



# 10 Sights to See in KC

*The Junior National Hereford Expo comes to town July 14-21.*

by **Kindra Gordon**

**T**he countdown leading up to the 2013 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) July 14-21 in Kansas City, Mo., is on. It's a whirlwind week of Hereford hospitality, and to add to the cattle camaraderie, here are 10 sights to add to your "bucket list" while you're in the Kansas City area.



Photos Courtesy of Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association

## 1 Join the zoo crew

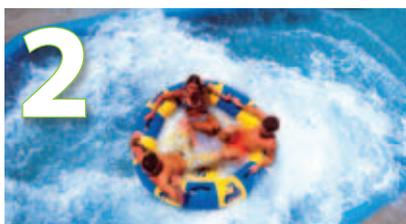
Your days at the show barn might feel a bit like a zany zoo, but why not check out the real deal. Sea lions, tigers and polar bears are just a few of the fun features at Kansas City's award-winning, family friendly zoo. The Polar Bear Passage exhibit is home to Berlin and Nikita — two giant bears, who weigh almost 800 lb. each.



## 3 Double your fun

Not to be outdone, Worlds of Fun will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2013 with a major expansion to its waterpark, Oceans of Fun. A new 65-foot slide tower will feature six new slides — three of which are Aqua Launch chamber slides, where the floor suddenly drops out, sending riders on a high-speed, near-vertical drop and a series of loops and S-curves.

Additionally, Worlds of Fun features roller coasters, live entertainment and Planet Snoopy with more than 20 rides, shows and attractions devoted to pint-sized play. Also in 2013, admission is being offered to these two great parks for one great price, allowing every guest access to 235 acres of family thrills.



## 2

### Ride the Meg-a-Blaster

Thrill seekers will be ecstatic to learn that the Schlitterbahn Kansas City Waterpark is debuting the tallest, fastest and "most extreme" waterslide ever built for the 2013 summer season. A four-person raft ride, the Meg-a-Blaster speed slide will surpass the

current record of 134.5 feet high and speeds of 65.2 mph. The waterpark also features a surf ride, an uphill water coaster, the world's longest "tidal wave" river, beaches, a giant hot tub — and much more.

## 4 Take the train

At Union Station, the KC Rail Experience provides a hands-on journey through the history of the American railroad with ghosts from the station's past, including a cattle baron sharing the stories of life long ago. Vintage railcars, special artifacts and a locomotive simulator round out this unique exhibit. While at Union Station, you can also enjoy its shops, restaurants and "extreme screen," five-story tall movie theatre.



# 5

## Love those LEGOS!

Kansas City's Crown Center now boasts a very colorful LEGOLAND Discovery Center. The \$15 million, 30,000-square-foot interactive attraction opened in spring 2012 and features a mini-exhibit which recreates landmark buildings in Kansas City out of

LEGO® bricks, hands-on play areas, a 4D cinema, classes from a LEGO master model builder, LEGO rides, and special party rooms for birthdays and other celebrations.



# 6

## Add an aquarium adventure

Sea Life Kansas City Aquarium also opened in spring 2012 in Crown Center and is designed to take you on an amazing underwater journey from the fresh waters of the Missouri River into the mighty Mississippi River then out into the warm blue coral strewn waters of the Caribbean Sea, ending in the deep dark abyss of the Atlantic Ocean. You'll come nose to nose with sharks, starfish and seahorses. In addition, a stunning centerpiece is a huge tropical ocean tank with a walk-through underwater tunnel.

# 7

## Visit AHA

Kansas City is also home of the American Hereford Association. While at the JNHE, make time to visit the headquarters office just a quick 15-minute drive from the American Royal complex.

## Visit these websites for more information

[kansascityzoo.org](http://kansascityzoo.org)  
[schlitterbahn.com/kc](http://schlitterbahn.com/kc)  
[worldsoffun.com](http://worldsoffun.com)  
[unionstation.org](http://unionstation.org)  
[legolanddiscoverycenter.com/kansascity](http://legolanddiscoverycenter.com/kansascity)  
[visitsealife.com/Kansas-city](http://visitsealife.com/Kansas-city)  
[collegebasketballexperience.com](http://collegebasketballexperience.com)  
[thecitymarket.org](http://thecitymarket.org)  
[crowncenter.com](http://crowncenter.com)  
[kansascity.royals.mlb.com](http://kansascity.royals.mlb.com)



## Don't miss the College Basketball Experience

For those basketball enthusiasts, the Sprint Center is a must see. Visit the College Basketball Experience, which houses the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame. While in the museum, you are led by a coach, get to impersonate an ESPN announcer and shoot buzzer-beating shots.



## Catch a baseball game

The Kansas City Royals will be playing baseball in their home stadium on July 19, 20 and 21 vs. the Detroit Tigers. Fireworks will even be a part of the July 19 game.

Learn more about Kansas City's great attractions at [visitkc.com](http://visitkc.com). **HW**



# 9

## Enjoy free tours

Factory tours are offered in Kansas City at Hallmark Cards, Harley-Davidson and Boulevard Brewing Co. — and the best part is they are free.

At Crown Center, the Hallmark Visitors Center celebrates the Hallmark story from its humble beginning in 1910 to the creation of one of the world's largest greeting card companies. You can even



visit with some of the Hallmark craftspeople as they demonstrate hot foil stamping and die cutting to manufacture greeting cards.

Kansas City's Harley-Davidson tour center features a series of displays that guide you through the manufacturing and assembly processes to produce each motorcycle. You'll also have the chance to sit on current production motorcycles and visit the gift shop.

As one of the largest specialty brewers in the Midwest, Boulevard Brewing Co. offers complimentary tours Wednesday through Sunday; however, reservations are required. Call 816-474-7095.

In operation since 1857, the City Market is the largest farmers' market in the region with more than 140 farmer stalls. Merchants offer a wide variety of fresh produce, meats, baked goods, flowers, specialty foods and other items from America, Africa, Europe, and the Middle and Far East.

Located in the heart of the historic River Market neighborhood, the City Market is open seven days a week. The City Market also offers a unique collection of gift shops, authentic restaurants and the Arabia Steamboat Museum. The museum, which houses the largest collection of pre-Civil War artifacts in the world, does require a ticket.