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NECESSARY NUMBERS

2 states: the KC MSA includes both Missouri and Kansas.

Downtown KC has experienced more than $6.5 billion in commercial, residential and hotel development in the last 10 years.

The Kansas City area boasts more than 100 barbecue restaurants.

Located in the heart of the country, Kansas City is only a 3-hour flight from either coast.

The City of Kansas City, Missouri, touts 220 parks, 134 miles of trails and bikeways, 29 lakes, 103 playgrounds and 119 monuments.

142.2 decibels at Arrowhead Stadium set the Guinness World Record for the loudest stadium on the planet.
**SWINGING JAZZ**

From the Roaring ‘20s to the early ‘40s, jazz reigned in Kansas City. The city’s 12th Street became world-renowned for its jazz clubs, gambling parlors and brothels—earning Kansas City the moniker the “Paris of the Plains.” Today, live jazz can still be heard regularly at 40 clubs throughout the city.

**WORLD-FAAMOUS BARBECUE**

When most people think of Kansas City, barbecue comes to mind. And there’s good reason: the city’s signature food is served up at more than 100 barbecue establishments, each boasting a house specialty. Every fall, Kansas City hosts 600 teams at the world’s largest barbecue competition, the American Royal World Series of Barbecue.

**CITY OF FOUNTAINS**

Kansas City is home to more than 200 fountains—more than any other city in the world except Rome. From large and majestic to small and whimsical, discover waterworks dedicated to fallen firefighters, the city’s children, women’s leadership and more.

KC’s most photographed fountain is the ornate J.C. Nichols Memorial, located near the Spanish-inspired Country Club Plaza.

**FAMOUS KC**

**Actors**
- Don Cheadle
- Paul Rudd
- Jason Sudeikis
- Ellie Kemper
- Eric Stonestreet
- Ginger Rogers
- Ed Asner
- Dianne West
- Rob Riggle
- Chris Cooper

**Icons**
- Amelia Earhart
- Walt Disney
- Walter Cronkite

**Historical Figures**
- Harry S. Truman
- Tom Pendergast
- Jesse James

**Athletes**
- Buck O’Neil
- Tom Watson
- Maurice Greene
- Satchel Paige
- George Brett

**Artists**
- Thomas Hart Benton
- Misty Copeland
- George Caleb Bingham

**Musicians**
- Charlie Parker
- Count Basie
- David Cook
- Dianne Reeves
- Jannelle Monae

**DID YOU KNOW?**

25.2 million visitors travel to the Kansas City region each year, supporting an industry that employs 48,000 people and generates $5.6 billion in visitor spending.

**MODERN MIDWEST COMFORT FOOD**

KC’s comfort food palate goes far beyond barbecue, meaning that some of the finest restaurants in the city are also the most approachable. Michael Corvino upped his game with cheese-burger concept Ravenous. Vaughn Good emphasizes local above all else at Fox & Pearl and master chocolatier Christopher Elbow’s Fairway Creamery delivers some of the best ice cream and donuts in the city.

**WHAT’S TRENDING IN KC**

**LOEWS KANSAS CITY DEBUT**

Kansas City’s skyline and convention package will be forever changed with the debut of the 800-room Loews Kansas City Hotel. Opening April 2, this luxury property comes complete with a connector bridge adjoining the KC Convention Center and 60,000 square feet of meeting space of its own, plus destination restaurants, a spa and plenty more that crown the hotel as the first major hotel built in Downtown Kansas City since 1985.

**NEW SINGLE-TERMINAL AIRPORT**

In 2017, voters overwhelmingly approved the addition of a new single-terminal at Kansas City International Airport. For visitors, this means a state-of-the-art transit hub designed to meet the needs of modern flight travel. For meeting planners, it means added convenience and enhanced accommodations for any group. The new single-terminal will land at KCI in 2023.

**“THE BUCK STOPS HERE”**

Commemorating the 75th anniversary of his inauguration, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum is scheduled to reopen in fall 2020 after a massive, $25 million renovation—the largest in the museum’s history, set in motion to preserve and enhance the impactful leader’s legacy. Visitors can expect an entirely new experience developed for 21st-century audiences, with fresh exhibits, expanded education programs and other essential updates in time for the 2020 election.

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS**

Of all the momentous anniversaries in 2020, Prohibition may just be the most influential on local culture. KC largely ignored the U.S. abolition of alcohol in 1920—and prospered as a result, thanks in part to a thriving jazz scene and free-flowing spirits. That heritage lives on today in a new golden age for distilleries and breweries. Meanwhile, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum commemorates the 100th year since the founding of America’s first organized black baseball league.

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**ATTRACTION UPDATES**

The Kansas City Zoo will debut a major renovation to its elephant exhibit by Mother’s Day. And thrill-seekers can’t get enough of Worlds of Fun, a perennial family attraction that looks to launch the five-story, four-tunnel Riptide Raceway—the longest mat racing slide in world—at Oceans of Fun by summer 2020.
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ANNIVERSARIES TO NOTE

2020
Kansas City, Missouri (170)
Charlie Parker’s Birthday (100)
Negro Leagues (100)
Prohibition (100)
Harry S. Truman’s Presidential Inauguration (75)
Sporting Kansas City (25)

2021
Santa Fe Trail (200)
State of Missouri (200)
Kansas City Stockyards (150)
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts (10)

2022
Kansas City Zoo (100)
Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum (75)
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Average Yearly Rainfall: 39"

Nicknames: KC

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CITY OF FOUNTAINS

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