



B.B. King's Blues Club

MUSIC

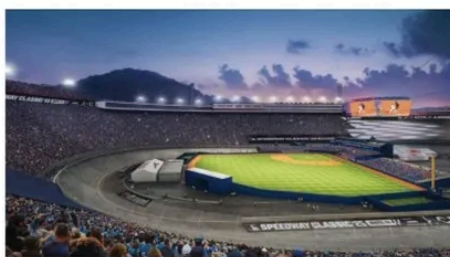
Hail to the Kings

Memphis is a rare thing: a city with two Kings. September 16 marks B.B. King's 100th birthday, and what better way to celebrate than with a series of concerts, tributes, and special shows at none other than **B.B. King's Blues Club**. On September 14, famed Beale Street becomes a free live music venue with performances by blues artist Kingfish and experimental bass virtuoso MonoNeon. For King's actual birthday, his daughter, Shirley King, headlines an exciting evening of music, along with the B.B. King All-Star Legends. And on September 18, a hologram version of the blues icon will delight clubgoers with a performance to remember. Meanwhile, over at Elvis Presley's **Graceland**, the beloved *Dressed to Rock* exhibition recently received a refresh when 15 snazzy jumpsuits returned home after a two-year world tour of this King's memorabilia. For even more Elvis excitement, join the Presley for a Day program that includes a luxe dinner in the former stables of Lisa Marie's pony, a glimpse at the archives, and an after-hours Graceland tour. —JF

SPORTS

Fast-Paced Fun

Bristol Motor Speedway swaps speeding cars for fly balls as it hosts the first-ever Major League Baseball game in Tennessee in the league's nearly 150-year-old history. The legendary stadium has hosted the biggest names in NASCAR since its opening in 1961. But the August 2 MLB Speedway Classic matchup in Bristol between the Atlanta Braves and the Cincinnati Reds welcomes America's favorite pastime at "The Last Great Colosseum." With a seating capacity of almost 150,000, this event is expected to nearly double the typical baseball game crowds. —CE



ALAMY; BRISTOL MOTOR SPEEDWAY; BIGSTOCK

BY CAROLINE EUBANKS AND JASON FRYE

ANNIVERSARY

High Hopes

"I still believe in a place called Hope," former President Bill Clinton once said of his Arkansas hometown. Now, 32 years after Clinton entered the White House, the small town of Hope, where you can tour his birthplace home, is celebrating its 150th birthday. The best time to go is during the **Hope Watermelon Festival** August 7–9, when some of the world's largest melons are on display. —CE



COMPETITION

Mud, Mountains, and Mayhem

Previously held only in Sparta, Greece, the **Spartan Trifecta World Championship** lands on U.S. soil when competitors from all over the world gather in Oak Hill, West Virginia, to vie for a share of the \$30,000 prize purse. From September 5–7, watch as athletes compete (or participate yourself, if you dare) in a series of obstacle-filled 5K, 10K, and 21K races and events that challenge their strength, speed, and spirit. —JF