**VIEWING TIPS**
For your safety & safety of the birds.

- Do not stop on major paved roadways.
- Do not attempt to approach the birds.
- Do not attempt to approach the birds.
- It is illegal and a disturbance to other birdwatchers to harass cranes and other birds in any matter.
- Use your vehicle as a “blind” and stay in your car. (Window mounts for scopes and cameras work well.)
- Most land on the Platte River is private property. Please respect the land owners and do not trespass.
- Do not stop abruptly if you see a flock of birds from the road. The person behind you may not be a crane watcher.
- Allow farm machinery and local traffic to pass by pulling over.
- Be prepared for cold temperatures (the discovery stations do not have heat). Dark clothes, warm hats, boots and gloves are recommended.

**KEARNEY VISITORS BUREAU**
1007 2nd Avenue   308-237-3178
WEEKDAYS...8AM-5PM
SATURDAY.....9AM-5PM

**NEBRASKA VISITORS CENTER**
3060 E 1st Street (inside Archway)
Open March 7 - April 11
WEEKDAYS...8AM-5PM
SATURDAY...9AM-5PM
SUNDAY.........1PM-4PM

**Kearney - Nebraska**
THE SANDHILL CRANE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

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**Spring**
MID FEBRUARY TO MID APRIL

Experience the sites & sounds of the Sandhill Crane migration

**NOW OFFERING:**
Daily nonstop jet service from Kearney to Denver (DIA) & Chicago (ORD)
Flights operated by SkyWest Airlines.
Book today at united.com

Find more information visit
VISITKEARNEY.ORG

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Experience the great migration!
For eight weeks from late February to early April, the fascinating Sandhill Crane Spring Migration happens in the heart of Nebraska. More than 80 percent of the world’s Sandhill Crane population converge on Nebraska’s Platte River. The Sandhill Cranes fly from southern wintering grounds to northern breeding grounds in Canada, Alaska & Siberia. They stop along the Platte to rest & gain body fat as they prepare for their journey. Fossils dating back nine million years have been discovered in Nebraska.

Other wildlife such as Whooping Cranes, eagles, ducks, geese & shorebirds also migrate through Central Nebraska during this time. It is an enchanting sight. One that can only be truly appreciated in person.
**Crane viewing experiences**

**Audubon’s Rowe Sanctuary**
44450 Elm Island Road, Gibbon, NE

**CRANE SEASON VISITOR CENTER**
February 15 - April 15, 8am-5:30pm

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**FAMILY CRANE VIEWING EXPERIENCE**

$20/person, Approx. 2-3 hours
March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1, 8

Prices do not include taxes and fees. No flash photography, policies listed online.

**GUIDED VIEWING EXPERIENCE**

No tripods or continuous mode photography

$40/person, Approx. 2-3 hours
Tour Groups average 30 people
March 6 & March 7, 5am & 5pm
March 8 - April 12, 6am & 6pm

**PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE**

Tripods & continuous mode photography allowed

Guided: $100/person, Approx. 2-3 hours
March 13 - April 11, 6am & 6pm
Participants 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 EXPERIENCE**

$20/person, Approx. 2-3 hours
March 6-April 12, Daily (except Wednesdays)
Ideal for those with mobility issues or families with small children.

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**LEARN MORE**

Crane Behavior Basics:
March 6-April 12 $10/person + fees
Registration required.

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**Special Events**

**AUDUBON NEBRASKA’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CRANE FESTIVAL**

March 20-21, 2020 at the Holiday Inn
Bringing together hundreds of crane lovers from around the country to listen to and interact with environmental speakers and take part in incredible field trips.

Keynote Speakers: Dr. George Archibald and Dr. Drew Lanham

Visit [ne.audubon.org](http://ne.audubon.org) for more details.

**CRANE CARNIVAL**

April 4, 2020 10am-2pm
at Rowe Sanctuary
A free family event full of crane related educational activities.

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**Public Viewing Sites**

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 CPNRD Plautz Viewing Site.

**FORT KEARNY STATE HISTORICAL PARK & VISITOR CENTER**

1020 V Road (Hwy 50A) Kearney, NE
outdoornebraska.gov/fortkearny 308-865-5305
Open Daily: 9am-5pm, March 2 - April 7
Stop at the visitors center 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

1/4 mile East of Fort Kearny Historical Park. 2196 30 Road, Kearney, NE
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.

**PLAUTZ VIEWING PLATFORM**

1.5 miles south of 1-80 Exit 285 (Gibbon)
cpnr.org/crane-viewing-sites
CPNRD has crane and waterfowl viewing decks along the Platte River with free parking.

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**NEW for 2020**

**PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES**

Monday & Friday mid March through early April - $15/Person
Learn tips & tricks using your mobile phone to better capture your adventures.

For more information visit: visitkearney.org

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**Photo Credit:** Martin Knippel