



## **BEST RV ROAD TRIPS IN NORTH AMERICA**

**INCLUDES DETAILED TRIP PLANS FOR NORTH  
AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR RV ROUTES**



**NATIONAL RV OWNER'S ASSOC.**

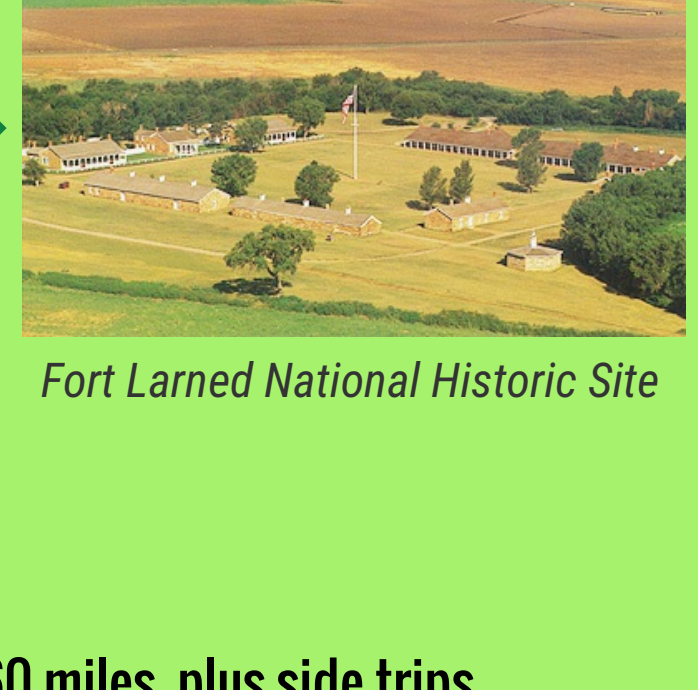
# RV Traveler's Roadmap to

# Kansas East and West

Two towns virtually synonymous with the Wild West are the highlights of this drive through Kansas wheat and cattle country.

## 1

### Highlights & Facts For The Ideal Experience



Fort Larned National Historic Site

- Trip Length:** Roughly 360 miles, plus side trips
- Best Time To Go:** Year round.
- Must See Nearby Attractions:**

- 1** Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm (Olathe)
- 2** Fort Larned National Historic Site
- 3** Legler Barn Museum (Lenexa)
- 4** National Agricultural Center & Hall of Fame (Bonner Springs)
- 5** Kansas Museum of History (Topeka)
- 6** Last Chance Store (Council Grove)
- 7** Mennonite Heritage Museum (Goessel)

## 2

### Traveler's Notes



Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area

- The names Wichita and Dodge City conjure visions of frontier-day cattle drives and rough-and-tumble cowboy life in the southern plains of Kansas. This route encompasses both towns and sights in between.
- Wichita has emerged from its bustling cow-town era as a progressive, attractive community touting some nationally significant sights, including the Old Cowtown Museum, where 19th-century Wichita is recreated, and the Wichita Art Museum, with its important collection of works by Charles M. Russell. Legendary Dodge City, television home of Marshal Matt Dillon, has metamorphosed at least twice-from bison-hunter outpost to wild cattle-trail terminus to sedate agricultural community.
- Leaving Wichita, head north on I-135 to North Newton. Here the Kauffman Museum tells the story of the Mennonite settlers who came to the area from Europe in the 1870s. Also here: a period homestead and a prairie restoration.

## 3

### What To See Along the Way



- Santa Fe Trail
- Council Grove
- Marion Lake
- Maxwell Wildlife Refuge
- Quivira National Wildlife Refuge
- Cheyenne Bottoms
- Fort Larned National Historic Site
- Dodge City

## 4

### Facts & More Information To Plan Your Trip!



Dodge City, KS

- Santa Fe Trail:** A 19th-century transportation route through central North America that connected Independence, Missouri with Santa Fe, New Mexico. Pioneered in 1821 by William Becknell, it served as a vital commercial highway until the introduction of the railroad to Santa Fe in 1880.
- Council Grove:** The town played a major role in the growth of the Santa Fe Trail. In 1825 Osage Chiefs and negotiators for the US government signed a treaty here that granted whites safe passage through Indian lands.
- Marion Lake:** Nestled in the lovely Cottonwood River valley it is surrounded by a network of hiking trails that wander among hardwoods, flowering shrubs, and wildflowers, and its waters offer tempting opportunities for swimmers, boaters, and anglers.
- Maxwell Wildlife Refuge:** The area around McPherson State Fishing Lake (46 surface acres) is ideal for prairie wildflowers. In May and June there are impressive displays of yucca, spider wort, yellow star-grass, catclaw sensitive brier, purple prairie clover, cone flowers and the uncommon Virginia Tephrosia.
- Quivira National Wildlife Refuge:** Established in 1955 to provide and protect natural habitat for migratory waterfowl in the Central Flyway.
- Cheyenne Bottoms:** A natural geologic depression of about 60 square miles lying north of the Arkansas River in the center of the state.
- Fort Larned National Historic Site:** preserves Fort Larned which operated from 1859 to 1878.
- Dodge City:** famous in American culture for its history as a wild frontier town of the Old West.

# Ready, set, go!