

WELCOME TO LEXINGTON

Explore the Horse Capital of the World

Whether you're visiting Lexington for the first time or returning for another visit, there are plenty of ways to experience Kentucky's signature attractions. All of the destinations below are within approximately 15 minutes of the Lexington Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa.

CABTRAC 2026



Lexington, Kentucky

Attractions

Horse Country

Kentucky Horse Park

Distance: 4 miles (8-10 minutes)

A must-see for first-time visitors, the Kentucky Horse Park celebrates Kentucky's rich equine heritage with working horse farms, live demonstrations, retired champion racehorses, scenic walking paths, and the International Museum of the Horse.

Recommended Visit: 2–4 hours

Admission: Approximately \$28 adults

Don't Miss

Parade of Breeds
Hall of Champions
International Museum of the Horse
Horse-drawn trolley rides

[Website](#)

Keeneland Race Course

Distance: 9 miles (15 minutes)

Known as one of the world's most beautiful racetracks, Keeneland offers a glimpse into Kentucky's Thoroughbred industry. Visitors can tour the grounds, browse the gift shop, and, during racing seasons, experience live Thoroughbred racing.

Recommended Visit: 1–3 hours

[Website](#)

Adult Beverages

James E. Pepper

Distance: 4.8 miles (15 minutes)

Located in Lexington's historic Distillery District, the James E. Pepper Distillery brings more than 200 years of Kentucky whiskey history to life. Visitors can explore the restored distillery, learn about the Pepper family's legacy and the bourbon-making process, and experience a working distillery in the heart of one of Lexington's most vibrant neighborhoods.

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: Tours start every hour - 10:30 am-3:30 pm

Tour Cost: \$25 per person.

Recommended: Please arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled tour to allow time to park and check-in. ONLINE RESERVATIONS NEED TO BE MADE 1 HOUR IN ADVANCE. We strongly encourage buying tickets online to avoid sold-out tours and to avoid issues with holiday/distillery closures.

[Website](#)

Town Branch Distillery (Lexington Brewing & Distilling Co.)

Distance: 6 miles (15+ minutes)

Located in downtown Lexington, Town Branch is the city's only distillery on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. The campus combines both a brewery and distillery, offering visitors the opportunity to learn about bourbon and beer production in one guided tour.

Sunday Hours: 11:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. (first tour begins at noon)

Tour Cost: Campus tours begin at **\$15 per person.**

Recommended Visit: 1–2 hours

[Website](#)

Lexington Craft Breweries

Lexington has developed an impressive craft beer scene, with several local breweries located just minutes from downtown.

Brewery	Distance	Highlights
<u>West Sixth Brewing</u>	3.3 miles	Historic brewery, outdoor patio, rotating food trucks
<u>Mirror Twin Brewing</u>	4.5 miles	Wood-fired pizza and locally crafted beer
<u>Ethereal Brewing</u>	4 miles	Located in the Distillery District
<u>Blue Stallion Brewing Company</u>	2.8 miles	German-style lagers and beer hall atmosphere
<u>Burl Brew</u>	4 miles	Local craft beer in the heart of the Distillery District

Entertainment

LexLive

Distance: 6 miles (10–12 minutes)

LexLive is downtown Lexington's premier entertainment venue, offering something for everyone under one roof. Enjoy the latest movies, bowling, arcade games, a full-service restaurant, sports bar, and rooftop patio. It's a great option for individuals, couples, or small groups looking for a relaxed evening after a day of travel.

Recommended Visit: 2–4 hours

Admission:

No admission fee to enter

Movies, bowling, arcade games, food, and beverages are individually priced

Highlights

-  Bowling
-  Luxury movie theater
-  Arcade
-  Full-service restaurant
-  Three bars & sports viewing
-  Walking distance to downtown restaurants and Rupp Arena

[Website](#)

The Distillery District

Distance: 6 miles (10–12 minutes from the Lexington Griffin Gate Marriott)

Once home to one of Kentucky's oldest bourbon distilleries, the Distillery District has been transformed into one of Lexington's most popular destinations for dining, craft beverages, live music, and local shopping. Whether you're looking to enjoy a bourbon tasting, grab dinner with colleagues, or relax on a patio, there's something for everyone.

Recommended Visit: 2–4 hours

Admission: Free to explore (food, drinks, and tours priced individually)

Highlights

-  Bourbon tastings
-  Local breweries
-  Restaurants and casual dining
-  Coffee shops
-  Local ice cream
-  Live music and seasonal events
-  Local boutiques and artisan shops
-  Outdoor gathering spaces

Featured Stops

James E. Pepper Distillery

Ethereal Brewing

Crank & Boom Craft Ice Cream
Goodfellas Pizzeria

Local Finds

Chevy Chase / Clay Avenue - It's one of Lexington's oldest shopping districts, with independent clothing boutiques, gifts, home décor and specialty shops clustered around Euclid Avenue, High Street and Clay Avenue. 5 miles

Warehouse Block / National Avenue —The district has 40+ independent businesses, including boutiques, vintage/home shops and specialty retailers, along with places to grab coffee or food. 4-4.5 miles

VisitLEX - Lexington Visitors Center is the official visitor information center for Lexington, Kentucky. Located in the Historic Courthouse Square in downtown Lexington, it serves as a starting point for exploring the city and the surrounding Bluegrass Region, offering trip-planning assistance, maps, brochures, local recommendations, local gifts/ souvenirs and interactive exhibits. 4 miles

University of Kentucky - Experience the heart of Big Blue Nation with a visit to the University of Kentucky. Stroll through campus, see iconic landmarks, explore the beautiful grounds, and get a glimpse of the energy and tradition that make UK such an important part of Lexington. [Learn more»](#) 4.5 miles

Getting Around

LexRide Downtown Circulator

If you're spending an evening downtown, consider using LexRide, Lexington's seasonal downtown circulator. It connects many of the city's most popular entertainment areas, including Downtown Lexington, the Distillery District, and the Warehouse District, making it easy to explore without moving your car. Service operates Thursday through Saturday evenings, so it won't be available on Sunday. Rides are just \$1 each way and buses arrive approximately every 12–15 minutes. [Learn more](#) 

Walking

Downtown Lexington is very walkable once you arrive. Many restaurants, breweries, bars, shops, and attractions are located within a few blocks of each other, making it easy to spend an afternoon or evening exploring on foot.

Parking

Most attractions offer free or paid parking, but parking downtown can be limited during evenings and special events. Using Uber or Lyft is often the easiest option if you plan to visit multiple locations or enjoy Lexington's restaurants, breweries, or bourbon experiences.