

# History

The earliest recorded residents of Atchison were the Kanza Indians for whom the state of Kansas was named. On July 4, 1804 Lewis and Clark's expedition camped here and named two local streams, The Fourth of July 1804 Creek and Independence Creek. Many years later in the late 1850s, the Benedictine Monks settled in Atchison. They established St. Benedict's Abbey in 1858, and in 1863, the Benedictine Sisters established Mount St. Scholastica College. Both of these establishments can be toured. In September of 1860, the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company was formed, and by the 1880s, Atchison had become one of the major rail centers in the Midwest. One of the most significant pieces of history, however, is that Atchison is the birthplace and early childhood home of Amelia Earhart who was born here, at her grandparents' house, on July 24, 1897.



# Outdoor Recreation

The combination of wooded bluffs, lush farmland and a network of watershed ponds and lakes make Atchison the perfect location for outdoor activity. The city is annually among the top 200 outdoor towns in America in *Outdoor Magazine's* yearly list. Atchison County Lake and Warnock Lake provide areas for fishing and other water activities. Atchison State Fishing Lake and Wildlife area and Benedictine Bottoms provide some of the best hunting grounds in the state. Jackson Park and the Independence Creek Trail are great for hiking and biking. Jackson Park boasts one of the top disc golf courses in the area. Atchison has two top-notch golf courses. The Lions Public Swimming Pool features a 182-foot water slide.

# Lodging

Atchison has a variety of lodging opportunities, from our modern motels and hotels to our charming, historic bed & breakfasts. Stop at our Visitor's Information Center and allow us to assist you in finding the lodging that best suits your needs.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Santa Fe Depot - 200 S. 10th St - Atchison, KS  
(800) 234-1854

[www.visitatchison.com](http://www.visitatchison.com)  
[tours@atchisonkansas.net](mailto:tours@atchisonkansas.net)

# Atchison Kansas

## VISITOR'S GUIDE



# Tour Atchison



Start your visit with a tour of this historic riverside town. The Historic Trolley Tour operates from April through October, and provides a wonderful overview of Atchison's history and beautiful views of the scenic Glacial Hills. During the fall months, experience Atchison's eerie history aboard the Haunted Atchison Tour. Atchison is widely recognized as the most haunted town in Kansas, and this tour explores the many stories that have been collected.

History Mystery  
Entertainment

# Museums

## AMELIA EARHART BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM



The home in which Amelia Earhart was born and spent her early childhood was built by her grandfather in the early 1860s. It is now owned and operated as a museum by the Ninety-Nines Inc.

## ATCHISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

This museum traces the history of the region, from its Amelia Earhart collection and Lewis & Clark artifacts to a rare gun collection.

## ATCHISON RAILROAD MUSEUM



Adjacent to the Santa Fe Depot, the Atchison Railroad Museum features an outdoor collection of rail cars.

## EVAH C. CRAY HISTORICAL HOME MUSEUM

Explore the elegance of an 1880s 25-room Victorian mansion. The house has five beautiful fireplaces, ornately carved woodwork and original chandeliers on the first floor.

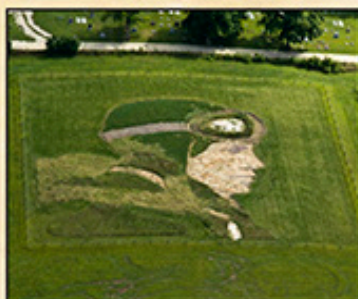
## MUCHNIC ART GALLERY



Parquet floors, stained glass windows, hand-tooled leather panels and cornices make an impressive backdrop for displays of art by regional and national artists.

# Featuring

## AMELIA EARHART EARTHWORK



This one-acre portrait was created by famed Kansas artist Stan Herd in 1997. It is composed of permanent plantings, stone and other natural materials. The viewing deck is located at Warnock Lake.

## INTERNATIONAL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP

This living, growing memorial to those who have been involved in aviation and space exploration includes trees representing all 50 states, more than 32 countries and the Moon Tree.

## 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.

# Shopping & Entertainment



Our beautiful, historic downtown, which includes Commercial Street Mall, is a charming, outdoor pedestrian plaza. Our downtown features many unique eateries and shops. Atchison is also home to Theatre Atchison, which presents plays and musicals in the intimate setting of a former church sanctuary.

# Major Events

## FEBRUARY

CHOCOLATE TASTING

BRIDAL SHOW

## MARCH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DOWNTOWN

## APRIL

LADIES DAY

OPEN AIR ART FAIR

TRAIN FESTIVAL

## JUNE

CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES

INTERNATIONAL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATION

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

## JULY

AMELIA EARHART FESTIVAL

Lakefest OUTDOOR CONCERT

## SEPTEMBER

HAUNTED ATCHISON TOURS

FUNKY JUNK FLEA MARKET

TASTE OF ATCHISON

CATFISH CHASERS TOURNAMENT

## OCTOBER

HAUNTED ATCHISON TOURS

OKTOBERFEST ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

WITCHES NIGHT OUT

HALLOWEEN PARADE

## NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS STROLL

## DECEMBER

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS

LADIES NIGHT OUT

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, GO TO VISITATCHISON.COM



*The Glacial Hills Scenic Byway showcases the region of the state where unusual rocks were left by receding glaciers. It also showcases some of the oldest communities in the state where early statesmen made their homes. The Byway runs from White Cloud south through Troy and Atchison via State Highway 7, ending in Leavenworth.*