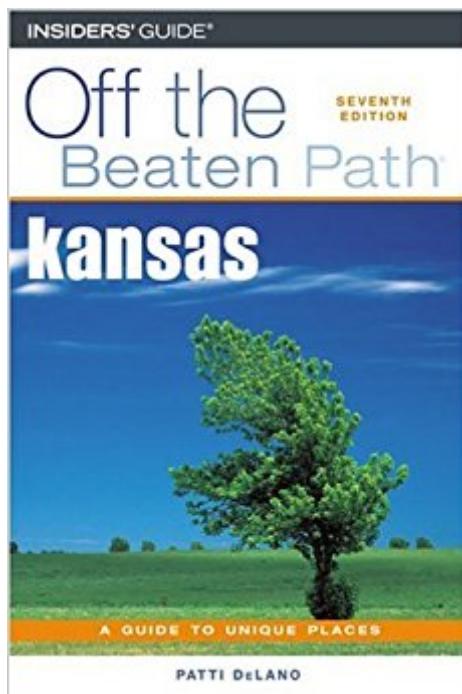


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# Kansas Off The Beaten Path, 7th (Off The Beaten Path Series)



## **Synopsis**

With the help of this guide, put your mark on the Yellow Brick Road, join up with a Flint Hills Overland Wagon Train Trip, or sail a catamaran on a natural lake--all in Kansas.

## **Book Information**

Series: Off the Beaten Path Series

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## **Customer Reviews**

"From the Garden of Eden to the Old Dutch Windmill to Castle Rock, you can find almost all that Kansas has to offer [in this book]." --The Wichita Eagle

Tired of the same old tourist traps? Take the road less traveled and discover the hidden attractions, unique finds, and unusual locales other guidebooks just don't offer. Off the Beaten Path® features the things you'd want to see-if only you knew about them! From the best in local dining to quirky cultural tidbits, you'll say over and over again: "I didn't know that!" Whether you're a visitor or a local looking for something different, let Kansas Off the Beaten Path show you the Sunflower State you never knew existed. Satisfy your sweet tooth with a Valomilk at Sifers Candy Company; climb aboard Dolly the Trolley for a tour of Fort Scott's outstanding Victorian architecture; or enjoy the Shakespeare Garden and twenty-three other themed areas at Botanica-The Wichita Gardens. So if you've "been there, done that" one too many times, get off the main road and venture Off the Beaten Path.

I find "Kansas Off the Beaten Path" (5th edition) to be an interesting guide to Kansas sights and attractions, but it seems to be loaded with inaccuracies. Page 4 - "The term Huron is not really the

name of a Native American Tribe..." Wrong - there is a Huron tribe. Page 7 - "The Great Mall of the Great Plains - Kansas City" This is in Olathe - not Kansas City. Page 38 - "Wealthy old Marblecrest Street has a panoramic view of the Marmaton River valley..." Marblecrest is neither wealthy nor old, and very little of it overlooks the river valley. Page 38 - "The Good Ol' Days...is a celebration of life from the 1840s through today...." It is the recreation of an 1899 Street Fair. Page 39 - "The Bourbon County Fair takes place the fourth week in July..." If you come then, you will miss it. Page 41 - "Hollister Wildlife Area, 8 miles southwest of Fort Scott on Highway 69...." It's several miles off Highway 69. Page 42 - "...Darnaby's Berry Farm and Country House...." It has been closed for several years. Page 51 - The account of the Civil War battle: "...a total massacre of the Fort Scott troops." This is incorrect. Page 130 - The account of Squaw's Den Battleground: "Their escape took them through eastern Kansas...." their route was in western Kansas. This could be a really good guide to out-of-the-way attractions in Kansas, but I could not trust its accuracy. If there are as many mistakes in the rest of the book as in the portion with which I am familiar, I question its value. A book in its 5th edition should have those inaccuracies corrected. The authors need to recheck some of their information.

The book is interesting, but seems to have a number of inaccuracies. i.e., the location of the Branding Iron Restaurant (p. 45), the military bridge, "...one of only two remaining structures..." (p. 43)[the bridge was dismantled many years ago (maybe 20 years); "Wealthy old Marblecrest Street .." (p. 42), [I guess this is Marblecrest Drive; I would not call Marblecrest Drive wealthy or old]; the Battle of Mine Creek, "...fought near Trading Post..." (p. 42) [Mine Creek Battlefield is several miles from Trading Post; it is about two miles from Pleasanton.] I find the book interesting, but with these inaccuracies in the areas with which I am familiar would cause me to be afraid to trust the book for areas in which I am not familiar.

This book is rudimentary at best when it comes to attractions of the State of Kansas. Quite evident that the authors had any knowledge of some places, and totally missed the obvious museums and attractions in other places. Hardly worth the paper they wasted to print it in my opinion, not worth a plug nickel!

I've found a number of really great places by using this book. To name a few, there's the chalk pyramids (the directions weren't great, but once I saw the roads I understood why), the Kauffman Museum, and Coronado Heights north of Lindsborg, Kansas, aka "Little Sweeden." This is a

travelers guide, and as such, will do a good job of showing people who are unfamiliar with Kansas around the state and to some places that they might not otherwise know are there. I am a transplant from Pennsylvania, and have shown myself around my new state using this book. There are scores of places, events, and landmarks that are quirky, interesting, or astonishing in this book. Had I never gotten this volume, I'd still think Kansas was as boring as I did before I moved here. And now I actually know more about it than most of the people with whom I work who have lived here their whole lives! This book, like all in the series, is worth having, or at least checking out, if you're headed out to the Sunflower State.

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