

A QUICK GUIDE TO ALL THINGS OMAHA.

Quick Facts

Population: Omaha Metro Area: 952,018
Nebraska's largest city - 41st largest city in the United States
Located in Douglas County, NE

History

Founded in 1854 by land speculators, Omaha was incorporated as a city in 1897. Omaha, named after an American Indian tribe, means "those going against the wind or current."

Historic Sites

Fort Omaha is best known for its role in the 1879 landmark trial of Ponca Chief Standing Bear. Standing Bear was arrested while trying to bury his son near the tribe's homeland along the Niobrara River. At the trial Civil War General George Crook, in his full military regalia, spoke on behalf of the Ponca chief. The court ruled in favor of Standing Bear, which represented the first time an Indian was recognized as a person under the law.

Boys Town This well-known landmark is a national treasure and historic children's home founded in 1917 by Father Flanagan. Boys Town welcomes over 100,000 visitors each year.

Omaha's **Old Market Entertainment District** is the city's historic art, shopping and dining district. In the 1880s it served as a manufacturing, industrial warehouse and wholesale jobbing area.

The **Gerald R. Ford Birth Site and Gardens** is a memorial to our country's 38th President.

The **Malcolm X Birth Site** is a memorial to the civil rights leader and his contributions to our country.

The **Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters** archives the journeys and hardships faced by the Mormon pioneers who stopped in Omaha en route to Utah.



Business in Omaha

Fortune 500 headquarters:

- Berkshire Hathaway
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Kiewit Corporation
- Mutual of Omaha Insurance

Fortune 1000 headquarters:

- TD Ameritrade
- West Corporation
- Werner Enterprises
- Valmont Industries
- Great Plains Renewable Energy

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About Omaha

"Omaha ranks eighth among the nation's 50 largest cities in both per-capita billionaires and Fortune 500 companies. No coastal city can claim a ranking as high as Omaha on both lists." - **USA Today**

Billionaire investor **Warren Buffett** calls Omaha home. Buffett's local holdings include Borsheims, the nation's largest independent jewelry store, and Nebraska Furniture Mart, America's single largest home furnishing store.

Omaha is a leader in the telecommunications and information services industries, with 1,000 companies employing over 50,000 people. If you're calling for a hotel reservation, chances are you're calling Omaha - home to the Hyatt, Marriott, Radisson and Omni reservation centers.

Union Pacific's Harriman Dispatching Center assists in monitoring a nationwide railroad network composed of 25,707 miles of track and up to 2,200 trains.

Omaha is home to two major research hospitals: **Creighton University Medical Center** and the **University of Nebraska Medical Center** - one of the world leaders in solid-organ transplants.

Omaha Steaks, a family owned business since 1917, has grown to become the nation's largest direct marketer of high quality steak and frozen gourmet products.

Saddle Creek Records, one of the hottest indie rock recording labels in the country, launched the careers of Conor Oberst, Bright Eyes and Cursive. Their distinct music is known as the "Omaha" sound.

MTV ranked Omaha #2 in the world for up-and-coming music cities.

Omaha is home to the Desert Dome, the world's largest indoor desert

Omaha has been home to the College World Series since 1950.

Drive time from Omaha's airport to downtown is less than 10 minutes.

USA TODAY reports Omaha airport as fliers' favorite medium-sized airport

The Old Market entertainment district in downtown Omaha has more international flavors than your passport.

The average meal in Omaha is \$2.50 less than than the national average.

Points of Interest

The Old Market Entertainment District - cobblestone streets lined with unique boutiques, quirky shops, antique emporiums and dozens of local restaurants and pubs. The Old Market features some of Omaha's most vibrant nightlife.

Consistently at the top of the "World's Best Zoo" lists, **Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium** brings visitors face to face with over 900 different species of animals. Explore the world's largest indoor desert inside the world's largest geodesic dome, next to the America's largest indoor rainforest. This internationally renowned zoo also features an 850,000 gallon aquarium complete with an underwater shark tunnel, and gorilla valley where animals run free and visitors are put on display. New in 2016, the largest project in zoo history - African Grasslands. The \$70 million project spans 28 acres and includes a full immersion outdoor habitat featuring panoramic views and beautiful vistas teeming with African wildlife.

The **Joslyn Art Museum** features work from antiquity to the present, with an emphasis on 19th and 20th century European and American art. Highlights of the permanent collection include works by Edgar Degas, Claude Monet and Jackson Pollack. Free admission.

Climb into history at **The Durham Museum** - both a Smithsonian affiliate and meticulously preserved Art Deco train station. Families can see, touch and experience history through world-class permanent and traveling exhibits.

Ever-changing, art exhibitions are the cornerstone of the **Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts**. Experience works by both seasoned artists and new talent in an airy, studio-like, artist-in-residence atmosphere.

The award winning **Omaha Children's Museum** attracts national children's exhibits and provides families with educational hands-on activities.

Hot Shops Art Center is "home of all that is molten." A thriving, ultra-hip art scene where you can witness cutting-edge art by more than 80 artists in a unique warehouse atmosphere.

El Museo Latino is the first Latino art and history museum and cultural center in the Midwest. This cozy, culturally intensive establishment is as authentic as the Hispanic restaurants and shops surrounding it.

Catch the heritage of jazz in a district where Duke Ellington, Count Basie and others once played at **Loves Jazz and Arts Center**. An 8,000 sq. ft. art and jazz center committed to the preservation, funding and advancement of the African American arts.

The historic **Boys Town** features an extensive campus, Hall of History museum (showcasing Spencer Tracy's Academy Award for the 1938 movie Boys Town), gardens and Dowd Chapel, serving as a shrine to founder Father Flanagan.



Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium

The Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum is 300,000 sq. ft. dedicated to the nation's most prized and rarely displayed military aircraft.

CenturyLink Center Omaha Convention Center and Arena attracts big name talent while providing a spacious technology rich venue for conventions. The 346,000 sq. ft. convention center is complemented by the \$2 million public art project, 'Illumina.' The display consists of more than 40 sculptures inspired by the 13th Century Carnival of Venice designed by artist Matthew Placzek.

The Holland Performing Arts Center is considered one of the best sounding concert halls in the country. Inspired by the legendary Musikverein in Vienna, the Holland attracts top national performers.

Film Streams at Ruth Sokolof Theater offers a unique movie experience. Dedicated to independent, documentary and foreign films, as well as director retrospectives. Academy Award winning director Alexander Payne serves on the advisory board.

The largest community theater in the U.S., the **Omaha Community Playhouse** helped launch the careers of Henry Fonda, Dorothy McGuire and Tony Award winner John Lloyd Young, who played Frankie Valli in Broadway's Jersey Boys.

Named 2008 Club of the Year by Esquire magazine, **The Slowdown** attracts national indie rock bands including nationally known, locally grown Bright Eyes, Cursive and The Faint.

The **Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge** s-curves its way across the Missouri River. "Bob" is a one-of-a-kind pedestrian bridge with a larger-than-life personality. The first pedestrian bridge to link two states, Bob connects over 150 miles of trails. The Nebraska-Iowa border runs right through Bob so you can actually stand in two states at the same time - it's called "Bobbing" - trust us, it's a thing. Talk to Bob on Twitter (@bobtbridge), he's got a lot to say and he's not afraid to say it.

At **Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha's Botanical Center** you can escape the ordinary while strolling through over 100 acres of botanical beauty. Enjoy the gardens year-round inside the 20,000 sq ft. conservatory filled with a fantastic collection of unusual and rare plant life.

The 31-acre **Heartland of America Park** features one of the world's largest shooting fountains, gondola rides and outdoor concerts.

TD Ameritrade Park Omaha is a \$126 million stadium that features 24,000 seats, 26 suites and an expansive Fan Fest area. The home of the NCAA Men's College World Series is within walking distance of CenturyLink Center Omaha, the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge and the Old Market entertainment district.

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Joslyn Art Museum



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