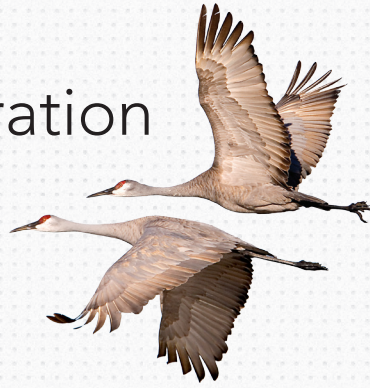


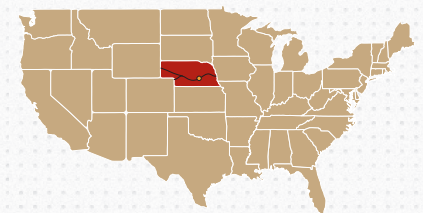
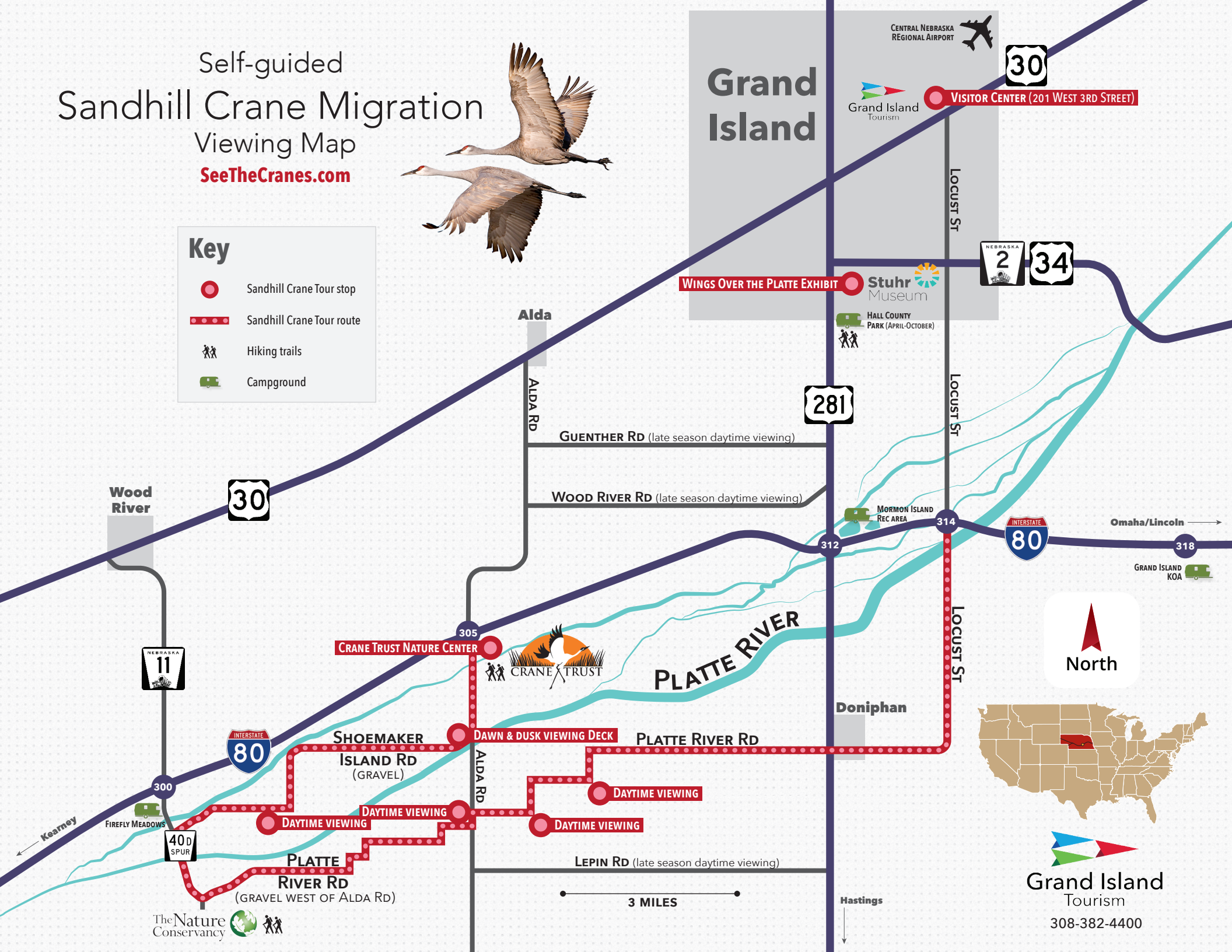
# Self-guided Sandhill Crane Migration Viewing Map

[SeeTheCranes.com](http://SeeTheCranes.com)



**Key**

- Sandhill Crane Tour stop
- ⋯ Sandhill Crane Tour route
- Hiking trails
- Campground



**Grand Island Tourism**  
308-382-4400



# Sandhill Crane Migration

Prepare for your day in the field



## DATE



6 weeks in the spring

The first sandhill cranes can be seen as early as mid-February, however **the second half of March is the usual peak of their migration.** Large flocks often linger into the first week of April. Occasionally, you may also see an endangered whooping crane; about 500 whooping cranes exist in the wild.

## TIME



Dawn

After roosting on the Platte River overnight, flocks of cranes lift off from the river and head towards the nearby cornfields.



Daytime

During the day, cranes feed in the cornfields and marshes along the river. Late in the season, they travel further from the river to find food.



Dusk

After feeding during the day, cranes return to the river to roost for the night. Flocks float down onto the water by the tens-of-thousands.



## BRING



What to pack

- Binoculars or a spotting scope
- Camera
- Birding guide
- Warm clothing you can layer

Don't forget to invite friends and make a hotel reservation!

## ETIQUETTE

- Use designated viewing sites to watch the birds, respecting private property. Most land in the Platte River Valley is private.
- Don't attempt to approach the birds.
- Weather conditions can change rapidly on the great plains during late winter and early spring. Plan accordingly by bringing attire that is suitable for cold temperatures.



## STAY A WHILE



Round out your trip to Grand Island by visiting Stuhr Museum's Wings over the Platte art exhibit, exploring the restaurants and antique shops in the Railside district, or taking a winter hike at one of the area's prairie preserves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

  
Grand Island  
Tourism

308-382-4400

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