



### **Wichita Overview:**

Wichita is the largest city in the state of Kansas. The estimated population of the Wichita metropolitan area is approximately 650,000. The city began as a trading post on the Chisholm Trail in the 1860s, and was incorporated in 1870. It subsequently became a key destination for cattle drives traveling north from Texas to access railroads, earning it the nickname "Cowtown." In the 1920s and 1930s, businessmen and aeronautical engineers established a number of successful aircraft manufacturing companies in Wichita. Lloyd Stearman, Walter Beech, and Clyde Cessna established the Travel Air Manufacturing Company in Wichita in January 26, 1925. The city transformed into a hub of U.S. aircraft production and became known as "The Air Capital of the World." Beechcraft, Cessna, (both now part of Textron Aviation) and other firms including Learjet, Airbus and Spirit AeroSystems continue to operate in Wichita today, and the city remains a major center of the U.S. aircraft industry.

## **Day 1**

### **8:15 a.m.**

**Enjoy breakfast at [Stearman Field Bar & Grill](#) at 14789 SW 30th St. in Benton.** This unique eatery and hangout is located just northeast of Wichita and features delicious, homemade southern style food in an atmosphere that's like no other – on a private airport where aircraft lands and takes off 20 yards from your table.

### **10 a.m.**

Take a journey through African American history in Kansas at [The Kansas African American Museum](#) at 601 N. Water. You will find authentic artwork, photography, sculptures and information about famous African Americans with ties to Kansas. After touring the museum, venture downtown to the site of the [Dockum Sit-in of 1958](#), where two dozen students from Wichita staged what would become the first successful student-led lunch counter sit-in of the Civil Rights movement at the Dockum Drug Store lunch counter. Today, there is a drugstore counter sculpture in Chester I. Lewis Reflection Square Park at 205 W. Douglas Ave., and the Ambassador Hotel Wichita now sits where the historic Dockum Drug Store once was, complete with a speakeasy named Dockum tucked in the basement. In addition to the sculpture, an exhibit detailing the Dockum sit-in can be found at the Wichita-Sedgwick Co. Historical Museum.

### **11:30 a.m.**

Walk around downtown Wichita to check out the many bronze sculptures in the area. Then, enjoy lunch from one of the food trucks at the [ICT Pop-Up Urban Park](#).

### **1 p.m.**

**Learn about Wichita's rich history at the [Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum](#) at 204 S. Main.** In the heart of downtown Wichita, the Museum is located in the original 1890 City Hall with its 170-foot tall clock tower. This exceptional, AAM-accredited museum features four floors of special and long-term

exhibits examining Wichita and Sedgwick County's rich history and cultural heritage. The museum is within walking distance from the Dockum Sit-in Site and the ICT Pop-Up Urban Park.

**2:45 p.m. (closes at 3)**

Grab a milkshake or malt made the old-fashioned way at [Old Mill Tasty Shop](#), a Wichita tradition since 1932 at 604 E. Douglas.

**3:15 p.m.**

Visit the [Mid-American All-Indian Center](#) at 650 N. Seneca. Housing a museum, a gallery of nations and a gift shop, the Mid-America All-Indian Center educates and preserves the heritage of the American Indian. Learn about the legendary artist who designed the Keeper of the Plains, see traditional American Indian artifacts and contemporary artwork and more. We'll walk out to the Keeper of the Plains to experience the monument during the day, and *find the **Wichita Troll***.

**4:30 p.m.**

Check into your hotel, [DoubleTree by Hilton Wichita Airport](#) at 2098 Airport Road. This beautiful property is conveniently located just minutes from downtown and close to attractions like the Sedgwick County Zoo.

**5:15 p.m.**

Enjoy appetizers and craft beer at one of **Wichita's newest breweries**, [Norton's Brewing Company](#), at **125 N. St. Francis St.** They have many indulgent menu items like bacon crack, funnel cake and huge onion rings. Or get a hearty salad, but remember, you only live once.

**6:30 p.m.**

Take in a show at [Mosley Street Melodrama](#) at **234 N. Mosley in Old Town**. Mosley Street Melodrama is Wichita's only audience-participation dinner theatre. With a collection of hit shows with a local flare, you and the family are sure to have a blast, eat amazing BBQ from Pig In, Pig Out BBQ and share in a night of laughter. Doors open at 6; dinner is served from 6:15 to 7:30; show starts at 7:50 p.m.

**8:45 p.m.**

[Keeper of the Plains](#), **650 N. Seneca** (Park at Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean) This is a can't-miss experience in Wichita! The Keeper of the Plains is a 44-foot tall steel sculpture standing at the point where the Big and Little Arkansas rivers join together in downtown Wichita. The complete renovation of the sculpture and installation of the Keeper of the Plains Plaza now brings people out each evening to see the Keeper and the "Ring of Fire" which can be viewed nightly for 15 minutes (**must be there at 9:00 to see the Firepot Lighting**).

For a sweet treat, [Milkfloat](#), in the historic Delano District, stays open until 10 p.m.

**Delano District (@DelanoICT)**

Located along Douglas Avenue on the west bank of the Arkansas River at the end of the Chisholm Trail, Delano was established during the days of the Chisholm Trail cattle drives as a place for the cowboys to blow off steam after months on the trail from Texas. Eventually incorporated into Wichita, Delano is now a thriving shopping district with over 250 businesses, including dining and shopping.

## Day 2

### 8:30 a.m.

Start your day off with breakfast on your own at [Reverie Coffee Roasters/Founders Bakery](#) (@reverieroasters) at 2202 E. Douglas. After breakfast, check out some of the Douglas Design District's (@dddICT) popular murals for photos. **Download the [Douglas Design District Mural app](#) to find them.** When uploading to social media, popular hashtags include: #VisitWichita, #ilovewichita and #ICTMoments. The district is also home to many unique shops, including The Spice Merchant and The Workroom. [The Spice Merchant & Company](#) is Wichita's original gourmet coffee roaster. The family owned business offers hundreds of choices in coffee, teas, spices and specialty foods.

### 10:30 a.m.

**Step back in time and learn about Wichita's history at [Old Cowtown Museum](#)** at 1865 W. Museum Blvd. Experience Wichita like it's 1865. Old Cowtown is a living history museum that lets you immerse yourself in the sights, sounds and activities common to a Midwestern cattle town.

### 12:30 p.m.

Have wood-fired pizza and a hand-crafted beer for lunch at [Wichita Brewing Co. & Pizzeria](#) at 535 N. Woodlawn, Ste. 375.

### 2 p.m.

Visit the [Pizza Hut Museum](#) at 1845 Fairmount, on Wichita State University's campus (open until 4). While at WSU, visit the [Ulrich Museum of Art](#) (open until 5), and don't miss the university's many outdoor sculptures.

### 4:30 p.m.

Stop in for ice cream that is frozen using liquid nitrogen at [Churn & Burn](#), a local hand-crafted ice cream and coffee shop. After, you will have time to refresh at the hotel before dinner.

### 6:30 p.m.

Head to Old Town for dinner and live music at [Public at the Brickyard](#) at 129 N. Rock Island. They seek out the best farmers and beer crafters in the region, so they can serve the area's finest ingredients. Plus, they have an amazing, tucked-away open-air seating area.

### Old Town (@OldTownWichita)

Old Town is nestled in the heart of Wichita, just east of downtown. Among the brick-lined streets and historic lampposts are a collection of converted brick warehouses dating back to the late 1800s. With more than 100 businesses, Old Town has become a destination sought out for its restaurants, shops, clubs, theaters, galleries, museums and stores.

After dinner, check out night life in Old Town and then hop on the free, convenient [Q-Line Trolley](#) (runs from 5pm to 1am) and head east on Douglas Avenue to try local breweries in Douglas Design District: [Hopping Gnome Brewing Company](#) was Wichita's first tap-room only brewery and [Central Standard Brewing](#) is known for its tasty brews and amazing patio. Trolley stops are located approximately every other block and trolleys run about every 10 minutes. A brochure is included in your welcome bag, and you can also find the trolley using the [real time bus locator](#).

## Day 3

### 8:30/9 a.m.

Breakfast on your own at [Chisholm's American Beef and Ale House](#) inside your hotel. While they specialize in an authentic beef house experience, their breakfast is also scrumptious.

**10 a.m.**           **Guided Tour of the [Frank Lloyd Wright Allen House Museum and Study Center](#)** at 255 N. Roosevelt, in the popular and historic College Hill area.

### Noon

**Lunch at [The Kitchen](#), 725 E. Douglas Ave.** (5-minute drive from Wichita Art Museum)

Tucked away towards the back of Union Station in the historic Union Station Baggage Claim building is The Kitchen. Their goal is to offer a fresh, clean, delicious food all made from scratch in a casual, relaxed atmosphere.

**2:45 p.m.**           **Take in the beauty of [Botanica Wichita](#) at 701 N. Amidon.** Since opening in 1987 with four gardens and a horticultural library, Botanica Wichita has added more than 30 additional themed gardens and exhibits to delight new visitors and those who return for repeat visits. This botanical paradise on the plains comprises over 18 acres of stunning gardenscaping that features over 4,000 species of plants both native and new to the region.

**3 p.m.**           Continue exploring the Museums on the River with a tour at the [Wichita Art Museum](#). One of Wichita's Museums on the River, the Wichita Art Museum is home to an outstanding collection of American art. The new Art Garden surrounds the museum with plantings and pathways highlighting outdoor sculpture. Admission is always free on Saturdays.

**6 p.m.**           **Dinner at [Café Bel Ami](#) in downtown Wichita** at 229 E. William, Suite 101. For outstanding French Mediterranean cuisine, this long-established restaurant is a Wichita favorite. The downtown location makes it convenient for a special meal before a night out on the town.

**7:30 p.m.**           **Enjoy a concert at [INTRUST Bank Arena](#).** This award-winning facility in downtown Wichita attracts headliners like Carrie Underwood, Metallica and Pink, and is within walking distance from Café Bel Ami.

## Day 4

### 8:30 a.m.

**Breakfast on your own at [Donut Whole](#), 1720 E. Douglas** (10 to 15-minute drive from hotel)

The Donut Whole is a coffeehouse, donut shop, art gallery and live music venue located in the Douglas Design District. They do things the old-fashioned way, making every batch of donuts from scratch using fresh, locally-sourced ingredients - but with a fun, modern twist. They offer 40+ varieties of rich, moist cake donuts in delicious flavors such as root beer float, maple bacon, sunshine citrus crunch and so many more.

**9:30 a.m.**

**Spend your morning at [Sedgwick County Zoo](#) at 5555 Zoo Blvd.**

Sedgwick County Zoo, the seventh-largest zoo in the nation and No. 1 outdoor family tourist attraction in Kansas, has a phenomenal new exhibit, Elephants of the Zambezi River Valley. It encompasses more than five acres of sprawling outdoors space, plus indoor facility and world's largest elephant pool at 550,000 gallons. You can also come face to face with the wildest animals from around the world. See eye to eye with endangered chimpanzees and orangutans. Get to know the gorillas of The Downing Gorilla Forest and spend the day with colorful birds, playful penguins, poison dart frogs and more than 3,000 other individual animals of all sizes, shapes and colors.

**12:30 p.m.**

**Lunch at [Ziggy's Pizza - West](#): 8404 W. 13<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 100**

Ziggy's is a locally-owned restaurant serving delicious pizza, sandwiches and salads at three Wichita locations. Try the monthly special – it's always something fun and creative!

**2 p.m.**

**Explore wildlife at [Tanganyika Wildlife Park](#): 1000 S. Hawkins Lane, Goddard KS**

Tanganyika Wildlife Park is an exotic destination just 15 minutes from downtown. This premiere event facility is located in Goddard, on the west side of Wichita, and features three venue spaces that can accommodate a wide variety of parties and celebrations. This serene location provides some amazing backdrops for photos with beautiful landscapes and some of the world's most rare and endangered animals.

**6 p.m.**

**Dinner at [B & C Barbeque](#) at 355 N. Washington in Old Town.** Every city has their own hidden treasures, and Wichita is no different. Since 1996, Wichita has been home to one of the Midwest's best barbecue secrets: B&C Barbeque, a freshly-prepared barbecue buffet. They have recently remodeled and now offer a dinner buffet and sports bar atmosphere.

**7:30 p.m.**

**Spend your last evening in Wichita at local brewery [Aero Plains Brewing](#) at 117 N. Handley St. in the Historic Delano District.** Aero Plains Brewing celebrates the history of Wichita. Their beer is brewed at the crossroads of history and innovation, where the Chisholm Trail meets the runways of the Air Capital of the World. They often feature live music and various entertainment throughout the year.

**We hope you have a wonderful time in Wichita.  
Let us know if we can be of assistance to you while you are here!**