A CHAMPIONS HOA EXCLUSIVE

EXPLORE MIDWAY

RECOMMENDATIONS & INSIGHTS



HORSE FARMS

Central Kentucky is known as the horse capital of the world, and for good reason

LOCAL DINING

Midway is one of Kentucky's smallest towns, yet home to many excellent restaurants

WINERIES & PARKS

We love Equus Run and the local parks so let us help you plan the perfect visit to sample the local fare

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TRAVEL IDEAS

The scenic 25-minute drive from Champions to Midway is one of Central Kentucky's most picturesque short journeys. The route meanders through rolling horse farms, alongside historic stone fences, and past beautiful stretches of Bluegrass countryside. Travelers will notice the landscape gradually transform from bourbon country to the elegant horse farms and historic charm of Woodford County.

Midway, founded in the 1830s, earned its name from its equidistant location between Lexington and Frankfort on the newly constructed railroad line. This railway quickly transformed the small community into a bustling hub for commerce, travelers, and horse farm operations, with trains still passing through downtown today. This enduring connection to the railroad gives Midway its unique character, where historic storefronts, passing locomotives, and Southern hospitality continue to define daily life.

Use the ideas in this newsletter to help you make the most of your time in our beautiful state.





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EXPLORE KENTUCKY'S **HORSE COUNTRY**

Make memories that will last a lifetime

Central Kentucky is widely considered the the Horse Capital of the World, where generations of world-class racehorses have been bred, raised, and prepared for competition. The region's rich limestone soil, rolling pastureland, and temperate climate create ideal conditions for developing strong, healthy horses, making the Bluegrass famous for breeding.

Many of the area's celebrated farms are home to elite stallions that "stand at stud," meaning champion racehorses retire from racing and become breeding sires whose bloodlines help shape future generations of thoroughbreds. Farms such as WinStar Farm and Lane's End Farm attract mares from across the globe, reinforcing Central Kentucky's reputation as one of the most influential breeding regions in international horse racing. These farms are happy to share their craft with you through a host of intimate tours where you can get up close and personal with their thoroughbreds.

WinStar Farm

One of the most recognized Thoroughbred farms in the world, WinStar Farm offers visitors a chance to see



champion racehorses and beautifully maintained barns surrounded by classic Kentucky stone fences. Tours often include stories about Derby winners, breeding operations, and the daily routines that keep the farm running. Even the drive into the property feels cinematic, especially in the early morning light.

You are sure to hear stories of Justify and jockey Calvin Borel, who won the 2018 Triple Crown, a major accomplishment for any farm. Look for their star studs Constitution and Life is Good during your tour. Constitution is their leading stallion and commands a $110,000 stud fee. Life is Good is a four-time grade one stakes winner and commands a $60,000 stud fee. His wins include the Grade One Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile.

Lane's End Farm

Lane's End is known internationally for producing elite racehorses, but the experience feels surprisingly peaceful and approachable. Visitors can enjoy sweeping Bluegrass views, immaculate horse paddocks, and educational tours that explain



Kentucky's deep connection to the racing industry. It's a favorite stop for photographers and first-time visitors wanting the quintessential horse country experience.

Keep an eye out for Flightline and Quality Road, who are their most promising studs. You may remember Flightline as 2022's Horse of the Year and winner of the Breeder's Cup Classic going away. His record is a perfect six for six and his earnings for these wins stands at just over $4.5 million. His stud fee for 2026 is $125,000, tops for Lane's End. Quality Road had 13 starts, finishing with 8 wins, 3 seconds, and 1 third. He consistently ranks as one of North America's sires and commands a $100,000 stud fee.



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FOOD & DRINK

Dining in downtown Midway is as much about atmosphere as it is about the food itself. Centered around the town's historic railroad tracks, Midway's locally owned restaurants occupy restored storefronts that blend small-town charm with sophisticated Kentucky hospitality. Visitors can spend the afternoon lingering over tacos and margaritas at Don Jockey, enjoy elevated Southern cuisine at Heirloom Restaurant, or settle into the relaxed bourbon-country feel of The Brown Barrel. With outdoor patios, walkable streets, and trains occasionally rolling through the center of town, dining in Midway captures the laid-back elegance and welcoming spirit that make Kentucky's horse country so memorable.

Don Jockey

Colorful, energetic, and easygoing, Don Jockey blends Mexican flavors with Kentucky hospitality. The tacos and margaritas are local favorites, and the patio is one of the best places in town to relax after a morning of touring horse farms. It's casual enough for a quick lunch but lively enough to turn into a long afternoon stop. They also have a full bar.

Heirloom Restaurant

Heirloom is ideal for travelers looking for a slower, more elevated dining experience. Set inside a beautifully restored historic building, the restaurant boasts a talented executive chef and focuses on seasonal Kentucky ingredients









and Southern-inspired dishes. The atmosphere feels refined without being formal, making it a standout destination for brunch, lunch, or dinner. They have a full bar and impressive wine list.

The Brown Barrel

The Brown Barrel delivers classic Kentucky comfort food in a relaxed bourbon-country setting. Guests can expect hearty sandwiches, burgers, regional beer selections, and a welcoming neighborhood feel. It's especially popular with visitors wanting a casual dinner after a full day exploring the countryside. Their full bar includes local beers and seasonal cocktails.

Wallace Station

A stop at Wallace Station Deli and Bakery feels like a classic Kentucky tradition tucked quietly along Old Frankfort Pike in the heart of horse country. Housed inside a restored historic country store, the restaurant is known for its sandwiches, bakery items, and relaxed Bluegrass atmosphere, but the outdoor setting is what truly makes it memorable. Guests can enjoy lunch on the shaded patio or settle in at the picnic tables beneath the trees, where the sounds of passing cars fade into birdsong and rolling countryside views. Wallace station offers a number of local beers but does not offer cocktails or wine.

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PARKS AND **SCENIC STOPS**



Beyond its horse farms and historic downtown, Midway offers serene parks, scenic drives, vineyards, and tranquil countryside retreats that invite visitors to unwind and appreciate the beauty of Kentucky's Bluegrass region. With shaded walking paths, picnic areas, rolling vineyard vistas, and nearby gardens, these picturesque spots enhance a day spent exploring horse country. Whether you're enjoying a leisurely afternoon with a glass of wine or a margarita at Equus Run Vineyards and Saddlestone Distillery, or wandering through the peaceful gardens of Yuko-En on the Elkhorn, you'll discover that Midway's charm extends far beyond its downtown streets.

Equus Run Vineyards and Saddlestone Distillery

Equus Run Vineyards is one of Central Kentucky's hidden gems, offering visitors a stunning glimpse into the relaxed elegance of the Bluegrass countryside. Nestled among rolling hills and horse







farms just outside Midway, this 38-acre vineyard and farm seamlessly blends winery experiences with a distillery setting, capturing the essence of Kentucky. The drive to the property meanders along quiet country roads, revealing rows of grapevines, open pastures, and sweeping views that encourage guests to slow down and savor the scenery. With outdoor seating areas, shaded patios, an amphitheater and walking paths throughout the vineyard, the atmosphere is a world away from bustling tourist spots.

Inside the tasting room, guests can sample a variety of locally crafted wines, ranging from light, fruit-forward selections to bold reds inspired by traditional vineyard styles. The distillery experience adds depth to the visit. They produce brandy and a tequila-like agave spirit made from blue agave imported from Jalisco, Mexico. For many first-time visitors, Equus Run becomes more than just a tasting stop; it offers a chance to embrace the beauty, hospitality, and slower pace that define Central Kentucky. Whether savoring a glass of wine overlooking the vines or enjoying bourbon as the sun sets over the countryside, the experience encapsulates the timeless charm of Kentucky.

We recommend trying a flight of wines, where you can select six one-ounce pours for $12. Additionally, consider bringing lunch, purchasing a bottle of their wine, and enjoying it on their beautiful back patio or at one of the many picnic tables and benches along South Elkhorn Creek, which meanders through the property.

Yuko-En on the Elkhorn

Georgetown, a neighboring community of Midway, is home to Toyota's largest vehicle manufacturing plant in the world, producing the Toyota Camry, RAV4, and Highlander, as well as the Lexus ES models. This connection has fostered a significant Japanese influence in Georgetown, including the state's only Japanese friendship garden. Yuko-En features peaceful walking trails, koi ponds, waterfalls, and thoughtfully designed landscapes, providing a calming contrast to the horse farms and serving as an especially relaxing late-afternoon destination. Established in 1990 and inspired by its sister city, Tahara City, Japan, the garden is a perfect spot to relax on benches by the pond or enjoy a picnic lunch while exploring Central Kentucky.



Midway offers a delightful day trip, blending small-town hospitality, scenic beauty, and authentic Kentucky culture. From historic Main Street to nearby horse farms and local eateries, every visit promises memorable experiences. Nearby parks and vineyards provide perfect locations for a picnic or a casual stroll.

For your next adventure, consider Midway for relaxation, discovery, and connection. Its welcoming atmosphere and unique experiences invite visitors to slow down, savor the moment, and create lasting memories. You will find natural beauty that mirrors the hillsides of our own farm and cottages. Reach out to us if we can help you in any way.

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OUR LITTLE **BLACK BOOK**

This section provides all the essential details you need to effortlessly plan your visit to the suggested businesses and activities. You'll find comprehensive information for each location, including web addresses, phone numbers, physical addresses, and hours of operation. Whether you're seeking a cozy café, an exciting attraction, or a beautiful park to unwind in, this section has you covered. With all these crucial details readily available, maximizing your day trips will be simple and stress-free.

Dining Options

Don Jockey

Refined Mexican in an upscale setting
121 East Main Street, Midway
Phone: 859-403-2001
www.donjockey.com
Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Monday-Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Cost: $15 - $25 per person

Heirloom

French-inspired fine dining in an elegant setting
125 East Main Street, Midway
Phone: 859-846-5565
www.heirloommidway.com
Tuesday – Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. lunch,
5 to 9 p.m. dinner
Sunday & Monday closed
Cost: $30 - $60 per person

Brown Barrel

Casual-yet-classy dining experience
224 North Gratz Street, Midway
Phone: 859-403-2003
www.thebrownbarrel.com
Monday – Saturday 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Cost: $15 - $25 per person

Wallace Station

Casual dining with an innovative menu
3854 Old Frankfort Pike, Midway
Phone: 859-846-5161
www.wallacestation.com
Open every day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Cost: $10 - $20 per person

Horse Farms

Winstar Farm

2605 Paynes Mill Road
All tours depart the new stallion complex
859-963-1004 - tours booked by Horse Country
www.visithorsecountry.com
Cost - $25 - $40 per person

L**ane's End Farm**

780 Midway Road, Versailles
859-963-1004 - tours booked by Horse Country
www.visithorsecountry.com
Cost - $35 per person

Parks & Scenic Stops

Equus Run Vineyards

Working farm, winery, distillery, and gathering place for friends and family
1280 Moores Mill Road, Midway
Phone: 859-846-9463
www.equusrunvienyards.com
Hours – Monday – Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday Noon – 5 p.m.
Cost: $12 - $30 per person

Yuko-En on the Elkhorn

A beautifully designed Japanese friendship garden with walking paths and quiet water features
In Georgetown, just 20 minutes from downtown Midway
700 US-25 North, Georgetown
Phone: 502-863-7152
www.yukoen.com
Hours: Daily Dawn to Dusk
Entry is free

Disclaimer: This newsletter provides general travel inspiration and information. Travel requirements, prices, schedules, and conditions are subject to change without notice. Please verify details directly with restaurants, parks, businesses, and official government sources before making travel plans. Drink responsibly as your enjoy our beautiful state.

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