

Southwest<sup>®</sup>

The Magazine

# LEAPS OF FAITH

The art  
of taking  
chances,  
from Taylor  
Swift's  
bold career  
pivot to  
vacations  
that stretch  
you



YOUR ADVENTURE IN

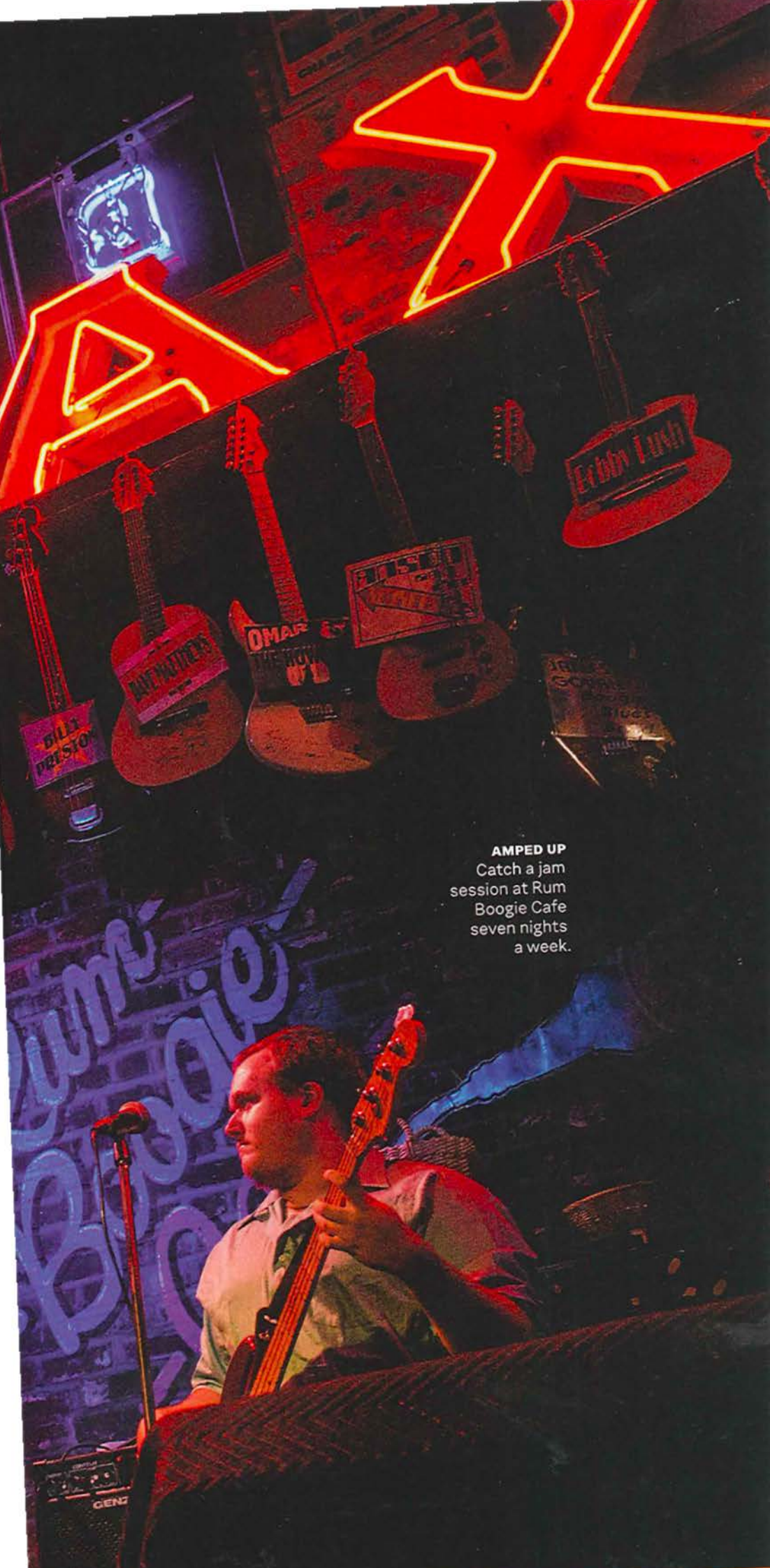
# Memphis

**WANT MORE?**

Browse the **Inflight Entertainment Portal** for the best spots to eat, drink, stay, and play in your final destination. It's free!







**AMPED UP**  
Catch a jam session at Rum Boogie Cafe seven nights a week.

**BY BEN MARSHALL**

Funky music clubs on Beale Street. Fall-off-the-bone ribs. Graceland. Your travel itinerary writes itself. But beyond blues, barbecue, and the King, Tennessee's largest city boasts a complex cultural past and a diverse natural landscape equally worth exploring. Before sharing our favorite Bluff City spots, we'd like to know more about you.

**ARE YOU A**

**MUSIC LOVER**  
page 96

**HISTORY BUFF**  
page 98

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURER**  
page 100

**FOODIE**  
page 102

**HEALTH NUT**  
page 104



## GOOD SPORTS

Top venues that are worth a visit



### AUTOZONE PARK

Catch a Memphis Redbirds minor league game through early September. Beyond left field, a boardwalk boasts carnival games and a climbing wall.



### TPC SOUTHWIND

Snag a shady spot on No. 18 to watch the best golfers in the world finish their round at the FedEx St. Jude Classic, June 11-14.



### BASS PRO SHOPS

Vacant for more than 10 years, the Memphis Pyramid now houses this outdoor-sports retail mecca, a 13-lane bowling alley, a 103-room hotel, and multiple restaurants.

In addition to walking in Memphis, try...

#### Biking

Cycle the 6.5-mile Shelby Farms Greenline, built upon a former railroad bed. Rental bikes and helmets are available at Shelby Farms Park.

#### Hiking

The 20-plus miles of trails in the Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park north of downtown range from moderate to very rugged.

#### Boating

Thrill seekers: Hop aboard Memphis Riverboats' 11-passenger jet boat for an experience akin to a waterbound rollercoaster.

#### CRUISE CONTROL

The American Queen now calls Memphis home thanks to the Beale Street Landing.



## Go Down by the Riverside

Take Beale Street west—past B.B. King's Blues Club, the Elvis statue, and the Orpheum Theatre—all the way to the riverfront. Here, a \$43 million landing complex completed last year features a dock, a playground, gardens, and fountains overlooking the Mississippi. The wide, sloping green space on the roof of the Riverfront Bar & Grill is the best spot to glimpse riverboats coming in. Want to get even closer to the water? Descend the red corkscrew ramp and climb aboard the Island Queen, a sightseeing paddlewheeler that offers daily excursions from March through November.