

COMMUNITY PROFILE



By Jackson Wagner, Communications and Design Specialist, League of Kansas Municipalities

President Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, “The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene!” That quote embodies the spirit of how the residents feel about their town and the history that makes Abilene one of the most visited cities in Kansas! Located along I-70 in the heart of Dickinson County, lies one of the best small towns in America.

The City of Abilene is home to just over 6,000 proud residents, though the population feels much larger due to the dedicated work that the City’s Convention & Visitors Bureau (Visit Abilene) does to bring in thousands of tourists every year. Tourists come from all over the country to visit the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home, which was named the Best Kansas Attraction by USA Today in 2017. The City of Abilene is proud to be the hometown of the nation’s 34th President, showcasing this with the dedication of a park, rose garden, statues, murals, and more, in honor of Dwight D. Eisenhower!



*“The proudest thing I
can claim is that I am
from Abilene!”*

Dwight D. Eisenhower
34th President of the United States of America

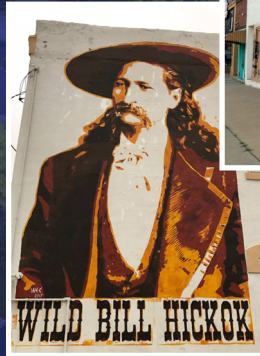
Abilene also embraces art and culture in many ways, one of those being the implementation of murals around town. These murals bring the history of Abilene to life and give residents something to admire and a sense of pride. They even have an ‘Abilene Mural Map’, which people can view and track down all the different murals around town. (*The URL to that map is provided below*).

A major draw for families to call Abilene home is the outstanding Parks and Recreation Department. The City does a great job promoting and cleaning up all the beautiful parks around town, making any walk or bike ride feel safe and enjoyable. The number of activities, programs, and special events that the Parks and Recreation Department hosts enables the City to attract young families to the area and provide an improved quality of life for its residents. With more and more families moving into the area, it is important to have a great school district, and Abilene Public Schools delivers at the highest level.

**“The Rose garden is my
favorite; very tranquil.”**

Ron Marsh | City Manager

EISENHOWER’S PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY: WWW.EISENHOWERLIBRARY.GOV



VIEW ABILENE’S MURAL MAP AT: WWW.ABILENEKANSAS.ORG/ART



“Great small community. Rich in history and outstanding tourism.”

Marcus Rothchild | Finance Director


The history and origins of Abilene can be found all over town and at many different events. One of those places is the Old Abilene Town, where visitors can get a taste of the Old West and enjoy can-can dancers and gunfights during the summer travel season. Old Abilene Town also hosts Chisholm Trail Days during Labor Day weekend, that includes a live cattle drive through Old Abilene Town, reenactors, country music performances, and more.


The history of Abilene is captivating and could keep you in town for days itself, but the future of Abilene is just as exciting! Golden Belt Heights, Abilene's newest & largest housing development is part of the Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) making it a developer's dream. The RHID allows Abilene to take the incremental tax increase in property taxes and apply that to the debt service, so that there are no special assessments on any of the homeowners or property owners in these developments. While Abilene is eager to experience major growth over the next several years, they are keen on keeping their small-town charm and friendly nature at the forefront. In fact, Abilene was voted Friendliest Small Town and Best Historic Small Town this year by TravelAwaits.

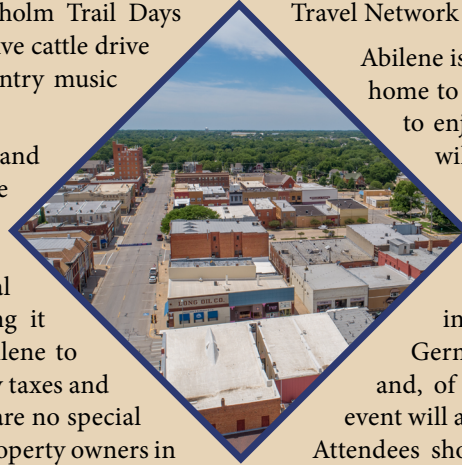
While we are listing out just a few awards Abilene has won over the years, it should also be mentioned that the City of Abilene was named Destination of the Year by The Midwest Travel Network. “This Kansas destination continuously shows

up in our news feeds on social media. They promote the work of content creators and showcase all that they have to offer to the world. You can visit a Presidential Library and Museum, as well as visit an award-winning Midwest town,” Lisa Trudell, Midwest Travel Network co-founder, said.

Abilene is unique in that it is a small quaint town but is home to many events and activities for their residents to enjoy and experience. One of those events that will take place in Abilene on September 17 is the Abilene Oktoberfest. This will be the 5th Annual celebration in Abilene and will give residents and visitors a chance to experience some German entertainment including authentic dancers, tasty food, German-themed music by DJ's DeeJays, crafts, and, of course, beer from KC BIER Company. The event will also feature bouncy houses and games for kids. Attendees should come early and visit all the downtown shops and get a chance to see for yourself, one of the Best Small Towns in America!

For more information on the history, tourism, or upcoming events, please visit www.abilenekansas.org or call Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau at 785-263-2231. 

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OLD ABILENE TOWN: WWW.OLDABILENETOWN.ORG



2022 OKTOBERFEST - September 17

WWW.ABILENEKANSAS.ORG/EVENTS/ABILENE-OKTOBERFEST-0



“A wonderful small town with lots to go do and see.”

Dee Marshall | Mayor