Visit Red Cloud—Our unique small town on the prairie

& Meet Willa Cather, Nebraska’s foremost citizen

Author of *O Pioneers!, My Ántonia & Death Comes for the Archbishop*

Visit one of Nebraska's premier historic attractions in a cultural oasis on America’s Great Plains.

- The [National Willa Cather Center](http://www.WillaCather.org) preserves, operates, and interprets the largest assembled group of nationally-designated historic buildings related to any author in the United States.
- To [visit Red Cloud](http://www.WillaCather.org) is to encounter a town and entire landscapes, largely unchanged, as world-famous author Willa Cather knew them as a young girl—and would later write about.

**What You Will Experience**

- Explore our exhibit, [American Bittersweet: The Life & Writing of Willa Cather](http://www.WillaCather.org)
- Tour the extensive [Collections & Archives](http://www.WillaCather.org) at the National Willa Cather Center
- Visit Willa Cather's [childhood home](http://www.WillaCather.org) and other sites related to her life and writing
- Take in a performance at the [Red Cloud Opera House](http://www.WillaCather.org)
- Enjoy a delicious lunch served in our beautiful art gallery
- Hike, picnic, star-gaze dark skies, or watch the sunrise & sunset at the [Willa Cather Memorial Prairie](http://www.WillaCather.org)
- Explore scenic country roads or take a Cather "Country Tour" of outlying properties and settings
- Shop the National Willa Cather Center [bookstore and gift shop](http://www.WillaCather.org)

Red Cloud and “Cather Country”—Just over an hour between Interstates I-70 & I-80

Exit off the Interstate to a scenic rural byway & straight into our delightful prairie world!
Willa Cather said, “I always return to Nebraska.” You just might, too.

The National Willa Cather Center Welcomes Bus Tours

Enjoy an immersive and historic experience and let us create the perfect itinerary—and meal—for your timeframe:

- Free meal & tours for bus drivers/tour escorts
- Complimentary bus parking
- Discount on group lodging
- On-site tour coordinator

In the Center of Everything

Red Cloud is in south-central Nebraska on the Kansas border—just over an hour between I-70 & I-80 on U.S. 281—and 20 miles north of the Geographic Center of the USA! Don’t “fly over”—stop through!

Group Tours & Pricing

Childhood Home + 1 site
Tour two historic Red Cloud sites: Willa Cather’s home (a National Historic Landmark), plus one.

The Founder’s Tour
Tour Childhood Home and visit our NWCC Collections & Archives.

Tours are $10 per person
[$25 includes a boxed lunch]
Inquire about other themed tours.

Hours of Operation

The National Willa Cather Center is open Monday - Saturday from 9:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Closed on New Year’s Day, Easter, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Seasonal Hour Changes

Summer Hours
April 1 - September 30
Open Sundays:
1 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
No Sunday morning tours

Winter Hours
October 1 - March 31
Open Saturdays:
9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Closed Sundays

Delicious Catered Lunches Served In Our Art Gallery

Relax with a tasty boxed lunch ($15 per person, inc. tax/tip) or a customized menu at extra cost. Or let us plan a perfect prairie picnic—in season.

Stay a Night—or Two

Red Cloud offers historic lodging for small groups of 15 or less. Plans for a boutique hotel are underway (opening 2020). Hastings has options for larger groups (40 mins away).

Historic Site Options

Guided tour options of our historic sites each include the Willa Cather Childhood Home. There are also 30, 60, and 90-minute tours that can include any/all of these sites:

- Burlington Depot
- Farmer & Merchants Bank
- Saint Juliana Falconieri Church
- Grace Episcopal Church
- J.L. Miner House
- Red Cloud Opera House

Walk in Willa Cather’s Prairie

Our 612-acre tract of untouched prairie is preserved as Willa Cather would have known it. Hike through the great rolling ocean of grass and witness the flora and fauna in the changing seasons.

Miles of prairie places and the sites that inspired Willa Cather await your discovery on our guided Country Tour where you can also see the famous Pavelka Farmstead.

For additional information:
Catherine S. Pond
Marketing Coordinator
cpond@willacather.org or 1.606.875.9378 (cell)

To book your group tour:
Rachel Olsen
Education Coordinator
rolsen@willacather.org or 1.866.731.7304 (office)

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WillaCather.org