

Paducah Offers New Stop on the Great Loop



In September of 2017, the City of Paducah opened a 340-foot transient dock that has quickly become a popular stop for those completing the Great Loop. Boaters from all over the continental U.S. and Canada visited in the fall in addition to local boaters who regularly cruise in the local area. The town has been working on new marina plans for over a decade.

Paducah is uniquely situated at the confluence of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers. The Paducah dock, located just downstream from the heart of historic downtown Paducah, provides transient space for a few hours to up to 14 consecutive nights. Amenities include fuel (diesel and marine grade gasoline), water, power pedestals and a pump-out station (seasonal for water and sewer amenities).

The dock is in a perfect location to enjoy Paducah's historic downtown and Lower Town, a nationally known neighborhood full of art galleries and beautifully renovated historic homes. Within a few blocks of the dock are the seasonal Farmers' Market, the National Quilt Museum (215 Jefferson St., 270-442-8856), the Yeiser Art Center (200 Broadway St., 270-442-2453) and the River Discovery Center (117 S Water St., 270-575-9958). Captain a towboat, pleasure watercraft or Coast Guard buoy tender through various scenarios in the pilothouse simulator. Another "must see" is the Dafford Murals, which span three blocks on the floodwall on the waterfront. This series of 50 life-size panels showcase Paducah's storied history. (See more at paducahwalltowall.com.)



Within just a four-block walk, you will encounter the heart of downtown Paducah with numerous shops, galleries and restaurants. PAPA Gallery at 124 Broadway St. (270-575-3544) features original art from approximately 100 local and regional artists. Bricolage at 107 Market House Square (270-538-9625) also offers artwork from area artists, along with Paducah-centric t-shirts and a mix of other fun and unique items.

Paducah prides itself in its local restaurants with nearly a dozen within walking distance from the river in Historic Downtown. Swing by Shandies at 202 Broadway St. (207-442-2552) for some gourmet pub food, including hand-cut and marinated steaks and homemade lemonade. Or try the fluffy biscuits and Belgian waffles at Gold Rush Café & Catering for a breakfast you won't forget (400 Broadway St., 270-443-4422). Brunch runs until 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. End the day with ice cream made on site at the Ice Cream Factory at Riverplace (116 Broadway St., 270-443-0084) or at Curls & Cream at Market House Square (270-408-2875). Have your flavor made to order and rolled right on the slab in front of you.

There are also two coffeehouses (Etcetera and Etcetera²), two microbreweries (Paducah Beer Werks and Dry Ground Brewing Co.) and two distilleries (Silent Brigade Distillery and Paducah Distilled Spirits: The Moonshine Company).

The staff at the Paducah Convention & Visitors Bureau located at 128 Broadway St. (paducah.travel) is eager to help should you need a map or other planning assistance.

