

2024 OFFICIAL TRAVEL GUIDE

# MISSOURI

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# MISSOURI

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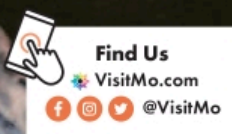
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OFFICIAL MISSOURI  
TRAVEL GUIDE



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MTG24



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# Conservation Nature Centers



## CAPE GIRARDEAU

2289 County Park Drive  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
573-290-5218  
[mdc.mo.gov/capecnc](http://mdc.mo.gov/capecnc)

## RUNGE

330 Commerce Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
573-526-5544  
[mdc.mo.gov/runge](http://mdc.mo.gov/runge)

## SPRINGFIELD

4601 S. Nature Center Way  
Springfield, MO 65804  
417-888-4237  
[mdc.mo.gov/springfieldcnc](http://mdc.mo.gov/springfieldcnc)

## POWDER VALLEY

11715 Cragwold Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314-301-1500  
[mdc.mo.gov/powdervalley](http://mdc.mo.gov/powdervalley)

## BURR OAK WOODS

1401 NW Park Road  
Blue Springs, MO 64015  
816-228-3766  
[mdc.mo.gov/burroakwoods](http://mdc.mo.gov/burroakwoods)

## TWIN PINES

Route 1, Box 1998  
Winona, MO 65588  
573-325-1381  
[mdc.mo.gov/twinpines](http://mdc.mo.gov/twinpines)

## DISCOVERY CENTER

4750 Troost Ave.  
Kansas City, MO 64110  
816-759-7300  
[mdc.mo.gov/discoverycenter](http://mdc.mo.gov/discoverycenter)

[mdc.mo.gov](http://mdc.mo.gov) | Missouri Department of Conservation



Missouri is teeming with family-friendly destinations – caves, zoos, aquariums and every kind of park you can imagine.

# WELCOME TO MISSOURI!

LAKE OF THE OZARKS

BELOW

First Lady Teresa Parson and Governor Mike Parson

From our bustling cities and charming small towns to the rugged Ozarks and rolling farmland, the Show-Me State is a special place filled with scenic views, rich history, family fun and plenty of adventure.

Road trips are a popular way to see our state, but they aren't the only way to experience all we have to offer. We encourage you to bike through historic wine country and into trailside towns on the 240-mile Katy Trail, the longest developed rail-trail in the country; travel by train on Amtrak's Missouri River Runner, connecting St. Louis and Kansas City – with eight stops along the way; or climb aboard a boat, canoe, kayak or raft to navigate our beautiful lakes and streams. Additionally, more than 1,000 miles of hiking trails provide pathways for exploring state parks, conservation areas and national forest land throughout the state.

Missouri is teeming with family-friendly destinations – caves, zoos, aquariums and every kind of park you can imagine: theme parks, water parks, nature parks and more. Museums focused on historic events, prominent residents and life long ago share stories from the past. Outstanding art museums, theaters and concert halls showcase creativity in many forms. And sports fans can see the world-class teams that have put Missouri on the map.

You'll definitely want to treat yourself to our famous barbecue, homestyle cooking or gourmet cuisine.

We invite you to come enjoy all this and more here in the Show-Me State.

— GOVERNOR MIKE PARSON



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Foundry Art Centre



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A man with a beard, wearing a white helmet and a red long-sleeved shirt, is climbing a vertical rock face. He is looking upwards and to the right. The rock is light-colored with some darker patches. The background is a dense forest of green trees, slightly out of focus. The text 'CONNECT WITH NATURE' is overlaid on the left side of the image in a large, white, outlined font. The word 'NATURE' has a red fill on the letters 'R' and 'E'.

# CONNECT WITH NATURE

Nurture your inner child  
in the great outdoors

---

ROBINSON BLUFF

# ROCK CLIMBING





ROBINSON BLUFF




CAPEN PARK

**R**olling hills, yawning caves and rugged bluffs are key features of Missouri's remarkable topography. The latter is ideal for climbers looking for the adrenaline rush of navigating a new path up sheer rock formations or trying out an established climb.

 **Beginner:** Far older than the Appalachians and the Rockies, the limestone-based St. Francois Mountains in southeast Missouri are just challenging enough for novice rock climbers. St. Francois State Park requires all climbers to obtain a permit before climbing or rappelling at the designated area along Big River.

 **Challenging:** About 13 miles northwest of Bonne Terre, near the small town of Tiff, Robinson Bluff has 226 limestone sport routes and bouldering problems that are some of the toughest in the state. Remember to bring a helmet to protect against loose rocks.


 **Best Time to Go:** Since many rock formations are in the woods or near water, plan to go during mild fall and winter days to avoid high humidity and most insects.


# HIKING




HICKORY CANYONS NATURAL AREA

**W**ell over 1,000 miles of hiking trails crisscross Missouri and showcase the state's gorgeous scenery and native flora and fauna. Since no special equipment is needed for most trails, hiking is a popular outdoor activity that almost everyone can enjoy.

 **Beginner:** Many state parks and conservation areas have trails suited to casual hikers. Burr Oak Woods Nature Center in Blue Springs has two paved trails, the Missouri Tree Trail and the J. Ernest Dunn Jr. Discovery Trail, both of which are wheelchair accessible. Along the trails, you'll see a forest, prairie, glade and pond. Many of the trees are labeled and interpretive signs help hikers build tree identification skills.

 **Challenging:** Pack some camping gear and hiking boots for an adventure on the Ozark Trail. Spanning more than 390 miles, the trail cuts through the diverse landscape of the Ozarks. See stunning views of the Ozark Mountains, crystal-clear streams and dense forest during the day. At night, look up to gaze at the millions of glittering stars revealed by the area's remote darkness.

 **Best Time to Go:** Spring and fall offer beautiful foliage and mild weather perfect for a day outdoors.



BELL MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS



ALLEY SPRING & MILL



GRAND GULF STATE PARK



ELEPHANT ROCKS STATE PARK



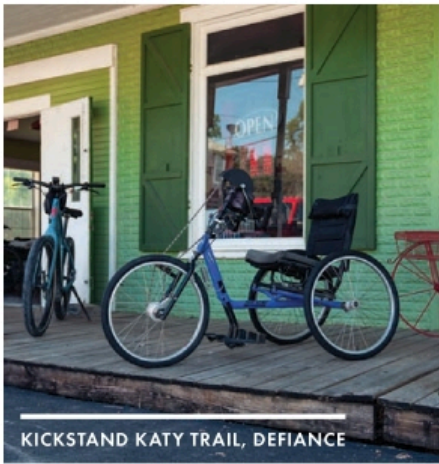
NORTH FORK RECREATION AREA



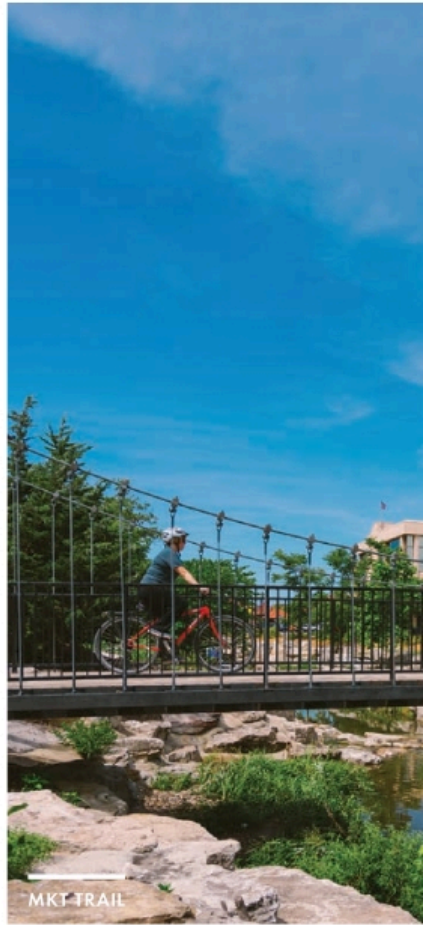
BLUE SPRING



HOTEL FREDERICK



KICKSTAND KATY TRAIL, DEFIANCE



MKT TRAIL



KATY TRAIL STATE PARK



RED WHEEL BIKE SHOP




SHEPHERD MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK





# BIKING

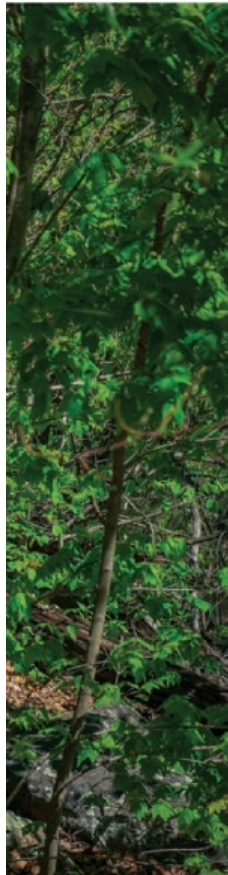


**F**eel the wind in your hair and the sun on your face while biking in Missouri. Many of the state's trails allow for bicycles, so you can take in the view on two wheels. Don't have a bike? Many bike shops near trails will allow you to rent one for the day.

 **Beginner:** Katy Trail State Park is the longest developed rail-trail in the country. It's an ideal biking trail because of the long, flat stretches that run along the Missouri River, adorable small towns and quiet rural settings. Electric bikes that do not exceed 20 miles per hour are allowed on the trail.

 **Challenging:** Take your mountain bike for a thrilling ride at Blue River Parkway near Kansas City. More than 25 miles of trails with varying degrees of difficulty are available for mountain biking. Additionally, numerous trails at Shepherd Mountain Bike Park near Ironton feature steep drops that require skill and agility to navigate.

 **Best Time to Go:** Casual biking is a fantastic activity year-round, but mountain biking is best in the fall when the weather is not too hot or cold and the ground isn't soggy from rain.





# FLOATING




JACKS FORK RIVER

**C**anoe, kayak, raft or tube – the choice is yours. No matter which one you choose, you’re sure to enjoy Missouri’s sparkling rivers on a float trip. Go solo for a relaxing day of fishing and soaking in the sun, or bring a group of friends for a splashing good time.

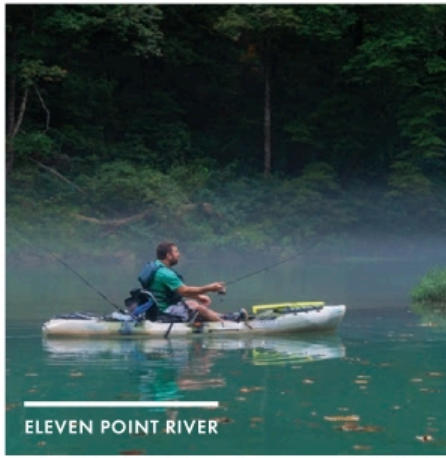
 **Beginner:** An hour from St. Louis, Meramec River is a popular spot for groups to kick back and have fun on the water. Nearby outfitters will supply you with all the gear you need and a route to follow. Most floats can be completed in two to six hours, making it a great beginner option.

 **Challenging:** Deep in the Ozarks, the Current and Jacks Fork rivers make up the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, which flows for more than 220 miles – most of which is floatable. The rivers’ picturesque beauty and freshwater springs make them a top destination for a multiday excursion. Bonus: The Current River is excellent for trout fishing.

 **Best Time to Go:** Float trips are a quintessential summertime activity in the Show-Me State, but fall also offers fantastic fishing opportunities.



NORTH FORK RIVER



ELEVEN POINT RIVER



NORTH FORK RIVER



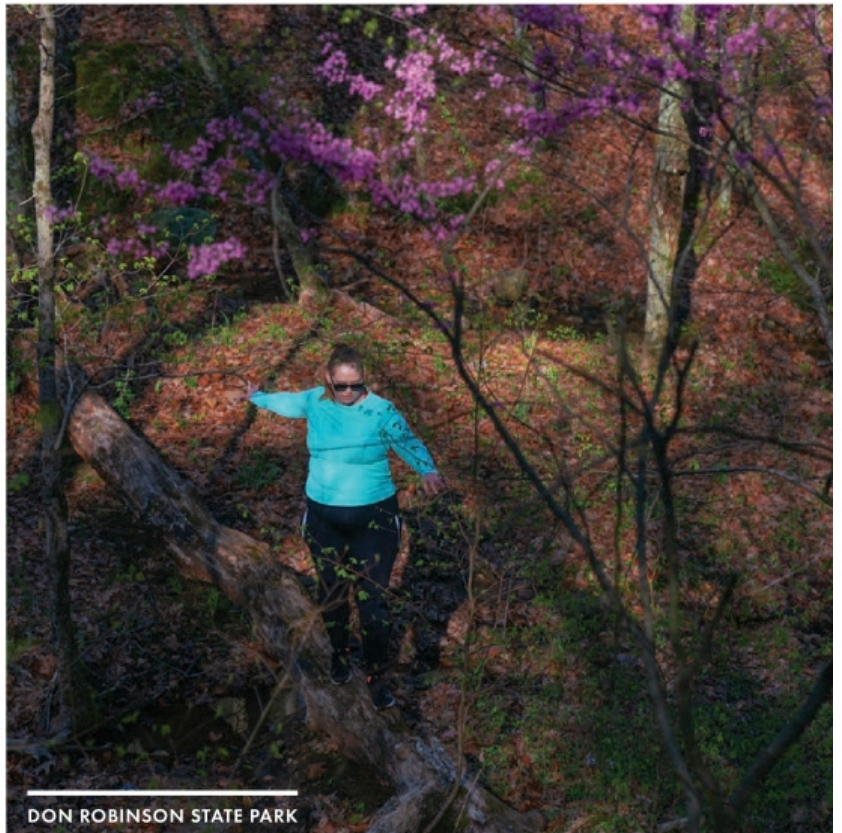
MERAMEC STATE PARK



JACKS FORK RIVER



CURRENT RIVER





MORELS

Immerse yourself in nature and set out on a treasure hunt. Granted, the treasure you're seeking won't be gold coins or jewels. Instead, keep an eye out for tasty morsels and useful plants. Do your research before you go to make sure what you're picking is safe to eat, especially when it comes to mushrooms. Check regulations on public lands to ensure foraging is allowed.

**Beginner:** An abundance of edible plants can easily be collected on public land. Dandelions, pawpaws, persimmons and elderberries are just a few plants to keep an eye out for while foraging.

**Challenging:** Morel mushrooms are notoriously difficult to find. Look for the pitted, cone-shaped caps near dead trees, on slopes and in areas impacted by flooding. You'll have the best luck when the weather starts to reach 70 degrees during the day with temperatures close to 50 degrees at night.

**Best Time to Go:** Every season brings something new to forage, but morel season is a bit more limited – it runs from late March to early May.

# FORAGING

Whether you prefer to canoe, kayak, raft or tube, an epic float trip on crystal-clear rivers and streams awaits in Missouri. Find a directory of outfitters at [MissouriCanoe.org](http://MissouriCanoe.org).



If a night under the stars is part of your getaway plans, Missouri offers everything from luxurious RV sites to rustic campgrounds. Learn more at [CampInMissouri.com](http://CampInMissouri.com).



# MISSOURI WINE REGIONS UNCORKED

From classic varietals to native grapes, great sips start here

Missouri may not be the first place that comes to mind when you think of American wine, but the state's viticultural history dates back to the early 19th century. German immigrants who settled in the region brought with them their winemaking traditions and quickly realized the potential for growing grapes in the area's fertile soil and moderate climate. By the mid-1800s, Missouri was the second-largest wine-producing state in the country, behind only New York.

In the late 1800s, Missouri's wine industry gained international attention. An aphid native to North America called phylloxera ravaged French vineyards until a Missourian named Charles Valentine Riley offered his expertise as an entomologist. He shipped Missouri's phylloxera-resistant rootstock to France where workers grafted French

varieties onto the Missouri rootstock, which saved the plants. Missouri grapevines helped revive the French wine industry, but they met their demise several decades later. When Prohibition took effect in 1920, the state's vineyards were uprooted and wineries closed, and the wine industry all but disappeared.

It wasn't until the 1960s and '70s that the Missouri wine industry began to make a comeback, thanks to the efforts of dedicated winemakers who saw the potential for high-quality wine production in the state. Today, Missouri is home to more than 120 wineries, producing a wide variety of wines from classic varietals and native grapes, like Norton, Chamborcin, Chardonnay and Vignoles. With a rich viticultural history and a renewed commitment to quality winemaking, Missouri is proving to be a significant player in the American wine industry.

## AUGUSTA REGION

In 1980, Augusta became the country's first American Viticultural Area (AVA). However, like other parts of the state, Augusta's wine traditions preceded that designation by more than 100 years.

The town's first winery, **Mount Pleasant Estates**, opened in 1859. Today, visitors can sip award-winning port in the 4,000-square-foot tasting room or take in the magnificent view from the terrace. The region has nine more wineries, including **Noboleis Vineyards**, where you can try a flight of wines under the tented pavilion. After a day of sampling, board the **Miss Augusta** for a cruise on the Mississippi River — dinner, sightseeing and wine-tasting cruises are the most popular.





ADAM PUCHTA WINERY

### HERMANN REGION

Hermann is another small town steeped in Missouri wine history. Founded by German settlers, the area quickly became a hub of winemaking activity. It is now home to several wineries, including **Adam Puchta Winery** – the oldest continuously owned family winery in the country. Another must-see is **G. Husmann Wine Co.**, which is named for the father of the Missouri grape industry, viticulturist George Husmann. After his extensive work in Missouri, Husmann moved to Napa in 1881 to help establish the grape industry there. To honor his work in both places, G. Husmann Wine Co. blends wine from its Missouri vineyards with wine from its sister vineyards in California. Additionally, each wine is named after a person in Husmann’s life, so you can get a quick history lesson with your tasting.

Diversify your sampling experience by visiting a distillery. **Black Shire Distillery** makes hand-crafted spirits using locally grown grain and Missouri white oak barrels. The result? Smooth, flavorful drinks that capture the spirit of Missouri. Tours of the distillery include a look inside Black Shire’s historic aging barn, brandy cellar and still room, plus a tasting.

## KANSAS CITY REGION

Experience the best of both worlds: urban sightseeing and peaceful escapes to beautiful vineyards. **Stonehaus Farms**, a women-owned vineyard and winery in Lee's Summit, serves a variety of classic and non-traditional wines, like apple-cranberry wine, from its scenic location. Just north of Kansas City in Weston you'll find the **TerraVox Tasting Room**, which shares a space with **Green Dirt Farm Creamery**. Green Dirt Farm's sheep milk cheese is the perfect complement to TerraVox's wines that are thoughtfully crafted from native North American grapes.

Not wanting to leave the city? Visit **Fountain City Winery** in Kansas City's historic West Bottoms neighborhood. Pick your drink of choice by reading through the characteristics of the different wines on the menu: "crisp, uplifting and effortless" or "bold, regal and timeless," to describe a few.



TERRAVOX WINERY & VINEYARD





## STE. GENEVIEVE REGION

**Route du Vin** wine trail, featuring six wineries in southeast Missouri, will take you through communities rich with interesting history and beautiful countryside views. The most unusual stop on the trail is **Cave Vineyard**. As the name would suggest, you can sip wine inside a cave – tastings aren't offered in the cave, but you can bring bottles purchased from the shop. While you're there, don't miss the Biscotti Bar featuring homemade biscotti in more than a dozen flavors. **Chaumette Vineyards and Winery** is known not only for its award-winning wine, but also for the **Grapevine Grill**, which was voted the best winery restaurant in the nation. After a delicious meal and excellent wine, spend the night in one of the on-site villas.

Between stops on the Route du Vin, check out the **Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park** to see rare examples of French colonial architecture and learn more about Missouri's first European settlers.

# THIS WAY TO THE WINE!



←  
**START YOUR MISSOURI WINE ADVENTURE HERE.**

CAVE VINEYARD

# ROOMS

---

RIVER OF LIFE FARM



# WITH A VIEW

**Elevate your trip with these  
picture-perfect accommodations**

**T**he secret to an amazing vacation? Start with a stunning place to stay. From luxury hotels to rustic retreats, Missouri offers a multitude of lodging options with breathtaking views — inside and out.



# NIGHT AT THE (ART) MUSEUM

If art exhibits top your travel list, nurture your need for creativity at one of Missouri's art hotels.

» **Angad Arts Hotel**, *St. Louis*: Decorated in saturated shades of red, blue, yellow or green, the guest rooms at the Angad Arts Hotel set the stage for an art-infused experience. Gallery walls display an ever-changing collection of work, while a 360-degree video art installation illuminates the Chameleon Lounge, a gathering space in the 12th floor "sky lobby." An array of galleries, museums, theaters and concert halls surround the hotel in the Grand Center Arts District.

» **21c Museum Hotel**, *Kansas City and St. Louis*: Showcasing the talent of today's emerging artists, 21c Museum Hotels are part of North America's only multi-venue museum dedicated to 21st-century art. Guest rooms feature original works of art, and rotating exhibits appear throughout the properties. The Kansas City hotel sits between the Power & Light District and the historic River Market. The St. Louis hotel is located downtown in the heart of the city.



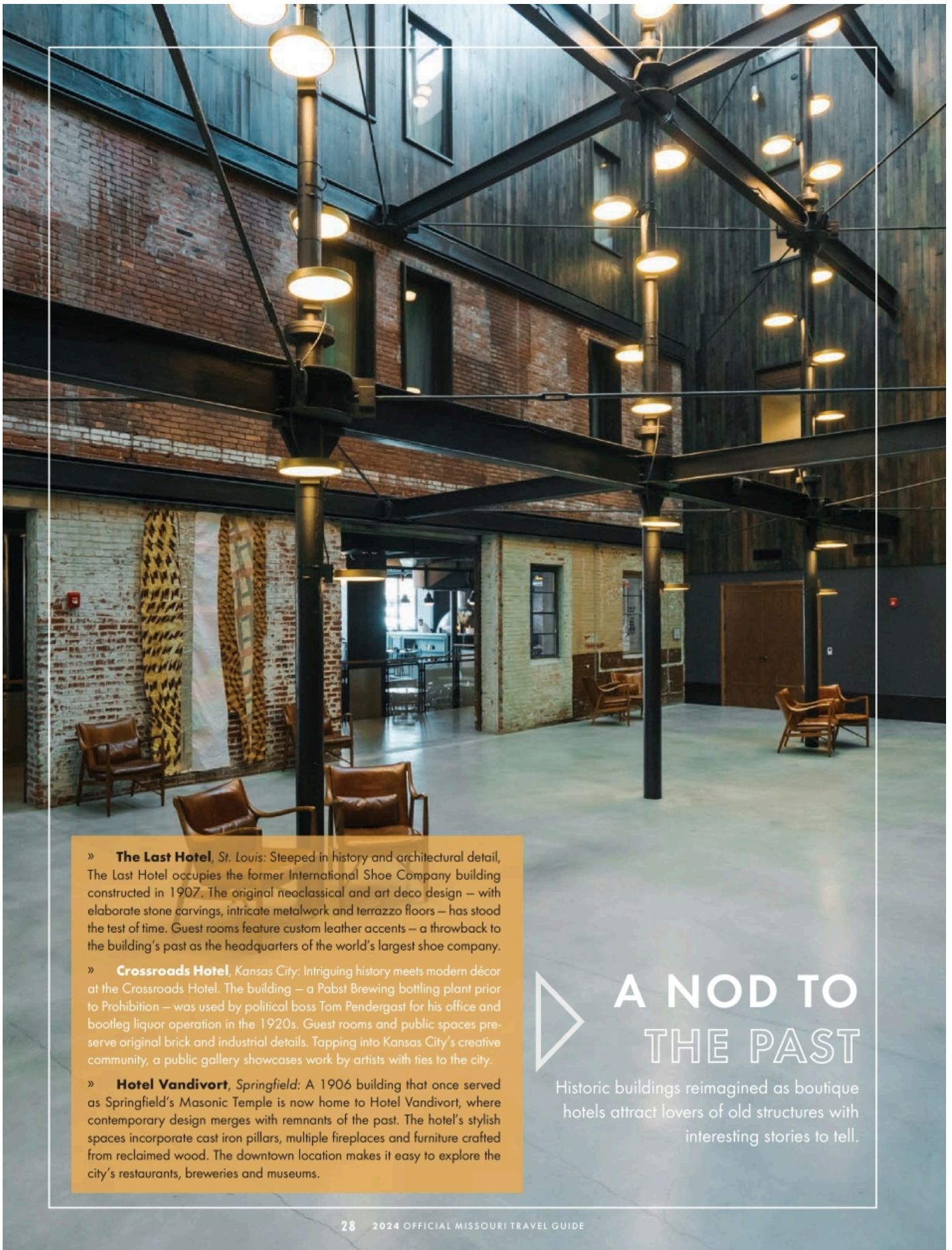
## RELAXING IN THE CANOPY

If you had a treehouse as a kid – or always wished you did – try an adult-size version for sweet dreams among the leaves.

» **Branson Treehouse Adventures, Branson:** Gather your family and friends for fun in the treetops at Branson Treehouse Adventures. Choose from five family treehouses and seven couples treehouses – each with a different design. Most of the treehouses have a kitchenette and deck – some come equipped with an outdoor shower, jettied tub and fire pit. Branson’s family-friendly attractions and live entertainment are just a few miles away.

» **The Cottage, Hermann:** Head to Missouri wine country where The Cottage bed-and-breakfast offers three treehouses, including one that’s wheelchair friendly. Take in the views from Adirondack chairs on the deck. Nearby, tour Hermann’s charming downtown and award-winning wineries.

» **River of Life Farm, Dora:** Catch your own dinner during a treehouse stay at the River of Life Farm, situated alongside the North Fork of the White River – one of Missouri’s trout fishing streams. Inside you’ll find private bedrooms, a full kitchen and a fireplace. Hike the 500-acre property and nearby Mark Twain National Forest, or paddle a canoe or kayak down the river.



» **The Last Hotel, St. Louis:** Steeped in history and architectural detail, The Last Hotel occupies the former International Shoe Company building constructed in 1907. The original neoclassical and art deco design – with elaborate stone carvings, intricate metalwork and terrazzo floors – has stood the test of time. Guest rooms feature custom leather accents – a throwback to the building’s past as the headquarters of the world’s largest shoe company.

» **Crossroads Hotel, Kansas City:** Intriguing history meets modern décor at the Crossroads Hotel. The building – a Pabst Brewing bottling plant prior to Prohibition – was used by political boss Tom Pendergast for his office and bootleg liquor operation in the 1920s. Guest rooms and public spaces preserve original brick and industrial details. Tapping into Kansas City’s creative community, a public gallery showcases work by artists with ties to the city.

» **Hotel Vandivort, Springfield:** A 1906 building that once served as Springfield’s Masonic Temple is now home to Hotel Vandivort, where contemporary design merges with remnants of the past. The hotel’s stylish spaces incorporate cast iron pillars, multiple fireplaces and furniture crafted from reclaimed wood. The downtown location makes it easy to explore the city’s restaurants, breweries and museums.

## A NOD TO THE PAST

Historic buildings reimagined as boutique hotels attract lovers of old structures with interesting stories to tell.



## LIVING THE RESORT LIFE

Indulge in amenity-rich accommodations in some of Missouri's most beautiful locations.

» **Big Cedar Lodge, Ridgedale:** Surround yourself with panoramic views of the Ozark Mountains and Table Rock Lake at Big Cedar Lodge, a wilderness resort wrapped in rustic elegance. Choose from a variety of accommodations: lodge rooms, log cabins, camping cabins and cottages. Depending on the type of lodging you select, you'll have a fireplace or fire pit, private deck or screened porch, full kitchen or kitchenette. Amenities include multiple restaurants, a spa, four heated saltwater pools, five golf courses, an entertainment complex, walking trails and boat rentals.

» **The Elms Hotel & Spa, Excelsior Springs:** Famous for its mineral-rich water, The Elms Hotel & Spa has been attracting visitors for more than a century. Today, the resort offers luxury rooms and suites and a restaurant, café and tavern. The 25,000-square-foot spa complex is replete with soaking tubs, pools and treatment facilities. Outside, there are picturesque gardens, yard games, a swimming pool and a hot tub that's open year-round.


» **Margaritaville Lake Resort, Osage Beach:** Discover a decidedly island vibe at the Margaritaville Lake Resort, located at the Lake of the Ozarks. Beachy hues decorate the guest rooms — many with a water view. After a day in the sun, unwind with drinks and dinner at one of the multiple bars and restaurants on-site. A spa, two swimming pools, tennis courts, boat rentals, a golf course and an indoor water park are sure to appeal to guests of all ages.

# ARRIVE BY RAIL



Food, fun and history abound in these eight towns along the Missouri River Runner route





**A** mtrak's Missouri River Runner bisects the Show-Me State, connecting St. Louis and Kansas City. The 283-mile-long route runs along the Missouri River on the eastern side of the state, through wine country, and onto rolling farmland toward the west.

Between the state's two largest cities, the train makes eight stops – in bustling suburbs and charming small towns – offering an opportunity to explore a collection of colorful communities across the midsection of Missouri.

The train runs daily, making it easy to take a short trip or embark on a multiday getaway. So leave the driving to the River Runner crew while you sit back and enjoy the view.



## KIRKWOOD

This suburb of St. Louis stands out with an identity all its own. Kirkwood's railway roots run deep – the town was named after the chief engineer for the Pacific Railroad. Filled with historic buildings, the pedestrian-friendly community spans 16 square blocks that are home to more than 100 specialty shops and restaurants.

**EAT** At **Billy G's Kirkwood**, an open kitchen with a brick pizza oven complements the industrial feel inside while the patio features cabanas and twinkle lights. Savor St. Louis-area favorites like toasted ravioli and thin-crust pizza.

**STAY** **The Lodge at Grant's Trail**, a short drive from Kirkwood, offers three suites and six themed rooms – each with its own design. The great room's three-story wall of windows overlooks a wooded hillside and Grant's Trail, a 10-mile rail-trail.

**EXPLORE** **The Magic House** children's museum is packed with hundreds of hands-on exhibits and activities for visitors of all ages. At the **National Museum of Transportation**, more than 70 locomotives as well as automobiles, buses, streetcars, aircraft and horse-drawn vehicles will take you on a trip through transportation history.

## WASHINGTON

A riverfront park and vibrant downtown play host to a busy schedule of festivals and art-inspired events in Washington. The community is touted as the Corn Cob Pipe Capital of the World thanks to the Missouri Meershaum Company, maker of corn cob pipes for more than 150 years.

**EAT** Pair a glass of wine, a craft beer or a cocktail with a charcuterie board or flatbread at **Oak & Front**. Finish with a delectable dessert – flourless chocolate cake, French macarons or brioche bread pudding.

**STAY** Washington's downtown has more than two dozen guest houses and inns. The **Old Dutch Hotel & Tavern** offers 14 rooms within walking distance to the Amtrak station, riverfront area and shops.

**EXPLORE** With more than 40 wineries within an hour's drive, Washington makes a great base for sampling your way through Missouri's historic wine region. Visit nearby Augusta, the country's first American Viticultural Area. There are also antique shops and art galleries waiting to be discovered.



MISSOURI MEERSCHAUM CORN COB PIPE MUSEUM

### A RAIL-TRAIL CONNECTION

For a multimodal adventure, reserve a spot on the train for your bicycle. The Missouri River Runner route, on the south side of the river, parallels a portion of the 240-mile Katy Trail, on the north side of the river. Cycle to one of the Amtrak stations along the way and ride the train back to your starting point. Or travel by train to your destination and bike back to where you began. Either way, it's an unforgettable trip teeming with scenic views and trailside towns to explore.

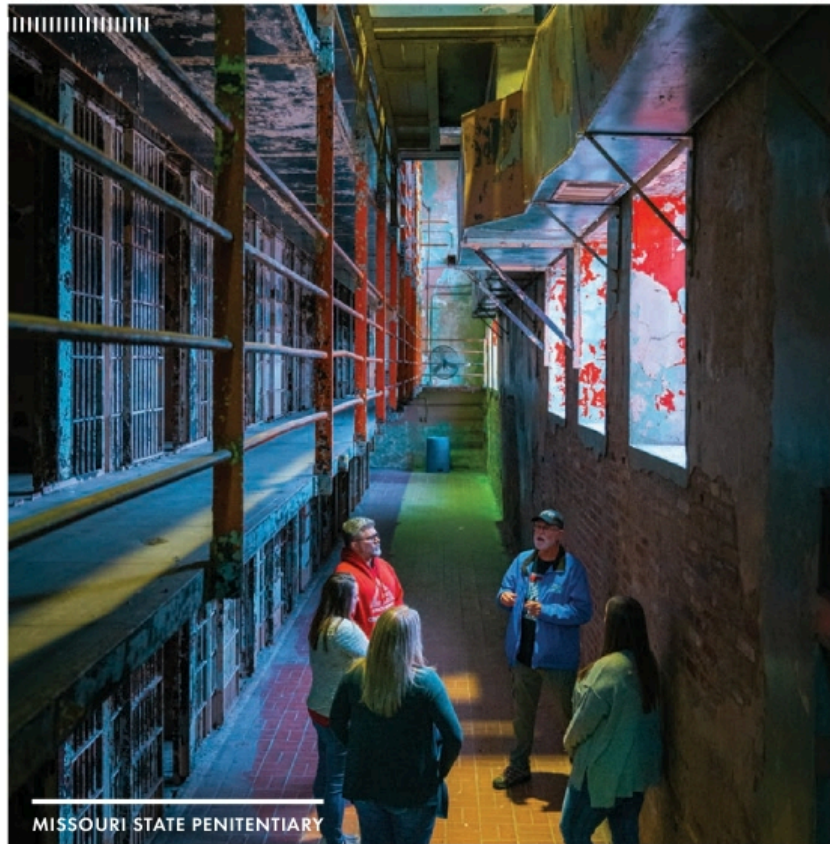
## JEFFERSON CITY

Be prepared for a history lesson in Jefferson City, where the state Capitol sits on the bank of the Missouri River. Inside, the Hall of Famous Missourians honors accomplished individuals who have called Missouri home — including Mark Twain, Walt Disney and Laura Ingalls Wilder.

**EAT** Choose from a variety of dry-rubbed meats smoked to perfection at **Sweet Smoke BBQ**. Add a side or two from more than a dozen choices — pit beans, mac and cheese, and jalapeño cheddar grits are a few local favorites.

**STAY** Claim a spot by the fire pit and admire the view of the state Capitol from the patio of the **Courtyard Marriott**, located near Jefferson City's tree-lined downtown. If your trip includes a ride on the Katy Trail, you can stow your bicycle in your room.

**EXPLORE** By day, take a history tour of the **Missouri State Penitentiary**, once the oldest continuously operating prison west of the Mississippi River. The massive facility housed inmates for 168 years until it was decommissioned in 2004. At night, see another side of the prison during a ghost tour or overnight paranormal investigation.



MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY



THE INN AT HERMANNHOF

## HERMANN

Settled by German immigrants in 1837, Hermann — a picturesque town overlooking the Missouri River — proudly shares its heritage, from the sturdy brick buildings that line the downtown to the sausage and schnitzel served in its restaurants. Popular festivals include Wurstfest, Maifest and Oktoberfest.

**EAT** Sample award-winning bratwurst, smoked pork chops, pulled pork and more at **Hermann Wurst Haus**. On the weekend, come for breakfast and a bacon Bloody Mary.

**STAY** Dozens of bed-and-breakfasts and guest cottages provide cozy and comfortable lodging. A short walk from the Amtrak station, **The Inn at Hermannhof** — with eight suites named for Missouri steamboats — combines old world charm with modern luxury.

**EXPLORE** **The Hermann Wine Trail** includes **Stone Hill Winery**, the second-largest in the country until Prohibition stopped it in its tracks. The family-owned winery has staged an impressive comeback over the past 50 years. Go underground for a tour of the arched stone cellars, the largest in the United States.



HOTEL BOTHWELL

## SEDALIA

The Trail's End Monument celebrates Sedalia's past as one of the earliest railheads for cattle-drive trails and highlights the railroad's role in the founding of the town. Four decades later, in 1901, Sedalia hosted the first Missouri State Fair, showcasing the prominent role agriculture plays in the state.

**EAT** The tin ceiling and exposed brick at **No. 5 Bistro & Bar** are reminders of the building's former life as a manufacturing facility, established in 1866. Order a cocktail and head to the patio or take it with you to **Josey Records** next door to sip while you search for an album to add to your collection.

**STAY** Experience the elegance of a bygone era at **Hotel Bothwell**, located a few blocks from the Amtrak station in downtown Sedalia. First opened in 1927, the fully restored hotel includes a spa and restaurant.

**EXPLORE** The historic **Katy Depot** is a popular stopover for cyclists riding the Katy Trail. Opened as a train station in 1869, the building now houses a full-service cycling depot, several gallery spaces and a permanent exhibit about Sedalia's history and the railroad.

## INDEPENDENCE

From the pioneer trails that took settlers west to one of America's most storied presidents, Independence overflows with history that changed the world. Mansions, museums and nostalgic shops preserve the town's intriguing past.

**EAT** **Vivalore** offers a one-of-a-kind dining experience with a menu focused on modern American cuisine. If the weather's nice, request a table in the flower-filled courtyard. Inside, peruse the art gallery's paintings, antiques and home decor.

**STAY** **Woodstock Inn Bed & Breakfast**, built in 1894, is an easy walk from the Amtrak station. European-themed rooms include the Italian Suite, French Chateau Spa Suite and English Spa Room. Breakfast is served from the Old English kitchen.

**EXPLORE** Discover the spirit of Independence's hometown hero at the **Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum**. Suddenly thrust into the office of the presidency following the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Truman helped bring World War II to an end and desegregated the U.S. Armed Forces. The library and museum are part of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail.



CLINTON'S SODA FOUNTAIN

## LEE'S SUMMIT

Big-city vibes combine with small-town appeal in Lee's Summit, where the historic downtown is a popular gathering spot. Summit Theater group, Lee's Summit Symphony and multiple music venues provide an array of entertainment for every taste.

**EAT** Get pizza by the slice or go all in for a whole pie at **Main Slice**, a classic pizzeria that occupies a storefront on Main Street. Calzones, handmade pretzels and mouthwatering desserts fill out the menu.

**STAY** The **Historic Browning** bed-and-breakfast, located two blocks from the Amtrak station, dates back to 1889. A farm-to-table gourmet breakfast and made-from-scratch baked goods are served each morning.

**EXPLORE** Spend time downtown where you'll find dozens of boutiques and restaurants. Check the calendar for special events throughout the year, including a farmers market, art walks, music in the park, Oktoberfest and the Flights of Fancy Kite Festival.



LEE'S SUMMIT OKTOBERFEST

COURTESY OF EXPLOREIS.COM

COURTESY OF WARRENSBURG CVB



OLD COURTHOUSE

## WARRENSBURG

More than 150 years ago, a court case in Warrensburg inspired the famous phrase, "A dog is a man's best friend." The community pays tribute to Old Drum – the dog at the center of the case – with a statue on the courthouse lawn. The famous canine shares the spotlight with two live mule mascots at the University of Central Missouri, a hub of activity in the college town.

**EAT** At **Heroes Restaurant & Pub**, memorabilia featuring political, sports and movie heroes will keep you amused while you wait for your hand-cut steak or juicy cheeseburger. Try the Unknown Hero cocktail, a local favorite.

**STAY** Choose from one of four spacious rooms at **Gelbach Manor**, a historic bed-and-breakfast just one block from the Amtrak station. The grounds include fountain-filled gardens, a fire pit and a heated pool.

**EXPLORE** Tour the **Old Courthouse**, where the Old Drum trial took place. The building, constructed in 1838, has been carefully restored on the Old Court House Square. The complex also includes a museum and old schoolhouse.

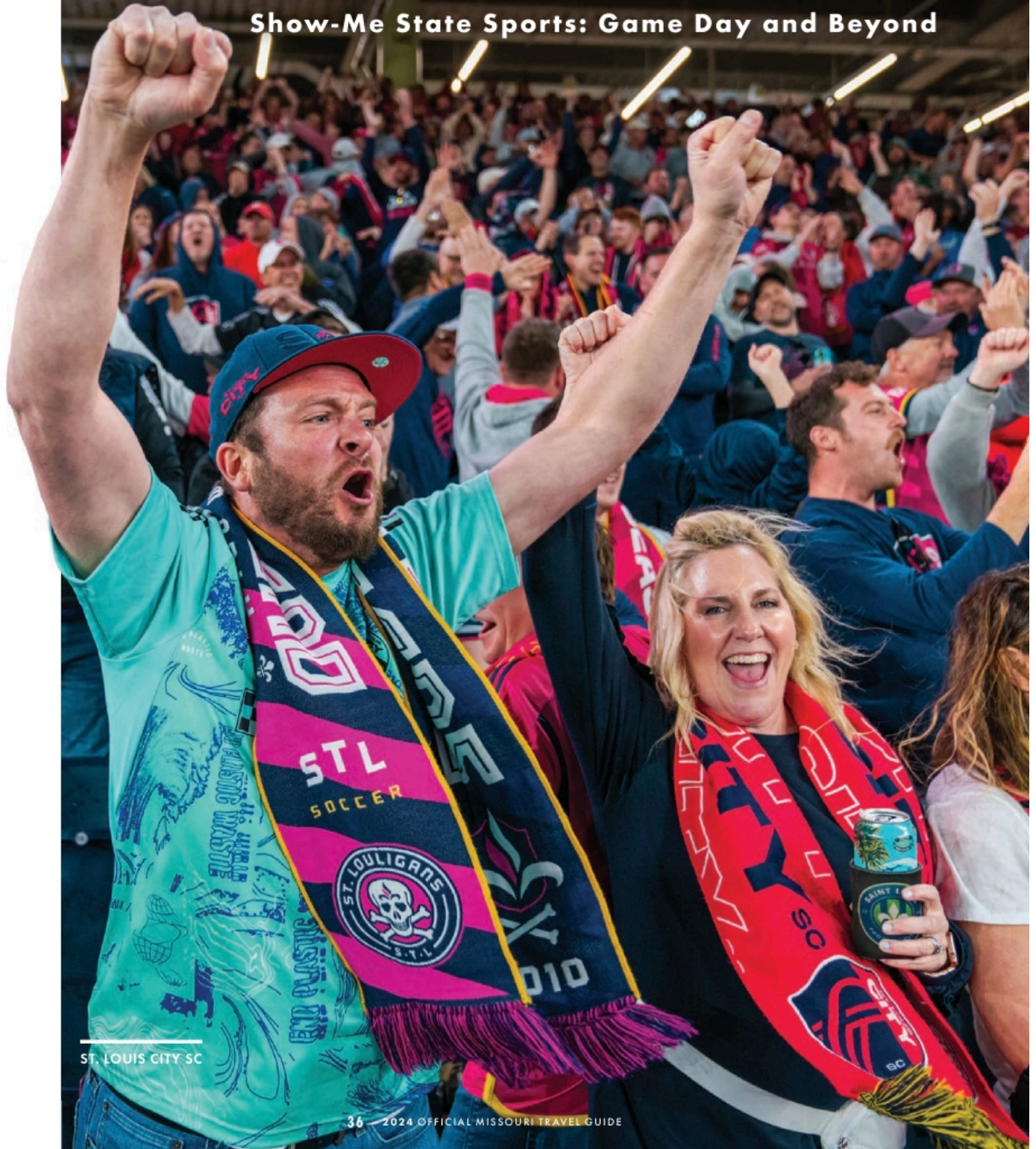
## DEPOTS FROM THE PAST

A handful of Amtrak stations along this stretch of rail are housed in historic train depots dating back more than a century:

- Warrensburg Station, 1890
- Kirkwood Station, 1893
- Independence Station, 1913
- Washington Station, 1923

# IN THE LAND OF CHAMPIONS

Show-Me State Sports: Game Day and Beyond



ST. LOUIS CITY SC



Missouri sports teams have given their fans a lot to celebrate in recent years. During the past decade, they've been rewarded with World Series, Stanley Cup and Super Bowl wins. Whether you're a die-hard Show-Me State fan or your home team hails from another state, make sports a part of your Missouri getaway with a game-day matchup, stadium tour or memorabilia-filled museum.

## WHERE THE PROS PLAY

### FOOTBALL

After the Kansas City Chiefs won their first Super Bowl trophy in 1970, fans waited 50 years for a second championship victory. The team followed up with a third win just three years later – in 2023. Experience the electric atmosphere of Chiefs Kingdom during a game at **GEHA Field Arrowhead Stadium** – known as the loudest stadium in the NFL. Tailgating at a Chiefs game is an event unlike any other as the smell of smoked meat fills the air in a city famous for its top-tier barbecue.

Take a stadium tour to learn more about the team's legacy. Legend has it that the name "Super Bowl" was coined by Chiefs founder and owner Lamar Hunt. Tour highlights include the field, locker room, press box, Founders Club and Hall of Honor.

For more gridiron excitement, watch the St. Louis Battlehawks compete in the XFL. First established in 2018, the team plays home games at **The Dome at America's Center**.

### BASEBALL

Baseball is big in Missouri, where two major league teams bookend the state.

The St. Louis Cardinals is one of the oldest and most successful professional baseball clubs in the country. With roots dating back to the 1880s, the team was christened the Cardinals in 1900. Fans from throughout the Midwest and beyond – often called the best fans in baseball – have collectively referred to themselves as

Cardinal Nation for more than 90 years. The team has won 11 World Series championships, the most of any National League team and second in all of Major League Baseball.

Explore the team's storied past on a tour of **Busch Stadium** and the **St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame and Museum** located nearby in **Ballpark Village**, a buzzing entertainment district. The stadium tour will take you to the field, broadcast booth and Redbird Club. The museum – with 15,000 artifacts and 80,000 photos – boasts the second-largest collection of baseball memorabilia in the United States. Interactive exhibits offer a chance to call a classic play or hold a bat once used by a Cardinals great.

Springfield is home to the franchise's Double-A affiliate team where more than 100 St. Louis Cardinals players got their start. Catch a Springfield Cardinals game at **Hammons Field** – you might spot a major league star in the making.

Head to Kansas City to watch the Royals play. Founded as an expansion team in 1969, the Boys in Blue have competed in four World Series, capturing the trophy in 1985 and 2015. Arrive early at a Royals game to give yourself plenty of time to tailgate – it's a popular pastime on game day.

Tour **Kauffman Stadium**, known as "The K," for a behind-the-scenes look at the home of the Royals. See the dugout, interview room, press box, Royals Hall of Fame and more during an All Star Tour.

### HOCKEY

For more than 50 years, Missouri hockey fans have thrown their support behind the St. Louis Blues. Their dedication finally paid off when the team won its first Stanley Cup in 2019. The Blues were one of six expansion teams added to the NHL in 1967. Join the fans who proudly "bleed blue" for a fast-paced game at the **Enterprise Center**.

### SOCCER

St. Louis CITY SC made a splash in Missouri when the organization joined MLS as an expansion team in 2023. Founded in 2019, the soccer club plays its home matches at **CITYPARK**, a new stadium located next to **St. Louis Union Station**.

Cheer on the Kansas City Current professional women's soccer team at a new stadium opening in 2024 at the **Richard L. Berkley Riverfront Park**. The Current joined the NWSL as an expansion team in 2021. The club's new facility is the first stadium in North America built specifically for professional women's soccer.

Kansas City will welcome soccer fans from across the globe in 2026 for the FIFA World Cup games. The city is one of 16 locations in North America where 48 men's soccer teams will compete for the title of World Champion.



## SEC ACTION

Get caught up in the excitement of college sports in Columbia where the University of Missouri Tigers compete in the Southeastern Conference (SEC). On football Saturdays, tailgating starts early before fans fill the stands at **Faurot Field**, affectionately called "The Zou."

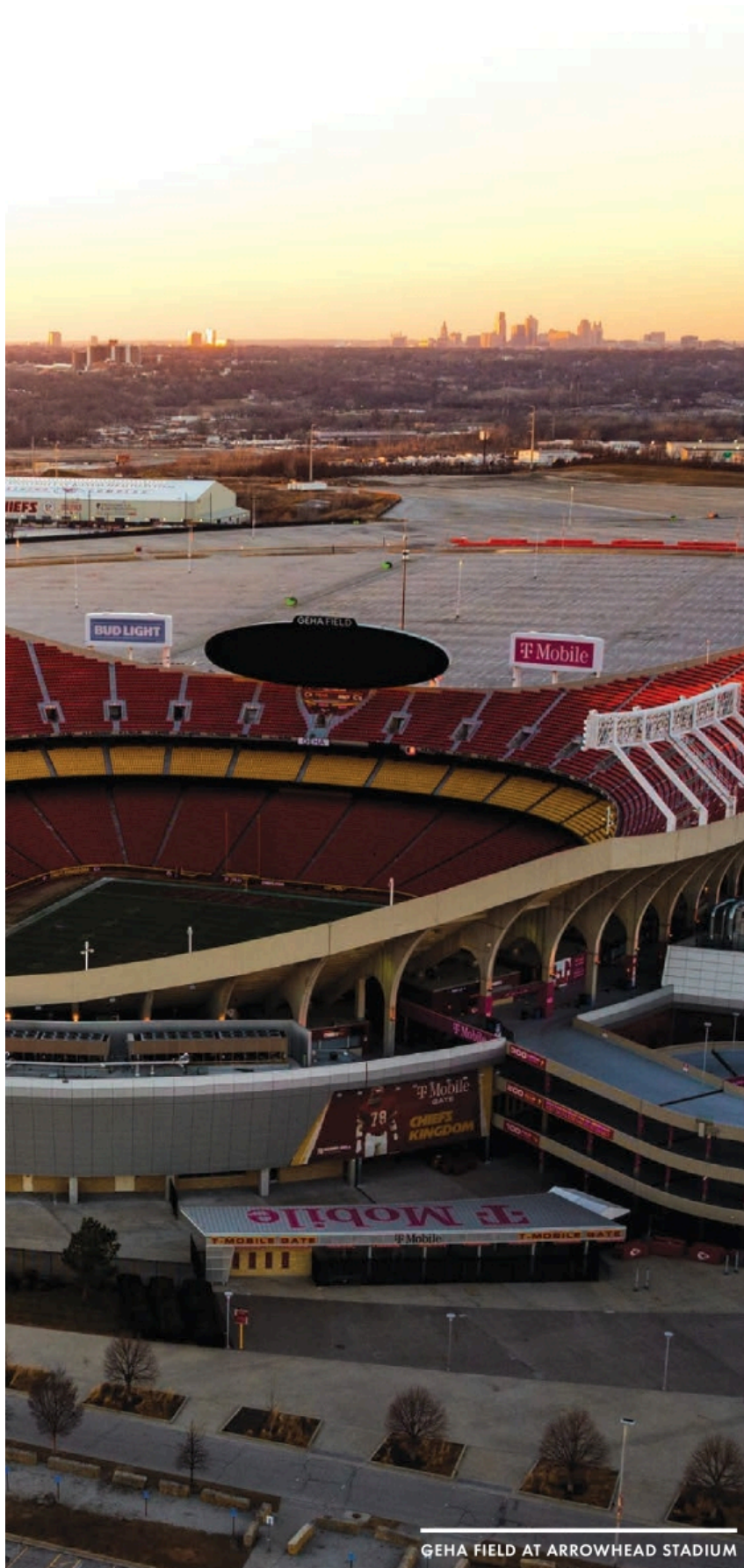
If roundball is more your style, you can find the Missouri Tigers men's and women's basketball teams in action at **Mizzou Arena**. The men's team has advanced to the NCAA tournament 28 times, while the women have seen post-season play during 13 seasons.

### FUN FACT:

The University of Missouri is often credited with starting the tradition of college homecoming. In 1911, the Tiger's football coach invited alumni to "come home" for a game against one of the school's biggest rivals. Today, MU's homecoming features a spirited parade and elaborate campus decorations.







GEHA FIELD AT ARROWHEAD STADIUM

## **MORE TO EXPLORE** **NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALL MUSEUM**

Delve into an often-overlooked chapter in sports history at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City. When Jim Crow laws forced the segregation of baseball in the early 1900s, Black players formed their own baseball leagues and traveled the country to play. The Negro National League was founded in Kansas City in 1920 and included the Kansas City Monarchs.

Some of the leagues' greatest players, including Jackie Robinson, Satchel Paige and Buck O'Neil, were instrumental in breaking the color barrier in baseball – and advancing civil rights across the country. Located in the historic 18th & Vine Jazz District, the museum is part of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail.

## **COLLEGE BASKETBALL EXPERIENCE**

Take your best shot from center court or behind the ESPN-style sports desk at the College Basketball Experience in Kansas City. Hone your basketball skills at the dribble, pass and shoot stations and join in a pick-up game on a regulation-size court or street ball area. Try out your broadcasting skills by calling the play-by-play for some of the most memorable games in college basketball history.

The facility, owned and operated by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, includes the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame. Interactive exhibits offer a glimpse into the lives of the country's greatest basketball players.

## **MISSOURI SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

Celebrate the careers of world-class athletes and the greatest moments in Show-Me State sports at the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in Springfield. The museum features more than 4,000 sports memorabilia items. Interactive exhibits invite you to feel the thrill of hitting a home run, throwing a game-winning touchdown and speeding down the straightaway in a NASCAR race.



# KALEIDOSCOPE

Feast your eyes on the captivating hues of multi-colored Missouri



**CLOCKWISE**

Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium, Springfield; Lake of the Ozarks; Billy G's, Kirkwood



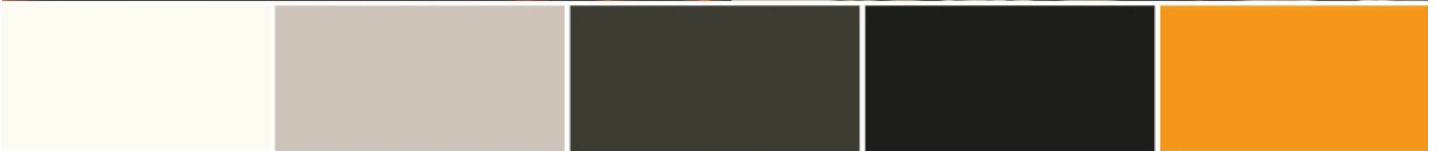
**CLOCKWISE**

Enchanted Forest Treehouse, Union; Argosy Arts Hotel, St. Louis; Kansas City Zoo & Aquarium; City Market, Kansas City; Finley Farms, Ozark



**CLOCKWISE**

Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum, Ridgedale; Mornis & Microbrews Festival, Fulton; Hotel Kansas City; Anheuser-Busch Brewery, St. Louis



CLOCKWISE  
Crows Creek Park, Smithville Lake; Mother's Brewing Company, Springfield; Brickson Park Zoo, Springfield

# GETTING

Everything you need to know about traveling

**M**issouri's location in the center of the country makes it easily accessible by air, rail and road.

## BY AIR

Missouri's central location allows travelers to fly to the state's largest metro areas from most major U.S. cities in four hours or less. The state is home to two international airports, one national airport and dozens of regional and municipal airports.

## BY RAIL

Amtrak offers several routes with stops in Missouri as well as a route across the midsection of the state.

## BY ROAD

With more than 33,000 miles of state highways and a vast network of county and city roads, Missouri is a perfect place for a road trip. Major roadways include:

### TIME TO DRIVE

Approximate drive times to four Show-Me State destinations.

#### KANSAS CITY

- Chicago » 7.5 hours
- Dallas » 8 hours
- Nashville » 8 hours
- Tulsa » 4 hours
- Des Moines » 3 hours

#### LAKE OF THE OZARKS

- Chicago » 7 hours
- Dallas » 8 hours
- Nashville » 7 hours
- Tulsa » 3.75 hours
- Des Moines » 5.25 hours

#### ST. LOUIS

- Chicago » 4.5 hours
- Dallas » 10 hours
- Nashville » 5 hours
- Tulsa » 5.75 hours
- Des Moines » 5.5 hours

#### SPRINGFIELD/BRANSON

- Chicago » 8 hours
- Dallas » 7 hours
- Nashville » 7 hours
- Tulsa » 2.75 hours
- Des Moines » 6 hours

# HERE

to and from Missouri



**SAVE THE DATES.**  
Don't miss a minute  
of festival fun.

**WHAT'S NEW IN MO?**  
Discover the latest attractions  
in the Show-Me State.



## **Kansas City International Airport (MCI)**

Eleven airlines provide service at the new 40-gate terminal, which opened in 2023. The airport is located 19 miles northwest of downtown Kansas City.

## **St. Louis Lambert International Airport (STL)**

The 86-gate airport, located 12 miles from downtown St. Louis, is served by 11 major airlines.

## **Springfield-Branson National Airport (SGF)**

Four airlines provide service at the 10-gate airport, located about five miles northwest of Springfield.

## **Columbia Regional Airport (COU)**

Located 12 miles southeast of Columbia, the airport opened a new terminal in 2022.

## **Missouri River Runner**

Provides daily service between St. Louis and Kansas City, with eight stops in between in Kirkwood, Washington, Hermann, Jefferson City, Sedalia, Warrensburg, Lee's Summit and Independence.

## **The Lincoln Service**

Travels daily between Chicago and St. Louis.

## **The Texas Eagle**

Runs from Chicago to Los Angeles, making stops in Missouri in St. Louis, Arcadia and Poplar Bluff.

## **The Southwest Chief**

Travels from Chicago to Los Angeles, making a stop in Kansas City.

## **Interstate 70**

Extending east-west across the middle of Missouri, Interstate 70 connects the state's two largest cities, St. Louis and Kansas City, passing through St. Charles, Columbia and Independence.

## **Interstate 44**

Mostly following the path of historic Route 66 — one of America's most famous highways — Interstate 44 starts in St. Louis and runs southwest across the state, passing through Rolla, Lebanon, Springfield and Joplin.

## **Interstate 55**

Extending south from St. Louis, Interstate 55 passes just west of Ste. Genevieve and through Cape Girardeau.



## **LEARN MORE**

Find more information about  
traveling to and through  
Missouri at [VisitMo.com/  
travel-resources](http://VisitMo.com/travel-resources).

## **U.S. Route 65**

Running north-south, U.S. Route 65 travels through Sedalia, the Truman Lake area, Springfield, Branson and the Table Rock Lake area.

## **U.S. Route 60**

Stretching east-west across the southern tier of Missouri, U.S. Route 60 runs through the Ozarks, Poplar Bluff, West Plains and Springfield.

## **U.S. Route 54**

Running southwest-northeast, U.S. Route 54 travels through the Pomme de Terre Lake area, the Lake of the Ozarks region, Jefferson City and Fulton.

## **U.S. Route 36**

Known as the Way of American Genius, U.S. Route 36 spans northern Missouri, connecting Hannibal and St. Joseph and running through Marceline and Chillicothe.



DOWNTOWN ST. LOUIS

momentum

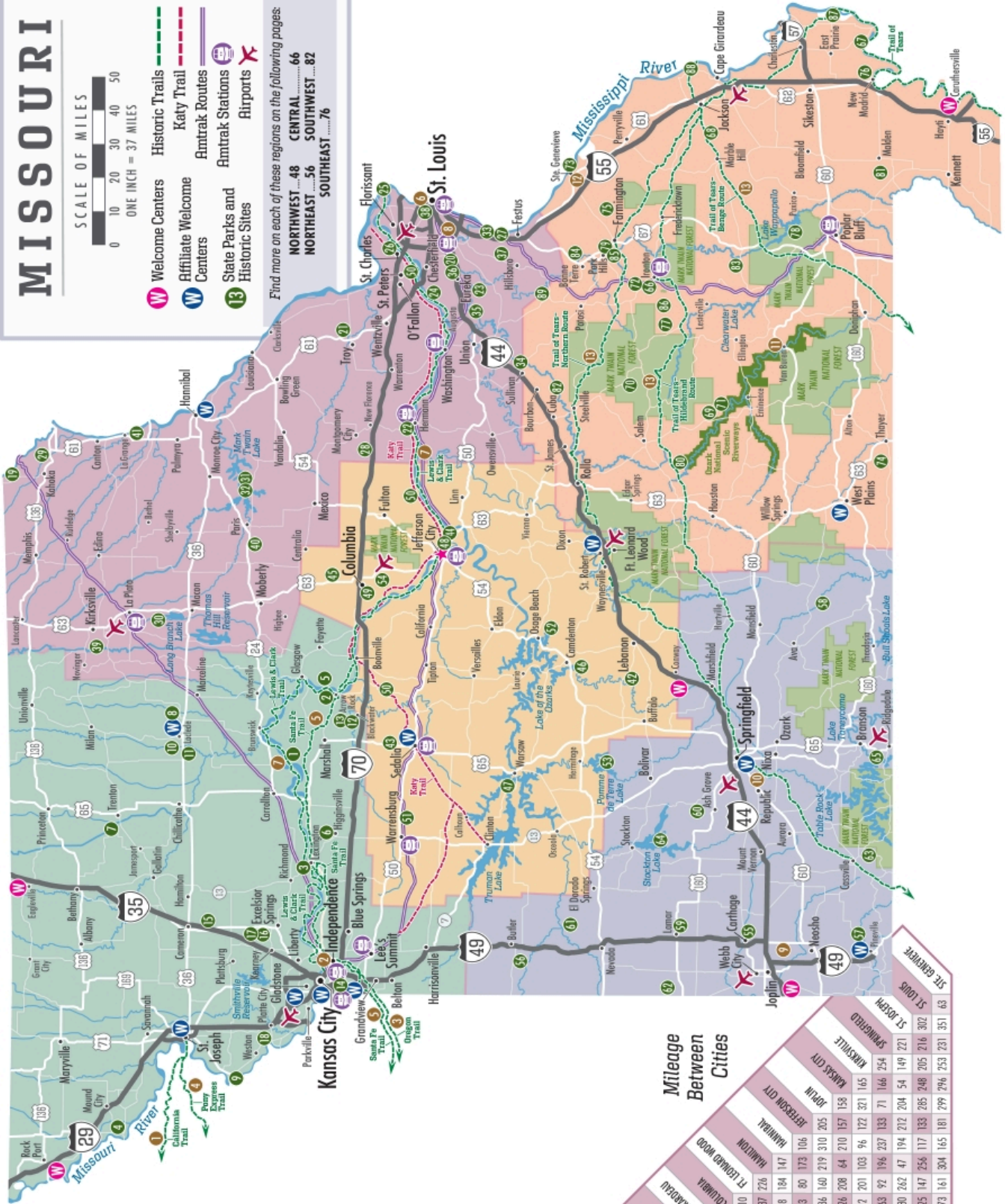
# MISSOURI

SCALE OF MILES



- Welcome Centers
- Affiliate Welcome Centers
- State Parks and Historic Sites
- Historic Trails
- Katy Trail
- Amtrak Routes
- Amtrak Stations
- Airports

Find more on each of these regions on the following pages:  
**NORTHWEST**...48 **CENTRAL**...66  
**NORTHEAST**...56 **SOUTHWEST**...82  
**SOUTHEAST**...76



## Mileage Between Cities

BRANSON	COUMBA	296	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	LAKE GRANDEAU	204					
COUMBA	FL LEONARD WOOD	128	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MANITON	359					
FL LEONARD WOOD	MANITON	238	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MARION	277					
JEFFERSON CITY	MANITON	173	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MARION	236					
KANSAS CITY	JEFFERSON CITY	110	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MANITON	352					
SPRINGFIELD	JEFFERSON CITY	294	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MANITON	48					
ST. LOUIS	JEFFERSON CITY	264	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MANITON	252					
ST. PETERS	JEFFERSON CITY	267	JEFFERSON CITY	KANSAS CITY	SPRINGFIELD	ST. LOUIS	ST. PETERS
	MANITON	61					



# MAPPING MISSOURI

## Official Missouri Welcome Centers

- Conway** I-44, mile marker 110  
417-630-6060  
Tourism.ConwayW@ded.mo.gov
- Eagleville** I-35, mile marker 112  
660-357-5252  
Tourism.Eagleville@ded.mo.gov
- Hayti** I-55, mile marker 20  
573-359-0330  
Tourism.Hayti@ded.mo.gov
- Joplin** I-44, mile marker 2  
417-629-3030  
Tourism.Joplin@ded.mo.gov
- Rock Port** I-29, mile marker 109  
660-771-6262  
Tourism.RockPort@ded.mo.gov

## Missouri Tourism Affiliate Welcome Centers

- NORTHWEST**
- Kansas City** Platte County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
7870 NW 100th St.  
888-875-2883
- Kansas City** Trailside Center  
9901 Holmes Road, 816-942-3581
- Kansas City** Visit KC  
1111 Main St., 816-691-3800
- Laclede** Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site  
1100 Pershing Drive, 660-963-2525
- St. Joseph** St. Joseph Visitors Center  
502 N. Woodbine Road, Ste. B  
816-232-1839
- NORTHEAST**
- Hannibal** Hannibal Convention and Visitors Bureau  
925 Grand Ave., 573-221-2477

## Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites

### NORTHWEST

- Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park
- Arrow Rock State Historic Site
- Battle of Lexington State Historic Site
- Big Lake State Park
- Boone's Lick State Historic Site
- Confederate Memorial State Historic Site
- Crowder State Park
- Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site
- Lewis and Clark State Park
- Locust Creek Covered Bridge State Historic Site
- Pershing State Park
- Sappington African American Cemetery State Historic Site
- Sappington Cemetery State Historic Site
- Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site
- Wallace State Park
- Watkins Mill State Park
- Watkins Woolen Mill State Historic Site
- Weston Bend State Park

### NORTHEAST

- Battle of Athens State Historic Site
- Castlewood State Park
- Cuivre River State Park
- Deutschheim State Historic Site
- Don Robinson State Park
- Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park
- Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones — Confluence Point State Park

- First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site
- Gov. Daniel Dunklin's Grave State Historic Site
- Graham Cave State Park
- Illinwek Village State Historic Site
- Long Branch State Park
- Mark Twain Birthplace State Historic Site
- Mark Twain State Park
- Mastodon State Historic Site
- Meramec State Park
- Robertsville State Park
- Route 66 State Park
- Sandy Creek Covered Bridge State Historic Site
- Scott Joplin House State Historic Site
- Thousand Hills State Park
- Union Covered Bridge State Historic Site
- Wakonda State Park

### CENTRAL

- Bennett Spring State Park
- Bohwell Lodge State Historic Site
- Clark's Hill/Norton State Historic Site
- Finger Lakes State Park
- Ha Ha Tonka State Park
- Lake of the Ozarks State Park
- Pomme de Terre State Park
- Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
- Jewell Cemetery State Historic Site
- Katy Trail State Park — Statewide
- Knob Noster State Park
- Lake of the Ozarks State Park
- Pomme de Terre State Park
- Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

### SOUTHWEST

- Battle of Carthage State Historic Site

- Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site
- Big Sugar Creek State Park
- Bryant Creek State Park
- Harry S Truman Birthplace State Historic Site
- Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead State Historic Site
- Osage Village State Historic Site
- Prairie State Park
- Roaring River State Park
- Stockton State Park
- Table Rock State Park

### SOUTHEAST

- Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site
- Big Oak Tree State Park
- Bollinger Mill State Historic Site
- Current River State Park
- Dillard Mill State Historic Site
- Echo Bluff State Park
- Elephant Rocks State Park
- Felix Vallé House State Historic Site
- Grand Gulf State Park
- Hawn State Park
- Hunter-Dowson State Historic Site
- Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park
- Lake Wappapello State Park
- Missouri Mines State Historic Site
- Montauk State Park
- Morris State Park
- Onondaga Cave State Park
- Sam A. Baker State Park
- St. Francois State Park
- St. Joe State Park
- Taum Sauk Mountain State Park
- Towsalagy State Historic Site
- Trail of Tears State Park
- Washington State Park

All Travel Guide maps, including the one above, are for reference only. For greater detail, consult the Missouri Official Highway Map (MoDOT.org).



PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MUSEUM



THE ELMS HOTEL & SPA



NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART



# NORTHWEST

Claims to fame in Missouri's Northwest Region span a wide range – from the best barbecue in the country to the home of the only president to hail from the Show-Me State.

Kansas City may be most famous for its delectable ribs and burnt ends, but the city is also a thriving center for art and entertainment. View a collection of nearly 40,000 works at the acclaimed Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. The Power & Light District attracts some of the biggest names in entertainment while intimate clubs pay tribute to the city's contributions to jazz. The stunning Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is home to the Kansas City Symphony and Kansas City Ballet.

World-class museums – including the National WWI Museum & Memorial, The Arabia Steamboat Museum and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum – share some of the country's most intriguing stories.

In Independence, explore the life of the country's 33rd president at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum and the Truman Home. The Wild West has deep roots here as a major departure point for thousands of settlers setting out on the Santa Fe, California and Oregon trails – learn more about this chapter of history at the National Frontier Trails Museum.

At the Pony Express National Museum in St. Joseph, imagine riding a horse thousands of miles through the wilderness to deliver the mail. Experience the grandeur of historic homes built during the Victorian Era when the city was a center for western commerce and trade.



Find more to see and do in Northwest Missouri.



Online information is available at [MoStateParks.com](https://www.MoStateParks.com), unless otherwise noted. Map codes (1) correspond to the map on page 46.

**MISSOURI NATIONAL PARKS**

② **Harry S Truman National Historic Site**  
**INDEPENDENCE** 816-254-9920, 219 N. Delaware St. Learn about the life of Harry S. Truman, the only Missourian to serve as president of the United States. Tour the home he shared with his wife, Bess, in Independence and the Truman Family Farm in Grandview. \$ [nps.gov/hstr](https://nps.gov/hstr) &

**MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES**

① **Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park**  
**MIAMI** 660-886-7537, 32146 N. Highway 122. The park's cultural center interprets the nine indigenous tribes that once inhabited Missouri. Camping, hiking and fishing are available. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/annie-and-abel-van-meter-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/annie-and-abel-van-meter-state-park) &

② **Arrow Rock State Historic Site**  
**ARROW ROCK** 660-837-3330, 39521 Visitor Center Drive. Activities offered here range from tours of various historic buildings and dining at an 1830s tavern to camping, hiking and fishing. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/arrow-rock-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/arrow-rock-state-historic-site) &

③ **Battle of Lexington State Historic Site**  
**LEXINGTON** 660-259-4654, 1101 Delaware. The Missouri State Guard defeated Union troops here during an 1861 battle. Tours are given of the battlefield and the Anderson House. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/battle-lexington-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/battle-lexington-state-historic-site) &

④ **Big Lake State Park** **CRAIG** 660-771-6341, 204 Lake Shore Drive. This park lies along a major migratory flyway and offers campsites, camper cabins, picnic areas and a boat ramp on its large oxbow lake. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/big-lake-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/big-lake-state-park) &

⑤ **Boone's Lick State Historic Site**  
**BOONESBORO** 660-837-3330, Highway 187. This was once the site of a salt-manufacturing business operated by Daniel Boone's sons. An interpretive trail leads to the salt springs. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/boones-lick-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/boones-lick-state-historic-site) &

⑥ **Confederate Memorial State Historic Site**  
**HIGGINSVILLE** 660-584-2853, 211 W. First St. Once the grounds of the Confederate Veterans Home of Missouri, this site now features a historic chapel, a cemetery and small fishing lakes. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/confederate-memorial-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/confederate-memorial-state-historic-site) &

⑦ **Crowder State Park** **TRENTON** 660-359-6473, 76 NW Highway 128. Located in the rolling hills of northern Missouri, this park offers a lake; camping; and hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/crowder-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/crowder-state-park) &

⑧ **General John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site** **LACLEDE** 660-963-2525, 1100 Pershing Drive. Tour the boyhood home of American war hero Gen. John J. Pershing, as well as Prairie Mound School, which features exhibits on his life. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/gen-john-j-pershing-boyhood-home-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/gen-john-j-pershing-boyhood-home-state-historic-site) &

⑨ **Lewis and Clark State Park** **RUSHVILLE** 816-579-5564, 801 Lake Crest Blvd. Lewis and Clark visited this area during their expedition. Bordering a lake, the park offers camping, fishing, a trail and a boat ramp. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/lewis-and-clark-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/lewis-and-clark-state-park) &

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**10** **Locust Creek Covered Bridge State Historic Site** **MEADVILLE** 660-963-2525, 16597 Dart Road. This covered bridge was built in 1868 and housed America's first transcontinental road. Due to channelization, it now spans a dry creek bed. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/locust-creek-covered-bridge-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/locust-creek-covered-bridge-state-historic-site)

**11** **Pershing State Park** **LACLEDE** 660-963-2299, 29277 Highway 130. This park is home to forested bottomlands, marshes and a wet prairie. It offers small fishing lakes, hiking trails, camping and picnicking. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/pershing-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/pershing-state-park) &

**12** **Sappington African American Cemetery State Historic Site** **ARROW ROCK** 660-837-3330, Route AA. This 1856 cemetery contains the graves of several generations of Black Americans from the area and helps commemorate their contributions. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/sappington-african-american-cemetery-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/sappington-african-american-cemetery-state-historic-site)

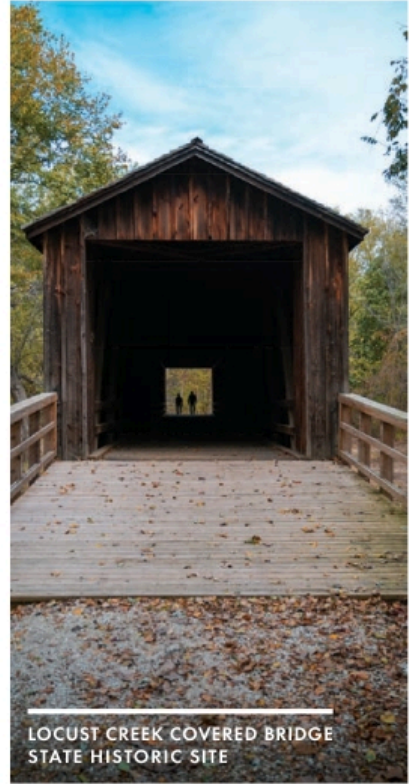
**13** **Sappington Cemetery State Historic Site** **ARROW ROCK** 660-837-3330, Route AA. Buried here are Govs. Meredith Miles Marmaduke and Claiborne F. Jackson, as well as Dr. John Sappington, a pioneer in treating malaria. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/sappington-cemetery-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/sappington-cemetery-state-historic-site)

**14** **Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site** **KANSAS CITY** 816-931-5722, 3616 Belleview. Missouri's most noted 20th century artist lived in this eclectic-style house from 1939–1975. Tours are given of Benton's home and studio. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/thomas-hart-benton-home-and-studio-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/thomas-hart-benton-home-and-studio-state-historic-site)

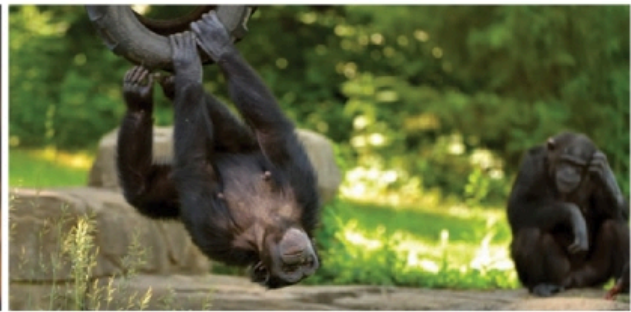
**15** **Wallace State Park** **CAMERON** 816-632-3745, 10621 NE Highway 121. Hiking trails meander through wooded hills at this tranquil park. Additional features include campgrounds, picnic shelters and a small lake. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/wallace-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/wallace-state-park) &

**16** **Watkins Mill State Park** **LAWSON** 816-580-3387, 26600 Park Road N. Enjoy a campground, trails, and a lake for fishing, swimming and boating at this park adjacent to Watkins Woolen Mill State Historic Site. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/watkins-mill-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/watkins-mill-state-park) &

**17** **Watkins Woolen Mill State Historic Site** **LAWSON** 816-580-3387, 26600 Park Road N. This site interprets the landholdings of Waltus Watkins, offering tours of his house and woolen mill and exhibits explaining them. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/watkins-woolen-mill-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/watkins-woolen-mill-state-historic-site) &



LOCUST CREEK COVERED BRIDGE STATE HISTORIC SITE

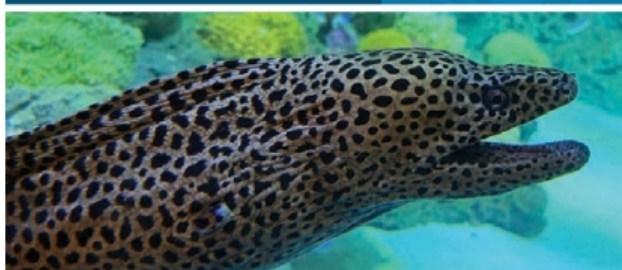




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**18** **Weston Bend State Park** **WESTON** 816-640-5443, 16600 Highway 45 N. This park features picnic areas, a campground, a dog park, and hiking and biking trails, as well as a scenic overlook of the Missouri River. **FREE** MoStateParks.com/park/weston-bend-state-park &

**MISSOURI CONSERVATION AREAS**

**Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center** **KANSAS CITY** 816-759-7300, 4750 Troost Ave. The Discovery Center offers nature exhibits and programs, a children's natural play area, and short paved and natural trails through eight acres of forest, woodland, wetland and prairie habitats. **FREE** &

**Blind Pony Lake Conservation Area** **SWEET SPRINGS** 573-884-6861, RR 2 Box 17. Located in a prime agricultural region, this 2,246-acre conservation area provides a lake-oriented multiuse area and has a warm-water fish hatchery. **FREE**

**Bluffwoods Conservation Area** **ST. JOSEPH** 816-271-3100, Route 59. A variety of trees and woodland plants fill this 2,281-acre area. Service roads and trails provide access to scenic views. The area offers the paved Forest Nature Trail, restrooms and a picnic pavilion. **FREE** &

**Burr Oak Woods Nature Center and Conservation Area** **BLUE SPRINGS** 816-228-3766, 1401 NW Park Road. This 1,071-acre area includes forested hillsides along Burr Oak Creek, limestone outcrops, restored prairies, trails and a nature center with native wildlife exhibits, including a large aquarium filled with fish. **FREE** &

**Guy B. Park Conservation Area** **PLATTE CITY** 816-858-5718, Route 371. Birding, fishing, hiking, hunting, outdoor photography and wildlife watching are popular at this 380-acre conservation area. A 16-acre lake has a covered fishing dock and concrete boat ramp. **FREE**

**James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area** **LEE'S SUMMIT** 816-622-0900, 13101 SE Ranson Road. Twelve lakes ranging in size from one to 42 acres are located on 3,084 acres. Most of the lakes contain largemouth bass, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill and redear sunfish. Rainbow trout are stocked for the winter fishing season. **FREE**

**Mark Youngdahl Urban Conservation Area** **ST. JOSEPH** 816-271-3100, 102 S. 36th St. A two-mile trail system takes hikers throughout this 85-acre conservation area, which includes the paved Ridge Trail and Pond Trail, two picnic shelters, and restrooms. **FREE** &

**Parma Woods Conservation Area and Shooting Range** **PARKVILLE** 816-891-9941, 15900 NW River Road. The area includes 200 acres of rugged bluff land with a variety of native trees, a hiking trail, a shooting range and an outdoor education center. **FREE**

**Platte Falls Conservation Area** **PLATTE CITY** 816-858-5718, Settle Station Road. This 2,366-acre area includes timber, grassland, wetland and a nine-mile stretch of the Platte River for hunting, fishing, hiking, canoeing and birding. The area also has two boat ramps and archery and shotgun ranges. **FREE**

**Rebel's Cover Conservation Area** **LIVONIA** 660-785-2420, 1107 N. Route N. This 4,225-acre area contains various habitats, including forest, cropland, grassland, ponds, marshes, oxbow lakes and a river. There is also a heron rookery and a shelter house. **FREE**

**Sunbridge Hills Conservation Area** **ST. JOSEPH** 816-271-3100, 4600 NE Huntoon Road. This 145-acre area overlooks the Missouri River and contains redbud trees that bloom in the spring and maple and oak trees that display brilliant fall color. Eagles soar over the river during their spring migration. **FREE**

**Union Ridge Conservation Area** **GREEN CASTLE** 660-785-2420, Highway D north of Green Castle. Bisected by Spring Creek, this 8,262-acre area is a mosaic of woodland, grassland, prairie and savanna. A portion of the property is being managed to restore prairie and savanna communities. **FREE**



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# AMUSEMENT PERKS

**Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun, Kansas City** - Find 235 acres of fun, featuring seven roller coasters, family rides, live entertainment, a wave pool, a lazy river and the largest mat-racing water slide in the world.

**Kansas City Zoo & Aquarium, Kansas City** - More than 1,700 animals inhabit the 200-acre zoo and brand-new aquarium in Swope Park. At the Helzberg Penguin Plaza, ice flake machines produce three inches of snow per day, perfect for penguin play.

**Union Station Kansas City, Kansas City** - Explore Science City, the Arvin Gottlieb Planetarium, traveling exhibits, restaurants and shops at one of the city's most iconic and historic destinations.

**Pioneer Trails Adventures, Independence** - Take a trip back in time as you board a covered wagon and travel the same roads as early pioneers, Frank and Jesse James, Wild Bill Hickok, and other personalities from the past.

**Powell Gardens, Kingsville** - Discover colorful blooms, a children's garden, a fountain garden and a three-mile nature trail in the rolling hills southeast of Kansas City.



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## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Plaza Art Fair, Kansas City** – More than 240 juried artists converge at the Country Club Plaza to put their creativity on display. The historic shopping and entertainment district has been hosting the iconic event for more than 90 years.

**Boulevardia, Kansas City** – The city's biggest urban street festival fills Grand Boulevard with live music, costumed performers, food sampling and craft beer.

**SantaCaliGon Days, Independence** – Celebrate the rich history of Independence as the starting point of the Santa Fe, California and Oregon trails. Explore Main Street 1849, shop 500 craft and vendor booths, and enjoy a lineup of live music.

**Applefest, Weston** – Treat yourself to an apple dumpling or slice of pie while the parade – filled with antique tractors, classic cars and marching bands – rolls down Main Street.

**Pony Express PumpkinFest, St. Joseph** – Hundreds of hand-carved jack-o'-lanterns come to life with the lighting of Great Pumpkin Mountain in the town where the Pony Express began. Festival highlights include a costume parade, rides, games, crafts and food trucks.



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# NORTHEAST

Urban energy and small-town charm thrive in Missouri's Northeast Region – from the Gateway City to Mark Twain's hometown.

In St. Louis, explore Gateway Arch National Park and take a tram ride to the top of the largest man-made arch in the world for an awe-inspiring view of the Mississippi River. Venture to Forest Park where you'll find the city's award-winning zoo and The Muny, the largest outdoor musical theater in the United States. St. Louis is also home to one of the top botanical gardens in the country and museums focused on art, history, music and sports. Sample innovative cuisine and experience a lively craft brew scene. Entertainment venues throughout the city guarantee an abundance of nightlife.

Lewis and Clark set out on their famous expedition from St. Charles where, today, the picturesque downtown boasts dozens of shops and restaurants. It's also a popular launching spot for trips on the Katy Trail, the longest developed rail-trail in the country, running 240 miles across the state.

The Missouri River flows through the state's historic wine country, including Augusta, the nation's first designated American Viticultural Area, and Hermann, known for its award-winning wineries and authentic German festivals and fare.

In Hannibal, follow the footsteps of Mark Twain in the place that inspired his most famous novels: "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."



Find more to see and do in Northeast Missouri.



Online information is available at [MoStateParks.com](https://www.MoStateParks.com), unless otherwise noted. Map codes (1) correspond to the map on page 46.

## MISSOURI NATIONAL PARKS

- 6 **Gateway Arch National Park** **ST. LOUIS** 314-655-1700, 11 N. Fourth St. Ride a tram to the top of the Gateway Arch. Tour the museum focused on Westward Expansion and the stories of American Indians, explorers and pioneers, and visit the Old Courthouse where Dred Scott sued for his freedom. \$ [GatewayArch.com](https://www.GatewayArch.com) &
- 8 **Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site** **ST. LOUIS** 314-842-1867, 7400 Grant Road. See the home where Ulysses S. Grant lived with his family prior to leading Union troops to victory in the Civil War and later serving as the 18th president of the United States. Five historic structures remain on the property. FREE [nps.gov/ulsg](https://www.nps.gov/ulsg) &

## MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES

- 19 **Battle of Athens State Historic Site** **REVERE** 660-877-3871, 12378 Athens State Park Road. During the battle, a cannonball pierced the site's Thome-Benning House. Visitors can enjoy camping, hiking, boating, fishing and free tours. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/battle-athens-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/battle-athens-state-historic-site)
- 20 **Castlewood State Park** **BALLWIN** 636-227-4433, 401 Kiefer Creek Road. This park is great for activities like picnicking, hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding, as well as fishing in the Meramec River. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/castlewood-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/castlewood-state-park) &
- 21 **Cuivre River State Park** **TROY** 636-528-7247, 678 State Route 147. This diverse park features a variety of trails, a scenic creek, watercraft rentals, regular and equestrian campgrounds, and group camps. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/cuivre-river-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/cuivre-river-state-park) &
- 22 **Deutschheim State Historic Site** **HERMANN** 573-486-2200, 101 W. Second St. This site interprets German American history and culture and offers tours of two buildings dating to the 1840s, each with a period garden. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/deutschheim-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/deutschheim-state-historic-site)
- 23 **Don Robinson State Park** **CEDAR HILL** 636-257-3788, 9275 Byrnesville Road. Visitors here can hike and picnic among sandstone box canyons, shelter caves, cliffs, glades, and upland and bottomland forests. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/don-robinson-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/don-robinson-state-park) &

- 24 **Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park** **WILDWOOD** 636-458-3813, 800 Guy Park Drive. Located near St. Louis, this park features camping, hiking and equestrian trails, picnic areas, interpretive programs and a visitor center. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/dr-edmund-babler-memorial-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/dr-edmund-babler-memorial-state-park) &
- 25 **Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones—Confluence Point State Park** **WEST ALTON** 636-899-1135, 1000 Riverlands Way. A trail leads to the meeting point of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Panels focus on the rivers and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. FREE [MoStateParks.com/park/edward-ted-and-pat-jones-confluence-point-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/edward-ted-and-pat-jones-confluence-point-state-park)
- 26 **First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site** **ST. CHARLES** 636-940-3322, 200 S. Main St. Missouri's first legislators met here in the 1820s to reorganize Missouri's territorial government. Take a tour of the restored building. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/first-missouri-state-capitol-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/first-missouri-state-capitol-state-historic-site)
- 27 **Governor Daniel Dunklin's Grave State Historic Site** **HERCULANEUM** 636-464-2976, 104 Dunklin Drive. Daniel Dunklin, Missouri's fifth governor (1832-36), and members of his

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family are buried at this site overlooking the Mississippi River. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/gov-daniel-dunklins-grave-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/gov-daniel-dunklins-grave-state-historic-site)

**28** **Graham Cave State Park DANVILLE** 573-564-3476, 217 Highway TT. Featuring a shelter cave that was inhabited more than 10,000 years ago, this park offers camping, hiking, a visitor center and river access. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/graham-cave-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/graham-cave-state-park) &

**29** **Iliniwek Village State Historic Site WAYLAND** 660-877-3871, Highway 27. This was once the site of a village inhabited by American Indians of the Iliniwek Confederacy. Outdoor exhibits explain the site's history. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/iliniwek-village-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/iliniwek-village-state-historic-site) &

**30** **Long Branch State Park MACON** 660-773-5229, 28615 Visitor Center Road. This lake park features both woodlands and prairies, and offers a fishing dock, boat ramps and slips, trails, a beach and a campground. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/long-branch-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/long-branch-state-park) &

**31** **Mark Twain Birthplace State Historic Site FLORIDA** 573-248-9980, 37352 Shrine Road. A modern museum surrounds the two-room 1830s cabin where author-humorist Mark Twain was born. Exhibits interpret Twain's life. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/mark-twain-birthplace-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/mark-twain-birthplace-state-historic-site)

**32** **Mark Twain State Park FLORIDA** 573-248-9980, 37352 Shrine Road. Located on Mark Twain Lake, this park offers boat ramps, camper cabins, campsites, hiking trails, a beach, picnic areas and great fishing. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/mark-twain-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/mark-twain-state-park) &

**33** **Mastodon State Historic Site IMPERIAL** 636-464-2976, 1050 Charles J. Becker Drive. Excavations found that humans hunted the American mastodon here during the ice age. The site has a museum, picnic areas and hiking trails. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/mastodon-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/mastodon-state-historic-site) &

**34** **Meramec State Park SULLIVAN** 573-468-6072, 115 Meramec Park Drive. This park borders the Meramec River and features a store and grill; canoe, kayak and raft rentals; lodging; trails; camping; and cave tours. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/meramec-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/meramec-state-park) &

**35** **Robertsville State Park ROBERTSVILLE** 636-257-3788, 902 State Park Drive. Bordered by Calvey Creek and the Meramec River, this wooded park offers hiking trails, a picnic area, a campground and a boat launch. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/robertsville-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/robertsville-state-park) &

**36** **Route 66 State Park EUREKA** 636-938-7198, 97 N. Outer Road. Located along Route 66 and the Meramec River, this park has trails, picnic sites, a boat ramp and displays from Route 66 and Times Beach. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/route-66-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/route-66-state-park) &

**37** **Sandy Creek Covered Bridge State Historic Site HILLSBORO** 636-464-2976, 9090 Old Lemay Ferry Road. Originally built in 1872, this red barnlike bridge creates a scenic setting for picnics and photos. An outdoor exhibit explains the history. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/sandy-creek-covered-bridge-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/sandy-creek-covered-bridge-state-historic-site)

**38** **Scott Joplin House State Historic Site ST. LOUIS** 314-340-5790, 2658 Delmar Blvd. In 1902, this was the home of renowned ragtime composer Scott Joplin. Today, it features a player piano and exhibits on Joplin's life. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/scott-joplin-house-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/scott-joplin-house-state-historic-site)

**39** **Thousand Hills State Park KIRKSVILLE** 660-665-6995, 20431 State Highway 157. This lake-centered park features cabins, a marina, dining, a beach, camping, hiking and biking trails, and American Indian petroglyphs. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/thousand-hills-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/thousand-hills-state-park) &




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**40 Union Covered Bridge State Historic Site**  
**PARIS** 573-248-9980, 20700 Monroe County Road 962. This bridge is the only surviving example in Missouri of the Burr arch truss system. Built in 1871, it served travelers for 99 years. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/union-covered-bridge-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/union-covered-bridge-state-historic-site)

**41 Wakonda State Park** **LA GRANGE** 573-655-2280, 32836 State Park Road. A great place for birding, this park has six lakes, a beach, hiking and mountain biking trails, watercraft rentals and two campgrounds. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/wakonda-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/wakonda-state-park) 

### CONSERVATION AREAS

**August A. Busch Conservation Area and Nature Center** **ST. CHARLES** 636-441-4554, 2360 Route D. In the early 1940s, this 6,951-acre area was used by the Department of Army as a dynamite munitions plant to support the World War II effort. The area offers an auto tour, hiking, fishing and hunting. The nature center has programs and exhibits. **FREE**

**Big Creek Conservation Area** **KIRKSVILLE** 660-785-2420, Rainbow Basin Trail. This 1,064-acre conservation area borders Thousand Hills State Park and includes forest, savanna and native grassland. The area offers birding, camping, fishing, hunting, biking and hiking. **FREE**

**Columbia Bottom Conservation Area**  
**ST. LOUIS** 314-877-6014, 801 Strodman Road. This 4,316-acre area offers wide, open spaces at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, the two largest rivers in North America. The area includes a paved hiking and biking trail, a boat ramp on the Missouri River, and a kayak launch on the Mississippi River. **FREE**

**Daniel Boone Conservation Area** **HERMANN** 636-441-4554, Route Y. Daniel Boone lived near this 3,523-acre conservation area in his later years. A 6.8-mile multiuse trail invites hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians to explore rugged wooded hills and deep valleys. Primitive campsites are available. **FREE**

**Deer Ridge Conservation Area** **LEWISTOWN** 573-248-2530, Route Y West. This 7,155-acre area offers nearly 20 miles of multiuse trails, a campground for horseback riders, a 48-acre lake for fishing and a shooting range. Wetlands and marsh areas attract a variety of waterfowl and amphibious wildlife. **FREE**

**Department of Conservation Northeast Regional Office** **KIRKSVILLE** 660-785-2420, 3500 S. Baltimore. More than 1,500 square feet of exhibit space focuses on northern Missouri's fish and wildlife and includes a 1,300-gallon aquarium. Located on 26 acres, the site also has a pond, a marsh and an interpretive hiking trail. **FREE**

**Forest 44 Conservation Area** **HIGH RIDGE** 636-458-2236, 1100 Antire Road. Several springs feed Williams Creek, which flows along the eastern portion of this 958-acre conservation area. Hiking, wildlife viewing and horseback riding are popular activities. **FREE**

**Fox Valley Lake Conservation Area KAHOKA** 660-785-2420, State Highway NN. More than a mile of the Fox River borders this 2,158-acre area, which includes a 108-acre lake with a concrete boat ramp and a fishing area, and a rifle and archery range. **FREE** &

**Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area and Fish Hatchery HUNNEWELL**

573-983-2201, 6503 Highway Z. A 228-acre lake and a fish hatchery for stocking public lakes in Missouri are located at this 1,998-acre conservation area. The hatchery raises a variety of fish, including channel catfish, largemouth bass and walleye. **FREE**

**Montgomery Woods Conservation Area**

**KIRKSVILLE** 660-785-2420, Route 11. Hikers will find a challenge on the rough terrain of this 348-acre area. Oak-hickory forest covers the steep hills and ridgetops. Bottomland includes silver maple, cottonwood and sycamore trees. White-tailed deer, wild turkey and songbirds are abundant. **FREE**

**Myron and Sonya Glassberg Family Conservation Area EUREKA**

636-458-2236, Route FF South. Trails guide hikers through this 634-acre area dominated by oak, hickory, maple and cedar trees with an understory of redbud and dogwood trees. A platform provides a sprawling view of the Meramec River. **FREE**

**Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center**

**KIRKWOOD** 314-301-1500, 11715 Cragwood Road. This 112-acre forested area is located in the middle of Kirkwood, providing a quiet retreat in a busy urban region. Three paved trails include one that has interpretive signage. The nature center offers educational programs and exhibits, including an aquarium and beehive. **FREE** &

**Rockwoods Reservation WILDWOOD** 636-458-2236, 2751 Glencoe Road. Explore a rich diversity of plant and animal life as well as springs, caves and rock formations at this 1,881-acre conservation area. Approximately 13 miles of trails take hikers to scenic overlooks and a large historic lime kiln. **FREE**

**Rudolf Bennett Conservation Area HIGBEE**

573-884-6861, County Road 2910. This 3,575-acre area has mostly gentle, rolling terrain. A 48-acre lake has a fishing dock and a boat ramp. A trail offers hiking, biking and horseback riding. **FREE** &

**Sugar Creek Conservation Area KIRKSVILLE**

660-785-2420, Route N. Sugar Creek and Elm Creek run through this 2,602-acre tract where white-tailed deer, wild turkey and songbirds are abundant. The area offers hiking, biking, horseback riding, camping, fishing, hunting and a shooting range. **FREE** &

**Ted Shanks Conservation Area ASHBURN**

573-248-2530, 3643 Pike 145. This 6,705-acre area includes bottomland hardwood timber, open marsh, wetlands, oxbow lakes, sloughs and upland woods. A concrete boat ramp provides access to the Salt River. **FREE**

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## AMUSEMENT PERKS

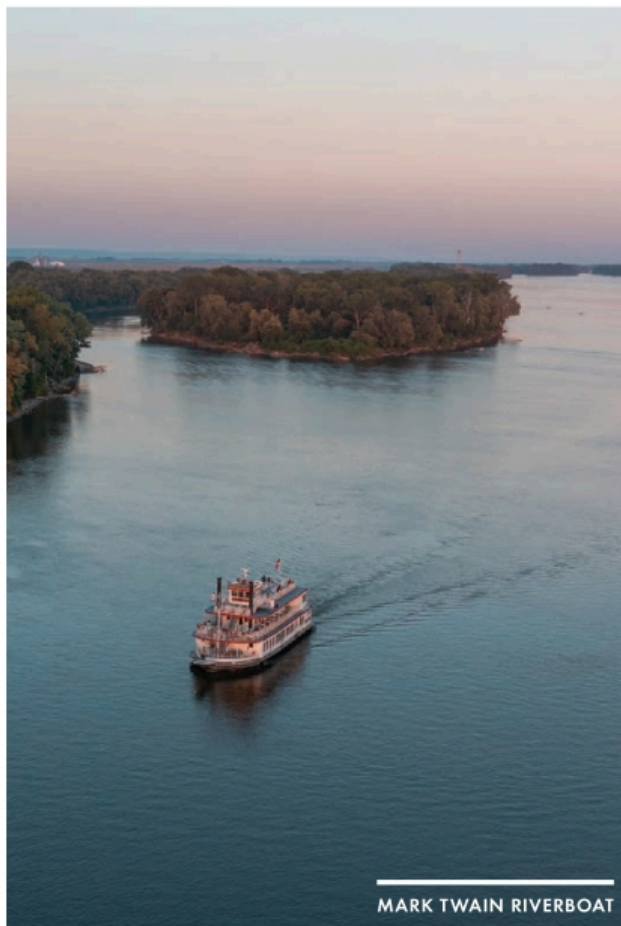
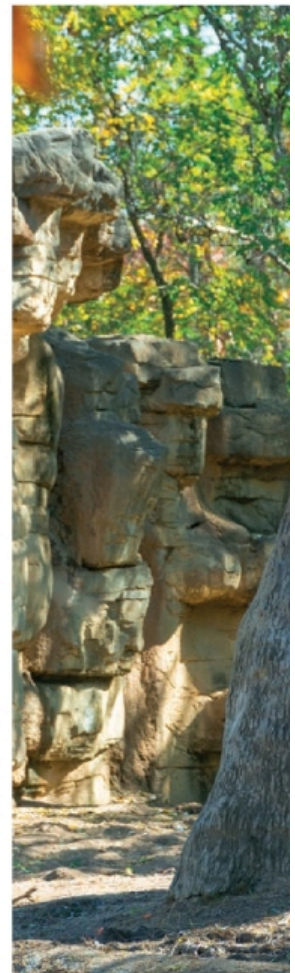
**St. Louis Aquarium at Union Station, St. Louis** – Housed in St. Louis' historic train station, the aquarium's six galleries and 13,000 animals will take you on an aquatic trip down the Mississippi River to the depths of the ocean. Just outside, go for a spin on The St. Louis Wheel, a 200-foot observation wheel with 42 fully enclosed, climate-controlled gondolas.

**Saint Louis Zoo, St. Louis** – Enter a world of more than 16,000 animals – many of them endangered. The mission of the zoo is to save species and bring people and wildlife together. Book a behind-the-scenes tour to learn what life as a zookeeper is like.

**City Museum, St. Louis** – More whimsical playground than traditional museum, this 600,000-square-foot attraction appeals to the kid in everyone. The 100-year-old warehouse contains eclectic collections and art objects plus a network of tunnels and secret passages and a 10-story spiral slide – much of it created with reclaimed materials.

**Mark Twain Riverboat, Hannibal** – Choose from a history-filled sight-seeing cruise or evening dinner cruise with live music and dancing for a journey on the Mississippi River.

**Meramec Caverns, Stanton** – See some of the rarest and largest cave formations in the world on a tour beneath the rolling hills of Missouri's Meramec Valley. Above ground, soar among the tree tops on a zipline, pan for gold and conquer the climbing wall.



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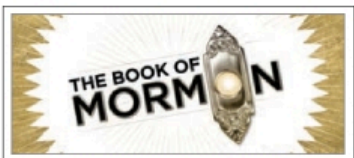
January 23 - February 4



February 13-18



February 27 - March 10



April 9-14



April 30 - May 12



May 28 - June 9

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## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Wurstfest, Hermann** – For more than 40 years, Hermann has been celebrating the art of German sausage making with sausage-making competitions, sausage sampling, German music, dancing and a wiener dog derby.

**WASHMO BBQ & Bluesfest, Washington** – Savor live blues and delicious food and drink – including a BBQ, Bacon and Bourbon Tasting – in the historic downtown.

**Great Forest Park Balloon Race, St. Louis** – Bask in the light from the brightly colored hot air balloons at the evening balloon glow. During the day, pack a picnic and enjoy live music as the balloon race begins.

**Legends and Lanterns, St. Charles** – Follow a group of “paranormal poltergeists” on a spirited journey through Halloween history in historic downtown St. Charles. Witches, phantoms and villains from the past offer more treats than tricks during the family-friendly event.

**National Tom Sawyer Days, Hannibal** – Celebrate Mark Twain’s hometown with fence painting, frog jumping and characters straight out of his most famous stories – topped off by a spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display over the Mississippi River.



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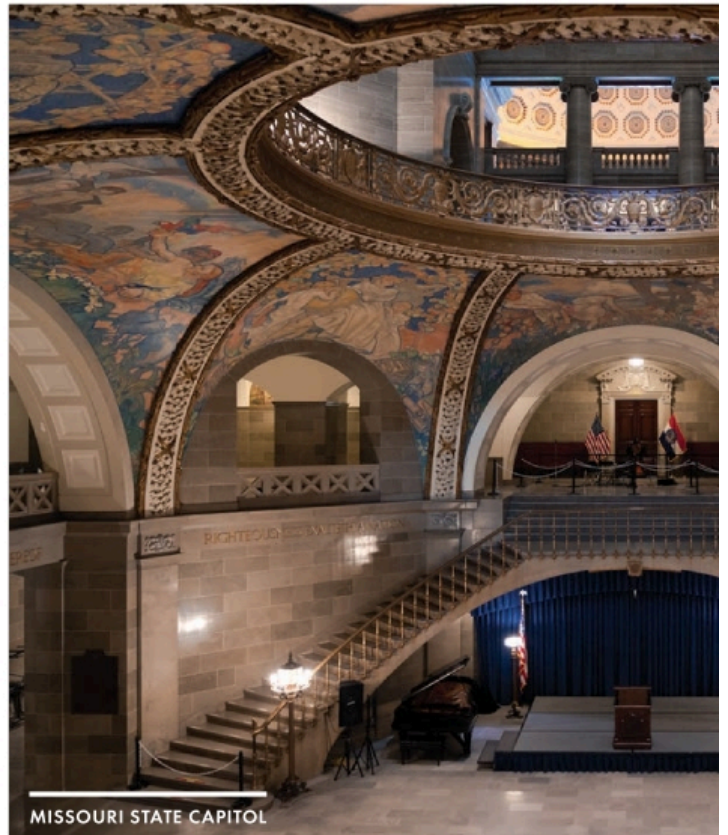
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# CENTRAL MISSOURI

Find one of the country's most popular recreational lakes and the historic halls of the state Capitol in Missouri's Central Region, an area filled with history and outdoor adventure.

An impressive collection of art – including Thomas Hart Benton's masterpiece "A Social History of the State of Missouri" – adorns the state Capitol in Jefferson City. The Missouri State Penitentiary, the oldest continuously operating prison west of the Mississippi until it was decommissioned in 2004, attracts history buffs by day and ghost hunters at night.

Discover big stories in small towns, such as Fulton, where Winston Churchill gave his famous Iron Curtain speech, and Sedalia, where Scott Joplin wrote "Maple Leaf Rag."

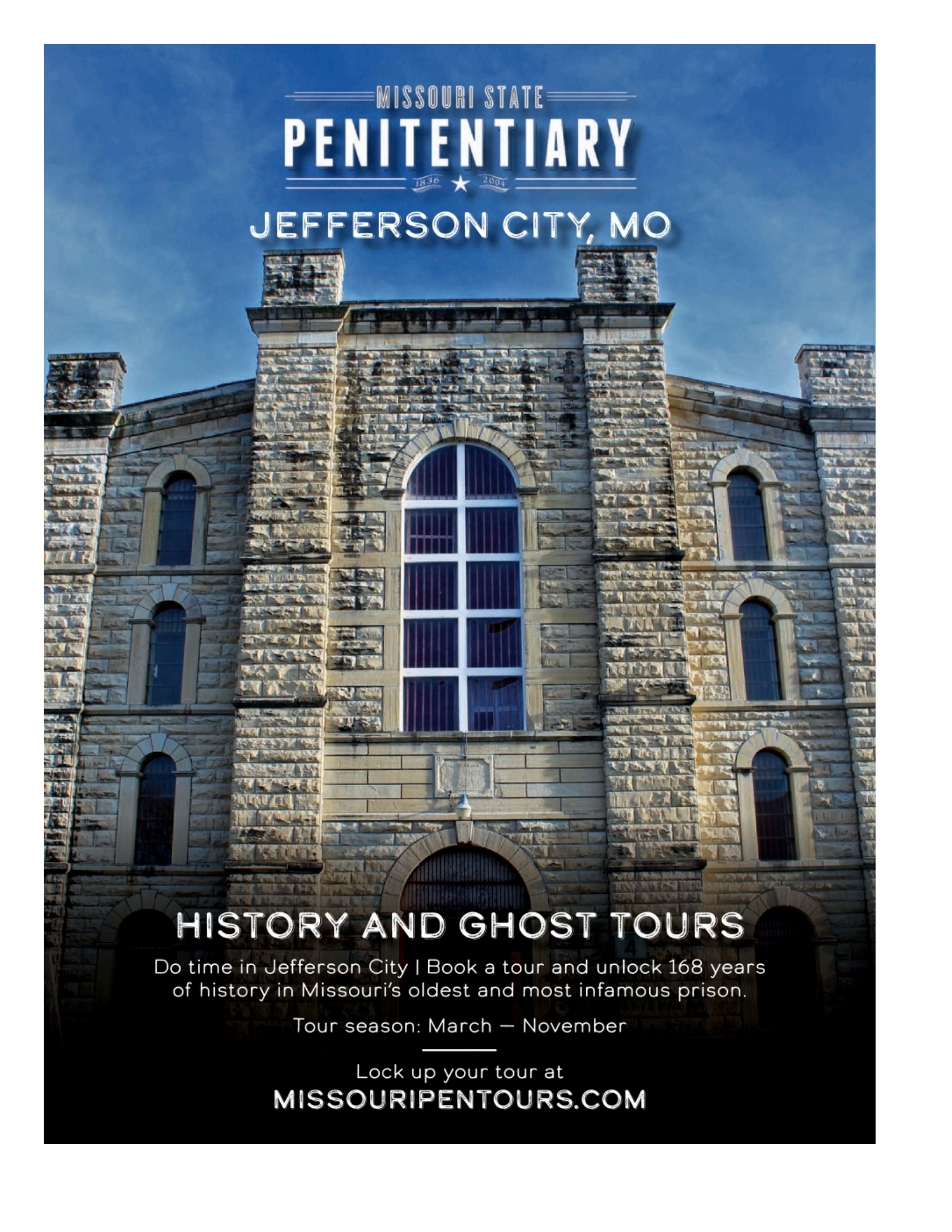
Boating, skiing, fishing and swimming are popular at central Missouri lakes. Waterfront resorts, restaurants and bars keep the Lake of the Ozarks buzzing, especially during the summer season. Nature plays a starring role at Truman and Pomme de Terre lakes, while fly fishing for trout is the main event at Bennet Spring State Park.

Columbia – Missouri's quintessential college town – is where the Tigers play and singular festivals celebrate music and filmmaking.



Find more to see and do in Central Missouri.





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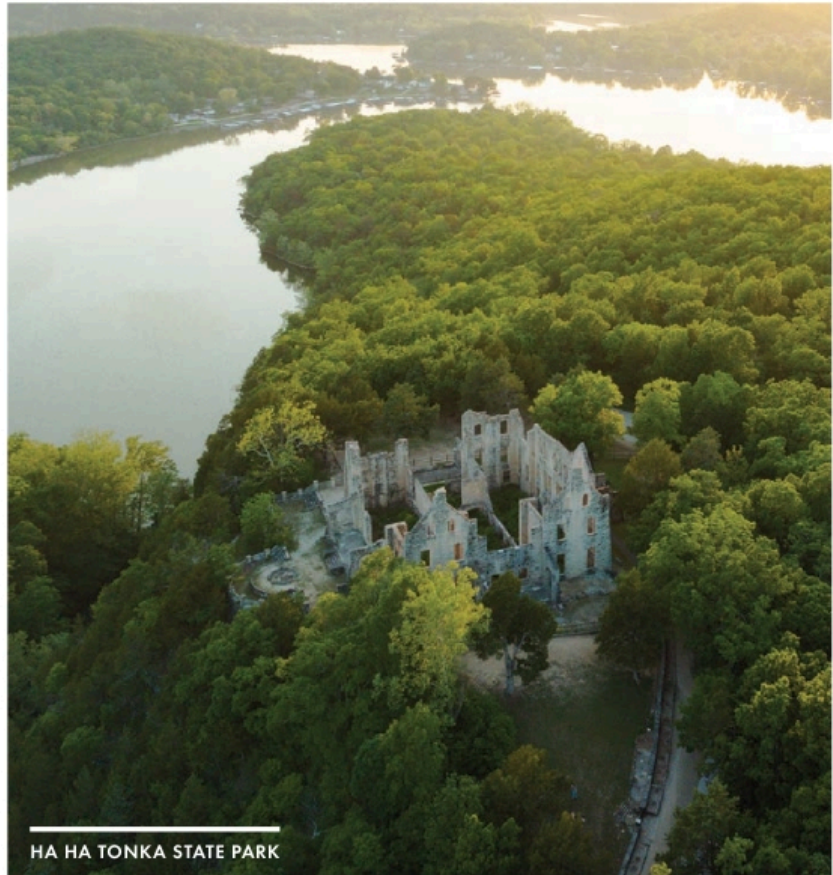
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Online information is available at [MoStateParks.com](http://MoStateParks.com), unless otherwise noted. Map codes (1) correspond to the map on page 46.

## MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES

- 42 Bennett Spring State Park** **LEBANON**  
417-532-4338, 26250 Highway 64A. This trout fishing park has a stocked, spring-fed stream; a nature center; dining; lodging; campsites; a store; and Niangua River access. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/bennett-spring-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/bennett-spring-state-park) &
- 43 Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site** **SEDALIA** 660-827-0510, 19349 Bothwell State Park Road. The site's 31-room lodge was the focal point of attorney John Bothwell's Stonyridge Farm. The site offers tours, hiking and mountain biking. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/bothwell-lodge-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/bothwell-lodge-state-historic-site)
- 44 Clark's Hill/Norton State Historic Site** **OSAGE CITY** 573-449-7402, Osage Hickory Street. Visitors here can hike past American Indian burial mounds to an overlook atop the hill William Clark climbed in 1804 during his expedition. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/clarks-hillnorton-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/clarks-hillnorton-state-historic-site)
- 45 Finger Lakes State Park** **COLUMBIA**  
573-443-5315, 1505 E. Peabody Road. Features include hiking, mountain biking and off-road vehicle trails; a motocross track; fishing lakes; a beach; watercraft rentals; and a campground. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/finger-lakes-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/finger-lakes-state-park) &
- 46 Ha Ha Tonka State Park** **CAMDENTON**  
573-346-2986, 1491 State Road D. Explore springs, natural bridges and the ruins of a stone castle on many trails. Water activities are available on the Lake of the Ozarks. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/ha-ha-tonka-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/ha-ha-tonka-state-park) &
- 47 Harry S Truman State Park** **WARSAW**  
660-438-7711, 28761 State Park Road. Swimming, boating and fishing are available at this park on Truman Lake. Features include a marina, boat ramps, trails and campgrounds. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/harry-s-truman-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/harry-s-truman-state-park) &
- 48 Jefferson Landing State Historic Site** **JEFFERSON CITY** 573-751-2854, 100 Jefferson St. The site's historic Lohman Building depicts an 1850s general store and warehouse and serves as a support facility for the State Museum. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/missouri-state-museum](http://MoStateParks.com/park/missouri-state-museum) &
- 49 Jewell Cemetery State Historic Site** **COLUMBIA** 573-449-7402, South Providence Road. Educator William Jewell and Gov. Charles Hardin are buried here. Unlettered stones are likely the markers of enslaved people's graves. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/jewell-cemetery-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/jewell-cemetery-state-historic-site)



HA HA TONKA STATE PARK

- 50 Katy Trail State Park - Statewide** **JEFFERSON CITY** 573-449-7402, Clinton to Machens. The flat, 240-mile Katy Trail stretches across the state and is open to hikers and bicyclists, as well as equestrian users in some sections. **FREE** [KatyTrailStatePark.com](http://KatyTrailStatePark.com) &
- 51 Knob Noster State Park** **KNOB NOSTER**  
660-563-2463, 873 SE 10. This park features fishing lakes; kayak rentals; a campground; group camps; and hiking, backpacking, mountain biking and equestrian trails. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/knob-noster-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/knob-noster-state-park) &
- 52 Lake of the Ozarks State Park** **KAISER**  
573-348-2694, 403 Highway 134. This park offers camping; cabins; yurts; marinas; beaches; group camps; equestrian, mountain biking and hiking trails; and an aquatic trail. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/lake-ozarks-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/lake-ozarks-state-park) &
- 53 Pomme de Terre State Park** **PITTSBURG**  
417-852-4291, 23451 Park Entrance Road. Located on Pomme de Terre Lake, the park has a marina, beaches and ample fishing opportunities, as well as trails, campgrounds and lodging. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/pomme-de-terre-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/pomme-de-terre-state-park) &
- 54 Rock Bridge Memorial State Park** **COLUMBIA** 573-449-7402, 5901 S. Highway 163. Features include nature programs; picnic areas; an orienteering course; and trails leading to sinkholes, springs and a natural rock bridge. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/rock-bridge-memorial-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/rock-bridge-memorial-state-park) &

## CONSERVATION AREAS

### Big Buffalo Creek Conservation Area

**WARSAW** 660-530-5500, Big Buffalo Road. This 3,612-acre area has a 6-acre fishing pond, three springs, and 3 miles of Big Buffalo Creek. The area offers birding, camping, fishing, hunting, biking, hiking and horseback riding. **FREE**

### Brickley Hollow Conservation Area

**WARSAW** 660-530-5500, Fire Road 401-2. Wildflowers are plentiful at this 186-acre conservation area with small expanses of woodland, savanna and native grassland and a dolomite glade. The area offers birding, fishing, hunting and trapping. **FREE**

## SYMBOL KEY

& ADA Compliant **FREE** Free \$ Admission Fee



BENNETT SPRING STATE PARK

**Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area** **COLUMBIA**  
573-445-3882, 6700 W. Route K. The Missouri River and Perche Creek provide more than 10 miles of stream frontage at this 4,429-acre conservation area. The Katy Trail rail trail passes through a portion of the area. **FREE**

**Granny's Acres Conservation Area** **WARSAW**  
660-530-5500, Day Road. A well-marked trail system guides hikers through a hilly forest at this 351-acre conservation area. The steep, rocky terrain has some long climbs along glades and through old-growth woodlands. **FREE**

**Hi Lonesome Prairie Conservation Area**  
**COLE CAMP** 660-530-5500, Hi Lonesome Road. This 655-acre native prairie provides habitat for a diverse group of plants and animals. It has been designated an Important Bird Area by Audubon Missouri. **FREE**

**Lead Mine Conservation Area** **UNAS** 417-532-7612, 191 Coatney Road. Two miles of Niangua River frontage and a 3.5-mile stretch of Jakes Creek run through this

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7,760-acre tract. The area has a campground and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding. **FREE**

**Little Dixie Lake Conservation Area FULTON**

573-815-7900, 1821 Route RA. Forest habitat and small ponds offer birding, fishing, hunting, biking, hiking and trapping at this 733-acre conservation area. Twenty-two ponds are used for fisheries research. **FREE** ♿

**Lost Valley Fish Hatchery WARSAW**

660-438-4465, 28232 Hatchery Ave. This 969-acre tract features glades, prairies and wooded areas for birding, fishing and some hunting in certain areas. Warm-water and cool-water fish species are raised in 77 ponds. **FREE** ♿

**Paint Brush Prairie Conservation Area**

**SEDALIA** 660-530-5500, Manilla Road. This 314-acre conservation area protects a diverse community of more than 200 tallgrass prairie plants. It has been designated an Important Bird Area by Audubon Missouri. **FREE**

**Painted Rock Conservation Area**

**WESTPHALIA** 573-815-7900, Route 133. The Osage River intersects this 1,480-acre conservation area on its western border. The area was once occupied by Native Americans as early as 9,000 years ago. An Indian burial cairn can be found along the Osage Scenic Bluff trail. **FREE**

**Rocky Fork Lakes Conservation Area**

**COLUMBIA** 573-445-3882, Peabody Road. More than 60 lakes and ponds and a firearms shooting range are located at this 2,200-acre conservation area. A large lake has a boat ramp and a fishing dock designed for wheelchair access. **FREE**

**Runge Conservation Nature Center**

**JEFFERSON CITY** 573-526-5544, 330 Commerce Drive. Five hiking trails, totaling 2.4 miles, loop through woodlands, prairies and glades and run along ponds and a wet-weather stream at this nature center. Exhibits include live animals, a large fish aquarium and a wildlife viewing area. **FREE** ♿

**Three Creeks Conservation Area COLUMBIA**

573-884-6861, East Deer Park Road. This 1,600-acre area is named for the three creeks that run through it: Turkey, Bass and Bonne Femme creeks. The area offers birding, camping, fishing, hunting, biking, hiking and horseback riding. **FREE**



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# AMUSEMENT PERKS

**Big Surf Water Park, Linn Creek** – A lazy river, wave pool, waterfalls and flumes, plus sand volleyball, shuffleboard, pool and basketball promise plenty of fun in the water and on land.

**Lake of the Ozarks State Park** – Enjoy miles of hiking trails, sunny days on the sandy beach and a variety of water sports at one of the largest lakes in the state.

**Stark Caverns, Eldon** – Descend below the earth’s surface to view geological formations, fossils, fluorescent minerals and Native American artifacts. See the cave in a different way during a black-light tour.

**Katy Trail, Rocheport** – Rent a bike or bring your own for a ride along one of the most scenic sections of the longest developed rail trail in the country. Pedal alongside the Missouri River and through a historic train tunnel.

**Warm Springs Ranch, Boonville** – Tour the majestic red barns and bucolic pastures where the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales are born and trained. You’re likely to meet some of the newest additions to the ranch’s equine community.



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MORELS & MICROBREWS

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Ford Enthusiast Nationals and Shelbyfest Rally**, Jefferson City – Follow the roar of the engines to downtown Jefferson City where car enthusiasts from across the country gather to admire hundreds of vintage and late-model Mustangs lining the streets.

**True/False Film Festival**, Columbia – Immerse yourself in the creative and spirited atmosphere that forms the backdrop for one of the top documentary film festivals in the country.

**Morels & Microbrews**, Fulton – The prized morel mushroom and craft beer take center stage in the town’s historic Brick District. Food trucks and live music add to the festivities.

**Missouri State Fair**, Sedalia – Showcasing the Show-Me State since 1901, the annual fair combines classic agricultural exhibits and competitions with grandstand concerts and a midway full of rides and amusements.

**Ozark Cigar Box Guitar Music Festival**, Warsaw – Making music doesn’t get much more creative than this. Musicians playing guitars made from cigar boxes perform at the Drake Harbor amphitheater overlooking the upper reaches of the Lake of the Ozarks.



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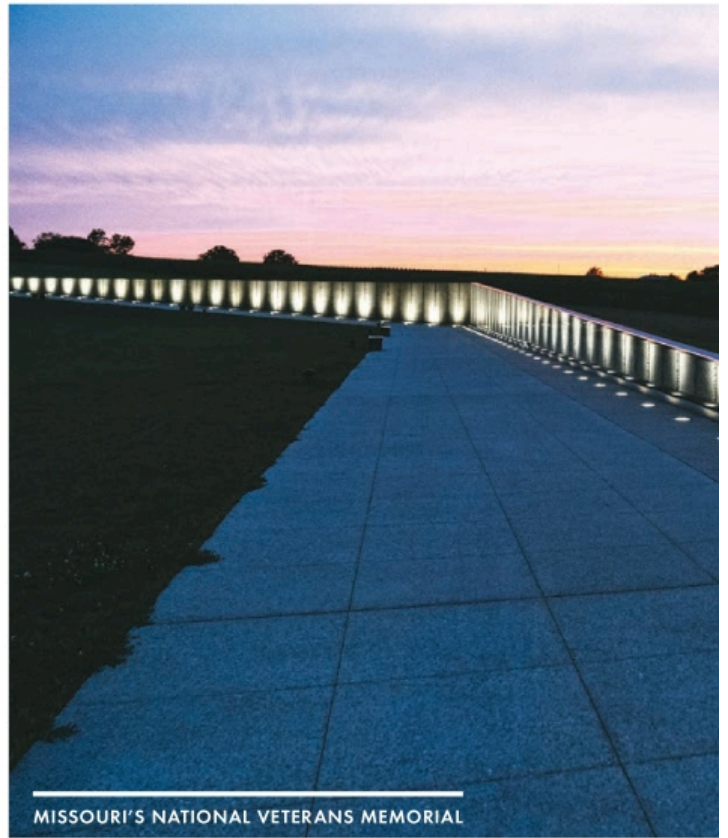
River, Rails & Trails Museum



HAWN STATE PARK



JACKS FORK RIVER



MISSOURI'S NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL



The Ozark Mountains meet the Mississippi River Valley in the lush landscape of Missouri's Southeast Region. You'll find forests as far as the eye can see, crystal-clear rivers, sparkling springs, towering bluffs and rugged rock formations.

The area is a paddler's paradise where canoeing and kayaking are popular pastimes on more than a dozen pristine streams. Navigate the cool, clear waters of the Eleven Point River, the Black River, or the Current and Jacks Fork rivers that are part of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways – the first river system in the country to be protected by the National Park System.

Visit the Mississippi River towns of Cape Girardeau, with its riverfront murals, and Ste. Genevieve, Missouri's oldest European settlement. St. Genevieve National Historical Park preserves some of the rarest French colonial architecture in the country.

Honor America's heroes in Perryville, where the centerpiece of Missouri's National Veterans Memorial is a full-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Find more to see and do in Southeast Missouri.



# SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

Online information is available at [MoStateParks.com](https://www.MoStateParks.com), unless otherwise noted. Map codes (①) correspond to the map on page 46.

## MISSOURI NATIONAL PARKS

### ⑪ Ozark National Scenic Riverways

**VAN BUREN** 573-323-4236, 404 Watercress Dr. Experience the beauty of two of America's clearest spring-fed rivers, the Current and Jacks Fork, the first river system to be protected by the National Park Service. The area also includes springs, caves, hiking trails and historic sites. **FREE** [nps.gov/ozar](https://www.nps.gov/ozar)

### ⑫ Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park

**STE. GENEVIEVE** 573-880-7189, 99 S. Main St. Explore the French Colonial history and rare architecture of Missouri's oldest European settlement, including a 1792 "post-in-ground" house – one of only five such structures remaining in the United States. **FREE** [nps.gov/stge/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/stge/index.htm) &

## MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES

### ⑥⑥ Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site

**PILOT KNOB** 573-546-3454, 118 E. Maple. This site preserves an earthen fortification used by Union forces during the Battle of Pilot Knob. Exhibits illustrate the 1864 battle. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/battle-pilot-knob-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/battle-pilot-knob-state-historic-site) &

### ⑥⑦ Big Oak Tree State Park **EAST PRAIRIE**

573-649-3149, 13640 S. Highway 102. A boardwalk and overlook give a close-up view of the park's swamp forest and towering trees. Picnicking and fishing are available. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/big-oak-tree-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/big-oak-tree-state-park) &

### ⑥⑧ Bollinger Mill State Historic Site

**BURFORDVILLE** 573-243-4591, 113 Bollinger Mill Road. This site features a stone-and-brick gristmill and Missouri's oldest covered bridge – both completed circa 1867 – plus a small picnic area. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/bollinger-mill-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/bollinger-mill-state-historic-site)

### ⑥⑨ Current River State Park **SALEM**

573-858-3015, 11053 County Road 19D. The park offers hiking trails, picnic areas and lakes for fishing, as well as tours of the property, which was once a corporate retreat. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/current-river-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/current-river-state-park)

### ⑦⑦ Dillard Mill State Historic Site

**DAVISVILLE** 573-244-3120, 142 Dillard Mill Road. Visitors can tour the water-powered gristmill, take a hike, fish in Huzzah Creek or enjoy a picnic lunch in this picturesque setting. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/dillard-mill-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/dillard-mill-state-historic-site)

### ⑦① Echo Bluff State Park **EMINENCE**

573-751-5211, 35244 Echo Bluff Drive. This Ozarks park features campsites; cabins; a lodge; trails; and opportunities to enjoy fishing, floating and swimming in Sinking Creek. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/echo-bluff-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/echo-bluff-state-park) &

### ⑦② Elephant Rocks State Park **BELLEVUE**

573-546-3454, 7406 Highway 21. Huge granite rocks stand end to end like a train of elephants. A paved Braille trail winds through the rocks. Picnic sites are available. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/elephant-rocks-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/elephant-rocks-state-park) &

### ⑦③ Felix Vallé House State Historic Site

**STE. GENEVIEVE** 573-883-7102, 198 Merchant St. This site contains two of the finest examples of French colonial architecture, including the 1818 Felix Vallé House and the 1819 Shaw House. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/felix-valle-house-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/felix-valle-house-state-historic-site)

### ⑦④ Grand Gulf State Park **THAYER**

417-264-7600, Highway W. Here, visitors can use boardwalks to descend partway into a vertical-walled canyon and view one of the largest natural bridges in Missouri. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/grand-gulf-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/grand-gulf-state-park) &

### ⑦⑤ Hawn State Park **STE. GENEVIEVE**

573-883-3603, 12096 Park Drive. This park features a scenic creek and native pines with an understory of dogwood, redbud and wild azalea. Camping and trails are available. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/hawn-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/hawn-state-park) &

### ⑦⑥ Hunter-Dawson State Historic Site

**NEW MADRID** 573-748-5340, 312 Dawson Road. The site's Hunter-Dawson house is a 15-room Bootheel mansion built in 1859-60. Visitors can tour the home and see its original furniture. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/hunter-dawson-state-historic-site](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/hunter-dawson-state-historic-site)

### ⑦⑦ Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park

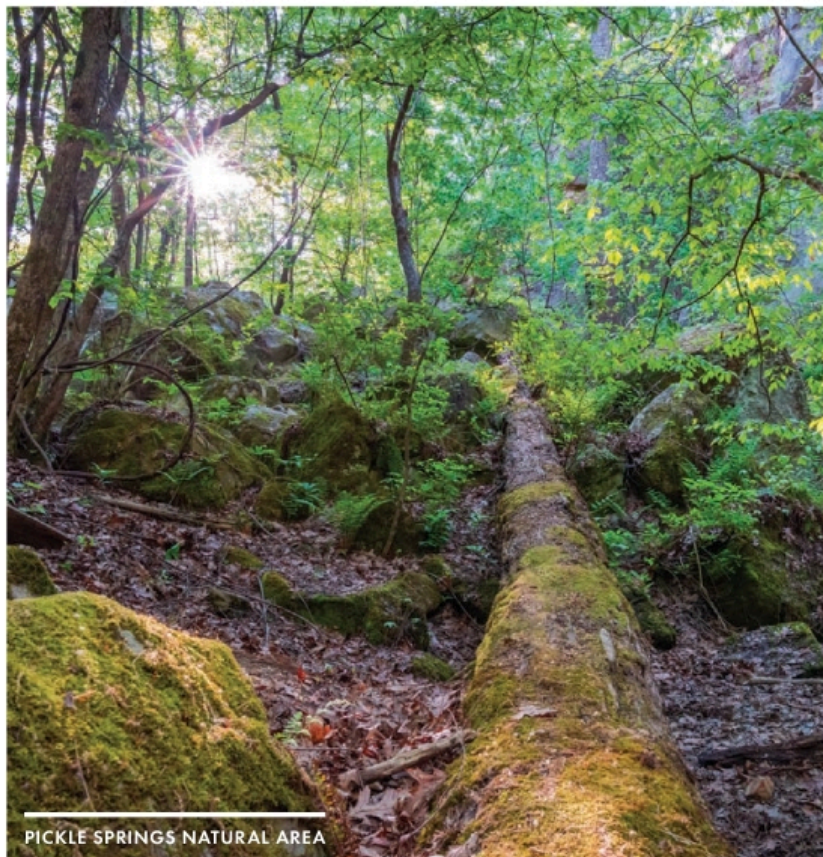
**MIDDLE BROOK** 573-546-2450, 148 Taum Sauk Trail. Park features include a campground, cabins, stores, trails and "shut-ins" – natural swimming holes created by rocks closing in river water. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/johnsons-shut-ins-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/johnsons-shut-ins-state-park) &

### ⑦⑧ Lake Wappapello State Park

**WILLIAMSVILLE** 573-297-3232, 8005 State Highway 172. The park's coves make great camping, fishing and picnicking spots. There are also cabins, boat ramps, a beach and a variety of trails. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/lake-wappapello-state-park](https://www.MoStateParks.com/park/lake-wappapello-state-park) &

### ⑦⑨ Missouri Mines State Historic Site

**PARK HILLS** 573-431-6226, 4000 State Highway 32. This site contains a former lead processing plant that has been converted



PICKLE SPRINGS NATURAL AREA

#### SYMBOL KEY

& ADA Compliant **FREE** Free \$ Admission Fee



into a museum featuring mining exhibits and mineral displays. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/missouri-mines-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/missouri-mines-state-historic-site) &

**80** **Montauk State Park SALEM** 573-548-2201, 345 County Road 6670. This park features a spring-fed stream stocked with trout, as well as an old gristmill, camping, lodging, trails, a store and a restaurant. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/montauk-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/montauk-state-park) &

**81** **Morris State Park CAMPBELL** 573-297-3232, Highway WW. Lying in a range of low hills in the Mississippi River flood plain, this park features a hiking trail, an overlook and many rare plants. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/morris-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/morris-state-park)

**82** **Onondaga Cave State Park LEASBURG** 573-245-6576, 7556 Highway H. Tours are given of both Onondaga and Cathedral caves. The park also offers Meramec River access, a store, a campground and hiking trails. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/onondaga-cave-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/onondaga-cave-state-park) &

**83** **Sam A. Baker State Park PATTERSON** 573-856-4411, 5580 State Highway 143. Set in the St. Francois Mountains, this park has campsites (including equestrian), trails, cabins, float trips, dining and a nature center. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/sam-baker-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/sam-baker-state-park) &

**84** **St. Francois State Park BONNE TERRE** 573-358-2173, 8920 U.S. Highway 67 North. A popular put-in spot for float trips on the Big River, this park also features hiking, backpacking and equestrian trails and a campground. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/st-francois-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/st-francois-state-park) &

**85** **St. Joe State Park PARK HILLS** 573-431-1069, 2800 Pimville Road. Features include off-road vehicle, equestrian, biking and hiking trails; campgrounds; fishing lakes; beaches; watercraft rentals; and a shooting range. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/st-joe-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/st-joe-state-park) &

**86** **Taum Sauk Mountain State Park IRONTON** 573-546-2450, Highway CC. Missouri's highest point and its highest wet-weather waterfall are located in this park, which also has hiking trails and basic campsites. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/taum-sauk-mountain-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/taum-sauk-mountain-state-park)

**87** **Towohagy State Historic Site EAST PRAIRIE** 573-748-5340, County Road 502. This site preserves the remains of a once-fortified Mississippian American Indian village, inhabited between A.D. 1000 and A.D. 1400. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/towohagy-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/towohagy-state-historic-site)

**88** **Trail of Tears State Park JACKSON** 573-290-5268, 429 Moccasin Springs. A portion of this park was part of the Trail of Tears. Campgrounds, a lake, river access, a visitor center, and trails are offered. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/trail-tears-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/trail-tears-state-park) &

**89** **Washington State Park DE SOTO** 636-586-5768, 13041 State Highway 104. Features include a pool, watercraft rentals, cabins, hiking and backpacking trails, a store, campsites, and American Indian rock carvings. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/washington-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/washington-state-park) &

## CONSERVATION AREAS

**Amidon Memorial Conservation Area FREDERICKTOWN** 573-290-5730, County Road 208. This 1,630-acre conservation area features granite shut-ins on the Castor River. The area offers birding, camping, fishing, hunting, trails, hiking and trapping. **FREE**

**Apple Creek Conservation Area ALTENBURG** 573-290-5730, Route CC. Find steep hills, narrow valleys and 2.5 miles of Apple Creek at this 2,100-acre conservation area, offering birding, camping, fishing, hunting, trapping, biking, hiking, horseback riding and a shooting range. **FREE**

**Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center CAPE GIRARDEAU** 573-290-5218, 2289 County Park Drive. Highlighting the cultural history and natural resources of southeastern Missouri, this nature center includes two miles of nature trails, wildlife exhibits and viewing areas, a children's area, and Native American artifacts. **FREE** &

**Castor River Conservation Area MARBLE HILL** 573-290-5730, Route 34. Blue Pond - the deepest natural pond in Missouri - is located at this 9,688-acre conservation area. The area offers primitive camping, hiking, biking, horseback riding, birding, fishing, hunting and a shooting range. **FREE** &

**Current River Conservation Area ELLINGTON** 573-290-5730, Route 106. This area encompasses 29,000 acres of forested land, bordered by the Current River. Popular activities include elk viewing, hunting, fishing, birding and sightseeing. Places of interest include Blue Spring, Paint Rock Bluff and Fort Barnesville. **FREE**

**Elk Driving Tours at Peck Ranch Conservation Area ELLINGTON** 855-263-2355, 2929 County Road 618. Forested hills, hollows and creeks fill this 23,763-acre conservation area. Peck Ranch is home to Missouri's wild elk herd. The area offers a driving tour to view elk and other wildlife, hiking, birding, camping, hunting and a shooting range. **FREE** &

**Holly Ridge Conservation Area BLOOMFIELD** 573-290-5730, Route E. This 991-acre area protects endangered plant species and a bog. The area offers a shooting range, hiking, biking, horseback riding, birding, camping, fishing, hunting and trapping. **FREE** &

**Huzzah Conservation Area STEELVILLE** 636-441-4554, Route H. Rugged forest, the Meramec River, and the Huzzah and Courtois creeks are part of this 6,225-acre area. The Ozark Trail transects the area, which offers a variety of outdoor activities. **FREE** &

**Little River Conservation Area KENNETT** 573-290-5730, Route 412. Reforested bottomland, marshes and upland habitat are part of this 1,013-acre conservation area. A 150-acre lake has fishing jetties, a boat ramp, a fishing platform and a covered fishing dock. **FREE** &

**Magnolia Hollow Conservation Area BLOOMSDALE** 573-290-5730, Route V. Eagles are commonly seen along the Mississippi River at this rugged 1,740-acre conservation area. The area offers hiking, birding, camping, fishing and hunting, and a shooting range. **FREE** &

**Millstream Gardens Conservation Area FREDERICKTOWN** 573-290-5730, Route 72. The St. Francis River borders this 916-acre tract, which includes the Tiemann Shut-Ins. The area offers a shooting range, trails, hiking, birding, fishing and hunting. **FREE** &

**Otter Slough Conservation Area DEXTER** 573-290-5730, 7001 County Road 675. This 4,859-acre area is one of only a few examples of a cypress/tupelo swamp left in Missouri. The swamp and marsh attract thousands of waterfowl. The area offers hiking, birding, hunting, camping, fishing and trapping. **FREE** &

**Pickle Springs Natural Area FARMINGTON** 573-290-5730, Dorlac Road. Scenic waterfalls and box canyons that harbor unusual plants and animals are part of this 256-acre tract. The area has trails for hiking and wildlife watching. Rose azalea bloom along the sandstone valley in the spring. **FREE**

**Rocky Creek Conservation Area EMINENCE** 417-256-7161, Highway 19, Routes H and E. Forest and woodland cover much of this 39,546-acre area, offering birding, hiking, primitive camping, hunting and fishing. The area contains many springs and caves and provides access to the Current River. An auto driving tour explores a 1,300-acre pine-oak woodland restoration project. **FREE**

**Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area EAST PRAIRIE** 573-290-5730, Route W. Explore more than 1,000 acres of wetland habitat at this 3,755-acre area that provides food for waterfowl, shorebirds and other wetland wildlife species. Duck and goose hunting and waterfowl viewing are the most popular activities at the area. **FREE**

**Twin Pines Conservation Education Center WINONA** 573-325-1381, Route 60 East. This education center explores the natural features of the Ozarks, the area's logging history and the importance of forests. It includes indoor wildlife exhibits, a fishing pond, an archery range and trails. **FREE**

## AMUSEMENT PERKS

**Bonne Terre Mine**, *Bonne Terre* – Follow an old mule path once travelled by miners uncovering lead deposits with picks and shovels. Then board a pontoon boat for a tour of the 1-billion-gallon underground lake – the largest fresh-water scuba diving venue on earth.

**Sainte Genevieve Museum Learning Center**, *Ste. Genevieve* – Enter the Hall of Giants, inhabited by life-size models of dinosaurs that ruled the earth 65 million years ago, and learn about one of the latest prehistoric discoveries – the Missouri Dinosaur.

**Onondaga Cave State Park**, *Leasburg* – Head underground and see why Missouri is called the Cave State. View towering stalagmites, dripping stalactites and active flowstone.

**The Space Museum**, *Bonne Terre* – A world-class collection of aerospace artifacts will transport you from the dawn of space travel to the spacecraft of today.

**Johnson’s Shut-Ins State Park**, *Middle Brook* – Splash the day away in the pools and chutes at a “waterpark” made by Mother Nature. Extend your stay at the campground where you can pitch a tent or reserve one of the park’s camper cabins.



ONONDAGA CAVE STATE PARK







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## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Dogwood-Azalea Festival**, Charleston - Surround yourself with beauty along a six-mile trail showcasing two springtime favorites – dogwood and azalea blooms. At dusk, luminaries line the walking route for a candlelight tour.

**French Heritage Festival**, Ste. Genevieve - Celebrate more than 300 years of French culture in North America with music, dance, storytelling, reenactments and French cuisine.

**East Prairie Sweet Corn Festival**, East Prairie - A week-long lineup of activities leads up to the Tour de Corn. More than 1,000 cyclists come for the charity bike ride that offers varying distances for riders of all ages and abilities.

**Sikeston Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo**, Sikeston - Pull on your cowboy boots for this summer staple that features four days of bull riding, barrel racing and more. Evening concerts boast some of the biggest names in country music.

**Christmas Country Church Tour**, Perry, Cape Girardeau and Bollinger counties - Visit more than 30 churches – from simple one-room wooden structures to brick-and-mortar masterpieces, some more than a century old – draped in holiday decor that reflects each community’s heritage.



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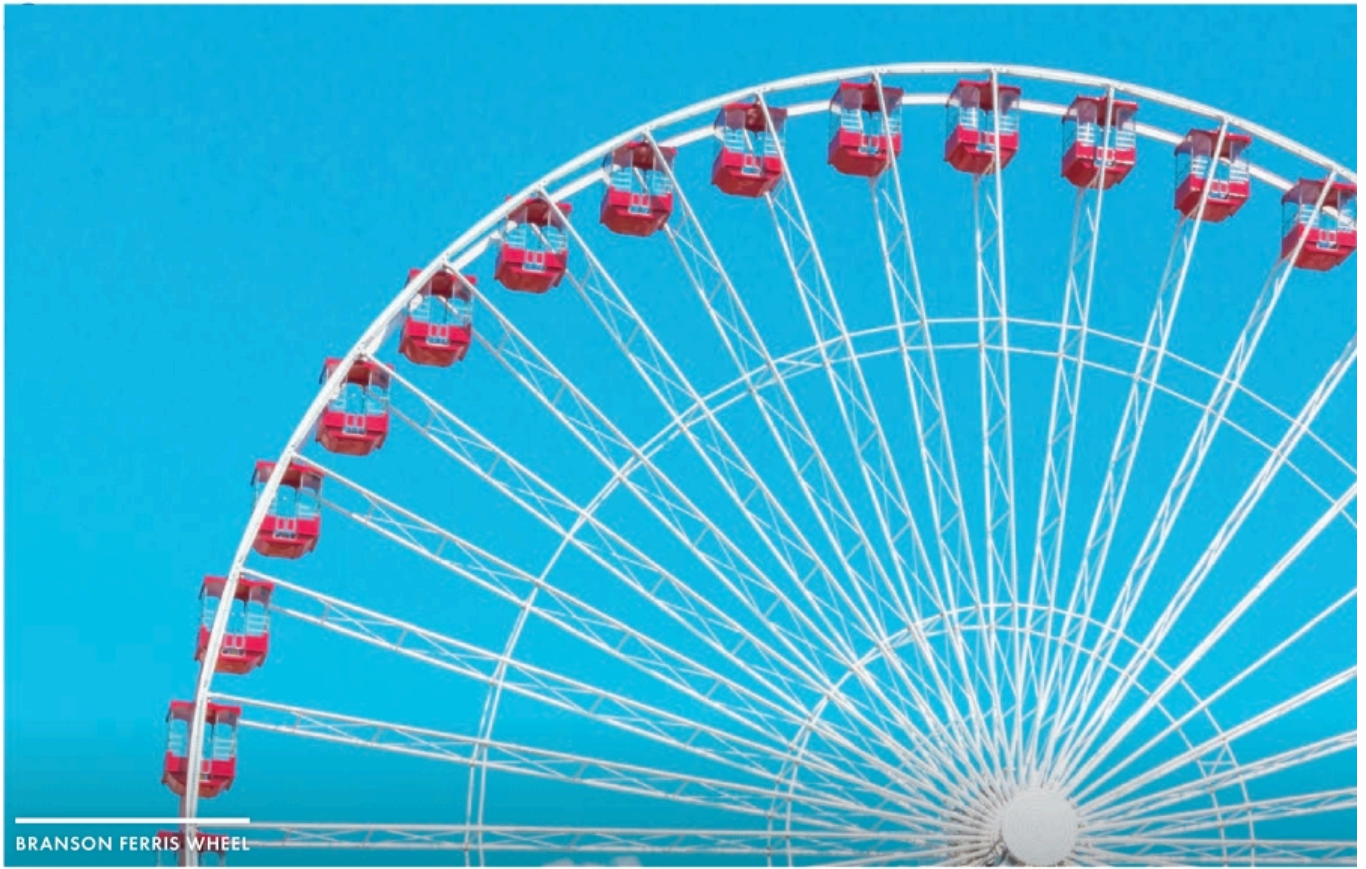


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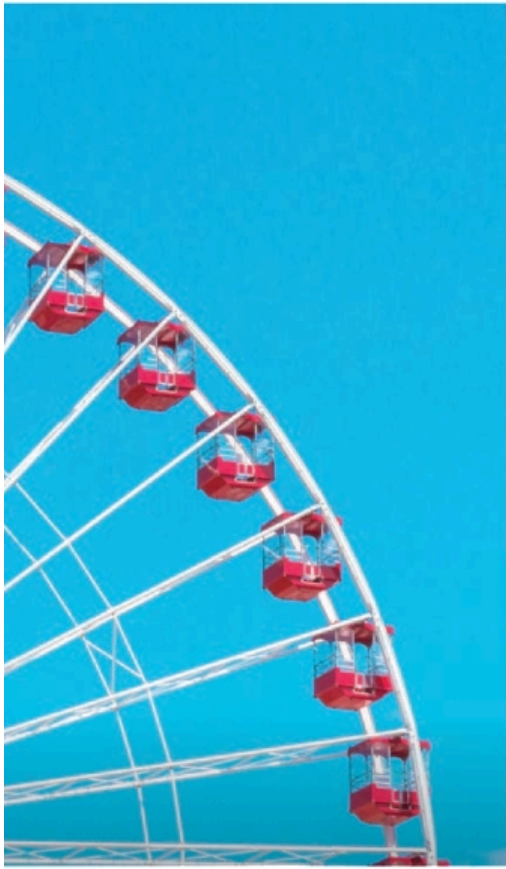
BRANSON FERRIS WHEEL



NORTH FORK RIVER



SILVER DOLLAR CITY



# SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

From the bright lights of Branson to breathtaking views of the Ozarks, the Southwest Region of Missouri specializes in family fun and outdoor pursuits.

Branson bustles with theme and adventure parks, an aquarium, a towering Ferris wheel, and a variety of live shows – from music and dance to magic and comedy.

Anglers flock to Table Rock Lake, Lake Taneycomo and Roaring River State Park in hopes of reeling in a trophy fish, while golfers test their skills on acclaimed courses designed by some of the sport's top players.

In Springfield, stock up on all the outdoor gear you need at the original and largest Bass Pro Shop location. The History Museum on the Square will take you on a journey through time, including a nostalgic look at Route 66 in the city where the highway received its famous name.

The southwest corner of the state pays tribute to the Mother Road in numerous places. The Route 66 Mural Park is a popular stop in Joplin. The Route 66 Drive-In Theatre in Carthage offers a retro experience under the stars.



Find more to see and do in Southwest Missouri.





WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Online information is available at [MoStateParks.com](http://MoStateParks.com), unless otherwise noted. Map codes (1) correspond to the map on page 46.

**MISSOURI NATIONAL PARKS**

**9 George Washington Carver National Monument** **DIAMOND** 417-325-4151, 5646 Carver Road. Visit the childhood home of George Washington Carver, scientist, educator and humanitarian whose work helped revolutionize agriculture. The monument is the first National Park property dedicated to a Black American. **FREE** [nps.gov/gwca](http://nps.gov/gwca) &

**10 Wilson's Creek National Battlefield** **REPUBLIC** 417-861-9905, 6424 W. Farm Road. Tour the site of the first major Civil War battle west of the Mississippi River and the second major battle of the war. The visitor center includes a museum displaying Civil War artifacts and a research library. \$ [nps.gov/wicr/index.htm](http://nps.gov/wicr/index.htm) &

**MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES**

**55 Battle of Carthage State Historic Site** **CARTHAGE** 417-682-2279, 1111 E. Chestnut St. The earliest battle of the Civil War ended here when 6,000 Southerners forced 1,000

Union men to retreat. A kiosk explains the battle. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/battle-carthage-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/battle-carthage-state-historic-site)

**56 Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site** **BUTLER** 417-276-4259, 4837 NW County Road 1002. This site contains Fort Africa, where the first Black soldiers to ever engage in Civil War combat camped prior to the history-making battle. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/battle-island-mound-state-historic-site](http://MoStateParks.com/park/battle-island-mound-state-historic-site) &

**57 Big Sugar Creek State Park** **PINEVILLE** 417-847-2539, 6727 Big Sugar Creek Road. This rugged park contains outstanding savannas, glades, woodlands and bluffs along Big Sugar Creek. A hiking trail traverses these features. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/big-sugar-creek-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/big-sugar-creek-state-park)

**58 Bryant Creek State Park** **AVA** 417-334-4704, 1228 County Road 337 D. This park is home to towering oaks and pines, scenic sandstone outcrops, and a pristine creek, and offers picnic tables and hiking trails. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/bryant-creek-state-park](http://MoStateParks.com/park/bryant-creek-state-park)

**SYMBOL KEY**

& ADA Compliant **FREE** Free \$ Admission Fee

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**59 Harry S Truman Birthplace State Historic Site LAMAR** 417-682-2279, 1009 Truman St. Harry S. Truman, the only Missourian ever elected U.S. president, was born in this six-room home in 1884. Free tours are given of the house. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/harry-s-truman-birthplace-state-historic-site](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/harry-s-truman-birthplace-state-historic-site)

**60 Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead State Historic Site ASH GROVE** 417-751-3266, 7850 N. State Highway V. Tour the 1837 log home of Nathan Boone – a military officer and the son of Daniel Boone – and his wife, Olive, who maintained the homestead. \$ [MoStateParks.com/park/nathan-and-olive-boone-homestead-state-historic-site](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/nathan-and-olive-boone-homestead-state-historic-site)

**61 Osage Village State Historic Site WALKER** 417-682-2279, Highway C. This site was once a Big Osage American Indian village occupied from 1700-1775. Outdoor exhibits interpret Osage history and life. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/osage-village-state-historic-site](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/osage-village-state-historic-site)

**62 Prairie State Park MINDENMINES** 417-843-6711, 128 NW 150th Lane. Featuring Missouri's largest public native prairie, this park offers a nature center, hiking trails, campsites and guided bison walks. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/prairie-state-park](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/prairie-state-park)



PRAIRIE STATE PARK



SILVER DOLLAR CITY

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Pioneer Craft Demonstrations

An Old Time Christmas Festival

**63** **Roaring River State Park** **CASSVILLE** 417-847-2539, 12716 Farm Road 2239. Features of this park include hiking trails, campgrounds, lodging, dining, a store, a nature center and a trout-stocked stream for anglers. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/roaring-river-state-park](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/roaring-river-state-park) ♿

**64** **Stockton State Park** **DADEVILLE** 417-276-4259, 19100 S. Highway 215. This park overlooks Stockton Lake and features a marina, a beach, lodging, campsites, hiking and mountain biking trails, and a water trail. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/stockton-state-park](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/stockton-state-park) ♿

**65** **Table Rock State Park** **BRANSON** 417-334-4704, 5272 Highway 165. Located on Table Rock Lake, this park features a marina; a boat ramp; campgrounds; a premium yurt; and trails for hiking and bicycling. **FREE** [MoStateParks.com/park/table-rock-state-park](https://www.mostatoparks.com/park/table-rock-state-park) ♿

#### SYMBOL KEY

♿ ADA Compliant   **FREE** Free   \$ Admission Fee

## CONSERVATION AREAS

**Andy Dalton Shooting Range** **BOIS D'ARC** 417-742-4361, N. Farm Road 61. This shooting range offers a fee-based rifle/pistol range, trap/skeet and 5-stand sporting clays, shotgun patterning, and 3-D/static archery. \$ ♿

**Bushwhacker Lake Conservation Area** **BRONAUGH** 417-629-3423, 527 E. Sixth St. More than 1,400 acres of prairie at this 4,790-acre conservation area are being restored. Lakes, including the 157-acre Bushwhacker Lake, are stocked with bass, bluegill and channel catfish. The area offers hunting, fishing, multiuse trails, campsites and a concrete boat ramp. **FREE** ♿

**Busiek State Forest and Wildlife Area** **HIGHLANDVILLE** 417-895-6880, 5 U.S. Route 65. A well-marked trail system provides approximately 18 miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding at this 2,700-acre conservation area. The area also offers primitive, tent-only campsites and an unstaffed firearms shooting range. **FREE**

**Caney Mountain Conservation Area** **GAINESVILLE** 417-256-7161, Route 1818. This 7,900-acre area is characterized by unusual geology, including remnants of an old, elevated plateau dissected by numerous streams. The area offers hiking, biking, horseback riding, birding, camping, hunting and a shooting range. **FREE**

**Robert E. Talbot Conservation Area** **LARUSSELL** 417-451-4158, 7031 Route 96. The land at this 4,361-acre area varies from rich bottomlands along Spring River to rocky uplands. A four-acre lake and a seven-acre lake offer fishing. Several miles of trails are open to hiking, biking and horseback riding. The campground is best suited for tents and small RVs. **FREE**

**Ruth and Paul Henning Conservation Area** **BRANSON** 417-895-6880, Shepherd of the Hills Expwy. This 1,534-acre area includes forest, glades, a half-mile stretch of Roark Creek, 5.6 miles of hiking trails, a scenic overlook and a lookout tower. The 3.4-mile Homesteaders Trail has 14 stops that showcase natural features and places of historical interest. **FREE**



ROARING RIVER STATE PARK



## AMUSEMENT PERKS



FANTASTIC CAVERNS

**Silver Dollar City, Branson** – Life in the 1880s inspires the top-rated theme park's rides, restaurants, shops and shows. Artisans demonstrate their skills in glassblowing, woodcarving, blacksmithing, candy making, bread baking and more.

**Dogwood Canyon Nature Park, Lampe** – Savor a scenic slice of the Ozarks aboard a tram or on horseback, bicycle or foot at this 10,000-acre nature park known for its sparkling streams, waterfalls and wildlife.

**Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium, Springfield** – The massive museum and 1.5-million-gallon aquarium showcase 35,000 fish, mammals, reptiles and birds. Immersive wildlife galleries lead you to habitats around the world.

**Fantastic Caverns, Springfield** – Board a tram for a subterranean trip to admire stalagmites, stalactites, soda straws, flowstones and other impressive rock formations in the country's only ride-through cave.

**Copperhead Mountain Coaster, Branson** – The fastest and longest downhill ride in Branson will get your adrenaline pumping with riveting loops, drops and curves. Located at Shepherd's Adventure Park, the coaster is illuminated with thousands of colorful lights at night.



WONDERS OF WILDLIFE NATIONAL MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Ozark Empire Fair**, *Springfield* – Billed as summer’s biggest party, the fair is one of the largest events in southwest Missouri. Dating back to the early 1900s, it’s packed with concerts, livestock shows, art exhibits and vendors.

**Birthplace of Route 66 Festival**, *Springfield* – Celebrate the place where the Mother Road was named. Highlights include live music and car and motorcycle shows.

**Carver Day**, *Diamond* – Storytelling, music and activities for kids take a close look at George Washington Carver’s contributions as a scientist, educator and humanitarian at the first national monument to honor a Black American.

**Maple Leaf Festival**, *Carthage* – A week filled with events features the city’s brilliantly colored maple trees. Booths offering arts and crafts, food, and more surround the historic Jasper County Courthouse with its turrets, towers and arches.

**Old Time Christmas, Silver Dollar City**, *Branson* – Stroll through the magical glow of more than 6 million lights and enjoy special holiday shows, music and tasty treats.



GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER NATIONAL MONUMENT



ROUTE 66 CAR MUSEUM



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# St. Louis

## CELEBRITY GUIDES

There's never been a better time to plan a trip to St. Louis and these familiar faces can be your guides to all of the best places to visit! From world-class attractions and museums to the best restaurants and stores, these native St. Louisans are the "experts" on all things St. Louis. To learn more about their favorite places, please visit [explorestlouis.com/intheknow](http://explorestlouis.com/intheknow).



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