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danagraves

St. Louis Guide

St. Louis, 2 Days

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Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: In these two days, you'll see notable St. Louis sights (the Gateway Arch, the Old Courthouse, the Anheiser-Busch Brewery, Blueberry Hill) as well as lesser-known ones (the City Museum, Lemp Mansion).

This guide takes you to Forest Park and St. Louis's free art museum and introduces you to your new-to-Nile Guide hotel: the Moonrise Hotel (<http://www.moonrisehotel.com/>) in the University Loop (ok, so it doesn't really introduce you to the hotel, because it's not on Nile Guide yet, but you should stay there anyway).

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - St. Louis



Gateway Arch

World's Tallest Arch



Old Courthouse

St. Louis History on Display



Tap Room

Brew & Stew



Anheuser-Busch Brewery

World's Largest Brewery



Lemp Mansion Mystery Dinner Theatre

Mystery Dinner Theater



City Museum

Caves, Tunnels and the Largest Pair of Underwear in the World!

Day 2 - St. Louis



Forest Park

Natural Beauty, Urban Setting



Saint Louis Art Museum (SLAM)

Art For Everyone



Dominic's on the Hill

Traditional Italian on The Hill



University City Loop

Eclectic Shops, Eateries and More



St. Louis Walk of Fame

Stars of St Louis Shine



Blueberry Hill

Pop Culture, Great Food and Fun

Day 1 - St. Louis

QUICK NOTE

contact:

tel: +1 314 655 1700
<http://www.gatewayarch.com/>
,<http://www.nps.gov/archive/jeff/arch.html>

location:

North 1st Street
St. Louis MO 63102

1

Gateway Arch

DESCRIPTION: The Arch has been a popular tourist attraction since its completion in October 1965. Designed to last 1,000 years, it reaches 630 feet in height; on a clear day, you can see for about 30 miles from atop the structure. Groups of 20 or more can take a guided tour of the landmark. The tour includes a documentary film on the building of the Arch, a visit to the Museum of Westward Expansion and a trip to the Old Courthouse, which is famous for hosting the legendary Dred Scott Trial. © wcities.com

contact:

tel: +1 314 655 1700
fax: +1 314 655 1641
<http://www.nps.gov/jeff/planyourvisit/och.htm>

location:

11 North Fourth Street
St. Louis MO 63102

2

Old Courthouse

DESCRIPTION: The exhibits at the Old Courthouse, most of which are actual models or historic items rather than mere text or photographs, date back to 1764, at which time the St. Louis region was a French fur trading port. Other exhibits come from eras ranging from colonial times on up to the 20th century. The Old Courthouse served as an actual courthouse from the mid-19th century up until 1930. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: +1 314 241 2337
fax: +1 314 241 8101
<http://www.schlafly.com/>

location:

2100 Locust Street
St. Louis MO 63103

hours:

Mo to Tu from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, We to Sa from 11:00 AM to 01:00 AM, Su from 12:00 PM to 10:00 PM

3

Tap Room

DESCRIPTION: A few blocks north of Union Station, in a 1904 brick building that used to house a printing company, this microbrewery brews more than 30 kinds of Schlafly brand beer on the premises (eight or so are usually on offer) and serves a variety of sandwiches and entrees, many of which include beer in their recipes, including Oatmeal Stout steak-and-mushroom pie, and beer-and-cheddar soup. An upstairs bar offers live music every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening. © Frommer's

contact:

tel: +1 314 577 2626
<http://www.budweisertours.com/>,<http://www.anheuser-busch.com/breweryMO.html>

location:

610 Pestalozzi Street
St Louis MO 63118

hours:

4

Anheuser-Busch Brewery

DESCRIPTION: Anheuser-Busch, one of the world's largest beer brewers, was established at this site in the 1860s, and many architectural gems from that time period remain. Tours of the brewing process take in the 1885 Clydesdale stable, the historic 1892 Brew House, and the packaging plant, ending with free drinks. Allow 1 1/2 hours. Tours begin at 12th and Lynch streets (I-55 at Arsenal). © Frommer's



wcities

June-Aug Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 11:30am-5pm; Sept-May Mon-Sat 9am-4pm (Nov-Feb from 10am), Sun 11:30am-4pm. Tours run several times an hour on first-come, first-served basis. Frequency depends on demand (as often as every 10 min. in summer and about every 30 min. in winter)

contact:
tel: +1 314 664 8024
<http://www.lempmansion.com>

location:
3322 DeMenil Place
St. Louis MO 63118

5 Lemp Mansion Mystery Dinner Theatre

DESCRIPTION: Murder, mystery and mayhem are all part of what you'll find here. No one knows whether he or she will be the next "victim" or the one to solve the case. The haunting history of the 1860s mansion adds to the exciting atmosphere. Although this is a bed-and-breakfast establishment, the dinner theater is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays at 7p. Reservations are recommended. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:
tel: +1 314 231 2489
<http://www.citymuseum.org/>

location:
701 North 15th Street
St. Louis MO 63103

6 City Museum

DESCRIPTION: Located in a former shoe manufacturing building, this museum will satisfy both the young and the young-at-heart. With three floors of interesting, educational and fun-filled rooms, it is one of the best downtown attractions. The museum is run by a group of artists and professionals with impressive credits, who together produce an awesome array of exhibits. Feel the authenticity of the multilevel enchanted forest, the architectural museum and the giant aquarium. Join in on the circus fun, do some arts and crafts or just enjoy browsing. © wcities.com



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Day 2 - St. Louis

QUICK NOTE

contact:

tel: +1 314 367 7275
fax: +1 314 367 7622
<http://www.forestparkforever.org/HTML/>

location:

5595 Grand Drive
St. Louis MO 63112

1 Forest Park

DESCRIPTION: Born in the Civil War era (1879) and site of the 1904 World's Fair, this park attracts history lovers from around the world. Memories abound in this urban park, which hosts reunions and many other events year-round. Not much is sweeter than walking barefoot in the grass on the beautiful grounds, picnicking by the stream or seeing the 40-foot turtle. Browse displays, historical artifacts and art collections. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: +1 314 721 0072
fax: +1 314 721 6172
<http://www.slam.org/>

location:

1 Fine Arts Dr
St Louis MO 63110

hours:

Tues-Sun 10am-5pm (Fri to 9pm)

2 Saint Louis Art Museum (SLAM)

DESCRIPTION: Housed in a Beaux Arts-style building constructed for the 1904 World's Fair, this great museum is a buffet of the arts, where visitors can sample as much as they like of the displays from around the globe and from virtually all time periods. It contains works ranging from ancient and medieval art to European old masters, French Impressionists, American art from 1800 to 1945, and contemporary art. Its pre-Columbian, Asian, and German expressionist collections are ranked among the best in the world (it owns more paintings by Max Beckmann than any museum on the planet). Other galleries feature Islamic and ancient art; an Egyptian collection (including three mummies); arms and armor; media art; and art from Africa, Oceania, and the Americas. There are also displays of Chinese, European, and American decorative arts. You should spend at least 2 hours here. © Frommer's

contact:

tel: 3147711632
fax: +1 314 771 1695
www.dominicsrestaurant.com

location:

5101 Wilson Ave.
St. Louis MO 63110

hours:

Mo to Sa from 05:00 PM to 10:00 PM

3 Dominic's on the Hill

DESCRIPTION: Considered by many to be the best Italian restaurant on the Hill, this restaurant inspires elegance and good taste. Gentlemen will want to wear a suit and tie and ladies should make it a point to dress up for the occasion, too. Italian landscape oil paintings and romantic chandelier lighting perfectly complement the tasteful ambiance. Veal and artichoke dishes are hearty favorites at Dominic's on the Hill, but do not overlook the seafood selections. The wine list is among the top in St. Louis and features many Italian vintages. Cappuccinos and espressos perfectly complete every meal. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:
tel: +1 314 727 8000
<http://www.visittheloop.com>

location:
6504 Delmar Boulevard
St. Louis MO 63130

4 University City Loop

DESCRIPTION: Locals and visitors gather in crowds to shop, dine and have fun in the Loop, a six-block area in the center of St. Louis filled with dozens of businesses. This historic landmark in the university area is convenient to Lambert International Airport, Forest Park, MetroLink, the Washington University and more. Parking space is plentiful for those planning on shopping or staying in the area awhile. Shop at places like Tantrum and Faru Gallery, dine at Blueberry Hill or the Melting Pot. Or take in a movie at the Tivoli Theater. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:
tel: +1 314 727 7827
<http://stlouiswalkoffame.org/>

location:
6504 Delmar Boulevard
St. Louis MO 63130

5 St. Louis Walk of Fame

DESCRIPTION: Dedicated in 1988, this University City contains more than 80 brass and bronze stars celebrating people who were born in or lived in St. Louis, making an impact on the city's cultural heritage. Stars such as Maya Angelou, John Goodman, Tina Turner, Betty Grable and Yogi Berra are included in this tribute to St. Louis history. Inductions of new stars are held yearly. The goal of this organization is to educate as well as to share the accomplishments of the honorees. The walk is open year round and is free to the public. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: +1 314 727 4444
<http://www.blueberryhill.com/>

location:
6504 Delmar Boulevard
St. Louis MO 63130

hours:
Mo to Sa from 11:00 AM to
01:30 PM, Su from 11:00 AM
to 12:00 PM

6 Blueberry Hill

DESCRIPTION: Voted best nightclub, bar, hangout, restaurant...you name it: Blueberry Hill is the place to go for great food and live bands. Whether it is a local band or a national touring act, this five-star establishment has the best in blues, reggae and rock 'n' roll. The menu contains an array of heart clogging selections like chili fries and hamburgers. But you will find numerous veggie offerings and specials like Trout Almondine and jerk chicken. Sandwiches and breakfast grub is also available. © wcities.com



Blueberry Hill

St. Louis Snapshot

Local Info

St. Louis is best-known to most Americans for its landmark arch. But residents appreciate their hometown for its many parks, greenspaces and easily enjoyed entertainments: the city ranks second only to Washington, D.C., for highest number of free things to do among U.S. cities.

Sights

You might guess it's the Washington Monument but, in fact, the Gateway Arch is the tallest manmade national monument in America. Nearby is an open mall (as in plaza, not shopping mall) with a lovely reflecting pool. 15th Street is where to find the City Museum with its multitude of attractions, including Tiny Train Town, World Aquarium, Enchanted Caves, Toddler Town and an interesting collection of architectural relics. The place is one of visitors' most popular stops, because it's like a playground for young and old.

You can also spend some quality family time at Forest Park, a large, central public space where the outdoor activities include boating, fishing, picnics, golf and ice-skating. While there, make sure to try the park's hotdogs and ice creams, which are a point of St. Louis pride.

One of the best times to visit the city is from May to June, when the St. Louis Renaissance Faire takes place on weekends. A lot of these fairs absorb a good deal of flack, ridiculed as the exclusive domain of nerds, but this one is different. It features excellent food, drinks and entertainment, and locals dress up and decorate their houses as if it were the 16th century.

If you enjoy performing arts, St. Louis has one of the two Fabulous Fox Theatres in existence. It has a variety of entertainment year-round. In summer, you can enjoy outdoor musical concerts at the Muny. In

late spring, take in a free show during the Shakespeare Festival.

Shopping and Dining

Downtown St. Louis has been undergoing improvements and the site is now seeing the arrival of many new hotels and arenas, domes and stadiums, along with plenty of shops, restaurants and entertainment venues. But outside the city center there are neighborhoods with their own appealing attractions. Historic Soulard, located southwest of downtown, has a great farmers market (it's the oldest west of the Mississippi). The surrounding blocks are filled with trendy dining places, including Lafayette Square with its charming tree-lined streets.

If you're looking to shop and dine in a more cosmopolitan environment, the Central West End is where art galleries and antique shops are. After shopping, you can relax in one of the many coffee houses in the area. Visitors who enjoy Italian food will love the Hill, also known as Little Italy. Apart from Italian restaurants, you'll discover a wealth of Italian bakeries and shops.

© NileGuide

History

St. Louis stood as a gateway to the west long before the famed St. Louis Arch was erected, before Six Flags flew over St. Louis and before Anheuser-Busch brewed its first beer. French explorers Marquette and Joliet discovered the mouth of the Missouri River in 1673; St. Louis was founded as a fur trading post nearly 100 years later, in 1764, by Pierre Laclède and René Auguste Choutou, who named the town after France's King Louis IX.

However, St. Louis' history actually began long before the 18th century. Historians think Native Americans built earthen dwellings here in 400 BC and may have roamed this area more than 1,000 years before that. While Europe was in the Middle

Ages, this rich culture vanished for reasons that still elude historians.

Founded in 1779, Soulard Farmers' Market continues to operate today as the oldest continually running farmers' market west of the Mississippi River. Ulysses S. Grant, who later became the 18th president of the U.S., once peddled goods there.

By 1804, St. Louis was the hub of the American fur trade and had become the starting point for Lewis and Clark's explorations of the Louisiana Territory. Ever a river city, St. Louis saw its first steamboat on the mighty Mississippi River in 1817 and, due to its central location, has since continued to grow as a transportation hub. The city experienced a population boom beginning in 1857 when the railroad arrived, bringing Irish, German and Italian immigrants with it. The Italian Hill, the German-populated South Side and the Jewish-populated community in Mid-County offer just a sampling of the ethnic diversity of St. Louis. (The Hill still serves up some of the best traditional Italian cuisine this side of the Atlantic.)

In 1850, St. Louis witnessed a landmark trial that had repercussions across the nation. In what is now known as the Old Courthouse, a slave named Dred Scott was given his freedom. However, the original ruling was overturned in both the Missouri and United States Supreme Courts in what is known as the Dred Scott Decision. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Missouri sided with the Union; however, the state remained divided between slave owners and abolitionists.

Forest Park, founded in 1876, continues to be visited by millions annually. In addition to the world-class St. Louis Zoo, the park boasts 38 tennis courts, 20 baseball fields, a skating rink, two free golf courses, a cricket field and even a croquet course. The park began its ambitious development phase in 1911 when Dwight Davis (for whom tennis' Davis Cup is named) took over as park commissioner.

More than 100 years ago, the St. Louis Union Station was built and at one time

St. Louis Snapshot continued

served more than 250 trains a day. Now the huge structure, with its gothic clock tower, houses a popular mall filled with stores and eateries.

St. Louis is home to the world's first skyscraper—the Wainwright Building, built in 1891—and the first concrete stadium in the country, Washington University's Francis Field, constructed for the 1904 Olympic Games. 1904 was also the year St. Louis hosted the World's Fair, immortalized by Judy Garland's rendition of "Meet Me in St. Louis" from the 1944 film of the same name. The fair brought worldwide attention to St. Louis for several months and gave many fairgoers their first tastes of hot dogs and ice cream cones. However, the event cost the city \$50 million to stage, and while composer and ragtime popularizer Scott Joplin had people humming a lively tune, construction and development would come to a near standstill in St. Louis for more than a decade. People who had moved to the city for jobs at the fair eventually found themselves out of work as the economy continued to suffer.

The folks of St. Louis did get a boost in pride in 1926 when baseball's St. Louis Cardinals won the first of their nine World Series titles. (You can still watch the Cardinals play at Busch Stadium, for as little as USD7.) A year later, Charles Lindbergh's non-stop transatlantic flight in the Spirit of St. Louis gave the city an additional self-esteem lift.

Still, there were hard times during the Great Depression, although St. Louis fared better than many other cities because, then as now, its economy did not rely on any single industry. After World War II, St. Louis became a leader in airplane and automobile production, and Boeing and Chrysler remain two of the city's largest employers.

The famed Route 66, which gained popularity in the 1940s and 50s as it enticed motorists to drive cross-country, runs through "St. Louie." To get a feel for the charm that used to line America's dream drive, check out Ted Drewes Frozen Custard Stand. Lines are long, but the

legendary thick, rich ice cream tastes as good today as it did to weary travelers mid-century. The 1950s also brought rock'n' roll and the explosion of St. Louis native Chuck Berry onto the national scene. Berry still performs at Blueberry Hill every month or so, although shows sell out quickly.

The 630-foot Gateway Arch, perhaps the city's most identifiable icon, was completed in 1965 as a memorial to the great westward expeditions launched from here, including that of Lewis and Clark.

Underneath the city of St. Louis lies a series of connected, meandering caves, thought to be the largest concentration of natural caves in any city on the planet. Now sealed off, these caves once provided a haven and a secret passageway for fugitives, Native Americans and beer brewers. Meramec Caverns, 60 miles from St. Louis, still allows visitors to tour some of the caves and take a peek into Jesse James' infamous escape route and hideaway.

St. Louis itself is much like the caves hidden beneath its pavement: Unassuming at first glance, it still awaits discovery, offering world-class restaurants, top-notch professional sports, a rich musical heritage and a friendly people who still welcome explorers.

©

Hotel Insights

St. Louis boasts a variety of places to stay, from luxury hotels and bed and breakfasts to modestly priced inns. As hotels tend to be located near major business districts, you'll find the largest concentration of lodgings in the downtown area, in Westport and in Clayton. However, comfortable accommodations are scattered across the county and on into nearby Illinois.

Downtown

Among downtown hotels, you can't beat the view at the Regal Riverfront Hotel, which offers guests a spectacular glance at the Gateway Arch. The circular hotel also has large banquet and convention facilities as well as a revolving restaurant

sitting atop its 28 story structure. Offering a different sort of view is the Embassy Suites Convention Center, conveniently located a short walk from Laclede's Landing and the Gateway Arch. Each of its rooms faces a grand atrium with fountains, bridges and fishponds.

The Omni Majestic Hotel and the Mayfair Hotel and Suites provide downtown convenience alongside 19th Century style and elegance. The latter two hotels offer niceties such as terrycloth bathrobes and turn down service. The Gothic-style Hyatt Regency has modern amenities such as in-room modem lines that belie its Old World facade. When it's time to get down to business, there's the St. Louis Marriott Pavilion Downtown. Originally built for the 1964 New York World's Fair, this Spanish pavilion was moved to St. Louis and converted into a hotel. The hotel caters to business travelers, offering secretarial service, modem connections and teleconferencing.

North County

The booming Mid-County business district offers a good and varied selection of lodgings. The St. Louis Airport Marriott is a top-notch, conveniently located facility frequented by savvy business travelers. Many of its rooms offer modem lines, and its harried guests are greeted in the lobby by relaxing classical music. The Best Western Airport Plaza Inn & Conference Center offers affordable comfort for budget-minded travelers coming to the Mid-town area, providing guests with in-room coffee makers, a free airport shuttle and access to a neighboring Big Boy Restaurant.

For business travelers who plan to be in town for more than a few days Extended Stay America, located near the airport, is a good place from which to work. Each room has voice mail, Internet access and computer facilities in addition to cable television and a comfortable recliner. 70 percent of the guests at Studioplus, also located near the airport, are business travelers. It offers full kitchens, Internet access, safe deposit boxes and ironing facilities. The nearby Suburban Lodge

St. Louis Snapshot continued

offers weekly rates and a home-away-from-home atmosphere.

Clayton

For a Euro-style hotel experience, the 82-room Daniele Hotel in Clayton is a traveler's dream. Indulgences here include fresh-squeezed orange juice, turn down service, in-room water coolers and limousine service. The Cheshire Inn and Lodge offers accommodations with a British sensibility, as evidenced by its Tudor exterior to its rich, English library-style interior.

For those who like to experience fine dining without leaving their hotel, there's the Seven Gables Inn, which features gourmet cuisine in a charming French country setting.

©

Restaurants Insights

St. Louis, which began experiencing an influx of immigrants from Europe in the mid-1800s, offers a variety of fine ethnic fare, including some of the best traditional Italian cuisine on this side of the Atlantic. While St. Louis may not be as widely known for its restaurants as some other American cities, it contains a wealth of good eating options—from elegant to casual—for the hungry traveler to discover.

Downtown

Downtown St. Louis offers an exciting and eclectic mix of dining choices. If you're in the mood for French fare, head for the elegant, yet comfortable ambience of Cafe de France. This is the kind of place you'd expect to see more of in a city named after a French king. Faust's serves inventively prepared wild boar and venison as well as a fabulous Sunday brunch. For a breathtaking view of downtown St. Louis you can't beat Harry's Restaurant & Bar, a favorite stop for business professionals.

The Loop(University City)

Brandt's Market & Cafe is known for its gourmet food and fine selection of wine and beer. Cicero's specializes in traditional Italian cuisine, and also has a popular bar and game area. Riddles' Penultimate Cafe &

Wine Bar is a bistro-style restaurant with a warm, inviting interior. The menu at Vietnam Star is long and impressive, and contains many dishes from the country, many of which are also vegetarian. For something unique, stop into the Red Sea, where plates are brought to the table sans utensils. Shu Feng fuses Chinese and Korean to form inventive creations that appeal to many diners.

The Hill

The neighborhood known as "The Hill" is the place where baseball legend Joe Garagiola grew up (right down the street from Yogi Berra), and it is still largely populated by descendants of the Italian immigrants who began settling in St. Louis in 1857. The lawns are well-manicured, the community is close-knit and the food is world class. Cruise through this area in the southwest quadrant of St. Louis and you'll find fine formal dining and mom-and-pop eateries with red-checkered tablecloths. St. Louisans celebrate special occasions with the elegant Northern Italian cuisine at Dominic's. Crowds flock to Gian-Peppe's for arguably the most delicious Marsala sauce in town. LoRusso's Cucina regales diners with seafood pasta specialties, while patrons often wait one or two hours for dinner at Cunetto House of Pasta.

©

Nightlife Insights

St. Louis is a vibrant Midwestern city that is always on the move. The city's people work hard, and they take their leisure time just as seriously. Devoted fans pack the sports arenas, eating hot dogs on warm summer days and sipping hot chocolate on chilly fall nights as they cheer for their favorite pro teams. Theaters and nightclubs provide diverse nighttime entertainment options, while parks, museums and other attractions fill the daytime roster with activities for the whole family.

Sports

Professional sports teams entertain fans on a year-round basis, forming an integral part of the city's fiber. The St. Louis Cardinals

baseball team has been a longtime favorite with the home crowd and plays throughout the summer at Busch Stadium. The St. Louis Rams football team, winners of 2000's Super Bowl XXXIV, packs the Trans World Dome downtown, while ice hockey enthusiasts flock to Savvis Center to cheer on the St. Louis Blues, who have called the city home since forming in 1967.

Racing fans will find two tracks featuring professional events across the Mississippi River in Illinois. The Gateway International Raceway, situated 10 minutes from downtown in Madison, plays host to NASCAR, NHRA and Indy Racing events.

Nature and Parks

Nature lovers and outdoors enthusiasts can head to the child-friendly Grant's Farm, with its 160-acre animal preserve, which is always a family favorite. The world-class St. Louis Zoo offers free admission and features 650 species of animals. For a gentle wildlife encounter, head to the Butterfly House and Education Center, where nothing stands between the spectator and the myriad colorful butterflies in flight.

St. Louis' city parks offer a collective oasis of calm in the midst of all the urban hustle and bustle. The 1,300-acre Forest Park not only provides a home for the zoo and art museum, it also offers boat rentals, tennis courts, a skating rink and a track for biking, jogging and inline skating. Tower Grove Park, a 300-acre retreat, recreates an old English garden, complete with gazebos and castle "ruins."

Theater

St. Louis offers a variety of theater experiences, from open-air performances at the Muny to old-fashioned grandeur and opulence at the restored Fox Theatre. Dinner theaters such as the Bissell Mansion and the Lemp Mansion invite guests to join in the fun as participants in comedy and mystery performances.

Opera, Ballet and Symphony

If musical theater is the ticket you're after, St. Louis also offers plenty of opera,

St. Louis Snapshot continued

ballet and symphony performances. The nationally recognized Opera Theatre of St. Louis features different shows each season, which are performed in English and accompanied by the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. This orchestra also presents its own season of classical, pop and jazz concerts at the historic Powell Symphony Hall. Meanwhile, the St. Louis Ballet touring company has assembled talent from around the globe for its well-staged performances of such productions as *The Nutcracker*.

Museums and Galleries

St. Louis' museums and galleries offer something for everyone. If you're looking for something offbeat, check out the life-like figures of the Beatles and Henry VIII at Laclede's Landing Wax Museum. The St. Louis Art Museum features 30,000 pieces, including works by Rembrandt and Picasso.

If an afternoon in the museums inspires a yen to take some art home with you, there are plenty of excellent galleries in the city to satisfy you. Kodner Gallery has a fine exhibit of 18th to 20th Century art, including pieces by Picasso and Jasper Johns.

Landmarks

St. Louis is also home to several sites of interest for history buffs. The Old Courthouse (site of the Dred Scott slavery trial), the architecturally impressive Wainwright Building and the famous St. Louis Gateway Arch are three popular attractions that are located downtown. Visit the lavish Samuel Cupples House, a 42-room mansion built in 1889 or, if you find yourself humming a ragtime tune, the St. Louis home of Scott Joplin, who popularized that musical genre in the early 1900s.

Nightlife

A night on the town can offer lively entertainment, whether it entails catching an up-and-coming act at the Funny Bone Comedy Club or spending a quiet evening at AESOP'S Coffee House. Live music goes on nightly in the city. Chuck Berry performs occasionally at Blueberry Hill, while jazz is featured at Brandt's Market & Cafe. Live folk and rock acts are featured

at Off Broadway, a favorite spot with locals, who fill the dance floor nightly. Finally, with its cocktail bar and cigar lounge, Velvet is a dance club with a sophisticated twist. ©

Things to Do Insights

Numerous explorers from days past, including the famed duo of Lewis and Clark, launched westward expeditions from the shores of this gateway city. Years later, St. Louis remains a great place to stage a touring excursion, whether you are a history buff, an Americana scholar, an art and architecture lover, a beer connoisseur or an outdoors enthusiast.

Old Courthouse Downtown St. Louis offers a variety of historic sites, such as the Old Courthouse, where the Dred Scott slavery trial was held, the Wainwright Building, which was the precursor to the modern skyscraper, and the splendid Old Cathedral. There are many places to enjoy lunch. Try the Broadway Oyster Bar, then climb the Gateway Arch, which offers breathtaking views of the city.

Fox Theatre Tour the historic Fox Theatre, which was built in 1929, then catch a performance by the St. Louis African Chorus or visit the Powell Symphony Hall, home to the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Walk around the Grand Center entertainment district, and have lunch at Arcelia's.

St. Louis Walk of Fame Explore the St. Louis Walk of Fame, located in the University City Loop, which takes tourists along a number of eclectic shops, stores and restaurants, like Brandt's Market & Cafe. While you're reading the sidewalk, keep a lookout for Blueberry Hill and the Tivoli Theater, both famous destinations for visitors.

Missouri History Museum Explore Forest Park, which takes bikers past the zoo. Hike the scenic Compton Hill Reservoir Park. Located near the Holy Corners District, the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis contains the largest mosaic in the world, and the

Missouri History Museum contains artifacts from the area's past.

St. Charles Enjoy breakfast downtown at Edible Difference, then head to Historic St. Charles, located just outside St. Louis proper. The Frenchtown Historic District is home to nearly 60 historic buildings that were built between 1830 and 1920. In downtown St. Charles are the restored First Missouri State Capitol and the Foundry Art Centre.

There are many different ways to see St. Louis, from hiking to helicopters.

Walking Tours St. Louis Walking Tours(+1 314 368 8818/<http://www.triunecommunications.com/walk/>)

Bus Tours Tour St. Louis(+1 314 241 1400/<http://www.tourstlouis.net/>) Monticello Bus Service Inc(+1 314 454 0448) Mid-American Coaches and Tours(+1 636 239 4700/<http://www.mid-americancoaches.com>) Greater St. Louis Black Tourism Network(+1 314 865 0708)

Trolley Tours Tour St. Louis(+1 314 241 1400/<http://www.tourstlouis.net/>) Bluff City Tours(+1 618 466 8693/<http://www.bluffcitytours.com/>)

Bike Tours City Cycling Tours(+1 314 616 5724/<http://citycyclingtours.com/>) Bike and Roll(+1 202 842 BIKE/<http://www.bikeandroll.com/>) Touring Cyclist(+1 314 739 4648/<http://www.touringcyclist.com/>)

Boat Tours Gateway Arch Riverboat Cruises(+1 877 982 1410/<http://www.gatewayarch.com/>) Great Rivers Tour Boat Company(+1 618 786 1855/<http://www.greatriverstourboat.com>)

Helicopter Tours Midwest Helicopter Tours(+1 636 532 5613/<http://www.flymidwest.com/>)

Segway Tours Glide St. Louis(+1 314 868 7386/<http://www.glidestlouistours.com/>)

Brewery Tours Anheuser-Busch Brewery(+1 314 577 2626/<http://www.budweisertours.com/>)

Sports Tours Big League Tours(+1 866 619 1748/<http://www.bigleague tours.com>)

St. Louis Snapshot continued

Ghost Torus Ghostride Tours(+1 314 845 0522/<http://www.ghostridetours.com/>)
©

Travel Tips

Getting There

Air

Lambert-St. Louis International Airport(STL)+1 314 426 8000/<http://www.lambert-stlouis.com>

STL is located just outside the city limits and houses the following airlines:

Air Canada(+1 800 776 3000/<http://www.aircanada.ca>) American Airlines(+1 800 433 7300/<http://www.aa.com>) Continental(+1 800 525 0280/<http://www.continental.com>) Delta(+1 800 221 1212/<http://www.delta.com>) Northwest(+1 800 225 2525/<http://www.nwa.com>) Southwest(+1 800 435 9792/<http://www.southwest.com>) United(+1 800 241 6522/<http://www.ual.com>) US Airways(+1 800 428 4322/<http://www.usairways.com>)

Airport Map& Information:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_stl.htm

Airport Services:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_stl2.htm

Airport Transportation:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_stl3.htm

From the Airport

Car Rental: Alamo(+1 800 327 9633/<http://www.alamo.com>) Avis(+1 800 831 2847/<http://www.avis.com>) Budget(+1 800 527 0700/<http://www.budget.com>) Dollar(+1 800 4000/<http://www.dollar.com>) Enterprise(+1 800 325 8007/<http://www.enterprise.com>) Hertz(+1 800 654 3131/<http://www.hertz.com>) National(+1 800 227 7368/<http://www.nationalcar.com>) Thrifty(+1 800 367 2277/<http://www.thrifty.com>)

Shuttles: Trans Express(+1 800 844 1985) Exit Express(+1 314 646 1166) Eagle Transportation(+1 618 463 1310)

Train

Amtrak services St. Louis daily(+1 800 872 7245/<http://www.amtrak.com>) and stops at South 16th Street.

Bus

Greyhound services St. Louis from Nationwide locations(+1 800 231 2222;+1 314 231 4485/<http://www.greyhound.com>).Highway

From the northeast and northwest take Rt. 70; Rt. 64 from the east and west; Rt. 44& 55 from points south.

Getting Around

Light Rail

MetroLink(<http://www.metrostlouis.org/>) is St. Louis' light rail system. It operates daily from 5a to midnight. For the airport stop, tickets are priced at\$3.00 for an adult one-way, less for seniors and children under 12. Children under 5 ride for free. There is no charge to ride between the East and Main Terminals.

Bus

The MetroBus(<http://www.metrostlouis.org/>) also has many stops both in Missouri and Illinois.

Taxi

ABC Cab Co.(+1 314 725 2111) ABC Cab Company Carl's Taxi Service Carl's Taxi Cab Metropolitan Cab Co.(+1 314 773 1000) St. Louis American Cab Co.(+1 314 531 8766) Yellow Cab(+1 314 361 2345)

If traveling overseas, take the safety precaution of registering your trip at<https://travelregistration.state.gov> and for helpful, practical advice about traveling technicalities and safety standards check out<http://travel.state.gov/>.

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Fun Facts

St. Louis

State: Missouri

Country: United States

St. Louis by the Numbers:

Population: 2,603,607

Elevation: 535 feet

Average Annual Rainfall: 37.1 inches

Average Annual Snowfall: 19.8 inches

Average January Temperature: 30 degrees F

Average July Temperature: 79 degrees F

Quick Facts:

Major Industries: Aviation, Biotechnology, Chemicals, Electrical Utilities, Food and beverage manufacturing, Refining, Research, Telecommunications, Transportation

Ethnic Mix: 78.3% Caucasian, 18.3% African American, 1.5% Hispanic, 1.4% Asian, 0.5% Native American

Electricity: 110 volts, 50Hz, standard two pin plugs

Time Zone: GMT- 6

Country Dialing Code: 1

Area Code: 314

Did You Know?

St. Louis was the first American city to host the Olympic Games(in 1904).

Orientation:

St. Louis is located just south of the"Meeting of the Rivers," where the Missouri and Illinois Rivers join the Mississippi River. It is not far from Kansas City, Chicago, Indianapolis and Memphis.

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