

Nemaha County – The Interesting, The Unique, And the Downright Remarkable

Nemaha County has a personality all its own. Call it ambiance, atmosphere, character. It's a certain blend of the interesting, the unique and the downright remarkable.

The Unique

Nebraska vineyards and wineries have gotten a lot of press in recent years, but they are still relatively rare in the state. [Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard and Winery](#) in Brownville is unique for its status as one of Nebraska's first commercial wineries in the state as well as for its facilities. The tasting room and gift shop are housed in a restored peg-built barn that is over 100 years old. In addition, the site is atop limestone and brick caves originally built as a beer brewery in 1864.

A tour of the underground rooms conjures images of secret hideaways and forbidden prohibition-era parties.

The winery is one of the most recent additions to the cosmopolitan array of entertainment to be enjoyed in Brownville. World class vocalists and musicians perform monthly at [the Brownville Concert Hall](#). The state's oldest summer repertory theatre, [the Brownville Village Theatre](#), entertains capacity crowds with dramas, comedies and farces each summer. Add to those events a historic walking tour, a cruise on the [Spirit of Brownville](#), dining in Auburn and you've just spent a whole weekend in Nemaha County.

Nemaha County also claims the unique status as the home of Nebraska's first college, [the Campus of a Thousand Oaks](#), just up the road in Peru. Explore the [Steamboat Trace Trail](#) that extends over 20 miles!

State parks don't exactly grow on trees, but they certainly grow beautiful trees at [Indian Cave State Park](#), on the Missouri River in far southeast Nemaha County. Its riding, hiking and biking trails, when combined with the Steamboat Trace Trail, offer nearly 45 miles of recreation trails in the county.

Speaking of parks, [Coryell Park](#), between Brock and Johnson, is unique in its own right.

It is truly rural, being completely surrounded by farms. It was founded by the L. L. Coryell, Sr., family in 1934 as a gift to the county. Located on the grounds are the family's former home, a replica of their original log cabin, a stone chapel available for weddings, an auditorium, an enclosed shelter house with fireplace and electricity, a small museum of Coryell family artifacts, and plenty of open space for playground and picnic facilities.

