

HENDERSON KENTUCKY

John James Audubon State Park & Museum
 Ellis Park Race Track
 Bluegrass Events
 W. C. Handy Festival
 Riverfront Shops
 Historic Downtown
 Civil War Trails
 Folklife Festivals
 Camping & Hunting
 Sloughs Wildlife Area

On the Ohio Riverfront since 1797

HENDERSON
 John J. Audubon's
 KENTUCKY HOME

www.hendersonky.org



On the Riverfront

Since 1797, Henderson's location . . . high above the banks of the Ohio River has provided commerce and inspired artists.

At the close of the 19th century, Henderson held a unique place in history due to the export business of dark tobacco. Worldwide shipping from Henderson's river port resulted in Henderson becoming the richest per capita town in the United States during tobaccos' heyday. This led to the construction of a number of 19th century houses and buildings that you still see today in the historic downtown district.



Naturalist John James Audubon came here in the 1800s to open a general store, but spent more time studying the birds who travel through this area on their migratory routes. Audubon left to paint the birds of America and you will find nine bronze sculptures throughout downtown based on his "Birds of America" folio series.

"Father of the Blues" W.C. Handy lived in Henderson more than a hundred years ago. Handy wrote that the years he spent working in Henderson had a great impact on the music he would later write.

• Experience entertainment at it's best at our famous blues, bluegrass and folklife festivals. Henderson hosts a variety of local and regional music and fine art performances along with holiday events throughout the year.



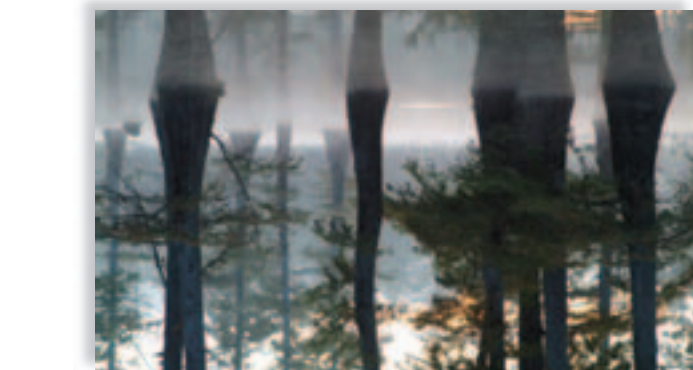
• Discover the Sloughs Wildlife Management Area, a haven for both the nature lover and the sportsman.

• Take a walking tour of our historic downtown and stroll one of the oldest city parks west of the Allegheny Mountains.

• Visit John James Audubon State Park, Museum and Nature Center, a great starting point to tour western Kentucky's birding trails.

• Enjoy thoroughbred racing at Ellis Park Race Course.

• Take the kids to play in one of our many parks and cool off in the riverfront fountains.



Sloughs Wildlife Management Area

10,000 acres of Kentucky's finest hunting grounds is divided into wetlands, woodlands, ridges and open fields. The wetlands is home to nearly 30,000 Canadian geese and 10,000 ducks during the winter. A paradise for hunters, fishermen, campers, hikers and nature lovers. Hwy 268 SW • 270-827-2673

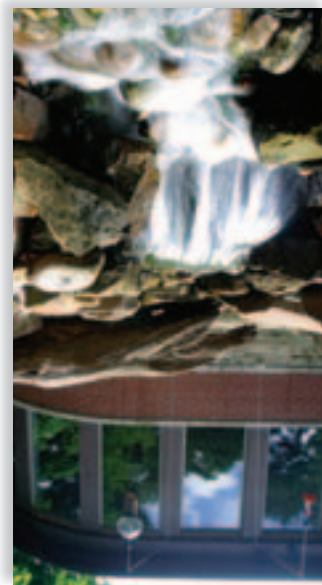
Ellis Park Race Course has conducted thoroughbred racing continuously since 1925. Enjoy live racing excitement at the 8,500 seat grandstand from early July through Labor Day and inter-track wagering in the off-season. Ellis offers dining and banquet rooms. Located just north of the twin bridges across the river. 3300 US 41N • 800-333-8110 • www.ellisparkracing.com



The Henderson Fine Arts Center brings a wide range of professional performances to Henderson. This top-notch facility boasts a 4,000 square foot stage and state-of-the-art light and sound systems. The Center's gallery hosts an ever changing collection of art exhibits. 2660 S Green Street • 270-826-5916 • www.haana.org



The Audubon Museum is the heart of John James Audubon State Park. This world class facility houses the art collections of internationally known wildlife artist, John James Audubon. The museum's Nature Center features interactive displays and a binocular-equipped observatory. The Park occupies 700 acres with secluded cottages, camping, golf, tennis, hiking, walking trails and paddle boat rentals. 2910 US 41N • 270-826-2247 • www.parks.ky.gov/stateparks/au



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Visit us online at www.hendersonky.org
 1-800-648-3128 or 270-826-3128

Henderson County Tourist Commission
 101 North Water Street, Suite B, Henderson, KY 42420
 Visitor's Center Hours: Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm
 Historical Society Hours: Tue and Thu, 11am - 5:30pm
 270-830-7514 • www.rooksteeb.com/~kyhnd2/
 Community Room Hours: Call 1-270-826-3128

County Historical and Genealogical Society

Henderson memorabilia and the Henderson Community Room is a place to stay, and places to stay, about special events latest information local maps and the staff can provide



Local hospitality awaits you at The Depot, located downtown on the riverfront. Our knowledgeable

Central Park was laid out in the original 1797 city plan. A natural gathering place for local events, this shaded site is the center of a vibrant downtown shopping and business center. Across the street you will find the historic Henderson County Library, one of the 3,000 Carnegie libraries in the county. Main @ Washington • Library 270-826-3712



Annual Events



APRIL Henderson Breakfast Lions Club sponsors it's annual **Tri-Fest**, with old-fashioned carnival fun and entertainment for all. Featuring local musicians, regional food booths and a 5K race. *Downtown at Main Street • 270-831-1527*

JUNE Henderson celebrates the life and music of former resident W.C. Handy with a free music festival that showcases some of the nation's best blues artists. **The W.C. Handy Blues and Barbecue Festival** is a spirited, week-long festival



kicked off by a community barbecue the 2nd weekend in June. It culminates the following Friday and Saturday with nonstop performances by nationally known blues bands on a riverfront stage. More than 20,000 people attend the W.C. Handy Blues and Barbecue Festival – one of Kentucky's top music festivals. *Audubon Mill Park • www.handyblues.org • 1-800-648-3128*

Photo Credits: Steve Martin Photography; Ellis Park; Bryan Leazenby; The Gleaner/Darrin Phegley

JULY through Labor Day: **Live Thoroughbred Horse Racing**. Catch inter-track wagering in the off-season. *Ellis Park Race Course, 3300 U.S. 41N*



AUGUST The Ohio riverfront is the setting for the annual **Bluegrass in the Park and Folkfest Festival**. More than 10,000 people attend – one of the largest free bluegrass festivals in the country. This three day event features a variety of bluegrass artists, Kentucky craftsmen, local



barbecue specialities and crafts for children. Other events include the **Pickin' and Pedalin' Bike Tour**, with bluegrass music at rest stops along the routes and **Fiesta in the Park**, a south-of-the-border, Tex-Mex flavored celebration for all ages. *Audubon Mill Park www.hendersonky.org/bluegrass • www.pickinandpedalin.com*

OCTOBER There are few better places to see the work of Kentucky craftsmen than the **Big Rivers Arts & Crafts Festival**. This 30 year old festival features more than 250 exhibitors who display their works in Audubon Park the first full weekend in October. One of the largest arts and crafts fairs in the state, more than 50,000 people attend annually. *Audubon Park, U.S. 41N • www.gradd.com • 270-926-4433*



OCTOBER A parade of costumed children fill the city streets with the spirits of Halloween during the annual **Halloween Festival**. Downtown merchants invite safe trick-or-treating in local businesses and shops. *Downtown at Main Street www.downtownhenderson.org • 270-827-0016*

DECEMBER **Christmas in the Park** is the setting for an enchanted winter wonderland with Christmas displays and exhibits for young and old. In the evenings the park becomes a fantasy of lights. Santa himself has an office open for visits here. The annual **Christmas Tree Lighting** and decorations at Rudy Roland features a giant living Christmas tree. *270-827-5467*



SURROUNDING AREA ATTRACTIONS

– OWENSBORO, KY –

International Bluegrass Music Museum 270-926-7891
Museum of Science & History 270-687-2732
Owensboro Museum of Fine Art 270-685-3181
Western Kentucky Botanical Garden 270-852-8925



– MORGANFIELD, KY –

Camp Breckinridge Museum & Arts 270-389-4420

– EVANSVILLE, IN –

Angel Mounds State Historic Site 1-812-853-3956
Aztar Riverboat Casino 1-800-DIALFUN
Museum of Arts & Science 1-812-425-2405
Historic Reitz Home 1-812-426-1871
Mesker Park Zoo 1-812-428-0715
Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve 1-812-479-0771
LST 325:WWII Landing Ship Tank 1-800-433-3025 (Fall)

– NEW HARMONY, IN –

Historic New Harmony 1-812-682-4474

HENDERSON, KY

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Henderson County Tourist Commission

ACCOMMODATIONS

A Comfort Inn* 2820 US 41N (55 rms) 270-827-8191	G Ramada Conference Cntr*2044 US 41N (117 rms) 270-826-6600
B Henderson Downtown Motel 425 N Green St (38 rms) 270-827-2577	H Sleep Inn* 2224 US 41N (63 rms) 270-830-6500
C Holiday Inn Express* 2826 US 41N (62 rms) 270-869-0533	I Sugar Creek Inn* 2077 US 41N (65 rms) 270-827-0127
D Holiday Motel* 1759 S Green St (53 rms) 270-826-8382	J Super 8 Motel* 2030 US 41N (100 rms) 270-827-5611
E J.J. Audubon State Park* US 41N (6 cottages, 69 camp) 270-826-2247	K True Vine Plantation Inn 3211 US 41N (20rms) 270-827-9144
F L&N Bed and Breakfast, Ltd 327 N Main St (4 rms) 270-831-1100	L Victorian Quarters B&B 109 Clay St (4 rms) 270-831-2778

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- 12 Doc Hosback Riverfront Tennis Complex
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- 15 Starlight Drive-In
- 16 W.E. Newman Recreational Complex
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- 19 Henderson Riverport Ind. Park
- 20 Henderson Corporate Park
- 21 Dannlin Industrial Park
- 22 Southside Industrial Park
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- 24 Fairmont Cemetery
- 25 St. Louis Cemetery
- 26 Fernwood Cemetery
- 27 Roselawn Memorial Gardens

*Wheelchair Accessible