

MUST EXPERIENCE

ADVENTURELAND PARK & ADVENTURE BAY WATER PARK

adventurelandpark.com

Adventureland Park has more than 100 rides, shows and attractions, including three great roller coasters. Rides for all ages are available, from mild to wet-and-wild. Also enjoy a variety of family entertainment shows. Kokomo Cove is a virtual splash factory for the whole family, offering over 100 water features.



BLANK PARK ZOO

blankparkzoo.com

The Blank Park Zoo is Iowa's Wildest Adventure! Experience the wonders of nature found in the tropical rainforests, Australian Outback and Africa. Educational classes, tours and rental facilities available.



IOWA HALL OF PRIDE

iowahallofpride.com

All Iowa students, K-12, are admitted free to the Iowa Hall of Pride. Filled with dozens of hands-on interactive exhibits, Iowa Hall of Pride tells the stories of Iowa's communities and their heroes. It's fun for kids, adults and families.



PAPPAJOHN SCULPTURE PARK

desmoinesartcenter.org

The 4.4 acre sculpture park located in Downtown Des Moines features 26 works of art donated by John and Mary Pappajohn from their renowned personal collection of contemporary sculptures. The sculptures are valued at more than \$42 million.



SCIENCE CENTER OF IOWA

sciowa.org

This dynamic 110,000 square-foot facility features six interactive learning areas, live programs and hands-on activities encouraging learning and fun for all ages. It houses the only fully functional clear toilet in the Northern Hemisphere.



GREATER DES MOINES BOTANICAL GARDEN

dmbotanicalgarden.com

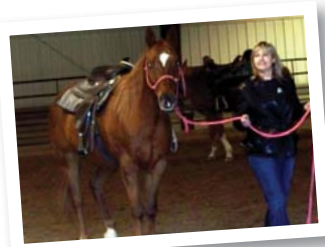
More than a place for plants, the Botanical Garden is a place for people. The center's 15,000 exotic plants, special events, interactive display greenhouse make it an ideal stop. It's among the best examples of American Victorian Second Empire architecture.



JESTER PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

jesterparkec.com

Dedicated to providing horse enthusiasts the ideal area to pursue their passions. Guided trail riding, wagon and sleigh rides, year-round riding lessons, team building, camps, therapeutic riding, long and short-term equestrian boarding and indoor and outdoor arenas available for rent.



DOWNTOWN FARMERS' MARKET

desmoinesfarmersmarket.com

The Downtown Farmers' Market presents 300 Iowa producers, offering fresh fruit, vegetables and so much more. Come for the freshness and stay for the fun! It is rated as one of the country's top Farmers' Markets.



MUST EXPERIENCE

CLIMB IOWA climbiowa.com

Climb Iowa is the largest indoor rock climbing and training center in Iowa. It offers over 10,000 square feet of top rope, boulder and lead climbing. They also offer fitness equipment and yoga classes.



SLEEPY HOLLOW SPORTS PARK sleepyhollowsportsark.com

This unique 60-acre, year-round sports park features downhill skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing during the winter months and miniature golf course, par-3 golf course, batting cages, sand volleyball leagues and bumper boats in spring and summer.



RECREATIONAL TRAILS catchdesmoines.com

Greater Des Moines boasts over 600 miles of trails and was recently named the number one walking city in Iowa by Prevention magazine. Our extensive trail system is perfect for walking, running and biking. Be sure to download our trails maps featuring walking routes and public art.



BRENTON SKATING PLAZA brentonplaza.com

From November to March, Brenton offers people of all ages the chance to ice skate in the open air, under the stars. A fun, recreational experience for families and individuals of all ages.



PRAIRIE MEADOWS prairiemedows.com

Prairie Meadows features 1,900 slot machines, table games including poker and blackjack, Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing spring through early fall, simulcast racing, restaurants, concessions and lively lounges.



MB2 RACEWAY mb2raceway.com

MB2 Raceway is Iowa's premier Indoor Go-Karting Center. MB2 Raceway offers Corporate Team-Building, a VIP Lounge and a 1,200 square foot Conference Room complete with audio and video. Race up to 45mph in their electric go-karts!



DES MOINES ART CENTER desmoinesartcenter.org

The Des Moines Art Center engages diverse local and international audiences with the art of today. Recognized by international art critics as a world-class museum in the heart of the Midwest, the Art Center has amassed a collection representing of artists of the 19th and 20th century.



FLIX BREWHOUSE mb2raceway.com

Flix Brewhouse is the only first run movie theatre in the world to incorporate a fully functioning microbrewery. By combining these concepts, Flix delivers to your theatre seat three of America's great loves - craft beer, great food and the latest movies!



MUST EXPERIENCE- Shopping

HISTORIC VALLEY JUNCTION

valleyjunction.com

Historic Valley Junction is a charming, renovated railroad district with a collection of more than 120 retail businesses, including art galleries, fashion boutiques, antique shops, restaurants and specialty stores.



VALLEY WEST MALL

valleywestmall.com

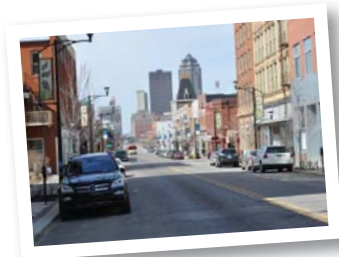
Valley West Mall is Des Moines' premier shopping center offering three department stores- JC Penney, Von Maur and Youngers. Other stores include Banana Republic, Charlotte Russe, The Limited, Eddie Bauer, Gap and more.



HISTORIC EAST VILLAGE

eastvillagedesmoines.com

Historic East Village is a progressive, pedestrian friendly neighborhood featuring eclectic local flair. The East Village is a hub of activity with annual festivals, diverse nightlife scene, beautiful streetscape and restored historic properties.



MERLE HAY MALL

merlehaymall.com

Merle Hay Mall is Iowa's first enclosed shopping mall with 1.2 million square feet of retail space featuring Target, Youngers, Old Navy, Sears and Kohl's, as well as over 100 specialty stores. Staples and Ulta joined in 2009.



JORDAN CREEK TOWN CENTER

jordancreektowncenter.com

Jordan Creek Town Center is a huge retail, dining and entertainment development including a two-level enclosed mall with 125 retailers, a movie theater and restaurants.



BASS PRO SHOPS

basspro.com

While you'll find a huge selection of outdoor gear, Bass Pro Shops stores are also part museum, art gallery, antique store, aquarium, education, conservation and entertainment center. The entire store is a tribute to the vast diversity of the Iowa landscape, its history and the culture of its people.



SOUTHRIDGE MALL

shopsouthridgemall.com

As the only enclosed shopping center serving the south side of Des Moines, the mall owns the loyalty of the south side shopper. The mall recently completed a renovation project that modernized and brightened the center.



WEST GLEN TOWN CENTER

westglentowncenter.com

From home furnishings and wine tasting to the latest looks and plush pampering, West Glen Town Center is your shopping destination. West Glen also offers delicious dining choices and exciting night life options.



MUST EXPERIENCE - Sports

IOWA ENERGY

iowanba.com

The Iowa Energy basketball team is a franchise of the NBA Development League. The team plays 24 home games at the Wells Fargo Arena with the season beginning in November and running through April.



GOLF COURSES

catchdesmoines.com/things-to-do/golf/

Easy access, affordable pricing and an abundance of courses make Des Moines an outstanding place to bring your clubs. Fifteen public courses with at least 18 holes await you.



IOWA CUBS

iowacubs.com

The Iowa Cubs are the Triple-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs. The I-Cubs play in 11,000-seat Principal Park as part of the Pacific Coast League. The I-Cubs season runs early April to early September.



KNOXVILLE RACEWAY

knoxvillraceway.com

For over 50 years, Knoxville Raceway has been entertaining people from around the globe with the most exciting open wheel and dirt track racing on the planet. Racing takes place from mid-April through September.



IOWA WILD HOCKEY

iowawild.com

The Iowa Wild is the American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate of the National Hockey League's Minnesota Wild. The team began playing at Wells Fargo Arena October, 2013.



DES MOINES MENACE

menacesoccer.com

The Des Moines Menace are a PDL soccer team playing their home games right here in West Des Moines. Their season runs May - July. Be sure to check out a game...the atmosphere is electric!



IOWA SPEEDWAY

iowaspeedway.com

Iowa Speedway offers high-speed, pulse-pounding racing events. The 10,000 square foot, modern facility hosts national races and concerts throughout the racing season.



IOWA BARNSTORMERS

theiowabarnstormers.com

The Barnstormers are the newest member of Arena Football 1. Home games are played April through July at Wells Fargo Arena in Downtown Des Moines.



MUST EXPERIENCE – Historical

HOYT SHERMAN PLACE

hoytsherman.org

Built in 1877 by prominent businessman Hoyt Sherman, the facility is Des Moines' first public art gallery, which now serves as a home for a distinctive collection of 19th and 20th century artwork. The 1,250-seat theater is known for its historic interior.



LIVING HISTORY FARMS

lhf.org

This open-air museum tells the story of Midwestern agriculture and rural life using interpreters in period costumes. Visit the 1700 Ioway Indian Village, 1850 Pioneer Farm, 1875 Frontier Town and 1900 Horse-powered Farm.



BENNETT SCHOOLHOUSE

wdmhistoricalsociety.org

The Bennett School, circa 1926, is one of the last one-room schoolhouses standing in Polk County. Tours are available upon request.



SALISBURY HOUSE & GARDENS

salisburyhouse.org

Salisbury House, a 42-room mansion built in the 1920s, is filled with original art, rare books and antique furnishings from around the world.



HISTORIC JORDAN HOUSE

wdmhistoricalsociety.org

This 1850 Victorian house was an official site on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Its rooms tell the history of Senator James C. Jordan and the growth of Valley Junction into West Des Moines.



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iowahallofpride.com

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STATE HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF IOWA

iowahistory.org

Iowa's history lives on in this modern granite and glass structure at the foot of the State Capitol. Unique, permanent and temporary exhibits explore the people, places, events and issues of Iowa's past.



HERITAGE CAROUSEL

heritagecarousel.org

Heritage Carousel features hand-carved animals include a tiger, an ostrich, a zebra, a baby elephant, a giraffe, a sea urchin and a panda. The Carousel accommodates up to 35 riders and is handicap accessible.



MUST EXPERIENCE – Performing Arts

BALLET DES MOINES

balletdesmoines.org

Ballet Des Moines is re-establishing Central Iowa as the home of a ballet company the city can call its own. Ballet Des Moines performs two productions each year, and provides opportunities for education and outreach.



CIVIC CENTER OF GREATER DES MOINES

civiccenter.org

The Civic Center of Greater Des Moines presents the best live professional theater direct from Broadway. Shows including “The Lion King,” “Wicked,” “Mama Mia” and “Rent” have all graced the Civic Center stage.



DES MOINES METRO OPERA

desmoinesmetroopera.org

Des Moines Metro Opera offers award-winning educational and outreach programs and is one of the largest performing arts organizations in the state. Most seasons include the performance of three operas which are held on the Simpson College Campus in Indianola.



DES MOINES COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE

dmplayhouse.com

The Playhouse presents 12-14 musicals, comedies, dramas and family shows each year. Recent productions include “Cats” and “Disney’s High School Musical.” Group prices available.



STAGWEST @ STONER THEATRE

stagewestiowa.com

Eclectic. Urban. Theater. Des Moines’ home for contemporary, Off-Broadway theater at the Civic Center’s Stoner Theater. Join us on the edge!



DES MOINES SYMPHONY

dmsymphony.org

The Des Moines Symphony performs six pairs of classical concerts each season, as well as its Opening Night Gala, New Year’s Eve Pops and annual Yankee Doodle Pops concert.



MUST EXPERIENCE - Day Trips

NORTH

Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad
Center Grove Orchard
Growing Family Fun at Geisler Farms
Hotel Pattee
Iowa Arboretum
Jester Park (campgrounds, equestrian & golf)
Polk County Conservation
Reiman Gardens
Seven Oaks Recreation
Silos & Smokestacks
Tournament Club of Iowa



SOUTH

Analiese Winery
Broadbent Distillery
Des Moines Metro Opera
Echo Valley Country Club
Flying Frog Hosta Farm
National Balloon Museum & U.S. Hall of Fame
Summerset Winery



EAST

Iowa Speedway
Knoxville Raceway
Maytag Blue Cheese
Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge
Tassle Ridge Winery
Trainland U.S.A.



WEST

Birthplace of John Wayne
Covered Bridges Winery

