslide.

H. G. Hill - 6710 Charlotte Pike. Paved walking path.

McCabe - 46th Avenue and Murphy Road, (615) 8628457. City-operated golf course, baseball field and playground.

Madison - 510 N. DuPont Avenue, (615) 8628459. Ball fields, tennis courts and shelters.

Cane Ridge - 419 Battle Road, (615) 8628437. 100 acres of forests, paved walking paths, tennis courts and ball fields.

Cedar Hill 860 Old Hickory Blvd. W., (615) 8651853. Lake, paved paths and several ball fields.

Greenways to check out:

Harpeth River Greenway - Bellevue area; 1 mi long.

Richland Creek Greenway - Connects Sylvan Park with White Bridge Rd. 2 mi long, fully paved, with additional trail to be open in spring 2007. Great place for an after-work walk, dog walking, biking, and bird watching.

Shelby Bottoms Greenway - Downtown area; overlaps with Shelby Park. 1 mi loop or 5 miles.

RESORT GOLF

Hermitage Golf Course and The Presidents Cup 3939 Old Hickory Blvd., (615) 8474001

The home of the Sara Lee LPGA Golf Tournament each spring, the course features 18 challenging holes with Bermuda fairways and bent grass greens. Also available: pro shop, driving range, snack bar and club rentals. Four teaching pros on staff.

Legends Club of Tennessee 1500 Legends Club Lane, Franklin, (615) 7918100

Designed by Tom Kite and Bob Cupp, this 36 hole championship golf club features membership and resort play and includes a practice facility, clubhouse, club rentals, tournament management and golf shop.

Springhouse Golf Club at Opryland Hotel 18 Springhouse Lane, (615) 8717759

Playing to a par of 72 and stretching to more than 7,000 yards, this course offers 18 holes of championship golf. It is home of the BellSouth Senior Classic on the PGA Senior Tour. The Facility's highlight is the 43,000 squarefoot clubhouse with an outstanding restaurant and an award-winning golf shop.

MUSEUMS and SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Belle Meade Plantation

5025 Harding Rd., (615) 3560501, <http://www.bellemeadeplantation.com>

Known as the "Queen of the Tennessee Plantations," this 1853 Greek Revival mansion was the centerpiece of a 5,300acre plantation, and world renowned as a thoroughbred stud farm and nursery in the 19th century (their most famous horse being Iroquois, the only Americanbred winner of the English Derby). The present 30acre site includes the mansion, carriage house, stables, outbuildings, museum gift shop, and restaurant, ***The Harding House***.

Belmont Mansion

1900 Belmont Blvd., (615) 460-5459, <http://www.belmontmansion.com>

Located on the Belmont University Campus, this Italianate mansion was built in 1850 as a summer home by Adelia Acklen, one of the wealthiest women in America at that time. Adelia is sometimes compared to Scarlett O'Hara, as she was both business savvy and beautiful. She acquired her million-dollar fortune through the first of a series of marriages and was one of the few to sell her cotton during the Civil War, outwitting Union and Confederate troops in the process. Personally guided tours through 16 rooms exhibit an outstanding collection of original and period Victorian furnishings, art work and statues.

Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 1 p.m.- 4 p.m. Sun. Last tour begins at 3:30 pm. Admission: \$10 adults; \$9 seniors; \$3 ages 6-12; ages 5 and under admitted free.

Belcourt Theatre

2102 Belcourt Avenue, <http://www.belcourt.org>

For over 75 years, the Belcourt Theatre has provided a space for premiere entertainment in the heart of Nashville's Hillsboro Village. The Belcourt has existed in many incarnations - each of which has furnished a home for some of the city's best and most unusual performing arts. The Belcourt offers a range of entertainment from classic, Indie, and new release films, to concerts, speakers, and their annual Oscar bash. The Belcourt boasts a great concession stand and a fully stocked bar. Recently leased by Belcourt YES!, a grassroots, not-for-profit group dedicated to the preservation and successful operation of The Belcourt, it continues to thrive as a historic landmark. It even is one of a few satellite hosts for the Sundance Film Festival.

Carnton Plantation

1354 Carnton Lane, Franklin, (615) 7940903,
http://www.battleoffranklintrust.org/carnton_visit.htm

An 1826 antebellum plantation built by former Nashville mayor Randal McGavock, Carnton served as a field hospital following the Battle of Franklin in 1864. The bodies of four Confederate Generals were laid in state on Carnton's back veranda. The McGavock family later designated two acres adjacent to their family cemetery for the burial of nearly 1,500 soldiers killed during the battle. Carnton Plantation is now a National Historic Landmark and the subject of the 1997 novel, The Black Flower, by Howard Bahr. Plantation includes: gardens, mansion, field hospital, and cemetery. Tours begin ½ hour after opening and last tour starts at 4pm.

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 12-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$15 adults; \$12 seniors; \$8 ages 6-12; 5 and under admitted free of charge. Self-guided grounds tour \$5.00.

Carter House Museum & Historical Site

1140 Columbia Ave., Franklin, (615) 791-1861,
http://www.battleoffranklintrust.org/carterhouse_visit.htm

This National Landmark 1830's home was also caught in the center of the 1864 Battle of Franklin during the Civil War (and has the scars to prove it). The house's owner, Capt. Tod Carter, was mortally wounded during the battle. The home, outbuildings, and grounds now serve as an interpretive center for the battle. The Carter House experience includes admission to the Battle of Franklin Museum, a video presentation, and a guided tour of the house and grounds. Great for Civil War buffs.

*Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 12-5 p.m. Sun.(Closes at 4pm during daylight savings time)
Admission: \$15 adults; \$12 seniors; \$8 ages 6-12; 5 and under free. Grounds tour only: \$5.00.
See website for other special events throughout the year.*

Cheekwood - Tennessee Botanical Garden & Museum of Art

1200 Forrest Park Dr., (615) 3568000, <http://www.cheekwood.org>

Once the private estate of the Leslie Cheek family of the Maxwell House Coffee Fortune, this 55-acre site includes an art museum, botanical gardens, Pineapple Room restaurant, a garden shop, Frist Learning Center, and Botanical Hall and Library. Recently renovated, the art museum boasts a wonderful collection of Worcester porcelain, American silver and Contemporary American paintings, prints and photographs. The Botanical garden includes specialty gardens, greenhouses, and the Carrell Woodland Sculpture Trail.

Hours: 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tue.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sun. Gate Fee: \$12 adults;\$10 seniors; \$5 youth 3-17 & college student with ID. Two and under free. Closed on Mondays except Labor Day & Memorial Day. Cheekwood Gardens also offers birthday party packages.

Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum

222 5th Ave. S., <http://countrymusichalloffame.org>

This museum provides a behind-the-scenes look at the world of country music. Exhibits include personal treasures and memorabilia, costumes, instruments, film clips, recordings, extensive archives and original song manuscripts from country music's legends and new stars. The new facility also features live entertainment daily, a new 225-seat theatre for a digital film presentation on country music around the world, a restaurant serving contemporary southern cuisine, and museum store.

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Admission: Platinum Package-\$35.00 adult, \$26.00 youth; Gold Package-\$24.00 adult, \$17.00 youth. See website for package details and deals. Closed Thursdays during certain months.

Adventure Science Center

800 Fort Negley Blvd., <http://www.adventuresci.com>

From the planetarium to the child-sized Curiosity Corner to ever-changing exhibits, this museum provides unique opportunities for discovery for both children and adults. Live science demonstrations and animal shows daily.

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 12:00-5:00 p.m. Sun.

Admission: \$12.00 adults; \$10.00 ages 2-12 & seniors; children under 2 free; Planetarium admission \$5.00 with Adventure Science Center admission.

Ellington Agriculture Center

440 Hogan Road, <http://www.state.tn.us/agriculture/administ/agcenter.html>

Once a private estate, Ellington houses the oldest Agricultural Hall of Fame in the US. On display are farm tools, equipment, and household items of the 19th century. The 207-acre Ellington Agricultural Center is also headquarters for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, TWRA, and is a branch location for various agencies. Special events such as the Tennessee Agricultural Museum's Annual Rural Life Festival are held there. The Center is listed as an Official Arboretum by the Nashville Tree Foundation and is home to an official Iris Garden (which is one preferred site for weddings in Nashville). Open Monday through Friday, 9:00-4:00. Closed on state holidays.

Frist Art Museum

919 Broadway, <http://www.fristartmuseum.org>

Located in Nashville's old main post office, this museum provides more than 24,000 sq. ft. of gallery space for the art of local, state and regional artists. It also provides a venue for international traveling exhibitions. The Frist Center also offers Audio-guides and Docent-led tours. Be sure to visit the hands-on art activity center on the second floor. Visitors to the Frist Center receive discounted parking rates when ticket is validated at the Center.

Grand Ole Opry & Museum

2804 Opryland Dr., (615) 889-6611, <http://www.opry.com>

Museum: (615) 889-3060. Grand Ole Opry Tickets: (615) 871-OPRY

Don't miss the world famous Grand Ole Opry, the longest running live radio show bringing America country music for over 70 years. Legends, "Hall of Famers," and hot new stars perform on the stage of the 4,400 seat broadcast studio. It's a great place to take out-of-town guests. The Grand Ole Opry Museum pays tribute to the radio show and its stars (past and present) with interactive displays, videos, collectibles, and memorabilia. Stars commemorated at the museum include Patsy Cline, Little Jimmy Dickens, George Jones, Tex Ritter, Minnie Pearl, Roy Acuff, Alan Jackson, and Vince Gill. The museum provides a fun way to pass the time while waiting for the show to begin.

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Fri.; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat.; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun.

The Hermitage: Home of President Andrew Jackson

4580 Rachel's Lane, Hermitage, (615) 889-2941, <http://www.thehermitage.com>

Tour Nashville's national treasure the home of our nation's seventh president. The Hermitage experience includes: a biographical film, museum exhibits, tours of the recently restored 1836 mansion and grounds, formal garden, original 1804 log cabins, Jackson's tomb, Tulip Grove mansion, Old Hermitage Church and confederate cemetery. Costumed interpreters provide for a fun and educational experience. There is an onsite restaurant and museum store.

Manskers Station

705 Caldwell Dr., in Moss-Wright Park, Goodlettsville, (615) 859-FORT (3678)

A "living history" museum (with historic interpreters in period dress) depicting life as it was for settlers in late 18th Century Middle Tennessee. It includes the Bowen Home, completed in 1787 (one of the earliest homes in the area) along with a reconstructed 1779 fort. They host several living history festivals throughout the year.

Nashville Farmers Market

900 8th Avenue North, 880-2001, <http://nashvillefarmersmarket.org>

Within sight of the capitol building, the Nashville Farmers Market is located in an open-air pavilion on 8th Ave North (there's also a large enclosed building for specialty shops and stands). If you're from Nashville, you already know that this is one of the finest places in the city for fresh fruits and vegetables, along with a rich array of seafood, frozen biscuits, hot pepper sauces, potted plants, flowers, and international and exotic foods. *Open seven days a week.*

Nashville Zoo at Grassmere

3777 Nolensville Rd., (615) 833-1534, <http://www.nashvillezoo.org>

The zoo boasts a great collection of animal exhibits from around the world including such classics as the elephant, ostrich, tiger and zebra, as well as the local favorite, the Tennessee walking horse. Other attractions are a 66,000-foot jungle gym (can accommodate 1000 children!), a historic house and working farm from the 1880's, a koi fish pond, a sculpture garden, and the "Unseen World" exhibit including amphibians, reptiles and insects never seen in Nashville before 1998.

Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. March 9-October 14 and 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. October 15-March 8.

Admission: \$15 adults, \$13 seniors; \$10 ages 2-12; under 2 free.

Opryland Hotel Indoor Gardens

2800 Opryland Dr., (615) 8891000,

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnago-gaylord-opryland/>

Famous for its imaginative public spaces and displays of art work. Three indoor garden areas/conservatories, crowned by sparkling glass roofs, are of special note. Combined, they cover 9 acres. Features include restaurants, shops, a village with the feel of New Orleans, waterfalls, winding paths, a fountain that sends jets of water 85 feet into the air, and a waterway with flatboats!

Percy Warner – Movies in the Park

Showtimes are every Wednesday June through July. The festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. Food is available for purchase. The movie is free for all.

The Parthenon

Centennial Park, 2500 West End Ave., <http://www.parthenon.org>

Nashville is home to the world's only fullscale replication of the famous Greek temple. It was originally built as a temporary exhibit as part of Tennessee's 1897 Centennial Exposition and recreated in concrete in the 1920's. The interior contains a 42-foot replica of the Athena Parthenos, which is the tallest indoor sculpture in the Western world. The museum features changing art exhibitions. Several years of restoration to this great work has recently been completed.

Ryman Auditorium

116 Fifth Ave., N., (615) 889-3060, <http://www.ryman.com>

This Nashville historic landmark was built in 1892 as the Union Gospel Tabernacle, but is more famous for being the former home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943-1974. Displays visually tell the story of its rich history. The Ryman is also an active entertainment venue offering a variety of musical performances ranging from country to classical. It's a great place to catch some of the big name country stars in an intimate setting each year during January and February when the "Grand Ole Opry plays Again" at the Ryman. For ticket information regarding musical events, call (615) 458-8700.

Tennessee State Capitol

Charlotte Ave. (between 6th & 7th Ave.), (615) 7412692

Designed by renowned Greek Revival architect, William Strickland, the historic Tennessee State Capitol stands today much as it did when completed in 1859. Several areas, including the first floor hallway, library and Supreme Court chamber, have been restored to their 19th century appearance.

Tennessee State Museum

Fifth Ave. & Deadrick St., (615) 7412692, <http://www.tnmuseum.org/>

Located in the basement of the James K. Polk building. The museum's exhibits trace the history of Tennessee from prehistoric Native Americans through the Civil War into the early 1900's. It features wonderful permanent collections of Tennessee-made artifacts including quilts, silver, furniture, paintings, pottery and Civil War flags. They also have several "non-Tennessee-related" traveling exhibitions throughout the year.

Travelers Rest Museum

636 Ferrell Parkway, (615) 8328197, <http://www.travellersrestplantation.org>

Located on 11 treeshaded acres, this restored Federal period home was begun in 1799 by Judge John Overton, planter, lawyer, and presidential campaign manager to Andrew Jackson. Additions continued to be made until 1828. The museum showcases a large collection of early Tennessee furniture and historical items relating to Native American and pre-Civil War American culture. Exhibits also include period outbuildings and formal gardens.

THEATERS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Vanderbilt Blair School of Music (615) 322-7651, <http://blair.vanderbilt.edu>

Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre (615) 646-9977, <http://www.dinnertheatre.com>

General Jackson Showboat (615) 458-3900, <http://www.generaljackson.com>

Nashville Opera (615) 832-5242, <http://www.nashvilleopera.org>

Nashville Philharmonic Orchestra <http://www.nashvillephilharmonic.org>

Nashville Shakespeare Festival (615) 255-2273 <http://www.nashvilleshakes.org>

Nashville Symphony (615) 783-1212 <http://www.nashvillesymphony.org>

Tennessee Performing Arts Center TPAC (615) 782-4000, <http://www.tpac.org>

LIVE MUSIC VENUES

Bluebird Café – In Green Hills strip mall, this singer-songwriter venue features an in-the-round format. The Bluebird was the starting point for many local greats, so it's really popular – be sure to call ahead for reservations; 4104 Hillsboro Rd., (615) 383-1461. <http://www.bluebirdcafe.com>

Blues Hideaway – 2275 Murfreesboro Pike, (615) 360-7380.

Dan McGuinness Irish Pub – 1538 Demonbreun St., (615) 252-1991

Exit/In – Host to national and local rock, pop and country acts; 2208 Elliston Place, in Vandy-West End area; (615) 321-3340.

Radio Café – East N'ville favorite; live music and fried catfish; 1313 Woodland St., (615) 228-7760.

Robert's Western World – Live country music; 416 Broadway, downtown, (615) 244-9552.

Rippey's – 429 Broadway, (615) 244-7477

The Station Inn – Bluegrass music; 402 12th Ave. S., (615) 255-3307

Tootsie's Orchid Lounge – 422 Broadway, (615) 726-0463

12th and Porter – 114 12th Ave. N., (615) 254-7236.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Boo at the Zoo - <https://www.nashvillezoo.org/boo>

An annual tradition including trick-or-treating, carousel rides, hayrides and more.

Marathon and Half Marathon - <http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/nashville>

Run to the rhythm of Music City with over 35,000 participants and experience some of Nashville's most scenic sights. With 50 bands playing live on 28 entertainment stages, hundreds of high school cheerleaders and thousands of spectators on the course – you will have the race of a lifetime. Race takes place in April each year.

Iroquois Steeplechase - <https://www.iroquoissteeplechase.org/>

Rich in tradition, elegance and the sportsmanship of steeplechasing, the Iroquois Steeplechase celebrates seventy-one years as one of the Middle Tennessee area's top sporting and social events. Drawing an average crowd of 25,000, this outstanding equestrian event combines the thrill of steeplechase racing and raising funds to benefit the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital. Steeplechase takes place in May each year.

Music City New Year's Eve Bash on Broadway - <http://www.visitmusiccity.com/newyeareve/>

Nashville's New Year's Eve celebration brings thousands of party-goers to downtown Nashville each year. The free event offers live music, fireworks and a Music Drop at midnight for party-goers.

CMA Music Festival - <http://www.cmaworld.com/cma-music-festival/>

"Country Music's Biggest Party" takes place over 4 days and features more than 70 hours of musical performances, autograph signings, celebrity sports competitions, and other events with more than 400 artists and celebrities participating. The CMA Music Festival takes place in June each year.

CMA Music Awards - <http://cmaworld.com/cma-awards>

"Country Music's Biggest Night" represents the pinnacle of achievement for country music artists, musicians, producers, publishers, songwriters, video directors and industry executives who work in America's most popular music genre. The CMA Awards Show takes place in November each year.

Capitol Records Street Party

Free concert on Demonbreun every September or October. Previous year's concerts have featured Alan Jackson, Eric Church, Darius Rucker, Lady Antebellum and Luke Bryan.

Celebrate Nashville Cultural Festival - <http://celebratenashville.org/>

In a city where one in six residents is foreign-born, the Celebrate Nashville Cultural Festival is not only one of Nashville's favorite and most vibrant festivals, but also a celebration and reminder of what makes Nashville a great place to live. This FREE Festival provides an opportunity for intercultural dialogue through a Nashville festival experience and features a variety of dance and music performance on 7 different stages, food vendors offering authentic and exotic tastes from around the world, hands-on children's activities, an area just for teens, a marketplace, and so much more!

Live on the Green - <http://www.liveonthegreen.com/>

Nashville's Free Music Festival. Featuring musicians, local food trucks, beer and wine.

Tomato Art Festival - <http://tomatoartfest.com/>

The festival celebrates all things tomato and tomato related, with a variety of events and activities catering to all ages. The location for the festival is East Nashville's popular 5 Points area, and all the local businesses there take part. There are tomato and tomato product (like salsa, soups etc) tastings at the Turnip Truck and tomato martinis at 3 Crow Bar. A lot of places do demonstrations ranging from cooking to art projects, making the festival highly interactive. The Tomato Art Festival takes place in August each year.

Festivals in Downtown Franklin - <http://www.historicfranklin.com/>

Festivals include: First Friday Art Scene, Tour of Homes, Franklin's Battle of the BBQ, Pumpkinfest, Dickens of a Christmas and many more.

Full Moon Pickin' Party - <http://warnerparks.org/programs-events/events/>

These laid-back, family-friendly fundraisers feature Middle Tennessee's finest bluegrass music under the light of a full moon. Musicians and music lovers alike are invited to enjoy this beloved Nashville tradition in one of its most beautiful settings: Warner Parks. Bluegrass and roots pickers jam in circles under the trees and around the grounds, while three headlining acts perform on the main stage.

Centennial Park

Centennial Park is Nashville's premier park. Located on West End and 25th Avenue North, the 132-acre features: the iconic Parthenon, a one-mile walking trail, Lake Watauga, the Centennial Art Center, historical monuments, an arts activity center, a beautiful sunken garden, a band shell, an events shelter, sand volleyball courts, two dog parks, and an exercise trail. Thousands of people visit the park each year to visit the museum, see exhibits, attend festivals, and just enjoy the beauty of the park.

Shakespeare in the Park - <http://nashvilleshakes.org/shakespeareinthepark.htm>

Musicians Corner - <http://musicianscornernashville.com/>

Musicians Corner - <http://musicianscornernashville.com/>

Musicians Corner presents free family friendly music events in Nashville's Centennial Park on Saturdays from 12 - 5 PM in May, June, September, and October. The event includes Kidsville, an area of the event where kids can enjoy fun, fitness, crafts, and educational Musical Meet & Greet guests and activities

Nashville Flea Market - <http://www.nashvilleexpocenter.org/expo/fleamarket>

Mark your calendar for the Nashville Flea Market, which falls on the third weekend of every month. Admission is free, but parking is \$5 unless you feel like parking down the street and taking a walk.

Nashville Farmers Market - <http://www.nashvillefarmersmarket.org>

At NFM, you'll find a locally, regionally, and more grown fruits & vegetables, locally & regionally raised meats, plants, flowers & herbs, farm-fresh eggs & dairy products, baked goods, snacks, spices, international items, and more on our Farm Side. Open year round.

Nashville Pride - <https://www.nashvillepride.org/>

Every year over two days in June the Nashville Pride Festival celebrates gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, & queer people and culture in middle Tennessee. The festival has been around since 1989 and takes place on Public Square Park.

Pilgrimage Music and Cultural Festival - <http://pilgrimagefestival.com/>

Pilgrimage will take place during the day, and offer a diverse yet renowned lineup of rock and roll, alt-country, bluegrass, jazz, indie, gospel and more. Performing on patina-clad stages reflecting the area's aesthetic, many bands will "crank it down" and give a partly acoustic set specifically tailored to the day. Moreover, the fest will boast "Pilgri-mashups," pairing artists together for special one-time collaborations on stage. The Little Pilgrims Stage will be more than a kids' play area; it will feature a line-up of talented young musicians in their own right, to inspire and entertain kids and adults alike.

I Run For the Party (Races) - <http://www.irunfortheparty.com>

IRFTP courses are designed to be fast, fun and challenging, while also showcasing the best parts of Nashville. Any IRFTP race is ideal for the new runner or for setting a new personal record. Each route showcases Nashville's most famous or up and coming neighborhoods including The Gulch, Germantown, Music Row, and more to keep those feet pounding.