



A BRIEF HISTORY OF OVERTON SQUARE

In 1969, Overton Square founders and developers James D. Robinson, Ben Woodson, Charles H. Hull, and Frank Doggrell led the efforts to pass a referendum to allow establishments to sell liquor by the drink. The approved license was driven from Nashville right to the doors of T.G.I. Friday's in Overton Square, the first franchised location outside of New York City. It quickly became a success and anchored additional shops, restaurants, pubs, and attractions.

In the 70's, Overton Square was home to 11 restaurants and 27 shops. The area employed 800 Memphians. Over time, the Square was home to an



ice skating rink, Solomon Alfred's, the Mississippi River Co., the Public Eye, Bombay Bicycle Club, Gonzales & Gertrude's, the Hot Air Balloon, Lafayette's Music Room, Yosemite Sam's (originally a disco), Godfather's Supper Club, Trader Dick's, and the original

Huey's. Pub crawls attracted over 40,000 people and Christmas at Overton Square was known for its carolers and roasted chestnuts. The Square even brought snow to the Mid-South each year.

Today the renovated and revitalized Overton Square—anchored by four live-performance theaters and a multi-screen movie theater—is home to thriving businesses and draws over a million visitors per year. Loeb Properties has cultivated this local landmark into a thriving arts and entertainment district that is a destination for locals and visitors alike.



For more information, visit
OvertonSquare.com
[@overtonsquare](https://www.instagram.com/overtonsquare)





Babalu Tacos & Tapas

A fun, hip restaurant serving up bold flavors using fresh, local ingredients



Bar Louie

An upscale neighborhood bar and restaurant known for casual dining and specialty drinks



Bari Ristorante

Chic spot for modern Italian cuisine, an impressive wine list and variety of cheeses



Bayou Bar & Grill

Authentic Cajun food and live entertainment with a Memphis flair



Belly Acres

Fun and unique farm-to-table experiences for the entire family in a playful setting



Bosc's

Specializing in locally brewed craft beers and wood-fired pizzas



Golden India

Authentic and flavorful Indian cuisine in a warm and intimate atmosphere



Lafayette's Music Room

Delicious Southern fare & cocktails and live music reign at this historic venue



Lenny's

Half-pound subs and authentic Philly Cheesesteaks served hot off the grill



Local Gastropub

Great food, hand-crafted cocktails, and fresh local ingredients in a casual setting



Memphis Pizza Cafe

A full-service pizza restaurant located in Overton Square since 1993



Robata

Authentic Japanese ramen and yakitori bar in a cozy cottage



Schweinehaus

Mixing traditional German cuisine and brews with local Memphis soul



Yolo

Frozen yogurt, gelato, and yummy baked goods



Zebra Lounge

Piano bar from Chicago featuring local musicians seven nights a week



The Art Project

Make the art, leave the mess at this kids' playground for creative expression



Bikram Yoga

Original Bikram Hot Yoga and Hot Pilates to relax the mind and invigorate the body



Breakaway Running

Supporting local runners, fitness enthusiasts and the community in Memphis since 1981



Cardio Barre

The best kept fitness secret from California, now available in Memphis



Crazy Beautiful

Women's speciality boutique offering a unique selection of clothing, shoes and accessories



Delta Groove Yoga

Organic, conscious healing arts community and yoga studio honoring the rhythm of life



Gould's On the Square

Salon and spa with upscale ambiance and skilled professional beauty services



Sweet Noshings

Locally-owned and operated candy, sweets, ice cream and coffee shop for kids of all ages



Square Olive

Specialty olive oil and balsamic vinegar shop with a wide selection of speciality items



The Attic

Men's and women's apparel and accessories for all ages and sizes



The Ivory Closet

A unique women's boutique with professional fashion stylists

Overton Square Art Guide



The Overton Square Arch

Brian F. Russell, 2013

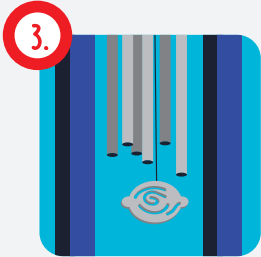
The beautiful metalwork arch evokes energy and joy, celebrating the moment of arrival at Overton Square



Tragedy and Comedy

Thorne Edwards, 1970

A gift from the Memphis College of Art, these mosaic panels represent Tragedy and Comedy



Overton Square Chimes

Sean Murphy & Anne Fronin, 2013

This eight-note instrument is one of the largest sets of wind chimes in the world and can be activated by nearby button



Tree Pins

Mattie Hayes, 2012

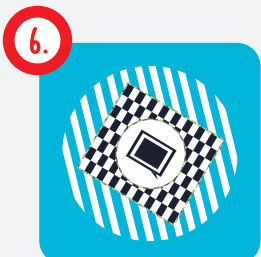
Step right up and take a photo as your favorite Memphis King Elvis, King, or Jerry the King Fowler



You Are the Universe

Guillame Alby, 2013

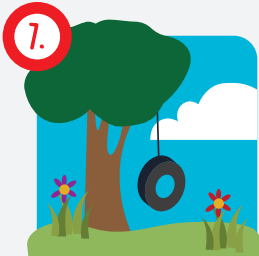
French artist Alby created this mural is the International Style, a reminder of our universal interconnectedness



Circuit

Lea Holland, 2013

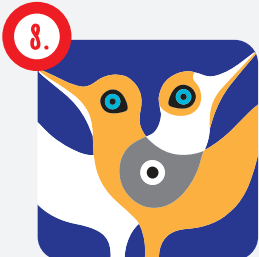
Inspired by the Optical Art movement of the 1970s, this pavement installation imagery hails from the early revitalization



Life is Just a Tire Swing

David Lynch, 2013

A playful, kid-friendly piece inspired by the artist's son, this mural is a riff on the Jimmy Buffett song 'Life Is Just a Tire Swing'.



The Lovebirds

Ray Drummond & Dee Dee, 2012

The intertwined Lovebirds shimmer and dance in the sunlight as the sequins that make up the work move in the breeze



Cosmopolitan

Wally Mendel, 2013

Walk inside Babalu and look up These three stained glass panels are backlit for improved nighttime visibility



Gyroscopic

Yvonne Bobo, 2013

The illuminated and twirling Gyroscopic is the artist's tallest sculpture to date, towering 31 feet above the pedestal



Dan Billins

Loeb Square, 2002

This mural serves as the first public art piece at Overton Square and presaged the area-wide renovation and revitalization



Overton Square Redux

David Lynch, 2013

Lynch's large-scale and colorful mural incorporates the architecture of the building to reflect the changes at Overton Square.



Security

Mary Norman, 2013

The steampunk-style mural and metal installation of the security office incorporates an eyeball motif to reinforce the building's purpose

OVERTON SQUARE ART GUIDE

