

HWY 24 HISTORICAL ROAD TRIP

WEST-EAST

Cawker City

Pickers Paradise Inn

Sleep in a beautifully decorated lodge that sleeps up to eight, but it's in the middle of a junkyard (hence the "pickers" paradise!). You'll love wandering around the grounds to see what you can find!

1250 Wisconsin St.

<https://www.wacondaspringsguesthouse.com/>

Red Crown Inn

An old 1950's service station remodeled into a lodge, this is a must-see and stay in! It sleeps up to three people.

1118 Wisconsin St.

<https://www.wacondaspringsguesthouse.com/>

Cawker City Coffee

Cozy local coffee and eatery in a historic downtown limestone building.

821 Wisconsin Street

785-781-4995

<https://cawkercitycoffee.toast.site/>

Wisconsin Street Trading Post and Travel Plaza

An old-fashioned soda and ice cream fountain, along with Waconda Lake and World's Largest Ball of Twine memorabilia. Located in a historic downtown limestone building.

813 Wisconsin Street

785-781-4909

<https://www.wacondaspringsguesthouse.com/restaurant.html>

Limestone Lodge

A historic downtown limestone building has been turned into a larger lodge that can sleep up to nine.

815 Wisconsin St.

<https://www.wacondaspringsguesthouse.com/>

World's Largest Ball of Twine

Started in 1958 by a local farmer who had too much twine lying around his farm. It's now the World's Largest Ball of Twine that is handmade! Weighing over 10 tons, 1,531 miles, and over 45 feet in circumference, you can find it on the south side of Highway 9 under a canopy. Benches and information are available. A great photo opportunity!

<https://www.cawkercitykansas.com/ball-of-twine>

Old Station Inn

Create a blast from the past by sleeping in an old 1950's service station remodeled to be a lodge! Sleeps up to four people.

713 Wisconsin St.

<https://www.wacondaspringsguesthouse.com/>

Glen Elder State Park

Enjoy 100 miles of shoreline at Glen Elder State Park, right off of Highway 24!

Waconda Springs Replica

Dedicated in 2005, this is a half-size replica of the actual Waconda Springs that now sits at the bottom of Waconda Lake. The Waconda Springs were thought to be healing waters by the early Native Americans and later exploited by townsfolk with the building of a sanitarium. In 1964, the Glen Elder Dam was built for flood control, which wiped out this historic area.

The Springs has an easy, concrete-pathed hike up to a hill. Native American kiosks are along the path to learn about the local heritage. One can find a great 360-degree view of the lake at the top.

<https://www.waconda.com/waconda-springs-replica.html>

Waconda Visitor and Education Center

The center provides artifacts and historical information regarding the history of Waconda Springs and the building of the dam. Open by appointment, 785-545-3345.

<https://www.waconda.com/visitors-center.html>

Beloit

Abram Click Farmstead

Explore the 1880's farmstead on the corner of KS-24 and KS-14, owned by the Mitchell County Historical Society Museum and is part of the National Register of Historic Places. It has excellent examples of Gothic Revival architecture. The house, barn, and water tower are good examples of how settlers used locally quarried limestone to build homesteads. This homestead is unique because of the stylish details incorporated into its construction. The farmstead at one time included an icehouse, dairy barn, hog barn, chicken house, brooder house, and coal shed.

https://www.kansashistory.gov/natreg/natreg_listings/view/1626

Lil' Red Schoolhouse

This is a replica schoolhouse from the early 1900's. Informational kiosks, photo opportunity, and shelters available at the roadside park. Open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend on Wednesdays from 4-6 pm.

785-534-7472

<https://www.discovermitchellcounty.com/explore-live-grow/little-red-schoolhouse/>