



CHATTANOOGA NEWCOMERS CLUB

A Bridge to New Friendships

Chattanooga

Founded in 1838. Chattanooga is a Cherokee word believed to mean “mountain that comes to a rocky point”. In early 1980’s, city leaders began Vision 2000, which is a result of what downtown is today. The revitalization project is used as a model by cities across the country and around the world.

Walnut Street Pedestrian Bridge

2376 feet (.45 mile) long, makes it one of the longest pedestrian bridges in the world. Built 1890, closed to motor vehicles 1978. Two black men were hanged from bridge. Both charged with attacking a white woman; Alfred Blount in 1893 and Ed Johnson in 1906. Ed’s conviction was later overturned. There are plaques placed on the bridge. Bridge designed by engineer Edwin Thatcher. Took 2 years to build.

Holmberg Pedestrian Bridge

1 ½” laminated glass, built in 2005 for \$1.6 M. As of July 2018, all glass panels have been replaced.

Trail of Tears

Cherokee and Creeks were forced to Oklahoma.

Civil War

1861-1865, started at Fort Sumter, more than 678,000 died

North--Union states, Yankees, blue uniforms

North—Abraham Lincoln, President of U. S.

North—Ulysses Grant, General of Union Army (which defeated Robert E. Lee)

North--Many of the Union soldiers who had served in the Chattanooga area found the country appealing and after the war, many returned to Chattanooga.

South—Confederate states, Rebels, grey uniforms

South—Jefferson Davis, President of Confederate states

South—Robert E. Lee, Leader of the Army in Northern Virginia, Offered the Union command, but chose not to fight against Virginia, opposed secession, but didn't want to force unity, Urged Southerners to accept defeat and reunite

South—Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson, one of the most skilled Confederate generals was, from Virginia, as were Lee, Johnston, Beauregard, Longstreet, and Stuart



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Incline Railway/Lookout Mountain

Opened in 1895. At one point is a 72.7% incline making it the steepest passenger incline in the world. It was built in 90 days. One person was killed in 1886 while working on an earlier incline, the only death from workers or passengers.

National Cemetery

Over 12,000 *Union (North)* soldiers are buried. General George Thomas was asked if he wanted his soldiers buried by state as they did at Gettysburg, he replied, "No, No, mix them all up. I'm sick of state's rights". No *Confederate* soldiers are buried in the park because of prevailing sentiment at the time. James J. Andrews & 7 of his "raiders" of the Great Locomotive Chase were tried & executed & buried here. A replica of The General is here. Andrew's Raiders were the 1st. recipients of the Medal of Honor. Cemetery covers 120.9 acres.

Raccoon Mountain

During periods of low demand, water is pumped from Nickajack Reservoir at the base of the mountain to the man-made reservoir at the top. It takes 28 hours to fill the upper reservoir. When demand is high, water is released via a tunnel drilled thru the center of the mountain. The force of this falling water powers the generators in the mountain's underground power plant. The dam is 230' high, 8500' long and the 528-acre reservoir is the largest rock-filled dam ever constructed by TVA.

Ooltewah

A Native American phrase meaning "resting place"; but residents claim that the real meaning is "Owl's Nest" and call Ooltewah HS mascot the "Owls".

Population

As of 2019, Hamilton County 367,804, and Chattanooga is 182,779. Chattanooga is geographically bigger than NY City, Chicago, Memphis or Atlanta.

Chattanooga Choo Choo

Served as train station from 1909-1970. Considered an example of Beaus-Arts style architecture. A 24-year old NY architectural student, Don Barber, designed terminal Station. The terminal has been called the largest self-supported brick arch in the world; an 82-foot freestanding domed ceiling features a skylight & was designed w/ brass chandeliers. The



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station got its fame when in 1941, Glenn Miller & Orchestra recorded "Chattanooga Choo Choo" which went to #1 and became the 1st certified gold record.

Tennessee Aquarium

Opened in 1992, housing the TN Aquarium's River Journey exhibit & the world's biggest freshwater aquarium. Second phase, Ocean Journey, saltwater exhibit opened in 2005.

Hunter Museum of American Art

Original mansion is Edwardian-style. Next expansion, which expressed the design aesthetic of the 1970's, was created by Chattanooga architects and won numerous design awards. The avant-garde, 21st-century expansion added on 28,000 sq. ft.

Weather

Average rainfall-52.48 inches, average days w/ temps 90 or above-47 days, w/ temps below 32--58 days, highest temps-June 30 & July 1, 2012 @ 107 degrees. But Chattanooga gets more rain than Seattle w/ average of 36"; it is just spread out with more rainy days.

Employment

Hamilton county's biggest employers are #1 Erlanger Health System, #2 BCBS at TN, #3 Hamilton County Schools, #4 TVA, #5 McKee Foods (Little Debbie), #6 Unum, and #7 Volkswagen.

Mayfield Dairy

Mayfield Ice Cream's mascot's official name is "Maggie the Magnificent Mayfield Milk-making Machine".

Sister Cities (8)

Wolfsburg, Germany; Hamm, Germany; Wuxi, People's Republic of China; Givatayim, Israel; Nizhnil Tagil, Russia; Gangneung, China; Manfredonia, Italy; and Tono, Japan.

FYI

Three major interstates, I-75, I-24 & I-59, run through Chattanooga. More truck traffic passes through the city than any other metro area in the United States.



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Ruby Falls

Features a 145 ft. waterfall located 1,120 ft. beneath surface of Lookout Mt. Opened to public in 1930. Named after Leo Lambert's wife "Ruby".

Martin Luther King Mural

Located 300 East M. L. King on the AT & T Building - covers 42,179 square feet.

Railroad Bridge Across TN River at Chickamauga Dam

Warren Through-truss Bridge. The first one was built & completed in 1886 for the Cincinnati Southern Railway. Was rebuilt from 1917-1920. It is still owned by Cincinnati, Ohio & is leased by Norfolk Southern Railway.

Firsts in Chattanooga

- Tom Thumb Golf
1927, Lookout Mountain hotel owner, Garnet Carter became the 1st person to patent miniature golf.
- Moon Pies
1917, coal miners in KY requested to traveling salesman from Chattanooga they wanted a sweet snack that was a "big as the moon". The rest is history. Before the sun/moon eclipse on August 21, 2017, Hostess Cupcakes tweeted that their Golden CupCakes were the official cake of the eclipse. MoonPie quickly entered the friendly battle that theirs was the only snack cake with "moon" in the name.
- Krystal Burgers
1932, the oldest (little squares) hamburger chain in the south.
- Tow Trucks
1916, Ernest Holmes 1st successful tow truck was Model 485 and sold for \$482. Chattanooga is home to the International Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame Museum and Miller Industries is the world's biggest tow truck manufacturer.

Check out the website below. Great suggestions for road trip outings.

www.OnlyinTennessee.com