

DISCOVER WHAT THEY EXPLORED: FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF LEWIS AND CLARK



Be a modern-day explorer as you follow in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. This tour parallels the Missouri River and takes you along two scenic byways: Outlaw Trail Scenic Byway and Lewis & Clark Scenic Byway. Whether your pleasure is shopping for antiques or bargains, enjoying delicious homemade fare, tasting a fine Nebraska wine, or simply taking it slow, you're bound to find something of interest along the trail of Lewis and Clark.

DAY 1

Brownville • Nebraska City • Springfield • Papillion

MORNING

Start your Lewis and Clark tour in historic Brownville, cruising down the Missouri River on the **Spirit of Brownville Riverboat** (allow 1.5 hours). Afterward, enjoy a delicious lunch at the **Lyceum Café** and browse this awesome two-story bookstore (allow 1 hour).

AFTERNOON

After lunch, take a short trek through town for a wine tasting at **Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery** (allow 1 hour). Leave Brownville and head north to Nebraska City where you'll experience Lewis and Clark's journey at the **Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Interpretive Trail & Visitor Center** (allow 1 hour), an 80-acre facility overlooking the Missouri River and the only center in the country dedicated to the flora, fauna and scientific discoveries found along their journey.

Continue on to **Arbor Day Farm** (allow 1.5 hours), a working farm orchard and forest where all visitors receive a tree seedling at the Lied Greenhouse. Depart Nebraska City and head to Springfield where you can explore your artistic side at **Springfield Art Works** (allow 1 hour). Enjoy a delicious Polish dinner and entertainment at **Polish Heritage** (allow 1.5 hours) in Papillion before checking into one of Omaha or Sarpy County's many wonderful hotels.

DAY 2

Omaha

MORNING

Begin your day in Omaha, Nebraska's largest city, with a backstage experience at **Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium** (allow 1.5 hours) or explore the zoo's many other exciting activities, including the world's

largest indoor rainforest and the Desert Dome. **Durham Museum** (allow 1.5 hours) is housed in a restored Art Deco train station and showcases the history of Omaha and the Union Pacific Railroad.

AFTERNOON

For lunch, cruise down the Missouri River on the **River City Star Riverboat** (allow 1.5 hours). Afterward, view exquisite works of art from antiquity to the present at the world class **Joslyn Art Museum** (allow 1.5 hours). Explore Omaha's African American art scene at **Love's Jazz & Arts Center** (allow 1 hour) before heading to west Omaha for an inspiring visit of **Father Flanagan's Boys Town** (allow 1.5 hours). For dining and lodging, you'll find a number of excellent choices throughout the metro area.

DAY 3

Fort Calhoun • Blair • Winnebago • Ponca State Park • Wynot • Crofton

MORNING

Depart Omaha and head north on the Lewis and Clark Scenic Byway to Fort Calhoun and **Fort Atkinson State Historical Park** (allow 1.5 hours). This was the site of the first council between Lewis and Clark and the Missouri and Otoe tribes and today an informative visitor center chronicles this historic meeting. Living history demonstrations of life on the fort also are available.

Next stop is Blair and a visit to the **DeSoto Chute National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center** (allow 1.5 hours) where you can take an up-close, behind the scenes tour of more than 200,000 well preserved artifacts from the Steamboat Bertrand, which sunk in the Missouri River in 1865. Continue north along the byway to the Winnebago Indian Reservation where you can enjoy an art demonstration or shop for hand-crafted American Indian products at **Woodland Trails**

Art & Learning Center (allow 1 hour) and other souvenirs at AllNative.com retail store (allow 45 minutes). Before departing town, view a majestic bison herd up-close.

AFTERNOON

Stop in South Sioux City for a relaxing lunch in one of this gateway city's many fine restaurants. After lunch, continue west on the Outlaw Trail Scenic Byway to **Ponca State Park**, the eastern gateway to the Missouri National Recreational River. Enjoy fall hayrack and haunted hayrack rides in October and buffalo burgers, Lewis and Clark stew, and fish fries in the summer and fall.

The **Missouri National Recreational River Resource and Education Center** (allow 1 hour) highlights the area's rich Native American culture, the steamboat era, river ecology and natural history. The park's tri-state overlook gives a breathtaking view of the Missouri River and the surrounding countryside.

Stop for an afternoon break and shopping at **St. James Marketplace** (allow 1 hour), a wonderful local farmer's market, craft fair and tearoom in Wynot. Located on Highway 81 at the Nebraska/South Dakota state line, the **Corps of Discovery Welcome Center** (allow 45 minutes) offers a gorgeous view of the Missouri River, an art gallery, presentations and an amazing gift shop of locally made products. Step back in time at the historic Argo Hotel in Crofton, your dining and lodging location for the night.

DAY 4

Kreycik Riverview Elk Ranch • Niobrara State Park

MORNING

After a great breakfast, head to **Kreycik Riverview Elk Ranch** (allow 2.5 hours) to encounter wildlife close up. Ride in a covered wagon to hand feed buffalo as they clamor to you for corn! The gift shop sells a variety of buffalo-related products, clothing

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and food. The **J. Alan Cramer Interpretive Center** (allow 1 hour) at **Niobrara State Park** offers an exceptional view of the park and highlights the history and people of the area. Before departing Nebraska, enjoy a delicious homemade lunch in downtown Niobrara.

