



PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE JULY 21-25, 2018

Welcome to Kansas City, the City of Fountains! Kansas City will host the 119th VFW and 105th Auxiliary national conventions July 21-24, 2018.

Kansas City sits on Missouri's western edge, straddling the border with Kansas. It's known for its barbecue, jazz heritage and fountains. Downtown, the American Jazz Museum shares a building with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in the historic 18th & Vine Jazz District. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, with giant shuttlecocks out front, houses nearly 40,000 works of art, from ancient to contemporary collections.

GETTING TO KANSAS CITY

Car

To determine driving distance between your city and Kansas City, go to: <http://www.travelmath.com/driving-time/>

GETTING AROUND KANSAS CITY

Ride KC Fares: \$1.50 one-way. Or buy \$3 All Day Pass on buses. Wheelchair accessible buses. For route information or easy, convenient online trip planning, go to www.RideKC.org. Or call 816-221-0660.

Kansas City Street Car – **Free to ride**. Runs from the City Market to Crown Center (on Main Street) go to <http://kcstreetcar.org/>

Monday-Thursday: 6AM - Midnight

Friday: 6AM - 2AM

Saturday: 7AM - 2AM

Sunday: 7AM - 10PM

CONVENTION LOCATION

Convention activities will take place at the Kansas City Convention Center, located at 301 W. 13th Street, Kansas City, MO

WHAT TO WEAR

A general guideline for attire for the convention is business casual for meetings. For VFW members, it is always appropriate to have your cap on hand for meetings. Jackets are not required unless you are an award recipient (e.g. Community Service Post, All American Commanders). You may be on stage to receive your award as photographs are taken. You may wish to bring and wear patriotic themed apparel for the Patriotic Celebration. *(See Patriotic Celebration information in this document).*

WEATHER

July weather in Kansas City on the average high temperatures around 90°F and daily low temperatures round 72°F.

For up-to-date weather information, please visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

COMPANY: VFW National Discount

LINK : <http://www.supershuttle.com/default.aspx?GC=VFWUS>

NOTE: Please update your browser if the above link does not work or go through Google Chrome. Also, you can go directly to www.supershuttle.com and enter the code **VFWUS**

DISCOUNT: Your discount gives you **10% off your roundtrip reservation**. Discount does not apply to pre-existing reservations. **Discounts cannot be applied retroactively**. Your travelers can use this code on both ends of their travel: at airport of origin and at their destination airport.

QUOTE: How much does it cost? To get a Fare Quote, go the bottom of our home page, and click Fare Quote. Select an airport and destination to generate your fare quote. Link:

https://booking.supershuttle.com/?_ga=2.218474457.1146509480.1511995716-1784955752.1482963717

RESERVATIONS: For special reservation questions call 1-800 BLUE VAN ([800-258-3826](tel:800-258-3826)) or customer service, available 24/7. Please note that if you call in your reservation instead of booking and paying online with your discount code, a \$3 call center fee applies. All of our other contact numbers are on our website at:

<http://www.supershuttle.com/Locations>

Taxi Service

10/10 Taxi - (913) 647-0010

Yellow Cab – 816-471-5000

Checker Cab – 816-444-4444

Airport Car Rental

Alamo - 816-464-5151

Avis - 816-243-5760

Budget - 816-243-5757

Enterprise - 816-464-2500

Hertz - 816-243-5765

National - 816-243-5770

PARKING

Parking information, costs etc., for the convention center will be available at a later date. Watch for updates on the convention webpage at WWW.VFW.ORG under Media & Events

RV PARKING/CAMPING

Worlds of Fun Village 4545 Worlds Of Fun Ave., Kansas City, MO 64161, (816) 335-1290

Stadium RV Park 10109 E US Hwy 40, Independence, MO 64055, (816) 353-0242

Autumn Falls Park, 9601 E US Hwy 40, Independence, MO 64055 (816) 356-4663

Trailside RV Park, I 70 & Grain Valley, Blue Springs, MO 64014, (816) 229-2267

Doc's RV Park, 1600 Southview Dr., Liberty, MO 64068, (816) 429-1163

VISITOR INFORMATION

If you have access, visit www.visitkc.com/tourism to plan your trip or request an Official Visitor Guide. See the following link for a digital copy of the Visitors Guide.

<http://www.myvirtualpaper.com/doc/MaddenMedia/kansas-city-mokcvg17/2017020701/#0>

VISITOR CENTERS:

DOWNTOWN KANSAS CITY

Visit KC Offices, Kansas City Power & Light District, 1321 Baltimore Ave., Kansas City, Mo. 64105
800-767-7700 (24-hour visitor info.) or 816-221-5242
Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri., Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Closed Sun.

UNION STATION

30 W Pershing Rd., Kansas City, Mo. 64105
816-460-2020
Open 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. and noon-5 p.m. Sun.

NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM VISITORS CENTER

100 W 26th St., Kansas City, MO
816-460-2048
Open 10 a.m.- 5 p.m Tue.-Sun. and daily Memorial Day-Labor Day.

MISSOURI WELCOME CENTER

4010 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City, MO
816-889-3330
Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., seven days a week through season.

REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP

See on site convention agenda (event guide distributed on-site on 7/21/18) for times and locations of registration/packet pick-up. Registration for both VFW and Auxiliary will be located in Exhibit Halls BCD of the Kansas City Convention Center

***Note:** Want to get register early? Try Remote Registration." This year both the VFW and Auxiliary will have remote registration for those who are **pre-registered** and want to pick up their name badges early. You will be able to do that at the VFW Headquarter hotel, Marriott Downtown and the Auxiliary Headquarter hotel, Westin Crown Center. **PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES ONLY.** If you haven't yet registered, you will need to do that beginning on Saturday, 7/21/18, 8a at the Convention center.*

Auxiliary 'remote' pre-registration:

Westin Crown Center - Locations/times: **To be advised.**

VFW 'remote' pre-registration.

Westin Crown Center - Locations/times: **To be advised.**

Note: On-site (not pre-registered) registration **must** be done at Kansas City Convention Center - Exhibit Hall BCD beginning Saturday, July 21 at 8a.

SHUTTLES

A shuttle schedule will be provided closer to the July convention dates.

If you require special transportation (handicap/scooter/wheelchair), contact the shuttle provider at the number on your event schedule (**obtained on-site**). A final shuttle schedule will be included in the on-site event guide and will be updated on the VFW convention web page prior to the convention dates.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Housing opens February 21 – you may access housing information and the reservation form beginning February 21 by going to www.vfw.org at the convention website. VFW Department hotels/housing assignments may also be found at the website beginning February 21.

HOTEL PARKING

Check with your assigned hotel for parking costs and details.

LUGGAGE STORAGE

If you wish to store your luggage at the hotel before you check in, or after checking out before departure, please make arrangements with guest services.

GRATUITIES

You are responsible for all gratuities during your stay. Tipping is personal, however as a guideline, we recommend gratuities of \$1-\$2 per day for your housekeeper and \$1 per bag for ground transportation providers and hotel bell staff.

PHONE MESSAGES

Messages may be left with the hotel operator, who will make sure you get them as soon as you return to your hotel. In case of emergency, call the VFW National Headquarters 816-756-3390. We encourage you to provide your emergency contact information when you pick-up your registration materials at the convention center.

SAFETY TIPS (*See hotel information located in room*)

SPECIAL SERVICES

Scooter Rentals

We encourage individuals requiring scooters to make those arrangements prior to arriving on-site in Kansas City as scooter rentals are based on availability and first-come, first-served. Please contact the company below to confirm pricing and availability.

Chuck's Mobility – 913-859-0290

info@chucksmobility.com

<https://www.chucksmobility.com/rentals.htm>

Mobility First – 816-350-7600

Special Screenings

(Information available on-site at Health Fair located at Kansas City Convention Center (Halls BCD) - check event guide for location and times)

First Aid Room Location

Kansas City Convention Center; open during convention hours, Saturday, July 21 -Wednesday, July 25 (6p)

Emergency

Emergency after hour's numbers will be provided before convention or call 911.

Religious Services

Catholic Mass is scheduled for Saturday, July 21 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 22 at 7:00 a.m. at the Kansas City Convention Center. *Check event guide for room locations*

Protestant Services are scheduled for Saturday, July 21 at 6p. *Check event guide for room locations.*

VFW MEMORIAL SERVICE

The joint VFW/Auxiliary Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, July 23 at 8:30 a.m. at the Kansas City Convention Center (Bartle Hall) – Exhibit Hall E

VFW PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

The 2018 details will be disseminated closer to the July event.

To keep the Patriotic Spirit of this yearly event, check out the patriotic apparel at VFW Store.

<http://www.vfwstore.org/?Action=SkipLogin>

AGENDA

See tentative web agenda at www.vfw.org for the 119th National Convention information. A final agenda will be included in the convention event guide and on the convention Mobile App.

CHARITY AUCTION

The VFW will hold a silent auction Saturday, July 21 through Monday, July 23 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Exhibit Hall BCD of the convention center. Winners will be listed at the “Buddy”[®] Poppy/Silent Auction desk on Tuesday morning, July 24. **All items must be paid for and picked up during the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. on July 24.** Payment will be accepted via check, cash (*in exact amount*) or credit card (Visa, Master Card or Discover). If an item has NOT been picked up prior to 3:30 p.m., it will be shipped to National Headquarters to be dispersed from there. The winners will be contacted for a shipping address and shipping costs will be applied to their bid. Silent auction items are donated by VFW Departments, individual members and vendors. Auction proceeds will benefit **The VFW National Home for Children.**

BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

The annual “Buddy”[®] Poppy Display Contest will be held in Exhibit Hall BCD of the Kansas City convention center. Entries will be accepted for registration and may be set up beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, **July 21**, until noon on Monday, **July 23**. Once judging is completed, winning displays will be identified with appropriate ribbons on Tuesday morning, **7/24** and winners will also be announced on the Convention floor during the day. Please remember the sponsoring unit is responsible for the shipping to and from convention (to include all costs) and the assembly/disassembly of the displays. In addition, the displays **must be removed prior to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday** otherwise, they may be removed by the convention personnel and destroyed.

THINGS TO DO IN AND AROUND KANSAS CITY

Go to the www.VFW.org and access the Microsite at the convention web page for additional information on what to do, where to go, where to eat in Kansas City.

VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Self-guided tours of the VFW National Headquarters will be offered on Monday, July 23, Tuesday, July 24 and Wednesday, July 25 (dates times subject to change). Additional information will be provided closer to the convention dates.

For more information:

Refer to the VFW convention web page via www.vfw.org which is updated as new information is added.

5/11/2018 updated