



# Festival Information

## May 3-5, 2019 - Great Bend, KS

The Kansas Wetlands Education Center, The Nature Conservancy, Kansas Wildlife Parks & Tourism, City of Great Bend, FHSU College of STM, and The Kansas Birding Festival, Inc., invite you to the 2019 Wings & Wetlands Festival in Great Bend, KS! Spend two days birding Cheyenne Bottoms, Quivira NWR, and other central Kansas birding hotspots; along with workshops, meals, and socials.

### Frequently Asked Questions

**How do I register?** Online registration is preferred at [nature.org/wingsandwetlands](http://nature.org/wingsandwetlands). Mail-in registration forms are also available. Early registration deadline is April 5, 2019. Late registrations are \$50 higher per registration. For questions, call 877-243-9268.

**Where is the Festival Site?** The festival is stationed at Great Bend, KS; the festival headquarters is at Stoneridge Country Club.

**What experience level is the festival geared toward?** The festival is targeted at beginner and intermediate bird identification; however, all birding levels are welcome.. We will attempt to pair up participants appropriately during fieldtrips.

**What will we see?** The festival occurs at the typical peak of shorebird & waterfowl migration; wetland species are the target birds. 150-180 species of birds are documented during most festivals. Bird lists of past festivals can be found at [kansasbirdingfestival.com](http://kansasbirdingfestival.com)

**What's included in my registration fee?** Regular registration includes 3 guided birding fieldtrips, 2 suppers, 1 breakfast, shorebird ID workshop, and Sat. evening program. An evening/night birding tour and Greater Prairie Chicken lek tour are extra tours with an extra fee. Registration does not include lodging.

**How do the field trips work?** Expert birding guides will lead participants in 12 and 15 passenger vans. Field trips will leave from the festival headquarters and will go to Cheyenne Bottoms, Quivira NWR, and other area birding hotspots, depending on the guide and participant desires. Most birding will be done from vehicles; however, proper outdoor clothing and shoes should be worn.

**Where do I stay?** Participants are responsible for their own lodging arrangements. Several hotels in Great Bend have special rates for festival participants. **To receive these special rates, you must call in reservations and mention the Wings & Wetlands Festival.** For more information on hotel accommodations call 620-792-2750 or check [visitgreatbend.com](http://visitgreatbend.com). Hotels in Great Bend:

\* = special W&W rate available

Baltzell Lodge  
620-792-4395

\*Days Inn (\$59-Sngl, \$64-DbI)  
620-792-8235

\*Quality Inn \*(69.99)  
620-793-8486

Traveler's Budget Inn  
620-793-5448

\*Best Western Angus Inn (\$79.95)  
620-792-3541

\*Holiday Inn Express (15% off)  
620-603-6565

Super 8  
620-793-9000

\*Travelodge (\$58-Sngl, \$65-DbI)  
620-792-7219

**Where do I eat?** Festival registration includes Fri & Sat supper and Sat breakfast. All other meals are on your own. Numerous restaurants are within walking distance of most hotels. A list of restaurants and special deals will be provided at check-in.

**I have special dietary needs.** A Cobb salad (lettuce, ham, bacon, egg, grilled chicken, tomato, onion, cheese, and croutons) or Garden Salad (lettuce, carrots, tomato, onion, cheese, and croutons) are available in place of the provided supper. Please indicate this alternative meal on your registration. Non-dairy/non-gluten snacks and breakfast items will also be available.

**What if it rains?** In the event of inclement weather, field trips may be cancelled at the discretion of the festival organizers. There are no refunds available for any field trips cancelled due to weather.

**Is transportation available?** Transportation is provided for the guided field trips only. All other shuttling is the responsibility of participants.

**What is the cancellation and refund policy?** If you are unable to attend the festival after registering, call 877-243-9268 immediately to cancel. Cancellations before April 1 will receive full refund. Cancellations after April 5 are not refundable, except in documented personal emergency situations.

### Basic Schedule of Events

(Detailed schedule will be provided at check-in)

#### Friday, May 3

12:00p.m. Check-in opens  
1:30 Beginning Shorebird ID workshop  
3:30 Field trips depart  
6:30-7:30 Supper served  
8:00-10:00 Night tours\*

#### Saturday, May 4

4:30a.m. Breakfast served  
5:00 Gr Prairie Chicken Tour\*  
6:00 Field trips depart  
12:00p.m. Lunch on own  
3:00 Field trips depart  
6:30 Supper served  
7:30 Evening program—Al Batt

#### Sunday, May 5

5:00a.m. Gr. Prairie Chicken Tour\*

\* denotes special tours with an extra registration charge