

## Specialty Museums and Libraries.

### EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL DESTINATIONS.

Libraries and museums, and co-located libraries and museums are great economic development assets. They celebrate what is unique about the town, they highlight important industries and businesses; they provide some gravitas to the region and present a strong face to the world.

Libraries and museums are important pieces of the town's educational resources for young and old. They work well with colleges and universities, art galleries and theaters of all types. They are important tourist attractions. They enrich the community by hosting events with speakers and entertainment. Strategically located libraries, museums, galleries and theaters create a district replete with entertainment, educational and cultural benefits plus restaurants, cafés, shops and galleries.

Small cities and towns fortunate enough to have one or more of these assets have the opportunity to create a specialty library or museum on or near main street. Small cities and towns with successful persons looking for a site for a statue, a building or plaza to donate can be introduced to the concept of the cultural district. Businesses and industries important to the community may be a likely sponsor for an element of the district. **The important factor is that small cities and towns with a plan ready for a new opportunity for a museum or specialty library are most likely to appeal to a potential donor.**

### SPECIALTY LIBRARIES.

**A special library**, from Wikipedia, "is a library that provides specialized information resources on a particular subject, serves a specialized and limited clientele, and delivers specialized services to that clientele."<sup>[1]</sup> Special libraries include corporate libraries, government libraries, [law libraries](#), [medical libraries](#), museum libraries, news libraries, and [nonprofit libraries](#). Special libraries also exist within academic institutions, including law school libraries and medical school libraries. These libraries are included as special libraries because they are often funded separately from the rest of the university and they serve a targeted group of users.<sup>[2]</sup> Link: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special\\_library](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_library)

### SPECIAL LIBRARIES FROM THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Special libraries offer unique opportunities to work in a specialized environment of interest, such as corporations, hospitals, museums, and the government. Special libraries can serve particular populations, such as the blind and physically handicapped, while others are dedicated to special collections, such as the Library of Congress. Listed below are examples of various types of special libraries. Link: <http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/careers/paths/specialty/librariyspecialties>

- Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries
- Society of American Archivists
- Art Libraries Society of North America
- Children's Services Libraries
- Film Libraries
- Law Libraries
- Medical Libraries
- Music Libraries
- Prison Libraries
- Science Libraries
- Theatre Libraries
- Theological Libraries

**SPECIALTY MUSEUMS.**

Trip Advisors has provided the following collection of specialty museums. The variety of subjects and the variable size of the host towns are broad. The point is to exploit any authenticity available be it history, a notable event or person or an industry as many towns have done.

Museums with almost any focus draw attention and patrons. The Cardboard Boat Regatta Museums in New Richmond OH [population 1,028] and the Chesapeake Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, MD [population 2,672] attest to the fact that a town does not have to be big, but it does have to capture some unique aspect of its personality.

The museums list by Trip Advisor are larger than a small city or town can fathom, but each has a uniqueness that illustrates the point; capture an interesting idea, put it in a library or museum and celebrate it.

Link: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g191-Activities-c49-t161-United\\_States.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g191-Activities-c49-t161-United_States.html)



USS Midway Museum San Diego



NASA Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex Titusville



The Getty Center Los Angeles



The National WWII Museum New Orleans



**Biltmore** Asheville



**The Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum** Key West



**The National 9/11 Memorial & Museum** New York City



**Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum** Nashville



**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** Washington DC



**National Air and Space Museum** Washington DC



**New York Public Library**  
New York City



**National Naval Aviation Museum** Pensacola



**World of Coca-Cola** Atlanta



**Myrtle Beach Pinball Museum** Myrtle Beach



**National Museum of the U.S. Air Force** Dayton



**Musical Instrument Museum** Phoenix



National Museum of the Marine Corps Triangle



Dream Car Museum Evansville