

Odyssey Through Nebraska
The Adventure of Exploring “The Good Life” State with Your Family

Deuteronomy 4:9 “Do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and your children’s children.”

“You are our living link to the past. Tell your grandchildren the story of the struggles waged, at home and abroad. Of sacrifices made for freedom’s sake. And tell them your own story as well – because (everybody) has a story to tell.” George H.W. Bush State of Union Address 1990

“The history of every country begins in the heart of a man or a woman.” Willa Cather
How Nebraska Came to Be: Traders, Missionaries, Pioneers, slavery, Brawls, Railroad, Mosquitoes & Ice Cream: Unexpected Combinations of Those Who Called Our State Home (Nebraska textbook by Jean Lukesh)
Historical marker texts can be found online: perfect when traveling along the roads with sleeping children.
Nebraska's Sequentennial (www.toddwilliamsfineart.com/legacy-of-nebraska/)

“A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.” (Juliet) William Shakespeare
Perkey’s Nebraska Place Names: Kearney, Lilac (127), Wahoo , York, Turnip, Delight (45); Sunlight/Eagle

“When one is traveling, one must expect to spend a certain amount of money foolishly.” - Robertson Davies
Reciprocal Memberships (Edgerton/OCM/Morrill Hall)www.astc.org; zoos; Nebraska State Museums

The best things in life are free! B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch) & Kids Eat Free
Timing is everything: off season and knowing when to go (free days)

Incentive programs: <http://www.negpp.org> (Nebraska Great Park Pursuit)
<http://www.nebraskapassport.com/> Photo contests
<http://www.lincoln.org> (Be a Tourist); Passport Program: Lincoln fun pass

“Be it ever so humble, there’s no place like home.” Edwin Guest
Delays & Disappointments: Open hours (No M), sunscreen, bug spray, batteries, attire, first aid kit & tp

Festivals and celebrations:
O’Neil (St. Patrick’s Day)| Stromsburg (Swedish); Norfolk (German); Loup City (Polish)
Czech Festivals: Clarkson and Wilber (www.visitnebraska.org: search festivals)

Nebraska Byways: www.visitnebraska.org: /golldrush & /westerntrails;
www.bridgestobuttes.com, www.heritagehighway136.com;
<http://lewisandclarkscenicbyway.com> www.lincolnhighwaynebraskabyway.com;
www.loupriversscenicbyway.org; www.nebraskaoutlawtrail.org;

=\$Admission charged PP=Park Permit RCP=reciprocal # Seasonal

Lewis & Clark

"This is an undertaking fraught with many difficulties. But my friend I do assure you that no man lives with whom I would prefer to undertake such a trip as yourself." William Clark to Meriwether Lewis, 7-18-1803

Lewis & Clark Visitor's Center – interactive – Crofton/Yankton PP

Albion: http://www.prairieplains.org/olson_nature_preserve.htm TRIBAL AREAS

Bancroft: <http://www.neihardtcenter.org> Neihardt Day Columbus: [Pawnee Plunge Water Park](#)

Neligh: www.jailmuseum.net; www.nebraskahistory.org/sites/mill/ (Neligh Mill) NSHS

Niobrara: www.nps.gov/niob (also Smith Falls State Park) PP www.nebraskaelktours.com

Norfolk: www.elkhornvalleymuseum.org (Children's discovery zone) \$ [AquaVenture](#) \$; passes

Plainview: www.klowndollmuseum.com # (call) Royal: <http://ashfall.unl.edu/> PP \$ # RCP

Sandhills

"In the sandhill country, where the going was tougher, leaner and lonelier, and the folklore, tougher, fatter and more plentiful, history may be retraced in the amusements of the people." WPA Guide to Nebraska '39

Broken Bow: www.boneyardcreationmuseum.org & www.brokenbow-ne.com ; Prairie Grounds

Burwell: www.forthartsuff.org AND www.visitburwell.org/ (Nebraska's big rodeo)

Callaway <http://www.callawaykiteflight.com/> Ericson: <http://www.get-tanked.com>

www.sandhillsjourney.com Nebraska National Forest: Bessey Ranger District

www.nebraskabaseballmuseum.com (St. Paul) www.dannebrognebraska.org

www.happyjackchalkmine.org/ www.visitvalentine.org (Old West Days in October)

Panhandle (Seasonal)

"I have used the simplest words possible, hoping by idiom and figures & the under-lying rhythm pattern to say some of the things of the Indian for which there are no white-man words, suggest something of his innate nature, something of his relationship to the earth & the sky & all that is between." Mari Sandoz

Alliance: <http://carhenge.com/>; <http://www.dobbysfrontiertown.com/Tour.html>

Bayard: <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/sites/rock/> Chimney Rock – kids free;\$

Chadron: www.furtrade.org/ \$; [Chadron State Park](#) PP;

www.sandozcenter.com/ ; [High Plains Herbarium](#)

Crawford: [Toadstool Geologic Park](#); [Hudson-Meng Bison Boneyard](#) \$ (field trip prices)

www.outdoornebraska.ne.gov/parks/guides/parksearch/showpark.asp?Area_No=77 Fort Robinson; PP;

<http://trailside.unl.edu/index.html> RCP; \$; www.highplainshomestead.com; Smiley Canyon

Gering: <http://www.visitgering.com> Scotts Bluff National Monument: 5 Rocks Amphitheater;

Legacy of Plains Museum; Robidoux 1851 Trading Post; Wildcat Hills State Recreational Center

Gordon: www.gordonchamber.com/visitor-guide: Seasonal: Scamahorn Museum, Cowboy Memorial;

Hay Springs Heritage Center; Bowring Ranch; 1890 Armstrong House; Anytime: Sandoz Trail

Harrison: Agate Fossil Beds: www.nps.gov/agfo/index.htm PP: [Sioux County Historical Museum](#)

Lewellen: www.themostunlikelyplace.com (art/skates); [Ash Hollow State Park](#) PP

Scottsbluff: Monument: www.nps.gov/scbl/; <http://riversidediscoverycenter.org> zoo;

<http://nebraskarts.com> Midwest Theater – both cinema and live performances; historic

(Fort) Sidney Complex; www.pxmonument.org/ Pony Express

<http://rickyandlucysgreenhouse.com/> [On Facebook](#)

Prarie Lakes

"I think we ought to take the world as it is & not as we would like to have it." Senator George W. Norris
Brady: <http://potterspasturemtb.blogspot.com/> Miles of mountain biking trails (cows)
Maxwell: <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/ftmcpherson.asp> Fort McPherson Cemetery
McCook: <http://www.gotomccook.com/exploring-history/historical-attractions> Museum of the High Plains; George Norris <http://nebraskahistory.org/sites/norris/index.htm> \$ or RCP
North Platte: <http://visitnorthplatte.com/> Buffalo Bill State Park: PP; www.fortcody.com
www.goldenspiketower.com/ (Railfest) www.lincolncountymuseum.org/ Canteen
Ogallala www.outdoornebraska.ne.gov/parks/guides/parksearch/addons/lakemac PP
www.ogallalafontstreet.com/Ogallala.htm # Mansion on Hill; Boot Hill & Keystone Church
Trenton: www.hitchcockcountysheriff.org/photo4.html Monuments (Massacre Canyon: Pawnee & Sioux)

Frontier Trails

"There was nothing but land; not a country at all, but the material out of which countries are made." Cather

Cozad: www.roberthenrimuseum.org/ A work of art is the trace of a magnificent struggle.
Gothenburg: <http://www.gothenburgdelivers.com/play/visitor-information/attractions/>
(Sod House Museum, Pony Express Station, Swedish Crosses and Gothenburg Museum- Free)
Grand Island: Crane Trust Nature & Visitor Center <http://www.nebraskanature.org>
Stuhr Museum www.stuhrmuseum.org/educational/hats-classes/educational-resources/
Hastings: www.hastingsmuseum.org (Kool-aid; www.cmocn.org Children's Museum (littles)
Kearney: kearneychildrensmuseum.org Fort Kearny vs. [Fort Kearny Museum](http://FortKearnyMuseum.com) FB Arch
Minden: www.pioneervillage.org/ Red Cloud: www.willacather.org/visit-red-cloud/area-attractions

Pioneer Country

"For can you think how it would be, to never, never hear a meadow lark sing again...?" Bess Streeter Aldrich

Aurora: www.edgerton.org (HS Science) \$ RCP; www.plainsmanmuseum.org Susan's Books
Beatrice: www.nps.gov/home/index.htm (Homestead) Jr. Ranger [Gage County Museum](http://GageCountyMuseum.com) FB
Brownville: <http://brownvillehistoricalsociety.com> # (Old Time Autumn) www.lewisdredge.org
<http://brownvilleresaurant.com/> (The Lyceum bookstore inside) www.river-inn-resort.com/
David City: [Aquatic Center](http://AquaticCenter.com)# <http://bonecreek.org/> (Agrarian Art)
Fairbury: www.fairbury.com/pages/history/depot.html Rock Creek Station State Historical Park
Falls City: www.fallscitynebraska.org/tourism-recreation/recreation/museumshistorical/
Henderson: <http://hendersonheritage.wordpress.com/> Mennonite Heritage Park
Nebraska City: www.nebraskacity.com/nctc/nctc.aspx \$ all: Arbor Day Adventures PP \$: River County
Nature Center \$; Lewis & Clark Center; John Brown's Cave (Underground RR;)
Pawnee City: www.pawneecountyhistory.com/pchsm/ 22 buildings; salt; #; Donation?
Schubert: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Indian-Cave-State-Park/104364946262304> PP
Steele City: www.fairbury.com/pages/history/steele_city.html Living History Week-ends
Wilber: www.wilberchamberofcommerce.com Tour the town for day (includes kolaches)
York: www.leeslegendarymarbles.com/ Wessels: www.livinghistoryfarm.org/ \$ (decades –farm)

Metro

“Without God at the beginning, there can be only confusion at the end.” Father Flanagan

Ashland: www.sasmuseum.com Strategic Air & Space: field trips! [60 Days of Science](#)
Mahoney State Park: outdoornebraska.gov/parks/park_pages/Mahoney_SP/ activities
Denton: <http://springcreekprairie.audubon.org/> backpacks; \$ or free Tuesdays (pioneers)
Lincoln: (discounts/free visits) www.lincolnzoo.org RCP www.rollerskatingmuseum.com
American Historical Society of Germans from Russia: <http://ahsgr.org> (# Outside)
<http://www.lincolnchildrensmuseum.org>: no daycare days; camps; \$; <http://luxcenter.org/>
<http://nebraskahistory.org/index.shtml> Spring 2016 Investigation Stations/ Family days/Story
<http://capitol.org/> (tours) Indoors & Out <http://www.governorsresidence.ne.gov> Thurs./days
Kennard House nebraskahistory.org/sites/kennard/index.htm appointment [Fairview](#)
Omaha www.boystown.org/about/visit-the-village Hall of History; Garden of the Bible
www.durhammuseum.org/ Education memberships; workshops; trains; Christmas; \$
www.ioslyn.org/ story adventures; fun days; art packs; Free but Stroller Tour costs
www.historicflorence.org/attractions.php winter qtrs. Buildings; General Crook House
www.lauritzengardens.org family workshops; discovery bags; \$; Free Garden Day; Poinsettias
<http://lovesjazzartcenter.org/about/> Programs for groups seem interesting (\$)
www.nebraskajhs.com/ Jewish Historical museum www.elmuseolatino.org/info.html \$
www.ocm.org/ Omaha Children’s Museum: \$, RCP; groups; events; K readiness; Tues.
www.omahazoo.com RCP (1/2 price); Educational programs; daily animal encounters
www.rosetheater.org/ field trips; before/after acting; downloadable study guides; \$
Weeping Water: weepingwaterhistory.orgp (4 historical buildings)

Last recommendations:

Subscriptions to [Nebraska Life](#) magazine or [Nebraskaland](#) (Game & Parks)
www.visitnebraska.org Great online search engine (by date or by event)

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“Art, like Nebraska, is a journey into thin air, a walk into whiteness, where you lose everything but yourself.” Acocella