

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT

Reservations at Audubon Rowe Sanctuary open on January 2, 2019.

Go to rowe.audubon.org or call 308-468-5282 to reserve your spot.

Cancellations are refundable up to 14 days prior to your date with a 5% refund charge.

Physically, visually or hearing impaired? Call Rowe Sanctuary for options.

CRANE CARNIVAL

March 16, 2019 at Rowe Sanctuary

A family event full of crane-related educational activities.

AUDUBON'S NEBRASKA CRANE FESTIVAL

March 22-24, 2019 at the Holiday Inn

Bringing together hundreds of crane lovers from around the country to interact with conservationists, listen to environmental speakers and take part in incredible field trips.

Visit ne.audubon.org for more details.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Check rowe.audubon.org for dates and times.

Registration required.

Crane Behavior Basics: \$10/person

Habitat Tours: \$10/person

Special Speakers: Free

Each season, Rowe Sanctuary hosts experts on a range of topics.



visitkearney.org
308-237-3178



1007 2nd Avenue

WEEKDAYS...8AM-5PM
SATURDAY...9AM-5PM

Nebraska Visitor Center

3060 E 1st Street (inside Archway)

March 2 - April 7

WEEKDAYS...8AM-5PM
SATURDAY...9AM-5PM
SUNDAY.....1PM-4PM

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or united.com.

KEARNEY, NEBRASKA
SANDHILL CRANE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

CRANE WATCH 2019



Experience the
great
migration!

BOOK A CRANE VIEWING EXPERIENCE



44450 Elm Island Road, Gibbon, NE

rowe.audubon.org
308-468-5282

CRANE SEASON VISITOR CENTER

February 15 - April 15, 8:00am-5:30pm

All tours include an informational video.
No flash photography, policies listed online.

GUIDED VIEWING EXPERIENCE

No tripods or continuous mode photography.

\$35/person, Approx. 3 Hours

Tour Groups average 30 people.

March 1 - March 9, 5am & 5pm

March 10 - April 7, 6am & 6pm

PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

Tripods & continuous mode photography allowed.

Guided: \$75/person, Approx. 3 Hours

March 15 - April 7, 6am & 6pm

Participants will walk and carry their own gear to and from their tour.

Overnight: \$250/blind, 14-16 Hours

Two person max

March 15 - April 6, 4:45pm

Participants and their gear are transported to and from their tour.

Indoor Viewing options available.

Ideal for those with mobility issues.

Call or visit website for more details.

PUBLIC VIEWING

Sunrise and sunset are prime viewing times on the river. During the day, the cranes are in the fields eating.

A Nebraska State Park Permit is required at state parks. This can be purchased at the Fort Kearny Visitor Center.

Fort Kearny State Historical Park & Visitor Center

1020 V Road (Hwy 50A)
Kearney, NE 68847
308-865-5305 outdoornebraska.org
Open Daily: 9am-5pm, March 2 - April 7

Stop at the visitors center before you head out and view an 18-minute video about the migration. Staff are on hand to answer questions and direct you to the best viewing locations.

Fort Kearny State Rec Area Hike/Bike Bridge

North of Fort Kearny State Historical Park.
2196 30 Road, Kearney, NE
308-865-5305 outdoornebraska.org

The old railroad bridge spans over the Platte River, making it the perfect spot for sunrise or sunset viewing. It's about a 300 yard walk from the parking area. Camping and other wildlife opportunities are also available.

Crane Excursions



March 14-April 7, Thursday-Sunday, \$39.50/person
Groups of 10+ can customize a date/time. Includes a step-on guide. Approx. 2+ hours. Stops at Rowe Sanctuary, Fort Kearny and other crane viewing sites.

Tickets: craneviewingexcursions.com or call 308-627-8086 for more information.

Sandhill Crane FAQs

We want you to have a memorable and educational experience. So we've compiled a list to get you started.

From late February to early April, one of earth's greatest migrations takes place in the heart of Nebraska. More than 80 percent of the world's sandhill crane population converges on the Platte River. Other wildlife such as Whooping Cranes, eagles, ducks, geese and other shorebirds also migrate through the area at this time.

1. What should I wear? Nebraska weather is variable during this time. We encourage you to prepare for very cold temperatures. (The blinds do not have heat.) Plus, you can always take layers off if it gets warm. Dark clothes, warm hats, boots and gloves are recommended.



2. Can I watch the birds from my vehicle? Your vehicle can be a great blind for viewing! However, do not stop in the middle of the road and be respectful of local traffic and farm machinery.

3. Can I view from other places not listed in this brochure? Most of the land along the Platte River is private property. Please respect the land owners and do not trespass. That's why public viewing areas are provided.



4. When is the best time to view the cranes?

The pull-offs allow you to view them in the field during the day. At sunset, they congregate on the Platte River to sleep, then return to the fields at sunrise. The blinds at Rowe Sanctuary (must have reservation) are located on the river and allow you to go out at sunrise and sunset.

5. Is there a fall migration? Yes! The cranes do fly over this area as they head south for the winter, but they may only stop for the night and not build into large numbers. They can be seen nearly everyday in October flying over.

