

# 250 Reasons to Love Salina

## 1. *Big City Attractions with a Small Town Feel*



2. **Rolling Hills Zoo**, and wildlife museum, more than 100 species and fun for the whole family
3. **The Garage Automotive Museum** interactive education with rotating exhibits and fun all ages
4. **Smoky Hill Museum** where you can imagine the hardship and freedom of settling the area
5. **Yesteryear & Scouting Museums** featuring flywheel tractors, a one room school house and agricultural heritage
6. Discover the legacy and stories of generations of students through the **St. John's Military School Museum**
7. **Salina Art Center** with rotating exhibitions of fascinating art from world reknown artists
8. Eating fresh popcorn and watching a movie at the **Salina Art Center Cinema**
9. **Theatre Salina** bringing live performances and local talent to the stage
10. Walking **SculptureTour Salina** and voting for your favorite piece
11. Seeing your favorite performer or attending the **Salina Symphony Concerts** in the beautiful **Stiefel Theatre**
12. The view on Santa Fe cruising north toward the **Mural by the Mill**
13. **Salina Speedway** dirt track racing
14. Floating the lazy river, water walking or going down slides on a hot day at **Kenwood Cove Aquatic Park**
15. Joyful Noise Playhouse bringing imagination, creativity, and laughter to young audiences
16. Socializing at **GreatLIFE Golf and Fitness** center
17. **Salina Country Club** golf, eat and socialize at M1918
18. **Clubhouse Golf** indoor play and virtual practice courses
19. **Smoky Hills Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary** hiking, fishing and birdwatching
20. Explore the **Art Center Warehouse** often with artists workshops and painting parties
21. **Salina Family YMCA** with weights, fitness programs, courts, daycare and play areas
22. Check out the **Smoky Hill Air National Guard Range** providing space, equipment and training to our military
23. Visit the **Salt & Light Homestead** and **Pumpkin Patch** for fresh produce and seasonal fun activities
24. **The First Tee** youth golf training and practice course at the **Salina Municipal Golf Course**
25. **Children's Theatre (CTA)** season at **Theatre Salina**
26. **Salina Selfie Station** to get your best photos in seasonally changing fun settings
27. **The Gallery in Sam's Hall of Fine Art** at KWU

28. The Kanvas Project **BOOM! Salina Murals**
29. **Artwork Alley** where art is all over the walls
30. **Historic Downtown Walking Tour**
31. **Black History Driving Tour**
32. Community gatherings, livestock shows, expos, and celebrations at the **Saline County Expo Center**
33. **The Salina Public Library** with books, internet access, children's area and technology center
34. **Salina Sliders Summer Baseball** games at Dean Evans
35. **Salina Liberty Indoor Football** game at Tony's Pizza Events Center
36. Jumping at **Sky Trampoline Park** with arcade concessions, pickleball and event space
37. **The Alley** entertainment center with large arcade, laser tag and bowling
38. **The Yard** baseball and softball practice facility with HitTrax Technology and outdoor covered infield
39. **District Eat & Play** featuring Go-karts, arcade & more
40. Creating baseball memories at **Dean Evans Stadium** and **Pestinger Baseball Field**
41. Youth Soccer at the **Salina Soccer Complex**
42. **Gypsum Hill Cemetery Historical Tour**

## 43. *BIG Events, Experiences and Memories Waiting To Happen*



44. **The Smoky Hill River Festival** tradition that brings art, music, food and friends together year after year
45. Baseball Enterprises **Grand Slam Baseball Tournament** each Summer
46. Easy access around town with **CityGo** public transportation
47. **Festival Jam** and other Oakdale Park outdoor concerts at **Eric Stein Stage**
48. **Salina Irish Road Bowling** friendly and fun competition in early fall
49. **Holiday Festival & Parade of Lights** in Downtown
50. Have fun on the dance floor at **Outlaws**
51. Kustom Kemps of America (KKOA) **Leadsled Spectacular Car Show** each July
52. Annual **Salina Crossroads Marathon** (a Boston Marathon qualifier) every 1st Saturday in November
53. **Tournament of Champions** and other Kids Wrestling events
54. **Smoky Hill Museum Street Fair** every September
55. **Father's Day Car Show** at Rolling Hills Zoo
56. Finding the perfect gift at the **Girl Scouts See & Sell** market and crafts fair
57. **Juneteenth Celebration** over multiple days of activities and a parade
58. Running in the **Frosty 5K Fun Run** & other **Run Salina Series** events
59. Finding community friendly competition through local groups like the **Salina Dart Association**
60. **Veterans Day Ceremony** at the **War Memorial** in Sunset Park
61. **Mid-America Farm Expo** each March
62. **Christmas by Candlelight** concert at KWU

63. **Pumpkin Pazoola** at Rolling Hills Zoo
64. Sipping wine from the local **Smoky Hill Vineyard and Winery**
65. Fall and Spring Music Concerts at the **KWU Music Halls-Sam's Chapel, Bieber Hall, and the Applequist Family Music Center**
66. **Kansas Day celebration and Tours** at the Smoky Hill Museum
67. **Final Summit Blues Festival** each October at **Acoustic Sounds**
68. **Holiday Lights in the Museum** at Rolling Hills Zoo-Kansas' only indoor, climate-controlled holiday light show
69. **Redneck Paradise Mud Run** KMRO sanctioned event

70. **Food & Drink for Every Taste!**



71. More than 95 dining options year round plus pop up food trucks
72. Legendary specialty pizza at several restaurants throughout the community
73. Savoring the flavor at **Hickory Hut BBQ**
74. Sharing a meal at **Martinelli's Little Italy**
75. Date night at **Barolo Grille**
76. **Carrol Lee Donuts** for the office and co-workers you love
77. **Tropical Sno** cones on a hot summer day with friends
78. Dining on the patio at **Meddy's** fresh Mediterranean
79. **Jose Pepper's** and listening to music in the plaza
80. **Bayard's Cafe** with homecooked breakfast or lunch, coffee and conversation
81. **Chuck's Bar & Grill** trash can nachos
82. **AJ's Sports Grill** appetizers before bowling
83. **Bogey's** burgers and more than 101 flavors of shakes
84. **Crispy Donut** decisions-plain, maple, or cream filled
85. **Paramount Bar** with friends and cold drink on the patio
86. Finding a hidden gem food scene like **Janaki Indian Cuisine**
87. Filling and refilling your plate at **Hong Kong Buffet**
88. Street tacos at **Candiles Tacos & Tequila**
89. Authenticity at **La Morenita Mexican Restaurant**
90. **Pancho's Mexican** food and 24/7 drive-thru
91. Homemade pie and fried chicken at **Russell's Restaurant**
92. Healthy and plentiful options at **PrairieLand Market**
93. Simply delicious **Seraphim Bread**
94. **Gourmet Eats** by dine-in or drive-thru
95. Discovering your new favorite drink at **1858 Coffee House**
96. Relaxing with a good book at **Ad Astra Books & Coffee**
97. Selecting the finest for your grill at **Smoky River Meats**
98. **Dagney's Homemade Ice Cream**
99. Cooling down at **La Nena Ice Cream Shop**
100. Indulging without the gluten at **CupKates Cupcakes**
101. Finding just the right amount of energy at **Evolve Nutrition**
102. Steak, salad and potatoes with a date at **Tucson's Steakhouse and Saloon**
103. Sweet treats at **Bibliophiles Bakery**
104. Authentic coastal-mexican cuisine at **805 Tacos**
105. Enjoying a casual night out with friends at **The Library** and bar chips
106. Late night Karaoke at **The Speakeasy**

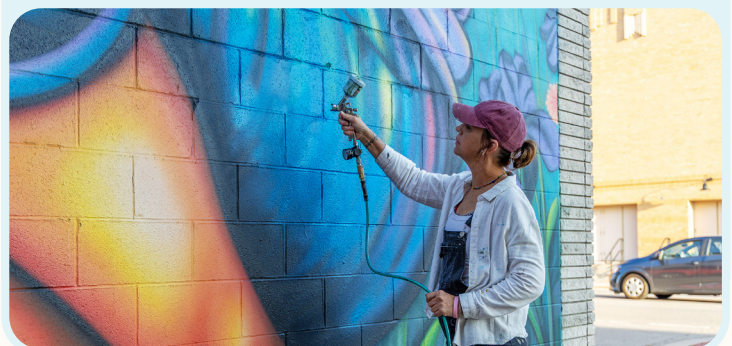
107. Lunch and conversation at **Mokas**
108. Sunday Brunch and local craft beer at **BlueSkye Brewery**
109. **YaYa's Euro Bistro** dining on the patio and watching passers-by
110. Traditional Mexican food at **Taqueria Fresnillo, LaCurva or La Casita**
111. Abundance of favorite food chain options

112. **Unforgettable Experiences**



113. **Oldtime Gas Station Pump** photo opp - 300 Block of North 9th and Bishop Street
114. Taking a selfie at the **67401 Plaza and City Lights Stage**
115. **BEL Tree Farm** visits where families can make memories chopping their own Christmas tree
116. Driving under **arch lights** at night on Santa Fe Avenue
117. Prom photos in the parks each spring
118. **Cruising Santa Fe** and stopping for treats on hot summer nights
119. Free fishing weekend traditions at **Lakewood Lake**
120. Watching kids run toward Easter joy at Bill Burke Park or Rolling Hills Zoo Eggstravaganza **Egg Hunts**
121. **Farm & Art Market** Downtown on Saturdays in May through October
122. Watching airplanes take off and land at **Fossett Plaza**
123. Viewing beautiful **sunrises and sunsets** over the Smoky Hills
124. Live entertainment and downtown events during "**First Friday**" of each month May through October
125. **Harvest Farmers Market** each Tuesday at 6:30 PM year round
126. **Downtown Christmas Lights** in the winter
127. **Holiday Open Houses** at local attractions
128. Free admission at the **Central KS Flywheels Museum** and the **Smoky Hill Museum**
129. Hands on creativity and pottery classes at **On The Pot**
130. The ability to enjoy big-city experiences without big-city traffic and crowds

131. **Unique History and Famous Legends**



132. A global pizza connection — home to **Tony's Pizza** and one of the world's largest frozen pizza manufacturing operations
133. **The Lee Jeans Company** started in Salina and this historical manufacturing building still stands

134. Location for the filming of the movie **Picnic**, and you can picnic in one of our parks
135. Central High School Graduate and NFL star **Terrance Newman** grew up here
136. Birthplace of MLB Player, **Pat Meares** who also grew up here
137. Birthplace of Actor **Steve Murdock**
138. South High Soccer Player and World Cup Player **Adrianna Franch** grew up here
139. Celebrating the legacy of Salina native and **former Kansas Governor Bill Graves**
140. The people who show up when Salina needs them—dedicated **Salina Fire Fighters, emergency responders** and safety teams
141. The **Salina Police** and K-9 Unit
142. Salina Pride throughout the community
143. **Local artists** creating murals, sculptures in unexpected creative spaces throughout town
144. **Historic neighborhoods** with unique homes, architecture and stories
145. **Local businesses** that invest in Salina's future
146. Generations of families who continue to call Salina home
147. **Safe, welcoming spaces** for kids to explore and play
148. Civic engagement opportunities including **AMBUCS, Downtown Lyons, United Way and many more**
149. Opportunities to learn about agriculture and history throughout the region

#### 150. *Nature, Outdoor Adventures and Sports*



151. More than 1,000 acres of **public parks** and open spaces to explore, play, relax and reconnect
152. **Centennial Park** splash pad, playground and skate zone
153. Nature Programs at **Lakewood Discovery Center**
154. Exploring **Indian Rock Park**—nature trails, hiking, and amazing views overlooking Salina
155. **Kenwood Park** and Steam Engine Train Display
156. **Sunset Park** flower gardens, shelter, walking paths and more
157. Four-legged friends enjoying Salina's **dog parks** including Barkley Park, The Barking Lot and Parker Park
158. **KANcycle bike sharing** at several convenient locations including Sunset Plaza, Bill Burke Park and KWU
159. **Bill Burke Park** with ball fields, fishing areas, shelters and playground
160. **Lakewood Park** with playground, shelter, trails and disc golf course
161. **Olivia's Playground** an inclusive for all accessible park, walking path and play area
162. A strong sports and sportsmanship culture
163. Hiking to the top of **Indian Rock** to reach an amazing overlook of the city
164. **Oakdale Park** sunsets, walking paths and one of Salina's favorite gathering places
165. **Hidden nature trails** like Marty Bender, River Woods, Smoky Hill River, Steamboat Stabilization and Levee Trail System
166. **Disc Golf Courses** at Thomas Park, Lakewood Park and Berkley Family Recreation Area

167. **Pickleball** in Oakdale Park
168. Tennis at **Salina Tennis Center**
169. **Berkley Family Recreation Area** with baseball/softball fields and playground
170. **Jerry Ivy Park** with splash pad, playground, sand volleyball courts, tennis and shelter
171. **Youth Baseball and Softball Tournaments** bringing hundreds of teams and visitors each Spring and Summer
172. A lovely place to enjoy a walk—**WalkSalina** and **Mobility Management NCK**
173. Cheering on the KWU Coyotes during **Collegiate Competition**—Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Soccer
174. Youth, high school, collegiate and semi-professional sports tournaments
175. **Smoky Hill River** for kayaking, fishing, walking trails and enjoying nature
176. **Slow Roll Recreation Bike Ride** each Saturday morning April through October
177. **Hawthorne Park** splash pad and playground
178. **Salina Community Garden** spaces where neighbors grow, learn and connect
179. The **Salina Fieldhouse** offering indoor sports and recreation opportunities year-round
180. The **Salina Family YMCA** creating opportunities for fitness, youth programs and community connections
181. Friends of the River and **the River Project** under development
182. Concerts, conferences, trade shows and sporting events at **Tony's Pizza Events Center**
183. A space for your spirit at **Webster Conference Center**

#### 184. *Learning, Growing & Creating the Future*



185. **Kansas Wesleyan University (KWU)** creating opportunities for learning, career advancement and community
186. **Kansas State University Polytechnic** campus bringing aviation, technology, career advancement and innovation
187. **KU School of Medicine** expanding healthcare education and helping prepare the next generation of medical professionals
188. **Salina Technical College** preparing students with skilled trades, technology and centered education
189. **The Academy of Hair Design** with hands-on training, creativity and opportunities for future beauty professionals
190. **Sacred Heart High School** building character through faith and generating academic excellence in education
191. **Central High School** inspiring students through learning, competing and leading
192. **South High School** creating paths for learning, competing and opportunities
193. **Salina Adult Education Center** helping people learn and achieve their goals for lifelong career advancement
194. **Little Free Library** Book Sharing Boxes at over 25 locations throughout the community
195. Explore options for the right **early education paths** with public USD#305, private, faith-based, and early learning schools for every age

- 196. Watching future Kansas Highway Patrol troopers train at the **Highway Patrol Training Center** as they prepare to serve Kansas communities
- 197. Opportunities to **build a career** and join the workforce in healthcare, manufacturing, education, aviation, agriculture, and more

198. **Memorable Moments & Discovery**



- 199. Hearing lions roar while walking through beautiful landscape paths at **Rolling Hills Zoo**
- 200. Winning at the Mario Kart virtual game at **The Garage Car Museum**
- 201. Imagining what it would be like as a settler to Kansas by walking into the sod house at the **Smoky Hill or Yesteryear Museums**
- 202. Seeing new sculptures each May during **SculptureTour** Unwrap
- 203. Reading, relaxing or finding the perfect gift at **Red Fern Booksellers**
- 204. Enjoying live entertainment and productions at **Theatre Salina, Stiefel Theatre**, event facilities, and outdoor parks and plazas
- 205. Thursday night **Cruisers** of Salina each April through October
- 206. **Shopping** with friends for antiques, trendy finds or the latest retail discounts
- 207. **Georgetown Santas** Tradition popcorn, candy, elves and Santas
- 208. Gatherings, Galas and Parties at **The Temple**
- 209. Remember a time with records, cassettes and 8 tracks tapes at **Gryphon's Wing Records**
- 210. Grabbing a bite at **Cozy Inn** featuring the aroma of onion sliders and nostalgia of glass bottle soda
- 211. Eating the best corn dog ever at the **Smoky Hill River Festival** while sitting on a blanket listening to live music

212. **2 Aviation, Innovation & Reaching New Heights**



- 213. The **Salina Airport Industrial Area** has one of the longest runways in the world
- 214. **Salina's runway** is an alternate site to land the space shuttle
- 215. Home of Steve Fossett's take-off and landing **non-stop flight around the world**
- 216. **Convenient air service** connecting Salina to the world through direct flights to Denver, Chicago and Houston
- 217. Home to **1 Vision Aviation** a major regional employer
- 218. Home to the nation's largest enclosed **Unmanned Aerial (drone) testing facility** at K-State Salina

- 219. Free parking at the **Salina Regional Airport (SLN)** connecting the community to the world
- 220. Birthplace of **Astronaut Steve Hawley**
- 221. The new site of **Pure Imagination**, an advanced spatial computing studio and learning center

222. **Salina's In the Middle of it All!**



- 223. Accessibility via the **crossroads of Interstate 70 and Interstate 135**
- 224. A welcoming place to stay with more than **2,200 diverse lodging rooms** ready for visitors, teams and gatherings
- 225. **Population 49,000**: A community big enough to offer opportunity, but small enough to feel connected
- 226. Right in the geographical **middle of the United States**
- 227. Front-line friendly **Mid-West hospitality** at its best
- 228. **Salina Regional Health Center** and professional providers yielding advanced healthcare close to home
- 229. **BIG** skies and rolling hills
- 230. **Family friendly affordable fun** and educational experiences for enthusiasts of sports, art, history, and food
- 231. Fresh air and space to breathe
- 232. Support for **local businesses** and a love for Salina
- 233. Vibrant with unavoidable art
- 234. Throughout Salina **historic buildings, local businesses and community events**
- 235. Thousands of **volunteers and organizations working together** to make Salina stronger
- 236. Something of Interest for Everyone
- 237. The feeling of **finding something unexpected** around every corner
- 238. Salina memories that stay with you long after you leave
- 239. Quiet Moments
- 240. **Farmers, makers and growers** sharing their local products at community markets
- 241. **Friendliness** of Salina residents
- 242. A central location that makes Salina a **convenient place** to meet and gather
- 243. A fantastic destination for the game, the day, a weekend or even a lifetime
- 244. **Hundreds of local businesses** creating the places, services and experiences that make Salina unique
- 245. A place where you can connect to start your Salina adventure at the **Salina Visitor Center**
- 246. People who take pride in making Salina a better place
- 247. A community that celebrates creativity, competition, history and connection
- 248. **All-American Play Day** in the Park every July 4th in Oakdale Park
- 249. **Skyfire 4th of July fireworks** at Berkley Family Recreation Area
- 250. Discovering your next favorite Salina Experience

**And More!! We invite you to explore these reasons— and discover a few of your own at... [DiscoverSalina.org](http://DiscoverSalina.org)**