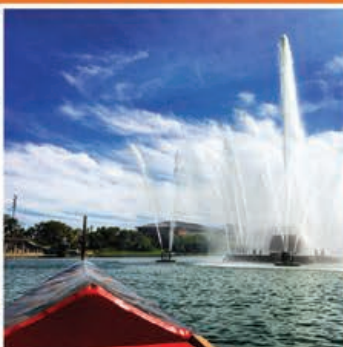


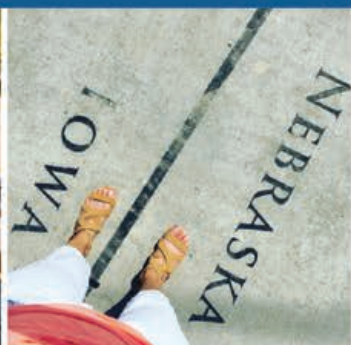
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Heartland of America Park

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ABOUT THE COVER



This year's cover features Instagrammable moments shared on Visit Omaha's social media channels. So what's so special about these particular pictures? They are the photos that visitors liked the most.

Ben about to eat a Stellanator (6 patties, bacon, peanut butter, jalapeños and more), Erin on a gondola ride, and Karissa, a Denver blogger, Bobbing for the first time (turn to page 30 to find out what Bobbing is all about). They all enjoyed trying new things, making new memories, and capturing the moment. And isn't that what a getaway is all about? We hope these photos inspire you to create your own shareable moments.

COVER IMAGES: LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM

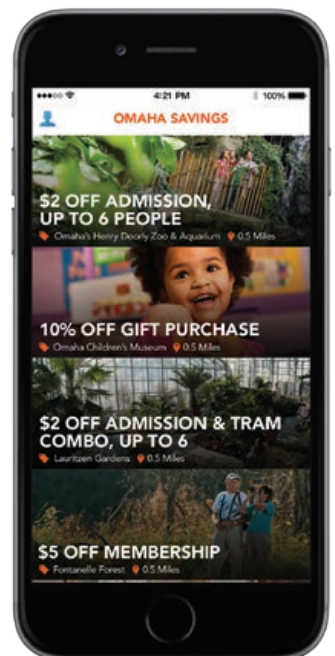
LOCAL Beer, Patio and Kitchen restaurant, Gondolas at Heartland of America Park, Reuben at Old Mattress Factory restaurant, Joslyn Art Museum, African Grasslands at Omaha Zoo, Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, Lauritzen Gardens, The Mexican Heritage Mural, Hot Shops Art Center, The Durham Museum, Stella's restaurant, Orpheum Theater

HELPFUL APPS

Omaha Savings App - Get an all-access pass to exclusive discounts at top Omaha attractions. Download from the Apple® App Store or the Android™ Google Play store and save on your next visit to Omaha.

Omaha 360 App - Experience the latest VR (virtual reality) technology with the Omaha 360° app. Download from the Apple® App Store or the Android™ Google Play Store and within seconds you'll be transported to Omaha. Look up, look down and all around as you check out top Omaha landmarks from the comfort of your own home.

Omaha Craft Brew App - No download required. Just go to OmahaCraftBrew.com on your mobile phone and you'll have access to everything you need to plan your own Omaha Craft Brewery tour.



OMAHA VISITORS CENTER



YOUR OMAHA VISIT STARTS HERE

Stop into the Omaha Visitors Center and talk one-on-one with friendly Omaha experts who will help customize your Omaha experience. Whether you're looking for unique family fun, or trying to figure out where to eat, the Omaha Visitors Center is the place to start.

Vibrant video displays take you on a virtual tour of the city, easy to follow maps will guide you on your journey, and a fun photo booth lets you capture a special souvenir to send to your friends and family. Complimentary coffee and Wi-Fi is available.

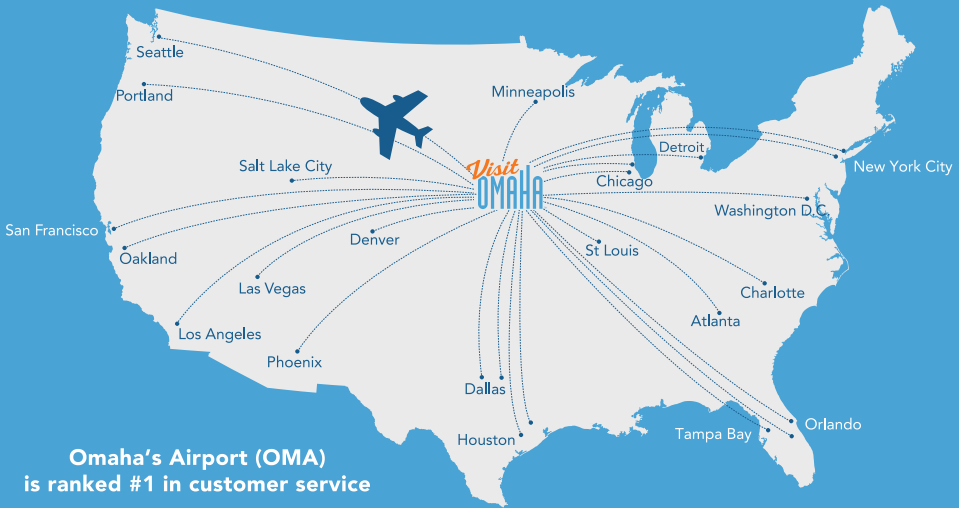


The Omaha Visitors Center is located in downtown Omaha near the Old Market Entertainment District.

**1001 Farnam Street
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TRAVELING TO AND AROUND OMAHA

Goodbye hassle, hello hospitality.



FLYING TO OMAHA

Omaha's Eppley Airfield serves more than four million passengers a year and is conveniently located 4.7 miles from downtown Omaha. If renting a car or hopping in a cab, it will take you less than 10 minutes to get downtown. Eppley offers non-stop service to top destinations throughout the United States.

GETTING AROUND OMAHA

Rental cars, taxis, Uber, limousine and shuttle bus services are available at the airport. The majority of downtown Omaha hotels offer complimentary direct transportation to and from the airport, as well as shuttle service within a specific mile radius.

DRIVING TO OMAHA

Omaha is conveniently located in the center of the country and in the heart of the Midwest at the junction of I-29 and I-80. Once you arrive you'll find the city is easy to navigate. The city streets are set up on a grid system, Dodge Street divides the city north and south, and numbered streets start at the Missouri River and increase as you drive west.



DOWNTOWN OMAHA HAS A WALKABILITY SCORE OF 85.

DISTANCE FROM OTHER CITIES (IN MILES)

Cheyenne, WY	498	<div style="width: 498px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	Indianapolis, IN	608	<div style="width: 608px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>
Chicago, IL	469	<div style="width: 469px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	Minneapolis, MN	379	<div style="width: 379px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>
Dallas, TX	663	<div style="width: 663px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	Oklahoma City, OK	461	<div style="width: 461px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>
Denver, CO	540	<div style="width: 540px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	Rapid City, SD	525	<div style="width: 525px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>
Des Moines, IA	135	<div style="width: 135px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	St. Louis, MO	436	<div style="width: 436px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>
Kansas City, MO	184	<div style="width: 184px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>	Wichita, KS	307	<div style="width: 307px; height: 10px; background-color: #4a86e8;"></div>

ABOUT OMAHA



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Omaha, Nebraska 68183-0300
402.444.5000
(Fax) 402.444.6059
cityofomaha.org/mayor



City of Omaha
Jean Stothert, Mayor

Dear Visitors,

I am very proud to serve as Mayor of Omaha, a city with a reputation as a great place to live, work, play and visit!

On behalf of our residents, we invite you to discover all the city has to offer, from the world-renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, exquisite museums, and great shops, to Omaha's wonderful array of locally owned restaurants, beautiful parks, and unique entertainment venues.

You'll find there is a lot to do here in Omaha. Enjoy your visit and come back often.

Warmly,

Jean Stothert, Mayor
City of Omaha

OMAHA BASICS

Omaha population: 550,064
(US Census Bureau)

Metro population: 952,018
(Nine counties in NE & IA)

Largest city in Nebraska

Located in Douglas County

Smoke free bars & restaurants

Bars close at 2 a.m.

Sales tax is 7%

THE FOUR SEASONS

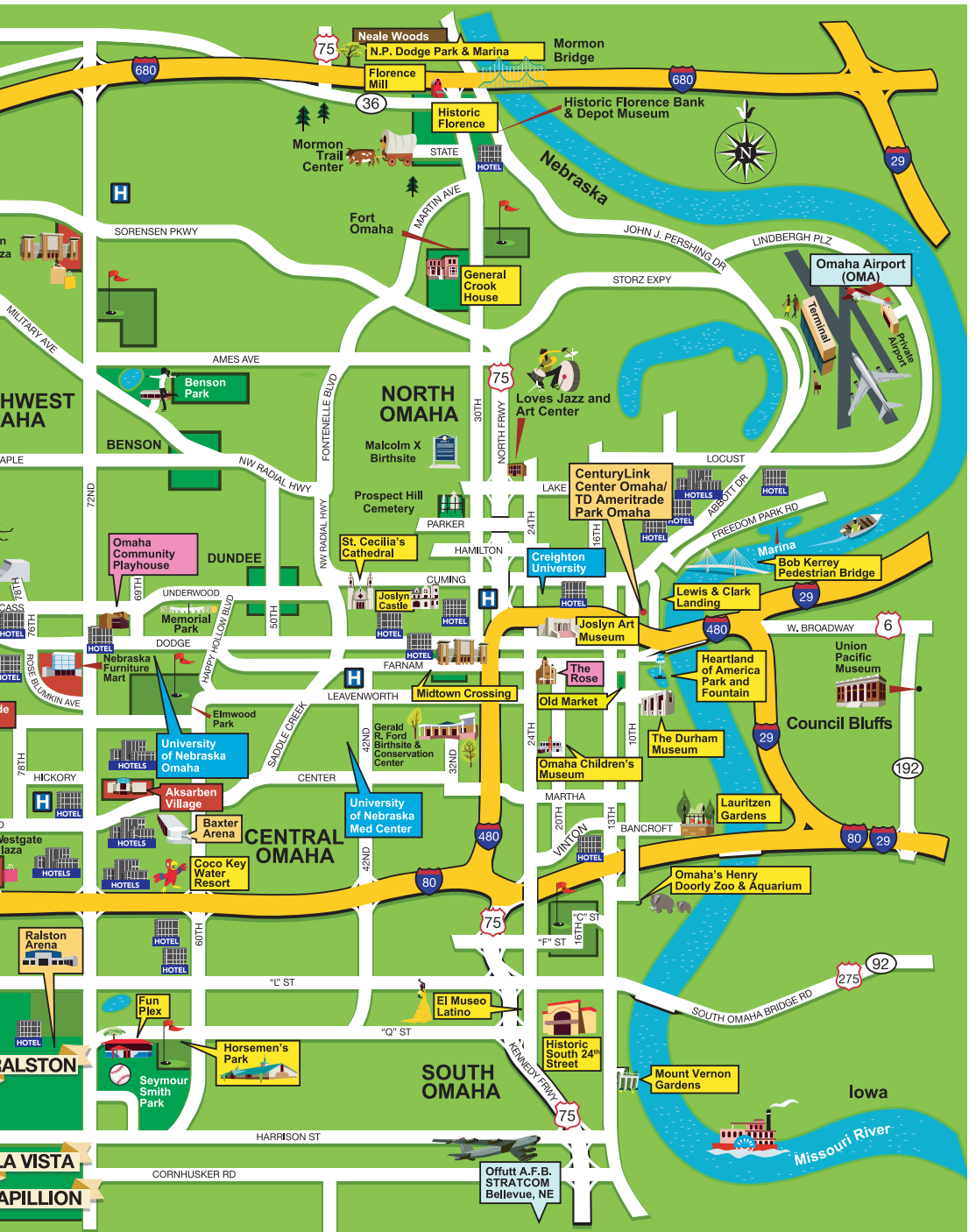
Omaha has an average of
212 days of sunshine each year.

- ☀ Spring: Highs in mid 60's
Lows in the 40's
- ☀ Summer: Highs in the 80's
Lows in the mid 60's
- 🍁 Fall: Highs in the 70's
Lows in the 50's
- ❄ Winter: Highs in the mid 30's
Lows in the mid-teens



MAP OF OMAHA





READ AND SEED: For every tree's worth of paper used to produce the 2017 Omaha Visitors Guide, a tree will be planted to help sustain forests across the globe. The Omaha Visitors Guide was produced and published in partnership with Omaha Publications and PrintReleaf. Once trees are planted, PrintReleaf administers an eight-year audit process to track the progress and survivability of the trees. To date, 420 trees have been planted through our partnership.

MAP OF DOWNTOWN



Visit Historic Florence Mill

Originally built in 1846

9102 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE

Museum & ArtLoft
Wed-Saturday 1-5 pm

Farmers Market
10-3 Sundays
June through September

Omaha North-Hills
Pottery Tour
1st weekend in October

Agriculture, History & Art
theflorencemill.org



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- T.J. MAXX
- VICTORIA'S SECRET
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EVENTS IN OMAHA

Omaha loves a good time, and its 2017 calendar is filled with festivals, performances, sporting events and exhibits. Plan on visiting more than once in 2017.



Nature Connects: Art with LEGO® Bricks

January 14 – May 15, 2017

Lauritzen Gardens

Sean Kenney's third exhibit at Lauritzen Gardens features playful new pieces like a peacock, dragonfly, and spider, along with old favorites. Inspired by nature and built from more than 450,000 LEGO® pieces, this indoor exhibit features 13 displays with larger-than-life sculptures throughout the Great Hall and Marjorie K. Daugherty Conservatory.

Shakespeare Festival

January 21 & 27, 2017

Holland Performing Arts Center

Thomas Wilkins with the Omaha Symphony will perform a soundtrack to Shakespearean masterpieces including *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



The Sound of Music

January 24-29, 2017

Orpheum Theater

The hills are alive! The refreshed production featuring the beloved music and spirited story of Maria and the von Trapp family will delight people of all ages.



Ariana Grande

February 7, 2017

CenturyLink Center Omaha

Multi-platinum selling artist Ariana Grande brings her "Dangerous Woman Tour" to Omaha.



Così fan tutte

February 10 & 12, 2017

Orpheum Theater

Two scheming men test the devotion of their fiancées in Mozart's operatic masterpiece.

For more details and a complete list of events go to VisitOmaha.com



Wild Spaces, Open Seasons: Hunting and Fishing in American Art

February 12 – May 7, 2017

Joslyn Art Museum

Offering new insights into American pastimes such as hunting, fishing, and more, this exhibition sheds light on the changing ideas about place, national identity, community, wildlife, and the environment. View paintings and sculptures exploring American artists' depiction of hunters, fishermen, and the sporting life from the 1820s – 1940s.



Elvis Lives

February 14, 2017

Orpheum Theater

Treat the Elvis fan in your life this Valentine's Day to an unforgettable multimedia and live musical journey across Elvis' life.

One Woman Sex & the City

February 16, 2017

Holland Center

Sex and the City fans will delight in this parody on love, friendships and shoes as comedian Kerry Ipema takes audiences through a hilarious version of all six seasons of the Grammy award-winning TV show.

Omaha Beer Week

February 17-26, 2017

Various Locations

Ten beer-packed days celebrating Omaha's craft beer scene with bars, breweries, and retailers across the city hosting a variety of unique beery events.



Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project

February 18 – April 30, 2017

The Durham Museum

View as images of everyday life in 1970s America evoke disco dancing and inflation, bell-bottoms and protests, suburban sprawl and gas shortages. At a time when politics wore on the national psyche, a movement to protect the natural environment was gaining force.

EVENTS IN OMAHA



Asics Presidents' Day Classic

Asics Presidents' Day Classic

February 18-20, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha & Nebraska Elite Sports & Fitness Complex

Over 400 of the best Junior Olympic athletes from across the country will compete in one of the country's largest volleyball events.

Omaha Fashion Week

February 21-26, 2017
Omaha Design Center
The nation's fifth largest fashion event, and celebrating 10 years of inspiration. See hundreds of creations from more than 55 designers on the runway.

Florida Georgia Line

February 24, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
The hit-making country duo brings their Dig Your Roots Tour with special guest Dustin Lynch Chris Lane to Omaha.

Huck Finn

February 24 – March 12, 2017
The Rose Theater
The great American novel comes to life on stage as Huck Finn flees "civilization" for the freedom of the Mighty Mississippi, meeting Jim, an escaped slave, along the way.

Rock of Ages

March 3 – April 2, 2017
Omaha Community Playhouse
A Tony Award-nominated rock 'n' roll love story told through '80s arena hits.

Omaha Film Festival

March 7-12, 2017
Village Pointe Cinema
Celebrate independent film making with feature, short and documentary films, and panel discussions. Voted by *MovieMaker Magazine* as one of the "25 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee."

Jersey Boys

March 7-12, 2017
Orpheum Theater
The Tony Award-winning story of four blue-collar kids who became one of the greatest successes ever in pop music.

Blake Shelton

March 18, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
Country music superstar Blake Shelton brings his 2017 "Doing It To Country Songs" tour to Omaha with special guest RaeLynn.



Jersey Boys



LONGINES FEI World Cup™ Jumping & FEI World Cup™ Dressage Finals

March 29 – April 2, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
Witness an annual indoor championship competition among the world's best show jumping and dressage horses and riders. Past host cities have included Amsterdam, Geneva (Switzerland) and Las Vegas.



Beautiful – The Carole King Musical

April 4-9, 2017
Orpheum Theater
The true story of Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom shared through her iconic music.



Eric Church

April 8, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
Nashville recording artist Eric Church brings the "Holdin' My Own Tour" to Omaha.

Neil Diamond

April 14, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
The music icon will celebrate his unparalleled career spanning 50 years with a world tour stop in Omaha.



Flight

April 21 & 23, 2017
Orpheum Theater
Jonathan Dove's opera tells the story of a group of travelers with shared departure plans but hidden agendas.

Junkstock

April 7-9, 2017
Sycamore Farms
Omaha's original vintage festival features over 150 vintage, junk, and artisan vendors from across the country along with live music, food trucks and a Kids Village.

For more details and a complete list of events go to VisitOmaha.com

EVENTS IN OMAHA



Cinco de Mayo

May 5-7, 2017

Historic South 24th Street

This vibrant family-friendly fiesta brims with authentic food, live music, colorful costumes, a Race of the Bulls, and a massive parade filled with dancers, floats, marching bands, and culture.



The Music of Star Wars

May 6, 2017

Holland Performing Arts Center

Treat the *Star Wars* fan in your life to an epic Omaha Symphony concert, led by Ernest Richardson, that will truly be an intergalactic experience.



An Evening with Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson

May 15, 2017

Holland Performing Arts Center

Astrophysicist Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson will answer questions from the audience and touch on topics from his new book, *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*; free copy for each attendee.



Priscilla, Queen of the Desert – The Musical

May 19 – July 1, 2017

Blue Barn Theater

A heartwarming adventure based on the smash-hit movie that follows three friends searching for love and friendship on an old bus, "Priscilla." Be ready to hear all your favorite dancefloor favorites.

Top Secret: License to Spy

May 20 – September 17, 2017

The Durham Museum

This exciting and highly interactive display will put visitors' skills to the test as they experience the technology, science, and psychology used in the intelligence field. Receive a "Spy File" containing your scenario and a list of six suspects as you enter the exhibit, then travel through more than 20 hands-on displays and activities in order to piece together clues and fulfill your mission.

Disney's Beauty & the Beast

May 26 – June 25, 2017

Omaha Community Playhouse

Experience the enchanted world of this beloved musical with the love story of Belle and the Beast. This "tale as old as time" is filled with beautiful costumes and sets.

Dinosaur Safari

May 27 – September 3, 2017

Omaha Children's Museum

Adventure back to prehistoric times in a 10,000 sq. ft. exhibit full of interactive play areas where lifelike animatronic dinosaurs help children learn while they explore.



Taste of Omaha

June 2-4, 2017

Heartland of America Park

Omaha's largest outdoor festival featuring Omaha's favorite restaurant dishes, live entertainment, and activities on the city's riverfront.

Peter Pan

June 2-18, 2017

The Rose Theater

Join Peter and the Darling family children of Neverland in an adventure of a lifetime meeting lost boys, pirates, and a hungry crocodile.

**Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris**

June 4 – September 10, 2017

Joslyn Art Museum

See firsthand the intersection where French history, art, and fashion meet. View 70 works of French jewelry from the 17th to the 20th centuries and over 100 original design paintings, fashion prints, and photographs from the storied Parisian-based jewelry houses of Boucheron, Cartier, Chaumet, Lalique, and Van Cleef & Arpels.

For more details and a complete list of events go to VisitOmaha.com

Rent

June 3-4, 2017

Orpheum Theater

The 20th anniversary tour takes audiences on a rock journey about seven struggling artists in a story that reminds us of the importance of love.

Omaha Beer Fest

June 9-10, 2017

Stinson Park at Aksarben Village

Sample over 200 craft beers, ciders and meads, along with live music, food, and hourly "Beer Academy" sessions.

Omaha Summer Arts Festival

June 9-11, 2017

Gene Leahy Mall

135 of the nation's finest artists showcase their work amidst live music and food vendors.

Junkstock

June 9-11, 2017

Sycamore Farms

Enjoy Omaha's original celebration of "junk" at this festival featuring national vintage, junk, and artisan vendors, live entertainment, food trucks and a Kids Village.

New Kids on the Block with Boyz II Men and Paula Abdul

June 11, 2017

CenturyLink Center Omaha

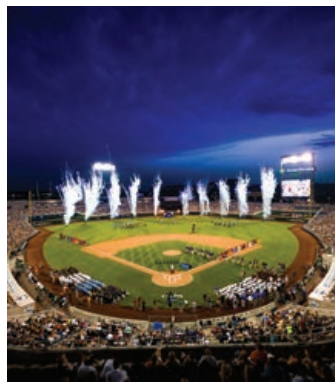
NKOTB and fellow '80s and '90s hit makers Boys II Men and Paula Abdul will churn out your favorite songs and more during the Total Package Tour.

KINETIC

June 16 - August 26, 2017

Kaneko

A journey through the art and science of movement and the perception of motion through visual art, interactive sculpture and experiential learning.

**NCAA College World Series**

June 17-27/28, 2017

TD Ameritrade Park Omaha

A cherished baseball tradition on many bucket lists. Tailgate with fans from across the country, watch the best in college baseball, and check out Fanfest, all while creating lasting memories. 2017 marks the 68th year of the CWS in Omaha.

Shakespeare on the Green

June – July

Elmwood Park

Experience the power and beauty of classical theater in a relaxing outdoor setting with food options, activities, and preshow entertainment. Free Admission.



EVENTS IN OMAHA

Tempo of Twilight

June – August

Lauritzen Gardens

Enjoy music amongst nature. Bring chairs, food, and the family and enjoy live music in a beautiful outdoor atmosphere. Select Tuesdays throughout the summer.

Zydeco Festival

June 24, 2017

Turner Park at Midtown Crossing

Enjoy a full day of Creole- and Cajun-style food, activities, and music from treasured musical artists from throughout the New Orleans region.



Railroad Days

July 15-16, 2017

Various Locations

All aboard! Families will enjoy a fun-filled weekend that's all about train, track, and Omaha's rich railroad heritage. Five area cultural attractions join forces to offer activities and hands-on experiences at one special discounted price.

Jazz on the Green

Thursdays, July – August

Turner Park at Midtown Crossing

The ultimate outdoor jam session featuring national, regional, and local jazz musicians. Bring a picnic or indulge in Midtown Crossing's array of restaurant offerings.

For more details and a complete list of events go to VisitOmaha.com

Native Omaha Days

July 31 – August 7, 2017

Various Locations

A weeklong homecoming celebration inviting native Omahans from across the country to reunite in a place they once called home.



Shawn Mendes

August 5, 2017

CenturyLink Center Omaha

Shawn brings his 2017 "ILLUMINATE" Arena World "Tour" to Omaha.

Greek Festival

August 18-20, 2017

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

Opa! Enjoy authentic Greek music, cuisine, and folk dancing in full Greek garb.



Nebraska Balloon and Wine Festival

August 11-12, 2017

Coventry Campus

Toast to award-winning Nebraska wines and beers, and enjoy the spectacular hot air balloon launch and glow.

USA Triathlon's Age Group National Championships

August 12-13, 2017

Levi Carter Park

One of the largest triathlons in the country, and back in Omaha for the second year in a row. Watch athletes as they swim, bike, and run during the two-day event including the Olympic-Distance National Championships and the Sprint National Championships.



Jazz on the Green



Coldplay

August 14, 2017

CenturyLink Center Omaha

Omaha is one of 18 American stops on seven-time Grammy winner Coldplay's "A Head Full Of Dreams Tour."



Omaha Fashion Week

August 21-26, 2017

Omaha Design Center

The fifth largest fashion event in the country features a fashion show with creations from more than 55 designers, pop-up shops, music, and a VIP experience – and promises an amazing 10th anniversary event.



Maha Music Festival

Maha Music Festival

August 19, 2017

Stinson Park

at Aksarben Village

Omaha's indie rock music festival featuring some of the industry's hottest acts.

Sweet Corn Festival

August 12-13, 2017

Lauritzen Gardens

Celebrate this backyard favorite and Nebraska's agricultural jewel with activities, entertainment, and locally grown corn.

Total Solar Eclipse

August 21, 2017

Various Locations

Omaha is the gateway to the bucket list-worthy big show in the sky and an hour away from some of the best viewing locations.

El Grito de Independencia

September

South Omaha

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and Mexican Independence Day with rides, games, food, a parade, exhibitors, entertainment and more.



Omaha Restaurant Week

September 15-24, 2017

Various Locations

A celebration of local cuisine, farm-to-table ingredients, and Omaha's chefs where more than 60 participating restaurants offer exclusive specials featuring three-course meals at a fixed price.



USA Triathlon's Age Group National Championships

EVENTS IN OMAHA



Fort Omaha Intertribal Powwow

September 16, 2017
Fort Omaha Campus

An outdoor celebration featuring a traditional intertribal powwow and Native American music, dancing, crafts and food.



German Day-Oktoberfest

September 15 & 16, 2017
German-American Society of Omaha

Celebrate the German way with authentic food, folk dancing, music and, the traditional "Tapping of the Keg."



Tim McGraw and Faith Hill

September 22, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha
Grammy Award-winning and superstar couple Tim McGraw and Faith Hill are bringing their "SOUL2SOUL The World Tour 2017" to Omaha.

AKSARBEN Stock Show & Rodeo

September 28 – October 1, 2017
CenturyLink Center Omaha

This four-day Western-themed Omaha tradition is three events in one: the AKSARBEN Rodeo, the nation's largest stock show, and Heritage Festival.



AKSARBEN Stock Show & Rodeo



Heritage Days Festival

September 30 – October 1, 2017
Fort Calhoun

The 1800s skills, trades, and way of life are celebrated through hands-on learning demonstrations, military reenactments, traditional foods, and music. Additional community events include a parade and cook-offs.

Japanese Ambience Festival

October 7-8, 2017

Lauritzen Gardens

Celebrate autumn and traditions of Japanese culture, like calligraphy, origami, food, and more.

Junkstock

October 6-8, 2017

Sycamore Farms

Shop repurposed goods and one-of-a-kind treasures from over 150 vintage, junk, and artisan vendors from across the country.

Forever Forest

October 14, 2017 – April 16, 2018
Omaha Children's Museum

Families can learn how trees play a part in everyday life in this immersive national exhibit that includes a forest and campsite, treehouse, and a mini town.

U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Curling

November 12-19, 2017

Baxter Arena

Watch as athletes compete in Omaha on the road to the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Holiday Lights Festival

November 23-December 31, 2017
Various Locations

This five-week festival kicks off on Thanksgiving with the traditional lighting of more than 40 blocks of dazzling lights, and continues through December with live music performances, special events, and ice skating. To ring in the New Year, spectacular fireworks illuminate the downtown sky.



For more details and a complete list of events go to VisitOmaha.com



Roam with the herd.

www.wildlifesafaripark.com



operaomaha.org

GENERAL CROOK HOUSE



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Weekdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Weekends 1 - 4 p.m.

A beautifully restored Italianate General's quarters built in 1879 on Historic Fort Omaha.



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The
place for
fun & memories

OMAHA
children's
MUSEUM

Most Visited Museum in Nebraska | 40,000 sq ft of Fun

Award Winning Exhibits | Daily Programs & Shows

500 S. 20th Street
WEST OF THE OLD MARKET

ocm.org
402-342-6164



FREE GENERAL ADMISSION
(paid ticketed admission for select exhibitions)

THURSDAYS: Open 'til 8 pm!

SCULPTURE GARDENS
Open and free – all day every day!

explore
NOW AT **JOSLYN**

Joslyn Art Museum features works from antiquity to the present with an emphasis on nineteenth- and twentieth-century European and American art. A fun, educational, relaxing, and artful destination for the whole family.

Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm. Just west of downtown Omaha. Café, Museum shop, and free parking.

2200 Dodge St. | Omaha, NE | (402) 342-3300 | www.joslyn.org



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OMAHA'S HENRY DOORLY ZOO & AQUARIUM

CONSISTENTLY AT THE TOP OF "WORLD'S BEST ZOO" LISTS, OMAHA'S HENRY DOORLY ZOO & AQUARIUM IS A WHOLE DIFFERENT KIND OF ANIMAL AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL THE WORLD IN A DAY.

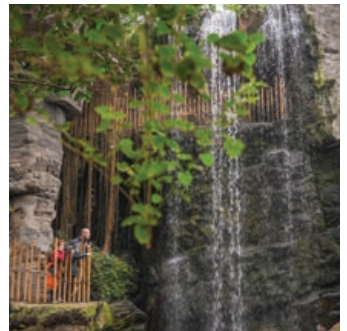
AFRICAN GRASSLANDS

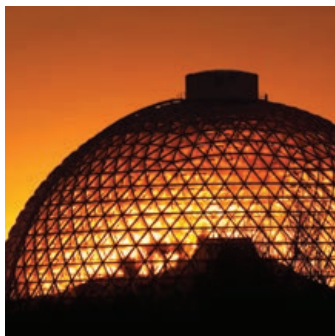
Take a trip to Africa in this \$73-million, 28-acre outdoor exhibit featuring breathtaking panoramic views and long vistas teeming with African wildlife like white rhinos, cheetahs, lions, and elephants (Jayei, Lolly, Omma, Claire, Warren, and Kiki, to be exact). North America's largest herd room hosts elephants, zebras, and impalas, and features interactive guest and keeper areas. Giraffe herd rooms have feeding platforms which provide eye-to-eye views and feeding experiences. Get up-close to lions for a great photo op on part of a '73 Land Rover, and feed and brush African pygmy goats. Tip: Ride the Skyfari for a spectacular unobstructed view of this exhibit.



LIED JUNGLE

Hike through America's largest indoor rainforest with roaring waterfalls and swinging gibbons in a tropical environment will transport you to the jungles of South America, Asia, and Africa. See more than 90 animal species in their natural habitats, from the forest floor to the highest jungle canopy. Don't miss the swinging rope bridge, and take a picture from lookout peak with a full view of silvered leaf monkeys, ebony langurs, spotted-neck otters, and pygmy hippos.





ALASKAN ADVENTURE

Kids will love this splashground featuring 100 water jets and over 75 bronze sculptures of jumping salmon, puffins, sea lions, orcas and brown bears (most to-scale). The centerpiece of the exhibit is a tremendous 18-foot humpback whale. This is a can't-miss experience; open May through October.

DESERT DOME

Explore the world's largest indoor desert under the world's largest glazed geodesic dome, an Omaha landmark. The Desert Dome stands 13 stories tall and features plant and animal life from three deserts around the world: the Namib Desert of southern Africa, the Red Center of Australia, and the Sonoran Desert of the southwest United States. Scaling cliffs are rock hyraxes, klipspringers, and meerkats. Within the desert caves live 21 reptile species, including venomous snakes.



KINGDOMS OF THE NIGHT

Underneath the Dome, navigate nighttime in the world's largest nocturnal exhibit filled with creatures that surface only after dark. Travel through a canyon, wind through a damp cave, travel through a bat cave, and check out the world's largest indoor swamp.

SUZANNE AND WALTER SCOTT AQUARIUM

Transverse the ocean floor and come nose-to-nose with sea turtles as large sand tiger, zebra, and stingray sharks circle above. The 70-foot shark tunnel inside the Scott Aquarium provides a mesmerizing underwater experience.

From the ocean depths to the frigid cold, the aquarium also features ocean birds, including more than 85 penguins. Up to 20 tons of man-made snow can be churned out in one day from four snow machines.

OTHER EXHIBITS:

- Expedition Madagascar
- Berniece Grewcock Butterfly and Insect Pavilion
- Hubbard Gorilla Valley
- Hubbard Orangutan Forest
- Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Pavilion
- Lozier IMAX® Theater
- Simmons Aviary
- Stingray Beach
- Red Barn Park



RIDES:

SKYFARI: An open-air chairlift ride providing remarkable tree-top views of the zoo.

TRAIN: A steam locomotive ride featuring 11 open-air coaches and a caboose.

TRAM: A comfortable way to travel through the zoo with 50 seats and four stops.

CAMEL RIDES: Saddle up humpback style aboard camels.

SUE'S WILDLIFE CAROUSEL: 30 animals covered in brilliant enamel add to the charm of this American tradition.

BOB THE BRIDGE

HI, I'M BOB. I'M A BRIDGE. I LIKE LONG WALKS (OR BIKE RIDES), GET ALONG GREAT WITH FOUR-LEGGED (AND TWO-WINGED) ANIMALS, AND POSSESS WHAT MOST FOLKS CALL THE "BOB-FACTOR." WHY AM I OMAHA'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR? BECAUSE I'M THE HOTTEST THING ON TWO TOWERS.

My full name is Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, but my friends call me Bob. At first glance, I'm a pedestrian bridge welcoming everyone on foot, paw, and wheel. An outdoor enthusiast's dream come true, and a Fitbit user's path to a successful 10,000 steps. But above all things, I'm actually a 3,000 ft. magic trick – majestically floating over water by mere cables which allow me to softly sway over the Missouri River. No joke, you can actually feel me floating in the wind while you walk over water. Sure, I've got two 210 ft. tall towers that keep me grounded, but seriously, I'm all MAGIC!

The magic continues when you reach the middle and a "POOF" you're standing in two states at the same time. Striking a pose and taking a pic while standing in two states at once – it's called "Bobbing", and it's going to go viral. Seriously, get in on the strike-snap-share movement!

Holding up the Tower of Pisa. Kissing the Blarney Stone. Going Bobbing. All selfie-bucket-listers and sharing is caring, my friends. Tag your best Bobbing pics with #ItHappensOnBob. It's a great way for me to remember our special time together.



easily makes friends with animals

FLOATS 60 FEET above the Missouri River



2 TOWERS light up the sky and the Missouri River



3,000 feet long





I'm a Libra, so I'm well balanced

birthdate
09.28.08



that makes me taller than the Leaning Tower of Pisa

210
foot tall towers

named after former
Nebraska U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey

summertime
free concert series
BRIDGE BEATS



\$22 MILLION
to build

but I'm worth every penny



15
feet wide

connects
150
miles of trails

Consider this an open invitation to visit me and stay a while. I offer a wide variety of entertainment. The fellas love me because I'm a cheap date (don't worry ladies, I'll literally have you floating on air). I'm always making new four-legged friends with plenty of space for walking, sniffing and networking.

Runners enjoy giving me a great massage, and I connect 150 miles of trails (so all roads lead back to me). You're going to work up an appetite from all the running/walking/biking, and you'll find more than 80 restaurants close by in the surrounding downtown area.

I've got to be honest, folks tend to go on and on about my curves – they're attractive and give visitors several great views of the Omaha skyline. You know the Three Sisters in Pittsburgh? Yeah...they dig me and I dig their suspensions. I'm a ladies' bridge.

Learn all about me and find my vlog (video blog) at www.bobthebridge.com or see how I hang every day on Twitter and Instagram (@BobTBridge).



THE DURHAM MUSEUM

HOP ABOARD HISTORY AT THIS FORMER GRAND TRAIN STATION FEATURING TRAIN CARS, EXHIBITS, HISTORIC COINS, AND AN OLD-FASHIONED SODA FOUNTAIN.

The Durham Museum is Omaha's former Union Station. The Museum's terra cotta exterior overlay, wrapped around 124,000 sq. ft. of temporary and permanent exhibits, offers one of the country's finest examples of art deco architecture.

Enter the museum and step into the Great Hall. Enjoy the same grandeur that millions of rail travelers did during the train station's heyday from 1931-1971. From its terrazzo tile flooring to the ceiling's \$10,000 gold-leaf decoration, the lobby is a sight to behold. A stranger may even strike up a conversation; life-like statues, ranging from couples to military men to children, are known to share their travel stories.

Continue downstairs for exhibits, displays, and hands-on activities. Climb aboard historic passenger train cars to experience firsthand what rail travel was like. View one of the world's rarest coin collections in the Byron Reed Collection, which boasts an impressive array of rare books, manuscripts, maps, autographs, and coins, notably the 1804 dollar. Between a model train display, old-fashioned bus and a one-room cabin, there's plenty to see and explore.





THE HOLIDAYS

A magical way to celebrate the holiday season in Omaha is during Christmas at Union Station. In November and December, see the region's largest indoor Christmas tree and enjoy special events like the annual tree lighting ceremony, Ethnic Holiday Festival, a concert series, family nights with Santa, and Noon Year's Eve.



TRAIN ENTHUSIASTS AND HISTORY BUFFS ALIKE WILL DELIGHT IN THE DURHAM MUSEUM'S OFFERINGS.

Visit the Buffett Grocery Store for a glimpse into how people shopped and did business in the early 1900s. The store is a replica of the Buffett and Son grocery operated by three generations of the storied Buffett family from 1869 to 1969 and where Omaha native Warren Buffett garnered his famed business savvy. The space features items that could be found in the original establishment, including a sliding ladder, scales, and a meat cleaver.

Back upstairs, satisfy your hunger for both food and nostalgia at the station's original Soda Fountain. Enjoy a sandwich and an old-fashioned phosphate (ice cream optional) or root beer float. Take home a souvenir of another kind from the retro Candy Shop, like Necco Wafers and candy necklaces.





Mormon Trail Center
at Historic Winter Quarters

NOSTALGIC EXPERIENCES

BEHOLD HISTORY AT NEARLY EVERY TURN WITH OMAHA'S UNIQUE BLEND OF MUSEUMS AND HISTORIC SITES.

At Mormon Trail Center at Historic Winter Quarters, learn of the triumphs and tribulations of the great Mormon exodus of the 1800s. Experience their journey firsthand: tour a makeshift cabin, pull a handcart, and "travel" by covered wagon. Optional guided tours; free admission.

World-renowned Boys Town, a National Historic Landmark District, features chapels, statues and gardens, Hall of History museum, Father Flanagan's House*, and Visitors Center – home to the world's largest ball of stamps at 600 lbs. and 4,655,000 stamps. Take the QR code tour using your smartphone for instant access to info and media of top attractions throughout campus.

The Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum is a Smithsonian affiliate and home to the nation's largest collection of Cold War aircraft and artifacts. Its 300,000 sq. ft. of exhibit, education, and event space features a flight simulator, Children's Learning Center, and impressive collection of iconic aircraft.

Soak up Omaha's rich jazz heritage at Love's Jazz & Arts Center, the region's only African American-based art exhibit, performance, and education center. Love's calendar features live performances and special exhibits throughout the year.



Boys Town



Strategic Air Command
& Aerospace Museum



Jazz Trio
Sculpture



General Crook House Museum

OMAHA IS HOME TO A NUMBER OF PLACES LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES.

Get a glimpse into 19th century life at General Crook House Museum*. This living history museum is Omaha's only authentic Italianate house. View period costumes, furnishings, and decorative arts, and stroll the heirloom garden. Audio tours available.

Located in history-rich, culturally-diverse South Omaha, El Museo Latino* is one of only 17 Latino museums in the country. This intimate museum offers temporary and permanent exhibits along with educational programming and a lively events calendar.



El Museo Latino

Gerald R. Ford Birthsite and Gardens features presidential mementos, an informational kiosk, and a rose garden complete with a colonnade in honor of former First Lady Betty Ford.

Another notable Omaha birthsite is that of Malcolm X*. The 14-acre developing memorial features a plaza with a historical marker commemorating where Malcolm X first lived with his family.



Malcolm X Birthsite

Head to nearby Council Bluffs for hands-on fun at the Union Pacific Railroad Museum*, Union Pacific's only museum and housed in a former Carnegie library. Learn of the development of the transcontinental railroad, enjoy a passenger train experience, ride in a locomotive simulator, and more. Free admission.

**Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*

For more information go to VisitOmaha.com



Union Pacific Railroad Museum



Gerald R. Ford Birthsite

OMAHA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

WELCOME TO OMAHA'S IMAGINATION STATION WHERE CHILDREN CAN UNLEASH THEIR CREATIVITY AND BECOME INNOVATORS IN A WORLD BUILT JUST FOR THEM.

Omaha Children's Museum is more than 45,000 sq. ft. of hands-on learning specifically designed with kids in mind. Open year-round with a variety of exhibits, kids are encouraged to explore, play and learn.

A fan favorite is the enormous Super Gravitron ball machine where fun flies. Families love to drop in a ball, guess where it will land, and track its path. Kids then choose a path they want the ball to take, and parents help them try to make it happen!

THINGS TO KNOW

- Children of all ages will enjoy the old fashioned carousel.
- Families will find an accessible microwave in the dining area and the Rainbow Café offering kid-friendly snacks on the second floor.
- The Museum gift shop offers science kits, games, and more to keep up learning at home.
- A family resting room with tables, chairs, and couches is available for quiet resting time.

Ranked as one of the top children's museums in the country, Omaha Children's Museum makes learning an adventure.

Parents and kids enjoy ongoing science demonstrations including The Amazing Bubble Show and the Whiz Bang Super Science Show. Hear the fizzle, pop, and BANG as soda explodes, and marvel at massive bubbles dancing in the air.

Imaginations need a good workout. The museum transports children to a land far, far away with a beautiful singing princess leading sing-alongs and dance parties in the museum. This Fairytale Land whisks little ones into their own adventure when the bravest kid is called upon to grab a sword and save the trapped princess from her castle. Children will test their courage while battling dragons. Before leaving Fairytale Land, families use magic coins at the wishing well to wish for their own "happily ever after."





TIPS FOR PARENTS WITH TODDLERS

- Make sure kids are wearing comfortable clothes. They will be climbing, playing, and exploring.
- Plan for at least three hours to see the whole museum. Older kids might need more time. There is so much to see and do – don't rush!
- When needing to nurse, give a bottle, or simply have some calm time, visit the museum's family room.
- Bring exact cash for the train and the carousel! Tickets can be purchased downstairs or at the kiosk.
- When potty training, the bathroom on the first floor has small potties with handles to flush (instead of the auto flush that can scare little ones). The front desk offers diapers in a variety of sizes.

Tips provided by Stephanie Adams who writes the Moments That Take My Breath Away blog.

PERMANENT EXHIBITS

- Imagination Playground
- Creative Arts Center
- Charlie Campbell Science and Technology Center
- OCM Zooland
- Sandy's Splish Splash Garden
- Fantastic Future Me
- Walker Tire and Auto Service Center
- Maker-Space
- Interactive Farm Exhibit



FREE THINGS TO DO

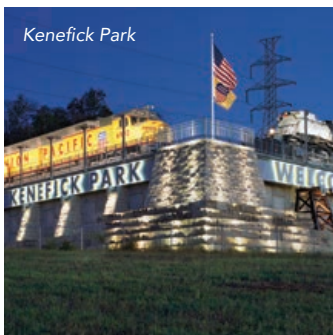
BUDGET SAVVY TRAVELERS WILL FIND THAT A WEEKEND GETAWAY TO OMAHA IS A WALLET'S BEST FRIEND WITH FREE THINGS TO DO THROUGHOUT THE CITY.



Joslyn Art Museum



Pioneer Courage Park



Kenefick Park



Stile di Famiglia Sculpture



Aha-Mo Sculpture

- Visit Joslyn Art Museum, where admission is free year-round.
- Explore First National's Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness and Pioneer Courage Park featuring more than 120 larger-than-life bronze sculptures.
- Stop at the ever-changing and always-impressive art exhibitions found at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts and KANEKO.
- Stroll through Heartland of America Park and marvel at one of the world's largest shooting fountains.
- Walk on Bob – he loves to make new friends. Check him out on page 30.
- Interact with public art displays throughout the city.
- Walk up to Kenefick Park and visit the Centennial No. 6900 and Big Boy No. 4023 – two of the most powerful locomotives ever built.
- Tour Boys Town's Hall of History, Visitors Center, and the Father Flanagan House.
- See the Gerald R. Ford Birth Site and Gardens, a memorial to the 38th U.S. President who was born in Omaha.
- Experience Shakespeare on the Green, outdoor performances that bring William Shakespeare's work to life.
- Explore Heron Haven, a spring-fed wetland sanctuary – perfect for a beautiful retreat.
- During summer months, enjoy free outdoor concerts in every corner of the city.

TOUR DE SELFIE IN OMAHA

WITH GREAT PHOTO OPS SPRINKLED THROUGHOUT THE CITY, YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE TAKING (AND SHARING) SELFIES. HERE'S A FEW IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

- *Aha-Mo Sculpture* at Gene Leahy Mall: Sit on his hands or let him take a bite out of your head – the selfie possibilities are endless.
- *Stile di Famiglia* (Family Style) sculpture in South Omaha's Little Italy: It's a giant fork swirling up spaghetti noodles. After the selfie, swing by Orsi's for some 'za.
- Big Blue Pins: The pins "mark" top Omaha attractions. It's a wide variety of selfie ops – collect all 15!
- Bobbing: When you stand in two states at once and take a pic. Learn more on page 31.

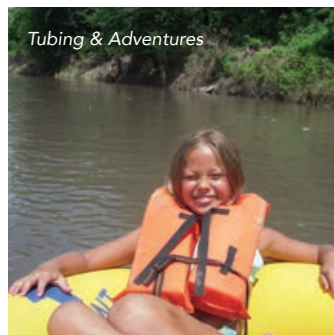
THINGS TO DO WITH KIDS

OMAHA IS BUILT FOR FAMILY FUN AND ADVENTURE. HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS ON HOW TO ENTERTAIN LITTLE (OR BIG) ONES FOR A WEEKEND GETAWAY.

- Take off at the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum. Get up close to the world's fastest aircraft, the SR-71 Blackbird. Walk under, sit in the cockpit, or peek your head into the open bomber bay of dozens of rare warplanes.
- Visit Joslyn Art Museum's ART WORKS, a 1,500 sq. ft. interactive space filled with nine activity stations to pique curiosity, stimulate creativity, and allow interaction with priceless works of art.
- While visiting "Bob the Bridge," get froggy at the splash park located on the Omaha side. The circular plaza features water sprays shooting into the air – offering a great way to cool off and have fun.
- Float down the Elkhorn River with Tubing & Adventures. Not just for adults, kids will enjoy cruising down the river taking in the sights and sounds.
- Take a behind the scenes tour at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium. Look at the aquarium from the inside out, see how the Rainforest operates, and find out what it takes to run one of the world's best zoos.
- Catch a kid-friendly show at the Rose Theater. This fully-restored 1927 vaudeville palace is now a beautiful children's theater showcasing childhood favorites.
- Visit the new Raptor Woodland Refuge and get up close with hawks, owls, falcons, and other raptors.
- Rent Heartland B-cycles and go for a family ride through an Omaha city park (for ages 12 and up).
- Visit the world's largest ball of stamps at Boys Town and pick out stamps to take home from the "penny bin."
- Feed giraffes and stand eye-to-eye with the world's tallest animals at the zoo's African Grasslands exhibit.
- Visit Heartland of America Park and go for a gondola ride similar to those found in Venice, Italy.
- Eat, play, ride, repeat at the Amazing Pizza Machine. Kids of all ages enjoy the 60,000 sq. ft. funhouse filled with indoor rides, arcade games and pizza.



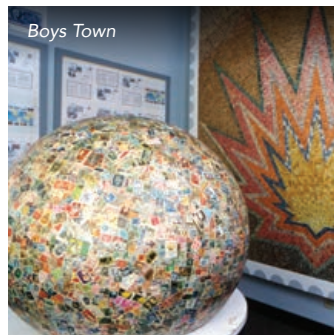
Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum



Tubing & Adventures



Raptor Woodland Refuge



Boys Town



Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium

For more ideas go to VisitOmaha.com



JOSLYN ART MUSEUM

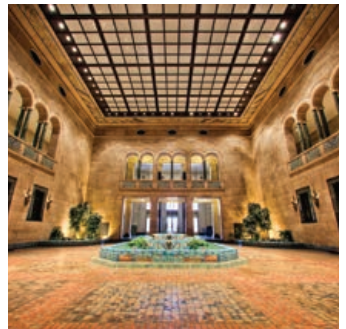
A PINK MARBLE MASTERPIECE BOASTING MORE THAN 11,000 WORKS OF ART INSIDE AND OUT.

Joslyn Art Museum's building is a masterpiece in itself and one of the country's finest examples of Art Deco architecture. Its pink marble façade is made of 38 marbles from around the world.

Inside, admire Dale Chihuly's monumental glass sculpture on your way to the permanent collections of art ranging from ancient times to the present. View works by iconic artists Rembrandt, Monet, Degas, Pollock, Renoir, and more. Major temporary exhibitions are displayed throughout the year.

Unleash your little (and inner) artist at ART WORKS, a 1,500 sq. ft. interactive space complete with nine activity stations so you may create your own masterpieces like stop-motion animation and hi-tech paintings. Make your way outdoors to the garden galleries, notably the colorful Discovery Garden complete with 20 artworks.

Joslyn offers mobile and guided tours. First satisfy your appetite for art, then your hunger with lunch or a snack at the Café Durham located in the Joslyn's atrium. Before leaving, stop in the Hitchcock Museum Shop and select from an array of distinctive gifts and souvenirs.





MASTERPIECES

CHIHULY: *INSIDE & OUT* BY DALE CHIHULY

The artist's impressive colored glass sculpture commissioned in 2000

GALAXY BY JACKSON POLLOCK

The artists' amazing 1947 canvas, centerpiece of the Modern and Contemporary Collection

LITTLE DANCER, FOURTEEN YEARS OLD BY EDGAR DEGAS

Two plaster versions of Degas' famed wax sculpture

THE MEADOW BY CLAUDE MONET

An excellent example of Impressionism art

PORTRAIT OF DIRCK VAN OS BY REMBRANDT VAN RIJN

Painting of the prominent Dutch citizen; restored in 2014

EIGHT-PANEL SCREEN, ARTIST UNKNOWN

An extraordinary eight-panel, carved red lacquer screen, a significant piece in the Asian Collection

YOUNG GIRLS AT THE PIANO BY PIERRE AUGUSTE RENOIR

Selected for a government commission in 1892



PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

ANCIENT - Antiquities from Egypt, Greece and Rome, including Greek pottery

AMERICAN - Paintings and furniture alongside sculpture and decorative arts

AMERICAN INDIAN - Historic works of art by the native peoples of North America

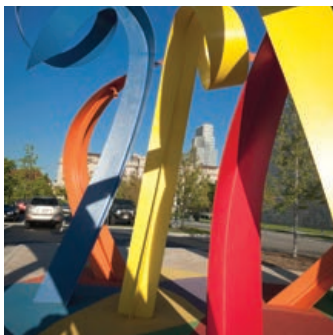
AMERICAN WEST - Includes watercolors, paintings and sculpture

ASIAN - A 4,000-year overview of Asian civilization highlighting the cultures of China, Japan, Korea, India, Tibet, and Southeast Asia

EUROPEAN - 19th century works of European art

LATIN AMERICA - Spanish colonial art from the 16th to 19th centuries

MODERN & CONTEMPORARY - Major works by leading figures of the 20th and 21st centuries



ARTFUL ADVENTURES

FROM WORLD-CLASS CREATIVE SPACES TO INNOVATIVE PUBLIC ART DISPLAYS, OMAHA IS AN ART DESTINATION.

Omaha is home to an expansive selection of art and art-based centers – most of which are free and open to the public.

For a space with a creative, open, and urban feel, visit KANEKO. This downtown cultural space housed in three turn-of-the-century warehouses was founded by renowned artist Jun Kaneko and wife Ree. The venue operates its progressive programming by hosting innovative artists, exhibitions, performances, and events which explore the creative process in a distinctive way.

The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts is another art heavy hitter. Founded by artists for artists, Bemis provides residency for creatives from around the globe. Visitors will find inspiration in the ever-changing art exhibitions featuring work from both new and seasoned artists, and innovative public programs.

For a memorable art experience, check out Hot Shops Art Center – named for “hot shops” featuring glass blowing, pottery, and bronze casting. Over 80 studio artists welcome you to visit, explore, and view this massive 92,000 sq. ft. warehouse



*Bemis Center
for Contemporary Arts*



Hot Shops Art Center



with displays that run the art form gamut. View evolving exhibitions at its four art galleries, create your own masterpiece at an ongoing class or workshop, and attend one of their can't-miss bi-annual open houses.

Pack those walking shoes and discover Omaha's public art on foot. Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness and Pioneer Courage Parks, one of the world's largest collections of bronze and stainless steel, spans five city blocks downtown and features 123 pieces and installations depicting Omaha's pioneer history. A quick walk away is the 32,000 sq. ft. mural *Fertile Ground*, one of the country's largest public murals. Head east to see *Monument to Labor*, the second largest labor monument in the United States. With more than 350 public art displays in Omaha, we haven't scratched the surface of Omaha's art scene.

Colorful murals painted by local artists span the city, especially in Omaha's historic neighborhoods. The South Omaha Mural Project murals depict the diversity of the area. A new mural in the Florence area pays homage to the area's historic routes. See more street art in North Omaha, Downtown, North Downtown, Benson, and more.

Begin your own tour at PublicArtOmaha.org



Pioneer Courage Park



Monument of Labor Sculpture

Fertile Groud Mural





Lauritzen Gardens

100 ACRES OF BOTANICAL BEAUTY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY.

Escape to an urban oasis nestled in Omaha's riverfront hills, and experience four-season plant displays in this hidden sanctuary where nature is its brilliant, colorful star.

Twenty themed gardens will rejuvenate and captivate, and extras like a conservatory, model trains and a guided tram ride will enhance your visit. Enjoy annual events like the Holiday Poinsettia Show and Sweet Corn Festival.

MARJORIE K. DAUGHERTY CONSERVATORY

Explore 17,500 sq. ft. of gardens under glass in this all-seasons conservatory featuring panoramic views accompanied by flowers, unique plant life, and water features. One moment you're in the tropical gardens boasting tall palms and colorful flowers, the next you're in temperate gardens with moss-covered oak trees and azaleas. Thanks to a gradual 20-ft. rise in elevation as you head north indoors, surprises await at every corner—10-ft. waterfall, a spectacular overlook of the conservatory, and a pool with water lilies. At the end, sweet reward: an overlook of the Missouri River valley and entrance to the garden's century-old bur oak forest.





THEMED GARDENS:

- Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary
- Arrival and Parking Gardens
- Children's Garden
- Conservation Discovery Garden
- English Perennial Border
- Festival Garden
- Founders' Garden
- Garden in the Glen
- Garden of Memories
- Herb Garden
- Rose Garden
- Song of the Lark Meadow
- Spring Flowering Walk
- Victorian Garden
- Woodland Trail
- Woodland Waterfall
- Japanese Garden

MODEL RAILROAD GARDEN

Midst the gardens listen for the whir of G-scale model trains. This handcrafted garden is made of all natural materials like leaves, twigs, bark, berries, pinecones, and cinnamon sticks and is punctuated with reproductions of landmarks and rolling countrysides.

LARGER THAN LIFE

Union Pacific Railroad's Centennial No. 6900 and Big Boy 4023, two of the most powerful locomotives ever built, greet visitors to Omaha at nearby Kenefick Park, perched on a hill overlooking Interstate 80.



OUTDOOR RECREATION

OMAHA IS AN OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST'S PLAYGROUND.

Tree-lined walking and biking trails wind through the city, five area lakes and two rivers provide a variety of boating and fishing opportunities, and the city's vast array of parks and gardens each offer their own unique fresh-air experience.

STOP AND STAY A WHILE

Omaha campgrounds and RV parks are conveniently located close to major interstates, highways, and on the outskirts of the city near rivers and lakes. Each one promises a peaceful and picturesque place to spend the night.

TO BOAT OR NOT TO BOAT

In Omaha, you've got options! Check out Driftwood Paddleboard Adventures and its sunset paddleboard tours, which are a fun way to explore Omaha lakes in a more active way. Or try tubing and tanking down the Elkhorn River for a more leisurely float. In order to figure out which to choose, tubing or tanking, first determine how wet you're willing to get. Tanking entails riding in an 8-ft. diameter stock tank complete with custom made picnic tables, while tubing is more of an all-in experience involving sitting in commercial grade inner tubes and floating in the river. Or hop aboard one of the Bryson's Airboat Tours and take off on a 60 mph wind-in-your-hair trip.



Tubing & Adventures



Bryson's Airboat Tours



Raptor Woodland Refuge



Fontenelle Forest

Mt. Crescent Ski Area



STRETCH YOUR LEGS AND EXPLORE

Enjoy the fresh air and take in the sights and sounds of the great outdoors. Fontenelle Forest offers thousands of acres filled with a wide range of different ecosystems to explore. Families enjoy identifying all the different animals and plants (Fontenelle is home to more than 600 different species). Visit the new Raptor Woodland Refuge and get up close with hawks, owls, falcons, and other raptors; thirty feet above the forest floor, it's a chance to get a bird's eye view of the forest.

Omaha offers plenty more hiking options, so lace up your shoes – or grab your bike – and explore the city's hiking and biking trails. More than 85 miles of paved, interconnected trails have been developed and make it easy for the active traveler to keep moving.

Speaking of moving, thrill seekers will make their way to Zipline Omaha Mt. Crescent Ski Area for year-round action. In the winter, hit the slopes reaching up to 2,400 feet in length. Sledders, snowboarders and spectators are welcome. In the summer and fall, zip down one of the country's longest ziplines.

BIRDING

Located along the wooded Missouri River Valley and along a main migratory path, Omaha is a birding hotspot. Spring and fall are peak birding seasons, but because the area offers diverse birding habitat – lakes, prairies, woodlands, and riverbanks – a variety of bird species can be found most any time of year. Fontenelle Forest and Omaha's many lakes are great places to bring the binoculars and start birding.

GOLF

Rolling hills and tree-lined fairways, water hazards, and sand traps; each course has its own character filled with challenges. From executive style to championship courses, you'll enjoy playing Omaha's unique golf landscape.

27-HOLE GOLF COURSES

- Indian Creek
Par 36
- Stone Creek
Par 72
- Tiburon
Par 36 (Semi-Private)

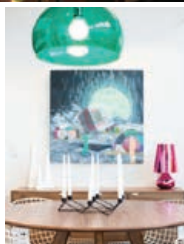
18-HOLE GOLF COURSES

- Benson Championship
Par 72
- Elmwood Park
Par 68
- Johnny Goodman
Championship Par 72
- Knolls
Par 72
- Miracle Hills
Par 70
- Pacific Springs
Par 70
- Pines Country Club
Par 72 (Semi-Private)

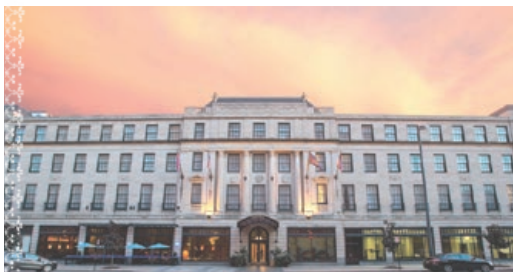
9-HOLE GOLF COURSES

- Eagle Run
Par 32
- Elkhorn Ridge
Par 27
- Milt's
Par 27
- Spring Lake
Par 33
- Steve Hogan
Par 27
- Warren Swigart
Par 27
- Westwood
Par 27





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LEGENDARY STEAK

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Steak is in Omaha's DNA and calls all carnivores to make the pilgrimage for a legendary cut of beef. With an industry dating back to the 1880s, Omaha's cow-know-how is evident by the passion and dedication of the city's many established steakhouses.

It's tempting to believe steak is inherently delicious, but there's more to a cut of meat than just the quality. Preparation is key, and this city takes it seriously. Flame broiled, whiskey doused, and wood fire-grilled – all delicious, and all techniques Omaha has used to perfect the steak. The right grill times and temperatures are also crucial. Well-done and medium are options, but true steak connoisseurs know to go medium-rare or rare.



The Drover

For years, the Great Omaha Steak Debate has kept visitors and locals discussing where to find the most mouth-watering steak. With plenty of restaurants offering a succulent variety of the beloved meat, everyone enjoys the hunt. So who serves up the best Omaha steak? It's your pilgrimage to make.

The Drover is a landmark chophouse and home to whiskey-marinated Certified Angus Beef steak. After enjoying bourbon at the bar, savor your meal in the cozy dining area complete with candlelight and fireplace.

Omaha Prime is one of the few restaurants in the country to serve only the best USDA Prime steaks and chops selected based on marbling, quality and flavor. Steak and red wine are fine culinary complements; enhance dinner with a glass of vino from their impressive selection.

It's only appropriate that Warren Buffett is a steak-eater. At Gorat's, an Omaha institution of more than 70 years, look to a neighboring table and you may just see the Omaha billionaire savoring a steak too.

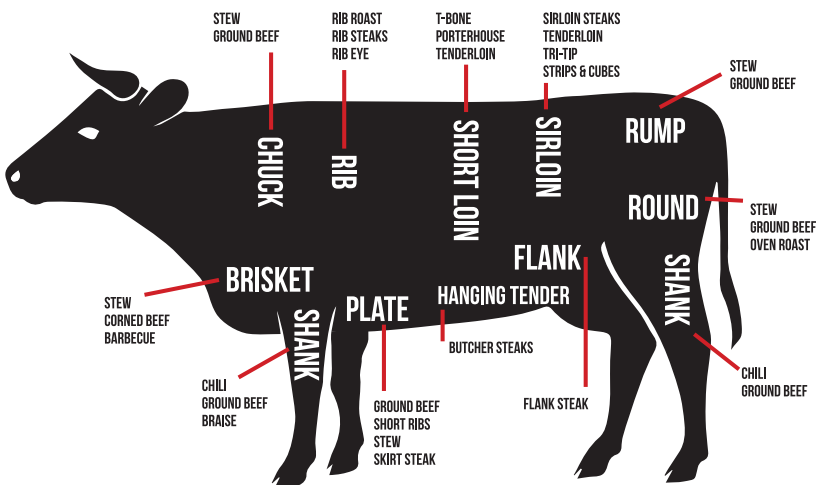
At Anthony's Steakhouse, each in-house cut and prepared Premium Black Angus Beef steak is aged for at least 21 days, guaranteeing tender and flavorful perfection.

Share your favorite steak picks and pics with #OmahaWeekend



ALL ABOUT BEEF

Here's something to chew on: All cuts of beef are not created equal. Learn your beef with the diagram at right, and see where not only your T-bone or sirloin steak originate, but ground beef, short ribs and skirt steak too.



INTRODUCING...THE ORIGINAL REUBEN

TRUE FOODIES UNDERSTAND THAT YOU TRAVEL FOR THE ORIGINAL. EVERY GREAT DISH HAS A BEGINNING, AND WISE DINERS UNDERSTAND THE BEST ALWAYS COMES FROM THE CREATOR.

We don't care what New Yorkers say – the Reuben sandwich was created in Omaha and that's not up for debate. During a late-night poker game at the Blackstone Hotel, a local grocer was asked to "ante up" and create a new dish. The ingredients he had on hand resulted in an American menu staple. How do you create a national treasure? You start with two pieces of grilled marbled rye and stuff it with slow cooked corned beef topped with sauerkraut, bubbly Swiss cheese, and creamy Russian or Thousand Island dressing. Omaha has been raising the Reuben sandwich from the beginning and continues to perfect the classic. Many Omaha restaurants add a unique spin on the classic.



Crescent Moon





A FEW TASTY TAKES ON THIS OMAHA CLASSIC:

BRAZEN HEAD IRISH PUB'S Rachel Reuben is made with tender smoked turkey, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and Havarti cheese all between the traditional marble rye.

BARRETT'S BARLEYCORN PUB & GRILL takes the classic approach of corned beef: swiss cheese, sauerkraut, and Thousand Island dressing on grilled rye.

GOLDBERGS IN DUNDEE'S Montana Reuben uses oven-roasted turkey topped with Swiss cheese and creamy coleslaw as a fun twist.

THE DROVER'S Reuben swaps out the corned beef for a mound of slow-roasted prime rib covered in melted Swiss cheese, creamy dressing, and sauerkraut.

Across the street from the Blackstone Hotel is the **CRESCENT MOON**, a local favorite still serving the original recipe.

The Reuben has been a menu staple at the **DUNDEE DELL** since 1934. Choose from corned beef or turkey, and taste test their super-secret sauce.

Get a bigger bite of Omaha's Reuben scene at VisitOmaha.com

REUBEN HOT SPOTS

Barrett's Barleycorn Pub & Grill
4322 Leavenworth St.

Brazen Head Irish Pub
319 N. 78th St.

Crescent Moon
3578 Farnam St.

The Diner
409 S. 12th St.

Dundee Dell
5007 Underwood Ave.

Goldberg's Bar & Grill
2936 S. 132nd St.

Goldbergs In Dundee
5008 Dodge St.

Jackson Street Tavern
1125 Jackson St.

Marks Bistro
4916 Underwood Ave.

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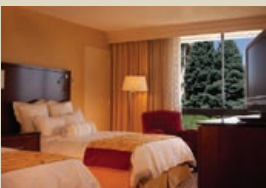


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QUICK & QUIRKY

OMAHA'S CULINARY LANDSCAPE CELEBRATES A WIDE VARIETY OF FOODIE FAVORITES, INCLUDING SOME NEW OUT-OF-THE-BOX CREATIONS.

Get ready to dig in and experience food that takes taste buds outside their comfort zone. California Tacos and More is one of those places. Featured on the Food Network's *Diners, Drive-ins and Dives*, "Cali" Taco is known for its signature tacos and Mexican flair. Housemade fried, puffy taco shells are stuffed (and we mean stuffed) with meat, lettuce and cheese.

Foodies can answer the call of the wild at the Alpine Inn – where the fried chicken is loved by everyone... and we mean everyone. Evening diners sit outside the restaurant's windows feasting on chicken scraps, providing entertainment for human diners. This family of raccoons officially make the Alpine Inn a huge hit among locals... of two species.

Big Mama's Kitchen is another *Diners, Drive-ins and Dives* alumnus and was featured on the Travel Channel's *101 Tastiest Places to Chow Down*. Omaha's soul food queen, Big Mama, is known for her signature dishes like the Afro Burger, Pig Ear Sandwich, oven-fried chicken, and sweet potato pie ice cream.

FOOD TRUCKS ARE SPRINKLED THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND OFFER A WIDE VARIETY OF CASUAL AND PORTABLE EATS TO KEEP YOU FUELED AND ENERGIZED.

Quick and convenient is great, but some dishes need to be savored, or even... conquered. The Stellanator, weighing in at 4.5 lbs. and 4,900 calories includes six burger patties, six fried eggs, six pieces of cheese, 12 pieces of bacon, lettuce, tomato, fried onions, pickles, jalapeños, and peanut butter. Stella's has only seen 19 successful takedowns (280 have lost). Bring on the meat sweats!

A saucy challenge can be found at North Omaha's BBQ Fat Shack. The "Shack" is known for a variety of smoked and BBQ'd meats, but perhaps the most challenging dish is the Shack Attack. Layers of fresh cut fries are loaded (seriously loaded) with nacho cheese and your choice of meats and toppings.

A less challenging but equally delicious meal can be found at The Surfside Club. Here's the menu: fried chicken, fried catfish, and corn fritters. Yes, this cozy, quirky joint specializes in three items and fans go crazy for them. Located on the banks of the Missouri River, Surfside offers fun fried food in a chill atmosphere.

Stop for a cozy and portable runza, aka "a meal in a bunza" at Runza. A local favorite, the runza is a pocket of dough filled with beef, cabbage, seasonings, and sometimes cheese. So popular, out-of-towners order them by the case, freeze them, and take them home.



California Tacos and More



Alpine Inn



Maria Bonita Food Truck



The Surfside Club



Runza

Bronco's



Bronco's, another Omaha fast-food tradition, opened more than 50 years ago, back when "fast food" was still a new concept. Known for its 100% ground beef burgers, Bronco's still makes its French fries daily from fresh whole potatoes – yum!

BUZZ-WORTHY BREAKFASTS

Your quick and quirky culinary excursion in Omaha needs an energizing start. Find classic breakfast fare in every corner of the city. Harold's Koffee House is known for homemade doughnuts, fresh coffee, and the Suzi Special – a plate full of grilled onions, hash browns and two scrambled eggs (locals recommend adding cheese and gravy). The signature breakfast dish at Lisa's Radial Café is The Raft. Float into foodie heaven with hash browns, eggs, and biscuits smothered in creamy sausage gravy.

In Omaha we know beef, but we also celebrate all things pork. Fun fact: Breakfast is better with bacon. Two Omaha favorites claim to serve the best – you be the judge. The Diner is a '50s style eatery slinging morning grub and thick-sliced bacon slathered in a secret maple, brown sugar rub. Bailey's specialties include an array of eggs benedict dishes and fresh, crispy bacon.



Stella's



The Diner

Harold's
Koffee House

The Grey Plume



FARM-TO-FORK FRESH

USING FRESH, LOCALLY-PRODUCED INGREDIENTS IS MORE THAN A TREND—IT'S A MOVEMENT THAT'S INSPIRING TRAVEL AND PUTTING OMAHA ON THE "FOODIE MAP."

When thinking about Omaha's agricultural background and central location, it makes sense that the city would be on the forefront of a fresh food movement. New and classic Omaha restaurants have dedicated their kitchens and menus to showcasing the best meat and produce from local farms.

The Grey Plume is a leader in freshness and considered one of the greenest restaurants in America. Serving with "local sustainable and delicious" in mind, TGP has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Midwest Living* and *Parade*. Award-winning chef and owner Clayton Chapman maintains the vision of a fine dining experience where food is art filled with rich and decadent flavors – even the plates are created by local artists.

The Boiler Room, located in a refurbished industrial space in Omaha's Old Market Entertainment District, features farm-fresh foods in a unique presentation that makes for a distinct culinary experience. Modern Love inspires vegans from across the country to plan their foodie excursions to Omaha. Popular vegan cooking personality Isa Chandra Moskowitz leads with the focus of providing "swanky vegan comfort food" made with local ingredients. Enjoy Mac & Shews, a vegan/gluten-free spin on a classic, or a variety of vegan desserts.



Kitchen Table



Farmer's Market



Modern Love



FRESH FORK FACTS

- Coneflower Creamery is one of Omaha's newest sweet spots, crafting homemade ice cream with creativity and a love of local ingredients.
- Dante Ristorante Pizzeria serves farm-to-table rustic Italian cuisine.
- Dining at Lot 2 is an international culinary journey using produce from Omaha farms.
- Kitchen Table's daily specials mean a rotating menu bursting with local flavor.
- Block 16 serves up a craveable burger and fries combo with a side of secret sauce. Taste the freshness of tomatoes picked from the owner's garden.
- Omaha farmers markets offer farm-fresh produce and everything from cooking demonstrations to pet-friendly treats.

FARM-TO-FORK FAN FAVS

- Baela Rose
4919 Underwood Ave
- The Boiler Room
1110 Jones St.
- Block 16
1611 Farnam St.
- Dante Ristorante Pizzeria
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- Kitchen Table
1415 Farnam St.
- Lot 2
6207 Maple St.
- Modern Love
1319 S. 50th St.
- Paragon Dundee
5018 Underwood Ave. #104
- The Grey Plume
220 S. 31st. Ave.



SWEET TOOTH

AFTER A SAVORY STEAK, REUBEN OR BURGER, GET YOUR SUGAR FIX AT OMAHA'S ARRAY OF BAKERIES, EATERIES AND RESTAURANTS BOASTING SIGNATURE CONFECTIONS.

In Omaha, you can have your cake (and chocolate, ice cream, pastry and pie) and eat it too. They say everything in moderation, right?

Old Market Candy Shop whips up an array of chocolate candy confections before your very eyes, including fudge made with housemade cream and butter, mud ball truffles and chicken legs. Find almost too-pretty-to-eat chocolate art at The Cordial Cherry, a whimsical shop stocked with homemade, hand-decorated chocolate-covered cherry cordials. Hollywood Candy will satisfy the kid at heart with retro candies, homemade fudge and chocolates, an authentic soda fountain, and savory-sweet snacks like chocolate-covered bacon and potato chips.

Ice cream knows no season in Omaha. Ted & Wally's slow churns super-premium, made-from-scratch ice cream with 18% butterfat and all-natural ingredients for fresh seasonal flavors made daily, like apple cider sorbet, peach cobbler and funnel cake. Over in Dundee, trendy eCreamery serves 16 staple flavors of specialty ice cream, gelato, and dairy-free sorbet in-house. Customize your own flavor from home at eCreamery.com. Blackstone District's Coneflower Creamery makes their artisanal ice cream and cold treats from locally sourced milk, cream, and fruit.

Locals rave about Lithuanian Bakery's Napoleon torte, a three-day labor of love consisting of eight wafer layers with buttercreams of vanilla and lemon extracts with an apricot surprise at its center. Cake fans will be in heaven at Cupcake Wars contestant Jones Bros. Cupcakes, where flavors include Sweet & Salty, Birthday Cake, and Crème Brulee.



Hollywood Candy



The Cordial Cherry



Lithuanian Bakery



Modern Love



Jones Bros. Cupcakes



Wheatfields

OMAHA SIGNATURE DESSERTS

BREAD PUDDING
Goldbergs in Dundee

CHOCOLATE-COVERED CHERRIES
The Cordial Cherry

OPERA CAKE
Culprit Café

HOMEMADE DONUTS
Harold's Koffee House

OLD-FASHIONED PHOSPHATE
The Durham Museum

PECAN ROLLS
Bliss Bakery

DUCK FAT DONUT & ICE CREAM
The Grey Plume

NAPOLEON TORTE
Lithuanian Bakery

S'MORE SUNDAE
Coneflower Creamery

VEGAN PIE
Modern Love

MUD BALLS
Old Market Candy Shop

COTTON CANDY
Salt 88

CHEESECAKE BY THE INCH
WheatFields Eatery & Bakery



Bliss Bakery



Coneflower Creamery

Sample more of Omaha's sweet treats at VisitOmaha.com



Old Market Candy Shop

OMAHA'S NIGHTLIFE

WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN OMAHA HEATS UP WITH A NIGHTLIFE SCENE THAT RANGES FROM ULTRA-SOPHISTICATED TO WARM AND FRIENDLY. SO GRAB A SEAT AND RAISE YOUR GLASS BECAUSE IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD NIGHT.

A fun night out should really get the heart pumping... in a good way. The Omaha Patio Ride is a giant party bike for up to 16 adults. Everyone pedals and the driver steers and guides the group from bar to bar in the Old Market Entertainment District. It's bar hopping for an active lifestyle!

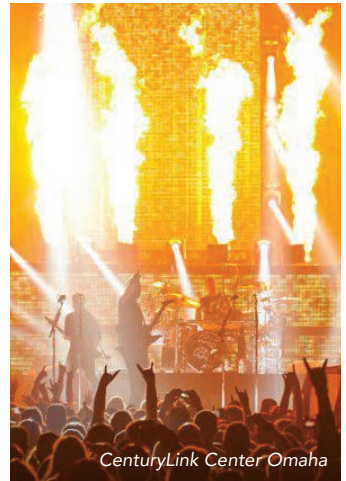
The Max is Omaha's high-energy gay bar and dance club. The 12,000-square-foot multiplex consists of a main disco dance floor, glass-encased upper-level lounge, a lively show floor, and an expansive outdoor patio. Regular themed parties promise a new experience every night.

The heart pumping and head thumping gets kicked into high gear at Omaha's various escape room experiences. Entrap Games, The Escape Omaha, and House of Conundrum invite guests to race against the clock, solve the mystery, and unlock the door to freedom. Each location offers several different themes and mysteries.

Omaha is filled with hot spots for cool music. The birthplace of nationally known artists such as Conor Oberst, The Faint, and Cursive, Omaha's indie music scene continues to grow. The Slowdown, one of the best indie-music venues in the nation, lives up to its name, giving music lovers a place to chill and be entertained. The award-winning arena, CenturyLink Center Omaha, attracts top touring acts from across the country. The city's live music scene lights up all week long in bars, clubs, and pubs throughout the city, including: The Waiting Room, The Hive, Barley St. Tavern, and PS Collective.



The Slowdown



CenturyLink Center Omaha



Lucky Bucket Brewing Co.

Wicked Rabbit



WHEN IT COMES TO COCKTAILS, OMAHA GETS...CRAFTY.

The Wicked Rabbit takes guests through the looking glass into a Wonderland-themed speakeasy serving high-end craft cocktails. Berry & Rye serves cocktails inspired by pre-Prohibition era drinks with an experimental, contemporary, and culinary perspective. Berry & Rye uses a reverse osmosis water system that ensures the purest water possible for its craft ice program, alongside the sodas, syrups, and bitters made in-house. Other popular spots for craft cocktails are Wilson & Washburn, The Boiler Room, and Nite Owl. Recently named one of the top-10 beer cities by the Travel Channel, Omaha's craft brew scene is one of the most buzzed about in the country. Go to OmahaCraftBrew.com to plot out a craft brew tour.

A FEW HOT SPOTS FOR SOME CLASSIC FAVORITES FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING

BLOODY MARYS

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Report In Pub
12100 W. Center Rd. #204

Jake's
6206 Maple St.



Report in Pub

SANGRIA

España
6064 Maple St.

Blue Sushi
416 S 12th St.

Pitch Pizzeria
5021 Underwood Ave.



España

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6 years in a row



Old Market Entertainment District

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

FROM UNIQUE BOUTIQUES TO SHOPPING CENTERS, RETAIL THERAPY AWAITS AT EVERY TURN.

Treat yourself to a shopping spree at Omaha's one-of-a-kind boutiques, offbeat shops, expansive malls, and lively shopping centers.

Fashionistas love Omaha's wide array of local boutiques. Charming pieces from emerging designers fill the racks at Hello Holiday. Find vintage and vintage-inspired apparel at Paperdoll and Flying Worm Vintage. The Shops of Legacy offers stylish variety at unique shops like Mesh, Katina's Couture, Togs, Jade Love and more. Score secondhand designer pieces from Chanel and Louis Vuitton at Pretty in Patina.



Imaginarium



The Shops of Legacy



Village Pointe Shopping Center



Flying Worm Vintage

Art lovers and antique collectors can bring home a piece of Omaha with unique works from local galleries. Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery offers exquisite limited edition photographs, and Old Market Artists Gallery features work by over a dozen artists. Antiquers will happily get lost in The Imaginarium and Joe's Collectibles. Home décor enthusiasts must stop in Hutch, displaying an enticing mix of modern, local, and vintage furnishings.

For the familiar, find favorite brands at Village Pointe Shopping Center. Village Pointe is home to more than 60 specialty stores like J. Crew, Apple, Banana Republic, Sephora, and Coach. Indoors at Westroads Shopping Mall, peruse more than 135 stores.

Return home bearing gifts from shops like Pulp (stationery, ink, and decor), Le Wonderment (unique toys), and The Afternoon (a little bit of everything).

Go to VisitOmaha.com for a complete list of Omaha shopping options

SPECIALTY SHOPS

- Get inspired for the home at Nebraska Furniture Mart, the country's largest (450,000 sq. ft.) home furnishing store.
- City Limits is stocked with funky paper products and gifts, and even has a corner dedicated to bacon-inspired items.
- Jackson Street Booksellers, a bibliophile's dream, is stocked floor to ceiling with used, rare, and out of print books.
- Enjoy complimentary ginger snaps and coffee while shopping for the Scandinavian in your life at Little Scandinavia.
- Borsheims is the nation's largest independent jewelry store owned by billionaire investor Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway.

SHOPPING LIST

- AKSARBEN VILLAGE
1920 S. 67th St.
- COUNTRYSIDE VILLAGE
87th & Pacific St.
- MIDTOWN CROSSING
3102 Dodge St.
- NEBRASKA CROSSING
OUTLETS
21209 Nebraska Crossing Dr.
- OAK VIEW MALL
3001 S. 144th St.
- OLD MARKET
Harney to Jackson Sts
and 10th to 13th Sts.
- ONE PACIFIC PLACE
10381 Pacific St.
- REGENCY COURT
120 Regency Pkwy.
- ROCKBROOK VILLAGE
2800 S 110th Ct.
- SHADOW LAKE TOWNE
CENTER
7775 Olson Dr. in Papillion

THE SHOPS OF LEGACY
168th & W Center Rd.

VILLAGE POINTE
17305 Davenport St.

WESTROADS MALL
10000 California St.



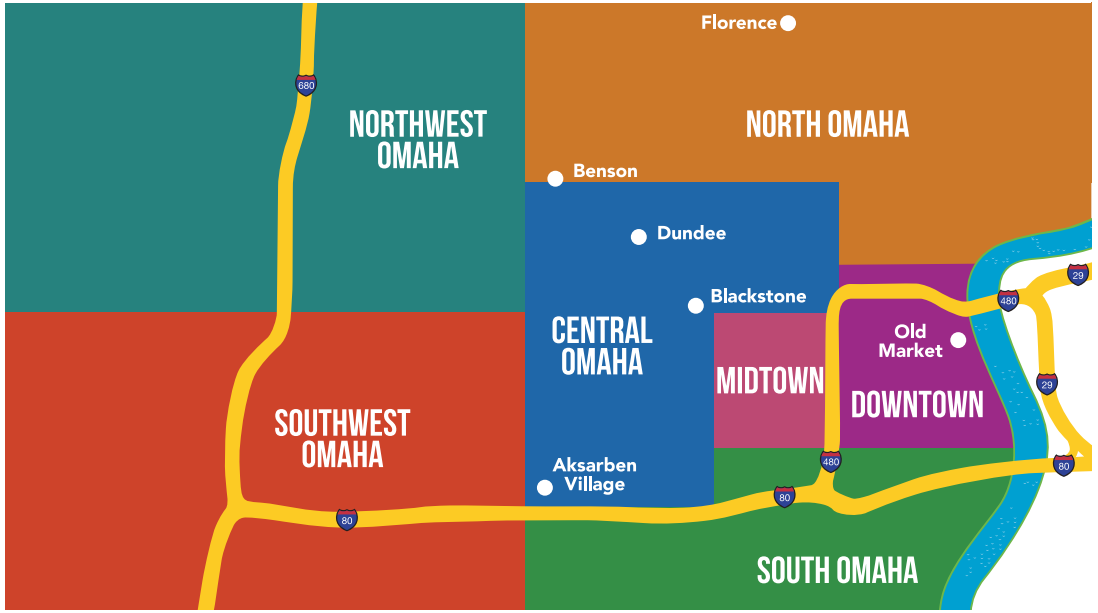
Borsheims



Pretty in Patina



Jackson Street Booksellers



ENTERTAINING NEIGHBORHOODS

FROM HISTORIC AND URBAN CHIC TO SCRUMPTIOUS AND ULTRA-HIP, OMAHA'S ENTERTAINING NEIGHBORHOODS PEPPER THE CITY WITH THEIR OWN UNIQUE CHARACTER AND PERSONALITY.

Use the map above and corresponding info below to get a brief introduction to Omaha's regions and the unique neighborhoods that add pops of color to the city's landscape.

Downtown Omaha is part business person, part culture lover, and part sports fan. It's the central hub of entertainment in the city, featuring live music, art, history, and sporting events. It's home to CenturyLink Center Omaha, the city's convention center and arena, and TD Ameritrade Park, Omaha's 24,000-seat downtown stadium. At the heart of downtown is the historic Old Market Entertainment District – cobblestone streets lined with unique boutiques, galleries, home-grown restaurants, pubs, and street performers – all distinctly Omaha.

Midtown Omaha is relaxed, chill, and ultra-friendly. Lovers of beer, scotch, wine, and chocolate will especially feel right at home. Midtown Crossing is a fun spot to unwind with outdoor live entertainment, unique shops and a variety of restaurants. Brix and Grane offer unique tasting experiences for wine and scotch, respectively. A few blocks west are Beer Corner USA and the Blackstone District, each filled with cozy bars, great grub, and plenty of brew.



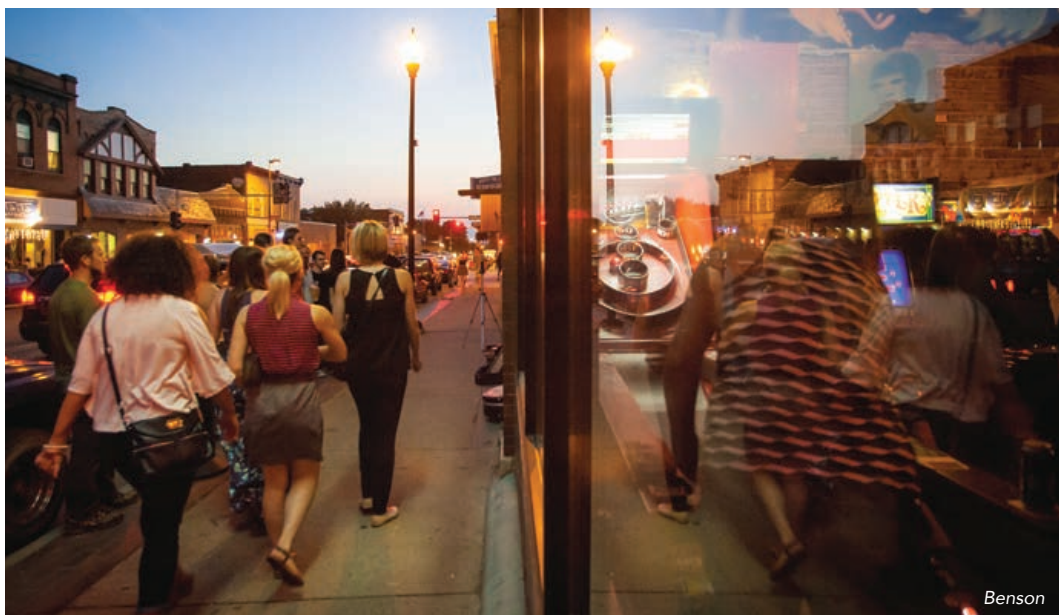
Downtown Omaha



Old Market



Midtown Omaha



Benson

Central Omaha is the cool, hip kid with a creative flair. From the Benson neighborhood and its indie rock club to the Dundee District known for its culinary delights, this part of the city fuses old and new. Further west is Aksarben Village, filled with live entertainment throughout the year.

North Omaha is the history buff who loves digging into the past. Home to Omaha's oldest community, Florence, this area pays tribute to the city's pioneer days and the Mormon migration of the 1800s. North Omaha is also the place to catch the heritage of jazz, where Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and other great jazz artists once played.

Northwest Omaha is an outdoorsy adventure-seeker looking to connect with nature. Standing Bear Lake is surrounded by 396 acres of land with hiking and bicycling trails, a field for radio-controlled model airplanes, and paddle boarding opportunities. Glenn Cunningham Lake offers no-wake boating, fishing, and space for picnicking. Golfers can catch a tee time at Miracle Hill Golf and Tennis Center, Eagle Run Public Golf Course, Knolls Public Golf Course, and Champions Run.

South Omaha is the explorer interested in new experiences. Visit in and around South 24th Street and feel the multicultural influence. From colorful murals that paint a picture of history, to the intricately tiled sidewalks and authentic cuisine, South Omaha is filled with distinct flavor.

Southwest Omaha is a fun-loving, free spirit with a keen sense of style. Avid shoppers are encouraged to bring an extra suitcase and a pair of comfy walking shoes. The Shops of Legacy is a collection of eclectic Omaha exclusive shops and restaurants. Ranging from upscale to casual, Legacy is a must-see (and shop...and eat) spot. Slow down and unwind at Zorinsky Lake – offering fishing, boating, and recreational activities all year long.



Mormon Trail Center



South Omaha



Lake Zorinsky

Saturdays @ Stinson Park



AKSARBEN VILLAGE

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT AND SHOPPING.

Aksarben Village is a distinctive mixed-use development marrying urban space with special events, entertainment, dining, and shopping options in the heart of the city.

Bring your appetite to the Village. Enjoy laid-back fare at DJ's Dugout, braided crust pizza at Dudley's Pizza & Tavern, mango crab rangoon at Mai Thai, and tacos stuffed with shrimp, brisket or even alligator at Voodoo Taco.

The fun continues at Village Canvas & Cabernet, where art and wine intertwine. Enjoy a local or nationally brewed beer or wine at the bar at Aksarben Cinema before catching the latest flick. Drop into Spirit World for that rare bottle of wine (or for a glass of whiskey at the bar).

Stinson Park is adjacent to Aksarben Village and offers a variety of live concerts and entertainment events throughout the year. North of the retail area you'll find the Omaha Farmers Market from May through October. Active folks will be tempted to hop on a B-Cycle bicycle to explore the nearby trails.

Take a breather from all the fun and indulge in area history. Aksarben Village stands where the bustling Ak-Sar-Ben Race Track (1919-1995) and Coliseum once did. Its celebrated history is punctuated in Stinson Park with a bronze figure marking the grave of Omaha, the 1935 Triple Crown winner. Fun fact: Aksarben in "Nebraska" spelled backwards.



Dudley's Pizza & Tavern



Maha Music Festival



ANNUAL EVENTS

SATURDAYS @ STINSON CONCERT SERIES: MAY-AUGUST
Free local music concert series every Saturday night with food, drink, and activities for the kids.

MAHA MUSIC FESTIVAL: AUGUST
Ninth annual 12-hour indie rock music extravaganza featuring national and local bands on two stages, plus hands-on activities and additional entertainment.

ARTSARBEN: SEPTEMBER
Featuring art, food, kid-friendly entertainment, and activities; presented by Omaha Summer Arts Festival.

LIGHTS OF AKSARBEN: NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
Holiday fun with horse and carriage rides, lights, cookies and cocoa, live music, children's activities, and a visit from Santa.

*Find more things to do in Aksarben Village
at VisitOmaha.com*

STOPS IN THE VILLAGE

AKSARBEN CINEMA
BACKWOODS OUTDOOR
DICKEY'S BARBECUE PIT
DJ'S DUGOUT
DUDLEY'S PIZZA & TAVERN
EAT FIT GO HEALTHY FOODS
FRESHII
GODFATHER'S PIZZA
JONES BROS. CUPCAKES
JUICE STOP
LIV LOUNGE
LUVBIRD BOUTIQUE
MAI THAI RESTAURANT
PAULI'S LOUNGE
PICKLEMAN'S GOURMET CAFE
PONZU SUSHI & GRILL
ROAST COFFEEHOUSE
SPIRIT WORLD
TOGS BOUTIQUE
VILLAGE CANVAS & CABERNET
VOODOO TACO



ARTsarben



Village Canvas
& Cabernet



Krug Park

BENSON

WELCOME TO BENSON, THE OLD MARKET'S HIP, QUIRKY COUSIN. A HOT NIGHTLIFE DISTRICT KNOWN FOR FROSTY BEER, GOOD MUSIC, AND ZOMBIES – BUT MORE ON THAT LATER.

Don't miss this trendy, historic neighborhood always buzzing with activity...especially at night. Walking up and down the Benson "strip" is energizing with live music pouring out of The Waiting Room – a nationally recognized indie rock club. Benson's cool vibe is mirrored inside the club as it hosts national, regional, and local artists. For a more intimate venue, stop by Reverb Lounge, known for live music and a host of tiki drinks.

Krug Park will spice up the night with a dozen Bloody Mary concoctions and an array of craft cocktails. Not to be outdone by its craft brew neighbors, Krug has been listed in *DRAFT Magazine's* 100 Best Beer Bars in America four years running. Benson is a well-rounded and not-so-mild mannered entertainment district with a friendly atmosphere...you know...besides the zombies. Have we mentioned the zombies?

Each year, Benson's streets fill with Thriller-style zombies marching in a drop-dead-awesome parade. Professional makeup artists are on hand to enhance the terror and all are welcome to "ghoulify" and walk for free.



Zombie Walk



Beercade



Infusion Brewing Company

NEIGHBORHOOD BARS

- 1912: Craft cocktails, full menu
- Barley St. Tavern: Live music, neighborhood bar
- Benson Brewery: Craft brew
- Burke's Pub: Known for the Apple Pie shot
- Full House Bar: Friendly neighborhood bar
- Infusion Brewing Company: Craft brew
- Jake's Cigars & Spirits: Cigar bar known for Bloody Marys
- The Sydney Bar & Lounge: Funky



Barley St. Tavern

BENSON TIPS

- Shooter, the Benson bar cat, can be seen sauntering in and out of the neighborhood bars greeting patrons and nuzzling bartenders.
- Benson's other party animal is Sam, the beloved party dog of Burke's Pub. The friendly Great Dane entertains patrons and adds to the bar's care-free vibe.
- On nice days, visitors enjoy the rooftop patios at 1912 and Benson Brewery. Watch the strip come to life while sipping on a craft cocktail and enjoying gourmet bar menus.
- The streets light up during Benson First Fridays. Artists and art enthusiasts enjoy live music, spoken word, street performances, visual art and more.
- Benson's boutiques and shops range from classic vintage and local art, to health and wellness.
- Beercade is every fanboy's dream come true. Enjoy craft beer and wall-to-wall classic arcade games such as Skee-ball, Pac-Man, and Mortal Combat.



Benson Brewery



Aromas

Find more things to do in Benson at VisitOmaha.com



The Waiting Room

BLACKSTONE DISTRICT

VISIT THIS GROWING ENTERTAINING NEIGHBORHOOD THAT'S ONE PART TEQUILA AND TWO PARTS CRAFT BEER SHAKEN UP WITH LOTS OF HISTORY.

Omaha's Blackstone District has some serious bragging rights as the home of the Reuben sandwich. Yes, the sandwich was created in the Blackstone District back in the 1920s, and visitors can taste the original recipe at Crescent Moon. Consistently ranked one of the top beer bars in the country by *DRAFT Magazine*, "The Moon" is located above Huber Haus, an authentic German beer hall serving up bier, brats, and the famous Das Boot! Both are friendly neighbors to Beertopia, Omaha's premier beer emporium offering nearly 600 international specialty beers.

Along with its rich history, Blackstone District offers some new local favorites. Two craft breweries, Farnam House Brewing and Scriptown Brewery, have added to Omaha's growing reputation as a craft beer city, and each offer a unique experience. Coneflower Creamery offers farm-to-cone ice cream in out-of-this-world flavors. A typical order consists of two scoops, and some visitors may be tempted to "be good" and only order one. We know from experience... everyone wants the second scoop.



Nite Owl



Farnam House Brewing Co.



Crescent Moon





Scriptown Brewing Company



Mula

Nite Owl is the quirky, cool craft cocktail bar with a late night food menu featuring thick burgers, salty fries, and fresh salads until 2 a.m.

A couple doors down is Mula, Blackstone's ultra-trendy Mexican restaurant and certified tequileria.

A block away, Noli's Pizzeria serves up New York-style pizza and Italian desserts. Nightlife options, unique shops, and friendly locals make Blackstone an Omaha weekend hot spot.

Find more things to do in Blackstone
at VisitOmaha.com

Noli's
Pizzeria



Pitch Pizzeria

DUNDEE

ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, THIS IDYLIC NEIGHBORHOOD IS A BOOMING DINING DISTRICT PRIME FOR FOODIE PICKINGS. UNIQUE SHOPS AND COZY BARS MAKE DUNDEE A MUST-STOP.

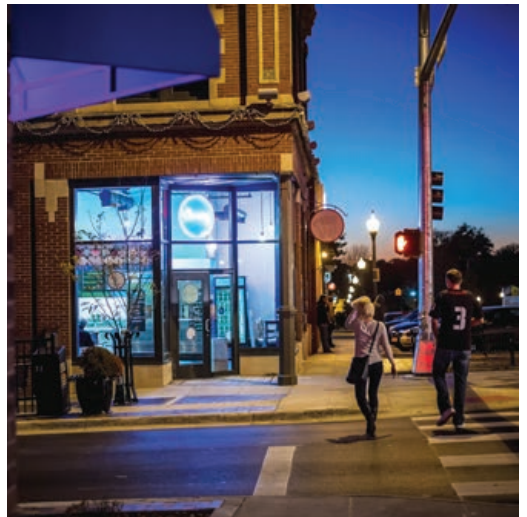
Enjoy a meal at your pick of chef-based restaurants. Indulge in coal-fire pizza at Pitch Pizzeria, Northern Italian fare at Avoli Osteria, and a mixture of European cuisines at Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob, Dario's Brasserie and Marks Bistro. Two new spots on the scene, Baela Rose and Paragon Dundee, each put their unique spin on classic comfort food. Cap off dinner with ice cream at eCreamery (one of Oprah's favorite sweet treats). Or stop in Dundee Dell for a drink – it has one of the nation's largest single malt Scotch whiskey collections.

While dining, here's an interesting fact to share with culinary comrades: A Japanese balloon bomb exploded over the Dundee neighborhood in 1945 during WWII. A plaque in the neighborhood remains as a reminder of the unusual event.

Find more things to do in Dundee at VisitOmaha.com



Hello Holiday





Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob



Dario's Brasserie

After dinner tip: Burn off post-meal calories and find unique souvenirs at Hello Holiday, Denim Saloon, and Scout.

DUNDEE DINING

- Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob: European-style street food
- Avoli Osteria: Northern Italian
- Baela Rose: Locally sourced comfort food
- Dario's Brasserie: Belgian fare infused with European flair
- Dundee Dell: Fish, chips, and lots of scotch
- eCreamery: Unique ice cream flavors
- Goldbergs in Dundee: Burgers, beers, and Bloody Marys
- Marks Bistro: Farm-to-table American cuisine
- Paragon Dundee: Revolving menu with seasonal ingredients
- Pitch Coal-Fire Pizzeria: The name says it all!



Marks Bistro

MIDTOWN CROSSING

THIS URBAN CHIC NEIGHBORHOOD IS HOME TO A VARIETY OF RESTAURANTS, BOUTIQUES AND ENTERTAINMENT OFFERINGS TO KEEP A WEEKEND BUZZING.



Grane

Dining is a must in this entertaining neighborhood, with options ranging from upscale Mexican food at Cantina Laredo and contemporary cuisine at Crave, to fast-casual at Chicago Dawg House and energizing food at Fuel Fit Kitchen. Find sweet treats and gourmet coffee at Delice, Omaha's European bakery and café. Indulge in a trendy treat at Thirst-Tea, a tea-drinkers candy store! Choose from a variety of flavor-infused teas and customize with a number of "toppings." Try the signature boba, sweet and chewy tapioca pearls, or the jelly, fruit flavored nata de coco (cream of coconut).

Enjoy the farm-to-table freshness of The Grey Plume, one of the greenest restaurants in the country. Find Grey's house-made charcuterie, jams, and more at Provisions by The Grey Plume. After shopping for your new fresh food favorites, stay for a Provisions' cooking class. Classes range from basic knife skills and artisan bread baking, to chocolate production and soup making. Take your culinary creations home to enjoy them later!

Find more things to do in Midtown Crossing at VisitOmaha.com



Thirst-Tea



The Grey Plume

Check out Brix, a wine bar/retail shop with more than 1,200 wines from across the world. A unique dispensing technology allows for easy vino sampling by the ounce. Offering a similar experience with whiskey, Grane boasts an impressive whiskey collection and craft cocktails.



Four-legged family members are welcome to visit Midtown Crossing's pet-friendly patios and the pet boutique, Three Dog Bakery. Three Dog offers gifts, special events, and food for the furry.



During summer and fall, live music fills Midtown and offers a relaxing way to spend a Thursday evening. Also, all are welcome to free yoga in the park sessions during select Sundays in the fall.



With convenient hotel accommodations nearby, Midtown Crossing feels like home.



NORTH OMAHA AND THE FLORENCE NEIGHBORHOOD

SOUL FOOD, GREAT JAZZ, AND A RICH PAST BRING THIS HISTORIC OMAHA AREA TO LIFE.



Watch the history of jazz in a neighborhood where Duke Ellington, Count Basie and others once played. Enjoy live jazz music at Love's Jazz and Arts Center, dedicated to preserving and showcasing all types of African American art. Civil Rights leader Malcolm X was born in Omaha; his birthsite includes a historic marker and an events plaza.

For soul food, check out Big Mama's Kitchen and order up a pig ear sandwich and sweet potato pie ice cream. Big Mama's has become a television culinary staple, featured on Food Network's *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*, Sundance Channel's *Ludo Bites America* and Travel Channel's *101 Tastiest Places to Chow Down*. Another soul food home run is the Omaha Rockets Kanteen, known for pitching delicious and healthy variations on classic Southern "comfort" food. The Omaha eatery also pays homage to the African American players of the Omaha Rockets independent baseball team.



Mormon Trail Center



Big Mama's Kitchen



Florence Mill



Love's Jazz & Arts Center

History buffs will spend hours exploring the historic Florence neighborhood and touching American history. Experience firsthand the Mormon migration of the 1840s at the Mormon Trail Center at Historic Winter Quarters. Pull a handcart like pioneers did all those years ago, and see what it was like to live in a make-shift cabin and travel by covered wagon.

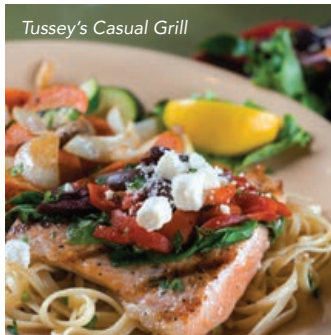


Florence Mill



Mouth of the South

A bit north is the Florence Mill, constructed in 1846 as Mormon pioneers made their westward trek. Today it is home to a non-profit Winter Quarters Mill Museum, ArtLoft gallery, and a Sunday farmers market. Open spring through fall.



Tussey's Casual Grill



Enzo's Italian

Fitting in the culinary theme of the rest of the city, the Florence neighborhood serves up major comfort food with local favorites such as Harold's Koffee House, Mouth of the South, Enzo's Italian, and Tussey's Casual Grill.

Find more things to do in North Omaha at VisitOmaha.com





OLD MARKET

WANDER IN AND OUT OF THE MANY BOUTIQUES AND GALLERIES THAT LINE THE COBBLESTONE STREETS OF OMAHA'S OLD MARKET ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.

Innovative restaurants, original steakhouses, local pubs, quaint cafés, and jazz clubs make the historic Old Market a great stop when visiting Omaha.

Back in the 1880s, Omaha was railroad central and served as the gateway from the settled East to the wild, wide-open West. The Old Market and its red-brick warehouses and cobblestone streets were the epicenter of activity, bustling with produce dealers, buyers and traders. All of that changed in the late 1950s when the area was threatened with building condemnation. But Sam Mercer, the son of a prominent physician and landowner, wanted to renovate the old buildings for new uses. At the time, Mercer's idea was said to be foolish; today he is considered a visionary. See a true merging of old and new, like a brew pub inside the 1903 firehouse and a contemporary art center inside a former grocery warehouse. This lively 20-square block area is uniquely Omaha and filled with nostalgia and innovation.

Tip: The majority of downtown Omaha hotels are within walking distance of the Old Market and also offer complimentary shuttle service to and from the Old Market.





Old Market Candy Shop

FUN THINGS TO FIND IN THE OLD MARKET

Mud Balls: Find these delicious chocolate covered cookie and cream cheese truffles at the Old Market Candy Shop. We dare you to eat just one.

Pez: One of the largest collections of Pez candy dispensers known to man can be found at Hollywood Candy.

Carriage Rides: Take a nostalgic ride in and around the Old Market on a horse-drawn carriage. Rides range from 10 minutes to one hour.

Cheesecake by the Inch: Turtle Fudge, Cherry, and Key Lime – these are just a few of the fabulous flavors of cheesecake you can order by the inch at Wheatfields Eatery & Bakery.

Christmas 24/7: Check out Tannenbaum Christmas Shop, where it's Christmas all year long.

Best Bacon Ever: The Diner serves up bacon that is cooked with a special brown sugar glaze – again, we dare you to eat just one...slice.

Live Entertainment: Street musicians and artists add to the Old Market experience. Enjoy the ambience while scoping out boutiques or sipping a drink on the patio. Speaking of patios...

Outdoor Dining: Several Old Market restaurants offer outdoor seating options. Soak up the sun, music and atmosphere.

Off the Wall: City Limits is filled wall-to-wall with over-the-top cards, funky gifts, and an entire corner dedicated to weird flavored products (like pickle flavored gum or bacon flavored gummies).

Real Ice Cream: Find the most unique ice cream flavors at Ted & Wally's, where they make premium ice cream from scratch. Yes, they have vanilla and chocolate, but you may also find Jalapeño Cream Cheese or Cosmo Coffee Crunch – it all depends on the ice cream maker's mood.



Carriage Rides



The Diner



Upstream Brewing Co.



Ted and Wally's

SOUTH OMAHA

FOR MORE THAN 125 YEARS, SOUTH OMAHA HAS BEEN HOME TO ETHNIC CULTURES FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE. THAT RICH HISTORY LIVES ON THROUGH THE FOOD AND CULTURE OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.



El Museo Latino

At the heart of South Omaha is Historic South 24th Street, filled with Mexican tradition. From hand-painted murals on the buildings to the folk art and shops, South Omaha offers delicious culture on every corner.

El Museo Latino celebrates the area's rich diversity with educational exhibits and programs. Special events include performances by "CHOMARI" Ballet Folklorico Mexicano. The Apollon is Omaha's multi-genre arts and entertainment venue. Find locally produced art exhibits, improv shows, and "Drink 'n Draw" classes. Don't miss the themed, interactive dinners allowing the audience to get into character and join in the fun.



The Apollon

Dozens of family-owned restaurants line the intricately tiled sidewalks, each offering their own distinct and authentic flavor. Enjoy savory slow-cooked chicken enchiladas, fiery roasted jalapeños, and carne asada (thinly sliced steak, marinated and grilled; it will melt in your mouth). Grab a Yo-Yo (a traditional Latino pastry) at the International Bakery. Don't forget about margaritas; El Alamo, Gauca Maya and Howard's Charro Café are known for serving up a delicious cocktail.



Howard's Charro Café





International Bakery

South Omaha also serves up old-world family recipes such as Lithuanian tortes at Lithuanian Bakery. Since the 1930s, Joe Tess has been a South Omaha staple serving quality fresh fish, and has been featured on the Food Network's *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*. A local favorite is the Ethnic Sandwich Shop, which features homemade Italian food fast. Don't let the hole-in-the-wall ambience fool you; the meatball sub and Italian sausage sandwich will have you coming back for more.



Cinco de Mayo



Tree of Life

Find more things to do in South Omaha at VisitOmaha.com



LODGING

WITH MORE THAN 14,000 HOTEL ROOMS IN THE OMAHA METRO AREA, THERE ARE A VARIETY OF OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR STAY.

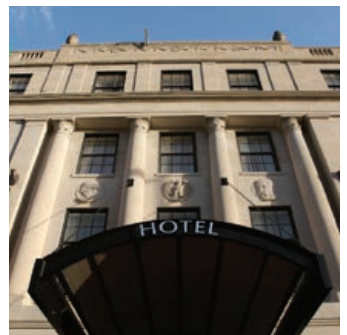
From boutique hotels and Four Diamond properties to water parks and suite-style lodging, Omaha offers comfort and class along with a heavy dose of hospitality. Wherever you stay, you'll find restaurants, shopping, and fun things to do conveniently located nearby.

For a full list of Omaha hotels go to VisitOmaha.com

Here's a helpful tip: Check out the Book A Room section on VisitOmaha.com. You can search a variety of Omaha hotel options all at once and book directly with the hotel of your choice. You can also view hotel availability two months at a time and compare rates surrounding your selected dates.

[BOOK A ROOM](#)

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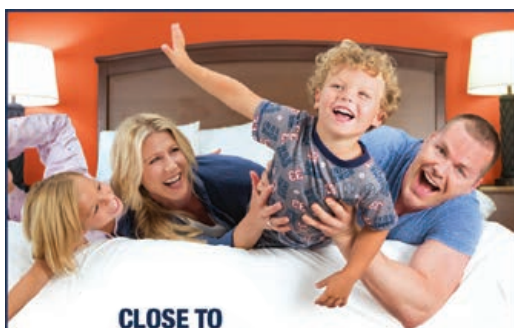
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NEBRASKALand Magazine/Nebraska Game and Parks

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WAKE UP AT 4:55AM ALARM CLOCK,
TO A BUZZING GOING OFF SINCE 4:30
THAT'S BEEN QUICKLY, WITH SQUINTY EYES
SHOWER AND A CLOUDED MIND. PACK YOUR
AND A FRANTICALLY. SPEED
CLOTHES OFF IN YOUR CAR. MANAGE
TO HIT EVERY
SINGLE RED LIGHT
ON THE WAY.
ARRIVE AT AN INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT. PRINT YOUR TICKET. ENTER AN
EXTENSIVE SECURITY LINE. WONDER WITH
INCREASING ANXIETY, WHETHER **OR**
NOT YOU CAN STILL MAKE YOUR FLIGHT.
CARRY ALL YOUR LUGGAGE WITH ONE
ARM BECAUSE THE OTHER IS STILL
VERY SORE FROM THE SIX VACCINATION SHOTS
YOU RECEIVED YESTERDAY. TAKE A
SHUTTLE TO YOUR GATE. MAKE IT **JUST**
AND 8,000 MILES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.
REFRAIN FROM EATING LUNCH ON THE PLANE DUE TO
EXCESSIVE TURBULANCE, AND THE NAUSEATING REMINDER
ON THAT YOU'VE SPENT MORE THAN HALF YOUR LIFE SAYINGS
TERRAIN EXPEDITION. LAND IN THE MUGGY
DESIGNATED SOUTH AFRICA. SLEEP. WAKE UP. **GO** TO YOUR
STOP IN THE MIDDLE OF A SCORCHING SAVANNAH. SWEAT PROFUSELY.
DESIGNATED SAFARI GUIDE. RIDE THREE HOURS IN A JANKY TOPLESS JEEP.
GAZE OUT INTO THE DISTANCE AND FINALLY RECOGNIZE THE ROUND
YELLOW SHAPE OF A LION. REALIZE AFTER EVERYTHING,
THIS IS ALL YOUR TRIP HAS
AMOUNTED **TO...**



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