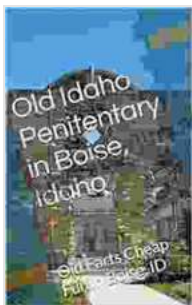


# Step Inside the Historic Walls of the Old Idaho Penitentiary

Nestled in the vibrant city of Boise, Idaho, stands a captivating relic of the past: the Old Idaho Penitentiary. This National Historic Site is a testament to the state's rich history and offers a glimpse into a bygone era of incarceration. As you step inside its imposing walls, prepare to be transported back in time to a world of secrets, legends, and the lives of those who once called this place home.

## A Journey Through Time

Established in 1872, the Old Idaho Penitentiary served as the state's primary correctional facility for over 100 years. Over that time, it housed thousands of inmates, including some of the most notorious criminals in the Wild West. Today, the penitentiary has been meticulously preserved and restored, offering visitors a unique opportunity to walk through its historic cell blocks, solitary confinement cells, and execution chamber.



## Old Idaho Penitentiary in Boise, Idaho: Old Farts Cheap Fun in Boise, ID (Great Places We Visited During the Pandemic) by DACO

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 5260 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 14 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



As you explore the penitentiary, you'll encounter a wealth of fascinating stories. Learn about the infamous inmates who once roamed these halls, including Harry Orchard, the assassin of former Idaho Governor Frank Steunenberg, and Hank Truett, the "Tiger of the Penitentiary" who escaped twice.

### **Unveiling the Secrets**

Beyond the stories of its inmates, the Old Idaho Penitentiary is also steeped in legend and mystery. Visitors often report strange occurrences, including flickering lights, disembodied footsteps, and unexplained noises. Some believe that the ghosts of former inmates still haunt the penitentiary, seeking justice or redemption.

Join a guided tour to delve deeper into the penitentiary's haunted history. Hear the chilling tales of paranormal encounters and uncover the secrets that lie within its walls. You may even have the chance to participate in a ghost hunt, using specialized equipment to detect the presence of the unknown.

### **A Glimpse into the Past**

In addition to its historical and paranormal significance, the Old Idaho Penitentiary also offers a glimpse into the everyday lives of those who lived and worked within its walls. Visit the restored guard tower, the warden's office, and the prison kitchen to experience the challenges and hardships faced by inmates and staff alike.

Don't miss the opportunity to visit the Idaho State Historical Museum, located on the penitentiary grounds. Here, you'll find an extensive collection of artifacts and exhibits that provide further insight into the history of the penitentiary and the state of Idaho.

## **Exploring the Outdoors**

While the main attraction is the penitentiary itself, the surrounding grounds also offer plenty to explore. Wander through the scenic prison yard, where inmates once spent their days working and exercising. Visit the gravesites of former inmates and staff, where you'll find poignant tributes and reminders of the lives that were lived within these walls.

Take a leisurely stroll along the Boise River Greenbelt, which runs adjacent to the penitentiary. This beautiful park offers picturesque views of the river and the surrounding mountains. It's a great place to relax and reflect on your visit to this historic site.

## **Planning Your Visit**

The Old Idaho Penitentiary is open to the public year-round. Guided tours are available daily, and self-guided tours are also permitted. Check the penitentiary's website for tour times and admission fees. For an immersive experience, consider staying overnight in the penitentiary's haunted jail cells.

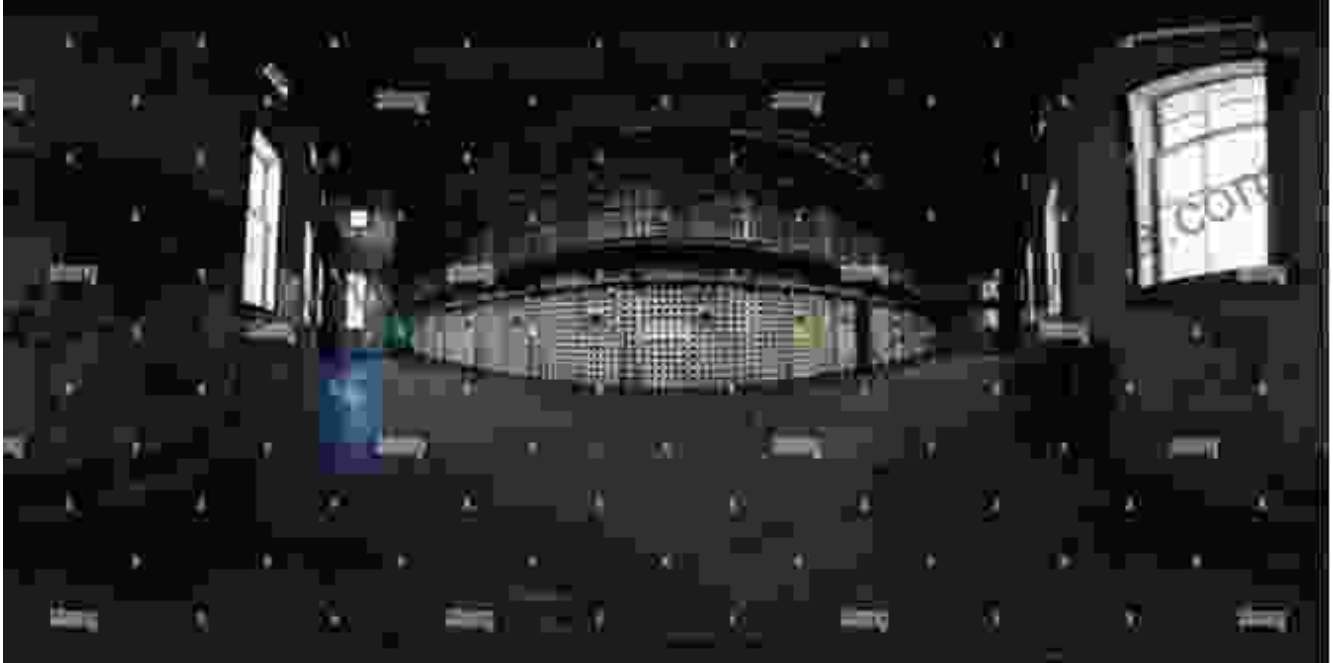
If you're interested in delving deeper into the history and legends of the Old Idaho Penitentiary, be sure to visit the Idaho State Historical Museum. Allow ample time to explore the museum and the penitentiary grounds, as there's much to discover and experience.

A visit to the Old Idaho Penitentiary is an unforgettable experience that combines history, mystery, and intrigue. Step inside its historic walls and immerse yourself in the lives of those who once called this place home. Uncover the secrets, explore the legends, and gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of human nature. Whether you're a history buff, a paranormal enthusiast, or simply curious about the past, the Old Idaho Penitentiary is a must-visit destination.

The Old Idaho Penitentiary, a National Historic Site



A cell block at the Old Idaho Penitentiary



The solitary confinement cells at the Old Idaho Penitentiary

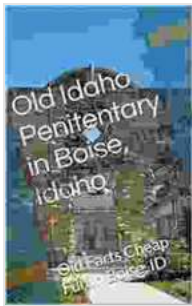


The execution chamber at the Old Idaho Penitentiary



The Boise River Greenbelt runs adjacent to the Old Idaho Penitentiary





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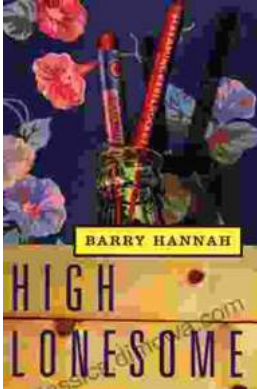
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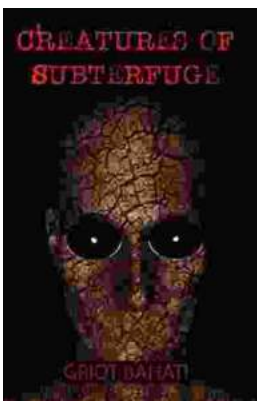
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