

Bring your group to St. Joseph and see *Where the West Officially Started Getting Wild*.

Located on the scenic river bluffs of the vast "Mighty-MO", St. Joseph is a great American city with a fascinating heritage and an eye on the future. Born of the fur trade, nurtured by the "Westward Expansion", and brimming with a spirit of adventure as the starting place of the Pony Express, St. Jo is a city you and your group will never forget.

St. Joseph is a city abounding in 19th century charm and timeless natural beauty, with all the elements you would expect in a modern city. Discover how the unique mix of contemporary and historic facilities makes St. Jo a perfect meeting destination. With over 1200 hotel rooms, St. Joseph can easily accommodate meetings and conventions up to 800 people.

St. Joseph is located 35 miles north of Kansas City International Airport, and sits at the crossroads Interstate 29 and MO Highway 36. The professional staff at the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau provides a wide range of services for your meetings and events. From locating a hotel or meeting facility, to assistance with marketing your event, they will assist you in making sure your event is a success.

St. Joseph also has an impressive number of sporting venues, including a state-of-the-art softball complex and modern facilities at Missouri Western State University. Host to events such as the Air National Guard Softball Championships, the ASA Men's Fast Pitch Tournaments, U.S. Olympic Weightlifting Trials, the ISC International Tournament, the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championships and National Triathlon Championships, the entire community has teamed up to create an athletic haven for recreation and sports programs of all sizes.

During your meeting breaks, St. Jo has plenty of amenities and attractions to keep any group pleasantly entertained. With a plethora of historical museums, performing arts, shopping centers, and unique restaurants, St. Joseph will make your convention seem like a vacation.

If American history interests your group there are other St. Joseph attractions that simply can't be missed. Their unparalleled history spans over 175 years. The 17 area museums and attractions include the Pony Express National Museum; dedicated to the mail service that began here in 1860. Close by is the Patee House Museum, a glorious hotel from the 1800's and next door you'll find Jesse James Home, where Jesse was killed in 1882. You can learn about our town's founder at the Robidoux Row Museum, and the history of our astounding city at the St. Joseph Museum.

You'll find the rich cultural life of the community expressed in such hallmarks as the St. Joseph Symphony, Performing Arts Association, Robidoux Resident Theater. Evening arts performances at the historic Missouri Theatre, Comedic skits at the Cobblestone Dinner Theatre, and the wide assortment of movies at the massive Hollywood Stadium 10 Cinema are always entertaining.

Ever since pioneers bound for California stopped here to stock their wagon trains, St. Joseph has also been considered a regional trade center. However, modern malls and emporiums have since replaced those early trading posts. A great selection of quaint shops and upscale stores are available to help you find that perfect gift or souvenir. Historic Downtown has many small boutiques and interesting antique shops. At the Shoppes of North Village you can find stores like Old Navy, Best Buy, Borders Bookstore, and Kohls. Keeping warm during the winter months isn't a problem for visitors at East Hills Mall, which offers indoor weather-friendly shopping and major department stores like Dillards, Sears, and JC Penneys.

Saint Joseph is also one of America's best kept secrets in terms of historic architecture. Officially founded in 1843, St. Joseph quickly grew to become one of the most important sites of commerce and trade for the western continent. Vast wealth generated by St. Joseph's manufacturing and wholesale trade is reflected in the city's extraordinary architecture, and thanks to local and national preservation groups, those structures still remain today. From "Gilded Age" mansions to Arts & Crafts bungalows, from Italianate commercial buildings to Romanesque Revival warehouses, St. Joseph is an "old building" lover's dream.

The parks system in St. Joseph is second to none. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is comprised of approximately 1500 acres, 26 miles of parkways and boulevards, containing 48 parks and related facilities. Their amazing parkway system, developed in 1918 by architect George Burnap, ribbons through the city for 26 miles from North to South, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. Included in the parks system is the new, modern Aquatic Park which includes a 203-foot waterslide, 165 foot Enclosed Waterslide, a Waterfall, a Vortex and a 300-foot Lazy River.

After spending the day taking in the sites in St. Joseph, your group can enjoy a stop at one of our wonderful unique restaurants. Whether quick bites, elegant dinners, or group buffets fit your schedule, in St. Jo you'll find an assortment of foods from Cajun fair and home-style cooking, to first rate steaks and traditional Mexican dishes.

Located in the heartland of the United States, St. Joseph is also close to many extraordinary area attractions. You can see the history of Amelia Earhardt in Atchison, Kansas and Missouri's largest Amish community in Jamesport, MO. Downtown Kansas City is only 55 minutes from the heart of St. Joseph and Omaha, NE is about 2 hours north.

For more information about St. Joseph you can also check out the website at www.stjomo.com or call 800-785-0360.