

Nebraska Traveler

TAKING TO THE ROAD FOR FOOD, FUN AND FESTIVITIES

by CHEYENNE ROWE

WALKING TOUR

LEGENDS AND LANTERNS GHOST WALK

OCT. 27 • PLATTSMOUTH

📍 WHERE TO GO PAPA RENO PIZZA

This family-owned and locally-operated pizzeria prides itself on homemade crust and fresh ingredients. Grab a serving of sausage ricotta pizza, complete with garlic oil sauce, before it gets cold! 542 Main St. (402) 298-4145

Lantern carriers in black Victorian dress somberly parade through the Plattsmouth Main Street Historic District. They silently lead the way for an equally grave group of people wearing modern garb. In front of the Cass County Courthouse, a guide urges spectators to accept a kerchief from one of the assembled Victorians for protection on their journey. They are embarking on a trip to the supernatural side of Plattsmouth.

Organized by the Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association, the annual Legends and Lanterns Ghost Walk relies on volunteer lantern carriers and actors recounting the river town's strange happenings for their guests. The players wear costumes from the historical association's

wardrobe of Victorian clothes. At several stops throughout downtown Plattsmouth, different costumed actors tell tales of restless spirits who've haunted Plattsmouth and other regional locales and fictional stories from Victorian literature.

At a caboose, one man tells the tale of a mother waiting for a train to return for her son's wedding. Strangely, no one else can see the woman. Traveling uphill, guests encounter another man standing across from a vacant lot. He recalls the story of a missing boy discovered buried there and how he returned for one final trick-or-treat.

A visit to a candlelit Victorian mansion allows guests to rest in a handsomely decorated parlor, but there is no reprieve from

the frights. Before he recently died, the house's former owner told many stories about ghost sightings to friends. One of his friends, a woman dressed in an enormous black lace gown, keeps those stories alive in her telling – including one macabre mystery in the basement.

Guests proceed to meet more characters and hear more stories until the evening ends at St. Luke's, a 19th century Episcopal Church, where "until death do us part" takes on a sinister tone. There are no jump scares in this tour, but the creepiness factor lingers long after one spooky night in Plattsmouth. To purchase tickets visit historicdowntownplattsmouth.com.

– Megan Feeney

A historic holiday haunting, alongside the festively dressed, aims to entertain in Plattsmouth.

Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association

