

PURSUE



U.S. Highway 136

The Route

A 238-mile stretch from historic Brownville on the banks of the Missouri River to Edison on U.S. Highway 136.

The View

Winding rivers, a pristine lake, natural tallgrass prairies, fertile farmland, and historic settlements.

The Adventure

Riverboat excursions, water sports, canoeing, antiquing, America's first homestead, hiking, biking, and the hometown of author Willa Cather.

Contact

Heritage Highway Association
888-404-1315
www.heritagehighway136.com

Left

Rock Creek Station State Historical Park, Fairbury

Right Clockwise

Brownville Village Theatre, Brownville; Willa Cather House, Red Cloud; Homestead National Monument of America, Beatrice; *Meriwether Lewis* Dredge, Brownville; Harlan County Lake, Republican City

Heritage Highway

If you're looking for a piece of true Americana, this byway will not disappoint. The Heritage Highway journey will take you through fertile farmland, down enchanting main streets, past historic locales, and right up to the banks of the mighty Missouri River.

Along the way, you'll find an abundance of small-town charm. One great example of this is Brownville with its secondhand bookstores, art galleries, and quaint shops. This river town also features water tours aboard the *Spirit of Brownville*.

The area is also steeped in pioneer, Wild West, and literary history, and many parks and attractions along the way provide visitors with an in-depth look. Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice recounts experiences of the first homesteaders. Oregon Trail wagon ruts are still visible at Rock Creek Station State Historical Park outside Fairbury, where

Wild Bill Hickok began his gunfighting career. And Red Cloud is home to many poignant reminders of the renowned author Willa Cather. In addition, the Starke Round Barn near Red Cloud and the Elijah Filley Stone Barn outside Filley give a nod to the agricultural heritage of the region.

Outdoor activities are ample as well, with the Steamboat Trace Trail and Indian Cave State Park offering opportunities for hiking and biking. There are also two fishing and boating hot spots along this byway—Harlan County Lake near Republican City and Burchard Lake.

And your journey wouldn't be complete without a stop at one of the area wineries. Whether you're a fan of reds or whites, it will be a treat to taste a variety of wines produced from grapes grown right here in Nebraska.

