



THE HISTORY & CULTURE TRAIL

The lower Mississippi valley was the homeland of the Choctaw, Chickasaw and Cherokee before the French, Spanish and British arrived in the 16th and 17th centuries to fight over it. The Americans finally took it in the 18th century and the defining historical event of the Deep South remains the Civil War, fought from 1861 to 1865. Travelling through **Memphis & Mississippi** is a history lesson in itself!

Memphis

- **National Civil Rights Museum, 450 Mulberry Street.** Interpretive exhibits and audio/visual displays bring to life the most significant moments of civil and human rights struggles and victories. Displayed to educate and inspire adults and children. Housed in the Lorraine Motel, site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- **Mississippi River Museum, 125 North Front Street.** 18-gallery museum of the natural and cultural history of the Lower Mississippi River Valley. Over 5,000 artefacts tell the story of river transportation, the US Civil War and music of the delta.
- **Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum, 826 North Second Street.** Former way station on the Underground Railroad. A secret cellar and trap doors reveal the escape route of runaway slaves.

Corinth

- **Corinth Civil War and Interpretive Center, 501 West Linden.** This impressive interpretation centre features exhibits that explain military and civilian experiences during the Civil War.
- **Pickin' on the Square.** Every Thursday night local bluegrass musicians gather on Court Square for a jammin' good time.

Oxford

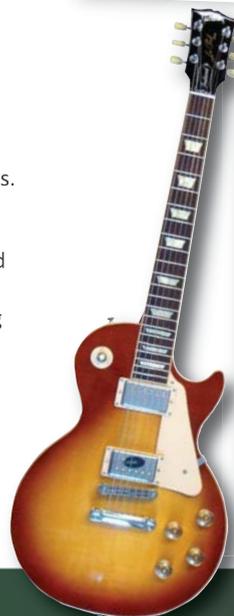
- **Rowan Oak, Old Taylor Road, Oxford.** Home of Nobel prize-winning author William Faulkner from 1930 until 1962. View the outline of his famous novel *A Fable*, written in the author's own hand on his study wall.

Columbus

- **Tennessee Williams Welcome Center & Museum, 300 Main Street.** Tennessee Williams's home was recently honoured with the designation of a National Literary Landmark and now also serves as the official Welcome Centre for visitors to Columbus.

Philadelphia

- **Choctaw Indian Fair.** Four fun-filled days of Choctaw culture held annually the second week of July.
- **Dancing Rabbit Golf Club.** Visit the award-winning 18-hole golf course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Choctaw Indian Reservation.
- **Philadelphia Historic District Driving Tour, Corner of Poplar and Beacon.** Historic homes of Main Street south to Rose Street, Holland Avenue and Poplar Avenue. Example of turn of the 20th century architecture. Drive-by or guided tours.





LAND OF THE AMERICAN

Kings



Gulf Coast

- **Coastal Mississippi is a blend of old world elegance and carefree life on the beach.**

The 26 miles of sun-drenched white sandy beaches are home to casinos and resorts usually found in Las Vegas as well as quaint seaside towns like Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, Bay St. Louis and Pass Christian which offer a sultry atmosphere with Spanish moss draped oaks. Cruising along scenic Highway 90 offers a picture postcard view of beaches, resorts and coastal fishing villages. After sundown, the strip is bathed in the bright lights, glitter and glitz of fabulous casinos.

Natchez

- **Antebellum Homes.** Two centuries ago this prosperous river port was home to almost half the millionaires in the USA and over 500 superb specimens of antebellum architecture still survive.
- **Natchez at Night Carriage Tours.** Enjoy the romance of Natchez at night. Take a horse drawn carriage tour through beautiful, historic downtown Natchez, the oldest permanent settlement on the Mississippi River.
- **Historic Downtown Natchez.** Oldest permanent settlement on the Mississippi River. Scenic streets, historic houses, churches, buildings, restaurants, quaint shops and riverwalks make Natchez an experience to remember.

Port Gibson

- General Grant declared it "too beautiful to burn" so it stands as a monument to the hey day of the Old South.
- **Port Gibson battlefield, Old Rodney Road at Point Lookout.** The Shaifer House is the site of the opening shots in the Battle of Port Gibson. Confederate forces were entrenched at Magnolia Church. Part of the battle was fought on the Bruinsburg Road at Lookout Point.
- **Ruins of Windsor Loop, 15095 Rodney Road, Port Gibson.** Haunting remains of one of the largest antebellum mansions built in the state. Spared during the Civil War, it burned in 1890. Twenty-three fluted columns are all that remain.

Vicksburg

- **Vicksburg National Military Park, 3201 Clay Street.** Established in 1899. This beautiful 1,800-acre park, with its marble and granite monuments, strategic markers and cannon displays, commemorates the 47-day Civil War siege and defense of Vicksburg. It includes the **Vicksburg National Cemetery**, which is the second largest national cemetery.
- **Vicksburg Historical Ghost Tour.** Walking Ghost Tour in historic downtown Vicksburg. Expert storytellers will capture your imagination with historical ghost stories about the Civil War, Vicksburg and the Mississippi River.

Greenville

- **The Great River Road.** Drive along one of the nation's oldest, longest and most unique scenic byways, which extends from the Tennessee line to the Louisiana line, allowing access to the Mississippi River.

Leland

- **Birthplace of Kermit the Frog Museum, 415 SE Deer Creek Drive.** Commemorates the Delta boyhood of Jim Henson, creator of the Sesame Street characters and his delightful Muppets. The Jim Henson Museum is located on the locally well known Deer Creek, the same Creek that Jim Henson sat one summer day and first imagined Kermit the Frog.

Tunica

- **Tunica RiverPark, 1 RiverPark Drive.** See, learn and experience the Big River up close through the museum, aquariums, observation platform, nature trail and Tunica Queen river cruise.
- **Popular gaming destination** with 9 casinos offering 24-hour gaming, spas, restaurants, entertainments, music and great food, and all only 30 minutes from Memphis.

