

ATCHISON, KANSAS TOURS

Contact our Tourism Director, Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce,
To Get Your Atchison Getaway Trip Booked Today!

(800) 234-1854 | tours@atchisonkansas.net

DAY OR WEEKEND TRIPS Sample Itineraries

DAY 1

10:00 am | Santa Fe Depot & Visitor Center

Go on a Guided Tour of our Atchison County Historical Museum. Also feel free to pick up our Visitors Guide, Events Guide or our Shopping/Dining Map as you browse through our Warming Hut Gift Shop.

**Restrooms available.

10:45 am | Evah C. Cray Historic Home

Step back in time and tour this impressive three-story Victorian mansion inspired by Scottish castles. Be sure to visit their Carriage-House Gift Shop. Guided tour is \$5 per person.

12:00 pm | Lunch

Our Tourism Coordinator would be happy to assist you in selecting the perfect restaurants for your tour.

1:00 pm | Shopping on Atchison's Commercial Street Mall

Stroll down the beautifully landscaped outdoor pedestrian mall and enjoy the unique collection of locally owned shops.

3:00 pm | Amelia Earhart's Birthplace Museum

Take a self-guided tour through the historic home where Amelia Earhart spent her childhood. Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897 in this home, built by her grandfather in the early 1860's. It is now owned and operated as a museum by The Ninety-Nines Inc., an international organization of women pilots. \$6 per person; the museum generally takes about 45 minutes to go through.

4:00 pm | Historic Trolley Tour

The Atchison area has many sites to view on the National Register of Historical places. Take an hour-long trolley ride. Adults \$6 and Children (4-10) \$2 per person.

5:00 pm | Check into Hotel or Bed & Breakfast

There several hotels to choose from—our Tourism Coordinator can help you find the right one, or you can reference our Shopping/Dining Map.

6:00 pm | Dinner

Our Tourism Coordinator would be happy to assist you in setting up your dinner plans. You can also find many excellent eateries by referencing our Shopping/Dining Map.

7:00 pm | Stroll Along the Scenic Riverwalk

Learn about the adventures of Lewis and Clark at the Pavilion. Then head out to Independence Creek at the Lewis and Clark Historic Site. Also explore a recreated Kanza Indian dwelling near the July 4, 1804 Corps of Discovery Campsite.

DAY 2

8:30 am | Breakfast

Our Tourism Coordinator would love to help you find the perfect breakfast eatery for your trip or you can also reference our Shopping/Dining Map.

10:00 am | Mount St. Scholastica, Convent of the Benedictine Sisters

Visit a monastery, built in 1863. Go on a guided tour of a chapel with ornately carved choir stalls and windows depicting St. Benedict's life, and a larger Romanesque chapel with stained glass windows and a 2000-pipe organ as well as a religious history room. *Charge of \$5 per person.*

11:00 am | International Forest of Friendship & Amelia Earhart Earthwork

The Ninety-Nines Inc. also established the Forest of Friendship. An array of trees has been brought in from all over the world. The Earthwork, a one-acre portrait of Amelia Earhart, is the first permanent crop artwork created by artist Stan Herd. These are both located at Warnock Lake; no charge for either attraction.

12:00 pm | Lunch

Our Tourism Coordinator would be happy to assist you in selecting the perfect restaurant for your tour. You can also choose your own by referencing our Shopping/Dining Map.

1:00 pm | St. Benedict's Abbey Church

Guided tour of a modernistic church that received an award for design at the 1954 World's Fair. \$5 per person

2:00 pm | Shopping on Atchison's Commercial Street Mall

Stroll down the beautifully landscaped outdoor pedestrian mall and enjoy the unique collection of locally owned shops.

3:30 am | Muchnic Art Gallery

Be awed at this magnificent Queen-style mansion built in 1887-88. Take in the displays of regional artists, which change periodically and are shown on the second floor of this beautiful home.

Depart for home or stay the night for more experiences....

Other Day/Weekend Trip Add-On Options:

Jackson Park

Independence Creek

Theatre Atchison

Farmers' Market (Seasonal)

Wine Tour

Ask About Seasonal Events

HAUNTED TOURS

Sample Itinerary

Groups of 10 or more

10:00 am | Cemetery Walking Tour or Step-On Guided Tour | \$16pp

As one of Atchison's most picturesque and oldest cemeteries, Mount Vernon contains impressive monuments to those who built Atchison into a thriving commercial river town. Other features include presentations of funeral and mourning customs and defining the symbols that were etched into grave markers

11:15 am | Sallie House Tour | \$10pp

The home and its hauntings have been the subject of movies, television specials and a new feature documentary. The Travel Channel continues to air its documentary "Haunted Town," a program dedicated entirely to Atchison's chilling stories. This self-guided tour allows visitors to explore at their own pace.

12:15 pm | Lunch – allow our Tourism coordinator set up an enjoyable luncheon

1:15-3:15 pm | Shopping at our unique antique and vintage shops

5:00-6:00 pm | Haunted Trolley Tour | \$13pp

A one-hour narrated ride aboard the Trolley to see the sites and hear about the mysteries. These are the kinds of tales that make the historically charming town of Atchison legendary in haunting.

6:00-8:00 | "Meal with a Medium" or "Murder Mystery Dinner" (guests participate) | \$35-\$50pp

Murder Mystery Dinner: We create the Murder Mystery scenario - you try and solve it with a list of clues, hints and role-playing in between.

Meal with a Medium: Bring a photo of a departed loved one or pet, and in a small group setting, psychic Medium, Keli Adams will profoundly reconnect you to your loved ones with her uncanny gifts, compassion and wonderful humor

Other Add-On Options:

History Mystery Lantern Walking Tour | \$16pp

This guided, informative, eerie stroll through the streets of this beautiful old railroad town, lined by stunning Victorian homes, allows participants to have a more in-depth look at the mysteries and the residents, both human and other worldly, of Atchison's neighborhoods. \$17pp

Cemetery Lantern Walking Tour | \$17pp

As one of Atchison's most picturesque and oldest cemeteries, Mount Vernon contains impressive monuments to those who built Atchison into a thriving commercial river town. This expertly-guided tour features presentations of funeral and mourning customs and explains the symbols that were etched into grave markers. Truly a one-of-a-kind experience and one of the longstanding highlights of Haunted Atchison.

Haunted Hop | \$65pp

Join the dynamic brother & sister investigating team, Keli and Rob Adams. for the basics of paranormal investigating on this spooky "hop" around historic Atchison on the River City Coach. Keli Adams of

Adams' Family Paranormal is an avid Ghost hunter & Paranormal Enthusiast, who has been investigating for over 26 years. Her brother Rob has been investigating different phenomenon for over 12 years.

Our beginning investigators will first be treated to the famous Haunted Atchison Trolley Tour, stop at the designated restaurant for a light meal, and then you will visit the Sallie House. We will learn about the equipment, procedures and things professional investigators look for while exploring haunted sites.

Paranormal Investigations | \$65pp

Hands-on investigation of Atchison's most famous haunted location! Investigations will be led by Drs. Sean and Christine Daley of Seven Directions Paranormal Investigations and Solutions (7DPIS), with assistance from Ryan Goeckner, Ed Smith, and others from 7DPIS. 7DPIS is composed of researchers at various stages in their academic careers from PhDs to undergraduate students who are involved in diverse academic disciplines such as anthropology, earth sciences, ethnic studies, history, medicine, public health, and religious studies.

HISTORY-THEMED TOUR

Take in the wonderful and intriguing history of Atchison KS, and be sure to include the following destinations and activities:

Historic Trolley Tour or Tour Bus Step-On

There's no better way to experience the charms of Atchison than by having a personally-guided tour past our historic sites. Hop aboard the trolley at the Visitors Center in the restored Santa Fe Depot and enjoy a 45-minute tour of Atchison, narrated by a friendly, knowledgeable driver. As the trolley travels along the city's brick streets, you'll discover the city's classic charm—its Victorian homes, sites significant in state and national history, and dramatic views of the Missouri River. *GENERAL ADMISSION FARES: Adults – \$6, Children (4-10 years) – \$2, Children under 4 – Free. HOURS: The trolley departs each hour, on the hour from the Santa Fe Depot, 200 South Tenth. HOURS VARY BY MONTH AND SEASON. CALL (800) 234-1854 for times or to schedule a Charter or Step-On Tour.*

Atchison County Historical Society Museum

This museum in the restored Santa Fe Depot traces the history of the region. Exhibits highlight Atchison's transition from a bend in the Missouri River to a busy commercial center for steamboats, westward-bound wagon trains and the railroads. Highlights include a display of Amelia Earhart's personal effects, a large collection of rare guns dating back to the Revolutionary War and displays on the Lewis & Clark expedition. Open daily. Donations appreciated.

200 S. 10th St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-6238 | www.atchisonhistory.org

Atchison Rail Museum

Adjacent to the Santa Fe Depot, the Atchison Rail Museum is owned and operated by the North East Kansas Railroaders, Inc., a voluntary group of railroad enthusiasts. It features an outdoor collection of rail cars and is available for exterior viewing throughout the year. NEKR members operate the Atchison & Western Miniature Railroad, a 12" gauge railroad, weekends during the summer, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-4. Museum cars open summer weekends.

200 S. 10th St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-2427

Commercial Street Pedestrian Mall

In 1958, Atchison, Kansas became the first American city to adopt a pedestrian mall for its downtown area, closing three blocks of Commercial Street to automobile traffic after a flood devastated the

downtown area. Today, the Commercial Street Mall still boasts an exciting array of specialty shops and dining establishments. You will want to carve out ample time to shop and explore on America's first pedestrian mall.

Evah C. Cray Historical Home Museum

Recently renovated and updated, this 25-room mansion is a glorious example of the opulence of the Victorian era. Built in 1882, it is distinguished by a three-story castle-like tower. Ornate fireplaces, carved woodwork and original chandeliers mix with Victorian furnishings. The carriage house features a gift store and a small theatre in which a film on the architecture of Atchison can be viewed. *Admission: \$5.00/person. Hours of operation: In April, open Fri, Sat, Sun and Mon only. May – Oct., open daily; 10am-4pm Mon-Sat; 1-4pm Sun. Closed from Oct. 31 to Saturday after Thanksgiving to decorate for Christmas. Then open Fri, Sat, Sun and Mon through Dec. 17. Closed for the winter months. 805 N. 5th St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-3046*

Muchnic Art Gallery

Parquet floors, stained-glass windows, hand-tooled leather and finely-carved woodwork make an impressive backdrop for displays of art by regional and national artists. A lumber merchant built this spectacular Queen Anne-style mansion in 1887 – 1888. The Muchnic family bequeathed the home to the community to be used for art purposes. The first floor is furnished, as it was when the Muchnics lived here in the early 1900s. Art exhibits are displayed on the second floor from March through December. Open afternoons on Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday; closed January – March. Minimal fee. *704 N. 4th St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-4278 | www.atchisonart.org*

Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum

On July 24, 1897, aviatrix Amelia Earhart was born in this home, built by her grandfather in the early 1860s. It is owned and operated as a museum by The Ninety-Nines Inc., an international organization of women pilots. Earhart helped found the group in 1929 and served as its first president. Recent renovations have returned the birthplace to its condition at the turn of the century when Earhart lived here with her grandparents. Cost: \$6 adults, \$1 children 12 & under. Regular hours (Feb. -Nov.): 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. M-F; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat.; 1-4 p.m. Sun. Winter hours (Dec.- Jan): Closed M-Tues.; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. W-F; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat.; 1-4 p.m. Sun. *223 N. Terrace St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-4217 | www.ameliaearhartmuseum.org*

Mount Vernon Cemetery

Many prominent early-day Kansans are buried in this hilltop cemetery — three Kansas governors, Senator John J. Ingalls, two pony express riders, legendary train engineer Brit Craft and both sets of Amelia Earhart's grandparents. *2 miles south of Atchison via Price Boulevard and Rawlins Road.*

Mount St. Scholastica

The Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica have been in Atchison since 1863. St. Scholastica Chapel is rich with beautiful marble, a large rose window and stained-glass windows honoring seven martyred women saints. A vaulted ceiling graces the interior of the choir chapel, which has facing choir stalls and stained-glass windows retelling the life of St. Benedict. Guided tours of the chapels and a religious history room by advanced appointment. *801 S. 8th St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-6110 | www.mountosb.org*

Amelia Earhart Earthwork

This one-acre portrait was created by famed Kansas artist Stan Herd in 1997. It lies on a hillside overlooking Warnock Lake and is composed of permanent plantings, stone and other natural materials. A viewing deck on a nearby hilltop provides the best ground views of the earthwork.

178620 274th Rd., Warnock Lake, Atchison KS 66002

International Forest of Friendship

A life-size bronze statue of Amelia Earhart gazes over the International Forest of Friendship, which is a living, growing memorial to those who have been involved in aviation and space exploration. The forest was established as a bicentennial project by the City of Atchison and The Ninety-Nines Inc., an international organization of women pilots. Each June, new honorees are inducted into the forest with plaques embedded in the walkway that winds through trees representing all 50 states and over 35 countries in which forest honorees reside. Several special trees include the "Moon Tree," which was grown from a seed taken to the moon aboard Apollo 14. It is encircled by the Astronaut's Memorial, which honors ten astronauts who lost their lives in space exploration.

178620 274th Rd. at Warnock Lake, Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-1419 / 1-800-234-1854

Benedictine College

Benedictine is a four-year, Catholic, co-educational and residential liberal arts college on 100 acres overlooking the Missouri River. Freshman Hall, built in 1892 and the school's first residential building, is a notable landmark.

1020 N. 2nd St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-5340 | www.benedictine.edu

St. Benedict's Abbey

Benedictine monks established St. Benedict's Abbey in the late 1850s. About 40 monks reside at the abbey, which was completed in 1929. The church was designed by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright and was completed in 1957. It features a 44-foot-high nave ceiling, facing choir stalls where monks gather three times a day for common prayer and unique frescoes. Self-guided tours.

1020 N. 2nd St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-7853 | www.kansasmonks.org

St. Pat's Church

The state's oldest church in the Archdiocese of Kansas City still in continuous use. It was added to the National Register in 1998. *Eight miles south on Kansas Highway 73 (west on 234th Road).*

Mormon Grove

An historic marker commemorates the site where some 20,000 Mormons camped before moving on to their "promised land." *3 miles west of Atchison on U.S. Highway 73.*

Lewis & Clark Pavilion

The Lewis & Clark Pavilion in Riverfront Park was constructed in preparation for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial commemoration on July 3-4, 2004. The pavilion, built by the Kansas Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission, contains an interactive touchscreen monitor and interpretive panels with information on the Lewis & Clark expedition, the Missouri River and the Kanza Nation.

Intersection of Commercial Street & River Road, Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-5500

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Signs

The Kansas Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission erected a series of interpretive signs along the Lewis and Clark Trail between Kansas City and White Cloud, Kansas. Five of those signs are in the Atchison area.

Pony Express Memorial

A granite marker at 3rd and Main streets commemorates the Pony Express which, in its last months of operation, originated from Atchison.

Victorian Architecture

Atchison boasts one of the most impressive collections of Victorian architecture in the Midwest. The greatest concentration of well-preserved homes is north of the downtown along 3rd, 4th and 5th streets. Dozens of other fine homes are interspersed throughout town. The city has over 20 properties on the National Register of Historic Places.

Veterans War Memorial

Take special note of the Veterans Memorial at Riverfront Park, where the names of area military veterans are proudly displayed. The latest addition to the park is a relic display, an artifact from the historic USS Arizona, which was sunk in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

SEASONAL EVENTS INCLUDE:

February

- Atchison Chocolate Tasting
- Theatre Atchison Spring Production
- Atchison Area Bridal Show

March

- Leprechaun Loot

April

- Funky Junk Flea Market
- Railroad Festival
- Riverfront Open Air Art Fair

May

- Kiwanis Club Spring Flea Market
- Farmers' Market (thru Oct.)
- Citywide Garage Sale

July

- Ladies Night Out- Summer Stroll
- Amelia Earhart Festival
- LakeFest Music Concert

September

- Haunted Atchison Tours
- Muddy River Music Festival
- Catfish Chasers Tournament
- Taste of Atchison
- Kiwanis Fall Flea Market
- Theatre Atchison Fall Production

October

- Haunted Atchison Tours
- Oktoberfest
- Witches Night Out
- Dogtober
- OktoberBest

November

- Cash for Christmas
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Christmas Stroll
- Small Business Saturday

December

- Sights & Sounds of Christmas
- Winter Ladies Night Out
- Theatre Atchison Holiday Production

FAMILY STAY-CATION

Atchison offers exciting, fun, and unique events and memory-making activities year round for all ages to enjoy. Plan your long-weekend family trip in Atchison, Kansas while taking in the beautiful scenic by-ways along the way. There is plenty to do that will make everyone in the family happy and ensure a great vacation not too far away from home.

FIRST STOP - Santa Fe Depot Visitor Center & Gift Shop

Stop by and learn in-person about all that Atchison has to offer, as well as its fascinating history while touring the museum. Our knowledgeable staff will provide you with a Visitors Guide as well as our Shopping/Dining Guides. You are sure to find the perfect memorabilia at our Warming Hut Gift Shop.

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Atchison Rail Museum & Small Steam Engine Train Rides

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4 p.m. M-F; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat.; 1-4 p.m. Sun. Winter hours (Dec.- Jan): Closed M-Tues.; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. W-F; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat.; 1-4 p.m. Sun.

223 N. Terrace St., Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-4217 | www.ameliaearhartmuseum.org

Theatre Atchison

Theatre Atchison, located inside one of Atchison's most historic buildings, presents award winning live community theatre throughout the year. Fri & Sat shows 8pm; Sun shows 2pm. In 1984 the founding board members recognized the need for an organized theatre arts program. Since then TA has grown to include 3 full time staff positions and year round youth programming. Over 25 part-time artists are paid throughout the year to help produce the 10 adult and youth shows.

401 Santa Fe, Atchison, KS | Call (913) 367-SHOW for more information or visit www.atchisontheatre.org

Citadel Caverns

Citadel Caverns is located in Atchison, Kansas on 125 acres of land that was previously a secure military storage facility owned by the U.S. Army. Tours consist of approximately 45 minutes of walking and 45 minutes of riding a tram. The majority of the tour is handicapped accessible (\$10 per adult, \$7 per child). 6675 Sherman Road, Atchison, Kansas 66002 | (913) 367-5244 | www.citadelcaverns.com

Amelia Earhart Earthwork

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Intersection of Commercial Street & River Road, Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-5500

Independence Creek Hiking/Biking Trail

This ten-mile hiking/biking trail connects downtown Atchison with Independence Creek and the historic area where the Lewis and Clark expedition camped on July 4, 1804. The trail head includes a recreated Kanza Indian lodge that is free to view. The Kanza lodge, trail and Lewis & Clark attractions on the Atchison Riverfront were named one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas History in 2010.

Begins in Riverfront Park, Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-2427

Riverfront Park

Riverfront Park was dedicated on Jun 19, 2004, after many years of planning. It features the Lewis & Clark Pavilion, Veterans' Memorial Plaza, a hiking/biking path along the river, enhanced boat access with a river overlook area, children's play area with a keelboat replica play structure, and new bathrooms. If you're a walker or bicyclist, you can begin a ten-mile journey from the south end of the riverfront. The trail takes you north to a replicated Kansas Indian Village and returns to the riverfront park.
Downtown along the Missouri River, Atchison KS 66002 | (913) 367-5500

Jackson Park

Jackson Park, Atchison's largest, is just one of our beautiful city parks that give both residents and tourists alike the opportunity to pursue healthy activities. Jackson Park is a heavily wooded area with trails, play equipment, a shelter house and picnicking.

Swimming & Sports

Atchison's Lions Pool is an 8-lane, 50-meter pool featuring two diving boards and a winding slide. The pool offers daily public swims, lap swims, and private rental times. With a separate wading pool, large deck, and picnic area, this family-friendly facility is suitable for group exercise, private parties or simply lounging in the sun. The Atchison YMCA strives to bring together our community for its overall enrichment. With programs and services for all ages and abilities, Atchison Family YMCA makes the community stronger in body, mind and spirit. They YMCA offers open/family swim time throughout the year at their facility. Visit them at www.atchisonymca.org for exciting class schedules and information.

Parks, Lakes, and Fishing

Atchison's city parks have facilities for tennis, basketball, baseball and horseshoes. Warnock Lake offers swimming, volleyball and picnic facilities. Several small lakes and the Missouri River provide fishing opportunities (license required)

Camping

Warnock Lake: 16 sites with electricity and 1 central water hydrant available. \$10.00 per camper per day payable to the groundskeeper at the lake. For more information, call (913) 367-5561.

Atchison County Lake: Located west of Huron on 326th Rd. \$3.00 for 2 days or less, \$1.00 per additional day; maximum stay of 10 days for camping, drinking water included. No electricity available. For more information, call the Atchison County Court House at (913) 367-1653 or Carl Strathman at (785) 548-7727.

Atchison State Fishing: Located about 3 miles North of Atchison on Hwy. 7. No charge for camping. Drinking water available, no electricity. New cabin now available for rent. Cabin sleeps a maximum of 6. \$71 first night; \$60 each additional. Kitchen utensils provided; bed & bath linens NOT provided. Reservations must be made only online at www.kdwp.state.ks.us. For more information, call (913) 367-7811 or email kirkat@wp.state.ks.us.