# OMAHA VISITORS GUIDE INSIDER TIPS ON THINGS TO DO IN OMAHA





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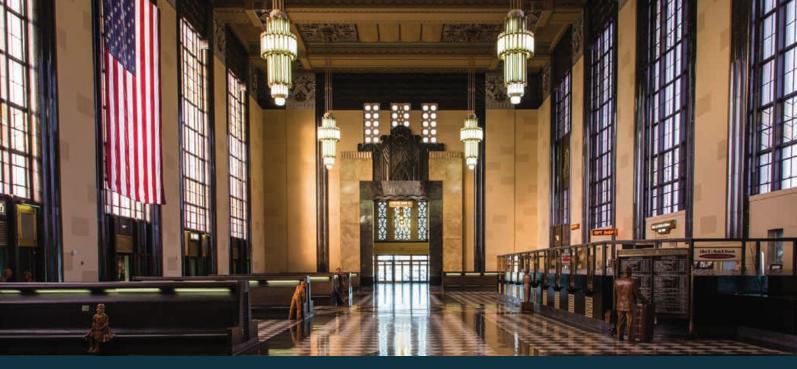


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# EXPLORE OMAHA'S UNION STATION

A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



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**Cherished** Memories





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### Meet me in Midtown.



Just minutes from downtown



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# VisitOmaha.com

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Omaha shares valuable information to help visitors build a jam-packed itinerary filled with memorable experiences. Go to VisitOmaha.com and sign up to receive information on events, attractions, and special offers. Also, follow us

on social media for the most up-to-date news.

We'd love to hear from you; share your Omaha experiences with **#OmahaWeekend**.

As Omaha's official tourism authority, Visit

@VisitOmaha @BobTBridge @OmahaRestaurantWeek

**CONNECT WITH US** 











#### ON THE COVER:

Special thanks to these visitors for sharing their Omaha memories with us on Instagram.



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@dan\_hoppen
@brittanynicole2.0
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@jasmynisgood

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#### **GETTING AROUND OMAHA**

Omaha city streets are set up on a grid system and are easy to navigate. Dodge Street divides the city between north and south, and numbered streets start at the Missouri River and increase as you travel west. Taxis, zTrip, Ubers and Lyfts are available throughout the city. Many Omaha hotels offer complimentary direct shuttle service to and from the airport and within a specific mile radius of their property.



#### OMA (OMAHA'S AIRPORT)

Omaha's airport serves more than 5 million passengers a year and offers non-stop service to more than 30 of the nation's largest airports. Getting in and out of the airport is quick and easy, and you'll find the convenience doesn't end there. The airport is located 4 miles from downtown, so if you're renting a car, taking a cab, or hopping in an Uber, it will take you less than 10 minutes to arrive at the hub of the city. If you're departing from OMA, plan on arriving at least 90 minutes before your departure time. This will ensure you have sufficient time to check-in at the airline ticket counter and proceed through the security checkpoint. Food service is available beyond the checkpoints. Safety is a top priority and the airport uses strict sanitation protocol to ensure all travelers enjoy a healthy environment. Learn more at #TravelSafeOMA.



#### FINDING A HOTEL

With more than 15,000 hotel rooms in the Omaha area, there are a variety of options for your stay. Check out the PLAN YOUR STAY feature on VisitOmaha.com where 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** 

**BOOK** » DIRECT

### WELCOME TO OMAHA



#### We're Open!

After an unexpected pause created by the pandemic, it's time to Visit Omaha!

We're ready for weekend getaways, sports tournaments, concerts, summer festivals and winter recreation; all the events and attractions that make Omaha such a great destination.

Where else can you visit the world's largest indoor rain forest and desert dome? See the

championship game of the College World Series? Find OMAR the Troll guarding the entrance to a pedestrian bridge that links two states in one small step? Only Omaha.

We're ready to renew friendships, reconvene meetings, and host family reunions.

We're open and we're ready to help you plan your next visit to Omaha.

Tea Stocket

Jean Stothert Mayor, City of Omaha



#### **OMAHA'S BILLION DOLLAR MAKEOVER**

Omaha is on the move with more than \$4.6 billion in new development happening throughout the city. This includes: new entertainment districts; a \$101 million science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) center; and a \$300 million transformation of the downtown riverfront area.





**DISTANCE BETWEEN OMAHA'S AIRPORT** AND DOWNTOWN

Many Omaha hotels offer complimentary shuttle service directly to and from their properties

**NON-STOP AIRLINE SERVICE TO** 

### 30+ MAJOR **AIRPORTS**





Omaha Metro Population: Just under

### **MILLION**



Highs in the mid 60's Spring:

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

**SMOKE-FREE BARS** AND RESTAURANTS

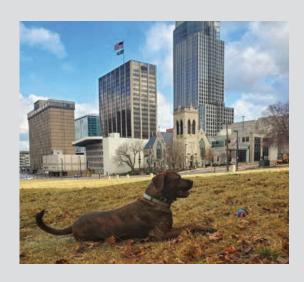
**BARS CLOSE AT 2AM** 



306 South 10th Street (in the Old Market District) • 402-444-7762

Stop in the Omaha Visitors Center in the heart of downtown and speak with friendly Omaha experts who will help customize your Omaha experience. Learn about OMAR the Troll, find out how you can receive a free souvenir beer tasting glass, and win a "Bob the Bridge" T-shirt. Whether you're looking for maps, something unique to do, or trying to figure out where to eat, the Omaha Visitors Center is the place to start. Complimentary Wi-Fi available. Flying in? You will also find helpful information at the two Visitor Information kiosks located at the airport.





#### **PETS WELCOME**

#### BECAUSE YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIEND NEEDS A GETAWAY TOO

Travel and pets go hand-in-hand for millions of travelers, and Omaha makes visiting with your trusty companion easy. Here's inspiration on making your trip with your pet smoother – and maybe even more memorable.

AAA Four-Diamond Hotel Deco welcomes furry friends, where they are greeted at the front desk with a sign and water bowl. Other hotels where pets receive exceptional service include Magnolia Hotel, EVEN Hotel and more. For a full list of pet-friendly hotels, go to VisitOmaha.com/hotels/pet-friendly-hotels.

#### PET-CENTRIC EVENTS

Woofstock at Midtown Crossing and Turner Park brings pets and their humans together for an energetic day including a pup-up dog park, live DJ, pop-up shops, outdoor games and more. Treat your pup to a pleasant walk through the gardens during Leashes at Lauritzen select evenings at Lauritzen Gardens. Junkstock is a biannual multi-weekend event over one or two weekends in spring and fall that welcomes well behaved, leashed dogs with open arms.

The Paw Spa Pet Resort offers a full list of treatments, from a Full Pawdicure to Oxy Fresh Dental scrub. Drop your pooch off for pampering and choose to have them wait while you do a pet-free activity. The centrallylocated **Dewey Dog Park**, open all year, features an agility course, running water and a splash pad (in warmer weather), a self-cleaning synthetic turf, chairs, benches and canopies. Wag offers typical grooming services for dogs and cats, with indulgent experiences including a Blueberry Facial Scrub and Calming Aromatherapy. The Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, or Bob, welcomes humans and pets alike. Friendly reminder: pick up after your four-legged friend.

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

Omaha's dog bar Barks and Brews offers socializing fun for both human and canine. Humans can order from a bar while their four-legged friends can enjoy a dog beer and DogGurt before heading off to play. Your pooch is welcome at **Benson Brewery's** biergarten complete with a water station for dogs and batches of dog treats made in-house from grain left over from brewing Dogs are welcome at restaurant patios all over the city, including at Nite Owl and Finicky Frank's.

Tip: Don't have a pet to bring but want some pet cuddles? Pet cats and enjoy coffee at Felius, Omaha's cat café.

### WE'VE GOT YOUR FUN MAPPED OUT

Use this map to explore your options, then look for the giant blue map pins located at top Omaha attractions.

- Bemis/KANEKO: Ever-changing, always-impressive art exhibitions are the foundation of this edgy, urban corner in downtown Omaha.
- 2 Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge: Meet Bob, a 3,000 ft. long pedestrian bridge with personality. Bob offers a spectacular view of Omaha's skyline and a chance to stand in two states at the same time
- 3 Boys Town: This well-known landmark is a national treasure, featuring an expansive campus with a museum, historic chapel, gardens and a world-renowned youth care program.
- The Durham Museum: Both a museum and meticulously preserved Art Deco train station, explore passenger train cars, visit an old-time school house or grab a soda at the old-fashioned phosphate bar.
- 5 El Museo Latino: The first Latino art and history museum in the Midwest. This cozy, culturally intensive establishment is as authentic as the restaurants and shops surrounding it.
- Film Streams: An intimate art house cinema experience. Enjoy film as an art form at this distinctive theater located in the emerging North Downtown entertainment district.
- Heartland of America Park: Currently under construction as part of Omaha's \$300 million riverfront revitalization project, offering visitors a dazzling waterfront experience. (Scheduled to reopen in 2024)
- 8 Hot Shops Art Center: Witness cutting-edge art in a unique warehouse atmosphere. More than 80 art studios are open to the public to watch, learn and buy distinctive works of art.
- 9 Joslyn Art Museum: Enjoy free admission to this pink marble masterpiece filled with rare works of art from Monet, Chihuly, Rembrandt and more. Inside, kids will enjoy Art Works, a space designed especially for them. (Closed for renovations beginning Spring of 2022)
- 10 Lauritzen Gardens: Discover 100 acres of botanical beauty at this living museum nestled in the riverfront hills. More than 20 themed gardens and an indoor conservatory make this a year-round experience.
- North 24th Street: Explore the historic neighborhood known for celebrating music and African American arts. Catch the heritage of jazz in a district where Ellington, Basie, and others once played.
- Mormon Trail Center: Experience firsthand the great Mormon Migration of 1846-47. Explore a pioneer cabin, pull a handcart, and see a full-sized covered wagon drawn by an oxen team.
- 13 Old Market Entertainment District: Unique boutiques, antique emporiums, sweet shops, and more than 30 restaurants and pubs line the cobblestone streets of this lively, historic area.
- 14 Omaha Children's Museum: Specially designed with kids in mind, the museum features hands-on exhibits the whole family can enjoy, including the Super Gravitron ball machine, science center and more.
- 15 Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium: Consistently ranked as one of the "world's best," this is a can't-miss experience filled with animal encounters, an indoor rainforest, and the largest indoor desert in the world.





OMAHA IS A WELCOMING CITY WITH EXPERIENCES TO FIT EVERY INTEREST AND NEED. FROM OUR TOP ATTRACTIONS, EVENTS, AND LODGING — YOU'LL FIND A VARIETY OF ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS







**Download Omaha's Henry** Doorly Zoo & Aquarium's app Omaha Zoo 4 All. This free interactive app provides users of all ages, abilities and needs a new way to visit one of the world's best zoos.

# **ACCESSIBILITY**

Top Omaha attractions such as Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, The Durham Museum, Lauritzen Gardens and Joslyn Art Museum feature accessible exhibits, allow service animals, and offer wheelchair or motorized scooter rentals.

Autism Night at the Zoo is specifically designed to allow children and their families to explore the zoo with sensory-friendly activities and surroundings.

Omaha Children's Museum's entire building is accessible and wheelchair friendly. The museum features sensory-friendly experiences and events geared toward children with disabilities.

All events and concerts at CHI Health Center Omaha are ADA compliant with a wide variety of services including sign language, assistive listening devices, closed captioning, and accessible seating. Both theaters at the Omaha Community Playhouse are equipped with an infra-red sound system. Each year A Christmas Carol is presented as a shadowinterpreted performance.

Omaha's Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, or Bob for short, is accessible and wheelchair friendly. More accessible outdoor fun can be found at Benson Park, Pipal Park and the **ALLPLAY Complex and Water Park** at Seymour Smith Park.

For more information on accessible travel in Omaha go to VisitOmaha.com/accessible-travel







# MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES

#### **OMAHA'S DIVERSITY DESERVES THE SPOTLIGHT**

People from all over the world call Omaha home and have brought their experiences, cultures and cuisines for all to share. Minority-owned businesses can be found throughout the area, ranging from restaurants and attractions to boutiques and coffee shops.

Here are just a few of Omaha's minority-owned businesses, you'll find others sprinkled throughout the guide.

Mixins - Thai-style rolled ice cream made to order and topped with candy, syrups and more. Owned by Vandra Caldwell and Trishonna Helm.

**Selfie Spot** – a selfie museum with interactive backgrounds and lighting to help you create amazing selfies; owned by Aja Anderson.

El Dorado – Ignacio Ayala and family bring authentic Mexican seafood dishes to Omaha.

Kathmandu Momo Station - owned by Aagya Subedi, Rocky Shrestha, and Sagar Gurung, bringing authentic Nepalese street cuisine and Burmese ramen to Omaha.

The Union for Contemporary Art – founder Brigitte McQueen's innovative contemporary art forum strives to unite artists and the community to inspire positive social change.

STATUS - specializes in pre-loved luxury handbags, accessories and more. Owner Christi Ballard has a passion for fashionable goods and serving her customers. She certifies all pre-loved pieces through a third party, ensuring customers receive authentic luxury at great prices.









# PRIDE IN OMAHA

#### OMAHA IS A PEOPLE-FRIENDLY DESTINATION — FOR ALL PEOPLE

Omaha proudly welcomes you to be yourself and explore a city filled with unique experiences.

The LGBTQ+ community's safety is of the utmost importance, and the city strives to create an accepting and inclusive environment at all attractions, events, restaurants, and hotels.

Throughout the year, Omaha celebrates Pride with an array of special events including the Heartland Pride Parade and Festival. The massive celebration includes food trucks, live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and dance parties.

LGBTQ+ -owned and -friendly businesses are sprinkled throughout the city. **The Max** is one of the nation's top gay nightclubs, and **Flixx** is a video lounge with cabaret shows on select nights. Queerniverse Burlesque, Omaha's first Queer, Trans, Non-binary Person of Color-centric and queerinclusive burlesque troupe, hosts various shows throughout the year and you can follow along on Facebook.

Find more LGBTQ+ businesses and experiences at VisitOmaha.com.





### OMAHA'S SIGNATURE EVENTS

Omaha's calendar is packed with annual events that keep visitors coming back year after year. Browse below for a taste of all that's happening; event details may change, so head to VisitOmaha.com for the latest information.

#### **OMAHA FILM FESTIVAL**

Aksarben Cinema

Showcasing over 100 films from an average 1,000 annual entries.

#### **OMAHA FASHION WEEK**

March & August

Omaha Design Center The nation's fourth largest fashion event complete with runway shows and pop-up shopping.



#### JUNKSTOCK Spring and Fall Sycamore Farms

Shop vintage wares, unique antiques, and handmade artisan foods and goods at this seasonal weekend-long event.

#### **OMAHA BEER WEEK**

Various Locations

Ten beer-packed days of special events and beery celebrations.



#### THE INTERNATIONAL **OMAHA HORSE COMPETITION**

CHÍ Health Convention Center & Arena

World-class indoor horse jumping and dressage competition with shopping expo and educational fun for the entire family.

#### CINCO DE MAYO May

Historic South 24th St.

A vibrant family-friendly fiesta filled with authentic food, live music, colorful costumes, and a grand

#### **OMAHA SUMMER** ARTS FESTIVAL

June.

Aksarben Village

Outdoor event featuring 135 fine artists from across the country demonstrating and showcasing their work.

#### NCAA COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

1200 Mike Fahey St

Tailgate, watch the best in men's college baseball, and check out Fan Fest during this treasured annual event.



#### **HEARTLAND PRIDE** PARADE & FESTIVAL

Old Market District & Baxter Arena

Omaha's premier LGBTQ+ celebration for all-ages. Youth Pride is featured the first day, with Pride the second after a celebratory parade downtown.



#### September

CHI Health Convention Center & Arena

Fast-paced action as world champion cowboys compete for official entry into the National Finals Rodeo.



#### **RAILROAD DAYS**

Various Locations

Five area cultural attractions offer railroad-inspired fun at one special low price

#### MAHA MUSIC **FESTIVAL**

for families.

August Aksarben Village

Celebration featuring music from national and local acts, community activities, and more.



### **RIVER CITY RODEO**

#### **HOLIDAY LIGHTS FESTIVAL**

November - January Various Locations

Celebrate the holidays with twinkling light displays, family-focused events, and fireworks to ring in the New Year.



#### **CHRISTMAS AT UNION STATION**

November - January The Durham Museum

Take in the season thanks to the region's largest indoor holiday tree, visits from Santa, and more special programming.

#### **HOLIDAY POINSETTIA SHOW**

November – January Lauritzen Gardens

Thousands of vibrant poinsettias fill the floral display hall. Don't miss Bright Nights, when all is aglow in the gardens.

For a complete list of events happening in Omaha go to VisitOmaha.com





### FARNAM

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION®

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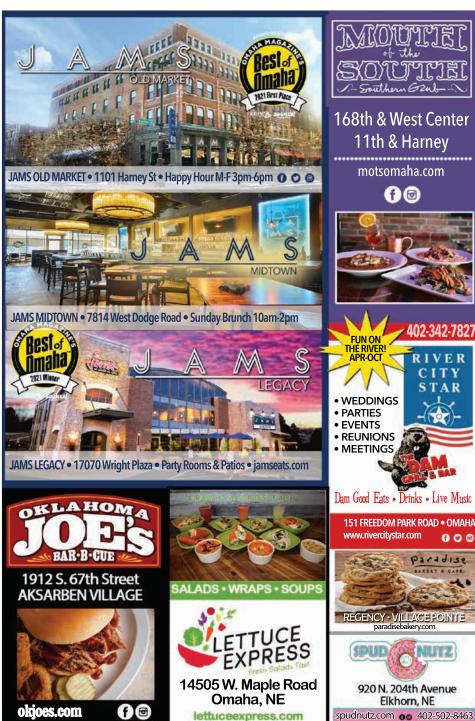
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### As brilliantly unexpected as the city that inspires it.

any other in Omaha. Here, in an atmosphere crafted by our spaces. Our Old Market District location is the heart and soul of Omaha business, culture and nightlife. We invite you Explore. Relax. Engage. Dream.









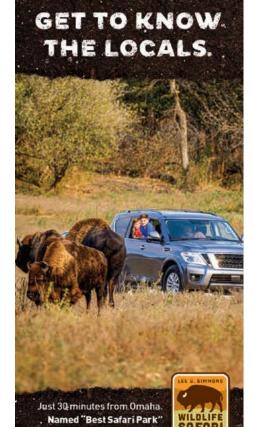
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Elkhorn, NE



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VisitOmaha.com/savingspack



by USA Today 10Best: Plan your visit at WildlifeSafariPark.com.

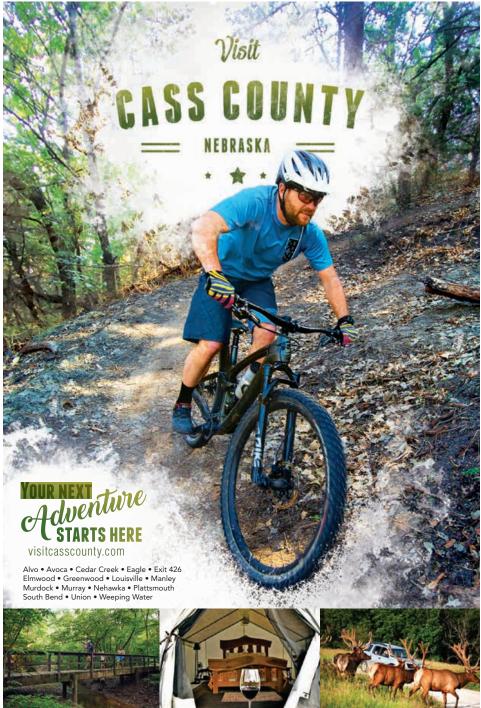


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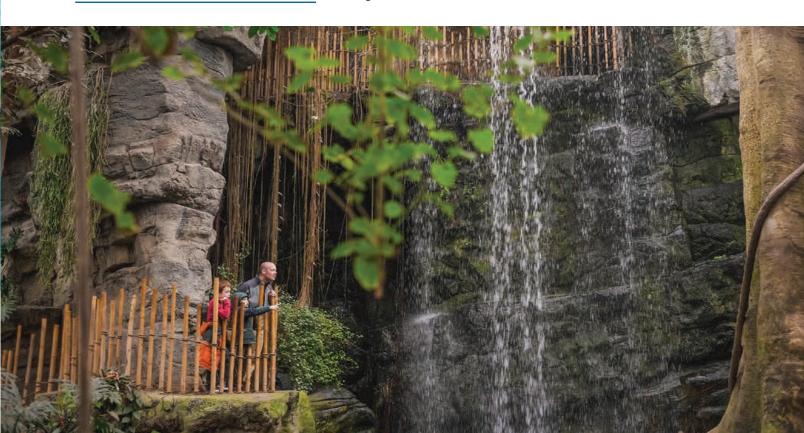
# VISIT ZOO CITY, USA



CONSISTENTLY RANKED
ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST
ZOOS, OMAHA'S HENRY
DOORLY ZOO & AQUARIUM
INVITES YOUR INNER
CHILD TO EXPLORE THE
WILD IN A YEAR-ROUND
ANIMAL KINGDOM

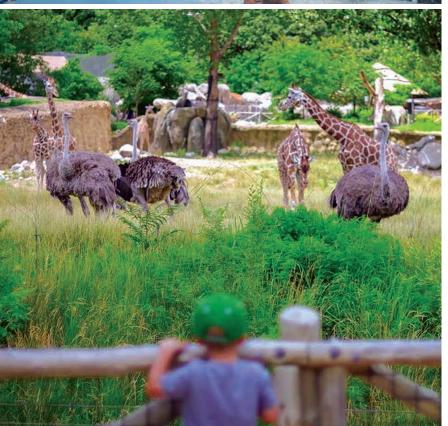
Spend a long weekend on an expedition through the world's largest indoor desert, under the world's largest geodesic dome, next to North America's largest indoor rainforest – just to name a few highlights.

The best part is every time you visit, you're helping the zoo make an impact across the globe. Omaha's zoo is working with more than 20 states and countries to ensure the zoo's resources extend far beyond the animals in its care. The zoo is: supporting anti-poaching efforts in Nigeria, Swaziland and China; planting more than two million trees in Madagascar to provide habitat for numerous species; rescuing and rehabilitating African penguins in South Africa and sloth bears in India; working to improve tiger conservation in the Russian Far East; and the list goes on and on.









OMAHA'S ZOO IS A FULLY IMMERSIVE ANIMAL WORLD JAM-PACKED WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE WITH WILDLIFE. BROWSE BELOW FOR A SNEAK PEEK AT WHAT'S WAITING AT THE WORLD'S BEST ZOO.

#### Alaskan Adventure

Kids will love this splash ground featuring 100 water jets and over 75 bronze sculptures of jumping salmon, puffins, sea lions, orcas and a tremendous 18-foot humpback whale.

#### **Asian Highlands**

Journey from the grasslands of Northern India through the Himalayan Mountains to the forests of northeastern China. Encounter red pandas, sloth bears, Amur tigers, snow leopards and Indian rhinos living among ancient ruins and canopy trees. Foggy Forest is a natural valley with mist blanketing the forest floor and includes a series of foot paths with several nature-based play opportunities, including boulders to climb and logs to cross. Most of the animals in Asian Highlands are cold tolerant, making it a year-round experience.

#### **Children's Adventure Trails**

This fully immersive outdoor experience is filled with climbing areas, raft races, waterfalls, and creeks and ponds that invite kids to jump in, stay cool, and hunt for treasure.

#### **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 a 30-foot tall sand dune containing 300 tons of red sand. Climbing in and around the cliffs are klipspringers, rock wallabies, bobcats and meerkats. Inside, enter Rattlesnake Canyon and encounter the world's largest indoor rattlesnake exhibit with 14 reptile species, including venomous snakes.

#### **Expedition Madagascar**

Home to some of the most amazing and unique animals such as the aye-aye lemur and the giant jumping rat.

#### **Hubbard Gorilla Valley**

A place where gorillas roam free and visitors are on display. This cutting-edge space allows Omaha to be a major player in gorilla conservation. In Orangutan Forest, listen to the call of these enchanting creatures as they play on two man-made banyan trees 65 feet in the air.

#### **Kingdoms of The Night**

Underneath the Desert 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 bat cave, and see the world's largest indoor swamp.







#### **Lied Jungle**

Hike through the nation's largest indoor rainforest with roaring waterfalls and swinging gibbons in a tropical environment that 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.

#### **Owen Sea Lion Shores**

Explore a 275-thousand gallon playground for sea lions, which includes a three-story waterfall and 40-foot long underwater viewing window perfect for nose-to-nose experiences. A natural beach area and rocks provide sunning sites for the animals. Omaha's zoo is home to the country's only pupping beach, which allows females to give birth on land and gradually introduce their pups to the water. There are hidden spaces just for children to crawl through to view the sea lions swimming and a sandy beach area with four small streams for kids to mix sand and water for playtime.

#### Suzanne and Walter Scott African Grasslands

Take a trip to Africa through this 28-acre outdoor experience featuring breathtaking panoramic views and long vistas teeming with African wildlife like white rhinos, cheetahs, lions and elephants. It includes North America's largest herd room featuring interactive guest and keeper areas. TIP: Ride the Skyfari for a spectacular unobstructed view of this exhibit.

#### **Suzanne and Walter Scott Aquarium**

Traverse 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.

#### **MORE ANIMAL ADVENTURES**

#### **Backstage Experiences**

See what it takes to care for a giant Pacific octopus, wander through the world's largest nocturnal exhibit with the lights on, get front row seats to feeding time for more than 300 free flying bats, and much more.

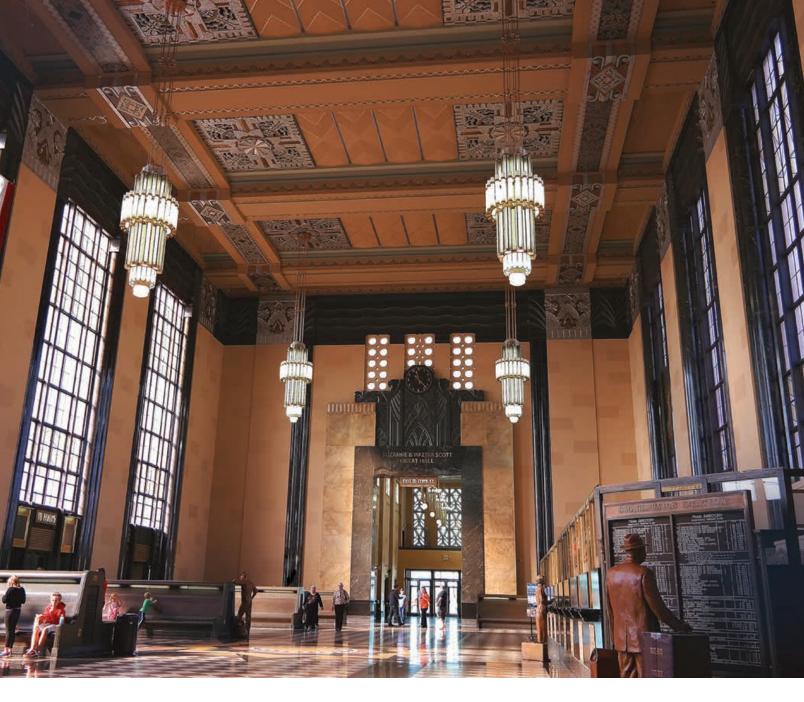
#### **Animal Encounters**

Omaha's Zoo gives visitors a variety of up close and personal animal experiences. The Dick and Mary Holland Meadowlark Theater allows 15 bird species to take center stage while demonstrating flight paths and specific behaviors. Visitors can stop at the Giraffe Encounter area for a rare chance to stand face-to-face with the world's tallest animals. (There's also an opportunity to feed the giraffes!) Stingray Beach invites visitors to come hand-to-fin with this aquatic creature. Touch, feed and interact with stingrays while interpreters answer all of your questions.

#### Lee G. Simmons Conservation Park & Wildlife Safari Park

The zoo adventure continues just west of Omaha at the Wildlife Safari Park, a four-mile drive-through nature adventure. Drive, hike and see animals in their natural habitats.





# THE DURHAM MUSEUM













#### WALKING INTO A MUSEUM CAN BE LIKE STEPPING INTO THE PAST AND THERE IS NO PLACE WHERE THAT IS TRUER THAN THE DURHAM MUSEUM

immediately swept back into the grandeur of the 1930s. The remarkable architecture is just part of the reason **The Durham Museum** was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2017. This treasured Omaha attraction is filled with an extraordinary array of permanent exhibits highlighting the region's history and a broad range of traveling exhibits. Visitors will experience restored train cars, 1940s store fronts, and an array of historical artifacts native to the region.

Enter the Great Hall and you're

Millions of people traveled by train through Omaha for the 40 years between 1931-1971. They stepped off the train to see what you'll marvel at today: classic art-deco style highlighted by terrazzo tile flooring, cathedral-like windows, and a ceiling of gold leaf design. Life-like bronze statues of couples, military men,

and children placed throughout come alive with stories of people who once passed through the train station.

Explore the lower level of the museum and experience Omaha's history through a variety of permanent exhibits. Learn how people traveled through the years, from covered wagons to passenger trains and streetcars. Discover the fascinating culture of the Omaha Native American Tribe by stepping into a rawhide tepee or sitting by the fire in a replica earth lodge. Peek into the home of blue-collar workers to experience the way families lived over 100 years ago. View some of the rarest coins and documents in the world in the Byron Reed Collection and walk through the Buffett Grocery Store, a replica of the original 1915 store operated by three generations of the storied Buffett family.

The model trains are popular with young and old alike. The train set represents Union Pacific's main line from Omaha to Ogden and has interactive features allowing visitors to lower the crossing guards and turn on the lights.

During your visit, take a break in the train station's original 1930s soda fountain. Enjoy an old-fashioned phosphate made with your favorite flavoring and soda water straight out of the fountain dispenser. Add hand-scooped ice cream to make a luscious ice cream float or order up a malt, shake or a delicious sundae. During lunch, they also serve up hot dogs, pulled-pork sandwiches and macaroni and cheese. If your sweet tooth needs a fix, visit the retro candy shop offering a variety of nostalgic, hard-to-find candies along with fresh popped popcorn.





### HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS

#### HISTORY COMES TO LIFE THROUGH A DIVERSE COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL EXPERIENCES

World-renowned **Boys Town,** a National Historic Landmark District, features chapels, statues and gardens, the Hall of History museum, Father Flanagan's House, and the visitors center - home to the world's largest ball of stamps. Take the QR code tour using your smartphone for instant access to info and media of top attractions throughout the campus. Free admission.

Military aircraft and aerospace artifacts are on display at the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum. This prized collection tells the story of a critical time in America's history with the Strategic Air Command's efforts to preserve peace during the Cold War. The Smithsonian affiliate is home to the nation's largest collection of Cold War aircraft and artifacts. Visitors will find 300,000 sq. ft. featuring missiles, an impressive collection of iconic aircraft, and spacecraft such as the Apollo Command Space module. Those looking for a little adventure will enjoy the flight simulator, and families can make discoveries about science, technology and physics at the Children's Learning Center.

As one of the first Latino art and history museums in the Midwest, El **Museo Latino**\* is located in history-rich, culturally diverse South Omaha. The intimate gallery offers temporary and permanent exhibits along with educational programming and a tradition of visual and performing arts. El Museo Latino organizes and presents special events throughout the year, including Cinco de Mayo in May and Hispanic Heritage Month in September.

With interactive exhibits, artwork and artifacts, experience what it was like to live as a Mormon pioneer during their westward migration to the Salt Lake Valley at the Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters. Guided tours are available or take a self-guided tour. Admission is free.

Get a glimpse into 19th century life at General Crook House Museum\*. View period costumes, furnishings and decorative arts. Guests are welcome to stroll the heirloom garden with more than 110 varieties of flowers and plants. Visit in November and December when this living history museum is decked out for the holidays. Audio tours available.

The 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 human rights activist Malcolm X\*. The 17-acre developing memorial features a visitor center, community garden, and plaza with a historical marker commemorating where Malcolm X first lived with his family.

Head to nearby Council Bluffs for hands-on fun at the Union Pacific Railroad Museum\*. The museum chronicles more than 150 years of American railroad history. Visitors will discover photographs and documents from the creation of the transcontinental railroad to a collection of artifacts from Abraham Lincoln's life and death. Reservations are required to visit.

\*Listed on the National Register of Historic Places















# JOSLYN ART MUSEUM

A PINK MARBLE MASTERPIECE **BOASTING OVER 11,000 WORKS** OF ART INSIDE AND OUT

Joslyn Art Museum is itself a work of art. Its building is one of the country's finest examples of Art Deco architecture, with some 38 marbles from around the world incorporated in its interior design.

Inside, large-scale works by Dale Chihuly on either end of the atrium offer a glimpse of all you'll see during your visit: memorable multi-dimensional





works of art. Permanent collections of art ranging from ancient times to the present display works by iconic artists Rembrandt, Monet, Degas, Pollock, Renoir and more, with traveling exhibitions cycling in and out throughout the year.

Visitors of all ages are invited to get creative at ART WORKS, a 1,500 sq. ft. interactive space with nine activity stations. Create your very own masterpieces, from stop-motion animated movies and hi-tech paintings to colorful 3D towers and take-home works of art. Wander outside to the garden galleries, like the colorful Discovery Garden complete with 20 artworks.

While you satisfy your appetite for art, feed 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 to commemorate your visit.

General admission is free; mobile and guided tours are available.



#### 2022 EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

Beginning in May 2022, Joslyn Art Museum will close to the public to continue construction on a brand new 42,000 square-foot pavilion, an addition that will feature light-filled galleries, new community spaces, and enhanced amenities. Outdoor spaces and public gardens will also be redesigned as part of this project. Because the museum will remain closed until the project's completion in 2024, we recommend you experience Joslyn Art Museum and its works of art before museum operations go on hiatus.



#### PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

ANCIENT - Antiquities from Egypt, Rome and Greece

EUROPEAN - Nineteenth century works of European art

AMERICAN - Paintings and furniture alongside sculpture and decorative arts

NATIVE AMERICAN - Historic works of art by native peoples of North America

ART OF THE AMERICAN WEST - Paintings, drawings and sculptures by artists and explorers of the American West

LATIN AMERICAN - Spanish colonial art from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries

POSTWAR & CONTEMPORARY - Paintings, sculpture, and digital projection by leading figures of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries

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

#### **MASTERPIECES**

CHIHULY: INSIDE & OUT by Dale Chihuly Colorful 30 ft.-tall glass sculpture made of over 2,000 hand blown glass pieces weighing 15,000 pounds

**GALAXY** by Jackson Pollock The artist's iconic 1947 canvas

LITTLE DANCER AGED FOURTEEN by Edgar Degas - One of two plaster casts made from the classic 1881 sculpture

THE MEADOW by Claude Monet Prime example of Impressionism art

PORTRAIT OF DIRCK VAN OS by Rembrandt Van Run - 1658 painting of the prominent Dutch citizen; restored and reintroduced in 2014

STONE CITY, IOWA by Grant Wood Superb example of Wood's work depicting small-town residents and Midwestern vistas

YOUNG GIRLS AT THE PIANO by Pierre Auguste Renoir - Painting depicting French family life in the late nineteenth century



#### FEAST YOUR EYES ON OMAHA'S ECLECTIC ART SCENE

Get ready to experience an expansive selection of public art and art-based museums and cultural centers, most with free admission.

Nebraska's premier art museum Joslyn Art Museum houses more than 11,000 works of art. Read more about Joslyn on page 28.



Sophisticated KANEKO is a cultural organization situated in three turn-of-the-century warehouses downtown. Founded by world renowned artist Jun Kaneko and wife Ree, the venue hosts innovative artists, exhibitions, performances, workshops and events which explore the creative process in a distinctive way. Across the street is Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts. Founded by artists for artists, Bemis provides an international residency program along with educational public programs and ever-changing art exhibitions featuring work from both new and established artists. The Union for Contemporary Art uses the arts as a vehicle to inspire positive social change. Their North Omaha location includes a gallery space, fellowship program, co-op studios, and community garden.





Local galleries make it easy to take home a piece of locallymade art. **Lewis Art Gallery** is the oldest and largest art gallery in Omaha, while the newer Gallery 1516 supports Nebraska and regional artists. Artists' Cooperative Fine Arts Gallery is an artist-run gallery, and Anderson O'Brien Fine Art promotes regional and national visual artists.

Stop in **Hot Shops Art Center** for an interactive art experience. Named for "hot shops" featuring glass blowing, pottery, and bronze casting, the 92,000 sq. ft. warehouse houses over 80 studio artists who welcome you to visit and explore. View evolving exhibitions, create your own masterpiece at a class or workshop, and attend one of their popular bi-annual open houses.

American flags line the entrance to the iconic white stone structure at Memorial Park. The 67-acre memorial honors men and women who have served in the armed forces, featuring numerous bronze statues honoring veterans and a garden filled with 1,000 rose bushes.

Colorful murals painted by local artists span the city. The South Omaha Mural Project includes murals celebrating the area's diverse communities, including Mexican, Native American, Irish, Mayan, and more. Millwork Commons' "Hope" mural speaks out against racial injustice, and just around the corner are shipping containers-turned-murals. See plenty more art in North Omaha, downtown, and Benson neighborhoods, to name a few.



### **INSTA-WORTHY PUBLIC ART**

**OMAHA WORKS OF ART** 

#### **FERTILE GROUND**

13th & Mike Fahey Sts. One of the country's largest public murals.



#### SPIRIT OF **NEBRASKA'S WILDNERNESS** and **PIONEER COURAGE PARKS**

101 S. 10th St. One of the world's largest collections of bronze and stainless steel featuring 123 pieces and installations.



#### **STILE DE FAMIGLIA** "FAMILY STYLE"

1115 S. 7th St. A 13-ft. fork in Omaha's historic Little Italy neighborhood.



#### **ILLUMINA**

CHI Health Convention Center & Arena A collection of six bronze larger-than-life circus performers.



#### "LOVE" MURAL

near 24th & Lake Sts. Created with love by New York City-based visual artist Cey Adams.



#### **OMAR THE TROLL**

**Bob Kerrey** Pedestrian Bridge Omaha's friendly troll greets friends under Bob the Bridge.









# Omaha Children's Museum is a 60,000 sq. ft. imagination station dedicated to providing families with fun, memorable experiences in a hands-on environment. Open year-round with a variety of permanent and temporary exhibits, kids are invited to explore, play and learn. A fan favorite is the enormous Super Gravitron ball machine. Families love to drop in a ball, guess where it will land, and track its path ... leading up to a massive ball drop! Hurry to add more balls to the center before it dumps them out all over again.

The Streck Science Showplace stuns little scientists with exciting demonstrations built around heat energy, exothermic reactions and combustion. The Amazing Bubble Show and the Whiz Bang Super Science Show feature the fizzle, pop and BANG as soda explodes and massive bubbles dance in the air. Museum staff provide DIY experiments, which mean the edu-play-tional fun can follow you home – the ultimate souvenir.

### FIND EDU-PLAY-TIONAL\* ADVENTURES AT ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP CHILDREN'S MUSEUMS

(\*We're working on the trademark)

#### THINGS TO KNOW

- See something new each visit thanks to two temporary exhibit spaces, one on each floor.
- Geared toward kids 3-10 years old, but all ages will be thoroughly entertained.
- A family resting room with tables, chairs and couches is available for quiet time.
- The Rainbow Café offers kid-friendly snacks on the second floor, and there's an accessible microwave in the dining area.
- An outdoor picnic area is available for families to take a break.
- The museum store offers science kits, games, books and more to keep learning at home.





#### **PERMANENT EXHIBITS**

S.T.E.A.M. is a new area featuring hands-on learning labs focused on science, technology, engineering, art and math.

Imagination Playground includes a kid-friendly hospital, bank, barn, firehouse, and grocery store.

Art Smart Center is a colorful space for painting, dancing and creating.

Charlie Campbell Science and Technology Center encourages curiosity, experimentation and tinkering.

OCM Zooland is a colorful zoo of climbable animals.

Sandy's Splish Splash Garden offers an outdoor splash pad.

Fantastic Future Me is where kids can combine interests and aspirations to create their future selves.

Walker Tire and Auto Service Center is a place for kids to work and play on cars.

Tinker Lab is a maker-space suited for young kids.







## **OMAHA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**





#### THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT ME, BOB

- I'm an outdoor enthusiast's dream come true and a Fitbit user's path to a successful 10,000 steps. You've heard of a 5k and a 10k, but what about a 0.9k? I'm 3,000 feet long, which is 0.9k in marathon terms. So walk across me, take a photo, and show it to my peeps at the Omaha Visitors Center to get an official marathon sticker. Put it on your car to be really cool.
- I'm not just a path to marathon glory, I'm also a magic trick! I curve over water by mere cables, which means I literally float over the Missouri River! No joke, you can actually feel me swaying in the wind while you walk over water. Sure, I've got two 210-feet-tall towers that keep me grounded, but seriously, I'm all MAGIC!
- Probably my coolest trick happens when you reach my midsection and "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 is called "Bobbing" - trust me, it's a thing. It's time for you to get in on the strike-snap-share movement!



- I'm a cheap date and literally have couples floating on air. I've seen a lot of engagements in my day ... I inspire romance.
- I'm online and you can reach me anytime! My handle on Twitter and Instagram is @BobTBridge, or you can holler at me with #ItHappensOnBob. I love when friends share photos of us together. Holding up the Tower of Pisa. Kissing the Blarney Stone. Walking on Bob. All selfie bucket-listers.
- My future is so bright, you gotta wear shades. Seriously, color-changing LED lights mean that I create a light show on the Mighty Mo.



Like many celebrities, I know what it's like to be "trolled." Full disclosure, my troll is great and has quickly become my truest, bluest friend (see what I did there?). He's OMAR the Troll, and you can meet him when you visit me - because we are kind of a package deal. While you walk on me, you can interact with OMAR through videos and find out how to "trollify" yourself. You can also pose with him and his super cool walking stick (but I will photo bomb!).





He's even got a book ... not sure how he became a published author before me ... but anyway, the book follows OMAR's adventures throughout Omaha while he searched for a new home. Spoiler alert: He lives here with me because everybody loves Bob. There's even a special place in the book to put a photo of your visit, making it a sweet souvenir. Go to BobtheBridge.com to learn how to get your copy of OMAR finds a home.











#### THEMED GARDENS

#### Children's Garden

Various paths lead to discovery in this whimsical space of bright colors, unique artwork, unusual plants, and special features like a toadstool residence that will spark kids' imaginations.

#### Japanese Park

Twenty-four carved stone lanterns guide you on the path to the Sunpu castle gate and replica of Mt. Fuji in this six-acre garden.

#### Marjorie K. Daugherty Conservatory

An all-seasons glass conservatory of 17,500 sq. ft. of gardens. Move from the tropical gardens with tall palms and vibrant flowers to the temperate gardens with moss-covered oak trees and azaleas. Surprises await at every turn, like a ten-foot waterfall, a spectacular overlook of the conservatory, and a pool with

#### Model Railroad Garden

G-scale model trains whir throughout a handcrafted all-natural garden peppered with reproductions of Omaha landmarks, natural landscapes, and rolling countrysides.

#### Song of the Lark Meadow

A true taste of the Midwest with beautiful wildflowers and other native Nebraska flowers and grasses.

#### Tree Peony Garden

Tribute to the Chinese tree peony, the national flower of China, with Asianinfluenced focal points like sculptures, benches, and meandering paths.

#### Rose Garden

Nearly 2,000 rose plants bloom first around the month of May, and again mid-September through frost, though the garden boasts colors all season long with other plantings. A collection of charming white trellises with climbing roses opens up to a large arbor area, a lovely setting for weddings and special events.

#### Victorian Garden

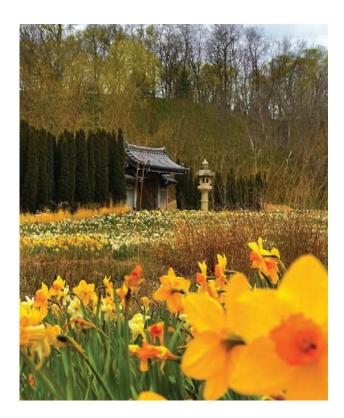
Perennial garden combining dramatic characteristics of both English and Victorian gardens featuring architectural artifacts from razed area buildings.

#### Woodland Waterfall

Nestled within a natural opening in the valley on the path to the other gardens, serenity awaits with a waterfall, two small ponds, and a charming sculpture of a boy holding a frog.

#### **AND MORE**

**Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary Arrival and Parking Gardens Conservation Discovery Garden English Perennial Border** Festival Garden Founders' Garden Garden in the Glen **Garden of Memories** Herb Garden **Spring Flowering Walk Woodland Trail** 



#### 100 ACRES OF BOTANICAL SPLENDOR

Immerse yourself in an urban oasis along Omaha's riverfront hills and marvel at seasonal plant displays in this tucked away sanctuary where nature is the brilliant, colorful star.

Twenty themed gardens help tell Lauritzen's story of botanical beauty; its conservatory, model trains, art exhibitions, and tram ride will enhance your garden experience. Plan your visit around annual events like the antiques show, autumn scavenger hunt, and holiday poinsettia show.

While you're there, ascend the stairs to Kenefick Park and be rewarded with magnificent sights: Union Pacific Railroad's Centennial No. 6900 and Big Boy 4023, two of the most powerful locomotives ever built, and a sweeping view of the Missouri River and Interstate 80 stretching toward the scenic Iowa Loess Hills.





# LAURITZEN GARDENS







Find your zen in Omaha while taking in the sights and sounds of the great Midwest outdoors. Plan for a variety of rejuvenating fresh-air experiences across the city thanks to miles of tree-lined walking and biking trails, eight area lakes and two rivers, forest hiking, and an array of parks, gardens, and green spaces.

#### **BIKING**

Omaha's trail system is called Paths of Discovery-each twist, each turn, winds through a different part of the city. More than 85 miles of paved interconnected trails invite walkers, joggers, bicyclists, skaters, and cross-country skiers. In Iowa, the Wabash Trace Nature Trail is a 63-mile rails-to-trails route stretching from southwest Iowa to northwest Missouri. Nearly 10 additional area trails, including those in Tranquility and Walnut Creek Parks, have dedicated trails for mountain biking.

No bike? No problem. Heartland B-Cycle is the area's bike sharing system with 300 classic bikes and 150 electric pedal assist bikes at over 70 stations across the Omaha metro.

#### **CAMPING AND GLAMPING**

Omaha campgrounds and RV parks are conveniently located near interstates, highways, and on the outskirts of the city near water. Each one promises a peaceful and picturesque way to spend the night. Glamping (or glamorous camping) is available at Lake Wanahoo, Eugene T. Mahoney State Park and Falconwood Park.

### HIKING

**Fontenelle Forest** is one of the largest privately-operated nature centers in the nation and listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. It encompasses 1,400 acres with 19 miles of trails of varying lengths and climbs, including a mile-long ADA accessible boardwalk. The Forest is home to more than 600 different species of animal and plant life and a wide range of ecosystems.

The Forest's **Raptor Wildlife Refuge** offers an up-close look at rescued hawks, owls, falcons and eagles 30 feet above the forest floor. Traverse a suspension bridge, take in a birds-eye view of the Forest, and see these amazing birds of prey in 13 customized mini raptor resorts called mews.

Embrace winter outdoors thanks to cold-weather fun like snowshoeing (shoes are available to rent) and guided winter night hikes.

**Neale Woods Nature Center**, operated by Fontenelle Forest, is a 600-acre nature preserve along the Missouri River. Its forest and hilltop prairies offer 9 miles of walking trails with scenic views.

**Hitchcock Nature Center** in lowa is a 1,200-acre preserve in the heart of lowa's Loess Hills that offers opportunities for hiking, birding, camping, and more Instagram-worthy pics.

## **BIRDWATCHING**

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 habitats, a variety of bird species can be found most any time of year. **Fontenelle Forest**, Omaha's lakes, and **Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge** are prime places to bring your binoculars.



















## **SEASONAL ADVENTURES**

**TreeRush Adventures at Fontenelle Forest** is an exhilarating way to experience the area. Visitors ages 4 to 94 can explore the old-growth forest from the treetops at this aerial amusement park suspended over 6 acres. After expert instruction, navigate suspended obstacles, bridges, rope ladders, tunnels and other surprises that make up the more than 100 challenges and 10 ziplines. Seven different trails are color-coded according to level of difficulty and are marked beginner to expert.

For pint-sized thrill seekers, there's **KidRush**. Ideal for kids ages 4 to 6 but fun for ages 7 and 8 too, this area is specially designed with smaller bodies in mind. The obstacles are only a few feet off the ground, allowing for a parent or guardian to walk alongside.

Find fun for the entire family in a lush setting at **Eugene T. Mahoney State Park**. Nestled along the Platte River, the 700-acre park offers warm weather activities like miniature golf and a driving range, tennis, horseback riding, hiking, paddle boating, and fishing, along with cold weather fun like cross-country skiing, sledding, tobogganing, ice skating, and ice fishing.

In the fall, the fun sprouts up throughout the city in the form of pumpkin patches. The biggest pumpkin in patchville is **Vala's Pumpkin Patch**, with 50 themed attractions, along with train and hayrack rides. Explore a 10-acre corn maze at **Skinny Bones Pumpkin Patch**, hide out in the huge tree house or life-sized pirate ships at the **Bellevue Berry Farm**, and enjoy karaoke on special nights at **Pioneer Trail Orchard**.

Thrill seekers head to **Mt. Crescent Ski Area** in the wintertime to hit the slopes reaching up to 2,400 feet in length; sledders, snowboarders and spectators are welcome.



## **LAKE AND RIVER ADVENTURES**

Located in various parts of the metro area, Zorinsky, Glenn Cunningham, Standing Bear, Manawa, Flanagan, Youngman, Wehrspann, and Walnut Creek lakes all offer their own unique outdoor experiences. Fishing's an option, as each lake is typically stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, and channel catfish.

Get active in and on the water with paddleboard tours with **Driftwood** Paddleboard Adventures, or a standup paddleboard rental from Neighborhood Offshore. For a more leisurely experience, try tanking with Tank Down the Elkhorn or tubing with Tubing & Adventures down the Elkhorn River. If you need a little speed, hop aboard one of the Bryson Airboat Tours and take off on a 60mph wind-in-your-hair ride down the river. Kayak or canoe at an area lake with help from WoggWorks Kayaking and Outdoor Venture Center.





## **DRIVING SAFARI**

Just west of Omaha is **Lee G. Simmons** Conservation Park and Wildlife Safari, operated by Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & **Aquarium**. Enjoy a four-mile drive-through wildlife adventure and see North American animals like bison and wolves, with pit stop opportunities for hiking.

### **GOLF**

Rolling hills and tree-lined fairways complete with water hazards and sand traps ensure each course has its own character and competitive challenges. From executive-style to championship courses, swing your way through Omaha's unique golf landscapes. Go to VisitOmaha.com/golf for a complete list of golf courses in Omaha.

**Topgolf** brings the outdoor fun of golf indoors. The multi-level facility features high-tech golf balls and gaming, climatecontrolled hitting bays, music, food and more in a lively, laid-back atmosphere fit for serious and casual golfers alike.





#### A FUN NIGHT OUT SHOULD 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.

Axe Games and Flying Timber Axe are unique spaces to let your inner lumberjack out. The concept is simple: Grab an axe, throw the axe at a target on the wall, pull the axe out of the wall, and watch your friends throw axes. (It's harder, and safer, than it looks!)

The heart pumping and head thumping gets kicked into high gear at Omaha's various escape room experiences. Entrap Games, The Escape Omaha, House of Conundrum and Get Out: Omaha invite guests to race against the clock, solve the mystery, and unlock the door to freedom.

### CRAFT COCKTAILS, THEMED SPEAKEASIES, MASTERFUL BREWS, INTERNATIONAL WINES, AND HEART RACING ENTERTAINMENT MAKES OMAHA'S NIGHTLIFE A PARTY THAT IS WORTH THE WEEKEND

What do you get when you mix Caribbean, African, Southeast Asian, rockabilly, Hollywood, funk and surfer cultures? Laka Lono Rum Club, a colorful tiki bar ripped right out of the quirkiest corner of your imagination. Speak easy as you enter into some of Omaha's trendiest craft cocktail bars. The Wicked Rabbit takes guests through the looking glass into a Wonderland-themed lounge, shaking and serving extravagant drinks for the mad at heart. An oasis inspired by Japanese street-art, Kaitei mixes cocktails made with traditional whisky, unfiltered sake and popping lychee Boba. Osteria Segreto is a hidden bar in The Blackstone District. A candle burning in the window means you're welcome to come in and enjoy the Italian themed cocktails. Inspired by the pre-Prohibition era, **Berry & Rye** puts an experimental and contemporary perspective on drinks made with a reverse osmosis water system that ensures the purest water possible for its craft ice program, alongside sodas, syrups and bitters made in-house. Other popular spots for craft cocktails are Wilson & Washburn, The Boiler Room and Nite Owl.

Wine down at one of Omaha's vino-specific lounges. Visit La Buvette, Corkscrew Wine & Cheese and Vino Mas for hundreds of wine options from around the world perfect for avid wine connoisseurs, novice vino drinkers, and everyone in between.

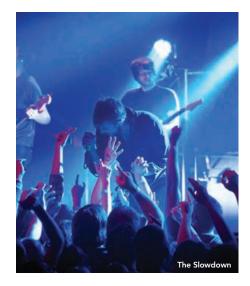
If sipping a good drink and smoking a stogie is more your style, Havana Garage in the Old Market Entertainment District offers a cool, casual place fitting of its name, complete with a walk-in humidor. Jake's Cigars & Spirits is a mainstay in the Benson neighborhood (think Cheers but with cigars) and Copa Cabana in west Omaha offers a cigar smoking lounge along with a large whiskey collection.

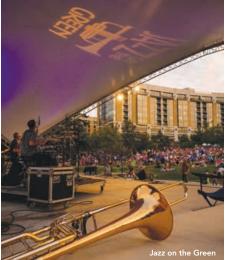














UNDERGROUND ARTISTS, INTERNATIONALLY-KNOWN ACTS, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN OFFER SOUNDS FOR FANS OF EVERY GENRE The birthplace of nationally known artists such as Conor Oberst, Cursive and The Faint, Omaha's indie music scene is ever evolving. **The Slowdown**, one of the best indie music spots in the nation, lives up to its name, giving music lovers a place to chill and be entertained. Benson is home to some of the coolest venues in the city – **Reverb Lounge** and **The Waiting Room Lounge** are known for hosting a variety of local, national, and international stars.

**Omaha Performing Arts** provides the best Broadway, jazz, blues, dance, comedy, family and popular entertainment. Its landmark venues, the Orpheum Theater and Holland Performing Arts Center, present world-class performances and events throughout the year. Omaha's downtown arena seats 18,300 and attracts everything from top touring acts to intimate shows. In the summer months, catch Jazz on the Green every Thursday night when Latin, reggae, big band music and more fill the outdoor Turner Park in Midtown Crossing. Omaha's live music scene lights up all week long in bars, clubs and pubs throughout the city, including The Down Under, Ozone and Parliament Pub.



SHOPPING IN OMAHA IS ALWAYS IN STYLE AND GUARANTEES YOU'LL NEED A SECOND SUITCASE







#### INDOOR AND OUTDOOR OPTIONS

Omaha's shopping centers offer a range of fashions and serve a wide variety of needs, wants and tastes. Find designer, chic, highly curated fashions (for the kiddos too) in Countryside Village. Farther west, unique boutiques please a variety of age groups at Rockbrook Village while an ultra-trendy collection of Omaha-owned boutiques await at Shops of Legacy. Village Pointe Shopping Center's open-air design replicates a nostalgic "Main Street" shopping district where customers can enjoy more than 50 retail shops and restaurants. For indoor shopping excursions, Westroads Shopping Mall, Regency Shopping Center and Oak View Mall offer familiar favorites from national brands.

#### **SHOPPING HOT SPOTS**

Fashionistas will love Omaha's array of local boutiques. The Garment District stocks their racks with NYC-inspired pieces from well-known and emerging designers. Pretty in Patina and Status are wonderlands of gently loved and new designer goods. Other chic boutiques include Beau Joyau, The Fold, Haus Shop, beyourself and Gramercy. For men looking to freshen up their wardrobe, the guys at Grae will offer a drink and help find the perfect look. The Simple Man focuses on well-made goods for men including beard care products, leather accessories, and a wide range of clothing.

#### **OMAHA ORIGINALS**

Owned by Omaha billionaire investor Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway, **Borsheims** is the nation's largest independent jewelry store. The signature silver box with burgundy ribbon ensures the gift inside is a gift worth opening. Another Buffett retailer can't-miss is Nebraska Furniture Mart, one of the country's largest (450,000 sq. ft.) home furnishing stores. Vintage meets modern at Artifact, where they hand-make unisex bags, accessories and home goods; order online for shipping or local pickup.

## OMAHA: YOUR SHOPPING DESTINATION





# JUST OUTSIDE OF THE OMAHA METRO AREA MORE UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AWA

## AREA MORE UNIQUE EXPERIENCES AWAIT







### **EXIT 426**

Just west of Omaha at Exit 426, visitors go wild at the Lee G. Simmons Conservation Park & Wildlife Safari, a four-mile, drive-through nature park. It's a great way to see bison, elk, cranes, pronghorn antelope and other native animals as they walk right past or up to your vehicle. Park the car and hike to Wolf Canyon and climb the nature trails surrounding the park's lake.

After the safari, take your getaway to new heights at the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum, a 300,000 sq. ft. museum dedicated to showcasing military memorabilia and celebrating space travel.

From space to serenity, stunning glass chapel Holy Family Shrine was created for travelers as an oasis for peace and tranquility. Two streams cut through the limestone that forms the floor and foundation of the chapel, and its unique glass architecture with its curved wooden arches makes it a perfect place to stop and enjoy the beauty.

Make a spiritual pilgrimage to the 900-acre Cloisters on the Platte. The retreat center has drawn interest from around the world. Visitors can spend an afternoon winding through a 2,500-foot trail and encounter life-size sculptures along the path, each representing one of the 14 Stations of the Cross. An audio tour is available to enrich your visit.

## **SAUNDERS COUNTY**

Rural in nature and peppered with Main Street appeal, Saunders County is filled with history and surprises that seem to pop out of nowhere. More than 30 unique cities, villages and townships make up the county. The Memphis State Recreation Area offers 163 peaceful acres for primitive camping and hiking and a sparkling lake primed for fishing and boating. Lake Wanahoo is another popular spot for boating, fishing and camping. Plenty of wildlife watching, hiking and picnicking opportunities can be found at the Czechland Lake Recreation Area.

Saunders County should be on every golfer's bucket list. Iron Horse Golf **Club** is an award-winning course that Golf Digest considers one of the best and Quarry Oaks offers a course so challenging that only golfers with intense discipline can find victory.

Travel back in time at the Saunders County Historical Museum and visit a log home, one room schoolhouse, county church, and the smallest post office in Nebraska. Learn about famous athletes, motion picture pioneers, and historic figures.

Check out the amazingly eclectic gift shop Our Corner Cottage, filled wall-to-wall with unique gifts, candles, quilts, scrumptious tarts and waffle bars. It's located in the middle of a cornfield, so make sure to look for the sign on Highway 92 or you might miss this gem.





## **MEET OUR MAKERS**

In creating the light zest of cold ales, the mild flavor of frosty lagers, and the heavy malt taste of dark stouts, Omaha continues to gain accolades as a top beer city. With 12 unique craft breweries peppered throughout the city, you can enjoy a variety of innovative concoctions created by craftsmen who have made beer their life.



Benson Brewery: A cozy neighborhood brew-pub that's been brewing beer on-site since 2013, known for its stellar pub fare, and hidden outdoor beer garden.



Kros Strain Brewing: Experts in high quality hop-forward IPAs as well as traditional lager styles, its funky tap room is a great place to grab a glass of Fairy Nectar IPA or a Koala Tears Project Boysenberry Sour.



Scriptown Brewing Company: Specializing in session-strength beers, with a lower alcohol content, allowing customers to enjoy several pints in "session" with friends or family.



Brickway Brewery and Distillery: Enjoy sipping craft beer brewed with locally sourced ingredients or an exclusive single malt whiskey at one of Omaha's first production craft breweries since prohibition.



Lucky Bucket Brewery: Hoppy libations, barrel aged ales, bold stouts, tart sour beers – you name it, they brew it! Lucky Bucket is known for real beers that any beer drinker can enjoy.



Soaring Wings Vineyard & Brewing: From velvety smooth stouts to incredible German style pilsners and Belgian fruit beers, enjoy hand-crafted beer and wine with stunning views overlooking the Platte River Valley.



Farnam House Brewery Company: Specializing in styles from artisan farmhouse ales and traditional European lagers to American sours and wild beers, this pub also serves up a mean House Spent Grain Pretzel.



Nebraska Brewing Company: The largest craft brewer in the city continues to build a broad portfolio of incredible, handcrafted ales. The company's taproom offers tours through its 24,000 sq. ft. production brewery.



**Upstream Brewing Company:** Known for its fresh-brewed draught beers, caskconditioned and barrel-aged beers, along with a full menu of New American pub fare.



Infusion Brewing Company: Using a classic 7-barrel pub brewing system, Infusion serves up their craft beers year-round while changing up the seasonal brews almost weekly. Home of the Vanilla Bean Blonde and Radial IPA.



Pint Nine Brewing Company: Focused on aroma driven American ales and complex Belgian beers, beers are highly fermentable and highly digestible, while being scientifically sound and artfully executed.



Vis Major Brewing: Combining something ancient with something new, Vis Major's complex recipes for a variety of ales, IPAs and stouts provide unique flavors that have won over fans from all over.

## LEGENDARY STEAK

WITH AN INDUSTRY DATING BACK TO THE 1880S, STEAK IS IN OMAHA'S DNA AND CALLS ALL CARNIVORES TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE FOR A LEGENDARY CUT OF BEEF

In Omaha, beef is a way of life. Our chefs fully embrace the challenge of firing up the grill and demonstrating their cow-know-how. Our steakhouses go to great lengths to select the perfect cut of meat – a cut with a mesmerizing marbling pattern that requires an intricate preparation process and culminates in the perfect bite every time.

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, wood-fire-grilled, or whiskey-doused — all delicious and all techniques Omaha has used to perfect the steak. **The Drover** is a landmark chophouse and home to whiskey marinated Certified Angus Beef steak. 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. An Omaha steakhouse since 1922, Johnny's Café serves savory hand-cut, aged-on-premises beef in a classic Western atmosphere. It's only appropriate that Warren Buffett is a steak lover. At Gorat's, an Omaha institution for more than 70 years, look to a neighboring table and you may see the Omaha billionaire dining at one of his favorite spots.

## **LOCALLY OWNED STEAKHOUSES**

Visitors enjoy the delicious thrill of finding the best steak in Omaha. Locals engage in friendly debates on the topic. But something everyone can agree upon is that the hunt is delicious - here are a few of the classics:

- 801 Grill
- 801 Chophouse at the Paxton
- **Anthony's Steakhouse**
- **Brother Sebastian's Steak House** & Winery
- Cascio's Steakhouse
- The Drover
- **Dynamite Wood Fire Grill**
- Farmer Brown's Steak House
- **Gorat's Steak House**
- Jerico's Restaurant
- Johnny's Cafe
- **Omaha Prime**
- Tavern 180









## **REUBEN HOT SPOTS**

- Barrett's Barleycorn Pub and Grill
- Brazen Head Irish Pub
- Clancy's Pub
- **Crescent Moon**
- Goldberg's Bar and Grill
- Jackson Street Tavern
- Jimi D's Food & Spirits
- Louie M's Burger Lust
- **Over Easy**
- Paddy McGown's Pub & Grill
- Report In Pub
- Sean O'Casey's
- **Shirley's Diner**
- The Drover
- Wilson & Washburn

### VISIT OMAHA AND TASTE THE ORIGINAL REUBEN SANDWICH, AN AMERICAN CLASSIC THAT WAS BORN AND BREAD RIGHT HERE

It's a well-known fact that the Reuben was invented in Omaha back in the early 1900s. We don't care what New Yorkers say, this is our story and we're sticking to it. 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 marble rye and stuff them with slow cooked corned beef topped with sauerkraut, bubbly Swiss cheese, and creamy Russian or Thousand Island dressing. Omaha continues to perfect the classic while local restaurants add their own unique spin.







## **ALL YOU CAN EAT**

FROM FLIGHTS TO FOOD CHALLENGES, OMAHA BRINGS THE FOOD. SO BRING YOUR APPETITE (AND STRETCHY PANTS) TO A CITY KNOWN FOR ITS CULINARY PROWESS

### **FOOD CHALLENGES**

Omaha's most popular food challenges are not for the faint of heart.

The Stellanator at Stella's Bar & Grill - 4.5 lb. bacon cheeseburger in 45 min.

Dundee Dozen at **eCreamery** – 12 scoops with 12 toppings in 20 min.

Big Joe Pizza Challenge at Frank's Pizzeria – 30" pizza in 1 hr.

### DIVES

In Omaha, "dive" is a term of endearment. Here are some to put on your foodie bucket list.

Alpine Inn, known for their fried chicken and the raccoons who gladly eat the scraps for all to see.

California Tacos & More, a fave with the college crowd and known for their house-made signature "puffy" tacos.

The Surfside Club, a riverfront eatery serving all fried food: chicken, pork tenderloin, catfish and corn fritters.



"Flights," meaning "group of," offer chances to sample a variety of what's good in Omaha.

#### **Sweets**

- Ice Cream at Graley's Creamery & Confections
- Brownies and toppings at Brownie Bar
- Dessert variety at The Bubbly Tart

#### **Drinks**

- Coffee at Zen Coffee Co., Karma Koffee and The Table Coffee Co.
- Mimosas at 1912
- Boba at The Banh Mi Shop
- Martinis at WestEnd
- Juice at The Grove Juicery
  - + Wellness Cafe

#### **Appetizers**

- Salsa at Copal & El Rancho Grande
- Fries at 712 Eat + Drink (seasonal)
- Curries at Curry in a Hurry

#### Meat

- Bacon at Early Bird
- Meatballs at The Blackstone Meatball
- Wings at Copps Pizza (limited times)





### **FOOD HALLS**

There's something for everyone in your group at area food halls.

The Switch in The Blackstone District The nation's first food hall to be a 3-Star Certified Green Restaurant<sup>™</sup> by the Green Restaurant Association. Featuring 6 kitchens/eateries with a bar and special events and pop-ups.

Flagship Commons in Westroads Mall Nebraska's first food hall concept with around 7 eateries and concepts, complete with a full bar and cozy fireplace at the center.

#### Inner Rail at Aksarben Village

Choose from 10 curated vendors offering a diverse array of cuisines, including a full bar. Just outside is an outdoor plaza and certified entertainment district where patrons can carry open containers while enjoying outdoor games and fire pits.

Dining Room in Highlander Accelerator Home to three African-American owned businesses serving up soul food, burgers and drinks. At the heart of the hub is Big Mama's Kitchen, a television culinary staple famous for their fried chicken and sweet potato pie ice cream.









### **BRUNCH**

It may be a bold statement, but we're making it: Brunch is better than breakfast.

Early Bird serves brunch all day, every day at its two area locations. Order: Cereal Killer Pancakes, the ultimate Insta-worthy meal.

### Railcar Modern American Kitchen has perfected dishes both sweet

and savory. Order: Nutella French Toast, Smoked Salmon Hash.

Herbe Sainte serves up flavorful New Orleans-inspired favorites. Order: Bananas Foster French Toast, Étouffée Scramble.

#### Caddy's Kitchen & Cocktails

specializes in scratch-made American cuisine. Order: Meal in a Mug Bloody Mary, the ultimate brunch indulgence.



INDULGE YOUR SWEET TOOTH WITH OMAHA'S ARRAY OF BAKERIES, SWEET SHOPS, AND ICE CREAM PARLORS BURSTING WITH GOODIES

#### **FAMOUS FAVORITES**

Lithuanian Bakery's Napoleon Torte is shipped to all corners of the U.S. The three-day labor of love is made of 17 layers of wafer, vanilla and lemon buttercreams, with a luscious apricot center. Available by the slice, Wheatfields' Strawberry Wedding Cake is a light-as-air treat with a local cult following. Another extra special treat can be ordered at Early Bird; their massive 10" "The Bob" donut is a birthday favorite.

#### **ICE CREAM**

**Coneflower Creamery** crafts their artisanal ice cream and treats from locally sourced milk, cream and fruit. Ted & Wally's slow churns their super-premium made-from-scratch ice cream with 18 percent butterfat. They've also teamed with Naughty Buddha Chocolate Bar to stock Omaha's first all-vegan ice cream parlor. Mail order favorite eCreamery serves 16 staple flavors of specialty ice cream, gelato and dairy-free sorbet, along with cookies, in their two parlors; customize your own flavor from home at eCreamery.com. Ordering ice cream is an experience at **Mixins**, which serves homemade rolled ice cream along with your name handwritten in sauce, and photo ops.

#### SIGNATURE OMAHA DESSERTS FOR YOUR BUCKET LIST

- Unicorn Bar at neighborhood bake shop **Sweet Magnolias**
- Peanut Butter Candy Bar Cheesecake at Modern Love
- Authentic cannoli (and add the sauce) at Frank's Pizzeria
- Yo-Yo, a pastry as big as your head, at The International Bakery
- Gooey Butter Bar at Stirnella
- Lemon Cake at Nicola's Italian Wine & Fare
- Milkshake at The Hunger Block
- Glazed Croissant at Olsen Bake Shop
- Spaghetti & Sweet Balls sundae at Dolci Ice Cream & Desserts
- Bread Pudding in 12 flavors at Goldbergs in Dundee

















#### **CHOCOLATE**

Chocolat Abeille creates hand-crafted confections, including custom chocolate shoes, in their parlor; they're perfect for enjoying, along with tea, in their whimsical patio garden. Old Market Candy Shop concocts an array of chocolate goods, like their famous Mud Ball truffles. Find fanciful chocolate covered cherries, one of Oprah's Favorite Things, at The Cordial Cherry. Hollywood Candy thrills the kid at heart with retro candies, homemade fudge, and chocolates available by the pound.







### CULINARY TRAVELERS CRAVING FARM-TO-FORK EXPERIENCES KNOW TO START IN OMAHA, WHERE THE FOOD IS SO FRESH YOU CAN TASTE THE SUNSHINE

Omaha's agricultural prowess plants the city firmly on the forefront of the fresh food movement. Local chefs can stand tableside and proudly give the origins of every ingredient used in every dish – right down to the herbs.

At Omaha's **Block 16**, die-hard fans line up and out the door on a daily basis. The locally sourced, award-winning burgers are piled high with fresh produce and covered in a secret sauce that keeps every mouth watering. (Locals recommend ordering extra sauce!) It's not just about the burgers, you gotta try the popular Gangsta Fries, covered in green onions and pork rinds, then drizzled with chipotle sauce. A fresh fine dining experience can be found at **Au Courant Regional Kitchen**. The European-influenced menu is ever-changing and promises diners new flavors with every visit. **Stirnella Bar & Kitchen** is a refined gastro pub serving approachable food inspired by local and seasonal ingredients. (TIP: Don't miss the Gooey Butter Bars!) **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. **Coneflower Creamery** is known for creating homemade ice cream with creativity and a love of local ingredients.

## FARM FRESH FOOD



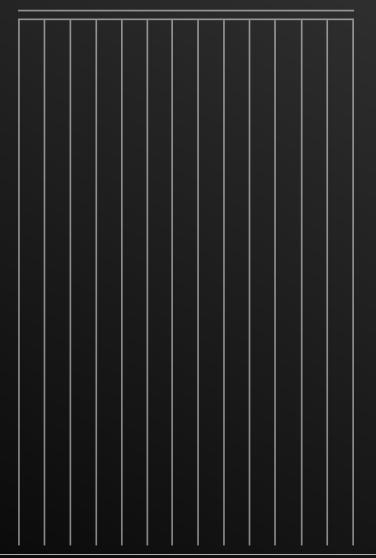
## **FRESH FORK FINDS**

- 402 Eat + Drink
- Au Courant Regional Kitchen
- Block 16
- Dante
- Dario's Brasserie
- Farnam House Brewing Co.
- Gather in Omaha
- Kitchen Table
- La Buvette
- Le Bouillon
- Modern Love Omaha
- Over Easy
- Society 1854
- Stirnella Bar & Kitchen
- The Boiler Room Restaurant
- The Collins
- The Jewell
- Via Farina





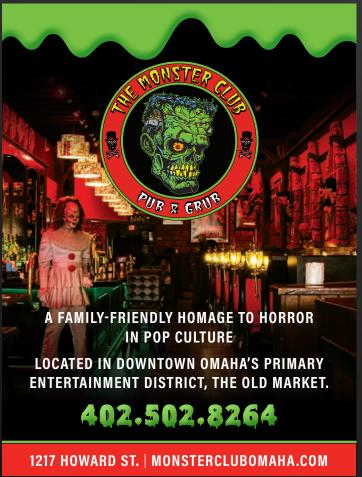
# THE HISTORIC ULD MARKET



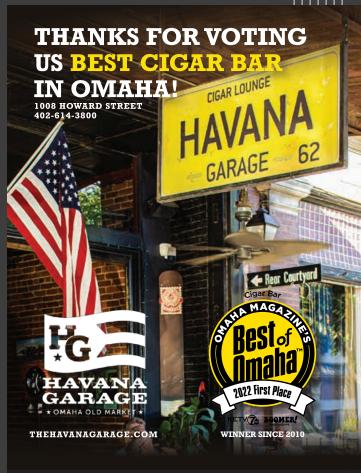


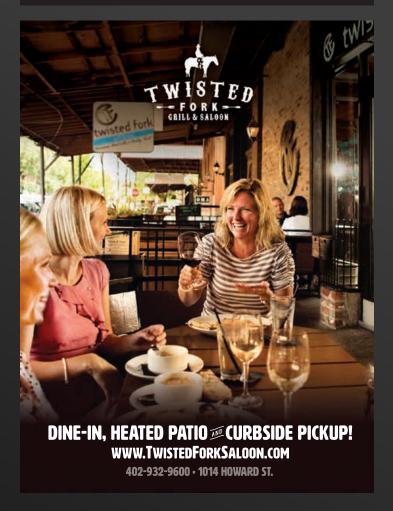


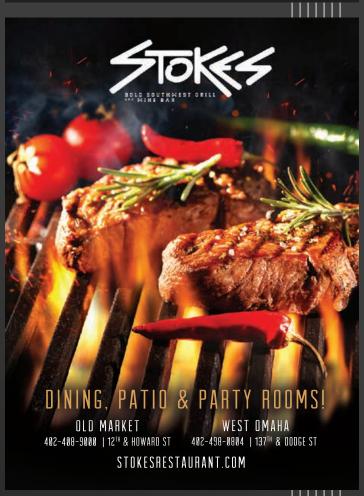














There's a square mile in Nebraska where miracles of the heart happen every day.

See the stories for yourself and experience the magic that is Boys Town.

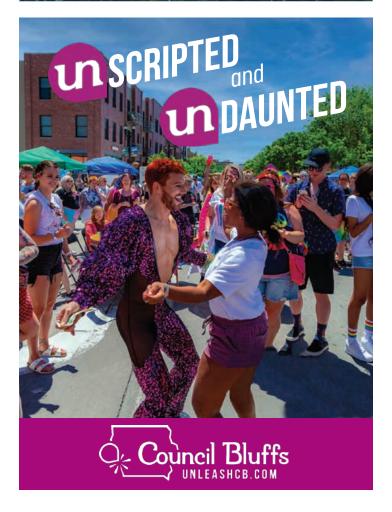
**boystown.org/visit** | 800-625-1400





VillagePointeShopping.com | 1 @







## NEIGHBORHOODS

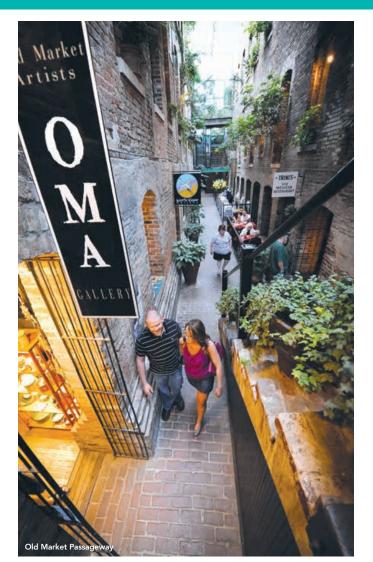
WELCOME TO A CITY PEPPERED WITH ENTERTAINING NEIGHBORHOODS RANGING FROM HISTORIC AND URBAN CHIC TO DELICIOUS AND ULTRA-HIP



Explore the following pages for more details on things to do throughout Omaha entertaining neighborhoods.



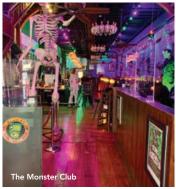
## THE OLD MARKET ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT



The Old Market offers year-round fun, from various parades and holiday lights to the Omaha Farmers Market and other seasonal events. Exhibits refresh so there's always something new to see at KANEKO, Old Market Artists Gallery, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, and Artists' Cooperative Gallery.

The area has an impressive lineup of restaurants, many with outdoor patio dining options. La Buvette Wine & Grocery is a quaint European-style wine bar offering a French menu and grocery with bread baked daily. Other dining standouts include: M's Pub and its famous Lahvosh; Blue Sushi, legendary for its happy hour; The Monster Club, a horror-themed restaurant and bar; V. Mertz, fine dining with an emphasis on local meats and produce; and Gather in Omaha, where chefs implement fresh produce, greens and herbs from their on-site vertical farm into their cuisine.

Because sweets enhance any experience, savor a Mud Ball from the **Old Market Candy Shop** or a square of Snickers Fudge at Hollywood Candy. Ted & Wally's makes from-scratch ice cream in inventive flavors while **Vitale** offers tasty French macarons in colors of the rainbow. You can even build your own brownie dessert at Brownie Bar.









HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND COBBLESTONE STREETS SET THE SCENE WHERE BOUTIQUES, ART GALLERIES, RESTAURANTS, PUBS AND CAFÉS INHABIT THIS ECLECTIC NINE-SQUARE BLOCK AREA WHERE SIDEWALK MUSICIANS AND CARRIAGE RIDES ONLY ADD TO THE CHARM





Shop a range of boutique clothing shops like Nouvelle Eve, Flying Worm and Overland Sheepskin Co. to specialty shops such as Tannenbaum Christmas Shop, City Limits and Homer's Music. Find Omaha merch at **Made in Omaha**, where apparel from baby to adult and art, mugs, coffee and more are made in Omaha with love.

Explore a distinctive nightlife scene starting at tropical-themed **Laka** Lono Rum Club, which serves over-the-top fun craft cocktails like their famous Zombie drink, which is lit on fire before your very eyes. Mr. Toad's and Billy Frogg's offer an eclectic atmosphere and great outdoor patios. The Berry & Rye serves experimental, contemporary cocktails in a swanky-cool atmosphere, and both **Upstream Brewing** Co. and Brickway Brewery & Distillery create some of the best tasting craft beer around.

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

#### **7 ESSENTIAL OLD MARKET EXPERIENCES**

- Get a selfie in the magical **Old Market Passageway**
- Find your astrological sign in the **Garden of** the Zodiac
- Take a carriage ride with Magical Journeys
- Play a game or two at Hollywood Candy's Pinball Museum
- Squeeze inside the British phone booth outside **Spaghetti Works**
- Peruse the floor-to-ceiling books at Jackson **Street Booksellers**
- Stop in the Omaha Visitors Center for more inspiration for your visit



## NODO/CAPITOL DISTRICT

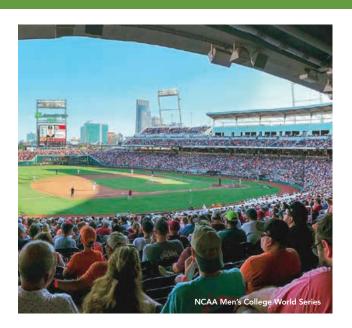
OMAHA'S NORTH DOWNTOWN IS A CHIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD FILLED WITH BIG SPORTS, BIG MUSIC AND BIG STYLE

The Capitol District is a modern twist on the traditional town square with pubs, restaurants, nightlife options, and entertainment venues. In the winter months, private igloos fill the plaza and offer a cozy space for an intimate party. Carry-out dining and drink options are available during reserved times. For live music, The Jewell celebrates Omaha's jazz roots while offering a contemporary venue with a chef-led cocktail and dinner menu.

Across the street, CHI Health Center Omaha is the city's award-winning convention center and arena (don't let its name fool you). It attracts the world's biggest names in music and entertainment and also plays host to major sporting events such as the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials, NCAA Volleyball Championships and Men's Basketball Championships.

A short walk out the door is the home of the NCAA Men's College World Series. This summer tradition creates an electrifying atmosphere that fills the NoDo area and has everyone ready to play ball. Cutting-edge art and style adds a hip side to NoDo with Omaha Design Center, a sleek venue serving as home of Omaha Fashion Week (OFW). OFW is one of the country's largest celebrations of fashion where twice a year the season's hottest trends walk the runway and offer fashionistas the chance to snag looks before they hit the stores.





Hot Shops Art Center offers a front row seat as more than 80 artists create works ranging from metal forging and glass blowing, to hand-crafted jewelry and photography.

**DJ's Dugout Sports Bar** is a great pre- or post-game spot with drink and food specials. Hook & Lime specializes in tacos and tequila - go for the house margaritas, stay for the flavorful small plates. The Trap Room is a quirky, retro bar with a serious cocktail menu built for the craft-curious. Watch a first-run indie film or documentary at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater, an intimate arthouse cinema. Nosh Restaurant and Wine Lounge has over 100 wines available and servers are ready to match you with your perfect pinot.



## MIDTOWN CROSSING

THIS SOPHISTICATED DEVELOPMENT KEEPS YOUR WEEKEND BUZZING WITH A MIX OF RESTAURANTS, SHOPS, AND YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUN





Turner Park is at the heart of the neighborhood. The 7.5-acre revitalized park hosts a variety of free outdoor events throughout the year, from yoga and live music or opera to Woofstock and a summertime Night Market.

Experience food and drink worth traveling for at nationally touted Modern Love. Owned by vegan celebrity Isa Chandra Moskowitz, this vegan favorite serves swanky vegan comfort food like

Mac & Shews and Seitan Buffalo Wings. Culprit Café is a cool bakery serving their locally roasted coffee alongside a menu of fresh pastries, quiche, sandwiches and cocktails. Indulge in a trendy treat at Thirst-Tea Cafe, a tea-drinker's candy store with a variety of flavor-infused teas made customizable with "toppings." **Proof** serves hundreds of whiskies from around the world, along with hand-crafted cocktails and an extensive spirits list.







Pet-friendly **Element Hotel** invites patrons to recharge and find balance thanks in part to their 24-hr. fitness center, complimentary breakfast, and free bicycle rental.



BLACKSTONE CRAFT BREW, TRENDY RESTAURANTS, FRIENDLY LOUNGES, GIANT MEATBALLS, AND THE CREATION OF THE REUBEN SANDWICH – NEED WE SAY MORE?



Yes, the Reuben sandwich was originally created in the Blackstone District back in the 1920s and visitors can taste the original recipe at Crescent Moon. Under "The Moon" is 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. The beer culture continues at Rathskeller, a hot spot for true brew connoisseurs.



Along with its rich history, Blackstone District offers some new local favorites. Two craft breweries, Farnam House Brewing Company and Scriptown Brewery, have added to Omaha's growing reputation as a craft beer city and each offers a unique experience. Not to be ignored, Corkscrew Wine & Cheese serves a variety of vino for every palate. Coneflower Creamery offers farm-to-cone ice cream in out-of-this-world flavors. A typical order consists of two scoops, though some may be tempted to "be good" and only order one. We know from experience ... everyone wants the second scoop. The Switch is the neighborhood beer and food hall dedicated to local craft brews, baked goods, and global cuisine.

Nite Owl is the quirky, cool craft cocktail bar with a late night food menu featuring thick burgers, salty fries, and fresh salads. The Blackstone Meatball takes an Italian American classic and adds locally-sourced twists ... these aren't your mama's meatballs. Mula is Blackstone's ultra-trendy Mexican restaurant and certified tequileria. Noli's Pizzeria serves up fresh New York-style pizza and fun cocktails. Stirnella offers a chef-driven farm to fork menu and Early Bird only does brunch, but they do it every day in a not-so-every-day way. Hungry yet? Because there's a lot more. Butterfish, Darbar Indian Cuisine, and Cheeseburgers help round out this dining district.





BENDON ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS QUIRKY NIGHTL DISTRICT FILLED WITH FROSTY CRAFT BEER, LIVE MUSIC, AND A LOT OF PERSONALITY ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS QUIRKY NIGHTLIFE

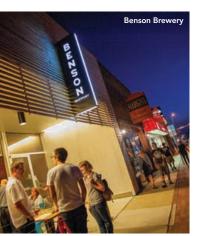
This historic neighborhood is always buzzing with activity ... especially at night. Walking up and down the Benson "strip" is energizing, with live music pouring out of The Waiting Room, a nationally recognized indie rock club. For a more intimate venue, stop by Reverb Lounge, known for live music and a host of tiki drinks.

Krug Park will spice up the night with a dozen Bloody Mary concoctions and an array of craft cocktails. A strong contender in the battle for the best Bloody Mary can be found across the street at Jake's Cigars & Spirits. Known for strong drinks and an inclusive humidor, Jake's is the epitome of the friendly neighborhood bar.

Benson regulars keep an eye out for Shooter, the Benson bar cat. Shooter 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 carefree vibe.

On nice days, visitors enjoy the rooftop patios at 1912 and Benson **Brewery**. Watch the strip come to life while sipping a craft cocktail and enjoying gourmet bar menus.





An array of dining options can be found on the strip. **IKA Ramen and Izakaya** is known for mixing noodles with gangster rap. **Taco Co**. is a fan fave serving cold margaritas and addictive puffy shell tacos all in a trendy atmosphere. **Yoshitomo** is a unique sushi dining experience for the culinarily curious. Au Courant Regional Kitchen is a fine dining

experience with European-influenced meals.



#### **NEIGHBORHOOD BARS**

- 1912: Craft cocktails, full menu
- Barley St. Tavern: Live music, neighborhood bar
- Beercade: Arcade games, craft beer
- Benson Brewery: Craft brew, gastro-pub eats
- Burke's Pub: Known for the Apple Pie shot
- Full House Bar: Friendly neighborhood bar
- Infusion Brewing Company: Craft brewery
- Jake's Cigars & Spirits: Bloody Marys
- Krug Park: Bloody Marys, craft cocktails
- The Sydney Bar & Lounge: Funky
- Bärchen: German, Belgian, American craft brew
- Kaitai: Japanese speakeasy
- St. Andrews Pub: Sports, whiskey, and fire pits
- Jerry's Bar: Laid back neighborhood bar
- Eleven Eleven: Wine lounge and local shop



## AKSARBEN VILLAGE

A HISTORIC RACING COMPLEX HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A VIBRANT ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

Located in the heart of Omaha, urban development Aksarben Village features more than 20 restaurants and a variety of entertainment options. The area has a long history as a popular destination in Omaha. The entertainment district stands where the bustling Ak-Sar-Ben Race Track (1919-1995) and Coliseum once stood. Its celebrated history is punctuated in Stinson Park with a bronze figure marking the grave of Omaha, the 1935 Triple Crown winner.

In the Village you can enjoy deep-dish Detroit-style pizza at Backlot Taphouse, order from more than 100 hand-crafted cocktails at Liv Lounge, and taste the Cupcake Wars-worthy assortment of sweet treats at Jones Bros. Cupcakes. Try the mango crab rangoon at **Mai Thai** and tacos stuffed with shrimp, brisket or alligator at Voodoo Taco. The menu at **Herbe Sainte** offers a Cajun twist on food and drinks that include shrimp & grits, etouffee, and brunch offerings. Inner Rail Food Hall features specialty food vendors serving delicious dishes from around the globe including New



York style pizza, savory crepes, and Indian fried chicken with mint chutney; eat and drink in their attached certified entertainment district where Omaha's Airstream bar Sonny's is parked.

Enjoy a local or nationally-brewed beer or wine at the bar before catching the latest flick at Aksarben Cinema, home of the Omaha Film Festival. Drop into **Spirit World** for that rare wine or glass of whisky. Your pup can get in on the fun at Canine Courtyard Bark Park, an off-leash dog park.

Next door is Stinson Park, home to live concerts and entertainment events throughout the year. From May through October the **Omaha Farmers Market** promises fresh produce and handmade products. Those craving adventure can hop on a Heartland B-Cycle bicycle to explore nearby paved trails.

The Courtyard by Marriott, Hilton Garden Inn and Residence Inn are located just a walk away from Aksarben Village.





#### OTHER STOPS IN THE VILLAGE

- Beacon Hills: Homemade American cuisine
- **Cold Stone Creamery & Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory**
- DJ's Dugout: Sports bar
- Freezing: Rolled ice cream
- Godfather's Pizza
- **Gold Mountain Restaurant:** Chinese dishes and buffet
- Greenbelly: Healthy food options
- Juice Stop: Smoothies and juices
- Lululemon: National athletic apparel brand
- Oklahoma Joe's BBQ
- **Pauli's Sports Lounge**
- Pickleman's Gourmet Café
- Ponzu Sushi & Grill
- **Roast Coffeehouse**
- Vitality Bowls: Antioxidant-rich offerings
- Zoup!: Soups and broths



THIS IDYLLIC TREE-LINED NEIGHBORHOOD ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES IS SPRINKLED WITH CHEF-DRIVEN RESTAURANTS, UNIQUE SHOPS, AND PLENTY OF CHARM

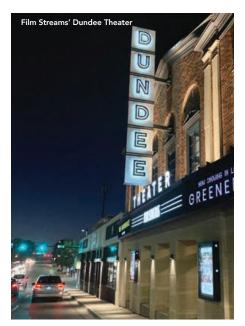


#### **DUNDEE DINING**

- Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob: European street food
- Avoli Osteria: Northern Italian cuisine
- Dario's Brasserie: French and Belgian fare infused w/ European
- **Dundee Double Shot:** Local coffee house serving 32+ of its own roasts
- Goldbergs in Dundee: Burgers, beers, bread pudding & Bloody Marvs
- Good Lookin': Breakfast and lunch cafe
- The Hoppy Taco: Street tacos and craft brew
- Le Quartier Dundee: Fine artisan breads, pastries & desserts
- Pitch Coal-Fire Pizzeria: Chefcrafted salads, pasta and pizza

Dundee is home to a wide variety of restaurants serving everything from tacos to European-influenced fare. After lunch or dinner, get dessert at ice cream parlor eCreamery and enjoy a stroll along Underwood Ave., the heart of the Dundee neighborhood.

Home décor aficionados should make an appointment to visit the Roger + Chris showroom, where Roger Hazard, designer and former host of A&E's Sell This House, along with his husband, Chris Stout-Hazard, sell quality furniture, accessories and artwork. Just across the



way is **Dundee Candle Co.**, which offers 90+ scents so you can bring the scent of Omaha back home.

In the mood for more shopping? Find unique souvenirs at Scout Dry Goods & Trade, an eco-friendly vintage shop known for its \$1 Sunday sales. How about a movie? Historic and recently renovated Film Streams' Dundee Theater first opened in 1925; the attached Lola's serves bakery goods and kale salads and transforms into a wine bar setting at night complete with candlelit tables.





# NORTH OMAHA/FLORENCE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PIONEERS HAVE HAD MAJOR INFLUENCE HERE

HISTORICAL AND



Cultural attractions line the street up from where jazz greats like Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Preston Love and others once played at the Dreamland Ballroom. The Union for Contemporary Art offers opportunities to experience and create art in its many forms with exhibitions, performing arts, and co-op studios. The Great Plains Black History Museum celebrates the contributions of African Americans through exhibits and seminars. Civil Rights leader Malcolm X was born in Omaha; the 17 acres near his birth site include a visitor center, community garden, greenhouse, plaza, and historical marker.

Get your fill of soul food at Big Mama's Kitchen at the Dining Room at Highlander Accelerator, Omaha's first African American-owned food hub. Big Mama's serves up pig ear sandwiches and sweet potato cheesecake, and has been featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives and Travel Channel's 101 Tastiest Places to Chow Down. Before you leave, enjoy a Dena's Cosmo next door at **Dena's Place**.

Up the road is **Time Out Foods**, a North Omaha mainstay serving up some of the best fried chicken in the city.

North Omaha's Florence neighborhood has more historical markers per one square mile than anywhere else in the state. Experience firsthand the Mormon migration of the 1840s at the Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters. Just north is **Florence Mill**, constructed in 1846 as Mormon pioneers made their westward trek. Other area historical attractions include Florence Depot and Florence Bank. Florence Days and parade in May is a unique way to check out these historic attractions for free.

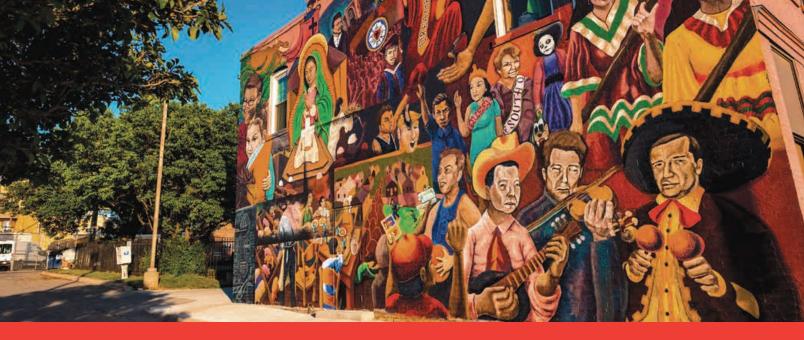
Experiencing history builds an appetite. Harold's Koffee **House** is a neighborhood staple whipping up breakfast classics in an old school diner. Finicky Frank's menu includes comfort foods with a twist in a dining room full of character, and Tussey's Casual Grill offers a bright and fresh globally-inspired menu including hearty salads and sandwiches.





#### **CAN'T-MISS PUBLIC ART**

- "Love" mural by Cey Adams
- "Jazz Trio" bronze sculpture by Littleton Alston
- "The Ancestor, the Identity, and the Seed" by Reggie LeFlore



## SOUTH OMAHA/LITTLE BOHEMIA

VIBRANT ART, **EDGY COCKTAILS,** MEMORABLE FOOD, AND RICH HISTORY

From folk art and hand-painted murals to authentic cuisine and local shops, South Omaha offers big doses of Polish, Czech, German and Mexican culture at every turn. At its heart is the Historic South 24th Street, filled with Mexican traditions. Dozens of family-owned restaurants line the intricately tiled sidewalks of South 24th Street. Enjoy savory slow-cooked chicken enchiladas, fiery roasted jalapeños, and carne asada (marinated and grilled thinly sliced steak) at a handful of eateries. Afterwards, grab a vo-yo (a traditional Latino pastry) or artisan bread at The International Bakery. Don't forget about margaritas;

El Alamo, Gauca Maya and other restaurants in "South O" are known for serving up a mean cocktail.

South Omaha offers tried-and-true dishes made from old-world family recipes and Lithuanian Bakery's Napoleon Torte is a shining example. Joe Tess Place has been an area staple since the 1930s, serving quality fresh fish and their famous fish sandwich; it's also been featured on Food Network's Diners. Drive-Ins. and Dives. Don't let the hole-in-the-wall ambiance fool you; the meatball sub and Italian sausage sandwich at Ethnic Sandwich Shop, which has been making Italian food since 1977, will have you craving more.

El Museo Latino celebrates the area's rich diversity with exhibits and programs, where special events include performances by "CHOMARI" Ballet



Folklorico Mexicano. Apollon Art **Space** is Omaha's multi-genre arts and entertainment venue offering locally produced art exhibits and events. Don't miss the themed, interactive dinners allowing the audience to get into character and join in the fun.

Omaha's newest entertaining neighborhood, Little Bohemia, is fast becoming a favorite among locals and visitors. The bustling neighborhood has something for everyone - especially adults. Get your fill of Skee-Ball with beer in hand at **Beercade 2**, sip from a soda fountain for grown-ups called Fizzy's, and enjoy craft brew at Infusion Little Bohemia Beer Hall. Check out the Tiny House Bar, a cozy bar built in ... you guessed it, a legit tiny house. Shop envy-worthy secondhand designer fashions from Chanel, Louis Vuitton and Rolex at Pretty in Patina.



## The place for **fun** and **memories!**



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Our venues are the Orpheum Theater, the Holland Performing Arts Center and coming in 2023 - Steelhouse Omaha. These are Nebraska's destinations for extraordinary experiences that engage, inspire and connect.

**Broadway Live Music** Comedy **Family Events** And more!



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