Region: Eastern Wooded Hills – North

Note: Attractions marked with an asterisk (*) were recognized as part of the 8 Wonders of Kansas contests, sponsored by the Kansas Sampler Foundation. Don’t miss them!

1. Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm Historic Site*
   Mahaffie.org
   1200 Kansas City Rd, Olathe, KS
   (913) 971-5111

2. Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art – Johnson County Community College
   NermanMuseum.org
   12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS
   (913) 469-3000

3. Museum at Prairiefire
   MuseumOfPf.org
   Nall and 135th Street, 5801 West 135th St, Overland Park, KS
   (913) 647-5315

4. Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site
   kshs.org/shawnee_indian
   3403 W 53rd, Fairway, KS
   (913) 262-0867

5. Kansas Speedway
   KansasSpeedway.com
   400 Speedway Blvd, Kansas City, KS
   (866) 460-7223

6. C.W. Parker Carousel Museum*
   FirstCityMuseums.org
   320 S Esplanade, Leavenworth, KS
   (913) 682-1331

7. Fort Leavenworth, Frontier Army Museum and Buffalo Soldier Monument*
   VisitLeavenworthKS.com
   Hwy 73 and Grant Ave, Fort Leavenworth, KS
   (913) 684-1724
8. Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum*
AmeliaEarhartMuseum.org
223 N Terrace St, Atchison, KS
(913) 367-4217

9. Davis Memorial*
DavisMemorial.org
606 Iowa St, Hiawatha, KS
(785) 742-7643

10. Kansas Museum of History*
KSHS.org/Museum
6425 SW 6th Ave, Topeka, KS
(785) 272-8681

11. Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site*
nps.gov/bvfb/
1515 SE Monroe St, Topeka, KS
(785) 354-4273

12. Kansas State Capitol*
KSHS.org/Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS
(785) 296-3966

13. Constitution Hall State Historic Site*
KSHS.org/Constitution_Hall
319 Elmore St, Lecompton, KS
(785) 887-6520

14. KU Natural History Museum – University of Kansas Campus
NaturalHistory.ku.edu/
1345 Jayhawk Blvd, Lawrence, KS
(785) 864-4450

15. Freedom's Frontier Exhibit/Historic Carnegie Building
FreedomsFrontier.org
200 W 9th St, Lawrence, KS
(785) 856-5282

16. Black Jack Battlefield*
BlackJackBattlefield.org
PO Box 44, Baldwin City, KS
(785)-883-2106
There is truly something for everyone in Kansas. If you are a history buff you won’t want to miss one of the first stops on the Oregon Trail or your opportunity to see the Brown V. Board of Education State Historic Site. If you are a “foodie”, meaning you love experiencing new and incredible types of food, there are plenty of mouth-watering treats for you to choose from. You can even watch your favorite Broadway hits while enjoying a scrumptious five-star cuisine. Come see for yourself why there is no place like Kansas.

**Olathe**

1. **Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm Historic Site**
   Don’t miss the last remaining stagecoach stop on the historic Santa Fe Trail open to the public and relive the adventures of early passengers traveling on the Barlow and Sanderson Stagecoach Line. The stone farmhouse built by J.B. and Lucinda Mahaffie in 1865 was one of the first stops for westbound travelers using the Westport Route of the Santa Fe, California and Oregon Trails.

**Overland Park**

2. **Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art**
   The largest contemporary art museum in the region, the 41,000-square-foot Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art includes galleries for temporary exhibitions, the Oppenheimer permanent collection, works of Kansas City-based artists and new media.

3. **Museum at Prairiefire**
   As part of collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History the new Museum at Prairiefire is a cultural and educational institution for all ages. Prairiefire offers live music, commissioned art elements, a Cinetopia movie theater and outdoor fireplaces. The convenience of 12 restaurants and a fashion district make Prairiefire a destination you don’t want to miss!

**Unique Dining**

**Café Tempo**
Johnson County Community College
JCCC.edu
12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS
(913) 469-8500
Sample upscale lunch and breakfast items at this award-winning café on the college campus.

**Looking for more to do in Overland Park? May we recommend:**

**New Theatre Restaurant**
NewTheatre.com/home.html
9229 Foster, Overland Park, KS
(913) 649-7469
See celebrities perform your favorite Broadway hits while enjoying five-star cuisine.
### Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site

This Shawnee Mission site served as an early territorial capitol, supply point on the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails, and as a camp for Union soldiers during the Civil War. The 13-acre National Historic Landmark showcases the rich tapestry of three historic buildings, period rooms and exhibits, plus special events, workshops and guided tours.

### Kansas City

5. **Kansas Speedway**

Kansas Speedway features a 1.5-mile racetrack, 80,000+ seats and hot racing action, including the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series, NASCAR Nationwide Series, Kansas Lottery, NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series and Indy Racing League. The track also offers driving schools, custom car shows, a national barbecue contest, a souvenir shop and numerous other events.

### Unique Shopping

**Strawberry Hill Povitica Company**

- [Povitica.com](http://Povitica.com)
- 7226 W Frontage Road, Merriam, KS 66203
- (913) 631-1002

Experience the magic that goes into making the world-famous Strawberry Hill Povitica, a Croatian dessert bread. Enjoy a free cup of coffee and sample their flavors while you learn about the rich cultural heritage of Kansas City. Your mouth will be watering by the end of your visit!

### Unique Lodging

**Chateau Avalon**

- [ChateauAvalonHotel.com](http://ChateauAvalonHotel.com)
- 701 Village West Pkwy, Kansas City, KS
- (913) 596-6000

Located in a popular shopping district, this boutique theme hotel retreat offers 23 different concept suites. Enjoy the wine bar and breakfast delivered to your room.

**Great Wolf Lodge**

- [GreatWolf.com](http://GreatWolf.com)
- 10401 Cabela Dr, Kansas City, KS
- (913) 299-7001

The whole family will love blasting down the slides at this indoor water park and lodge.

### Unique Dining

**T-REX Café**

- [TRexCafe.com](http://TRexCafe.com)
- 1847 Village West Pkwy, Kansas City, KS
- (913) 334-8888

Have a Mesozoic good time dining under a volcano or near a prehistoric sea creature.
Fritz’s Railroad Restaurant
FritzsKC.com
250 N 18th, Kansas City, KS
(913) 281-2777
Relax as your food arrives at your table via overhead track and miniature train. Customer favorites include the Gen Dare burger (topped with hash browns).

Unique Shopping
Legends Outlets Kansas City
LegendsShopping.com
1843 Village West Pkwy, Kansas City, KS
(913) 788-3700
Find some legendary deals, catch a movie or have a romantic dinner at this atmospheric outdoor shopping mall.

Moon Marble Company*
MoonMarble.com
600 E Front St, Bonner Springs, KS
(913) 441-1432
One of the 8 Wonders of Kansas Commerce, Moon Marble Company is the only store in the country where you can buy marbles and watch them being made.

Looking for more to do in Kansas City? May we recommend:

Schlitterbahn Waterpark
Schlitterbahn.com
9400 State Ave, Kansas City, KS
(913) 312-3110
Boasting the tallest water slide in the world, Schlitterbahn is the summertime destination for thrill-seekers and water babies of all ages. Don’t miss the uphill water coaster, tubing rivers, slides, relaxing beach areas and the giant hot tub with swim-up refreshment bar.

Leavenworth

6. C.W. Parker Carousel Museum*
   It’s a Kansas custom to take a ride on an original wooden 1913 C.W. Parker Carousel, made right here in Leavenworth. Visit the gift shop, workshop area, an aluminum 1950s Paul Parker Carousel and a display of a primitive Flying Horse Carousel.

7. Ft. Leavenworth, Frontier Army Museum and Buffalo Soldier Monument*
   This is the oldest Army installation in continuous service west of the Mississippi River, and many of the historic sites date back to the early days of the post. Start at the Frontier Army Museum, which collects and preserves artifacts telling the story of the Frontier Army from 1804 to 1916 -and of Fort Leavenworth from 1827 to the present. The magnificent Buffalo Soldier monument honors the valiant all-black regiments in the United States Army, the 9th & 10th Cavalry.
Unique Shopping
Artistic Works by Lu
ArtisticWorksbyLu.com
221 Delaware, Leavenworth, KS
(913) 758-0754
Enliven your look with an original piece of jewelry or vintage-inspired fashion by Lu Knueven.

Atchison
8. Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum*
This historic home on Missouri River bluffs features displays on Amelia Earhart and other women pilots. The internationally famous aviatrix was born here on July 24, 1897, and the restored home contains an assortment of interesting family heirlooms, displays and photographs.

Unique Shopping
Nell Hills
NellHills.com
501 Commercial St, Atchison, KS
(913) 367-1086
Shoppers from the Midwest and beyond make a pilgrimage to see the latest in lavish home décor displays.

Hiawatha
9. Davis Memorial*
John Milburn Davis erected this ongoing memorial to “the sacred memory” of his wife, Sarah, after her death in 1930. The life-sized Italian marble memorial, with staggering price tags during the Great Depression, featured statues of the Davises throughout their lives. As the memorial grew, so did the dismay of the townspeople, who were without a hospital and other services for which the funds could have been used. The irony is that the memorial has, in its own way, benefited the community. Every year tens of thousands of visitors make the trek to Hiawatha to see the Davis’ legacy.

Topeka
10. Kansas Museum of History*
Kansas history is full of colorful characters – and you’ll meet a lot of them here. See a full-sized Cheyenne tipi, a fully stocked covered wagon ready for a trip on the Oregon Trail, a 1950s diner made by the Valentine Industries and many other outstanding features.

11. Brown v. Board of Education State Historic Site*
This National Historic Site commemorates the historic Supreme Court decision aimed at ending segregation. One of 390 U.S. National Parks, Brown v. Board of Education is a museum with highly interactive exhibits and audio-visual media educating visitors about the U.S. Supreme Court decision as well as the Civil Rights movement in this country and abroad.
12. **Kansas State Capitol***

Climb 296 steps to the best view in Topeka! Completed in 1903 after 37 years of construction, the Kansas State Capitol is actually a few feet taller than our nation’s capitol in Washington, DC. Located on a 20-acre site, the grounds feature statues, memorials, and gardens. Take an old cage-style elevator to visit the Senate and House chambers and learn about the famous John Steuart Curry murals.

**Unique Lodging**

**Ravenwood Lodge**  
RavenwoodLodge.com  
10147 SW 61st St, Topeka, KS  
(785) 256-6444  
Visit this year-round destination for hunting or clays. It is an ideal location for your next corporate retreat.

**Brickyard Barn Inn Bed & Breakfast**  
BrickyardBarnInn.com  
4020 NW 25th St, Topeka, KS  
(785) 235-0057  
Originally built as a dairy barn in 1927, this renovated inn brings out the charm and the grace of country.

**Unique Dining**

**Bobo's Drive-in***  
2300 SW 10th, Topeka, KS  
(785) 234-4511  
Favorites at Bobo’s include the made-fresh-daily apple pie and the hand-battered onion rings.

**C.W. Porubsky's Deli & Tavern**  
508 NE Sardou Avenue, Topeka, KS  
(785) 234-5788  
The cold cuts, the chili and the hot pickles make Porubsky’s a very important stop in Topeka’s “Little Russia.”

**The RowHouse Restaurant**  
RowHouseRestaurant.net  
515 SW Van Buren, Topeka, KS  
(785) 235-1700  
Featuring a menu that changes weekly to meet the seasons, the garden and the mood, the RowHouse is a special night out.

**Unique Shopping**

**Hazel Hill Chocolate**  
HazelHillChocolate.com  
724 S Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS  
(785) 215-8883  
Handmade chocolates and hand-dipped specialty caramel apples are just two of the many reasons to visit this Topeka favorite.
Looking for more to do in Topeka? May we recommend:

Kansas Children’s Discovery Center
KansasDiscovery.org
4400 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS
(785) 783-8300
Go ahead, kids, paint on the walls! Whether your kiddo is a budding veterinarian or an aspiring chef, there are specialized, interactive activities to inspire and educate.

Lecompton
13. Constitution Hall State Historic Site*
This National Historic Landmark is where the proslavery delegates to the Constitutional Convention hotly debated the issue of slavery in Kansas as the nation watched on. You’ll find exhibits on the pre-Civil War, Bleeding Kansas, territorial slavery and more.

Lawrence
14. KU Natural History Museum – University of Kansas Campus
Established in 1866, the KU National History Museum is nationally recognized for its public exhibits and collections as well as research and graduate education. Permanent exhibits include fossils of dinosaurs, mammals, reptiles, fish, and birds. It’s home to Comanche – the horse that was the only U.S. Army survivor of the Battle at the Little Bighorn, as well as Annabelle – an impressive 50-foot-long, 140-million-year-old Camarasaurus. An interactive insect museum on the lower level is a favorite spot for younger visitors.

15. Freedom’s Frontier Exhibit/Historic Carnegie Building
Exhibit depicts the major themes of Freedom Frontier National Heritage Area, including stories of settlement, the Border War and the enduring struggle for freedom.

Unique Lodging

Circle S Ranch
CircleSRanch.com
3325 Circle S Lane, Lawrence, KS
(785) 843-4124
Have a massage, enjoy a home-style buffet breakfast. This ranch is an ideal place for everything from a girls’ getaway weekend to a family reunion.

Eldridge Hotel
EldridgeHotel.com
701 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS
(785) 749-5011
Located in the heart of downtown, the venerable Eldridge has occupied a special place in Lawrence history since 1855.
Unique Restaurants

Free State Brewing Company*
FreeStateBrewing.com
636 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS
(785) 843-4555
Locally-sourced foods paired with top-rated craft beers. Enjoy some sunshine on the patio with your favorite brew.

WheatFields Bakery Café*
WheatfieldsBakery.com
904 Vermont, Lawrence, KS
(785) 841-5553
Choose from over a dozen hand-crafted breads baked daily in a wood-fired oven.

Unique Shopping

Historic Downtown Lawrence
DowntownLawrence.com
600 Massachusetts, Lawrence, KS
(785) 842-3883
Shop an unforgettable array of independent boutiques; choose your favorite international cuisine. Beautiful, historic downtown Lawrence has it all.

Weaver’s Department Store
Weaversinc.com
901 Massachusetts, Lawrence, KS
(785) 843-6360
A fixture of downtown Lawrence for 156 years, Weaver’s epitomizes the time-honored convenience and individualized attention of the traditional department store.

Looking for more to do in Lawrence? May we recommend:

Clinton Lake
KSOutdoors.com
798 N 1415 Rd, Lawrence, KS
(785) 842-8562
Outdoor enthusiasts don’t miss the hiking/biking trail system in this 1,500-acre park. In addition to boating, camping and fishing, visitors can also enjoy viewing white-tailed deer, wild turkey, waterfowl and bald eagles in spring and fall.

Spencer Museum of Art – University of Kansas Campus
SpencerArt.ku.edu
1301 Mississippi, Lawrence, KS
(785) 864-4710
One of the nation’s finest university art museums, the Spencer’s collection spans the history of European and American art from ancient to contemporary and includes significant holdings of East Asian art.
Baldwin City

16. **Black Jack Battlefield**
   One early morning in June 1856, noted abolitionist John Brown and his men faced off with pro-slavery Captain Henry Clay Pate and his forces along the banks of Captain's Creek. An increasing number of historians agree this exchange of fire – over the issue of slavery – marked the beginning of the Civil War. Spend an afternoon exploring this important landmark in the Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area. Pack a picnic and enjoy the scenic nature trail.

Other Central Prairie South Side Trips

- **Frontier Military Historic Byway**
  KSBwyways.com
  Originally built to move soldiers and supplies, the Military Trail has watched American history unfold. Traveling from north to south, you'll find various landmarks such as Fort Leavenworth and Fort Scott, and other significant sites from “Bleeding Kansas” and the Civil War. Also along the route, hear legends and see monuments that memorialize history across the Kansas landscape.

- **Glacial Hills Scenic Byway**
  KSBwyways.com
  This byway is characterized by the rolling hills and rock-strewn valleys carved by the ancient glaciers that once covered Kansas. Lewis and Clark Expedition celebrated the first Independence Day of their journey near what is now Atchison, and fifty years later, the Kansas-Nebraska Act opened the Kansas Territory drawing settlers to the rich soil and nearby rivers. The region also includes one of the most famous Pony Express routes, as well as Fort Leavenworth, the oldest Army post in continuous existence west of the Missouri River. Abraham Lincoln delivered one of his most famous campaign speeches in the area in 1859, and, years later, Atchison resident Amelia Earhart found her inspiration on the banks near the Missouri River.