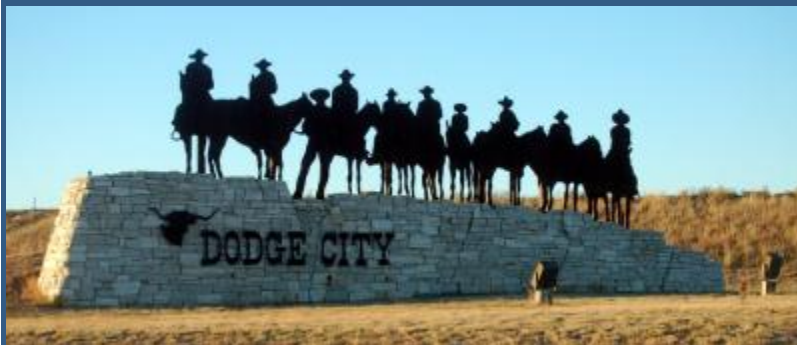


# Western Road Trip Newsletter



A sculpture at the city limits

Day 2

Sunday

October 27th

Nine Eagles State Park,

Iowa to

Dodge City, Kansas

Stats

516 miles today

991 total miles this trip

Just over 8 hours on the road

Weather

High Temp: 78

Low Temp: 28

Conditions: Sunny

*"It was when I actually reached the outskirts of Dodge City that things went screwy".*

## Next Stop – Dodge City, Kansas

Unfortunately, today was a very frustrating day. It started out ok, but cold. Only 28 degrees when I woke up at 7:00. I was very comfortable all night with the heater on, but I let it warm up a little before I got out of bed.

Made pie iron French toast and bacon for breakfast, packed up, and was on the road by 10:00.

The actual drive was uneventful, the exception was reaching 78 degrees. It was when I actually reached the outskirts of Dodge City that things went screwy.

I was supposed to stay at a free campground called The TOUCHDOWN GREEN BAY!!

Sorry about that, watching the Pack kick the 'Queens butts while I type. Called The Dodge City Roadside Park. I

could not find a definite address but they did have Lat & Long coordinates. I also looked up Dodge City campgrounds on my new AllStays App, there were only two. I entered the first one, Watersports Campground, in the GPS and followed Homer's directions (for those of you not in the know, my GPS voice is that of Homer Simpson. "Ooh! Ooh!") As I neared my destination I was a little dismayed by the neighborhood I was driving through. It turned out to be an open field with a lot of mobile homes around.

On to choice number two. I entered the crossroads provided on the web for the Roadside Park and headed 5 miles back the way I came. As I got near I still could not find anything, so I entered



Can you imagine the arguments that must have taken place in this house between Carlos' mom and dad? They probably kept the whole neighborhood awake.  
Wakeeney, Kansas

## Lunch Time!!



I stopped at a rest stop in Newbury, Kansas for lunch. It was plain, restrooms only for facilities, but elaborate at the same time. There were monuments and observation decks all over the place. I made my lunch and ate it standing next to the truck, then took a walk up to the observation deck.

This view was much better before the semi pulled in

the latitude and longitude and found out I was only 50 yards from the spot. But there was nothing there, just a couple private driveways. I followed another road, to the right this time, but came up empty again. Aaargh!!

On to choice number three, The Gunsmoke Trav-L-Park. This turned out to be 8 miles away on the west side of Dodge City. Okay, I will be heading west when I leave anyways so why not. Gave Homer the address and off I went. Homer took me to another private home. D-Oh!! I pulled over to the side of the road and did some more surfing, finally finding directions to the campground. I had to go another ½ mile before I could turn around, go back to the highway, see the big sign across the street, drive up to the gate, and find out the place is closed. Aaargh and double D-oh!!

Oh well, guess I'm staying in a hotel tonight.



One of the highlights of the rest stop

## My Campsite for Tonight and Maybe Tomorrow

Another web search directed me a mile down the road to several hotels. I chose The Dodge House. It looked interesting and is keeping with the theme of the trip.

I got into my room, flipped on the TV, and Sunday Night Football was just starting. I headed to the bar for dinner and the game.

While I was driving I had already decided that I would go have dinner in town while I watched the game. After all, here I am in Dodge City, Kansas, probably the cattle capital of America. How could I visit here and not have a steak? Everyone makes mistakes! The filet was bacon wrapped, probably frozen and not from the stockyard down the street; the loaded baked potato was just warm and not cooked all the way through; the garlic bread had no garlic; and they forgot the cole slaw.



Tried to stay away from the big names

Tomorrow should be a real tourist day. There are several things around town here I am interested in seeing, so there should be a lot more pictures.

I was just watching the weather. There is a possibility tomorrow of thunderstorms, hail, tornados, high winds and overall rotten weather. Fortunately, the channel I was watching is from Wichita, a little further to the east. It is still supposed to be in the seventy's tomorrow here in Dodge City and no rain til after 5:00 p.m. I should be able to get most of my sightseeing in.

And for those of you asking the question...No, I did not bring khakis and I am not going to work while I am down here.

Until tomorrow....

