

Attractions and more...

# CENTRAL REGION

## Schuyler/Colfax County

Schuyler Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center  
1119 B Street #2, Schuyler  
(402) 352-5472 | [www.schuylernebraska.net](http://www.schuylernebraska.net)

## St. Benedict Center & Benedictine Mission House

1126 Road 1 | (402) 352-8819  
St. Benedict is a retreat and conference center, and an architectural masterpiece decorated with artwork from around the world.



St. Benedict Center

## Columbus/Platte County

Columbus/Platte County Visitors Center  
753 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Columbus  
(402) 564-2769 | [www.visitcolumbusne.com](http://www.visitcolumbusne.com)

## Andrew Jackson Higgins National Memorial

2001 A.J. Higgins Road  
(402) 564-2769  
The memorial includes a full-size replica of a Higgins boat, steel from the World Trade Center, freedom eagle, memorial wall and life-size bronze soldiers.

A.J. Higgins Memorial

## Pawnee Plunge Water Park

560 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue | (402) 562-4269  
The park features zero-depth entry, splash play area, numerous slides, lazy river and food court.

## Central City/Merrick County

Central City Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center  
1532 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Central City  
(308) 946-3897 | [www.cc-ne.com/ccne/chamber-of-commerce](http://www.cc-ne.com/ccne/chamber-of-commerce)

## Merrick County Historical Museum

211 E Street, Central City | (308) 946-2757  
The museum is housed in the gorgeous Traver mansion, and features colorful accounts of city and county history.

Kearney & Grand Island Sandhill Crane Migration  
(800) 658-3178  
Discover one of the wonders of the natural world as nearly 500,000 sandhill cranes gather in the Plate River Valley from mid-February to mid-April.



Sandhill Crane

## Fremont/Dodge County

Fremont/Dodge County Visitors Center  
338 North Nye Street, Fremont  
(402) 753-6414 | [www.visitfremontne.org](http://www.visitfremontne.org)

## Louis E. May Historical Museum

1643 North Nye Avenue | (402) 721-4515  
This beautiful Victorian 25-50 room mansion was built by Fremont's first mayor and houses the Dodge County Historical Society.

## Fremont State Lakes

2351 County Road 18 | (402) 727-3290  
About 40 land acres and nearly 300 water acres this is a favorite area with campers, picnickers and water enthusiasts – from boating to fishing and water skiing.

## North Bend/Dodge County

City of North Bend/Visitors Center  
607 Main Street, North Bend  
(402) 652-3584 | [www.northbendne.org](http://www.northbendne.org)

## Veterans Memorial Park

6<sup>th</sup> & Main Streets | (402) 652-3584  
The park honors all veterans who have served in the Armed Forces, with bronze sculptures representing various military branches.



photo courtesy North Bend Eagle

# EASTERN REGION

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## Omaha/Douglas County

Omaha Visitors Center  
1001 Farnam Street, Omaha  
(402) 444-4660 | [www.visitomaha.com](http://www.visitomaha.com)

## Henry Doorly Zoo

1-80 Exit 454 | (402) 733-8401  
The Henry Doorly Zoo features the world's largest indoor desert, rainforest and nocturnal exhibit, as well as the Scott Aquarium, Orangutan Forest, Gorilla Valley, Cat Complex, Bear Canyon and more.



Henry Doorly Zoo

## Joslyn Art Museum

2200 Dodge Street | (402) 342-3300  
Joslyn is Nebraska's largest art museum, and has been named one of the 10 best art museums in the nation for children.

## Blair/Washington County

Blair Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center  
1646 Washington Street, Blair  
(402) 533-4455 | [www.blairchamber.org](http://www.blairchamber.org)

## DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge

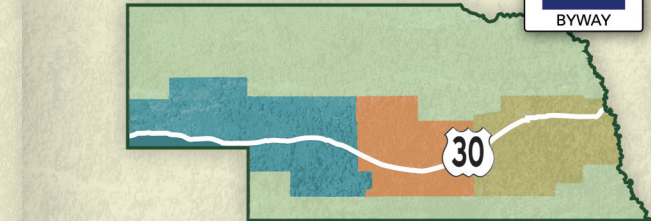
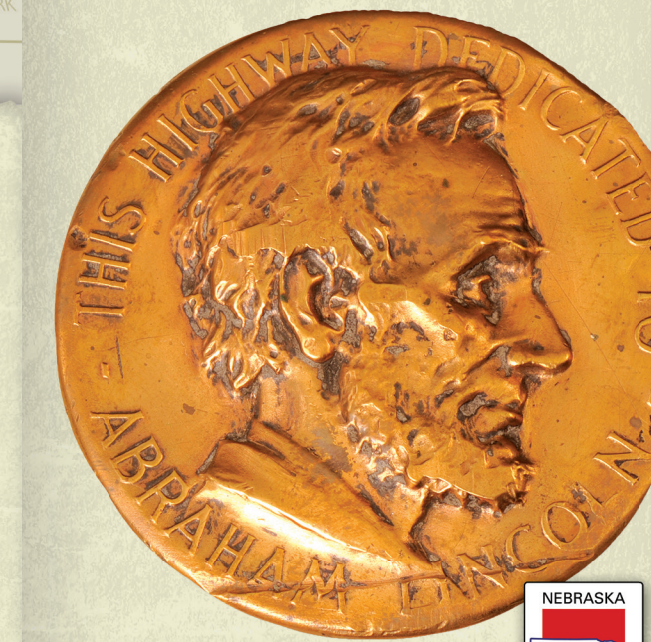
5 miles East on US Hwy 30 | (712) 642-4121  
The Refuge provides a haven for wildlife along the Missouri River. The visitor's center houses a collection of 1865-era artifacts from the wreckage of the Bertrand steamboat.

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# WESTERN REGION

# NEBRASKA Lincoln Highway

Historic Byway Guide



LincolnHighwayNebraskaByway.com

**North Platte/Lincoln County**  
North Platte/Lincoln County Visitors Center  
101 Halligan Drive, North Platte  
(308) 532-4729 | [www.visitnorthplattellc.com](http://www.visitnorthplattellc.com)

**Golden Spike Tower**  
1249 Homestead Road | (308) 532-9920  
[www.goldenspiketower.com](http://www.goldenspiketower.com)  
See a panoramic view of world's largest railroad yard, the Union Pacific's Bailey Yard, and the sweeping Platte River Valley. The Visitor Center includes railroad memorabilia and a well stocked gift shop. Open year-round.

**Lincoln County Historical Museum**  
2403 North Buffalo Bill Avenue | (308) 534-5640  
The museum houses the famous World War II Centenn exhibit, which tells the story of local volunteers who served more than six million servicemen and women during World War II. A western prairie village, complete with homes, school, church and railway depot is located behind the museum.

**Cody Park Train Museum**  
1400 North Jeffers, North Platte, Cody Park  
The only Challenger 3900 series steam locomotive on public display, accompanied by a 6900 series diesel locomotive. These two locomotives have a combined horsepower of more than 12,000! Also on display is a fully restored railroad depot, several rail cars, a caboose and railroad memorabilia.

**Ogallala/Keith County**  
Ogallala/Keith County Visitors Center  
119 East 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ogallala  
(308) 284-4066 | [www.explorekeithcounty.com](http://www.explorekeithcounty.com)

**Chappell Memorial Library**  
289 Babcock Avenue  
(308) 874-9912 | [www.chappellne.org](http://www.chappellne.org)  
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**Big Springs Natural Spring**  
Located at Swimming Pool Park, this natural spring was used in the late 1800s to supply water to the railroad, and is in working order today. Big Springs is also site of the Sam Bass train robbery.

**Fort Sidney Museum & Post Commanders Home**  
1108 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sidney, NE | (866) 545-4030  
Original buildings built in 1869 as part of the "Sidney Barracks" still remain to house a museum and to show how life was lived by the soldiers guarding the railroad workers. Open Memorial Day thru Labor Day or by appointment.

**Potter Sandry/Duckpin Bowling Alley**  
324 Chestnut Street, Potter | (308) 879-4549  
Home of the "Tin Roof Sundae" this old fashioned soda fountain is home to what is believed to be the only working duckpin bowling alley west of the Mississippi.

**Kimball/Kimball County**  
Kimball/Kimball County Visitors Center  
204 South Kimball Avenue, Kimball  
(308) 241-0573 | [www.visitkimball.com](http://www.visitkimball.com)  
**High Point of Nebraska**  
View Nebraska's spectacular wide open spaces at this beautiful natural attraction located 30 minutes Southwest of Kimball. Open year round.

**Four Winds Golf Course**  
At nearly 9,000 feet, this 18-hole championship golf course is the highest in Nebraska.

**Boot Hill Cemetery**  
West 10th Street & Parkhill Dr.  
This is the final resting place for many cowboys, drivers, and settlers (most buried with their boots on) who helped make Ogallala a booming cow town in the 1800s.

**Perfited Wood Gallery**  
418 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Ogallala | (308) 284-9996  
A prize-winning collection of hand-crafted art work specializing in ancient woods, fossils and many rare pieces of petrified wood - some millions of years old, collected by twin brothers Howard & Harvey Kenfield for over 45 years. Open year-round.

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Home of the "Tin Roof Sundae" this old fashioned soda fountain is home to what is believed to be the only working duckpin bowling alley west of the Mississippi.

**Kimball/Kimball County**  
Kimball/Kimball County Visitors Center  
204 South Kimball Avenue, Kimball  
(308) 241-0573 | [www.visitkimball.com](http://www.visitkimball.com)  
**High Point of Nebraska**  
View Nebraska's spectacular wide open spaces at this beautiful natural attraction located 30 minutes Southwest of Kimball. Open year round.

**Four Winds Golf Course**  
At nearly 9,000 feet, this 18-hole championship golf course is the highest in Nebraska.

**Boot Hill Cemetery**  
West 10th Street & Parkhill Dr.  
This is the final resting place for many cowboys, drivers, and settlers (most buried with their boots on) who helped make Ogallala a booming cow town in the 1800s.

**Perfited Wood Gallery**  
418 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Ogallala | (308) 284-9996  
A prize-winning collection of hand-crafted art work specializing in ancient woods, fossils and many rare pieces of petrified wood - some millions of years old, collected by twin brothers Howard & Harvey Kenfield for over 45 years. Open year-round.

**Chappell Memorial Library**  
289 Babcock Avenue  
(308) 874-9912 | [www.chappellne.org](http://www.chappellne.org)  
The library houses a large Nebraska rock exhibit, and the art collection of Mrs. Charles Henry Chappell, wife of the town's founder, including paintings from famous Nebraska artists, Aaron Gunn Pyle.

**Big Springs Natural Spring**  
Located at Swimming Pool Park, this natural spring was used in the late 1800s to supply water to the railroad, and is in working order today. Big Springs is also site of the Sam Bass train robbery.

**Fort Sidney Museum & Post Commanders Home**  
1108 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sidney, NE | (866) 545-4030  
Original buildings built in 1869 as part of the "Sidney Barracks" still remain to house a museum and to show how life was lived by the soldiers guarding the railroad workers. Open Memorial Day thru Labor Day or by appointment.

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**Kimball** (Pop. 3,689)

In 1913, the year the Lincoln Highway began, Kimball County had 32 automobiles. By September 1914, every fifth telephone pole in the county carried the Lincoln Highway logo. The route through town is still marked today with metal Lincoln Highway signs.



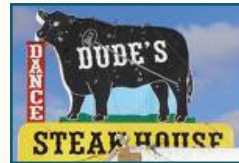
Wheat Growers Hotel

**Potter** (Pop. 337)

A descendant of the original owner has carefully converted an early 1920's **Conoco service station** into an antique shop. The Lincoln Highway route is marked through town with metal Lincoln Highway signs.



Conoco Service Station



Dude's Steak House

**Sidney** (Pop. 6,914)

**Dude's Steak House**, (308) 254-9080, opened in 1952 and remains authentic, with old west murals on the inside walls and western décor throughout. Historic downtown Sidney has many preserved buildings from the Lincoln Highway era. Both the Carnegie Library and the post office are still in use. The route is marked through town with metal Lincoln Highway signs.

**Lodgepole** (Pop. 319)

The historic opera house building is closed, but the building's rustic appearance and old signage take you back to another time. A descendant of the owner of the old Finch's Drug and Sundries now operates an antique store from the site.

**Chappell** (Pop. 926)

The old route is marked through town with metal signs. The 20-mile stretch from Chappell to Big Springs is known for its beautiful, unchanged scenery.



Phelps Hotel

**Big Springs** (Pop. 400)

Completely renovated, the Phelps Hotel once again welcomes visitors for special occasions, including use of the coffee shop and sleeping rooms.

**Brule** (Pop. 316)

The utility poles are painted with Lincoln Highway signs to show the old Lincoln Highway route through town - the traditional way of marking the route.

**Ogallala** (Pop. 4,606)

A Standard Oil Red Crown filling station in 1922, the historic **Spruce Street Station**, (308) 284-6464, is graced with pumps from the 1930's. Owned by the city, the completely renovated station is a visitor's center during the summer, with a garage available year-round for groups and gatherings.



Conoco Service Station

**Paxton** (Pop. 529)

**Ole's Big Game Steakhouse and Lounge**, (308) 239-4500, opened one minute after midnight, August 9, 1933, which is the day prohibition ended. For over 50 years Ole traveled the world in search of trophy game. Today, over 200 mounts adorn the wall of this famous family eatery with memorabilia from the 30's, 40's and 50's.

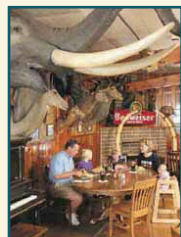


Buffalo Bill State Historical Park

**North Platte** (Pop. 24,534)

A popular attraction today, the old Lincoln Highway took tourists by William "Buffalo Bill" Cody's beautiful ranch and home built during the heyday of his Wild West Show.

Visitors to the **Buffalo Bill State Historical Park**, (308) 535-8035, can tour his home and barn.



Ole's Big Game Steakhouse & Lounge

**Maxwell** (Pop. 312)

Follow the Old Lincoln Highway street signs south of the railroad tracks and west out of town to follow the original route. Fort McPherson, one of only two national cemeteries in Nebraska and one of America's most beautiful, is located two miles south of I-80 Exit 190. Fort McPherson once guarded the Oregon Trail.



**Gothenburg** (Pop. 3,558)

Located in Ehmen Park, the **Pony Express Station**, (308) 537-9876, was as popular during the Lincoln Highway era as it is today. **The Gothenburg berm**, a nationally significant piece of the remaining "stair steps," is located one mile south of I-80, connecting with Highway 47. Since there was no bridge over the Platte River west of Gothenburg for many years, the Lincoln Highway turned south at Gothenburg and followed a stair step of roads to North Platte. The historic stair steps can be followed on the road map today.

Also visit the Gothenburg Historical Museum located across from Ehmen Park at 15<sup>th</sup> and Ave. F.



Robert Henri Museum

**Cozad** (Pop. 3,934)

The **Robert Henri Museum**, (308) 784-4154, commemorates the world-renowned artist for whom it is named. Robert Henri was the son of Cozad's founding father, John J. Cozad. The building, built by the Cozad family more than a century ago, was Henri's childhood home. When the family left, it served Lincoln Highway travelers as the Hendee Hotel. Located next door is the 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Museum which was once a Lincoln Highway car garage.



Lincoln Highway - Gothenburg Berm

**Lexington** (Pop. 10,146)

See the Lincoln Highway exhibit in the **Dawson County Historical Museum**, (308) 324-5340.

**Overton** (Pop. 588)

Quarter mile east of Overton, between Highway 30 and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, is an old Lincoln Highway **concrete bridge** with a logo painted on the outside wing wall.



Overton Bridge

**Elm Creek** (Pop. 934)

On the east edge of town are several buildings with red tile roofs from the former **Red Top Cabin Camp**.



**Kearney** (Pop. 32,469)

A few miles west of Kearney is the old **Covered Wagon tourist stop**, with the covered wagon and concrete oxen still outside. The main building, oxen and wagon are currently being restored. Just east of this location was the 1733 Ranch, where a sign read "1733 miles to Frisco, 1733 miles to Boston." **The Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)**, (308) 865-8559, is housed in a 1911 Renaissance Revival building that once served as a post office. MONA collects, preserves and exhibits work from artists with connections to Nebraska. Kearney's **historic downtown district**, called "The Bricks," is adjacent to the Lincoln Highway.



Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)

**Gibbon** (Pop. 1,851)

An old **Ford garage** is now an antique car restoration shop on Highway 30.

**Shelton** (Pop. 1,079)

Known today as **Nebraska's Lincoln Highway capital**, Shelton has two blocks of original bricks and painted utility poles to mark the old route through town. An old Bromoseltzer billboard at the brick intersection is being refurbished. The **Lincoln Highway Visitors Center**, (308) 390-4123, is located in the old bank from the era on Highway 30, featuring Lincoln Highway exhibits, memorabilia and brochures.

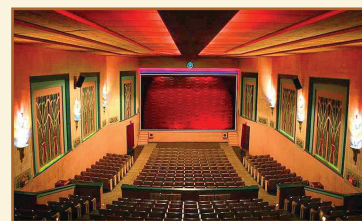
**Wood River** (Pop. 1,361)

On the east edge of town is the historic **Gloe Brothers Service Station**, which has been carefully converted into a drive-thru bank.

**Grand Island** (Pop. 50,000)

See the **historic downtown district**, including the **Grand Theatre**, (308) 381-2667, a 1937 Art Deco Theatre on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, just off the Lincoln Highway. A museum of Grand Island show houses is in the basement. Call ahead for a tour. Movies every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The tiny **Kensinger Filling Station**, east of town, has been open since 1933. Just north of the Kensinger Station is the **only piece of original Seedling Mile that remains in the U.S.** Poured in 1915 it is a nationally significant piece of remaining road. Further east, on the corner of Highway 30 and Shady Bend Road, stands the filling station building from the **Shady Bend Cabin Camp**. The camp was well known for its tennis courts, pool, and roaming herd of buffalo.



Grand Theatre



**Central City** (Pop. 2,906)

Built in 1912, the **Merrick County Court House** housed the first meeting in the United States to ratify the Lincoln Highway proclamation in 1913. It was also the last. The **Lincoln Manor Steak House**, (308) 946-3569, on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, renamed for the Lincoln Highway, has been serving guests since 1887. The old route is marked with painted signs on utility poles through town.

**Clarks** (Pop. 355)

A large **Lincoln Highway mural** is painted on the side of a veterinary building downtown, and the old route through town is marked with painted signs on utility poles.

**Duncan** (Pop. 365)

The **Avenue of Trees**, which once flanked the Lincoln Highway, date back to the early days of the Lincoln Highway and mark the former camping location in Duncan.



Dusters Restaurant & Gottberg Brew Pub

**Columbus** (Pop. 22,630)

**Dusters Restaurant/Gottberg Brew Pub**, (402) 564-8338, named for the long jackets worn by travelers on the Lincoln Highway, is one of the best in the state. Housed in the unique Gottberg building, which was built in 1920 to assemble and sell Fords, antique cars made of cement ornament the tops of the outside walls. Historic **Glur's Tavern**, (402) 564-8615, established in 1876, is the oldest continuously operated tavern west of the Missouri River.

**Schuyler** (Pop. 6,169)

The **Oak Ballroom**, (402) 352-9972, was built as a Works Program Administration (WPA) project during the depression and is known



The Oak Ballroom

for its hand-hewn native oak timbers and native stone. It opened in 1937 to the music of Lawrence Welk and his orchestra, and hosted other big name bands including Guy Lombardo, Jan Garber, Ray Pearl, Gene Krupa and Tex Beneke. Tours available by appointment. Two blocks of original Lincoln Highway bricks laid in 1923 can be found on B Street, just past 14<sup>th</sup> Street, and A Street bricks between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Street are original to the route.

**North Bend** (Pop. 1,234)

Originally a bank, the **Corner Café**, (402) 652-8703, has been operating since the 1930s.

**Fremont** (Pop. 26,500)

Three blocks of original Lincoln Highway bricks remain on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, between Broad and Nye Streets. Metal Lincoln Highway signs mark the route through town.

**Elkhorn** (Suburb of Omaha)

The **Elkhorn Bricks**, a 3.6 mile stretch of 1920 brick road east of Elkhorn, may be the most famous brick street in America. It is well worth the time to drive this significant piece of original Lincoln Highway. To access the old brick section, exit Dodge Road at 168<sup>th</sup> St., turn west onto Burt Plaza and then north onto the Old Lincoln Highway, 174<sup>th</sup> St. Several cement Lincoln Highway markers and signs painted on utility poles mark the old route through town, and an original pony truss bridge remains over West Papillion Creek. The interior of **Boyd and Charles BBQ**, (402) 289-4772, along the route resembles an old time saloon.



Elkhorn Bricks photo by R. Neibel

**Omaha** (Pop. 427,872)

The Lincoln Highway route through Omaha follows Dodge Road and Dodge Street to the I-480 interchange. "He ain't heavy, he's my brother." One of Nebraska's top attractions, the **Boys Town**, (402) 498-1140, campus shares the history of Father Flanagan's dream to care for America's children.

In 1949, Fr. Flanagan had a pylon built with 'Boys Town' in large letters at the Lincoln Highway entrance to the village of Boys Town so boys who were walking there to find a home would be able to locate it easier.

Union Station was a bustling train station and a popular restaurant stop for Lincoln Highway travelers in Omaha. Today it houses the **Durham Museum**, (402) 444-5071, the region's premier history museum and an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. Built in 1905, **Saint Cecelia's Cathedral**, (402) 558-3100, in Omaha has its own museum that tells the history of how it took 50 years to complete this Spanish-style landmark.



Boys Town



Durham Museum

**Blair** (Pop. 7,990)

The Lincoln Highway entrance to Nebraska was moved from Omaha to Blair in 1930, making the route 33 miles shorter, thanks to a new bridge across the Missouri River. A monument has been placed at a forgotten corner of the Lincoln Highway "B-Line" through Blair at 10<sup>th</sup> and Jackson Streets.

**HISTORIC POINTS OF INTEREST**  
*From the "Lincoln Highway Era"*



LincolnHighwayNebraskaByway.com