



Photo by R. Neibel

Nebraska's
Lincoln Highway
Scenic & Historic Byway
Group Travel Itinerary





About

The Nebraska Lincoln Highway Scenic & Historic Byway follows along the Platte River Valley, the Union Pacific railroad through diverse landscapes that range from buttes in the east, to abundant farmland, our famous cattle country, prairies that meander into Sandhills and end with pine bluffs in the west. Along the way there are vineyards, wineries and breweries.

Travel the Byway to experience outstanding attractions (some one of a kind), delicious dining with many distinctive Nebraska dishes, shopping from big city malls to quaint small town shops, mom & pop lodging to popular national chains. As well as world class museums that feature history, art, quilts and agriculture to internationally renowned wildlife.

Explore the history of the Lincoln Highway at historical sites and visitor centers along the way. Each of our communities is ready to welcome you and to share their Lincoln Highway memories and attractions.

Visit our website:

LincolnHighwayNebraskaByway.com





Western Region

Entering Nebraska from Wyoming on Highway 30, you are following the original 1913 route of the Lincoln Highway. Highlights along this section include an old-fashioned fountain at the Potter Sundry and the home of Cabela's, the World's Foremost Outfitter, at Sidney. In Ogallala, you'll find a restored 1920 era filling station, and for a unique driving experience, you can take the "stair-step" route between North Platte and Gothenburg.

Kimball

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. The **Wheat Growers Hotel** was built in 1918 and was considered the most glamorous hotel between Omaha and Denver. Dwight Eisenhower stayed there in 1919 during his historic military trip across the Lincoln Highway. Although, no longer in operation, with 86 rooms, a restaurant and ballroom, the hotel became the hub for railroad travelers and locals alike. View Nebraska's spectacular wide open spaces year round at **Panorama Point**. The highest natural point in Nebraska can be found 30 minutes southwest of Kimball.

Potter

The Lincoln Highway route is marked through town with metal Lincoln Highway signs. A **1920's Conoco service station** has been carefully converted into a coffee shop. **The Potter Sundry** is an old fashioned soda fountain and is home to Tin Roof Sundae. Take a step back in time and visit Potter's **Historic Duckpin Bowling Alley**. This 3 lane duckpin bowling alley has been around since the 1920's or 1930's.

Sidney

Original buildings of the **Fort Sidney Museum & Post Commanders Home** 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.

Ogallala

A Standard Oil Red Crown filling station in 1922, the historic **Spruce Street Station**, 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. **Boot Hill Cemetery** is the final resting place for many cowboys, drifters, and settlers (most buried with their boots on) who helped make Ogallala a booming cow town in the 1800s.

Paxton

Ole's Big Game Steakhouse and Lounge, 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.

North Platte

See a panoramic view of Union Pacific's Bailey Yard, the world's largest railroad yard, and the sweeping Platte River Valley from the **Golden Spike Tower**. The Visitor Center includes railroad memorabilia and a well stocked gift shop. A popular attraction today, the old Lincoln Highway took tourists by William "Buffalo Bill" Cody's beautiful ranch and home built during the hey-day of his Wild West Show. Visitors to the **Buffalo Bill State Historical Park** can tour his home and barn.

Maxwell

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



Central Region

Explore the historic Lincoln Highway in Central Nebraska! See the Gothenburg Berm, a nationally significant piece of the remaining "stair steps." In Cozad, you'll cross the 100th Meridian and be in the geographic center of the United States and the Lincoln Highway. Stroll and shop on The Bricks in downtown Kearney. Enjoy the Lincoln Highway Visitors Center in Shelton that features exhibits and memorabilia, and a must-see in Grand Island is the only remaining section of a paved Seeding Mile in the United States.

Gothenburg

Located in Ehmen Park, the **Pony Express Station** was as popular during the Lincoln Highway era as it is today. **The Gothenburg berm**, a nationally significant piece of the remaining "stair steps," connects 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.

Cozad

The Robert Henri Museum 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 **100th Meridian Museum** which was once a Lincoln Highway car garage.

Lexington

See, touch and even sit in some of the vehicles which date from World War II at the **Heartland Military Museum**. Vehicles are restored to working order and sometimes taken out for a drive. Weapons, uniforms, equipment, photos, a gift shop and more await you.

Kearney

A few miles west of Kearney is the old **Covered Wagon tourist stop**, with the covered wagon and concrete oxen still outside. Just east of this location was the 1733 Ranch, where a sign read "1733 miles to Frisco, 1733 miles to Boston." Currently undergoing a renovation and expansion, **The Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)** is housed in a 1911 Renaissance Revival

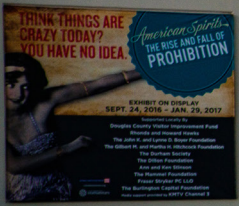
building that once served as a post office. MONA collects, preserves and exhibits work from artists with connections to Nebraska. **The Archway** is a fantastic eight-story museum that spans Interstate 80, offers a self-guided audio tour. From trail ruts to diners, the Archway explores the routes that opened and settled the West and presents the historic transcontinental roads that followed the Platte Valley, including the Lincoln Highway. **Central Nebraska Sandhill Crane Migration** Discover one of the wonders of the natural world as nearly one million sandhill cranes gather in the Platte River Valley from mid-February to mid-April. Audubon's Rowe Sanctuary and Crane Trust Nature Center are strategically spaced to escort groups to view the cranes.

Shelton

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 **Bromo-Seltzer billboard** dates to the 1920s can be seen from the brick intersection.

Grand Island

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. **The Stuhr Museum** is a world-class, nationally recognized educational and cultural destination. For over 40 years, Stuhr has given visitors a glimpse of pioneer life. Its 200 acres include permanent indoor exhibits and the Stuhr building, the Fonner Rotunda and Railroad Town.



Eastern Region

The eastern region follows the Platte River Valley from Central City to Omaha and Blair. The Merrick County Courthouse in Central City housed the first meeting in the U.S. to ratify the Lincoln Highway in 1913. While in Columbus stop at Duster's Restaurant and Gottberg Brew Pub in its historic 1920s building. A must-drive on the original route is the most famous brick street in America at Elkhorn, and visitors can tour Boys Town in Omaha where Fr. Flanagan built his world-acclaimed home for boys on the Lincoln Highway.

Duncan

The **Avenue of Trees**, which once flanked the Lincoln Highway, dates back to the early days of the Lincoln Highway and marks the former camping location in Duncan. Across the street is an original Lincoln Highway marker still in its original spot.

Columbus

Dusters Restaurant/Gottberg Brew Pub, 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, established in 1876, is the oldest continuously operated tavern west of the Missouri River.

Schuyler

The **Oak Ballroom** was built as a Works Program Administration (WPA) project during the Depression and is known for its hand-hewn native oak timber and native stone. It opened in 1937 to the music of Larrence Welk and his orchestra. **Two blocks of original Lincoln Highway bricks** laid in 1923 can be found downtown. The Schuyler Department of Utilities is housed in the **original Kopak Brothers Garage** built in 1907. In its day it was touted as the finest garage between Omaha and Denver.

Fremont

Three blocks of original Lincoln Highway bricks remain on 10th Street, between Broad and Nye Streets. Metal Lincoln Highway signs mark the route through town. **The Fremont Opera House** was built in 1888 and is one of the largest remaining opera houses in the state of Nebraska.

Elkhorn

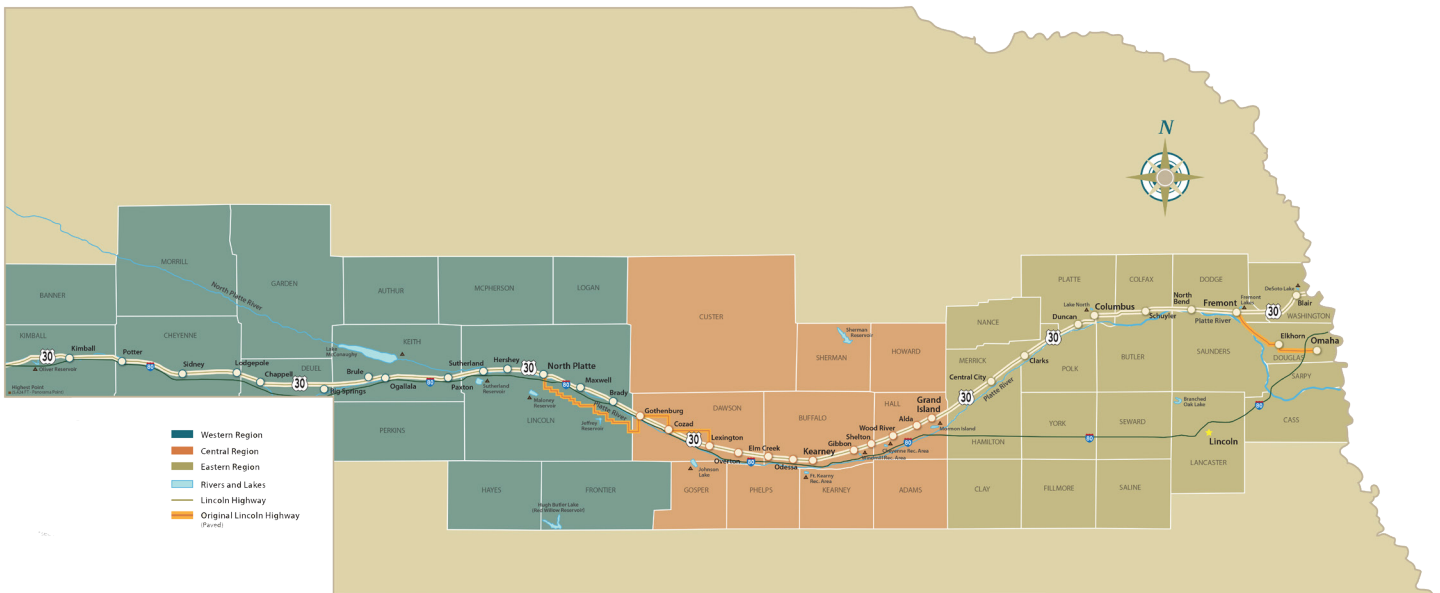
The Historic Elkhorn Bricks, a 3.6 mile stretch of 1920 brick road east of Elkhorn, may be the **most famous brick street in America**. It is well worth the time to drive this significant piece of the original Lincoln Highway. To access the old brick section, exit Dodge Road at 168th St., turn west onto Burt Plaza and then north onto the Old Lincoln Highway, 174th 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 Charlies BBQ**, along the route resembles an old time saloon.

Omaha

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**, 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.

Blair

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 10th and Jackson Streets.



Visit Us

LincolnHighwayNebraskaByway.com

View the interactive map:

LincolnHighwayAssoc.org/map/

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