

# KANSAS CITY

## KANSAS

**2016**  
Media Kit

**5 INTRIGUING**  
STORY IDEAS

**8 EPIC**  
EXPERIENCES

**AUTHENTIC**  
STREET EATS



**Kansas**  
**City**  
**Kansas**





## Welcome to Kansas City, KS

The history of Kansas City is a tale of two cities; Kansas City, KS and Kansas City, MO. Divided by the Missouri river, each holds its own unique character and story. Together the two cities and a dozen others make up the greater Kansas City metropolitan area.

Tourism in Kansas City, KS began thriving in 2001 with the completion of Kansas Speedway and continued with the 400-acre tourist development, Village West. Presently Kansas City, KS now welcomes more than 10 million visitors each year.

Known as a mecca for sports and shopping, Kansas City, KS is also home to a plethora of affordable family-fun experiences. Here you'll find a true melting pot of history and culture through our museums and monuments telling the stories of our past.

We invite you to visit and uncover unique stories your readers haven't read!

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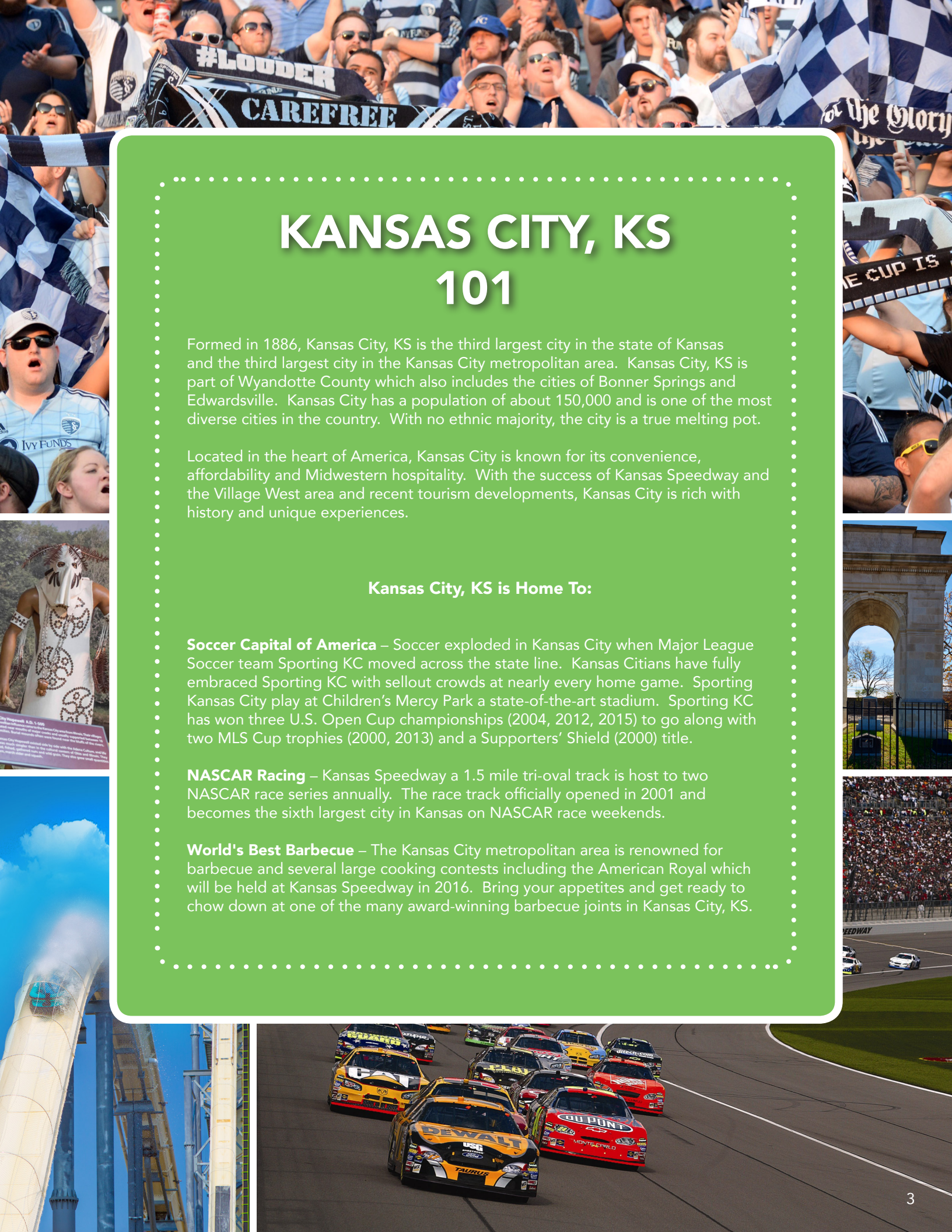


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# KANSAS CITY, KS 101

Formed in 1886, Kansas City, KS is the third largest city in the state of Kansas and the third largest city in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Kansas City, KS is part of Wyandotte County which also includes the cities of Bonner Springs and Edwardsville. Kansas City has a population of about 150,000 and is one of the most diverse cities in the country. With no ethnic majority, the city is a true melting pot.

Located in the heart of America, Kansas City is known for its convenience, affordability and Midwestern hospitality. With the success of Kansas Speedway and the Village West area and recent tourism developments, Kansas City is rich with history and unique experiences.

## Kansas City, KS is Home To:

**Soccer Capital of America** – Soccer exploded in Kansas City when Major League Soccer team Sporting KC moved across the state line. Kansas Citians have fully embraced Sporting KC with sellout crowds at nearly every home game. Sporting Kansas City play at Children’s Mercy Park a state-of-the-art stadium. Sporting KC has won three U.S. Open Cup championships (2004, 2012, 2015) to go along with two MLS Cup trophies (2000, 2013) and a Supporters’ Shield (2000) title.

**NASCAR Racing** – Kansas Speedway a 1.5 mile tri-oval track is host to two NASCAR race series annually. The race track officially opened in 2001 and becomes the sixth largest city in Kansas on NASCAR race weekends.

**World's Best Barbecue** – The Kansas City metropolitan area is renowned for barbecue and several large cooking contests including the American Royal which will be held at Kansas Speedway in 2016. Bring your appetites and get ready to chow down at one of the many award-winning barbecue joints in Kansas City, KS.



# KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

## 5 INTRIGUING STORY IDEAS

From extreme adventures to the pitmasters of Kansas City, here are a few story ideas that will surely peak your readers interest.



**1 A True Melting Pot**  
Diverse museums tell the stories of a community filled with a majority of minorities.



**Smokin' Hot 'Cue**  
Whether it's ribs, burnt ends or brisket you crave, get your grub on at one of these famous barbecue joints.

2



**Agritourism in the City**  
Kansas City is home to the only museum chartered by congress to honor America's farmers.

3



**4 Extreme Adventures**  
From driving a race car to zipping at 55mph over the city, these extreme adventures are not for the faint of heart.



**Authentic Street Eats**  
Get in line for some of the best street tacos you'll ever taste.

5





Kansas City Kansas Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.  
Media Contact: Maila Yang  
913.321.5800 | [maila@VisitKansasCityKS.com](mailto:maila@VisitKansasCityKS.com)  
[VisitKansasCityKS.com](http://VisitKansasCityKS.com)

## 1. A True Melting Pot

With no ethnic majority, Kansas City, KS is one of the most diverse cities in the country. Kansas City is 40 percent white, 29 percent Latino and 26 percent African-American. Kansas City is home to three museums that once were former residence offering a window to the past of how Kansas City became the diverse melting pot it is today.

**Strawberry Hill Museum** - Strawberry Hill Museum preserves the history of the eastern Europeans who immigrated to Kansas City, KS and called the Strawberry Hill area home. [www.strawberryhillmuseum.org](http://www.strawberryhillmuseum.org)

**Old Quindaro Museum** - Quindaro Museum preserves the rich history of the town "Quindaro" where runaway slaves once found sanctuary. See old-fashioned shackles and learn about the families and their stories. [www.ccoq.org](http://www.ccoq.org)

**Grinter Place** - Home to Moses Grinter who established the first ferry across the Kansas River. Moses married Annie Marshall, a Lenape (Delaware) Indian. Together they operated the ferry and a trading post that exchanged goods for cash and fur from the Delaware's. [www.kshs.org/grinter\\_place](http://www.kshs.org/grinter_place)

## 2. Smokin' Hot Cue

Squeal Like A Pig aka *Slap's BBQ*, is the new kid on the block that has quickly climbed up everyone's "must eat bbq" list. Slap's is the evolution of Squeal like a Pig BBQ's competition cooking team. After years of winning numerous awards on the competition circuit, two brothers followed their dreams of opening up a restaurant. Lines form quickly during the lunch hour. The restaurant sells out nearly every day, so get there early! Get your fill of cue in Kansas City, KS:

**Arthur Bryant's Barbeque** | [www.arthurbryantsbbq.com](http://www.arthurbryantsbbq.com)  
**Gates Bar-B-Q** | [www.gatesbbq.com](http://www.gatesbbq.com)  
**Joe's Kansas City Bar-B-Q** | [www.joeskc.com](http://www.joeskc.com)  
**Rosedale BBQ** | [www.rosedalebarbeque.com](http://www.rosedalebarbeque.com)  
**Slap's BBQ** | [www.slapsbbqkc.com](http://www.slapsbbqkc.com)  
**Woodyard Bar-B-Que** | [www.woodyardbbq.com](http://www.woodyardbbq.com)

## 3. Agritourism in the City

Discover the fresh, home grown and locally made products and learn why agriculture is so important at these attractions:

**Cider Hill Family Orchard** - 38 acres covered with 1300+ trees. 18 different kinds of apples are grown, as well as asparagus, blackberries and raspberries. Activities include U-Pick Orchard, hayrides, fishing and miniature train rides. [www.ciderhillfamilyorchard.com](http://www.ciderhillfamilyorchard.com)

**The Wine Barn & Rowe Ridge Winery** - Featuring award-winning wines, novice and experienced wine drinkers will enjoy. Partake in a grape picking party during harvest season or stop by any time during operating hours for free wine tastings. [www.winebarnwinery.com](http://www.winebarnwinery.com) | [www.roweridgewinery.com](http://www.roweridgewinery.com)

**National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame** - The only museum chartered by congress to honor America's farmers. The museum is home to President Truman's plow, Poultry Museum, Museum of Farming, National Farmers Memorial. Hands-on activities include milking a cow, feeding chickens, gardening, and riding a miniature train through Farm Town USA. [www.aghalloffame.com](http://www.aghalloffame.com)

## 4. Extreme Adventures

Calling all rookie and seasoned thrill seekers - Kansas City has plenty of extreme adventures that will get your heart racing. Get your adrenaline-junkie fix at these attractions:

**Richard Petty Driving Experience** - Ride shotgun or drive a stock car around the track up to speeds of 155 mph. [www.drivepetty.com](http://www.drivepetty.com)

**Zip KC** - Get a bird's-eye view of the city as you zip line over the forest and reach speeds of nearly 55 mph. [www.zipkc.com](http://www.zipkc.com)

**World's Hottest Hot Sauce Challenge "The Source"** - Original Juan Specialty Foods has created some of the spiciest concoctions in the world. Measuring at 7.1 million Scovilles, challengers are required to sign a waiver. [www.originaljuan.com](http://www.originaljuan.com)

## 5. Authentic Street Eats

Get ready to feast on \$1 tacos made with fresh corn tortillas, and stuffed with seasoned meat and topped with cilantro, onion and pickled veggies. The growing Hispanic population in Kansas City, KS has led to an explosion of Mexican restaurants all over town, but five were recently recognized for their classic street tacos:

- **Bonito Michoacan**
- **El Camino Real**
- **Tacos El Tio**
- **Carneceria El Torito II**
- **Carneceria La Siete**





# 8 EPIC EXPERIENCES

## Dine with T-REX

Get a hands-on prehistoric adventure at T-Rex Cafe. Mine for hidden treasures, pan for fossils and come face-to-race with life-size, animatronics dinosaurs as you sink your teeth into a Bronto Burger.

## Go to the Moon

Watch live marble-making demonstrations, play a round of Ringer and peruse the tiny shelves packed with nostalgic toys and marbles of every shape and size.

## Sleep in a shipwreck

Go on an adventure and explore the world at Chateau Avalon Hotel. Featuring themed adventure rooms such as the Castaway Isle, New York Penthouse, Tahitian Treehouse and Egyptian Palace, the boutique hotel provides a unique lodging experience.

## Shop 400+ acres of bargains at Village West

Find premium fashion at value prices at Legends Outlets Kansas City. Cabela's features everything from hunting and fishing to outdoor gear. And if you are in the market for new flooring, appliances or furniture, Nebraska Furniture Mart has everything you need to furnish your home and more.

## Leave boring in the dust

Get behind the wheel of a Late Model or Modified race car with a Kenny Wallace Dirt Racing Experience at Lakeside Speedway and gear up for some high-powered sideways fun in the dirt.

## Slay Charlock, the evil dragon

MagiQuest at Great Wolf Lodge turns the hotel into your personal playground. Players choose their adventure along with a magic wand to unlock clues, befriend the Treetop Pixies and defeat the Goblin King.



## Go zip lining in the dark

Experience the ultimate glow-in-the-dark adrenaline rush at Zip KC. The new Night Flights Adventure Zip Line Tours features illuminating zip towers with color changing LED's, laser light shows dancing through the trees and glow sticks galore.

## All aboard

Don a paper conductor hat and watch your meal be delivered by an overhead train at Fritz's Railroad Restaurant. Covered with train décor, the diner has been a local favorite since 1954 delivering tasty old-fashioned hamburgers and soda-fountain treats.





**NICKNAMES:**

Heart of America, KCK,  
The Dot (Dotte)

**VISITATION:**

Kansas City, KS welcomes over  
10 million visitors annually

**POPULATION:**

151,306

**LAND AREA:**

151 square area

**ELEVATION:**

740 ft.

**COST OF LIVING INDEX:**

92.7%

**HOTEL ROOMS:**

1800+



The Beaumont Fountain at Chateau Avalon is modeled after the Fountain de Mers at the Place de la Concorde in Paris, France.

**WEATHER:**

Average High Daily  
Temperatures in  
Fahrenheit

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| January   | 39° |
| February  | 45° |
| March     | 56° |
| April     | 67° |
| May       | 76° |
| June      | 85° |
| July      | 90° |
| August    | 89° |
| September | 80° |
| October   | 68° |
| November  | 54° |
| December  | 42° |

**DISTANCE TO LARGER CITIES:**

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| Wichita, KS   | 196 miles |
| St. Louis, Mo | 251 miles |
| Chicago, IL   | 529 miles |
| Dallas, TX    | 553 miles |
| Denver, CO    | 602 miles |

# KANSAS CITY KANSAS

# FACTS & FIGURES

The Kansas City Kansas Convention and Visitors Bureau Inc., (KCK CVB) is the official destination marketing organization for the city of Kansas City. The mission of the CVB is to market Kansas City, KS as a visitor destination and to increase the number of overnight stay thus boosting the economic impact of the city.

## DID YOU KNOW?



Kansas City, KS has a Yellow Brick Road that leads to legendary discoveries at Legends Outlets.

The highest Rooftop Patio in Kansas City, Kansas is at Dave & Buster's.

More than 11 million cubic yards of dirt was moved to construct Kansas Speedway. That's enough dirt to fill 1 million dump trucks or an NFL stadium five times.

The Wyandotte County Historical Museum has a piece of the Arizona, the ship that was hit by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor.

1,200 fishing rods and 715 mounts are on display at Cabela's Kansas City.

Over 40,000 hot dogs are served annually at CommunityAmerica Ballpark, home to MLB Kansas City T-Bones.

Hollywood Casino houses the original Ruby Red Slippers from the Wizard of Oz.

The only agricultural museum chartered by Congress to honor America's farmers is in Wyandotte County.

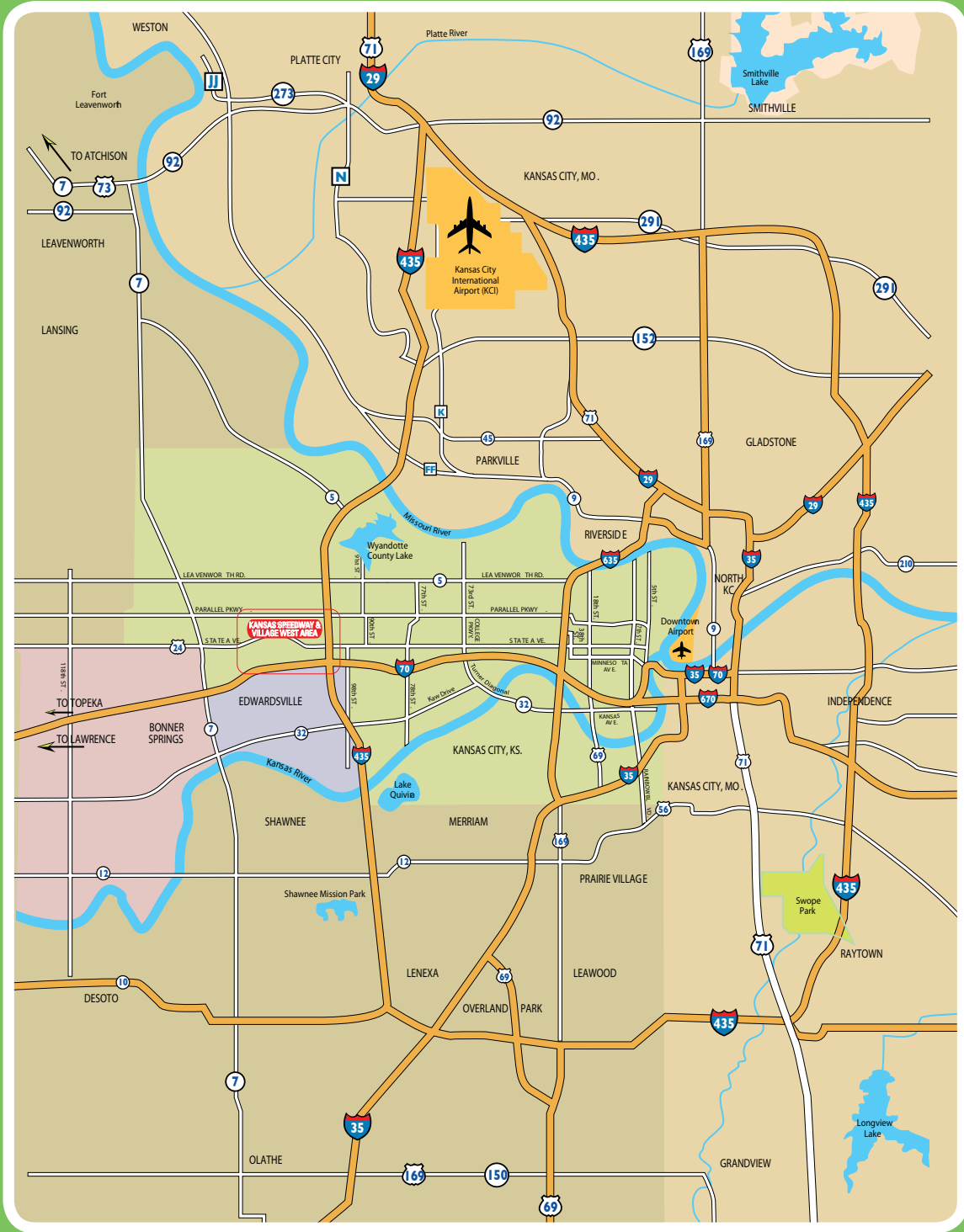
Country singer Garth Brooks performed at the Wyandotte County Fair in Kansas City, KS in 1990 before making it big.

There are two Kansas Cities – Kansas City, KS and Kansas City, MO.



# KANSAS CITY

## Metro Map



Kansas  
City  
Kansas

Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

PO Box 171517, KCK 66101  
913.321.5800  
[www.VisitKansasCityKS.com](http://www.VisitKansasCityKS.com)