



ATTRACTIONS - ELKHART (complete information @bigkansasroadtrip.com)

Cimarron National Grassland, located near the county seat of Elkhart, it contains 23 miles of the Santa Fe Trail - the largest section on public land. Established after the Dust Bowl to prevent soil erosion. More than 345 bird species as well as pronghorn, elk, and mule and whitetail deer, live here. From Morton St. in Elkhart, 2 miles east on U.S. 56, 7 1/2 miles north on K-27, cross the Cimarron River bridge and then west into the park and follow the signs.

The views from **Point of Rocks** located at the Cimarron National Grassland, is incredible! The sky goes on forever and you can imagine thousands of wagons traveling through this wide-open space. Use the directions above then cross the Cimarron River bridge, and turn west.

Cimarron National Grassland Range Office, 242 E. U.S. 56. Open Monday-Friday 8am-12pm and 1-5pm. 620.697.4621. Office will be closed on Saturday so arrive early enough on Friday to pick up auto tour brochures, bird and wildlife charts and other information.

Eight Mile Corner, from Morton St., 1/2 mile south on U.S. 56, 7 3/4 miles west on A Blvd. (State Line Rd.). You'll see a windmill with a weathervane bearing the names of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado. A large brass plate in the middle of the road points where the states meet. Don't miss your chance to step into three states simultaneously!

Morton County Historical Museum, 370 E. U.S. 56. Open Friday 10am-3pm, Saturday 8am-7pm. Start your county exploration at this excellent museum. Acquaint yourself with the new Dirty Thirties exhibit, the Point of Rocks Ranch, the adobe city hall, the POW camp that stood on the site of the present El Rancho Motel, and Olympic track stars who grew up here. Special presentation by Barb Iman about the pioneers and Dirty Thirties at 9 a.m. Olympic track star, Thane Baker will also be here from 1:30-4pm for a book signing. See other side of page for Events.

City Hall, WWII Memorial and Olympic Champions, 433 Morton. The WPA (Works Progress Administration) built this adobe building in 1937. If you stop in on Friday before closing time at 5pm, you might ask the city clerk (if she's not too busy) to open the closet door so you can see the original adobe bricks. At the entrance you'll see an unusual 1941 WWII veteran's memorial—a small monument with an attached drinking fountain. Nearby stands a red granite monument to Glenn Cunningham and Thane Baker, two Olympic track champions from Elkhart.

Doric Theatre, 508 Morton. New life has been breathed into this historic building. It first opened as a vaudeville theatre in 1918, then silent moving pictures were added followed by the "talkies." The Theatre operated until the 1980s and in 2015 the multistage Mitchell Theatre chain, owned by a local farm family and headquartered in Elkhart, restored and reopened the theatre. Oscar's Lounge located upstairs also has an outdoor patio where cocktails and appetizers are served.

Whistle Stop Park, Morton St. and U.S. 56. Get your steps in by walking the 2 1/2-mile path that winds its way from east to west paralleling U.S. 56. This is the location for The Stump for the Kansas Explorers Club meeting and BKRT kick-off at 10am on Sat., May 3.

Point Rock Golf Club, 619 Airport. Line up your shot and golf the cornerstone of Kansas. The county-owned nine-hole, grass-green course is an enjoyable escape. The fourth hole is only 30 yards from Oklahoma, so you have an opportunity to hit your ball clear out of the state!

Cunningham Park, Morton St. and Stanton St. Named for Glenn Cunningham, world record-setting miler and Olympian, who grew up in Elkhart. The park is bordered by a 1930s WPA stone fence.

ATTRACTIONS - RICHFIELD & ROLLA

Rolla Skating Rink, 307 Washington. Roll into the roller rink and pay only \$1 to skate. Located in the old American Legion Hall, the 1950s wooden rink is the oldest in western Kansas. Open during the Pop Up Friday 6 -10pm and Saturday 4-10pm.

Rolla Murals, 206 and 215 Washington. Even the smallest towns in Kansas find the resources to beautify their downtown with public art. Good job, Rolla!

Richfield Methodist Church, 451 Walnut. The paneled, multi-colored stained-glass windows are especially vibrant from inside the church where the sunlight makes the wooden rafters glow. Constructed in 1910 it's thought to be the oldest building in Morton County. Be sure to add the ice cream social to your schedule. It starts at 2pm on Saturday.

MORTON COUNTY EVENTS - FRIDAY, MAY 2

4:30pm - BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR-DORIC THEATRE, 508 Morton, Elkhart: This is such a cool story! Learn all about Mitchell Theatres and the Doric Theatre during a presentation and tour at 4:30pm on Fri., May 2 and again at 4:30pm on Sat., May 3.

6-10pm - SKATING IN ROLLA, 307 Washington, Rolla: This nostalgic bit of Americana is brought back to life courtesy of the City of Rolla. Even better is that it only cost \$1! See you at the Rolla Recreation Roller Rink! (Also open Saturday 4-10pm)

6pm - GOLF AT POINT ROCK GOLF CLUB, 619 Airport: This beautifully maintained 9-hole course is just begging you to play and it only costs \$5 to hit a hole in one.

7pm - TRIVIA AT BIG C'S CAFE, 969 U.S. 56: Do you have an itch to use all that knowledge you have sitting in your brain? Bring your friends and family and join the raucous fun at Big C's for Trivia Night.

7:30pm - MOVIE NIGHT AT THE DORIC, 508 Morton: See the inspiring film, "The Unbreakable Boy", rated PG. Doors open at 6:30pm. Movie starts at 7:30pm.

MORTON COUNTY EVENTS - SATURDAY, MAY 3

6:30 & 8am - THE BIRDIEST SITE IN MORTON COUNTY, North St. and Lagoon Lane, Elkhart (37.012213, -101.892218): Join Jackie Augustine, Director of Audubon of Kansas, for a tour of this popular bird site. Bring binoculars.

8am-2pm - ELKHART SENIOR CENTER OPEN HOUSE, 647 S. Cosmos. Visit with the locals and enjoy pastries, drinks and games, including bingo, cards, puzzles and pool.

8:30am - PASTRIES & COFFEE AT THE MUSEUM, 370 U.S. 56, Elkhart: Grab a pastry and coffee and sit a spell before heading out on your exploration adventures or stick around for a special historic presentation at 9am.

9am - PIONEER & DIRTY THIRTIES CHARACTER PRESENTATION, Morton County Historical Museum, 370 U.S. 56, Elkhart: Presentation by Barb Iman about the pioneers and Dirty Thirties.

10-11am - THE STUMP AND KANSAS EXPLORERS CLUB MEETING, Whistle Stop Park, west end of park at Morton St. and U.S. 56, Elkhart: Enjoy the fun, fast paced Kansas trivia game called "The Stump." followed by a short KEC meeting with fellow explorers from across the state. The meeting is open to everyone and is the official kick-off for the BKRT Pop Up!

1pm - BIRD WATCHING AT MIDDLE SPRINGS, Cimarron National Grassland, Elkhart: This historically significant spot is popular with bird watchers. Jackie Augustine, Audubon of Kansas, will lead the tour. From Morton St. in Elkhart, 2 miles east on U.S. 56, 7 1/2 miles north on K-27, then west into the park and follow the signs.

1:30-4pm - MEET OLYMPIAN THANE BAKER, Morton County Historical Museum, 370 U.S. 56, Elkhart: Meet a Morton County local who medaled in track during the 1952 Olympics. Thane and his daughter, Catherine Baker Nicholson, will sign copies of their book *Running in Borrowed Shoes*.

2-4pm - ICE CREAM SOCIAL, Richfield United Methodist Church. 451 Walnut, Richfield: Holy ice cream! Don't miss a chance to enjoy some creamy, delicious ice cream while you roam about the county.

3pm - KID-FRIENDLY BIRD WATCHING AT MIDDLE SPRING, Cimarron National Grassland: If traveling with kids, add this event to your itinerary. Bring binoculars (if you have them) and be prepared for a half-mile walk. Meet in the parking lot at Middle Spring (37.113256, -101.926817). See directions for Cimarron National Grassland.

4:30pm - BEHIND THE SCENES-DORIC THEATRE, 508 Morton: Learn all about the Doric Theatre and the fascinating story of the Mitchell Theatre chain headquartered in Elkhart.

4-10pm - SKATING IN ROLLA, 307 Washington, Rolla: No matter your age, it's always a good time to go skating. This nostalgic bit of Americana is brought back to life courtesy of the City of Rolla. Even better is that it only costs \$1!

6pm - PIE NIGHT IN ELKHART, Morton County Fairgrounds, 440 E. Orchard, Elkhart: Sponsored by the Morton County Chamber of Commerce. The locals are enticing explorers with their legendary love of pie and invite everyone to attend.

7pm - TRIVIA AT BIG C'S CAFE, 969 U.S. 56, Elkhart: Join the raucous fun! Winning teams go home with a prize.

8:30pm - SUNSET BIRD WALK AT POINT OF ROCKS, Cimarron National Grassland. You can see for miles from this iconic location along the Santa Fe Trail. Led by Jackie Augustine, Audubon of Kansas.

10pm - KARAOKE AT POUR DECISIONS, 820 Border Ave, Elkhart: If you are still awake after a long day of exploring and feel like showing off your vocal pipes, this will be the place to be on Saturday night!