

SIGHT EXPLORER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Why travel?
Discover 50 beautiful landmarks to visit

FOREWORD

Hi fellow Traveler,

Congratulations on downloading your own **Sight Explorer - eBook**. You are now part of the unique **TRIPA TRIPS Community of Explorers!**

You know the time is now to act on your dreams. Let us inspire you with some of the coolest places to see in the United States of America.

We'd like to see more people act on their dreams, enjoying the marvelous journey that is life, with all its trips, big and small! Dust off that bucket list, add more wishes, dream big. We believe in courage, fun and adventure – in experimenting every flavor life has to offer. Do you?



There are several reasons why traveling is a unique, mind-opening experience. As Andre Gide once said: “Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore”. What we gain through the experience of exploring new territories has a profound impact on our growth as fulfilled, adaptable human beings.

Getting out of one's comfort zone is one of the main advantages of traveling: we learn the most while in unfamiliar situations and although it might sound scary, once we figure out that we can connect with people despite their different culture and learn from their habits, we become smarter, more curious and competent individuals. Being able to conquer obstacles in a different part of the world, builds a new level of confidence from which you get long term benefits.

The best reason for traveling is to create astounding memories with beautiful people. When you are on an adventure, networking happens naturally with fellow travelers and locals alike. You'll also increase your cultural sensitivity – increasing your awareness of cultural values, norms and traditions.

EXPLORE YOUR DREAMS!



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WHY TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA?

The United States is an incredibly bountiful destination. It's geography, history and culture are rich and fascinating, offering incredible attractions, sights and experiences. Toes in the sand in Miami, an adventure to the arctic circle, shopping in New York or trail walking in stunning parks. Cities that never sleep and quiet smaller towns. With so much available, it really is the land of all opportunities.

According to the U.S. government, there are more than 35,000 museums in the United States. From science centers to historical monuments, art galleries to war memorials, you'll find a museum to explore no matter where you are in the country. Some showcase the rich, long history of the United States, while others focus on modern inventions and the future of the nation.

Much like the people in the states, the food has its own diversity. There are classic American dishes such as the famous fried chicken or macaroni and cheese, but there is also an abundance of places to find foods inspired by other countries. Mexican, Italian, Indian, whatever suits the mood, the fact is that America has a spot for each and every one of them.

Being a country that thrives on tourism, you can bet that you'll find most popular attractions are worth a visit, but there are also hidden gems that need exploring. Along back roads and far out farmlands are small towns and attractions that don't get the attention they deserve. Small shops, restaurants, and abandoned sites often get passed by because they seem trivial.



Washington, D.C., is the capital city of the United States, located between Virginia and Maryland on the north bank of the Potomac River. More than 500,000 people currently live in Washington, D.C. The city was named for George Washington, first President of the United States and Founding Father.

The city is home to all three branches of the federal government, as well as the White House, the Supreme Court and the Capitol Building. But these are just the icing on the cake. Just how you would expect from a capital city, it's packed with things to do. Depending on your interests, you can opt for a variety of attractions: sights and landmarks, museums, parks and shopping venues as well as dance clubs, spas and game rooms.

VULCAN, ALABAMA

Birmingham Alabama's colossal statue is the world's largest cast iron statue and considered one of the most memorable works of civic art in the United States. Designed by Italian artist Giuseppe Moretti and cast from local iron in 1904, Vulcan has overlooked Alabama's largest city from atop Red Mountain since the 1930s. Although time has made its mark on the symbol and in 1950 it was in sore need of rehabilitation, today, thanks to public-private partnerships and campaigns, this beloved symbol of Birmingham and the nation's iron and steel industry stands preserved and proud and has since been known as Vulcan Park and Museum.



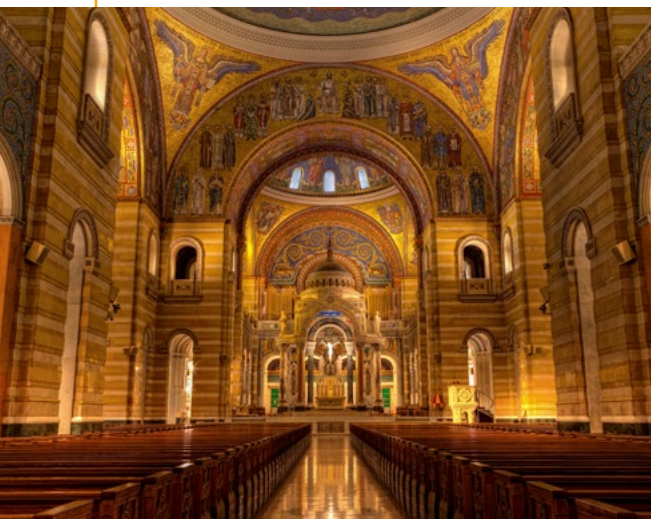
MOUNT SHISHALDIN, ALASKA

Is a moderately active volcano on Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands chain of Alaska. It is the highest mountain peak of the Aleutian Islands, and The Aleuts named the volcano Sisquk, meaning "*mountain which points the way when I am lost*". The first ascent on this mountain has been made on May 16, 1932 by G. Peterson et al. and the last known eruption occurred on December 12th, 2017 but frequent explosive activity has been recorded since the 18th century.

THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA

Is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is located entirely in northern Arizona and is one of the great tourist attractions in the United States. The massive canyon encompasses several distinct areas, most famous of which is Grand Canyon National Park. It has been estimated that the Canyon is 5-6 million years old and its size is 277 miles long, up to 18 miles wide and attains a depth of over a mile. With its ever-changing and dramatic scenery of immense proportions, the Grand Canyon is one of the world's most spectacular landscapes.





CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. LOUIS, ARKANSAS

Containing the architectural styles of Romanesque Revival architecture and Byzantine Revival, the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, also known as the Saint Louis Cathedral, is a cathedral of the Roman Catholic Church located in the Central West End area of St. Louis, Missouri. Completed in 1914 and designated a Cathedral Basilica by Pope John Paul II in 1997, it is the mother church of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the seat of its current archbishop, Robert James Carlson. The Cathedral is home to the largest collection of mosaic art in the western hemisphere and it is open daily for masses and self-guided tours.

THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN, CALIFORNIA

Also formerly known as the Hollywoodland Sign is an American cultural icon and landmark located in Los Angeles, California. It is situated on Mount Lee, in the Hollywood Hills area of the Santa Monica Mountains. The sign overlooks Hollywood, Los Angeles. You can see the world-famous Hollywood Sign from many different spots but the best way to see the landmark is to go for a hike in the oak-studded hills of Griffith Park.



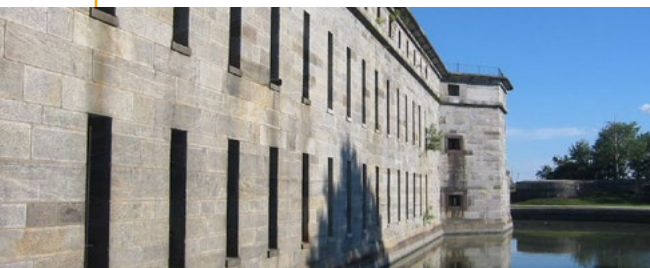
MESA VERDE, COLORADO

A National Park and World Heritage Site, **Mesa Verde** (Spanish for green table) is located in Montezuma County, Colorado and it protects some of the best preserved Ancestral Puebloan archaeological sites in the United States. It offers a peak into the lives of the Ancestral Pueblo people who made it their home from AD 600 to 1300. Created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, the park occupies 52,485 acres (21,240 ha) near the Four Corners region of the American Southwest.

MYSTIC SEAPORT, CONNECTICUT

Is the nation's leading maritime museum and home to the last wooden whaleship in the world, the Charles W. Morgan. The Museum of America and the Sea in Mystic, Connecticut notable for its collection boats and sailing ships and for the re-creation of the crafts and fabric of an entire 19th-century seafaring village.

Hartford is the capital of the U.S. state of Connecticut. It was the seat of Hartford County until Connecticut disbanded county government in 1960, and it is also the home to the Mark Twain House and Museum.



FORT DELAWARE, DELAWARE

A harbor defense facility, Fort Delaware is located on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River and designed by chief engineer Joseph Gilbert Totten. The Union fortress dating back to 1859 once housed Confederate prisoners of war and it was originally built to protect the ports of Wilmington and Philadelphia.

MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

Is an iconic resort city in Miami-Dade County, Florida, United States. The municipality is located on natural and man-made barrier islands between the Atlantic Ocean and Biscayne Bay, the latter of which separates the Beach from Miami. The southern end, South Beach, is known for its prestige regarding models and celebrities, and its early-20th-century architecture in the Art Deco Historic district.



STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

Is a quartz monzonite dome monadnock and the site of Stone Mountain Park near Stone Mountain, Georgia. At its summit, the elevation is 1,686 feet MSL and 825 above the surrounding area. Before 1800, Native Americans used the mountain as a meeting and ceremonial temple. Stone Mountain emerged as a major tourist resort in the 1850s, attracting residents of nearby Atlanta and other cities.

DIAMOND HEAD, HAWAII

Is a U.S. National Natural Monument consisting of a volcanic tuff cone in the shape of a tuna's dorsal fin, situated on the Hawaiian island of O'ahu. It is a defining feature of the view known to residents and tourists of Waikiki. While part of it is closed to the public and serves as a platform for antennas used by the U.S. government, the crater's proximity to Honolulu's resort hotels and beaches makes the rest of it a popular destination.



IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

Nestled among the Rocky Mountains in the Snake River Plain, beneath the shadow of the Grand Teton, Idaho Falls is a place worth exploring. Snake River is the main attraction, while other points of interest are the riverside Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, The Idaho Falls Zoo and Downtown's Museum of Idaho, which has local-history exhibits, including items linked to the Lewis and Clark expedition and a charming re-created 1800s town. Nearby you will be able to hike, bike, visit farmer's markets and encounter scenic byways.

CLOUD GATE, ILLINOIS

Nicknamed The Bean, because of its shape, was constructed between 2004 and 2006, by Indian-born British artist Sir Anish Kapoor, and it is located at AT&T Plaza at Millennium Park in Chicago, Illinois, on top of Park Grill, between the Chase Promenade and McCormick Tribune Plaza and Ice Rink. It measures 33 by 66 by 42 feet, weighing 110 short tons and it is constructed by 168 stainless steel plates welded together, with no visible seams on its exterior.





LINCOLN BOYHOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL, INDIANA

Explore Lincoln's boyhood in Lincoln City, Indiana. The Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is designated as a United States Presidential Memorial and a National Historic Landmark. Here you can visit the historic farm where Abraham Lincoln and his family lived from 1816 to 1830. The site features as the center piece the memorial building, a one story limestone ashlar completed in 1945, and the sandstone foundation of the original Lincoln cabin. You may also enjoy the art gallery that includes numerous portraits of Lincoln and his family, or learn about the many activities and items at the farm from the park rangers that are clothed in a 1820s fashion style.

THE AMANA COLONIES, IOWA

Is the name of seven villages spread across 26,000 acres located in Iowa County in east-central Iowa, United States: Homestead, Amana, East Amana, High Amana, Middle Amana, South Amana and West Amana. Being considered a National Historic Landmark and one of America's longest-lived communal societies, the Colonies began in 1714 in the villages of Germany and continue today on Iowa land.



CHALK PYRAMIDS, KANSAS

Designated as a National Natural Landmark, Chalk Pyramids (also known as Monument Rocks) are a series of large chalk formations in Gove County, Kansas. The chalk formations reach a height of up to 70 feet and include formations such as buttes and arches. The carbonate deposits were laid down during the Cretaceous Period in what was then the Western Interior Seaway, which split the continent of North America into two landmasses. They are estimated to have been formed 80 million years ago and they are a great source of fossils.

BELLE OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Originally, Idlewild, is a steamboat built by James Rees & Sons Company in 1914 and has since been owned and operated by the city of Louisville, Kentucky. The steamboat's steel structure and sturdy, asphalt deck have earned their glory, as it is rumored that the Belle holds the all-time record for years in operation, miles travelled and places visited. Mayor Andrew Broaddus is a lifesaving station built by the United States Life-Saving Service which also serves as the Belle of Louisville's offices.



OAK ALLEY, LOUISIANA

Originally named Bon Sejour, Oak Alley was built in 1837-39 by George Swainey for Jacques Telesphore Roman, brother of Andre Roman who was twice governor of Louisiana. It is rumored that Jacques Telesphore Roman's father-in-law, Joseph Pilie, was the architect and is thought to have provided the design of Oak Alley. Located on the west bank of the Mississippi River, in the community of Vacherie, Oak Alley is renowned for its remarkable visual feature, a French allée, or canopied path, created by a double row of oak trees about 800 feet long that have been planted in the 18th century.

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK, MAINE

The only national park in Maine, comprises 47,000 acres of land on Mount Desert Island, Isle au Haut and the Schoodic Peninsula. Its name has been changed to Lafayette National Park in 1919, and it was changed again to Acadia National park in 1929 to honor Acadia, the former French colony that had included Maine. Cadillac Mountain, the highest point on the East Coast is one of the granite peaks that are comprised in its landscape. Acadia is home to numerous species, including seabirds, bears, moose and whales.





FORT MCHENRY NATIONAL MONUMENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE, MARYLAND

Site of the star-shaped fort that successfully defended Baltimore from a British attack during the War of 1812. This event was the inspiration for Francis Scott Key's poem "The Star-Spangled Banner". Located in the Locust Point neighborhood of Baltimore, Maryland, it measures 43.26 acres and it has hundreds of thousands of visitors yearly.

THE FREEDOM TRAIL, MASSACHUSETTS

Is a 2.5-mile-long path, established in 1951, that passes through downtown Boston, Massachusetts, marking 16 locations significant to the history of the United States. Marked largely with brick, it winds between Boston Common to the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. Stops along the trail are comprised of simple explanatory ground markers, graveyards, notable churches and buildings, and a historic naval frigate. The Freedom Trail was conceived by William Schofield, a local journalist who suggested building a pedestrian trail to link significant landmarks, and the by 1953, thousands were walking the trail annually.

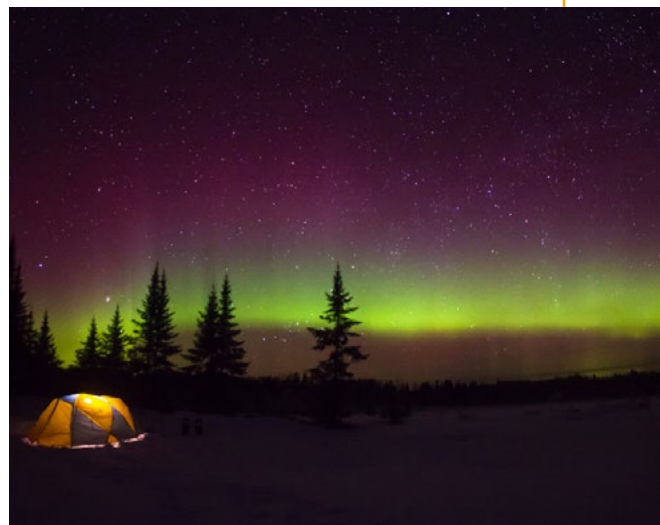


THE MICHIGAN LABOR LEGACY LANDMARK, MICHIGAN

"Transcending", the work of local sculptors David Barr and Sergio De Giusti, was constructed on August 30, 2003 and it is located west of the entrance to Hart Plaza near the intersection of Woodward Avenue and Jefferson Avenue. Being the only monument of its kind in the United States, the piece was funded solely from donations and was designed to celebrate the concept of labor and its benefits. The arch rises 63 feet high and its circular form also stands in contrast to the city's grid-like design as a symbol of inclusion.

VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK, MINNESOTA

Is located in the lake-country of northern Minnesota and it protects 218,054 acres that include roughly 134,000 acres of forest, 84,000 acres of water, 655-miles of undeveloped shoreline, and numerous islands. The park's 55-mile northern boundary is the international border between the United States and Canada and includes an important segment of the "transcontinental highway" traversed by French-Canadian voyageurs during the late 1700s and early 1800s. Lying in the southern portion of the Canadian Shield, the bedrock of Voyageurs National Park is 2.8 billion years old, some of the oldest exposed rock in the world.



THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MISSISSIPPI

Is the largest and most important river in North America. The river, often referred to as the "Mighty Mississippi," originates as a small brook flowing out of Lake Itasca in Minnesota and, 2,340 miles later, empties into the Gulf of Mexico. Covering forty-one percent of the forty-eight contiguous United States, its watershed stretches across the heart of the nation. This vast river system drains 1,260,000 square miles, making it the largest drainage basin in terms of area in North America and the third largest in the world.

THE GATEWAY ARCH, MISSOURI

The tallest man-made monument in the Western Hemisphere, The Gateway Arch is a 630-foot monument in St. Louis, Missouri's tallest accessible building. Built to commemorate the westward expansion of the United States, the Gateway Arch designed by Eero Saarinen became a futuristic marker that rose above the cityscape of St. Louis. In its design, this monument drew from previous symbolic constructs of similar aspiration, scale and mathematical precision.





THE GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD, MONTANA

Was completed in 1932 and is a spectacular 50 mile, paved two-lane highway that bisects the Glacier National Park east and west. In 1983 Going-To-The-Sun Road was included in the National Register of Historic Places and in 1985 was made a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. It spans the width of the park, encompassing numerous types of terrain, from large glacial lakes and cedar forests in the lower valleys to windswept alpine tundra atop the pass.

CHIMNEY ROCK, NEBRASKA

Is a prominent geological rock formation in Morrill County in western Nebraska. Rising nearly 300 feet above the surrounding North Platte River valley, its peak is 4,228 feet above sea level. The formation served as a landmark along the California Trail, the Oregon Trail, and the Mormon Trail during the mid-19th century. “Towering to the heavens” is how adventurers described Chimney Rock, the most recognized landmark along the Oregon Trail. Today an interpretive center operated by the Nebraska State Historical Society pays tribute to those who traveled the trails and features original maps made from Captain John C. Fremont’s 1842-43 exploration of the Oregon Trail.



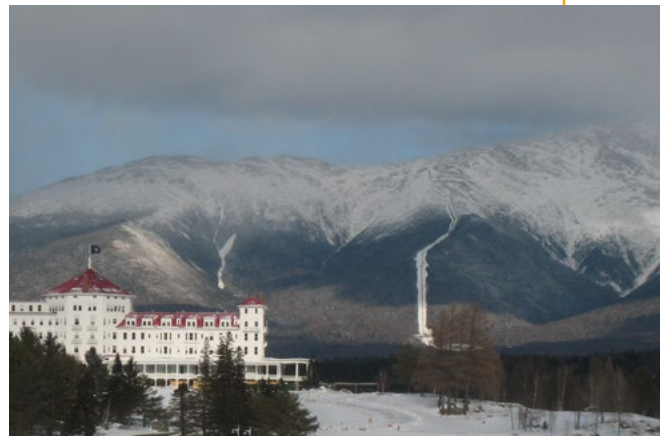
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Well known as a city of gambling, shopping, fine dining, entertainment, and nightlife, Las Vegas is a city in Nevada. Las Vegas’ official name is the City of Las Vegas, and it is the state of Nevada’s most populated city. It is known as the Entertainment Capital of the World, with multiple casinos and hotels, and it is home to the world’s largest mechanical neon sign (when it was erected) - a cowboy towering over Fremont Street. 17 of the 20 largest hotels in the United States are located in Las Vegas. The city is so luminous that when it is viewed from space it is the brightest place on earth. The city bills itself as The Entertainment Capital of the World, and is famous for its casino-hotels and associated activities.



MOUNT WASHINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Also known as Agiocochook, is the highest peak in the Northeastern United States at 6,288.2 feet and the most prominent mountain east of the Mississippi River. The mountain is best known for its unpredictable weather. It is located in the Presidential Range of the White Mountains, in the township of Sargent's Purchase, Coös County, New Hampshire. While nearly the whole mountain is in the White Mountain National Forest, Mount Washington State Park occupies an area of 60.3 acres surrounding and including the summit.



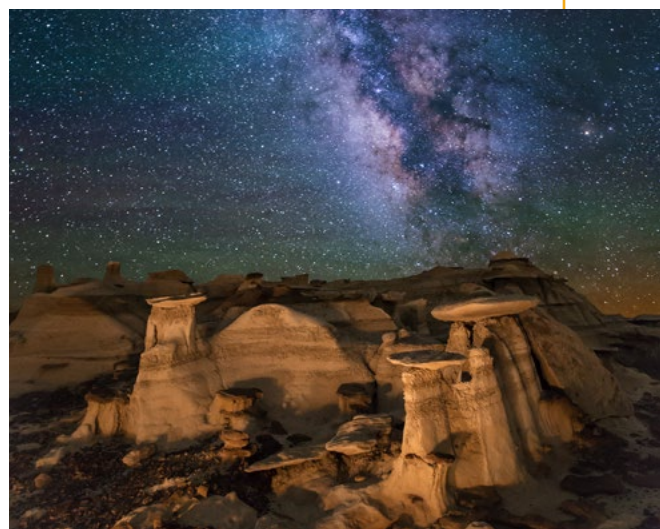
THE CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE, NEW JERSEY

Is located in the U.S. state of New Jersey at the tip of Cape May, in Lower Township's Cape May Point State Park. The present tower, which is the third documented lighthouse at the southern tip of New Jersey, has been an aid-to-navigation for mariners and attraction for visitors since it was built in 1859. More than 2.5 million visitors have climbed the lighthouse since it opened to the public in 1988. For those who choose not to climb, the Oil House on the grounds contains a fully accessible Visitors' Orientation Center and Museum Shop carrying souvenirs, books and maritime items.



THE BISTI/DE-NA-ZIN WILDERNESS, NEW MEXICO

Area covers roughly 60 square miles of remote badlands just south of Farmington, New Mexico. This high desert wilderness features a vast landscape containing some of the most unique rock formation on this planet. The Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness was once a coastal swamp of an inland sea and was home to many large trees, reptiles, dinosaurs and different species of mammals. What visitors see today is the preserved record of this pre-historic swamp that is now a true desert wilderness. There are no marked trails in the Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness and it is easy to get confused or lost, and the recommended time to travel is in the early morning and late afternoon.





STATUE OF LIBERTY, NEW YORK

Formally Liberty Enlightening the World, is a colossal statue located on Liberty Island in the Upper New York Bay, U.S., raised to commemorate the friendship of the peoples of the United States and France. Standing 305 feet high including its pedestal, it represents a woman holding a torch in her raised right hand and a tablet bearing the adoption date of the Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776) in her left. A plaque at the pedestal's entrance is inscribed with a sonnet, "The New Colossus" (1883) by Emma Lazarus, which was written to help raise money for the pedestal.

WRIGHT BROTHERS NATIONAL MEMORIAL, NORTH CAROLINA

Located in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, commemorates the first successful flights in a heavier-than-air machine. From 1900 to 1903, the Wright brothers - Wilbur and Orville- came to this location based on information from the U.S. Weather Bureau about the area's steady winds. The National Memorial is an attraction for any Outer Banks aviation enthusiast, history lover, and virtually any Kill Devil Hills vacationer who wants an up-close look at the towering granite structure that towers over the town's landscape.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK, NORTH DAKOTA

Located in the North Dakota Badlands, Theodore Roosevelt National Park is a United States National Park. The park is named for the 26th president, Theodore Roosevelt, who was noted for his passionate devotion to the conservation of the nation's natural resources. The landscape was formed five million years ago and today many spirals, summits, and valleys can be found, with numerous fossil bearing rocks. An abundance of native grasses provide sustenance for larger grazing animals: bison, elk, pronghorn antelope, white-tailed and mule deer, bighorn sheep and feral horses.

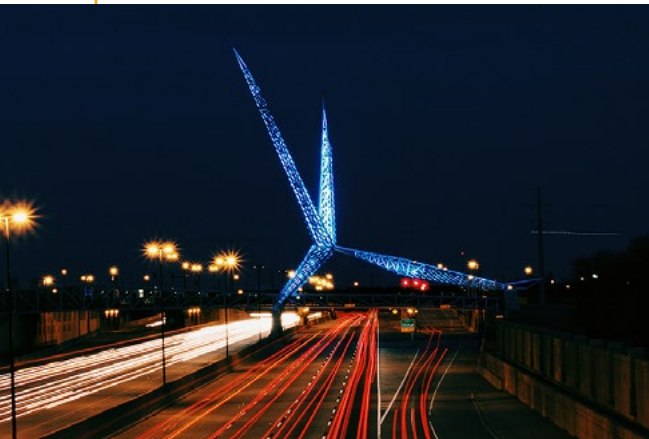
THE ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM, OHIO

Is located in downtown Cleveland. It recognizes and archives the history of the best-known and most influential artists, producers, engineers, and other notable figures who have had some major influence on the development of rock and roll. The 150,000 square-foot museum features seven floors, four theaters for films and ever-changing exhibits. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's mission is to engage, teach and inspire through the power of rock & roll.



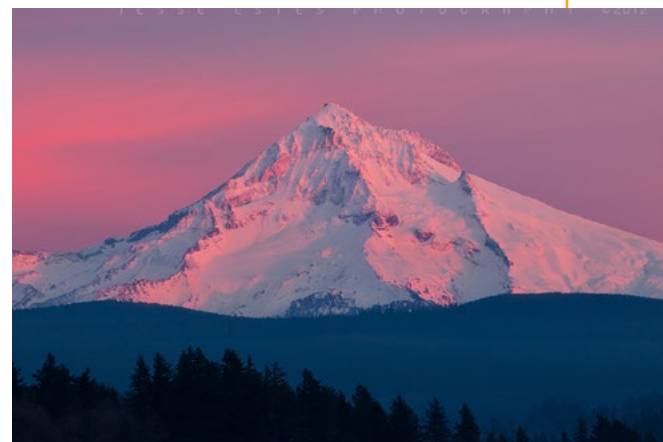
THE SKYDANCE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE, OKLAHOMA

Is a visually stunning pedestrian bridge. Its design is said to be inspired by the “sky dance” of the scissor-tailed flycatcher, Oklahoma’s state bird. The bridge is made of stainless steel panels that shimmer in the sun, and uplighting at night emits a skyward glow. The wings, made from a translucent material, appear to glow from within, creating a stunning visual display along with the functionality of allowing travelers to walk from downtown to the newly renovated Oklahoma River area.



MOUNT HOOD, OREGON

The second most climbed mountain in the world, Mount Hood, is crowned by 11 glaciers and is home to the only year-round ski resort in North America. In addition to being Oregon’s highest mountain, it is one of the loftiest mountains in the nation based on its prominence. The U.S. Geological Survey characterizes it as “potentially active” volcano, but the mountain is informally considered dormant. Carpets of flowers line the hiking trails on Mt. Hood in the spring. Look for bear grass and lilies along the trail at Umbrella Falls and purple lupine at Little Crater Lake.





THE LIBERTY BELL, PENNSYLVANIA

Is an iconic symbol of American independence. It bears a timeless message: “Proclaim Liberty Throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants Thereof”. The bell first cracked when rung after its arrival in Philadelphia, and was twice recast by local workmen John Pass and John Stow, whose last names appear on the bell. In its early years the bell was used to summon lawmakers to legislative sessions and to alert citizens about public meetings and proclamations. Now a worldwide symbol, the bell’s message of liberty remains just as relevant and powerful today.

BLOCK ISLAND SOUTHEAST LIGHT, RHODE ISLAND

Is a lighthouse located on Mohegan Bluffs, one of the most architecturally sophisticated lighthouses built in the United States in the 19th century. Its grounds offer amazing views out over the Atlantic, including the island’s best perspective on the new Block Island Windfarm located three miles offshore. Built in 1875, the lighthouse has a 52-foot brick and granite tower, and has been named a National Historic Landmark.



THE ARTHUR RAVENEL JR. BRIDGE, SOUTH CAROLINA

The longest cable-stayed bridge of its time in North America and the tallest structure in South Carolina is The Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. It was built using the design-build method and was designed by Parsons Brinckerhoff. The bridge includes a shared bicycle-pedestrian path named Wonders’ Way and is home to the annual USA Track & Field 10,000 meter (6.2 mi) Cooper River Bridge Run on the first weekend of April.

MOUNT RUSHMORE, SOUTH DAKOTA

An iconic symbol of the United States, Mount Rushmore is the site of four gigantic carved sculptures depicting the faces of U.S. Presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. It is currently one of America's most popular tourist attractions. Sculptor Gutzon Borglum created the sculpture's design and oversaw the project's execution from 1927 to 1941 with the help of his son, Lincoln Borglum. The memorial park covers 1,278.45 acres (5.17 km²) and is 5,725 feet (1,745 m) above sea level.



THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS, TENNESSEE

A truly living mountain range, The Great Smoky Mountains are part of an International Biosphere Reserve and have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Considered America's most visited national park, this mountain range is world renowned for the diversity of its plant and animal life, the beauty of its ancient mountains, and its history of southern Appalachian mountain culture. With nearly 80 historic buildings, spectacular displays of wildflowers, and abundant wildlife, Great Smoky Mountains National Park offers myriad activities to enjoy.

THE ALAMO, TEXAS

Founded in the 18th century as a Roman Catholic mission and fortress compound, The Alamo is part of the San Antonio Missions World Heritage Site in San Antonio, Texas. Based on the famous battle of the Alamo in 1836, the landmark is now home to living history demonstrations and special events throughout the year. The Alamo and the four missions in the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park were designated UNESCO World Heritage sites on July 5, 2015.





ARCHES NATIONAL PARK, UTAH

Adjacent to the Colorado River, contains the world's largest concentration of natural sandstone arches. It is home to over 2,000 natural sandstone arches, including the world-famous Delicate Arch. The park also contains an astounding variety colossal sandstone fins, massive balanced rocks, soaring pinnacles and spires. A paved scenic drive takes visitors to many of the major viewpoints within the park. Hikers can choose from a wide variety of trails, from short twenty minute walks leading right up to many of the largest arches in the park, to more adventurous hikes into lesser seen areas.

SHELBURNE MUSEUM, VERMONT

Is a unique experience of American history, art, and design. Over 150,000 works are exhibited in 39 exhibition buildings, 25 of which are historic and were relocated to the Museum grounds. At the heart of all Shelburne Museum's offerings is American folk art, French Impressionist paintings, historic New England architecture, duck decoys, circus animals and dolls. The collections are exhibited in a village-like setting of historic New England architecture, with a landscape that includes over 400 lilacs, a circular formal garden, herb and heirloom vegetable gardens, and perennial gardens.



COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

If you want to go back in time to the dawn of America, visit Colonial Williamsburg. It is a historical landmark and a living history museum. Historical interpreters and actors re-create life on the eve of the Revolutionary War. Costumed employees work and dress as people did in the era, sometimes using colonial grammar and diction. Prominent buildings include the Raleigh Tavern, the Capitol, the Governor's Palace (all reconstructed), as well as the Courthouse, the George Wythe House, the Peyton Randolph House, the Magazine, and the Bruton Parish Church (all originals). Colonial Williamsburg's motto has been: "That the future may learn from the past".

THE SPACE NEEDLE, WASHINGTON

Is an observation tower in Seattle, the largest city of the Washington state, and a landmark of the Pacific Northwest. It offers a 360° view of Seattle, as well as the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, Elliott Bay and surrounding islands, with breathtaking indoor and outdoor viewing. Visitors can reach the top of the Space Needle by elevators that travel at 10 miles per hour (4.5 m/s). The trip takes 41 seconds.



NEW RIVER GORGE BRIDGE, WEST VIRGINIA

One of the most photographed places in West Virginia, the New River Gorge Bridge is the longest and highest steel arch bridge in the Western Hemisphere at 3030 feet long and 876 feet high. Bridge day, celebrated on the third Saturday of October, offers a wide variety of activities: BASE jumping, rappelling, music, food and crafts vendors. It is the largest extreme sports event in the world.

THE DELLS OF THE WISCONSIN RIVER, WISCONSIN

Host to an abundance of flora and fauna, The Dells of the Wisconsin River is a spectacular five-mile gorge on the Wisconsin river. Unique species can be observed, such as very rare species of dragonfly, mussels and numerous birds. The area is well-known for its natural beauty, with spectacular cliffs, tributary canyons, and rock formations carved into Cambrian sandstone.



THE DEVILS TOWER, WYOMING

Is the country's first national monument. It rises 867 feet above Wyoming's rolling prairies and it is considered a sacred worship site by many American Indian tribes who continue to hold sacred ceremonies in the tower, including sweat lodges and sun dances. With a mysterious history, even scientists aren't 100% certain how the massive stone structure came to exist. Theories range from it being a volcanic plug to being the neck of an extinct volcano. Devils Tower had a starring role in Steven Spielberg's sci-fi classic Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

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