

Shop, eat,
play, stay

variety

We had no idea there was so much fun and excitement in Grand Island! In fact, we were having such a good time, we stayed an extra day on our Grand Island getaway. (And we've already made plans to come back!)



With more than three dozen attractions, **25 recreational facilities, 25 lodging properties and 100 restaurants**, there's a lot going on! And shopping. Did we mention that Grand Island is the third largest **retail trade center** in the state? Plus lots of **antique and art shops**. Something for everyone!



On our family's trip to Grand Island we learned what it means to have big town opportunities

with small town hospitality. We loved it—and decided to share a few of our highlights with you! Visit soon—maybe we'll see you there!

P.S. For the latest goings on, check out VisitGrandIsland.com.

P.P.S. Did you know Grand Island really used to be an island?



GRAND ISLAND AREA



Grand Island HALL COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

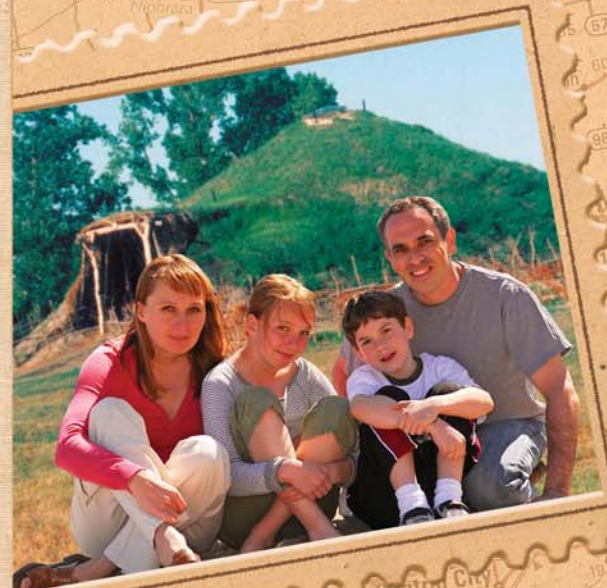
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Phone: 1-308-382-4400 • Toll Free: 1-800-658-3178
VisitGrandIsland.com

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Produced in part by a grant from the
Nebraska Division of Travel & Tourism.
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v a c a t i o n
GETAWAY

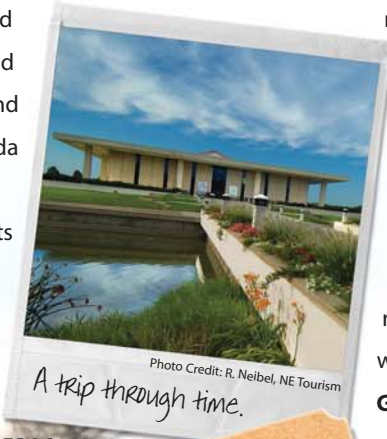


Grand Island
HALL COUNTY
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

STUHR MUSEUM

A Living History Experience: We experienced Railroad Town—where an 1890s prairie town comes to life (there's more than 60 buildings—with people dressed in period attire!). The Pawnee Earth Lodge was so cool! Indoor displays explained the pioneer lifestyle from 1880 to 1920. Dad loved the Old West artifacts and the antique farm machinery and cars. Did you know Henry Fonda was born in Grand Island? We saw his cottage! Grandpa wants to come back for the Civil War weekend, but the Cowboy Campfire sounds like fun, too! Open seven days a week.

StuhrMuseum.org • 308.385.5316



ISLAND OASIS WATER PARK

Mom screamed the whole way down the six-story speed slides. She stuck to the l-o-n-g lazy river after that! The rest of us loved the four giant slides and all got bowled over in the huge wave pool. The little kids splashed in their own super-fun play area, and grandma won the family sand castle contest! The six acres of refreshing fun are open daily from Memorial Day weekend through late August.

Grand-Island.com/Oasis • 308.385.5381



BIRD WATCHING HOTSPOT



Thousands of people from around the world come here every spring to see Sandhill cranes. We learned that 500,000 cranes—and millions of ducks, geese and other migratory birds—stop along the Platte River starting in mid-February. Watching birds from hidden blinds is incredible! We're calling early next year to reserve a spot. Did we tell you there are birds here year round? There's more than 300 indigenous and migratory species—a true bird lover's paradise.

VisitGrandIsland.com • 800.658.3178



Photo Credit: R. Neibel, NE Tourism

Photo Credit: G. Ryan, NE Tourism



Photo Credit: Rick Rasmussen



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Photo Credit: Rick Rasmussen

Great Getaways Great Memories

FONNER PARK

Mom and dad loved all the horses at Fonner Park—Nebraska's premier racetrack. (But dad really loved the sixth race—when he won the trifecta!) With the winnings, dad bought ice cream for everyone! With live horse racing from February to May—and simulcasting and keno every day—mom and dad said they'd be back on our next trip.

FonnerPark.com
308.382.4515



Loved the horses.

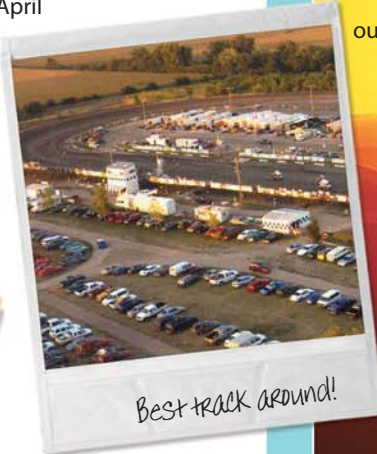


MID-NEBRASKA SPEEDWAY

What excitement! We felt the roar of the engines as cars raced around the track for the checkered flag. We got pit passes and saw all the cars up close—from IMCA Modified to Wild & Wacky Cruisers.

With races every Saturday night April through September, we'll zoom back.

MidNebraskaSpeedway.com
308.381.0088



Best track around!



HEARTLAND EVENTS CENTER

Popcorn! Cotton candy! We had both when the circus was here. This place is brand new—and amazing. They have all kinds of events—from rodeos to sports shows to concerts and others. Check out their web site ahead of time to find out what's going on and get tickets.

HeartlandEventsCenter.com • 308.382.4515



Dancing poodles!

Heartland Public Shooting Park

For fun that's really on target, we went to this 420-acre park and tried our hands at sporting clays and the skeet range. Some ranges are lighted to allow shooting at night! Others are heated for year-round fun. There are also pistol and rifle ranges—from 25 to 600 yards long.

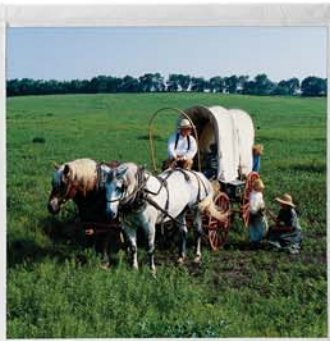
HeartlandPublicShootingPark.com • 308.390.1900

AND MORE!

Twisty slides, bridges, castles, a pirate ship, mazes, obstacle courses, tunnels, cars and a rock wall—**Kid's Kingdom** in Stolley Park has it all! There's even the Stolley Park Line railroad, an old-time train that runs through the park in the summer. Grand Island is really a **train hotspot**—more than 165 trains a day pass through town—more than any other city in the country! And don't forget the **Mormon Island State Recreation Area**—named for the winter stopover used by Mormon emigrants heading west. It's a great camping and fishing spot now.

We even went for a swim!

VisitGrandIsland.com
800.658.3178



Goin' West!



Choo Choo!



Fun at the Kingdom.



MODERN SCENIC HIGHWAYS

The Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway (Highway 2) starts here, which also accesses the Loup Rivers Scenic Byway (Highways 11 & 91). The Lincoln Highway – Highway 30 – goes right through town. Mom says we'll explore the Sandhills Byway on our way to the Black Hills and Mt. Rushmore.

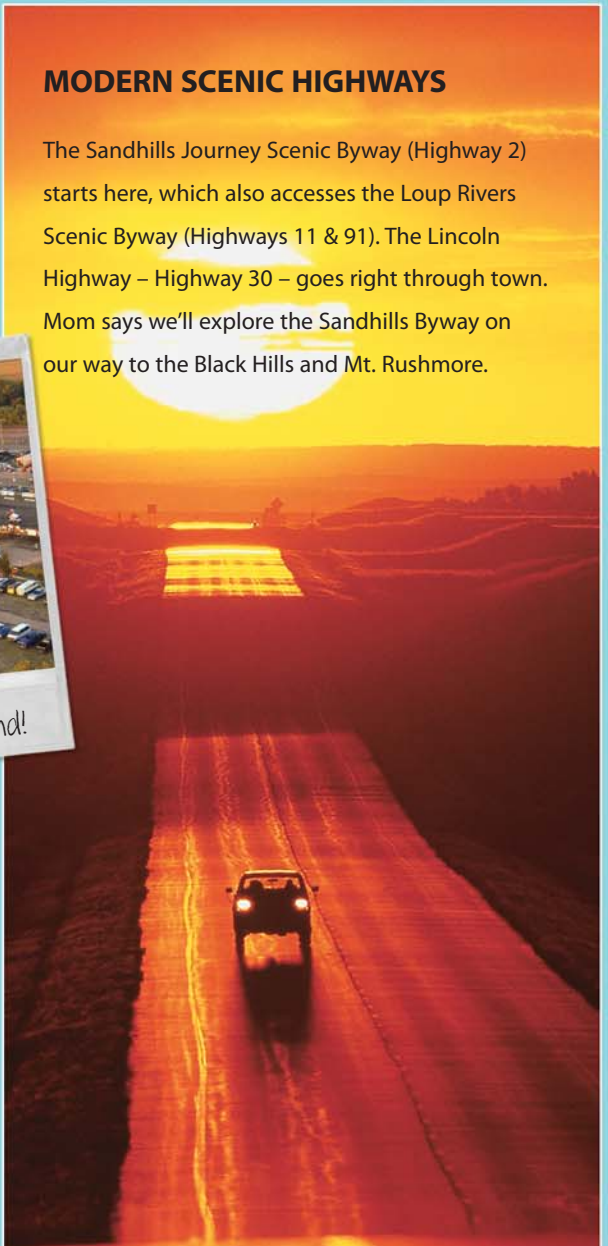


Photo Credit: D. Forsberg NE Tourism



Grand Island is a great hub for day trips on several of Nebraska's historic and scenic byways. The folks at the Grand Island and Hall County Convention & Visitors Bureau know all the great places to visit! Stop by, call or visit the website.

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