

Sun Studio

At Sun Studio , ten minutes' walk east of Beale Street at 706 Union Ave (10am-6pm daily), every hour on the half-hour, twenty-minute "tours" of its single room, measuring just eighteen feet by thirty feet and focusing around Elvis's original mike stand, plus a drum kit and stand-up bass, feature tapes of the legendary recording sessions. Sun Records moved out in 1959, and although the building was briefly a scuba-diving store - not surprisingly, a commercial failure - all its soundproofing remained in place when it was restored as a studio in 1987. One room of the building, which Elvis knew as Mrs Taylor's Café , still functions as an atmospheric diner, selling burgers and peanut-butter-and-banana sandwiches, and there's a well-stocked giftshop upstairs.