

# EASTERN NEBRASKA ENCOUNTERS SAMPLE TOUR ITINERARY

Explore eastern Nebraska's many unique attractions, destinations, and communities. Outdoor adventures, innovative agricultural technology, Native American history and culture, creative works of art, and amazing food are part of all the many opportunities that make up this exciting land west of the mighty Missouri River.

## Travel Day to Omaha Fremont

Overnight: Omaha

#### **Bryson's Airboat Tours**

Speeding down the Platte River in an airboat in Fremont is an awesome way to start your eastern Nebraska encounters experience.

# DAY 1 Omaha

Overnight: Omaha

#### **Omaha Guided City Tour**

Explore this exciting city on a guided citywide tour of Omaha.

#### **Durham Museum**

Located in the former Union Station, this top museum offers highlights the history and development of Nebraska's largest city. Make sure to visit the authentic train cars on display on the downstairs station platform.

#### **Historic Old Market District**

Wind down the day in this turn-of-the-century marketplace of brick streets and buildings with a variety of quaint restaurants and shops.

#### Lauritzen Gardens

This exceptional living museum features four seasonal horticultural displays of beautiful indoor floral exhibits, outdoor display plantings and natural plant communities. Wander through 100 acres of gardens, including a rose garden, Victorian garden, children's garden, model railroad garden, and the Marjorie K. Daugherty Conservatory. Seasonal narrated tram tours of the gardens also are available.

#### **Father Flanagan's Boys Town**

An experienced guide will give an insider's view of life in the Village and recount the many inspiring stories of Father Flanagan and his vision to help wayward boys.

#### DAY 2

#### Tekamah • Bancroft • Stanton • Norfolk

Overnight: Norfolk

#### Master's Hand Candle Company & Gift Shop

Known locally as "every woman's dream store," this unique gift shop has everything from excellent lunches, jewelry, candles, home décor, and chocolates to hands-on learning classes where you can make your own candle or flower arrangement to take home. Make sure to check out the "work of art" restroom.

#### John G. Neihardt State Historic Site

Facility tour and an entertaining presenter to talk about Neihardt's life and read excerpts from his novels, such as *Black Elk Speaks*. His outdoor study will be open so groups can walk inside.

#### **Red Road Herbs**

Reconnect with and learn all about herbs and how to use them in our everyday lives. More than 100 herbs grow in cultivated gardens in this cozy woodland setting. Hands-on learning experiences about herbs and how to use them can be included.

#### Johnny Carson's Boyhood Home

The owner will be on site to talk about the house and the renovations he's done. He has some videos featuring Johnny Carson to show groups. A pre-dinner cocktail hour happens downstairs.

#### **Black Cow Fat Pig**

Dine in one of the premier steakhouses in northeast Nebraska.

#### DAY 3

#### Norfolk • Columbus • Genoa • York

Overnight: Lincoln

#### **Elkhorn Valley Museum & Research Center**

Meet a young Johnny Carson who will show you the exhibit dedicated to his long television career. On display is an impressive collection of his personal items, including videotapes, vintage photographs and his six Emmy Awards. An interactive home theater shows selected *Tonight Show* episodes and monologues.

#### **Larson Dairy Farm**

Learn more about modern, innovative farming technology at this fully automated dairy farm, one of three robotic dairies in Nebraska.

#### **Daniels Produce**

Visit this 600 acre family owned and operated produce grower, packer, and shipper working farm.

#### **Genoa Indian School**

In operation from 1884 to 1934, this was one of the nation's 16 Indian Boarding Schools established by the federal government. Gain a deeper understanding of what everyday life was like at the school for its students.

#### **Wessel's Living History Farm**

Learn first-hand how farm life and agriculture have changed from the 1920s to modern day farming techniques and technologies.

#### **Clayton Museum of Ancient History**

Experience life in the ancient world of Mesopotamia and the Roman Empire, and leave a prayer in an accurate reproduction of the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

#### DAY 4

#### Lincoln • Beatrice

Overnight: Lincoln

#### **Nebraska State Capitol**

At 15 stories and 400 feet tall, it is the second-tallest statehouse in the country and offers a spectacular view of the city from the 14<sup>th</sup> floor observation deck.

#### **Nebraska Governor's Mansion**

Guided tour of the governor's residence. The Nebraska State Capitol is across the street which would be a good additional stop, time permitting.

#### **Museum of American Speed**

This 135,000 sq. ft. museum presents a chronology of automotive racing and speed equipment development while preserving, interpreting, and displaying items significant in racing and automotive history.)

#### **Homestead National Monument of America**

Step back to a time when the Homestead Act of 1862 enticed millions of people to move to the frontier and cultivate this often-harsh landscape. Explore the Homestead Heritage Center, hiking trails through virgin prairie grasses, and living history demonstrations.

### DAY 5

#### Lincoln • Nebraska City

Overnight: Lincoln

#### **International Quilt Study Center**

Explore this wonderful museums that houses the world's largest publicly held quilt collection. Tour its high-tech storage facility and quilt exhibitions before going "behind the scenes" to view quilts that are hundreds of years old.

#### **Arbor Day Farm**

Explore this 260-acre working farm orchard and forest, which also is a National Historic Landmark with an experienced nature interpreter. Visit the 50-foot-high Tree Adventure treehouse for an amazing view of the farm and take home a tree seedling from the Lied Greenhouse.

#### **Arbor Lodge State Historical Park**

Wander the rooms of the beautiful estate of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor Day. Built in 1855, this four-room frame house was remodeled over the years to become the magnificent 52-room mansion it is today. The mansion's rooms are filled with authentic furnishings and displays that capture the life and times of this great Nebraska visionary.

#### **Kimmel Orchard & Vineyard**

This working orchard and vineyard is the best destination for fresh, locally grown produce and other homegrown Nebraska products.

#### DAY 6

#### **Greenwood • Ashland • Bellevue**

Overnight: Omaha (optional)

#### **Baker's Candies**

Explore the official home of a Nebraska tradition, the world-class chocolate melt-a-ways.

#### Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum

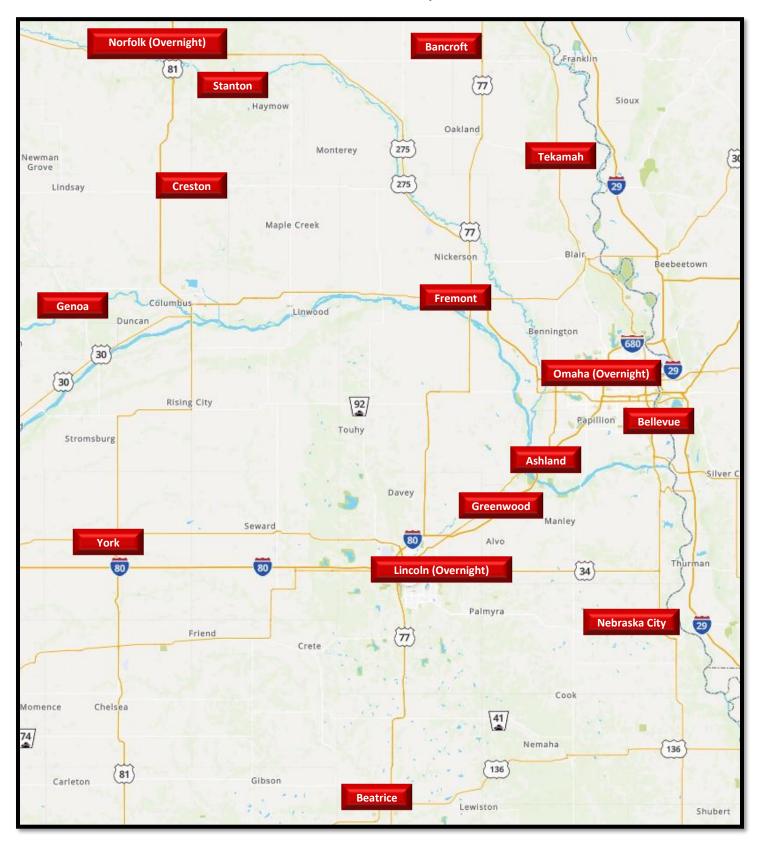
This 3,000 sq. ft. museum features aircraft from various world conflicts, and an onsite restoration hanger gives a glimpse into how these magnificent machines are being restored. After lunch take a turn in the museum's FS-VC "dual system"

flight simulator and be immersed into the realism of flight through state-of-the-art motion control and high-performance visuals and sounds.

#### **Offutt Air Force Base**

Visit the headquarters of the U. S. Strategic Command, Air Force Weather Agency, and the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing of the Air Combat Command. Note: Additional security and screening procedures required for access to the base.)

# **Tour Route Map**



# Driving Times and Mileage (Drive times are approximate.)

**Omaha-Fremont** 

Drive time: 45 min.

37 miles

Omaha-Tekamah

Drive time: 1 hr.

44 miles

Tekamah-Bancroft

Drive time: 35 min.

33 miles

**Bancroft-Norfolk** 

Drive time: 50 min.

46 miles

Norfolk-Genoa

Drive time: 1 hr.

60 miles

**Genoa-York** 

Drive time: 50 min.

45 miles

York-Lincoln

Drive time: 50 min.

51 miles

Lincoln-Nebraska City

Drive time: 1 hr.

54 miles

Lincoln-Bellevue

Drive time: 1 hr.

57 miles

Let us help you plan your next exciting Nebraska group tour itinerary. We can assist you with general information about tour destinations, group rates at attractions, restaurants, and accommodations, as well as give you personalized service and attention to make planning your tour easy and fun.

Fremont

Shannon Mullen

director@visitfremontne.org

**Tekamah** 

Susie Robinson

mastershandcandles@gmail.com

Bellevue

Fred Uhe

fred@sarpy.com

Ashland, Greenwood

Carl Reichart

director@visitcasscounty.com

**Omaha** 

Jessica Settje

jsettje@visitomaha.com

Lincoln

Kelsey Meyer

kmeyer@lincoln.org

Beatrice

Angie Bruna

abruna@beatricechamber.com

**Nebraska City** 

Amy Allgood

amya@nebraskacity.com

York

**Bob Sautter** 

yorkcountyvisitors@gmail.com

Genoa

**Nancy Carlson** 

nfcarls@hotmail.com

**Bancroft** 

Marianne Reynolds

neihardt@gpcom.net

Norfolk, Stanton

Traci Jeffrey

traci@visitnorfolkne.com

# Columbus, Creston

Katy McNeil kmcneil@plattene.us

**Nebraska Tourism Group Tour Manager** 

Micheal Collins (CTIS)

Email: micheal.collins@nebraska.gov

Office: 402-471-3795 Cell: 402-432-1384



For additional Nebraska group tour information visitnebraska.com/group\_travel