

Cheap Thrills in Marshall

Marshall and surrounds offer bargain attractions in town and country.

Don't miss a historical adventure on the **Old Stagecoach Road**, six miles of narrow dirt lane traveled by horse-drawn stagecoaches during the 19th century. From Marshall, take TX 43 east 17 miles and turn left on CR 2116, which becomes Stagecoach Road. Watch out for oncoming traffic when the road narrows to one lane.

Another must-see historical site, **Scottsville Cemetery**, is 14 miles from Marshall (US 80 east five miles to FM 1998, then east nine miles). It's one of Texas' most picturesque cemeteries. Fine sculptures, several by German-born Texas artist Frank Teich, adorn monuments of 19th century plantation families. Most noteworthy is the large statue of an angel weeping over the grave of Will Scott Youree, whose 1904 death also was memorialized by a Victorian chapel nearby.

Not far from Scottsville is Jonesville, where a famous general store, **T.C. Lindsey & Co.** (903/687-3382), has been in operation since before the Civil War. Find everything from a slice of "rat cheese" to Paul Bunyun-size overalls. It's so authentic several movies were filmed here. From Marshall, take US 80 east 24 miles, then north on FM 134 three miles.

More cheap thrills await in downtown Marshall. Housed in the former Ginocchio Hotel, the **Harrison County Historical Museum** (707 N. Washington St., 903/938-2680; \$1 per person) recounts early county history and spotlights area natives such as Lady Bird Johnson, George Foreman, and Bill Moyers.

Next door, the restored **Texas and Pacific Depot** houses a railroad museum (903/938-9495; \$2 adults, \$1 students) and serves as an Amtrak passenger station.

Go artsy at the **Michelson Museum of Art** (216 N. Bolivar St., 935-9480; free admission) which houses the life work of Russian-American artist Leo Michelson, as well as other artworks and even African masks from the collection of Jay Ward, creator of cartoon characters Rocky and Bullwinkle.

A new browser's paradise is the **Weisman Center** (903/934-8836). Now a merchant cooperative with antiques, home decorations, and a sandwich shop-espresso bar, the restored 1890s building once housed Joe Weisman & Company, one of the state's first department stores.

The **Marshall Chamber of Commerce** (903/935-7868; www.marshall-chamber.com) offers a free driving map of Marshall area historical attractions.

Grab a mega-burger 20 miles west of Marshall on TX 154 at **Fuglers Grocery and Market** (903/935-5967). This "Home of the Bubba Burger" serves plate-sized hamburgers (\$3.59 with cheese) and homemade pie (\$2 a slice), as well as regional favorites like Pittsburg hot links (\$2.59 per half dozen) and Natchitoches meat pies (98-cents each). Conversation here is straight out of the animated TV series "King of the Hill." As owner Alton Fugler, whose father started the market in 1940, says, "Preciate Ya'll."

--Randy Mallory