



# Snapshot

## NASHVILLE

A stay in the music capital of the US is sure to hit all the right notes, writes **Clare Vooght**

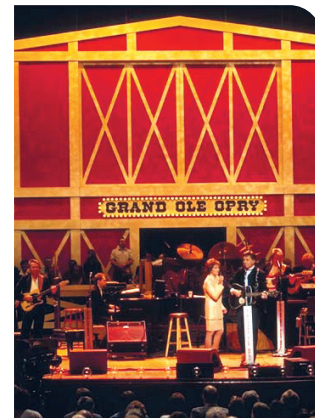
### star attraction...



#### Grand Ole Opry

Next year, the Grand Ole Opry – the radio show that made country music famous and has hosted the likes of Johnny Cash and Dolly Parton – celebrates a century since it first broadcast live from downtown Nashville. These days, the two-hour shows celebrate the rising stars and big names up to five times a week in front of a live audience at Opry House.

[opry.com](http://opry.com)



### we love...



#### Country Music Hall of Fame

This museum – with its curved piano-key exterior – packs so much in, it's little wonder it's been nicknamed the 'Smithsonian of country music'. Visitors can learn about the genre from its folk roots to commercial success through films, rare recordings, gold and platinum records, instruments and outfits worn by stars onstage – Elvis's gold Cadillac is even here.

[countrymusichalloffame.org](http://countrymusichalloffame.org)



### sip and stroll...



#### Honky Tonk Highway

Pull on a pair of cowboy boots and strut down this lively, neon-lit stretch of Broadway in downtown Nashville, where you'll find a string of honky-tonks – bars that play live music all day, every day. Countless country stars, including Willie Nelson and Kris Kristofferson, started their careers here, and the venues range from dive bars and cool cocktail spots to rowdy rooftops.

### book it...



**Prestige Travel's** newly expanded US brochure includes a nine-night Deep South Self-Drive with three nights each in New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville plus seven days' car rental. Prices start from £2,400 including BA flights from Heathrow to New Orleans and back from Nashville, based on an April 24, 2025, departure.

[prestigettravel.co.uk](http://prestigettravel.co.uk)

### make time for...



#### Songwriter sessions

Nashville is home to hundreds of talented songwriters who've penned numerous number ones, and they regularly play and talk about their experiences at songwriter nights across the city. The best are at the Listening Room, Station Inn and Bluebird Cafe (pictured), where Taylor Swift and Kings of Leon played when they were starting out. Guided touring companies can also book experiences with songwriters; Cosmos, for example, offers 'Dinner with a Nashville Songwriter' (optional extra, from £51).

[bluebirdcafe.com](http://bluebirdcafe.com)



PICTURES: Cosmos/Christopher Ames; Wade Brothers

### where to stay...



#### Tempo by Hilton Nashville Downtown

This fitness and wellness-focused hotel opened in February, offering in-room Peloton bikes and yoga mats, plus blackout curtains and lighting with a 'relax' setting to help guests power down – ideal, given its location just steps from Lower Broadway's nightlife. Buzzy shared spaces include a rooftop pool and bar serving riffs on classic cocktails, and the New American Lovelorn Lounge restaurant. Room-only rates start at £213 a night.

[hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

[travelweekly.co.uk](http://travelweekly.co.uk)

# NASHVILLE