

Travels with Doris Presents Nebraska 106 & National Hot Air Balloon Championship and Old West Balloon Fest *August 12-15 2025*



We invite you to join us for the 11th anniversary of the Old West Balloon Fest. Celebrating over a Decade of flying, fun, and DREAMS. Many remember the event from the 1980's and 1990's and dreamt of the event coming back to the area. The event was "re-inflated" in 2015 to the delight of the community. Our 11th anniversary will be a spectacular show of the greatest magnitude. Hot air balloons will fill the sky each morning for mass ascensions. Days filled with activities and balloon glows to light up the evening sky. Our grand finale will be a night glow and music. Plus (Nationals) for 2019, 2020 and 2021", Plus, you won't want to miss the drone show with over 200 drones depicting iconic scenes from the Western Nebraska area we love

August 12 Day 1 Bus will pickup at Beatrice Walmart Parking Lot Northwest side 6:30 a.m.,
Fairbury Walmart Parking Lot South End, 7:15, Dorchester Fire Hall across from Gas Station 8:10 a.m.,
Hastings Walmart Parking Lot North End 9:30 a.m

. *Holdrege Coal & Feed Coffee & Vittle at Iron Horse Arts District

1:00 Lunch *McCook Embers Bakery & Café

[McCook](#)'s main street, Norris Avenue, is bursting with history and small-town appeal. Named after Senator George Norris, a prominent political figure known for his progressive reforms, the avenue exudes a sense of history and pride. Lined with brick facades, vintage storefronts, and hanging flower baskets, Norris Avenue invites visitors to take a leisurely stroll and soak in its nostalgic aesthetic.

At the heart of the town, George Norris Park provides a peaceful green space perfect for relaxing or partaking in community events. Nearby, the Senator George Norris State Historic Site provides a glimpse into the life of the influential statesman. History enthusiasts can delve deeper into the region's past at the Museum of the High Plains, which showcases artifacts and stories highlighting McCook's heritage. Don't miss the Fox Theatre, an iconic venue where you can catch a show and experience McCook's cultural side.

Sen George Norris State Historic Site

*Ogallala Eccentric Lamb Fiber Arts, Ltd at the Western trails Creative District 11-7
Overnight in Ogallala Americann Inn

August 13 Day 2 Hot Breakfast

8:30 Depart 9:00 *Big Springs Our Lavender Co. Our Lavender Co is the perfect stop to make on your road trip across Nebraska! We're conveniently located just 4 miles south of I-80 of the Big Springs exit. Our little farm shop is the perfect place to grab a cup of coffee or some refreshing lavender lemonade while you stroll through our fields of fragrant lavender.

10:00-11:00 *Big Springs Depot Museum & Veterans Memorial,

*Sidney Savor & Grace 824 10th Ave

Illinois Street, Sidney's thoroughfare, is brimming with Old West feels with its rich history and timeless aesthetic. Once a booming hub during the [gold rush](#) and railroad era, Sidney earned the nickname "The Toughest

Town on the Tracks.” Back in its heyday, the town featured over 80 saloons and the world’s first 24-hour theater, making it a lively destination for adventurers and travelers. Today, Illinois Street stands as the heart of Sidney’s downtown business district and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, preserving its storied past.

1:00 Lunch on your own The Potter Sundry is an old fashioned small town soda shop, serving breakfast and lunch & homemade desserts. A Tin Roof Sundae is a work of art! It includes scoops of vanilla ice cream, Hershey’s chocolate syrup, scoops of chocolate ice cream, Lyons marshmallow cream, topped with Spanish peanuts. And the recipe hasn’t changed in almost 100 years!

Chuckaboo Station While you are in town visiting the home of the Tin Roof Sundae or bowling a few frames of Duckpin, stop in to enjoy an unique experience in our Victorian themed coffeehouse, located in a fueling station dating back to the late 1920s!

3:00 Continue on to Gering through the Wildcat Hills Nature Center Open till 5

Reservations at Monument Inn Gering
Dinner at Log Cabin Restaurant across the street

August 14 Day 3

9:00 tour Gering area, Chimney Rock

Scotts Bluff National Monument. Road will be closed to other traffic. This prominent landmark was used by American Indians, fur traders and Oregon and Mormon trail pioneers as a guide for their journey west. A drive to the summit gives a tremendous view of the entire valley and the wagon ruts that are still visible at the base. If you are so inclined you can walk down from the summit, distance of 1.6 miles. Visitor’s Center is in trailer, movie available.’

*Mitchell Happy Dackle Vender Market. 50 vendors offering unique treasures & seasonal décor

5:30 PM Night Glow at Balloon Fest Food available on grounds
Reservations at Monument Inn Gering

*These are on Nebraska Passport List

August 15 Day 4 5:30 AM Friday morning hot air balloon mass ascension with 90 hot air balloons taking flight in the early morning Depart for home.

\$459 Double occupancy includes motorcoach, hotels, admissions, 3 breakfast, 1 lunch.1 dinner & gratuities.

Approximate return Hastings 4:00, Dorchester 5:30. Fairbury 6:15, Beatrice 7:00.

For more information call Doris at 402-821-2547 , Cell 402-641-7132
To reserve seat mail \$75 Deposit to
_Travels with Doris, 1794 County Rd 1500, Wilber, NE 68465

Final payment due July 15

.....