

Omaha: Nebraska's City Centers



OMAHA SKYLINE

Nebraska's largest city is home to all sorts of can't-miss experiences. As you explore Omaha and the surrounding area, you'll discover the rich heritage and culture of the region.

Day 1 Omaha

Our first activity this morning is a **guided city tour of Omaha** where we will visit many of Nebraska's largest city's hot spots and noteworthy locations. Afterward, we make our way to **St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church**, Omaha's only Greek Orthodox Byzantine-style church, for a tour and a traditional Greek lunch and lessons in Greek dancing. *Opa!*

Now we head to see how Omaha's upper crust lived with a tour through the 35-room Scottish Baronial **Joslyn Castle**, stately home of George and Sarah Joslyn, located in Omaha's Gold Coast Historic District. Our next stop is **Father Flanagan's Boys Town** in west Omaha to learn more about this exceptionally heartwarming story of how Father Flanagan worked to create a haven for wayward boys, and now girls, when he purchased Overlook Farm in 1921. For dinner tonight, we explore Germany and experience the German concept of *Gemütlichkeit* (coziness) at the **German American Society**. Delicious comfort food followed by traditional

German entertainment is on the menu. *Willkommen in Deutschland! Overnight: Omaha*

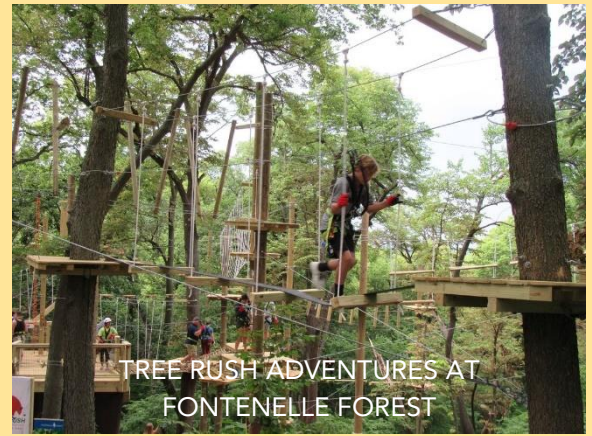


DURHAM MUSEUM

Day 2: Omaha, Bellevue, Papillion

Next stop is the 92,000-square-foot **Hot Shops Art Center**. This unique living art museum is home to more than 70 artists in residence specializing in a wide variety of artistic media, from glass blowing and pottery to bronze casting and blacksmithing. Now we head to **Durham Museum** in the

former Union Station to explore the history and settlement of Omaha. Make sure to head to the platform downstairs for the chance to walk through authentic train cars and other exhibits. After lunch we head south of Omaha to **Fontenelle Forest Nature Center** to learn about the facility's dedication to help injured birds of prey through their Raptor Rescue Program and the Raptor Woodland Refuge. Here owls, hawks, falcons, and other species that no longer can survive in the wild live within "homes" designed to fit their natural habitats.

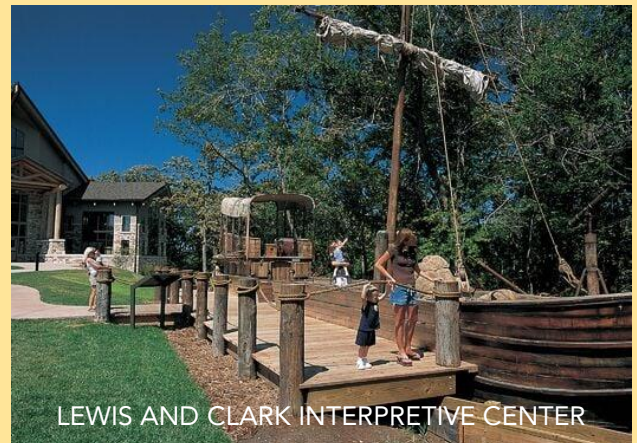


Our next two stops in Sarpy County take us to eastern Europe. First, we head to Bellevue to browse exceptional varieties of Bohemian glass, hand decorated eggs, glass Christmas tree ornaments, and more from the Old Country at the **Czech and Slovak Educational Centre & Cultural Museum** before feasting on traditional Polish dishes and enjoying entertainment at the **Polish Heritage Society of Nebraska** for lunch. *Na zdrowie! (Cheers!) Overnight: Omaha*

Day 3 Nebraska City

Our first stop today in Nebraska City, the Home of Arbor Day, is **Arbor Day Farm** where we will explore this 260-acre working farm orchard and forest, which also is a National Historic Landmark, with an experienced nature interpreter. We can 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. After lunch, we visit **Arbor Lodge State Historical Park**, 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. Afterward, we tour

Our final stop in Nebraska City is **Kimmel Orchard & Vineyard**. This working orchard and vineyard is the best destination for fresh, locally grown produce and other homegrown Nebraska products. Next, we head to the **Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Interpretive Trail & Visitor Center** overlooking the Missouri River to learn more about the 300 plus flora, fauna, and scientific discoveries Lewis and Clark made on their historic Corps of Discovery Journey. *Overnight: Omaha*



Day 4 Ashland, Greenwood, Lincoln

Today's first stop is at the **Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum**, a 300,000-square-foot museum that features aircraft from various world conflicts, an impressive array of aircraft that helped preserve peace during the Cold War, an onsite restoration hanger, and several spacecraft exhibits highlighting our nation's

missions to space. Now we are off to Nebraska's largest candy outlet. **Baker's Candies** in Greenwood is home to the famous chocolate meltaways, decadent fudge, gourmet confections, and other sweet treats available direct from the factory.



Next stop is Lincoln, Nebraska's capital city, which no tour would be complete without a visit to the iconic **Nebraska State Capitol**. At 15 stories and 400-feet-tall this is the second-tallest statehouse in the country and offers a spectacular view of the city from its 14th floor observation level. After lunch, we make our way to **Larsen Tractor Test Museum** on the University of Nebraska East Campus to visit the only tractor testing museum and tractor test laboratory in the world. On display are more than 25 tractors highlighting the advancements in tractor testing technology, which established power and performance standards and solved agricultural problems around the world.

While on campus, we will make a short stop at the **UNL Dairy Store** for a tour of the cheese making facility and a tasty afternoon ice cream treat. Our next destination is the **International Quilt Study Center** where we will discover the many stories and religious contexts woven into quilts at the world's largest publicly held quilt collection. The behind-the-scenes tour takes visitors face to face with quilts that are hundreds of years old.

