

Your typical tourist travels the world looking for beauty and pleasure. That said, many of us find beauty in the macabre and pleasure in being frightened, and around the world, there are countless awesomely terrifying places. With that in mind, these are our selections for the top 10 scariest attractions out there waiting for you.

10. Mutter Museum

<https://collegeofphysicians.org/mutter-museum>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C3%BCtter_Museum

The Mutter Museum, located in Philadelphia, was originally a collection meant for the education and training of doctors. It is made up of masses of preserved human remains. These range from simple skeletons to unsettling cross-sections of muscle and tissue. Some of the most notable items on display include the vertebrae of John Wilkes Booth, President Grover Cleveland's jaw tumor, and slides of Albert Einstein's Brain. Not only can you visit, but the museum is also available to rent for events and weddings. Even the least squeamish among us will be able to find something disturbing here.

9. Snake Island

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/snake-island-ilha-de-queimada-grande>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ilha_da_Queimada_Grande

Off the coast of Brazil lies Ilha da Queimada Grande, otherwise known as Snake Island. While it used to be accessible to the public, the Brazilian Navy has blocked it off to all but approved researchers. That is because this island is one of the most dangerous places on earth. On the 106 acres of the island, there are an estimated 1 to 5 snakes on each and every square meter. Not small garden snakes either, but full-sized highly venomous snakes. Many of which can kill you in seconds and are easily hidden among the dense foliage.

8. Sedlec Ossuary

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/destinations/europe/czech-republic/things-to-see-bone-church-sedlec-ossuary/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sedlec_Ossuary

Located in the Czech Republic, the Sedlec Ossuary is a Roman Catholic chapel that is estimated to contain the bones of 40,000 to 70,000 people who died and were buried between 1278 and 1511 ad. The bones were exhumed from mass graves and organized in order to make room for new burials. It was in 1870 that they were made into a macabre masterpiece. The ossuary is entirely decorated in bones. Wallcoverings, hanging sculptures, chandeliers, all of them covered in bone. There is a coat of arms made of arms. Even the signature of F. Rint, the man who assembled the chapel, is made from human bone.

7. The Stanley Hotel

<https://www.stanleyhotel.com/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Stanley_Hotel

Near Rocky Mountain National Park in Estes, Colorado, lies the historic Stanley Hotel, which is still active today. The Stanley is the famed location that inspired Stephen King's novel *The Shining* and was a primary filming location of the film by the same name. The Stanley has been known for years as a hotbed for paranormal activity, even offering tours to guests of its most active hauntings. If the guided tour is not your style, there are a plethora of activities to take part in, remember that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

6. Mount Hua Shan

<https://www.nomadasaurus.com/surviving-the-worlds-most-dangerous-hike-mount-huashan/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Hua

Mount Hua Shan is considered one of the most dangerous hikes in the world. The original route was carved sometime in the 3rd or 4th century. Initially considered a religious experience, the paths were only a few inches wide. In the past few decades, there have been safer routes installed; you can even opt to take a cable car up now. However, there are still original sections of the path today where you will still see your life flash before your eyes. That is if you can take them off of the 7000-foot drop inches from your toes.

5. Dracula's Castle

<http://www.bran-castle.com/dracula.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bran_Castle#Vlad_the_Impaler_and_Castle_Bran

Bran Castle, widely known as Dracula's castle, is an imposing structure that is located in what is now central Romania. The castle closely matched the description of Dracula's Castle in Bram Stoker's novel. It is also linked to Dracula's inspiration Vlad Dracul III, otherwise known as Vlad the Impaler, prince of Wallachia. As his subtle nickname might suggest, Vlad was known to commit brutal and atrocious acts of war. While not historically Vlad III's actual castle, there have been decades of conjecture that he may have seized the castle while at war with the Ottomans and was possibly imprisoned there for a time, but no conclusive evidence has been found.

4. Sanctuary of Tophet

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/tophet-at-carthage>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_Carthage#Religion

For many years the accusations that the people of Carthage sacrificed their own young to the gods were considered blatant anti-Cathinagen propaganda. That was until the Sanctuary of Tophet was found. This site contains ritual altars, as well as the burial sites and remains of hundreds and thousands of children and infants. Not only does this site support the claims of child sacrifice, but it also shows that it was occurring over the course of centuries. You can visit

the harrowing archeological site that is littered with stones marking the burials of the children who were sacrificed to their gods.

3. Japan's Suicide Forest

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/life/2011/06/26/general/inside-japans-suicide-forest/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aokigahara>

To the northwest of Mount Fuji lies Aokigahara, the sea of trees, otherwise known as the suicide forest. For decades this forest has been widely regarded as the most popular place in Japan to commit suicide. Long before the rise in suicide rates, the forest was associated with death and has widely been considered for hundreds, possibly thousands of years, to be haunted by spirits. The rates of those found dead in the forest number in the thousands. In recent years local authorities have stopped releasing the amount so as not to encourage people to come.

2. Phnom Sampeau

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/killing-caves-of-phnom-sampeau>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Killing_caves_of_Phnom_Sampeau

The Killing Cave of Phnom Sampeau is famous for a more recent atrocity. Here you will find the remains of the thousands of men and women who opposed the Khmer Rouge, the Cambodian Communist party that ruled from 1975-79. The bones of those killed are on display. In the Killing Cave, you will find remains along with religious shrines dedicated to the victims of the genocide. At the top of the cave is a particularly gruesome spot, a natural skylight. The Khmer Rouge marched their victims to this spot on the top of the hill, bludgeoned them, and then disposed of their bodies by dropping them through the skylight where their remains were left on the cave floor.

1. Paris Catacombs

<http://catacombes.paris.fr/en>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catacombs_of_Paris

5 Stories below the streets of Paris lies 11,000 square meters of the dead. Formerly tunnels to a quarry, they became utilized as an ossuary in the late 1700s when it became apparent that burial practices at cemeteries in the city had led to significant health concerns. The roughly 6 million dead were exhumed and moved to the catacombs where they now rest. There is a 1.5-kilometer circuit that visitors may tour by appointment. If you are visiting the city of lights, it is well worth this trip into the dark.

OUTRO

While many of us will actively avoid these places, there are the brave few who gravitate toward this kind of history. After all, coming face-to-face with the dark or dangerous side of life helps us appreciate what we can sometimes take for granted in our lives, the mundane.

Do you know of any other scary destinations you think should have made the list? We'd love to hear all about them in the comments below. Also, be sure to like us on Facebook and follow on Twitter to receive all the latest videos and lists. Don't forget to like and subscribe if you enjoyed the video, and we'll see you next time.