KIT CARSON TRAIL

The Kit Carson Trail is a path through Carson City's historic district. It features stops at landmarks including Victorian-style homes, museums and churches. Each tells a story of the capital city's history.

For full descriptions of each site, go to visitcarsoncity.com/KCT

ROUTE

Start on Carson St
Right on Robinson St
Left on Mountain St
Left on King St
Left on Minnesota St
Right on Spear St
Right on Division St
Left on 3rd St
Left on Nevada St
Right on Spear St
Right on Curry St
Left on 5th St
Left on Carson St
Head north up Carson St

* To drive this route, follow the instructions in reverse starting from site #48 on the map.

GHOST WALK

Some of these sites are open for tours during the Carson City Ghost Walk events. For more information, check out visitcarsoncity.com/ghost-walk

CARSON CITY'S

KIT CARSON TRAIL

HISTORIC SELF-GUIDED TOUR

VISIT CARSON CITY NV

1. Nevada State Museum – Formerly the U.S. Mint (1869) 600 N. Carson St.
The Mint was created in 1863, but not put into operation until 1870, at the peak of the silver boom. More than $49 million worth of silver and gold coins bearing the famous CC mark were coined here until the mint was shut down in 1893. It became the Nevada State Museum in 1939, a must-see attraction in Carson City.

2. Cavell House (1907) 402 W. Robinson St.
Designed by architect John Conant, this house was considered advanced for the times with low ceilings, gas and electric fixtures and a hot water heater.

3. Yerington House (1863) 512 N. Division St.
Named after the second owner (1869), a key figure in the V&T Railroad.

4. Stewart House (1887) 503 W. Robinson St.
This house was purchased by U.S. Senator William Stewart. He took the lead in the passage of the National mining law in 1866, wrote the Fifteenth Amendment and supported reclamation legislation.

5. Gov. John E. Jones House (1862) 603 W. Robinson St.
Former Gov. John E. Jones built this home and lived in it during his term as Governor from 1895-96. Its unique Stick/Eastlake ornamental design makes it one of Carson City's more unique homes.

6. Louis Prang House (1864) 611 W. Robinson St.
Louis Prang was known as the "Father of the American Christmas Card" after creating the first painting like prints for the general public. See an example of his work in the display box on the fence in front of the home.

7. Bender House (1870) 707 W. Robinson St.
Named after the 1874 owner, an agent for the V&T Railroad.

8. Bliss Mansion (1879) 608 Elizabeth St.
Duane L. Bliss built this house in 1879. It has 15 rooms, 9 marble fireplaces, over 8,000 sq. ft. and built of clear sugar pine and cedar from his Lake Tahoe mill. Once the largest home in Nevada at its time.

9. Governor's Mansion (1909) 606 N. Mountain St.
The land was sold for just $10 by Mrs. T.B. Rickey. George A. Ferris, a Reno architect, designed the mansion with Classical Revival features and Georgian and Jeffersonian motifs, and a construction bid was awarded for $22,700.

10. Rickey House (1870) 512 N. Mountain St.
T.B. Rickey founded the State Bank and Trust Company. Mrs. Rickey waited till her husband was out of town before offering the property for a Governor's Mansion. The positive support from the community made it impossible for Mr. Rickey to renege on the donation.

11. Krebs-Peterson House (1914) 500 N. Mountain St.
The Krebs-Peterson home was chosen to be the boardinghouse for John Wayne in his last days as a dying gunfighter in the movie "The Shootist." The filming began in January 1976. Dr. Krebs achieved international fame in halting the influenza epidemic using sacred herbs from a local Native-American tribe.

12. Robinson House (1873) 406 N. Mountain St.
This house was built in 1873 by Marshall Robinson, one of the founders of the Carson Daily Appeal.

13. Sadler House (1878) 310 N. Mountain St.
The house was purchased by Reinhold Sadler, who held office as Lieutenant Governor from 1896 to 1898 and then Governor from 1896 to 1902. On May 19, 1896, he purchased the house from Professor Phillips and Edith Krall. He moved his family into the house while he was governor, the house was considered the unofficial Governor's Mansion.

14. Crowell House (1860s) 206 N. Mountain St.
This home was built in the 1860s by Professor Hayward H. Howe, superintendent of the Carson City schools. In 1919, Lucy Crowell, the daughter of Carson City newspaper editor Sam Davis, purchased the house for $1,500. She worked as a secretary for the Nevada Supreme court for fifty years.

15. St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church (1871) 511 W. King St.
This building was the home of St. Teresa's Church until the early 2000s. At that time, the church moved out to a larger facility across town and deconsecrated the building. The Brewery Arts Center later bought the building and retrofitted it into a performance hall.

16. Stewart-Nye Residence (1860) 108 N. Minnesota St.
This is one of Carson City's oldest homes; it was built prior to 1862 of native sandstone for William M. Stewart, Nevada's first U.S. Senator.

17. Edwards House (1883) 204 N. Minnesota St.
Legend has it Thomas J. Edwards illegally built this house in 1883 with state prison labor and was forced to resign as county clerk. However, evidence over the years has proved the legend to be untrue.

18. Springmeyer House (1908) 302 N. Minnesota St.
Herman H. Springmeyer built this home after retiring from ranching. He was the first Nevada rancher to sell commercial alfalfa hay. His hobby was the cultivation of beautiful flowers, especially roses; the latter have been an attraction at his home.

19. Lee House (1906) 340 N. Minnesota St.
This house is known as the home of Dr. Simeon L. Lee. It is on the site of the Central School and was built with lumber from the razed school building in 1907. Dr. Lee was a surgeon for the Virginia & Truckee and the Carson & Colorado Railroads for 20 years and was the first president of the NV State Board of Health.

20. Orion Clemens House (1864) 502 N. Division St.
Orion Clemens, Nevada's first territorial secretary brought his younger brother from Tennessee, whom later became a prolific writer by the name of Mark Twain.

21. Norcross House (1906) 412 N. Division St.
Frank Norcross served 12 years in the Nevada Supreme Court and was one of three in the 1891 graduating class from University of Nevada.

22. St. Peter's Episcopal Church (1868) 314 N. Division St.
Built in 1867-68 at a cost of $5,500. The structure is an exceptionally fine rendition of the Gothic revival style used widely in the 19th century. On the National Register of Historic Places.

23. St. Peter's Episcopal Church Rectory (1862) 302 N. Division St.
St. Peter's Church Rectory was built in 1862. It is a very significant historic dwelling in Carson City. Henry Blasdel, Nevada's First Governor, used the property in 1864-1871 making it Nevada's oldest surviving State Governor's residence. The letter informing President Lincoln of Nevada's ratification of the 13th Amendment to abolish Slavery was signed there. St. Peter's Episcopal Church acquired the house in 1891, where it remains in the ownership of the Church.

24. Schulz House (1874) 212 N. Division St.
Schulz was a native of Westerheim, Germany where he was born in 1884. He came to the United States as a young boy and lived in New York, where he later married Katherine Weis. The couple had three children. In 1879 he came with his family to Carson City, where he was the owner of the Stone Market. The house would remain in the Schulz family for one hundred years.

25. Dat So La Lee House (1914) - Cohn House (1909) 331 & 333 W. Proctor St.
This was the home of Louisa Keyser, a Washoe Indian basket weaver, famed for her excellent basket work. She was also known as Dat So La Lee, her Washoe name, which means "big around the middle" or "big hips." The Dat So La Lee house is a one-story cottage built around 1914. It is located to the east of Abe and Amy Cohn's house. Abe Cohn was a pioneer Carson City businessman and a leading Nevada authority on Native American art. He eventually opened the Kit Carson Curio store, one of the most widely known Indian emporiums in the West.

26. United Methodist Church (1865) 200 N. Division St.
The Methodist Episcopal Society bought lots on Division Street for $25 and pair of boots. Rev. Nims labored almost single-handedly for 3 years to haul sandstone blocks from the State Prison where prisoners quarried and squared the stone to lay them at the site of the church, which he dedicated in 1866.

27. Brewery Arts Center - Formerly Carson Brewing Company (1865) 449 W. King St.
What seems to have been Nevada's first brewery was established in Carson City by John Wagner & Company in 1860 during the rush to Virginia City. The brewery specialized in steam beer; a bottom-fermenting brew produced without the constant cold temperatures that true lager requires. The pure, clear water used in the brewing process came from King's Canyon Creek west of town.

28. Ferris House (1869) 311 3rd St.
Owned from 1869 to 1890 by George Washington Gale Ferris Sr. His son, George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr., came up with the idea for the Ferris wheel from his early days in Nevada, when he watched the big wheel turning near the Mexican mill on the Carson River.

29. First Presbyterian Church (1864) 100 N. Nevada St.
The First Presbyterian Church was completed in 1864. The brick edifice is considered to be the oldest Presbyterian Church in service in Nevada.

30. Olcovich-Meyers House (1874-1875) 214 King St.
The house was built by Joseph Olcovich in 1874-1875. The Olcovich brothers were prominent members of the Jewish community and owned extensive commercial property in Carson City.

31. Meder House (1875) 308 N. Nevada St.
The Lou Meder house is a great example of the Italianate style of architecture. It's unique for this style to only have one story instead of two or three.

32. Abraham Curry House (1871) 406 N. Nevada St.
A founding father of Carson City who held prominent titles such as: Warden and contractor for the Nevada Territorial Prison, Territorial Assemblyman, Territorial Senator, Ormsby County Surveyor, and Superintendent of U.S. Mint. This home was built from sandstone quarried from the State Prison.

33. Chartz House (1876) 412 N. Nevada St.
Alfred Chartz, as a young news reporter, shot a man who impugned his editor's honor; was later pardoned and became an outstanding lawyer.

34. Brougher-Bath Mansion (1903-04) 204 W. Spear St.
Wilson Brougher "struck it rich" in the Tonopah boom in 1901 and came to Carson City when he purchased the Arlington Hotel located on North Carson Street. He built his home in 1903-1904 immediately behind the hotel and the mansion is named for him. Earnest Bath purchased the home in 1936.

35. Hyman Olcovich House (1876) 412 N. Curry St.
This house was built by Hyman Olcovich in approximately 1876. The Olcovich brothers came to this country from Prussia. They operated a dry goods store at the corner of Fourth and Carson Streets.

36. Original Warren Engine Company (1863) 201 North Curry St.
The structure was built in 1863 of locally quarried sandstone. The Warren Engine Company No. 1 was first organized at a meeting held on June 17, 1863. Some thirty charter members eager to give Carson City a real fire department met enthusiastic support from their fellow townspeople and collected $2,000 following the meeting.

37. Rinckel Mansion (1876) 102 N. Curry St.
The Rinckel Mansion has been a setting for movies and served as a restaurant as well as a wedding chapel for several years. In 1941, Paramount Pictures used the Rinckel mansion as the backdrop in one of its scenes for the movie, "The Remarkable Andrew."

38. E.D. Sweeney Building (1860) 102 S. Curry St.
This is one of the earliest commercial buildings in Carson City, and one of the few brick buildings remaining from the City's earliest years. The house was built in approximately 1859-1860 by builder Peter Cavanaugh, who also constructed the Nevada State Capitol building in 1870.

39. The Bank Saloon aka Jack's Bar (1899) 408 S. Carson St.
Used as a convenient meeting spot with a relaxing environment to conduct business, talk politics, or discuss community life in general. The proximity of Jack's Bar to the offices of state government officials has resulted in it playing a very particular role in political affairs. The bar has served as the site of informal meetings and caucuses that have influenced the political history of the state.

40. St. Charles-Muller Hotel (1862) 302 S. Carson St.
Constructed in 1862, one of the first hotels in Carson City, was also one of the state's most elegant and became the main stage stop in Carson City. It consists of two utilitarian buildings, a two-story on the south and a three-story on the north, each with Italianate details. It was one of the most elegant hotels of the day.

41. Capitol Complex 201 S. Carson St.
The Nevada State Capitol Complex consists of the State Capitol Building, Library and Archives, Legislative Building, and the Supreme Court Building. The Complex also features a Kit Carson Statue, and the Law Enforcement Memorial. In front of the State Capitol, many of the trees that stand were planted by George Washington Gale Ferris, Sr. whose son invented the Ferris Wheel.

42. State Capitol Building (1870-1871) 101 N. Carson St.
The Architects fee was $250 at the time. The stone was free from the State Prison Quarry. When the ambitious founders of Carson City laid out the town in 1858, they had dreams of a new territory and then a new state to follow. Ten acres, known as the Plaza, were set aside in the belief that Carson City would be chosen as the capital of a new government in the western Utah Territory-Nevada eventually became a state in 1864. Enjoy the free Battle Born Hall exhibit on the 2nd floor.

43. Hero's Memorial Building (1921) 198 S. Carson St.
Twin of the Ormsby County Courthouse. (1921) The Heroes Memorial Building was designed as "a fitting memorial to Nevada Soldiers who gave their lives in the service of the United States in the European War" (World War I).

44. Former NV Supreme Court & State Library (1936) 198 N. Carson St.
Designed by architect Frederic De Longchamps. When the Supreme Court had outgrown its single-room quarters in the Capitol, DeLongchamps was awarded the commission for a new building, which he designed in a compatible but distinctly Modern style.

45. Ormsby County Courthouse (1920s) 100 N. Carson St.
Designed as part of the State Capitol Complex (early 1920s). The Ormsby County Courthouse housed the Carson City (formerly Ormsby County) courts until 1999; Currently the Nevada State Attorney General's office. Of interest is the granite fountain in front of the Supreme Court, presented to Carson City in 1909 by the National Humane Alliance to provide fresh water for passing horses and pets.

46. Kitzmeyer Furniture (1873) 319 N. Carson St.
The Kitzmeyer Furniture Factory is the oldest surviving Italianate style, commercial building in Carson City. It was found to be the most intact example of Italianate-style architecture associated with the commercial development of the late 19th century Carson City. It was common for furniture makers to also make coffins as a line of "furniture," the Kitzmeyers began an undertaking business in building and eventually expanding to Virginia City and Gardnerville.

47. Paul Laxalt Building (1891) 401 N. Carson St.
First Federal office constructed in Nevada. The Victorian style building was designed by Mifflin E. Bell, a prominent 19th century federal government architect who also was responsible for post offices in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Brooklyn, New York. As with many of his other structures, Bell included an unusual three-faced clock in a 106-foot tower on the Carson City building's northwest corner.

48. Foreman-Roberts House Museum (1863) 1207 N. Carson St.
The Gothic Revival Style Foreman-Roberts House was built in Old Washoe City, Utah Territory in 1863 by Solomon W. Foreman. In 1867, it was sold to James D. Roberts and in 1874 was moved to 1207 N. Carson Street in Carson City. James D. Roberts fought in the 1860 Pyramid Lake Indian War.