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only in
Jonesborough

**History Comes to Life**

While you journey through the streets of our well-preserved 18th century town, you'll learn the riveting tales of Daniel Boone, Andrew Jackson, David Crockett, John Sevier, and so many other national treasures of years past. As the Oldest Town in Tennessee, Jonesborough is still adorned with many buildings from as far back as the late 1700s, when those historic figures first began to make their mark on the country.

Today in Jonesborough, the streets are alive with the arts, shops, and eateries, and our Town is known as the Storytelling Capital of the World. Throughout the year, families from across the globe visit us for events like the National Storytelling Festival, our magical Christmas festivities, and the Garden Gala, and during the summer months, the Farmers Market, Music on the Square and Storytelling Live! Teller in Residence.

We have a little something for everyone. Come visit us in Jonesborough and start telling your own story.

**Visitor Center Information**

117 Boone Street  
Toll Free: 866.401.4233  
info@jonesborough.com  
Jonesborough.com

**Start Planning Your Vacation**

Experience all Tennessee has to offer. For complete visitor information, visit our website.  
TNvacation.com
A Town of Firsts

Known as the Storytelling Capital of the World, Jonesborough is home to the first and only annual National Storytelling Festival. But we celebrate many other firsts as well! Jonesborough’s story begins in the 18th century, when we were the first capital of the autonomous State of Franklin, established in 1784. In addition, our historic district was among the first from Tennessee to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and we housed the first publisher of a periodical devoted solely to the abolishment of slavery.

The Great Stage Road

During this time, tales of fertile lands circulated through America’s eastern colonies. These stories drew hundreds of people from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and overseas to travel the Great Stage Road by oxen-pulled wagons, coaches, and horseback with their lives in saddlebags.

Jonesborough, established as a county seat of government by North Carolina, attracted settlers with its courthouse and Main Street. Jonesborough was an important stopping point for settlers heading west, a place where they could restock before daring to attempt those early routes.

Our stories are the undeniable remnants of these daring times. They speak of the rise and fall of government, of duels fought, and of men dying in battle. This was a land explored by Daniel Boone and a home away from home for Andrew Jackson shortly before he helped Tennessee become a state. Men like Boone and Jackson were considered rebels then, but are now the heroes of generations.

Experience History First-Hand

Experiencing Jonesborough through a walking tour is the best way to hear the ongoing tales of Tennessee’s Oldest Town. Our Heritage Alliance tour guides, dressed in late 19th and early 20th century-style clothing, will escort you through the streets of Jonesborough while sharing little-known facts and the story of the Town from past to present.

The Chester Inn State Historic Site

Along the way, you’ll visit Main Street’s Chester Inn Museum, located in the heart of downtown. The museum chronicles the history of Jonesborough from its inception in 1779 to the present. Exhibits include information on the State of Franklin, a diorama of Jonesborough in the 1850s, the history of the Chester Inn, and much more. The exhibits rotate quarterly to coincide with the seasons and Town events.

Many of the exhibits feature Jonesborough’s extensive collection of historic photos. The stories that are told just by viewing the photographs make more of an impact than words alone can express.

In addition to the Chester Inn Museum, throughout Jonesborough, visitors can see many of the Town’s most historic buildings. These include the Oak Hill School, where children can experience a day in the life of a student in 1892; the Christopher Taylor House, built in the 1770s; and the Mansion House, built in 1843 by the Town’s first postmaster.

International Storytelling Center

With all of these stories to tell and many more, it’s no wonder Jonesborough is considered the Storytelling Capital of the World. Our International Storytelling Center hosts listeners and tellers from across America, who gather to share tales both big and small through the Teller-in-Residence program and the Storytellers Guild. On the first full weekend in October each year, we host the renowned National Storytelling Festival, an event that has grown to receive as many as 10,000 listeners every year!

Visit Us Today!

These are just a few of the stories that make up the fabric of our town. What stories will you discover while you’re here?

To learn more about our history and heritage, visit Jonesborough.com.
museums & Tours

Museums
Chester Inn Museum
Chuckey Depot Museum at Jonesborough
Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum

Historic Jonesborough Tours with the Heritage Alliance
Town Tour
Tour guides dressed in period clothing will escort you through the streets of Jonesborough sharing little-known facts and the history of the town from past to present.
March–December. Days and times are seasonal.

Cemetery Tour
Learn about Jonesborough’s historic cemeteries, the lives of the people buried there, and burial customs.
May–October. Saturdays only.

Mythbusting Tour
Put your history detective skills to the test as you try to separate the myths from the facts in Tennessee’s Oldest Town.
March–December. First Saturday of the month.

For more information, see full listings on page 23.
The Arts are alive

Spark Your Imagination

Jonesborough offers a thriving arts scene, with everything from theater to expert crafters to music and visual arts. But the scene wouldn’t be complete without storytelling, which can be experienced at several locations throughout downtown, such as the International Storytelling Center, including Storytelling Live! from May to October.

The Jonesborough Storytellers Guild hosts performances each Tuesday evening throughout the year. And the Jonesborough Yarn Exchange, our original storytelling radio hour, performs live the fourth Monday of each month. Visit Jonesborough.com for admission information and event details.

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre offers everything from rich dramas and playful comedies to impactful music and inspiring dance, the theater performs a year-round schedule of shows for all ages.

In keeping with the Town’s efforts of revitalization and preservation, the town is embarking on an exciting new preservation project with a full restoration of its 1940s Jackson Theatre. The facility will serve as a music venue, theater, and an independent film house.

For visual arts, visit the McKinney Center at Booker T. Washington School, which opened as a school in 1940 to instruct African-American children. The Center was named after Ernest L. McKinney, who was principal of the school and the Town’s first black Alderman. Here you’ll find exhibits and local artisan spotlights throughout the year, as well as the Mary B. Martin Program. This program offers world-class educational opportunities in drawing, painting, mosaics, theater, dance, and music.

For more information about the arts, visit Jonesborough.com.
Jonesborough is home to Curtis Buchanan, a world-renowned chairmaker. His chairs are in the permanent collection of the Tennessee State Museum, the Southern Highlands Craft Guild, the Tennessee State Governor’s Mansion, and Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson.
Southern Hospitality

Jonesborough hospitality began when our oldest commercial structure—the Chester Inn—opened its doors to guests in 1797. In that same year, the foundation for the Historic Eureka Inn was built. Although initially a residence, the building was expanded and 100 years later, guests were welcomed to the Eureka Hotel. Although the name has changed twice, today the establishment’s full restoration celebrates the glory days of 1900, and history has been reclaimed using “Eureka” in its current name—the Historic Eureka Inn.

In addition to beautifully preserved establishments, Jonesborough offers a variety of other lodging options.
including Country Inn & Suites, a contemporary hotel offering modern amenities; and several charming bed-and-breakfasts such as Hawley House Butterfly Cottage, the Blair-Moore House, the Franklin House, and Storybrook Farm. A short walk from any of these will take you to shopping, dining, theaters, and more, as well as walking and running trails.

See a complete list of lodging options in the back of this guide, and book your stay in Tennessee’s Oldest Town!

For more information about our accommodations, visit Jonesborough.com.
Jonesborough’s architecture, people, and incredible food depict our heritage and culture.

Main Street Café, a downtown staple, has enticed visitors with fresh salads, sandwiches, and homemade desserts since 1982. Step back in time at JJ’s, a nostalgic ice cream parlor with a menu of burgers, blue plate specials, and hand-dipped ice creams. Downtown Sweet, The Lollipop Shop, and Another Touch Bakery will further satisfy your sweet tooth.

And don’t forget the Olde Towne Pancake House! Surrounded by “I Love Lucy” memorabilia, you’ll enjoy a pancake stack as warm as the hearts of the servers and realize you’ve found the perfect spot to slow down and savor life’s little moments.

For vegan and vegetarian cuisine that is free of preservatives and made from the freshest ingredients, visit Medley in Courthouse Square.

With flavors as vibrant as our community—and more great restaurants along Highway 11-E—Jonesborough dining is sure to become a fond memory you’ll relish long after your visit.

For more restaurants and local culture, visit Jonesborough.com.
Locally Grown & Brewed

Local business and agriculture contribute to our rich heritage. Jonesborough Locally Grown, an organization supporting local farmers, offers opportunities to experience and enjoy the freshest local produce and food through the Saturday Farmers Market, Boone Street Market store, and the popular annual Farm to Table Dinner.

Tennessee’s Oldest Town doesn’t stop there! Locally brewed coffee, beer, and liquor are also all produced here. The Corner Cup serves up a variety of beverages including some of the best-brewed coffees in the region in a delightful setting. Depot Street Brewing delivers a variety of fresh, hand-crafted, small-batch brews using the finest ingredients for the discerning beer lover. And stop in for a tasting of spirits created using age-old recipes, distillation methods and the finest, locally grown corn and barley at Tennessee Hills Distillery.

**Boone Street Market**

The Jonesborough Farmers Market was so popular that it grew into a year-round store, Boone Street Market. The store sells only products from farmers, growers, and makers within 100 miles of the market.
For over 200 years, Jonesborough merchants have taken pride in offering exclusive goods from around the world. Today, as always, service and style thrive all along the historic Main Street of Jonesborough, the heart and soul of the Town.

The picturesque downtown area, with beautiful landscaping and well-preserved historic buildings, creates a welcoming setting for great shopping. Inside these buildings, you will discover handmade crafts, one-of-a-kind gifts, nostalgic antiques, and much more! Art galleries, gourmet food shops, fashion boutiques, and many other delightful retail shops make it a treat for locals and visitors to do their shopping in Jonesborough.

While most of our shops are locally owned, their retail diversity is amazing. You can find handmade jewelry from local artisans, special Appalachian Mountain crafts, and even unique, handcrafted gifts from around the world.

Downtown is proud to have the streets lined with small businesses that fill their shops and boutiques with items that can be found only in Jonesborough. The Shop Local Movement is one that is growing, and each year, Jonesborough participates in Small Business Saturday.

See what treasures you can discover in our downtown shopping district!

For more about downtown shopping, visit Jonesborough.com.
Hands Around the World

One of our shops on Main Street, Hands Around the World, is the only shop in the Southeast that handpicks authentic, handmade, one-of-a-kind items from artists in 15 countries, where every piece has a unique story.
The Fun Never Ends

Any time of year, Jonesborough is host to a wide variety of events for everyone in the family. From arts and crafts to music and dancing, there is never a shortage of fun to be had here!

In early February, we celebrate all things chocolate at our Chocolate Fest—just in time for Valentine’s Day. Experience more than 20 varieties of chocolate, visit the s’mores station, and keep your eye out for the “golden ticket.”

When the weather warms up, tour Jonesborough’s most enticing gardens while you enjoy tea and light refreshments during our annual Garden Gala in June. Join us May through September for free live music on the Courthouse steps every Friday at 7 p.m. Bring a chair, relax and listen to old-time Appalachian music, folk, bluegrass and more. And in July, fire up your patriotism at the Jonesborough Days Festival, with live music, a parade, fireworks, children’s entertainment, craft vendors, games, food, storytelling, and more!

Speaking of storytelling—the National Storytelling Festival in October is an experience that can’t be missed. The oldest event in the country dedicated solely to the storytelling tradition brings internationally known artists to town every year.

While you’re here, find a special gift or souvenir to take home! In addition to our variety of shops throughout downtown,
we also host several craft shows during the year. These events feature the finest handmade keepsakes around.

And when it comes to Christmas... let’s just say we know how to deck the halls. Our annual Christmas in Olde Jonesborough events start in late November, featuring Santa, a toy drive, free gift-wrapping, local art and crafts at the Christmas Market, and our Lighted Christmas Parade on Boone and Main streets!

Beside the courthouse, you’ll find our Christmas tree, which will be ceremoniously lit on the Saturday following Thanksgiving, preceded by holiday carols and stories.

Ongoing Events

Throughout the year, you can also enjoy:

- Music on the Square
- Brews and Tunes
- Movies on Main
- Storytellers Guild
- Storytelling Live!
- Teller in Residence
- Historic Jonesborough
- Dance Society Contra Dances
- Jonesborough Yarn Exchange Radio Show
- Jonesborough Repertory Theatre

For more information about festivals and events, visit Jonesborough.com.
recreation &
Family Fun

Fun for All Ages

When you bring your family to Jonesborough, you’ll find that it’s easy to fill up a day or a weekend (or more!) with activities for everyone.

Our Town offers a variety of beautiful, family-friendly parks for tossing a frisbee, taking a walk, or just relaxing in the shade. Nestled in the mountains of Northeast Tennessee along the Appalachian Trail, there is a world of opportunity for outdoor recreation here.

Camping, hiking, fishing, whitewater rafting, and biking are all within reach. With many public golf courses, this region has been recognized by Golf Digest Magazine as one of the premier places for hitting the greens.

Historic Jonesborough also has youth sports and recreational opportunities, several parks, and walking trails. Stage Road Park, just a block from downtown, offers walking trails, a tennis/pickleball court, playgrounds, and a pavilion. Mill Spring Park is a great place to relax by the creek or have a picnic, and its picturesque setting and lovely gazebo make it a favorite wedding venue.

The Lost State Scenic Walkway offers 3.5 miles of paved trails, and Persimmon Ridge Park hosts an 18-hole disc golf course and hiking trails.

only in jonesborough

Luke’s Trail

Luke’s Trail, located inside Persimmon Ridge Park, can’t be missed! As you reach the ridge while on Luke’s Trail, you’ll come to a clearing where you’ll enjoy a bird’s eye view of the mountains and the park.
During the warmer months, be sure to bring your swimsuits so you can fully experience everything Wetlands Water Park has to offer. Splash around a rain tree, water bubblers, tumble buckets, tubes, and a zero-depth wading area; slide down one of the two fiberglass flume waterslides, or relax in the lazy river. Then take a break at the full-service café, under the shaded pavilions, or in the covered dining area.

Here’s what a weekend in Jonesborough could look like:

**Main Street**
Stroll the brick sidewalks and visit local treasures and merchants. It’s sure to be a delight for kids and parents alike.

**Chuckey Depot Museum at Jonesborough**
Board the 47-year-old caboose and explore the interactive museum inside the restored train depot.

**Bright’s Zoo**
A family-owned facility that lets you get an up-close look at a multitude of animals, from endangered species to more common but exotic creatures.

**Great Jonesborough Scavenger Hunt**
Use the QR code reader on your smartphone to scan codes all over downtown and follow the clues. Make it to the end and you’ll be entered to win an #OnlyInJonesborough Prize Pack!

For more family fun ideas, visit Jonesborough.com.
Venues for every occasion

Parties, Weddings, and More

The Oldest Town in Tennessee is well-known as the perfect place for a beautiful wedding. But our variety of venues are also ideal for anything from a birthday party to a retirement celebration to a work retreat!

Our venues include:

Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center & Old Town Emporium
Catering kitchen, tables, chairs, AV materials, lighting/sound equipment. Accommodates 300.

Mill Spring Park
Picturesque gazebo, panoramic views, babbling creek. Accommodates 100.

McKinney Center
Original hardwood floors, lots of natural lighting, tables, chairs, AV items, catering kitchen. Accommodates 250.
Storybrook Farm
Picturesque venue in a country setting with onsite access to kitchen, comfortably furnished changing rooms. Accommodates 150.

Jonesborough Senior Center
Multiple rental spaces with a spacious dining room. Rentals include tables and chairs. Accommodates 150.

International Storytelling Center
Plaza, courtyard; 3-acre park; spacious parlor with adjoining courtyard; formal library overlooking downtown; intimate 95-seat theater. Accommodates 100-300.

Team Bridal Wedding & Event Loft
Private gazebo, stone courtyard with bar, dressing suites. Wedding packages from simple to elaborate and elegant. Accommodates 60-125.

Additional services available in town:
- Catering
- Florists
- Bakeries
- Photographers
- Horse-drawn carriages

For more information, visit Jonesborough.com.
Shopping

1. Aroma Sense Essential Oils
2. Boone Street Market
3. C & L Chandlers Market
4. Crafty Peddler
5. Hands Around the World
6. International Storytelling Center Gift Shop
7. Jonesborough Antiques & Artisans
8. Kaley’s & Co
9. Mauk’s
10. Monograms on Main
11. Noelle
12. Old Town Emporium Inside Visitors Center
13. One.40.Four
14. Paul’s Pens Odds & Ends
15. Shellz
16. Tennessee Quilts

Eats & Sweets

17. Another Touch Bakery
18. The Corner Cup Coffee House
19. Depot Street Brewery
**Accommodations**

Blair-Moore House Bed & Breakfast
201 W. Main St. | 423.753.0044
blairmoorehouse.com

Country Inn & Suites
376 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.753.3100
countryinn.com

Historic Eureka Inn
127 W. Main St. | 423.913.6100
eureka.jonesborough.com

Franklin House Bed & Breakfast
116 Franklin Ave. | 423.753.3819
franklinhousebb.com

Hawley House Butterfly Cottage
114 E. Woodrow Ave. | 423.753.8869
hawleyhouse.com

Blair-Moore House Bed & Breakfast
201 W. Main St. | 304.519.1117
blairmoorehouse.com

Country Inn & Suites
376 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.753.3100
countryinn.com

Historic Eureka Inn
127 W. Main St. | 423.913.6100
eureka.jonesborough.com

Franklin House Bed & Breakfast
116 Franklin Ave. | 423.753.3819
franklinhousebb.com

Hawley House Butterfly Cottage
114 E. Woodrow Ave. | 423.753.8869
hawleyhouse.com

**Eats & Sweets**

Amigo
Mexican Cuisine
125 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.788.2804

Another Touch Bakery
Baked Goods
103 Fox St. | 423.753.0553

The Black Olive
Italian Cuisine
125 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.788.3618

Downtown Sweet
Handmade Confections
137 E. Main St. | 423.948.0151

JJ’s Eatery and Ice Cream
Restaurant/Ice Cream Parlor
107 E. Main St. | 423.913.8003

Jonesborough Pizza Parlor
Pizza
416 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.753.8862

Krazy Krepes
German-style crepes
148 E. Main St. (inside the Corner Cup)
423.483.2602

The Lollipop Shop
Candy Store
129 E. Main St. | 423.913.2663

Main Street Café & Catering
American Fare
117 W. Main St. | 423.753.2460

Old Town Dairy Bar
Fast Food/Ice Cream
412 W. Jackson Blvd. | 423.753.6261

Olde Towne Pancake House
Family Style
142 Boone St. | 423.913.8111

Rocky’s Pizza
Pizza
1003 E. Jackson Blvd. #2 | 423.753.2433

Locally Grown & Brewed

Boone Street Market
Groceries
101 Boone St. | 423.753.4722

The Corner Cup
Coffee House
148 E. Main St. | 423.483.2602
javalo.com

Depot Street Brewing
904 Depot St. | 423.788.4630

Jonesborough Farmers Market
May-October
Courthouse Sq. | 423.753.4722

Tennessee Hills Distillery
127 Fox St. | 423.788.9105

**Antiques, Crafts, & More**

C&L Chandlers
Handcrafted Candles
101 E. Main St. | 423.913.4305

Crafty Peddler
Crafts and Decor
104 S. Cherokee St. | 423.753.5971

Deer Ridge Farm Saddlery
Shoe Repair and Leather Goods
131 E. Main St. | 423.753.6046

Dollhouse
Dolls and Collectibles
216 Headtown Rd. | 423.753.0022

Hands Around the World
Local and International Crafts
111 E. Main St. | 423.753.8177

Jonesborough Antiques & Artisans
Antiques
115 E. Main St. | 423.753.8301

Paul’s Pens Odds & Ends
Handmade Wooden Gifts
105 ½ Fox St. | 423.612.1500

The Sewing Bee
Sewing, Quilting, and Embroidery Supplies
107 E. Jackson Blvd. | 423.753.7399

Tennessee Quilts
Quilting Supplies
114 Boone St. | 877.385.0934

**Fashion**

Kaley’s & Co
Clothing Store
139 E. Main St. | 423.753.5305

Monograms on Main
Monogramming and Clothing Store
133 E. Main St. | 423.741.9172

Shellz
Clothing Store
120 E. Main St. | 423.434.4880
Gifts and Home Décor

Aroma Sense Essential Oils
Oils and More
105 Fox St. | 423.915.6862

International Storytelling Center Gift Shop
Books, gifts, and more
116 W. Main St. | 423.753.2171

Mauk’s
Gifts & Furniture
101 W. Main St. | 423.753.4648

Noelle
Seasonal Home Décor
123 E. Main St. | 423.913.8000

Old Town Emporium Gift Shop
Books, gifts, and more
117 Boone St. (Inside Visitors Center) | 423.753.1010

One.40.Four Marketplace Gift Shop
144 E. Main St. | 423.444.6351

McKinney Center at Booker T. Washington School
Arts Center
103 Franklin Ave. | 423.753.0562

Oak Hill School
214 E. Sabin Dr. | 423.753.9580

Positive Solutions Tours
254 Telford School Rd. | 423.753.5405

Recreation & Family Fun
Maps available at the Visitors Center.

Barkley Creek Park
615 W. Main St.

Tours & Attractions

Bright’s Zoo
3425 Highway 11E
Limestone, TN | 423.257.1927

Chester Inn Museum & Guided Historic Walking Tours
116 W. Main St. | 423.753.4580

Chuckey Depot Museum at Jonesborough
110 S. 2nd Ave. | 423.791.3869

Escape Game 101
101 Fox St. | 423.218.8648

East Tennessee Ghost Tours & Paranormal Technology
101 Fox St. | 423.218.8648

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre
125 ½ W. Main St. | 423.753.1010

Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum
117 Boone St. | 423.753.1010

Depot Street Park
400 Depot St.

Golden Oak Park
277 Goldenrod Dr.

Jimmy Neil Smith Park
111 W. College St.

The Lost State Scenic Walkway
Throughout town

Mill Spring Park
111 Fox St.

Persimmon Ridge Park
1523 Persimmon Ridge Rd.

Stage Road Park
188 Stage Rd.

Veterans Memorial Park
117 Boone St.

W.C. Rowe Park
110 S. 2nd Ave.

Wetlands Water Park
1523 Persimmon Ridge Rd.

Venues for Every Occasion

Chuckey Depot Museum at Jonesborough
110 S. 2nd Ave. | 423.791.3869

The Heritage Weddings & Events
161 Molly Grayce Ln. | 423.928-0025

Historic Eureka Inn
127 W. Main St. | 423.913.6100

Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center & Old Town Emporium
117 Boone St. | 423.753.1012

International Storytelling Center
116 W. Main St. | 423-913-8234

Jonesborough Senior Center
307 E. Main St. | 423.753.4781

McKinney Center at Booker T. Washington School
Arts Center
103 Franklin Ave. | 423.753.0562

Oak Hill School
214 E. Sabin Dr. | 423.753.9580

Positive Solutions Tours
254 Telford School Rd. | 423.753.5405

Recreation & Family Fun
Maps available at the Visitors Center.

Barkley Creek Park
615 W. Main St.

Wetlands Water Park
1523 Persimmon Ridge Rd.

For more information, visit Jonesborough.com.