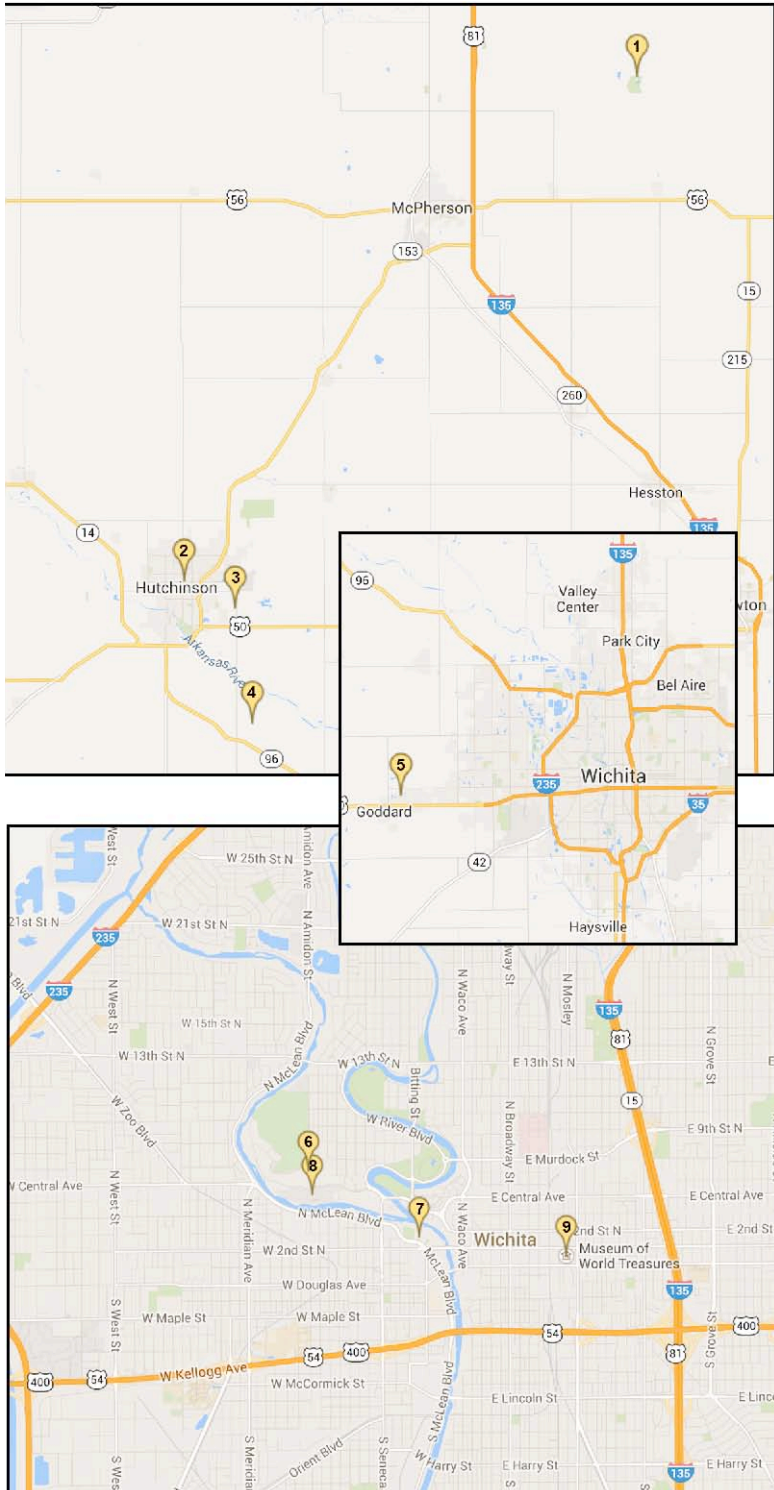




Region: Central Prairie –South

Note: Attractions marked with an asterisk (*) were recognized as part of the 8 Wonders of Kansas contests, sponsored by the [Kansas Sampler Foundation](#). Don't miss them!



1. Maxwell Wildlife Refuge and Buffalo Tour*
<http://www.VisitMcPherson.com/place/Maxwell-Wildlife-Refuge/>

2565 Pueblo Rd, Canton, KS
 (620) 628-4455

2. Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center*
<http://Cosmo.org/>

1100 N Plum St, Hutchinson, KS
 (620) 662-2305

3. Strataca: Kansas Underground Salt Museum*
UnderKansas.org

3504 East Ave G, Hutchinson, KS
 (620) 662-1425

4. Amish Heritage

<http://YoderKansas.com/>
 Yoder, KS

5. Tanganyika Wildlife Park

<http://www.TWPark.com/>
 1000 S Hawkins Ln, Goddard, KS
 (316) 794-8954

6. Botanica Wichita

<http://Botanica.org/>
 701 Amidon St, Wichita, KS
 (316) 264-0448

7. Exploration Place – The Sedgwick County Science and Discovery Center

<http://Exploration.org/>
 300 N McLean Blvd, Wichita, KS
 (316) 660-0600

8. Old Cowtown Museum

<http://OldCowtown.org/>
 1865 W Museum Blvd, Wichita, KS
 (316) 219-1871

9. Museum of World Treasures

<http://WorldTreasures.org/>
 835 E First Street, Wichita, KS
 (316) 263-1311



Region: Central Prairie -South

This is a kid-friendly adventure, but could easily be adapted for a fun couples getaway. Get ready to explore, learn and have fun!

Canton

1. **Maxwell Wildlife Refuge and Buffalo Tour***

Go where the buffalo roam! Enjoy a tram ride through Maxwell's 2,200 acres of prairie habitat and get an up-close view of buffalo, elk, birds and native Kansas wildflowers. Stop by the tour center to view educational displays and to visit the gift shop. All tours are by reservation and include an optional campfire buffalo dinner.

Hutchinson

2. **Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center***

This world-renowned space museum consists of 105,000 square feet dedicated to space science exhibits and educational programs, including a planetarium, an IMAX® Dome Theater and the internationally recognized Hall of Space Museum. The Cosmosphere features the largest collection of US space artifacts outside of the National Air and Space Museum, as well as the largest collection of Russian space artifacts in the western world.

3. **Strataca: Kansas Underground Salt Museum***

This museum features fascinating exhibits in a setting like no other – 650 feet beneath the earth's surface in a salt bed formed 275 million years ago during the Permian Age. With more than 67 miles of mined-out caverns, it produces more than 500,000 tons of salt each year. The museum offers a number of educational and entertaining exhibits and programs.

Unique Lodging

Hedrick Exotic Animal Farm and Bed & Breakfast

<http://Hedricks.com/>

7910 N Roy L Smith Rd, Nickerson, KS

(620) 422-3245 Pet a kangaroo, feed a giraffe or ride a camel at this one-of-a-kind bed and breakfast.

Unique Dining

Airport Steakhouse

<http://www.AirportSteakhouse.com/>

1100 Airport Rd, Hutchinson, KS

(620) 662-4281 Enjoy a great steak or Sunday brunch while watching airplanes land and take off at this community airport.

Looking for more to do in Hutchinson? May we recommend:

Salt City Splash Aquatic Center

<http://HutchRec.com/>

1601 S Plum St, Hutchinson, KS

(620) 662-7705 Splash into Hutchinson's premiere water park: 50-meter pool with diving boards, large slides, catch pool, zero-depth entry splash pool and a tiny tot pool.



Yoder

4. Amish Heritage

Venture to the park in the main square to check out the granite marker, which gives a glimpse into Yoder's proud history. Thanks to the strong Amish and Mennonite heritage, the community is a quaint mixture of the past and present. Shop at a local hardware store for kerosene lamps or canning supplies. Stroll the streets to see horse buggies intermingled with cars and trucks.

Unique Dining

Carriage Crossing

YoderKansas.com

10002 S Yoder Rd, Yoder, KS

(620) 465-3612 Featured in Midwest Living, this home-style eatery offers an endless variety of home style cooking and pies made from scratch.

Unique Shopping

Mercantile Shoppe

YoderKansas.com

9807 Main St, Yoder, KS

(620) 465-2777 Unique décor, gifts and more, including a Yoder mug and crock made from hand-dug Kansas clay and hand-thrown on an old potter's wheel.

Goddard

5. Tanganyika Wildlife Park

Voted "Best Place to Take the Family" three times, TWP is one of the most interactive zoos in the U.S. Feed a lemur, take a dromedary camel ride, connect with some of the world's most unique species. It's a wildly different experience!

Wichita

6. Botanica Wichita

Skip across a pond in the Downing Children's Garden, enjoy the ever-changing display of Kansas wildflowers in the Cissy Wise Wildflower Meadow, or spend a reflective moment in the butterfly garden. Botanica hosts a full schedule of special events throughout the year including lectures, workshops, and live music.

7. Old Cowtown Museum

Whatever your interest, you can expect a wild ride at this 25-acre living history museum. Take a wagon ride, stop by the saloon for a sarsaparilla or watch a gunfight in the street. The site is home to 70 historic and recreated buildings, including a marshal's office, jail, general store, one-room schoolhouse and train depot. Restored original homes represent the emerging upper-class as well as the more rustic lodgings of Kansans circa 1865. Stop by the gift shop for Kansas-made or Old West souvenirs.

8. Museum of World Treasures

Discover your inner explorer while experiencing treasures from around the world and through the ages. Begin in the Mesozoic era and travel through ancient civilizations under the watchful gaze of Egyptian mummies. Other must-see exhibits include the Berlin Wall, Hall of American Presidents, and a hands-on children's activity center.



Unique Lodging

Hotel at Old Town

<http://HotelAtOldTown.com/>

830 East First, Wichita, KS

(316) 267-4800 This elegantly appointed historic hotel is an easy stroll to the restaurants and shops of Old Town.

Unique Shopping

The Spice Merchant & Company

<http://SpiceMerchant.com/cgi-bin/store/commerce.cgi>

1300 E Douglas, Wichita, KS

(316) 263-4121 Wichita's original gourmet coffee roaster, also featuring teas, specialty foods and gourmet accessories.

Hatman Jack's Wichita Hat Works

<http://www.360wichita.com/ClothingApparel/HatmanJacks.html>

601 W Douglas, Wichita, KS

(316) 264-4881 From top hats to Stetsons, Hatman Jack's is one of the largest hat shops in the nation.

Sheplers

<http://www.Sheplers.com/>

6501 W Kellogg Dr Wichita, KS

(316) 946-3600 Offering the largest selection of traditional and fashionable western wear since 1899.

Nifty Nut House

<http://www.NiftyNutHouse.com/home.php>

537 N St Francis St, Wichita, KS

(316) 265-0571 Family owned since 1937, roasting nuts of all kinds fresh daily.

Unique Dining

Nuway Café

<http://www.NuwayBurgers.com/>

1416 W Douglas, Wichita, KS

(316) 267-1131 The first NuWay location, opened in 1930 and famous for the Crumbly Burger and homemade root beer.

Larkspur Bistro & Bar

<http://LarksPurOnline.com/>

904 E Douglas, Wichita, KS

(316) 262-5275 Situated in the Old Town district, offering a gourmet menu and brilliant selection of wines.

Scotch & Sirloin

<http://www.ScotchAndSirloin.net/>

5325 E Kellogg, Wichita, KS

(316) 685-8701 One of Wichita's finest restaurants, serving locally raised beef since 1969.



Looking for more to do in Wichita? May we recommend:

Keeper of the Plains Sculpture* & Plaza

<http://www.360wichita.com/Attractions/KeeperOfThePlains.html>

650 N Seneca, Wichita, KS

(316) 350-3340 Donated to the city by renowned Native American artist Blackbear Bosin, the sculpture and surrounding plaza strive to preserve the heritage of Native Americans. Pedestrians can access the area via two bow-and-arrow inspired cable-stay bridges spanning the Little and Big Arkansas rivers. Fire drums on boulders at the foot of the Keeper and native plantings add to the unique sense of place.

Other Central Prairie South Side Trips

Gypsum Hills Scenic Byway

<http://www.TravelKS.com/KSByways/Gypsum-Hills/>

Featuring ancient floodplains, buttes, canyons, mesas and sinkholes, this byway is enchantingly noteworthy for its rolling, weathered red hills, picturesque vistas and outdoor recreational options. The drive affords tantalizing views of the rugged landscape and includes two scenic overlooks to help you soak it all in.

Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway

<http://www.TravelKS.com/KSByways/Wetlands-Wildlife/>

Navigate through radiant wetlands exploding with wildlife; prairie vistas with immense blue skies; and seven rural communities shaped by nature and the entrepreneurial spirit. The marshes that anchor this drive, Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, are international treasures nestled in the heart of America and the Central Flyway.

Prairie Trail Scenic Byways

<http://www.TravelKS.com/KSByways/Prairie-Trail/>

Follow in the steps of Native Americans, explorers and pioneers as they sought food, shelter, adventure and a better life. Early traders followed the nearby Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico, 19th-century cowboys drove cattle along the Chisholm Trail, and huge herds of bison roamed the majestic Flint Hills.