



## Region: North Central Prairie



1. **World's Largest Ball of Sisal Twine**  
Wisconsin St/Hwy 24, Cawker City, KS  
(785) 781-4470
2. **Grassroots Art Center**  
213 S Main St, Lucas, KS  
(785) 525-6118
3. **Garden of Eden**  
305 E 2nd St, Lucas, KS  
(785) 525-6395
4. **Mushroom Rock State Park**  
200 Horsethief Rd, Marquette, KS  
(785) 546-2565
5. **Kansas Motorcycle Museum**  
120 N Washington, Marquette, KS  
(785) 546-2449

6. **Downtown Swedish Lindsborg**  
Main Street, Lindsborg, KS
7. **Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery**  
401 N 1st St, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-2220
8. **Coronado Heights**  
4200 W Coronado Heights Rd, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-3706
9. **Historic Downtown Salina – Lee District**  
205 W Ash, Salina, KS  
(785) 825-0535
10. **Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure**  
625 N Hedville Rd, Salina, KS  
(785) 827-9488
11. **Rock City Park**  
1051 Ivy Rd, Minneapolis, KS  
(785) 392-2092
12. **National Orphan Train Complex**  
300 Washington St, Concordia, KS  
(785) 243-4471
13. **Boyer Museum of Animated Carvings**  
1205 M St, Belleville, KS  
(785) 527-5884
14. **Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site**  
480 Pawnee Trail, Republic, KS  
(785) 361-2255



## Region: North Central Prairie

The North Central Prairie region offers a wide variety of fascinating museums, outdoor adventures and evidence of creativity and innovation. Follow the Post Rock Scenic Byway where miles of stone fence posts stand as a tribute to the early settlers. A mixture of farmland, rolling hills, and man-made lakes, central Kansas is a transition zone between the hilly east and the western high plains.

## Cawker City

### 1. World's Largest Ball of Sisal Twine

At 17,320 lbs, a 40-foot circumference and nearly 8,000,000 feet of sisal twine, the Cawker City Community Club is the official owner/caretaker of the ball of twine. Each year a twine-a-thon is held in conjunction with the annual Cawker City picnic and parade, so the ball never stops growing. The ball was started in 1953, and by 1957 it weighed about 5,000 lbs.

## Lucas

### 2. Grassroots Art Center

Enjoy the creations of primarily retired individuals working with recycled materials such as metal, wood, pull-tabs, limestone, cement, computer motherboards and even chewing gum. Outdoors, the Great Post Rock Limestone Courtyard Exhibit emphasizes the architectural, historical and cultural value of post rock limestone and incorporates examples of construction and design detail, showing the many uses of the stone from the most utilitarian to the ornate and whimsical.

### 3. Garden of Eden

Created by Civil War veteran Samuel Perry Dinsmoor in the early 1900s, the Garden of Eden is the only Visionary Sculpture Environment and stone log cabin in Kansas, and is internationally known as a prime example of the Grassroots Art genre 1953.

#### *Not To Be Missed*

#### **Post Rock Scenic Byway**

The 16-mile-long Post Rock Scenic Byway winds over and through the beautiful Smoky Hills and across the Wilson Lake dam on Highway 232 from I-70 north to Highway 18. Many of the hilltops provide spectacular views, and the byway is an incredibly scenic drive any time of the year. At one end of the byway is Wilson, the Czech capital of Kansas and at the other is Lucas, the Grassroots Art Capital of Kansas.

## Marquette

### 4. Mushroom Rock State Park

The smallest, but one of the most unique, state parks in Kansas boasts some of the most unusual rock formations anywhere. Resembling giant mushrooms rising above the horizon, these rocks served as meeting places and landmarks for Indians and early pioneers such as John C. Fremont and Kit Carson.

### 5. Kansas Motorcycle Museum

Don't miss an experience dedicated to the history and preservation of motorcycles and motorcycle memorabilia. Includes the winnings of five-time National Sportsman Champion Stan "The Man" Engdahl, whose collection is made up of over 600 trophies from his racing career, dozens of pictures showing motorcycling history and his famous Harley racer, old number 46.



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## Marquette cont.

### *Destination Shopping*

#### **C&R Old West Trading Post**

123 N Douglas Ave, Ellsworth, KS  
(785) 472-3919

#### **Ellsworth Village Mall**

210 N Douglas, Ellsworth, KS  
(785) 472-4659

### *Not To Be Missed*

#### **Prairie Trail Scenic Byway**

The Prairie Trail Scenic Byway offers an array of fascinating points, from scenic to historic to cultural to archeological. You'll also find plenty of recreational amenities along the way, as well as shopping, lodging, dining and other unique experiences. The byway begins at the southern end in Canton. As you travel the byways 56 miles, you'll pass through such towns as Roxbury, Lindsborg and Marquette.

## Lindsborg

### **6. Downtown Swedish Lindsborg**

The community of Lindsborg was settled in 1869 by nearly 100 Swedish pioneers, and many of the founders were craftsmen, educators and musicians. Their passion for all things cultural extends into the present day, as no trip to Lindsborg would be complete without visiting the art galleries and studios. Enjoy a variety of musical events in Lindsborg, from world-class chamber music to vocal, instrumental and special concerts.

### **7. Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery**

Enjoy the noteworthy artwork of Swedish-American artist and educator Birger Sandzen. Also included in the exhibition calendar are shows from the Gallery's collections as well as regional, national and internationally recognized guest artists.

### **8. Coronado Heights**

Located just outside Lindsborg, Coronado Heights was named after the legendary explorer who is believed to have visited this location on his way through Indian territory in the 1500s. A castle was constructed as part of Roosevelt's WPA program, and provides the visitor with a breathtaking view of Lindsborg and the Smoky Valley. Picnic tables and barbecue pits are available to the public, and hiking and biking are popular pastimes.

### *Unique Lodging*

#### **Swedish Country Inn Bed & Breakfast**

112 W Lincoln St, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-2985

### *Destination Shopping*

#### **Anderson Butik**

127 N Main St, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-4442

#### **Small World Gallery**

134 N Main St, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-3864

#### **Hemslojd, Inc.**

201 N Main St, Lindsborg, KS  
(785) 227-2053



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### Salina

#### 9. Historic Downtown Salina – Lee District

Beautiful architecture adorns the downtown area, known as the "cultural and entertainment center" of Salina. From art galleries to museums to performances at two theatres - there is so much to see and experience. Specialty shops feature everything from antiques and collectibles to unusual gifts, quilting, pottery, kitchen goods, jewelry, furniture, baby items, Kansas specialty products and more.

#### 10. Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure

Stroll through the 65-acre zoo, enjoy more than 100 species of animals and catch a narrated tram ride (seasonal). When finished at the zoo, take a journey around the world in the Wildlife Museum and view animals in naturalistic settings, complete with landscaping and life-like robots

##### *Unique Lodging*

###### **C and W Ranch**

4000 S Halstead Rd, Smolan, KS  
(785) 668-2352

##### *Local Restaurants*

###### **The Hickory Tree Restaurant**

304 E Walnut St, Smolan, KS  
(785) 668-2164

###### **Cozy Inn**

108 N 7th St, Salina, KS  
(785) 825-2699

##### *Destination Shopping*

###### **Smoky Hill Vineyards & Winery**

212 W Golf Link Rd, 4 miles N of I-70 Exit, Salina, KS  
(785) 825-2515

### Minneapolis

#### 11. Rock City Park

Rock City is a natural wonder that truly must be seen to be believed, with huge sandstone concretions that are as large as houses. The entire area spans the size of about two football fields, and you'll discover some 200 gigantic rocks rising majestically out of the Kansas prairie. Rock City Park also features a gift shop and picnic areas.

### Concordia

#### 12. National Orphan Train Complex

From 1854-1929, more than 200,000 orphaned, abandoned and homeless children were transported from New York to towns out west on what we now call the Orphan Trains. The National Orphan Train Complex houses the archives and artifacts from this era, featuring exhibits telling the history of the Orphan Trains, as well as individual stories from the children that rode the trains.



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## Belleville

### **13. Boyer Museum of Animated Carvings**

The Boyer Museum of Animated Carvings features the artistic works of Paul Boyer, a self-taught artist who has been carving for more 60 years. Paul's work consists of a working calliope made from cedar, animated hand carved figurines that include people, animals, replicas of planes, cars, engines, farm machinery and wonderful wire sculptures that have ball bearings riding on a maze of tracks and bouncing on drums.

## Republic

### **14. Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site**

This fascinating site features exhibits on the culture of the Pawnee Indians by using a combination of information from archeological investigation and historic details. The museum surrounds an excavated Pawnee earth lodge from the 1820s, and exhibits are enhanced with authentic music. The grounds contain the Kitkehahki Nature Trail, a one-mile walk through prairie and woodlands featuring a variety of native grasses.