



AN ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE

The architecture throughout the county pays tribute to several iconic eras - explore them on a **self-guided walking tour of downtown Jackson**. While you're there, stop by **Michigan Theatre** for a cinema experience unlike any other. Originally built in Spanish Renaissance style with an ornate polychrome terra-cotta façade, heavy damask draperies, and stained-glass light fixtures, Michigan Theatre is considered one of the most splendid theaters in the state! For another visual experience, the beautiful products of **Bright Walls** mural festival can be seen all around the downtown area. During the festival, artists from around the globe covered Jackson's cityscape with colorful artwork.



Religious artistry is easy to spot when you make an appointment at **St. Demetrius Orthodox Church**. Graced with floor-to-ceiling Byzantine frescoes, this is an Eastern European art experience right in America's heartland. The technique of two-dimensional painting has been used for over 1,800 years in cathedrals and churches across the world.



JACKSON'S PLACE IN HISTORY

It's no secret that Jackson's history has played a major role in the development of the region and the state. From the first state prison to what was once the largest stop on the Detroit-to-Chicago rail line, little pieces of Michigan history are waiting to be uncovered within the city's museums and historic homes.

- ▶ Ella Sharp Museum
- ▶ Lost Railway Museum
- ▶ Ye Ole Carriage Shop
- ▶ Michigan Military Heritage Museum
- ▶ Cambridge Junction Historic State Park
- ▶ Hurst Planetarium
- ▶ Waterloo Farm Museum
- ▶ Mann House
- ▶ Coe House
- ▶ Whitetail Hall of Fame
- ▶ Tompkins Historical Stewart Farm Museum



Discover Jackson's historic presence at your own pace with the free **Experience Jackson Tours** app! You'll see how American history was shaped right here in Jackson!

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EXPERIENCE *Arts & Culture*

• JACKSON, MICHIGAN •

Bursting with museums, monuments, and murals that paint the picture of America's past.

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Photo by Bright Walls Photographer Brittany Brockie

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BIRTHPLACE OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Unsuspecting as it is, **Under the Oaks** is one of the most significant spots in American political history. Compelled by nothing more than to do what was right, thousands gathered to form a new political party. One that stood strong against slavery and fought for equality. This gathering in 1854 marked the birth of the Republican Party and set the stage for the Civil War — and the end of slavery.

Experience the significance at ExperienceJackson.com/RepublicanParty

CIVIL WAR ERA

Explore the pivotal role that Jackson played in the anti-slavery movement of the 1850s, leading up to the Civil War. From striking monuments to widely attended events that continue to honor an undeniable impact, the stories of the Civil War hold a special significance within Jackson's heart. Discover the untold stories from Michigan's veterans and more at **Michigan Military Heritage Museum**.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Hidden in plain view, Jackson's stretch of the Underground Railroad was once the road to freedom for many slaves. Your journey on the Underground Railroad would be incomplete without touring **Jackson Station** where many fled the United States for the Canadian border to freedom.

Discover more at ExperienceJackson.com/UGRR

PRISON HISTORY

Jackson owes almost 200 years' worth of growth and success to something many people wouldn't suspect: prisons. Early penitentiaries led to railroads and those railroads led to an economic boom in the 19th century and beyond. See how it all started with a fascinating tour of Michigan's first state prison.

AN UNIMAGINABLE TOUR

Once the largest walled prison in the world, the magnitude of this prison's importance will hit you once you're behind the 25-foot-tall stone walls.

An unforgettable tour awaits as guides share tales of corruption and escape and take you to where so many spent their days – solitary.

This reformed building has now been repurposed as a residence with a focus on the arts – the only old prison in the world to do so! Next door, you'll find **Art 634 studios**. What was once a wagon wheel factory staffed by prisoners, is now a place to experience and create art.

Contact the Jackson Historic Prison Tours to make your reservation, 517-817-8960.

Start your sentence at ExperienceJackson.com/PrisonHistory



IMMERSIVE VISUAL ARTS SHOW

The Cascades, also known as Cascade Falls, is one of Jackson's most spectacular attractions. This illuminated, man-made waterfall has stood as a symbol of Jackson for over 85 years. The colors in its cascading waterfalls are as unique as the area's personality.

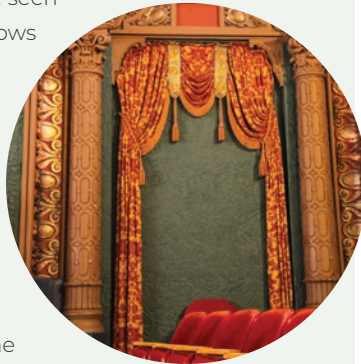
While you're at The Cascades, stop by the splash pad for some fun in the sun!

Your artistic adventure starts at ExperienceJackson.com/Art

LIVE PERFORMANCES FOR ALL AGES

The performing arts can be seen year-round with regular shows and annual events. Catch a live performance from the **Jackson Symphony Orchestra** or visit **Michigan Theatre** to get that historic theatre experience. Several annual events happen throughout the year, like the **Michigan Shakespeare Festival** and the **Jackson Blues Fest**.

See our great events at ExperienceJackson.com/Calendar



A TRIP THROUGH TRANSPORTATION'S PAST

Transportation has always been at Jackson's core. From prison-made wagon wheels to the production of the early automobile, Jackson has had our hand in it all.

To get the full story, the **Lost Railway Museum** has dedicated itself to the progression of transportation - including a nearly forgotten mode, the electric interurban railway.

Ye Ole Carriage Shop's sleek display of 60-plus classic cars – including 18 that were made right here in Jackson – are a must-see. Be sure to make your appointment for this Jackson treasure.

Discover your next exhibit at ExperienceJackson.com/Museums



Experience Jackson's Underground Railroad stops for yourself by downloading the **Experience Jackson Tours** app for free today!

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