

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY

A & M Railroad Excursion Train  
*January – November*

### APRIL

Second Saturday Shopping, Dining, & Events  
*April – December*

Art Walk on Main Street  
*Second Saturday in April*

### MAY

Old Timers Day Steampunk Festival  
*Third Weekend in May*

Pioneer Day Parade  
*Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend*

### JUNE

CAE Glow Run  
*Second Saturday in June*

Car Show  
*Third Saturday in June*

### JULY

City of Van Buren 4th of July Celebration  
*July 4th at Field of Dreams*

### SEPTEMBER

JunkFest  
*Labor Day Weekend*

### OCTOBER

Car Show  
*First Saturday in October*

Fall Festival Arts & Crafts Fair  
*Second Weekend*

Halloween on Main Street  
*Saturday Before Halloween*

### NOVEMBER

Veterans Day Parade  
*Week of Veterans Day*

Holiday Express Pajama Train  
*November and December*

### DECEMBER

Jingle and Mingle on Main, Living Windows  
Festival of Trees, & Lighting of the Courthouse  
*First Saturday*

Christmas Parade  
*Second Saturday*

## History Like You've Never Seen

Overlooking the Arkansas River, the commanding Drennen-Scott House was initially the home of the Revolutionary War descendant John Drennen and his family. It is now a “working laboratory” for University of Arkansas – Fort Smith students as they recreate the century-and-a-half-old home. The site is linked to the Trail of Tears, the Underground Railroad, and the Civil War. Built in 1838, the home was continuously occupied by the Drennen family until the property was acquired by the university in 2005.



UAFS Drennen-Scott Historic Site

This sprawling single-story home and its contents are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The interior of the home serves as a beautiful backdrop to the antebellum furniture, which has been restored to museum standards. Highlights include a frieze that was displayed at the Arkansas House in the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, a grandfather clock dating to the 1740's, and a Steinway piano manufactured in 1860. Visitors to Van Buren will not want to miss the UAFS Drennen-Scott Historic Site; truly a treasure worth exploring! Hours of Operation: March-November Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays, call for times. 221 N. 3rd Street. (479) 262-2750



Veteran's Plaza



Crawford County Courthouse



1-800-332-5889  
[www.vanburen.org](http://www.vanburen.org)  
[www.facebook.com/VanBurenArkansas](https://www.facebook.com/VanBurenArkansas)

# Experience Historic **VAN BUREN**



SHOPPING • DINING • EXCURSION TRAIN



# History Abounds in Van Buren!

Take a stroll through Van Buren’s Historic District and you’ll see why history is more than a memory in this town. Steamboat captains, stagecoach passengers, elegant Victorian ladies and gentlemen, Native Americans making their way on the Trail of Tears; all have left footprints on Van Buren’s historic Main Street and river walks.

Federal forces invaded during the Civil War, filling the streets with soldiers. Steamboats blazed on the river, and Van Buren was left a city uncertain of Union control. By 1876, when the first train pulled into Van Buren, the city was once again a thriving river town. The Crawford County Bank Building was the epitome of Victorian elegance when its doors opened in 1889.



The King Opera House, built in 1891, drew a crowd for famous performers including 1940’s musician and entertainer Bob Burns and continues to hold events throughout the year. For a complete list of shows please call: 479-474-2426 or visit our calendar of events page at [vanburen.org](http://vanburen.org).



## LODGING

### 1 Quality Inn

3131 Cloverleaf Street  
479-474-2223, 800-521-2121  
48 rooms, 2 handicap accessible, outside doors to all downstairs rooms. Outdoor swimming pool, guest laundry, all rooms have microwave & fridge. Complimentary HBO, cable, Wi-Fi, full breakfast. Small pets allowed with fee. Group discount available. Truck/bus parking.  
[www.qualityinn.com](http://www.qualityinn.com)

### 2 Hampton Inn

1916 North 6th  
479-471-7447, 800-426-7866  
64 guest rooms, including 5 handicap accessible rooms and 4 suites. Conference room with seating for up to 60. Indoor swimming pool. Full Breakfast, High Speed Internet Connection. Group rates and special rates for AARP.  
[www.vanburen.hamptoninn.com](http://www.vanburen.hamptoninn.com)

### 3 Best Western Van Buren Inn

1903 North 6th  
479-474-8100, 800-780-7234  
56 rooms, 3 handicap accessible. Swimming pool, group discount rates, breakfast bar. Pet friendly.  
[www.BestWestern.com](http://www.BestWestern.com)  
[www.bwvanbureninn.com](http://www.bwvanbureninn.com)

### 7 Holiday Inn Express & Suites

1637 North 12th Court, 479-471-7300  
All Interior corridors. 68 rooms with 23 suites, 4 jacuzzi suites, and 6 ADA rooms. On-site indoor pool, health/fitness center, complimentary premium Wi-Fi, guest laundry, meeting room up to 100 people, Business Center, 24-hour Sweet Shop, and complimentary hot breakfast buffet. Pet friendly.  
[www.hievanburen.com](http://www.hievanburen.com)

### 4 Motel 6

3200 Alma Hwy  
479-474-5001  
60 rooms, 2 handicap accessible. Group discount rates, \$3 breakfast at adjoining restaurant available, AARP discount. Pet friendly.

### 5 Comfort Inn & Suites

1633 North 12th Court  
479-262-6776, 877-424-6423  
All interior corridors. 58 rooms total. 11 Suites and 1 Jacuzzi Suite. All of our handicap accessible rooms are King or Double Queen. Complimentary breakfast, indoor pool, fitness room, conference room for up to 60 people. Group discounts. Complimentary Wi-Fi, as well as local and long distance phone calls. Pet friendly.  
[www.sleepinn.com](http://www.sleepinn.com)

### 6 Super 8

106 N. Plaza Court  
479-471-8888 or 800-800-8000  
46 Rooms, 8 Suites, 1 Jacuzzi Suite. Indoor heated pool, complimentary Wi-Fi, HBO/cable, hot breakfast. All rooms have microwave & fridge, iron & ironing board, coffee & coffee maker. Laundry facilities, bus/truck parking. Group/AAA/AARP/GOV discount available. Small pets under 40 pounds allowed.  
[www.Super8.com](http://www.Super8.com)

### 8 Travelers Inn

3109 Alma Hwy  
479-474-2378  
27 rooms, one handicap accessible. Complimentary coffee and local calls. Pet friendly.

### 9 Josselin Inn-Opening 2019

410 Drennen Street  
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Continental breakfast, cable, Wi-Fi, Jacuzzi tub, No pets.  
[lejosselininn@gmail.com](mailto:lejosselininn@gmail.com)

### 10 Freehawk Lodging and Event Center

615B Main Street  
479-651-1253  
479-462-5535  
This historic, beautifully decorated, two bedroom apartment on Main Street, provides rare off street parking with its attached garage. It also offers a full kitchen, coffee bar, washer and dryer, WIFI and complete entertainment amenities. Pet Friendly.

## RV PARKS

### 1 Overland RV Park

1716 Fayetteville Road  
479-471-5474  
49 slots, 49 full hook-ups, fence, clean showers, laundry facilities, sanitary dump for guests. Pet friendly with restrictions.

### 2 Springhill Park - Lock and Dam 13

1700 Lock and Dam Road; Barling, AR 479-452-4598  
Open year round. 44 standard 50/30 hook-ups, 3 standard non-electric for RVs and campers. Dump station. Boat launch above and below dam on the Arkansas River. 9.8 mile “fast” moun-tain bike trail. 5 large group picnic shel-ters, 4 with electric, one without. Fishing, hiking, picnic shelters, 2 playgrounds, restrooms, and showers. Follow Highway 59 South toward Barling.  
[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

### 5 Fort Smith/Alma RV Park

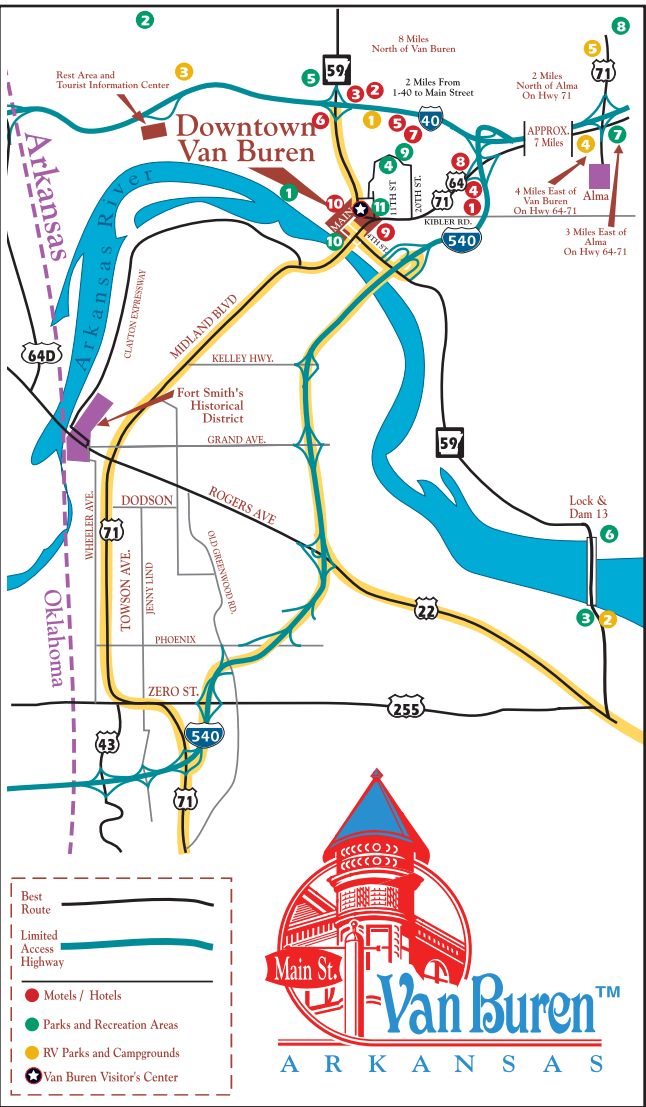
479-632-2704, 75 spaces with water, electric, sewer, and non-sewer sanitary dump, laundry facilities, swimming pool, meeting room, playground, horse shoes, catch & release fishing pond, paddle boats, basketball, walking trails, and limited cable T.V. in RV sites. Three one-room camping cabins. One cabin is pet friendly.

### 3 Park Ridge RV Campground

1616 Rena Road  
479-410-4678 or 1-866-268-8103  
57 shaded pull-through sites. Full hookups with 50/30 amps, and sewer. Located in Van Buren on Lee Creek with boat ramp & fishing dock. WI-FI avail-able, heated restrooms with showers, laundry, playground, pavilion and club-house. Sanitary dump station available. Exit 3, I-40. [parkridgerv.com](http://parkridgerv.com)

### 4 Oaks Campground

6918 Alma Hwy; Alma, AR 479-632-2524  
Just minutes away from Van Buren, Oaks offers shaded sites, full hook-ups, pull-throughs and more. Open year round. Located four miles east of Van Buren on Highway 64-71.





## Discover Adventure!

Explore the scenic beauty of Crawford County and the Ozark National Forest and discover your own adventure. Fish the Arkansas River, canoe the Mulberry, hike, bike, or take a boat ride at Lake Fort Smith State Park.



Mountain Biking at Lee Creek Reservoir

Scenic adventure awaits every visitor to the Gem of the Arkansas River Valley. Van Buren is the ultimate base camp for outdoor adventure offering comfortable and convenient lodging and great dining experiences for travelers at the end of an exciting day trip.



A&M Excursion Train

## All Aboard Our Excursion Train!

Experience breath-taking Ozark Mountain panoramas on a magnificent vintage excursion train. The 1920s rail cars exude the opulence of days gone by with shiny brass fixtures, rich mahogany paneling, and plush velvet benches. Even more impressive is the view of the Boston Mountains through the train window as you make the 2-hour round trip from Van Buren to Winslow. For more information call: 1-800-687-8600, 1-479-725-4017, or visit: [www.amtrainrides.com](http://www.amtrainrides.com).

## Take In A Show!

The Van Buren Fine Arts Center is a 1,500 seat concert hall that features state-of-the-art performing arts technology, and is uniquely designed to provide the best environment for all genres of music enjoyment. For more information, call 479-471-4017 or visit [www.vbfac.org](http://www.vbfac.org).



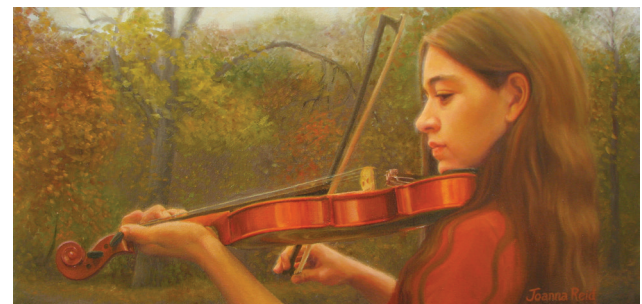
Van Buren Fine Arts Center

The Main Street Farmers Market located in Freedom Park meets the community's need for healthy fresh food and provide a family friendly atmosphere with an inviting educational venue. Call 501-263-1611 for the seasonal schedule.



Main Street Farmers Market

The Center for Art & Education serves the people of the Arkansas River Valley by hosting art and cultural exhibits and events, promoting art education, and providing a venue for local artists. The Center strives to create art experiences that improve the lives of children and adults through art programs presented in schools, in adult centers, in traveling art classes, and exhibitions. Call 479-474-7767 or visit [www.art-ed.org](http://www.art-ed.org).



# RECREATION

***Fishing ... boating ... hiking ... golfing ...  
the incredible scenic panorama of the  
Natural State offers an ideal setting for  
all types of recreational activities.***

**1 Lee Creek Boat Ramp,**  
Lee Creek Park, Van Buren  
479-471-5006

**2 Lee Creek Reservoir  
Recreation Area,**  
3808 Gelly Drive, Van Buren  
Boating ramps, fishing pier,  
restrooms, hiking trails and  
wildlife areas.  
479-784-2248

**3 Springhill Park,**  
8 miles south of Van Buren  
Boating ramps, warm  
showers, water/electric  
hook-ups, clean restrooms,  
pavilions, playground and  
biking trails.  
479-452-4598

**4 Dr. Louis Peer  
Memorial Park,**  
Van Buren - Small fishing  
lake, walking trail, picnic  
areas and playground.  
479-471-5006

**5 Lake Lou Emma,**  
Van Buren - Fishing, pavilion  
and picnic tables.

**6 Haroldton Access,**  
Public fishing access near  
Lock & Dam 13.

**7 Eagle Crest Golf Course,**  
Located just off Interstate 40  
and only minutes from  
Van Buren  
18 holes, 6,884 yards, par 71  
For information call:  
479-632-8857  
[www.golfeaglecrest.com](http://www.golfeaglecrest.com)

**8 Lake Fort Smith  
State Park,** Nestled in a  
scenic valley of the  
Boston Mountain Range of  
the Ozark Mountains, this  
state park offers outdoor  
adventures including  
camping, fishing, kayaking,  
swimming, mountain biking,  
hiking, and nature study.  
Group lodges and cabins  
available. For information  
call: 479-369-2469 or  
visit:  
[www.arkansasstateparks.com/  
lakefortsmith](http://www.arkansasstateparks.com/lakefortsmith)

**9 Cedars Country Club,**  
Van Buren  
Public 9-hole golf course,  
open year-round.  
For information call:  
479-474-2412

**10 River Walk,**  
Mike Myer Riverfront Park  
Stroll back in time at the  
historic Phillips Landing site  
and imagine steamboats,  
Civil War soldiers, and  
travelers on the Trail of  
Tears. 479-471-5006

**11 Freedom Park**  
Interactive water feature,  
stage, pavilions, picnic  
tables. Seasonal Farmers  
market.  
479-471-5006

## The Heart of America is Main Street, Van Buren!

Our six-block Main Street is an award-winning  
National Historic District. Main Street is home to  
dozens of shops, restaurants and live music -  
appealing to all tastes.



Historic Main Street Shopping and Dining

Treasures of another sort await on Main Street at  
the River Valley Museum of History. Located in the  
Old Frisco Depot, the museum features fascinating  
exhibits of historic photos and artifacts.



If you're hungry for country cooking, authentic  
Mexican food, Asian dishes, fried Southern catfish,  
smoky barbeque, or great steaks, then Van Buren is  
the place. In addition to all of these savory delights,  
we also have a variety of national quick service  
restaurant chains. Restaurant brochure available  
upon request.

End your historic stroll at Phillips Landing, situated  
at the foot of Main Street on the banks of the  
Arkansas River. Now, imagine the travelers who  
have set foot on this centuries-old point of  
embarkation to great adventure!