

# Kansas City



Packed with a thriving creative arts scene, famous barbecue, shopping hotspots, die-hard sports and so much more, it's no surprise that this vibrant community is a favorite destination spot to so many. There are a few essentials everyone should know, whether you're a first time visitor or a seasoned resident. The basics include jazz, fountains and barbecue - some of KC's best traditions.

Since the early 20th century, KC has been synonymous with [jazz](#) and those roots continue to run deep today. The first fountains date back to the late 1800s where they served a purely utilitarian purpose of providing for thirsty dogs, horses and birds. It didn't take long for more fountains to take over and eventually become integrated with sculpture to beautify properties. Fountains to consider visiting are the [J.C. Nichols Memorial Fountain](#), [Firefighters Fountain and Memorial](#) and [Henry Wollman Bloch Fountain](#).

When it comes to shopping, a few words you're likely to hear are "vintage," "local" and "luxury". Whether you're exploring the shops in the [Power and Light District](#), wandering around [Crown Center](#) or browsing the local [City Market](#), you're sure to find something great!



Kansas City offers a variety of [healthy activities](#), many of which are [pet-friendly](#). From running, walking and biking trails, to yoga studios and fitness centers, you'll definitely get your cardio in. One of the most popular activities, however, is watching sports. [Royals'](#) fans start to gather in the spring at Kauffman Stadium and fall football turns Arrowhead Stadium red with [Chiefs](#) fans.

All that exercise will surely work up an appetite. Enjoy famous barbecue at [Q39-Midtown](#), [Char Bar](#) or [LC's Bar-B-Q](#). Spice things up with Austrian-German cuisine at [Grünauer](#) located in a historic freight house. Vegetarian? Check out [Café Gratitude](#), a solar-powered vegan restaurant that uses locally sourced veggies.

Explore Missouri wine country by visiting one or all of the wineries in the area!

[Albonée Country Inn and Vineyards](#) is an up-and-coming winery nestled on a hillside in historic Independence, Missouri overlooking the Little Blue Valley. Experience the warm hospitality of the owners at this family winery. Sample their wines while enjoying the property's serene seating.

[Amigoni Urban Winery](#) is located on the first floor of the historic Daily Drover Telegram building in the Stockyards District of Kansas City. They refer to themselves as an "urban winery" because they specialize in small lots of handcrafted wines made in the city, with grapes harvested from vineyards in Centerview, MO.



[Belvoir Winery](#) is family-owned and located in the historic Odd Fellows Home in Liberty, Missouri. There is space for weddings, events and conventions along with tours exploring the 110-year history of the property. You can also take part in paranormal events.

[KC Wineworks](#) is a family-owned and-operated winery located in the Crossroads Arts District of Kansas City. Winemaker, James Lowery, couples Old World winemaking methods with leading-edge techniques to transform regional grapes into innovative wines.

[Mallinson Vineyard and Hall](#) has six wines to choose from with three more in the perfecting stages. The tasting room has a welcoming feel with locally made wares to suit your gifting needs.

[Stonehaus Farms Vineyard & Winery](#) was founded as and continues to grow as a family-owned and-operated business since 1996. Viticulture and the art of winemaking have continued to be the family's passion through the years.



[Top Hat Winery](#) is a family-owned winery located just minutes from Kansas City, off the historic Independence Square. Guests are offered an inviting and fun atmosphere where they can relax and create new memories.

We hope we've inspired you to consider Kansas City for your next excursion through Missouri wine country. For a full list of things to keep you on the go in KC, check out [www.visitkc.com](http://www.visitkc.com).