

Things to do in Lincoln

Places to see:

Pioneers Park Nature Center: (within Pioneers Park) Open 9-4:30 M – Sat, 12 – 4:30 Sun

668 acres of Tallgrass Prairie, woodlands and wetlands- includes elk and buffalo herds. Two interpretive buildings house hands-on exhibits and a variety of small animals. The *Edna Shields Natural Play Area for Children* provides a place for kids to dig, build and climb. A variety of themed gardens with labeled specimens are beautiful and diverse.

Prairie Pines Nature Preserve: 3000 – 4498 N. 112th St. Just east of Lincoln; Open Fri-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5

145 acres of woodland, grassland, wetland and prairie includes trails for hiking, an arboretum, and the Nature Ninja course for kids, featuring a huge old cottonwood tree for climbing.

Robber's Cave Tours: 925 Robber's Cave Rd, Lincoln (approx. South 10th St. and Arapahoe St.)

Tours available daily, but you must book a visit in advance greenyj4@icloud.com or 402-975-0598
Nationally registered Historic Landmark in Southwest Lincoln, a cool cave experience!

Morrill Hall, Natural History Museum: on UNL campus, 14th and Vine St.; Open 9 – 5 Tues-Sat, 12-5 Sun

Morrill Hall is known for its paleontological collections, especially its iconic Elephant Hall, where visitors will see the world's largest articulated fossil Columbian mammoth alongside a unique collection of Nebraskan fossil elephants. Also featured are interactive paleontology exhibits including a Jurassic dinosaur gallery. In addition to these iconic paleontology exhibits, the recently renovated fourth floor includes a Smithsonian-inspired Visible Lab, hands-on Science Exploration Zone, and Sustainable Earth gallery with a 5-foot diameter digital globe.

Nebraska History Museum: 131 Centennial Mall North downtown: Open 9 – 4 Tues-Sat

12,000 years of history! Many people and cultures have made Nebraska their home- learn about life in Nebraska before it became a state, what it was like to live in Nebraska during the early years of statehood, and the moments that affected all Nebraskans.

Sheldon Museum of Art: 12th & R St. on UNL campus; Open Tues-Sat 10–4, Sun 12–4

Sheldon houses an outstanding collection of American art, including works by Georgia O'Keeffe, Edward Hopper, Jackson Pollock, and Kara Walker. The striking Philip Johnson–designed building itself is a mid-century modern gem. Outdoors, enjoy one of the most impressive sculpture gardens in the region, featuring more than 30 monumental works. Admission is free.

Museum of American Speed: 599 Oakcreek Dr., Lincoln; Open 12-4:30 M-F, 9-1 Sat.

Founded in 1992 by “Speedy” Bill and Joyce Smith, the Museum of American Speed is dedicated to preserving, interpreting and displaying physical items significant in racing and automotive history. The vast collection resulted from the Smiths’ personal involvement in racing and hot rodding for more than six decades, and their lifelong passion for collecting and preserving historic automotive artifacts.

Nice parks within driving distance:

Parks all are open 5 am to 11 pm daily

Holmes Lake Park: South 70th St and Pioneers Blvd, Lincoln playground, lake, observatory

Antelope Park stretches from 23rd and N St to 33rd and Sheridan Blvd. Nice big playground at 3200 Veterans Memorial Dr. (approx. 30th and A St.)

Pioneers Park: 3201 S. Coddington Ave. includes large playground, multi-use trails, lake

For Kids (and adults?)

Trago Park: 22nd and U St. (just north of Vine Street) Spray park/ Splash pad

The Trago sprayground is free and open daily now through Labor Day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The water feature is activated by pressing a button on the west side of the spray-ground. Its interactive water play features and shaded seating areas for visitors are a perfect opportunity to enjoy warmer days. 💧

City Pools: open daily 1-6pm ticket booklets are available, cheaper than paying for entrance on site.

Best choices might be: Highlands Aquatic Center 5511 NW 12th St.

Star City Shores Aquatic Center 4375 S. 33rd Ct.

University Place Aquatic Center 2000 N. 48th St.

Woods Pool (includes a spray park) 3200 J St.

Lincoln Children's Museum: 1420 P St. (downtown)

3 stories of interactive play spaces for kids- toddlers through elementary school age

Folsom Children's Zoo: 1222 S. 27th St. Open 10-5 every day, Wednesdays open until 8 pm

A really nice zoo with up-close and interactive exhibits of many of the animals. Also includes play areas both indoors and outside.

Lost in Fun indoor playground: 8431 Cody Dr. (15th and Yankee Hill Rd) South Lincoln

Breslow Ice Skating Center 433 V St. (just north of Pinnacle Bank Arena downtown)

Ice skating for the whole family, includes skate rental. A Higgins family favorite!

Gere Library: 2400 S. 56th St.

Bennett Martin Library: 136 S. 14th St. (14th and N Sts.) downtown

Mini Golf- Outdoor Adventure Golf Center: 5901 S. 56th St. 10 am to 10 pm M-Sat, 11 am to 10 pm Sun

Indoor Prehistoric Putt 1919 Cornhusker Hwy (north Lincoln) 9am to 10 pm M-Sat, 9-9 Sun Indoor miniature golf course featuring 2 18-hole courses, tropical decor, and more than 40 realistic dinosaurs.

Sun Valley Lanes and Games: 321 Victory Lane; open daily 11am – 11pm bowling alley, laser tag, mini golf, arcade

Round Bowling and Amusement: 6100 O St. (Gateway Mall)

bowling, arcade, ping pong, kids play area, sports challenge

Additional Restaurants

Sultan's Kite

Vung Tau

The Daffodil

Chef au Chef

Rutabagas (vegetarian/vegan)

Le Quartier (primarily a bakery, but have sandwiches, soup and breakfast items- their bakery stuff is wonderful)

Piedmont Bistro

Banhwich (excellent Bahn Mi sandwiches)

Copal (excellent Mexican food)

Pepe's Bistro (*really* good vegetarian Mexican food)

Muchacho's (Mexican- endorsed by Mexicans and others)