



Melissa Etheridge

Hometown Tour

1 HOMETOWN SIGN – 4th ST. and MUNCIE RD. August 2002
Melissa was honored by the City of Leavenworth with an unveiling of a guitar shaped sign signifying her Hometown.

2 LEAVENWORTH VA MEDICAL CENTER – 4101 S. 4th ST.
Melissa makes a brief mention of the VA in the song "Nowhere to Go" off the Your Little Secret album in the lyrics "Down by the old VA."

3 4TH STREET - is the heart of Leavenworth. In 2012 Melissa paid homage to her hometown in the aptly titled 4th Street Feeling album. The title track wistfully asks to "Take me away, way back to that 4th Street feeling now."

4 THE TUNE SHOP - 514 DELAWARE. Melissa took lessons here with Don Raymond. He taught her for many years.

5 C. W. PARKER CAROUSEL MUSEUM - 320 S. ESPLANADE. In 2003 Melissa dedicated an Artizan A-X-1 band organ to the Museum and joked that she is now an "organ donor."

6 MISSOURI RIVER - In the song "Nowhere to Go" off the Your Little Secret album, Melissa sings about going "Down by the muddy waters of the mighty Mo" and again in the song "Meet Me In the Dark" off the Lucky album.

7 UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY - 1300 METROPOLITAN AVE. The first mention of this prison was on her 5th album entitled, Your Little Secret, in the song "Nowhere to Go" when she sings "Past the Walmart and the Prison." Her 7th album, Skin, she wrote an entire song called "The Prison."

8 SPORTSFIELD PARK- N. 20th ST & OTTAWA. On May 20, 2015 Melissa returned to Leavenworth to dedicate a baseball field in honor of her father and his years of support of youth sports.

9 CHILDHOOD HOME - 1902 MIAMI ST. (private residence, drive by only.)

10 DAVID BREWER SCHOOL - 401 17th ST - Melissa attended Kindergarten to 5th grade here.

11 8th STREET - Melissa takes creative license and mentions 8th Street during the song Shiner's Park "I'd be waiting in the street light on 8th Avenue."

WELCOME TO LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS – FOUNDED IN 1854. WITH A POPULATION OF 36,154 AND GROWING, IT IS LOCATED ON THE WEST BANK OF THE MISSOURI RIVER JUST NW OF KANSAS CITY. MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT IS THE HOMETOWN OF SINGER/SONGWRITER/ROCK GODDESS MELISSA LOU ETHERIDGE. MELISSA WAS BORN "UNDER A MIDWEST SKY" ON MAY 29, 1961 AND LIVED IN LEAVENWORTH UNTIL 1979 WHEN SHE LEFT TO PURSUE HER MUSIC CAREER. WHILE SHE MAY HAVE MOVED OUT OF KANSAS, IT MADE AN INDELIBLE MARK ON HER WHICH IS OFTEN REFLECTED IN HER LYRICS, SUCH AS "HIGH AND DRY LIKE A KANSAS SKY", A "SILVER THORN ON A MIDWEST ROSE", AND HER "KANSAS DANCING SHOES." COME VISIT THE PLACES THAT WERE MEANINGFUL TO MELISSA AND LEARN THEIR SIGNIFICANCE WHILE YOU TOUR HER HOMETOWN.



12 LEAVENWORTH HIGH SCHOOL - 10th AVE and HALDERMAN. Melissa attended Leavenworth High School and graduated in 1979. She was a member of the first "Power and Life" musical/dance group at LHS which is still active today.

13 SHRINE PARK - SHRINE PARK RD. and MCDONALD RD. Taking creative license, Melissa changed the name to Shiner's Park and wrote a song for the Your Little Secret album. "Is there a song inside of you that you tried to forget, like your fake ID and your mom's cigarettes, does it take you back, is the vision intense, you and me in Shiner's Park trying to make some sense."

14 EISENHOWER ROAD & MT. CALVARY CEMETERY (Desoto Rd.) - It was on Melissa's 8th album, Lucky, and the song "Meet Me in the Dark" that she desperately sings "Meet me in the dark, meet me in the shadows, past the old graveyard down Eisenhower Road."

15 TONGANOXIE & STRANGER ROADS. (Suncatcher Lake) - On Melissa's 12th album, "This is Me", track number 9, is simply called "Stranger Road" where she sings "Take the road to Tonganoxie, just before Suncatcher Lake."

Melissa Etheridge



Hometown Tour

Leavenworth, Kansas



www.VisitLeavenworthKS.com

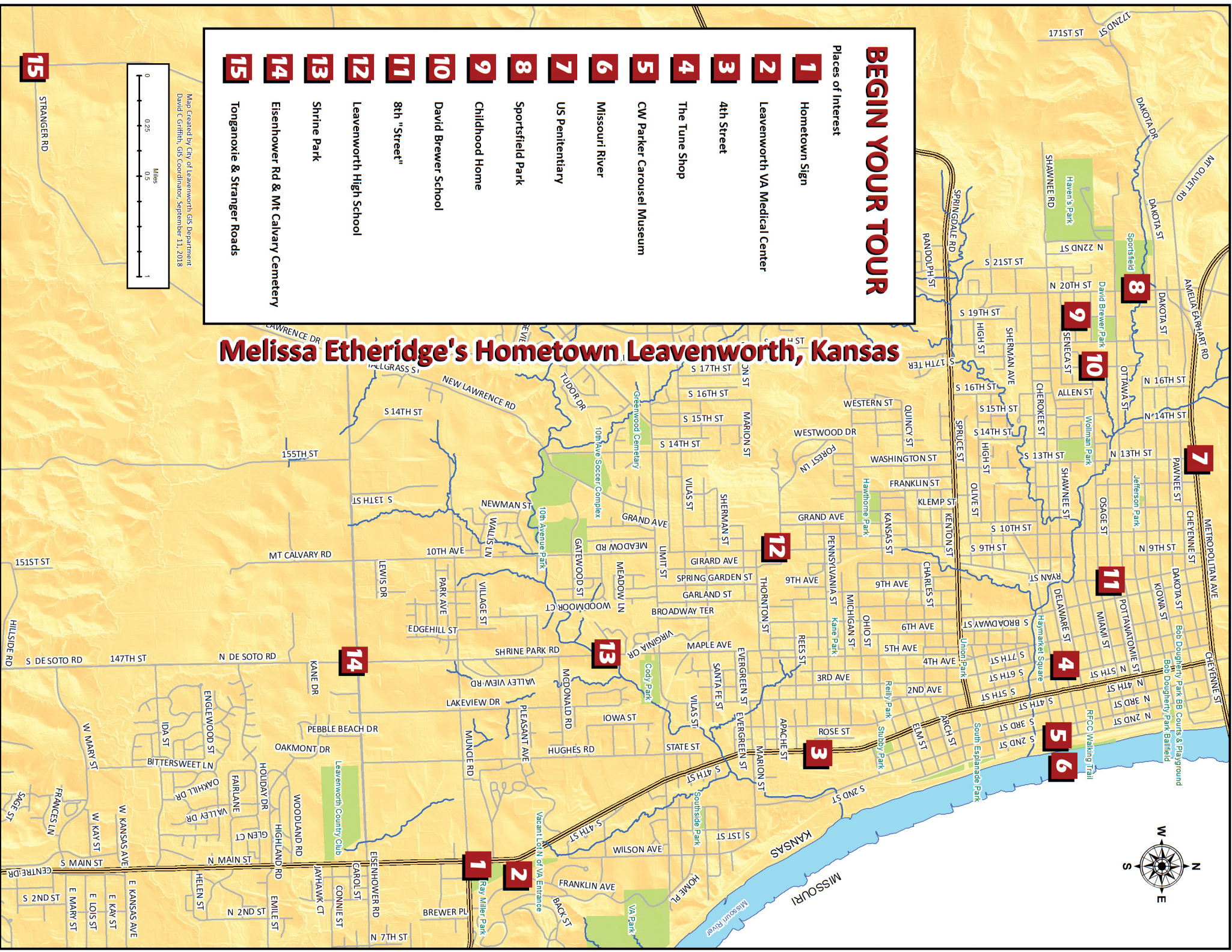


BEGIN YOUR TOUR

Places of Interest

- 1** Hometown Sign
- 2** Leavenworth VA Medical Center
- 3** 4th Street
- 4** The Tune Shop
- 5** CW Parker Carousel Museum
- 6** Missouri River
- 7** US Penitentiary
- 8** Sportsfield Park
- 9** Childhood Home
- 10** David Brewer School
- 11** 8th "Street"
- 12** Leavenworth High School
- 13** Shrine Park
- 14** Eisenhower Rd & Mt Calvary Cemetery
- 15** Tonganoxie & Stranger Roads

Melissa Etheridge's Hometown Leavenworth, Kansas



Map Created by City of Leavenworth GIS Department
 David C Griffith, GIS Coordinator, September 11, 2018