

KSTP.COM — 5 EYEWITNESS NEWS

Fans Give Businesses in Mankato Big Boost During Vikings Training Camp

Updated: 07/24/2014 7:13 PM KSTP.com By: Cassie Hart

All those Vikings fans coming to Mankato for training camp will spend a lot of money in the area, which will benefit local businesses.

For 3 1/2 weeks the Mankato area gets to reap the benefits of having the Vikings prepare for the season in its backyard.

If last year is any indication, the region can expect a big economic boost.

According to [Visit Mankato](#), the city's tourism bureau, 69,000 fans visited Mankato during the training camp in 2013. It's the highest fan attendance in 12 years. A record 15,000 fans attended the team's "Fan Night."

All of those fans contributed to about \$5 million in spending, according to Visit Mankato.

During that time, restaurants, hotels and retail shops tend to do the best business. The businesses closest to the MSU, Mankato campus, saw the biggest increase.

Vikings Training Camp runs from July 24 through Aug. 15. [See a schedule of events here.](#)



Fans greet Adrian Peterson as he arrived in Mankato for start of training camp.
Photo: Photo: KSTP/ Chris Long