

Dollywood

Located in East Tennessee, in the Smoky Mountains, this 125 acres of fun has rides and entertainment for all ages. This theme park is filled with family rides, kiddie rides, and thrilling roller coasters – as well as musical performances for everyone! There is even a one room school house to show what school was like in 1890! Many people travel to Dollywood each year because it is so entertaining.

Graceland

Graceland is where Elvis Presley lived. It is located in Memphis. Elvis was a very famous singer. The Graceland Tour will take you through the mansion that Elvis called home for over 20 years. On the tour you will see many rooms including his dining room, living room, his mother's bedroom, a trophy room, and even a room he called the Jungle Room! Graceland is visited by thousands of people every year because Elvis was such a famous person, loved by many.

National Civil Rights Museum

The National Civil Rights Museum is located in Memphis. The museum is actually located at the Lorraine Motel – the very place where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot and killed. Dr. King was a very famous American who wanted all people treated equally and fairly. In the museum you will see many exhibits that show the history of the civil rights movement in America. This museum is famous because it shows a very important piece of our country's history.

Coal Industry

Coal is found in the Cumberland Mountain area of middle Tennessee. Coal is black or brownish-black in color and is found underground in "coal beds." Large machines are used to dig the coal out of the ground. The coal is placed on trains to travel to a power plant. Power plants make steam by burning the coal, and this steam is used to make electricity. Coal is very important because we need lots of electricity to power our homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses.

Limestone

Limestone is a rock found mostly in middle and eastern Tennessee. It was chosen to be called our state's rock. Limestone was used for many years to build buildings, including our state capitol building in Nashville. Now limestone is used as crushed rock and in making cement. Some very high quality limestone is called Tennessee marble and it was used when they built the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Soybeans

The top crop in Tennessee is soybeans. They are grown mostly in West Tennessee. Soybeans are called the "miracle bean" because they can be used in so many different ways. Soybeans are used for food and in oils. They are also used to make candles, ink, cleaning products, and hair care products. One acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.

Cattle

More than one million cattle are raised in Tennessee. Tennessee's mild climate and water resources make it a great place for cattle. The largest number of cattle are raised on large grassy areas in middle and east Tennessee. The cattle feed on the grass until they are big enough to be sold for their meat. You can find beef in grocery stores and restaurants across the world.

Moon Pies

Moon Pies are made from two round [graham cracker cookies](#), with [marshmallow](#) filling in the center, dipped in chocolate. They are made in a large bakery in Chattanooga, Tennessee. A popular story states that a coal miner in Tennessee asked for a snack to be made with graham crackers and marshmallows. He also asked that it be made "as big as the moon", which inspired the name "moon pie". They have been made in Chattanooga since 1917. How long have Moon Pies been made?

Bush's Beans

Bush's Beans began to be canned in Chestnut Hill, Tennessee over 100 years ago. The company began with other vegetables, but moved to beans that they put into cans for easy, long term storage. In 1969 a secret recipe began to be used to add flavor to some of the canned beans. You can visit the Bush's museum in east Tennessee, near the Smoky Mountains National Park.

Nissan

The Nissan company has a huge manufacturing plant in Smyrna, Tennessee where they build cars, trucks, and SUV's. The plant opened in 1983 and now employs over 8,000 workers. Nissan makes more than 640,000 vehicles there each year. Smyrna is located in middle Tennessee not too far from our state capitol of Nashville. The products made by Nissan are sold all around the world.