

# KANSAS CITY

## 1 MINUTE/1 HOUR/1 DAY GETAWAY

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### 1 MINUTE

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#### **Liberty Memorial and Museum** Pershing and Main Sts. • 816-784-1918

Denoted as America's National World War I Museum, treasured war artifacts and memorabilia can be found here. A 217-ft. tall tower peers over the city, and several monuments and figures capture the solemn feeling of the war. Take a moment on the observation deck to catch sweeping views of the city.

#### **City Market** 5th & Walnut Sts.

Located in the River Market neighborhood, this bustling open-air treasure boasts an eclectic mix of restaurants and merchants. You'll find housewares, unique gifts, fresh produce and flowers, and a variety of specialty foods from around the globe, including Europe, Africa, The Middle East and Asia. Saturday mornings are the best for people watching, and you can grab a quick, fun lunch at one of the market's outdoor grills.

### 1 HOUR

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#### **Country Club Plaza** 47th St. and Wornall Rd. • 816-753-0100

Brand-name stores like Saks Fifth Avenue, Anthropologie and Pottery Barn, plus jewelry and antique shops, make the plaza a shopping lover's paradise set among Mediterranean architecture and fountains. Several restaurants abound in the 14-block area, too.

#### **18th and Vine Historic District** 1616 E. 18th St. **Negro League Baseball Museum • 816-221-1920** **Jazz Museum/Blue Room • 816-474-8463**

Also known as the Jazz District, this restored neighborhood celebrates the African American icons that made Kansas City a cultural mecca in the roaring 20's. Visit the Negro League Baseball Museum for an intimate look into the lives of men like Satchel Paige and Jackie Robinson. Then pop next door to the Jazz Museum to experience the hayday of musical greats Ella Fitzgerald, Lester Young, and Charlie "Bird" Parker. The Blue Room, a hot spot just adjacent, hosts jazz performances to this day, so call ahead for a schedule.

### 1 HOUR (CONT)

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#### **Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art** 4420 Warwick Blvd. • 816-561-3737

Visitors to Kansas City's premier contemporary art museum will discover works in all media by renowned artists as well as works by emerging talents. The permanent collection includes work by Willem de Kooning, Jasper Johns, Robert Mapplethorpe, Robert Motherwell, Georgia O'Keeffe, Jackson Pollack, Robert Rauschenberg, Frank Stella and Andrew Wyeth. Be sure to visit the museum's Café Sebastienne, which boasts art-packed walls, a glass-ceiling terrace, and an impressive menu that changes seasonally to take advantage of local organic produce.

#### **Arabia Steamboat Museum** 400 Grand Ave. • 816-471-4030

In 1856, the handsome steamboat Arabia sank in the Missouri River, taking with her 220 tons of merchandise destined for settlers out west. Fortunately, she settled into river mud, and when excavated in the 1980s, revealed a virtual time capsule of perfectly preserved frontier-era artifacts. A museum visit begins with a film of the excavation; from there you can explore treasures like antique china, hardware, jewelry, leather boots, toys and bottles of French perfume—original scent intact.

### 1 DAY

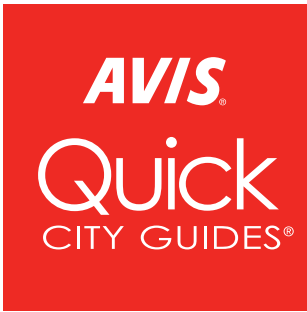
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#### **Weston** 816-640-2909 (Information Center) • westonmo.com

Voted "one of the best day trips in KC," this charming 22-block area is filled with antique stores, contemporary art galleries, cafés, museums and a renovated hotel from the 1840s. Buildings date back to the pre-Civil War era, and warm weather months bring events like Christmas in July.

#### **Lawrence, Kansas** Interstate 70W

Located 45 minutes west of downtown, you'll find Lawrence, Kansas—a leafy, laid-back university town. Stroll down charming Massachusetts Street to discover funky boutiques, coffee houses, restaurants, small galleries and antique shops. Home to the University of Kansas and Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence also boasts a top-notch regional music scene. To gauge the local talent, hit downtown hot spots like the Jackpot Saloon, Replay Lounge, Bottleneck or Granada Theater.



# KANSAS CITY

## GOURMET DINING AND LOCAL FAVORITES

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### GOURMET DINING

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#### American Restaurant

This AAA Four Diamond recipient entices with huge ceiling designs shaped like fans. You can catch skyline views, plus an elegant menu that touts buttered Maine lobster and filet mignon.

**24th St. and Grand Blvd. • 816-545-8000**

#### Savoy Grill

The oldest restaurant in KC remains a landmark. Relax in a plush leather booth and browse a menu full of steaks, seafood and lobster. Harry Truman was a regular.

**219 W. 9th Ave. • 816-842-3890**

#### Le Fou Frog

Its eclectic, European décor makes you think you're dining in an elegant, cozy café in France. And the menu makes you feel just the same, as it's filled with changing, inventive dishes like seared Hudson Valley foie gras and Maine lobster tails in a creamy vanilla champagne sauce.

**400 E. 5th St. • 816-474-6060**

#### Bluestem

With exposed brick walls, crisp white tablecloths and colorful accent decorations, this spot feels homey and relaxed, yet the inventive, seasonally changing American dishes remind you it's a fine dining experience. Wagyu beef sirloin, veal rib chop and scallops with garlic milk and noodles are served up in artistic presentations almost too pretty to eat.

**900 Westport Rd. • 816-561-1101**

#### Plaza III

Here's where to go for cold water lobster tails, veal chops or the quintessential Kansas City Strip Steak. Starters include oysters on the half shell, crab cakes or spinach salad, and you'll find the décor as rich as the fare: think fine wood paneling and white tablecloths.

**4749 Pennsylvania St. • 816-753-0000**

### LOCAL FAVORITES

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#### Lidia's Kansas City

Owned by famed NYC restaurateur/author/cooking personality Lidia Bastianich, its brick and wood, plus a two-story fireplace in the bar area, make it rustic. Classics include zuppa di pesce and an all-you-can-eat pasta tasting.

**101 W. 22nd St. • 816-221-3722**

#### Arthur Bryant's BBQ

This world-renowned barbecue joint is, to some, the best there is. Photos of celebs hang on the walls and the menu is simple—sandwiches and slabs of ribs with your choice of sauce or rub. Make sure you keep extra napkins handy either way.

**1727 Brooklyn Ave. (The Original) • 816-231-1123**

#### Jasper's

Proud recipient of the AAA Four Diamonds award and kudos from Zagat, Jasper's offers up authentic Italian and enjoys a loyal local following. Expect robust Old World fare, from a starter of grappa-infused salmon carpaccio to a chicken saltimbocca with prociutto and a lemon-sage reduction. The decor is a balanced mix of contemporary and rustic Italian, and a patio offers outdoor dining. Next door you'll find the owner's Marco Polo Italian Market, serving sandwiches and lighter fare.

**1201 W. 103rd Street • 816-941-6600**

#### Zin

Zin's sleek and quietly cool ambiance makes a sophisticated backdrop for its New American cuisine. You'll find bold flavors and combinations, like the appetizer of seared sea scallops with crispy polenta cake and spinach, and the pan roasted prosciutto wrapped monkfish entrée. The 115-bottle wine list focuses mainly on American offerings with additions from Australia, New Zealand, France, Italy, Germany and Spain.

**1900 Main St. • 816-527-0120**

#### O'Dowd's Little Irish Pub

Irish eyes are always smiling at this popular Westport fixture. Great for late night fare or a light lunch, its traditional pub menu features favorites like potato pancake boxty, Irish stew and fish and chips. Dark wood accents, an antique bar and Guinness on tap keep the vibe authentic and unpretentious, and there's live Irish music weekly.

**4742 Pennsylvania Ave. • 816-561-2700**