

HISTORIC TOURS - BARNs, HOMES, GYMS, DOWNTOWNS, POWER PLANT, TRAILS, WINE CELLAR & more

BROWN COUNTY

BeDunnah Guest House & Museum - 301 Parsons, Robinson

Friday-Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 12-4pm

Visit this family owned, private residence that displays 100 years of history through family memorabilia and donated artifacts from the region depicting the area's history. Self-guided tour and free admission.

Horton Power Plant - 602 E. 15th, Horton, 785.486.3911

Thursday-Friday 10am and 2pm

A tour of this fascinating municipal power plant will be a highlight of your explorer adventure. Find out the connection this plant has to NASA! Find out the answer when you take the 30 minute tour with Tim Lentz at 10am or 2pm on Thursday or Friday.

Powhattan Community Hall Backstage Tour - 302 Main St., Powhattan, 785.741.0128

Thursday - Saturday 10am-2pm; Concession stand Saturday 8am-3pm

From 1906 until the 1960s, the second floor of this historic bank and city hall served as a community auditorium with people streaming through the doors to be entertained by minstrel shows, plays, melodramas, dances and musicals. For nearly 60 years entertainers left their signatures that now cover the backstage walls from floor to ceiling. In the 1920s one traveling minstrel enjoyed his stay in Powhattan so much that he wrote "Best Town in Kansas" and it's been their motto ever since. Volunteers will take you on a tour lasting approximately 15-20 minutes. Stay around to hear "Stories of the Past" performed by community members across the street in the park. You'll find cinnamon rolls, homemade pie, hot dogs and drinks for sale at the American Legion Hall (east side of building) from 8am-3pm on Saturday.

DONIPHAN COUNTY

Adam Brenner Vineyards Cellar & St. John the Baptist Oratory Tour - 209 Lone Star Road, Doniphan

Thursday - Friday 10am-2pm

This brick-over-stone cellar was begun around 1875 by Adam Brenner as a wine production facility for a broad variety of wines and brandies produced from grapes grown on his near 200 acre vineyard. Part of the Brenner Vineyards Historic District, it is one of two cellars under restoration. Tour the cellar and learn the fascinating history on. Directions: From Mineral Point in Doniphan, 400-feet west on 95th to Lone Star. Park here and walk 1/4 mile north.

A.L. Wynkoop Historical House Tour - 307 W. Pennsylvania St, Highland, 913.775.2804

Friday and Saturday 11am-12pm and 2-3pm; Sunday 1-2pm

Tour this privately owned residence listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The home was built in 1912 for wealthy merchant A.L. Wynkoop. The style is based on the popular Prairie School and Craftsman architecture from that era. Learn more about the history of the home and its inhabitants over the last 108 years from current owners, Michael & Marie Lamb who spent over 10 years restoring the home to its original glory.

Abram M. Minier Historic Home Tour - 307 South Avenue, Highland, 785.741.1019

Friday-Saturday 9-11am or 2-4pm

Abram M. Minier, a grandson of John Bayless, a founder of Highland, commissioned the construction of this Craftsman bungalow in 1916. It was built from a house plan by Gustav Stickley first published in the November 1909 issue of "The Craftsman" and later published as Cottage No. 78 in Stickley's 1912 catalogue "More Craftsman Homes." The home contains all the signature Stickley designs including wood shingle siding, exposed rafter tails, a full-width front porch, heavy structural beams, built-in bookcases and seating, and Mission-style hardware. Stop by the house to learn more from the owners, Paul and Janet Tyler, about the historical significance. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Abraham Lincoln in Doniphan County, Kansas Territory, 1859 - See Description, 816.591.8898

Thursday - Sunday 10am in Elwood; 12pm in Blair; 2pm in Troy; 4pm in Doniphan

In 1859 Abraham Lincoln was in Doniphan County, Kansas Territory where he gave three talks. Each day, Lincoln guide Larry Faulkner will be at these locations to answer questions: 10am - site of the Great Western Hotel in Elwood, (NE corner of N. 12th St. and Pacific St.); 12pm - site of McClelland's Tavern in Blair (NW corner of 190th Rd. and Port William Rd.); 2pm - Nelson-Rogers Home in Troy (NW corner of E. Walnut St. and N. Liberty St.); 4pm - The Doniphan House in Doniphan (NW corner of Mineral Point Rd. and Monument Rd.).

Nelson Rogers Home - 138 E. Walnut, Troy

Thursday - Sunday 10am-4pm

Built in 1856, this is the oldest home in Troy. Visit to find out the local lore and how it connects President Lincoln to this house.

Historic Homes Tour - Pick up free map at Troy Library, 105 N. Main, 785.985.2519

Thursday 9am-7pm, Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday, 9am-3pm

Stop by the Troy Library to pick up a map of homes and buildings highlighted on this tour, along with brief descriptions of each one.

DONIPHAN COUNTY - Historic Homes Tour continued

The tour is a self-guided, driving or walking tour where visitors can view the homes from the outside, but will not enter any homes. The Seekers of Light and Knowledge (SLK), a women's literary and service organization, is sponsoring the tour and will have homemade treats for sale at the library and also selling a selection of post cards with photos of local subjects of interest including Ernie Dittmore, county courthouse, Tall Oak Indian monument, Pony Express monument, and more. All proceeds from the sale go toward a scholarship the SLK sponsors for local students.

Kansas Barn Alliance - Barn Tour - 120 E. Chestnut, Troy, 785.275.2306

Friday 1:30pm

If you love barns, join other barn enthusiasts on Friday in Troy at the Doniphan County Courthouse at 1:30. Meet in the courtroom to learn about a barn repair training workshop that took place at the Bohr-Staudenmaier Barn near Troy. Tom Kennedy, The Barn Reclaimer, will be on hand to answer questions. Afterwards, folks will car pool to the Bohr-Staudenmaier Barn to see the progress on the 1879 Byre & Bluff barn. Barn-themed treats and beverages will be served. Allow 2 hours for this event.

Barn Tour & Lemonade Stand - 1078 Ash Point Road, Leona

Saturday 9am-5pm

The George Hanson Barn located in rural Doniphan County will be open for the public to view on Saturday. This barn is one of the Doniphan County Byre & Bluff barns on the National Historic Register. While you are there visit their kids' lemonade stand and say hi to the horses! From Troy on Hwy 36 go 13 miles west, 5 1/4 miles south on Ash Point Rd.

Historic Barn Self-Guided Tour - 120 E. Chestnut, Troy, 785.985.2235

Thursday - Sunday - Daylight Hours

Six barns in the county are featured on this self-guided tour, several of which are on the national register. Signs at each barn provide information. You are welcome to take photos, but due to the barns' fragile condition, visitors are asked not to enter the buildings. Tour brochures are available on the first floor of the county courthouse at 120 E. Chestnut in Troy.

Vintage School Gym Tour - 319 South Park, Troy, 785.840.6483

Saturday 8am-5pm

Troy Booster Club will be giving tours of the Grade School (230 Poplar Street) and High School Gyms (319 South Park Street). Visitors will be able to view the vintage gyms with their hardwood floors and vintage scorekeeping equipment. The Booster Club will be selling homemade baked items at the high school during the tour. Support the Troy Trojans!

White Cloud School Tour - 103 S. 5th, White Cloud

Thursday - Saturday 10am-4pm

The 1872 two-story, Italianate building was designed by Kansas architect Erasmus T. Carr. Today it houses the Ma-Hush-Kah Museum. "Mah-Hush-Kah is a phonetic spelling of the name of Mahaska II, 'White Cloud' (ca. 1810-1851), the chief of the Iowa Tribe for many years." Open for self-guided tours from 10am - 4pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Oregon California Trail Association Tour - E. Walnut St. and N. Liberty St., Troy, 785.850.0063

Thursday-Saturday 10am-3pm

The Gateway Chapter Oregon California Trail Association will give tours of overland trails in the county. Starting point is the top of the hour Thurs.-Sun. from 10am-3pm from E. Walnut and N. Liberty in Troy. Some transportation will be provided, along with a guide.

NEMAHA COUNTY

Seneca Walking Tour - 606 Main St., Seneca, 785.336.1313

Thursday - Saturday 2-2:30pm

The Historic Walking Tour takes you back to Seneca's early days. Maps available at the Seneca Free Library. Go on your own or on a guided tour given at 2pm and last approximately 30 minutes. Gather at the library and the tour will take you up and down Seneca's Main Street and end at the Nemaha County Historical Society.

Painted Ladies - See description, Seneca

Thursday - Sunday Daylight Hours

Visit all the painted ladies in Seneca! A painted lady is a Victorian building painted with three or more colors to enhance the architectural detail. Beautiful "ladies" are the Emery Mansion at 7th and Walnut and several south of Main between 4th and 8th. A map will be available at the Seneca information center at the Seneca Free Library (606 Main).