

IOWA

Mini Vacations

Use with an official Iowa highway map.



Travel Development Division
Iowa Development Commission
250 Jewett Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

A place to begin

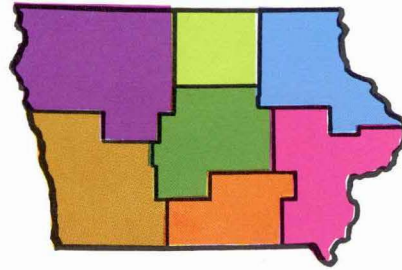
Iowa has been described as "Four Seasons of Fun." Centuries ago the Indians referred to the state as the "Beautiful Land." Couple these two thoughts and you have the ingredients for an outstanding weekend vacation with a minimum of driving.

The pages of this booklet are filled with Mini-vacations designed around Iowa's seven travel regions. Each will provide fun and relaxation with a minimum loss of travel time. Whether you are interested in history, man-made attractions or natural beauty, you will find it within the borders of Iowa.

Our Indian heritage is rich and ranges from one of the largest collections of effigy Indian burial mounds in the nation to a present day Pow Wow celebration. Antique buffs will find a virtual paradise as they visit restored homes and businesses or browse through wayside shops or country museums. Natural attractions range from virgin prairie to outstanding wildlife refuges. Geological formations in many parts of the state provide ample opportunity for the weekend rockhound. It's even possible to take Mini-vacations planned completely around golf courses.

No matter where in Iowa you are right now, there is a Mini-vacation close at hand. With this booklet and a highway map you can plan your leisure activity to include just what you want. Pick a place to start, for Iowa is indeed the "Beautiful Land" and you can prove in a hurry that it is also "Four Seasons of Fun."

 **Iowa**
a place to grow



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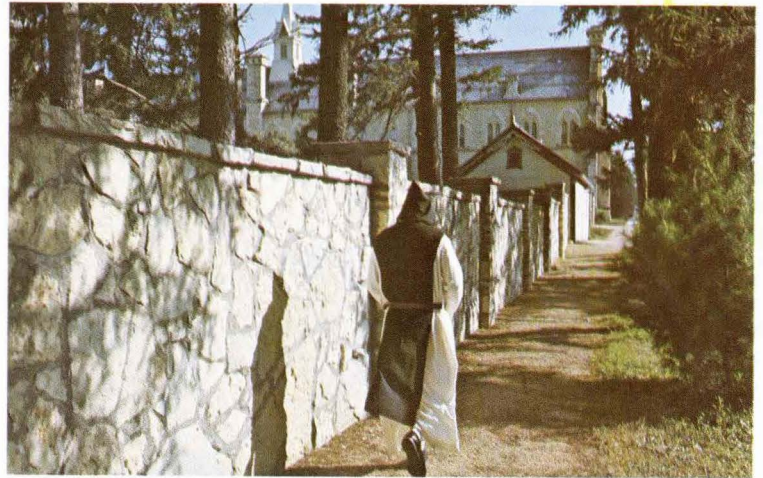
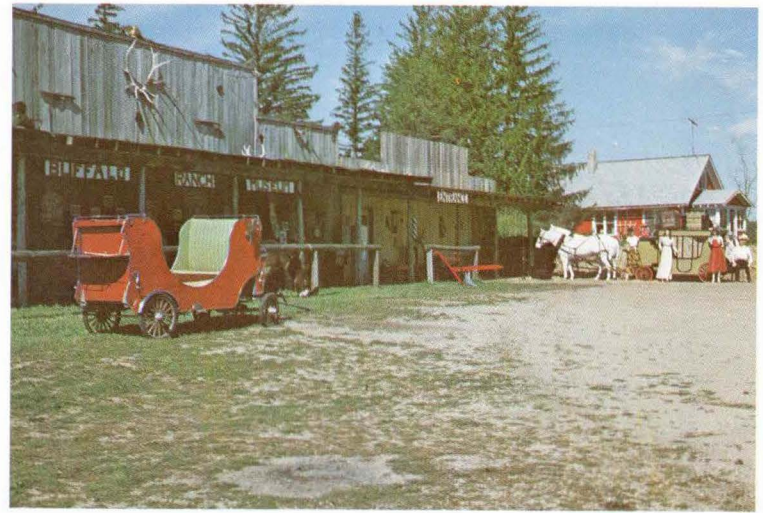
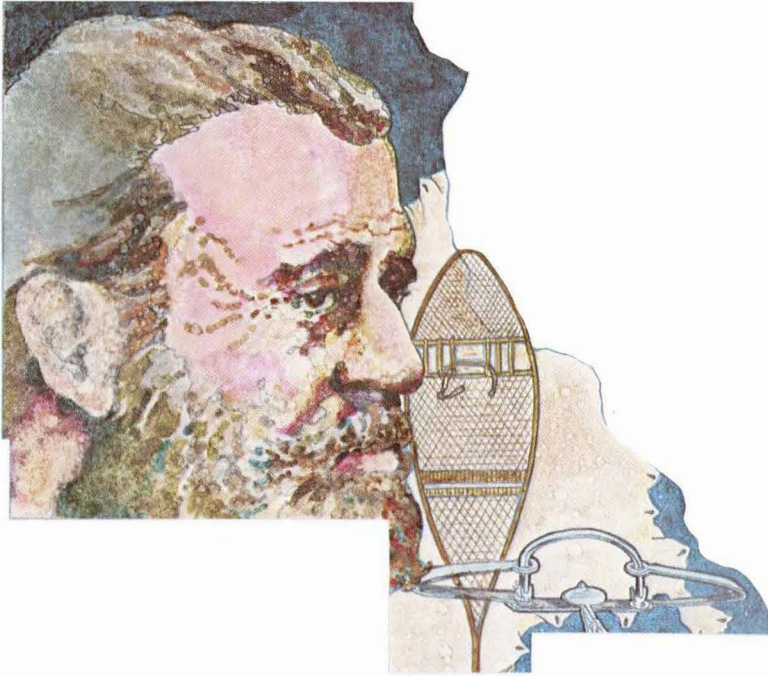
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NOTE:

This brochure is designed for use with an official Iowa highway map.



Explorerland

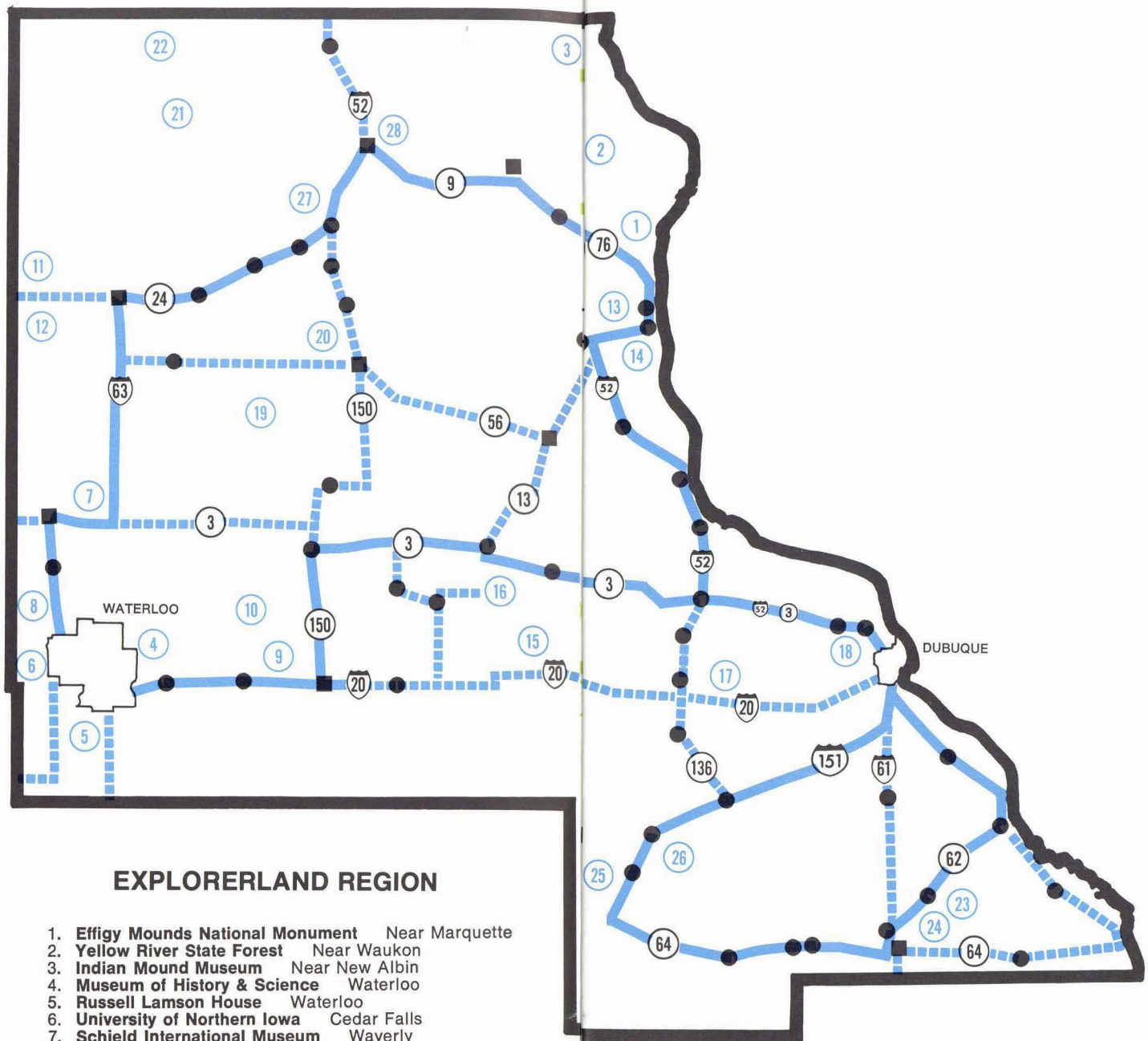


From a bluff that rose high above the broad expanse of the Mississippi River, a priest, Marquette and an explorer named Jolliet were the first Europeans to record the discovery of the land known to the Indians as "Beautiful Land."

Today, three centuries later, people are still discovering that Iowa's northeast corner is one of the most beautiful parts of this land that is laced with history and natural scenic beauty.

It is a land that is rich with the heritage of miners, trappers, hunters, explorers and Indian culture.

To the vacationer, this region is indeed an Explorerland, for there are discoveries to be made around every corner . . . throughout the year. In winter it is playground for skiers, skaters and snowmobilers. During the spring and summer the lush countryside delights canoers, naturalists and hikers. Fall brings dazzling color displays. There is much in this region that will make your visit to Explorerland a memorable one for years to come.

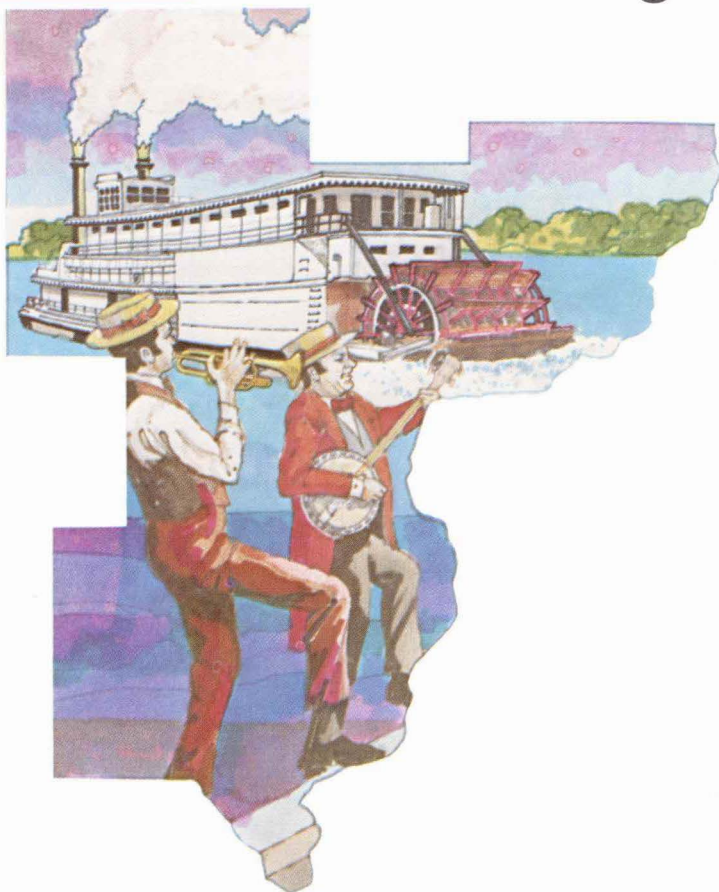


EXPLORERLAND REGION

1. **Effigy Mounds National Monument** Near Marquette
2. **Yellow River State Forest** Near Waukon
3. **Indian Mound Museum** Near New Albin
4. **Museum of History & Science** Waterloo
5. **Russell Lamson House** Waterloo
6. **University of Northern Iowa** Cedar Falls
7. **Schild International Museum** Waverly
8. **Waverly House** Waverly
9. **Wapsie Mill** Near Independence
10. **Old Amish Harness Shops** Hazelton
11. **Little Brown Church in The Vale** Near Nashua
12. **Chickasaw County Museum** New Hampton
13. **Bloody Run** Near Marquette
14. **Pikes Peak State Park** Near McGregor
15. **Red School House** Near Manchester
16. **Backbone State Park** Near Strawberry Point
17. **Basilica of St. Francis Xavier** Dyersville
18. **Old Shot Tower** Dubuque

19. **Buffalo Ranch Museum** Fayette
20. **Montauk** Clermont
21. **Hayden Prairie** Near Lime Springs
22. **Lidtke Park & Mill** Near Lime Springs
23. **Home of Ansel Briggs** Andrew
24. **Nickelodeon Museum** Maquoketa
25. **Antioch School Memorial** Near Anamosa
26. **Pictured Rocks** Near Monticello
27. **Bily Clock Exhibit** Spillville
28. **Norwegian-American Museum** Decorah

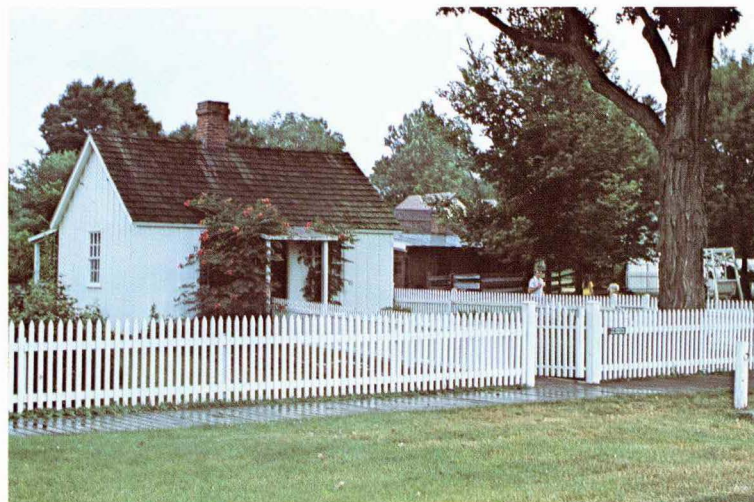
Great Rivers Region



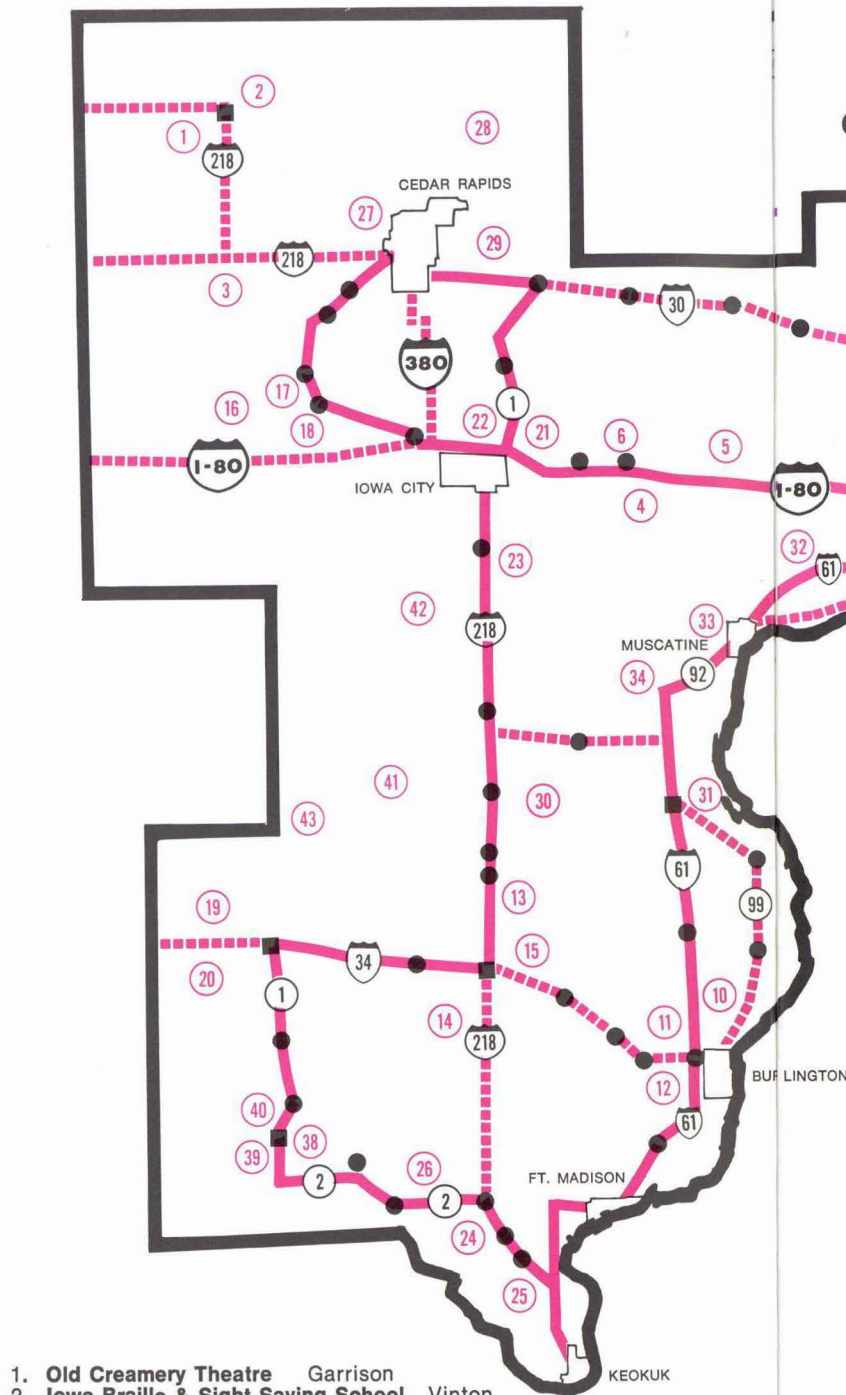
In Iowa's Great Rivers Region on a warm summer night, if you listen hard, you can almost hear a banjo strummin' or the slosh-and-whoosh of a sternwheeler churning through the mists of the mighty Mississippi.

Yes, this region still casts its spell on those who travel her river banks, backroads and uncrowded highways. She's alive with festivals, celebrations and homespun hospitality. There's a surprise around every bend—historic trails, unique river villages, a major university, the birthplaces of famous Americans, Iowa's largest State park and even a nationally known rodeo.

You can enjoy a variety of activities—canoeing, boating, camping, fall color displays and some of the country's best river fishing.



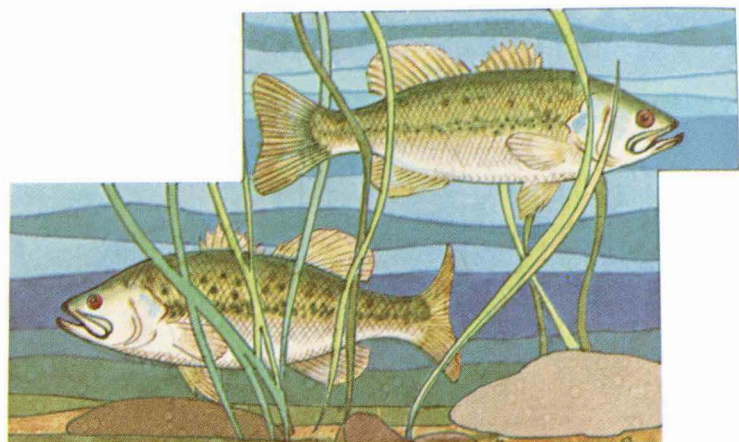
GREAT RIVERS REGION



1. **Old Creamery Theatre** Garrison
2. **Iowa Braille & Sight Saving School** Vinton
3. **Hannen Lake** Near Blairstown
4. **Herbert Hoover Presidential Library & Historical Site** West Branch
5. **Site of Dutton Place** Near West Union
6. **William Maxon Home** Near Springdale
7. **Rhododendron Showboat Theater** Clinton
8. **Arrowhead Hunting Club** Near Neola

9. **Eden Valley Refuge** Near Baldwin
10. **Snake Alley** Burlington
11. **Apple Tree Museum** Burlington
12. **Crapo Park** Burlington
13. **Midwest Old Threshers Museum** Mt. Pleasant
14. **Lewelling Quaker Shrine** Salem
15. **Iowa Wesleyan Museum** Mt. Pleasant
16. **Amana Colonies** Amana
17. **Amana Heim** Homestead
18. **Heritage House** Amana
19. **First Carnegie Library West of the Mississippi and Pioneer Museum** Fairfield
20. **Rhodam Bonnifield Log Cabin** Fairfield
21. **Old Capitol** Iowa City
22. **Coralville Reservoir** Near North Liberty
23. **Plum Grove** Iowa City
24. **Lee County Historic Center** Keokuk
25. **National Cemetery** Keokuk
26. **Croton Civil War Memorial Park** Croton
27. **Cedar Rapids Art Center** Cedar Rapids
28. **Iowa Masonic Library & Museum** Cedar Rapids
29. **Palisades** Near Mt. Vernon
30. **Swinging Bridge** Columbus Junction
31. **Toolesboro Indian Mounds** Toolesboro
32. **Wild Cat Den State Park** Near Fairport
33. **Laura Musser Art Gallery & Museum** Muscatine
34. **Weed Park Zoo** Muscatine
35. **Buffalo Bill Museum** LeClaire
36. **Scott County Park** Near Long Grove
37. **Davenport Museum** Davenport
38. **Bentonsport** Near Keosauqua
39. **Lacey-Keosauqua State Park** Near Keosauqua
40. **Pearson House** Keosauqua
41. **Conger House** Washington
42. **Kalona Historic Village** Kalona
43. **Lake Darling State Park** Near Brighton

Indian Hills Lake Region



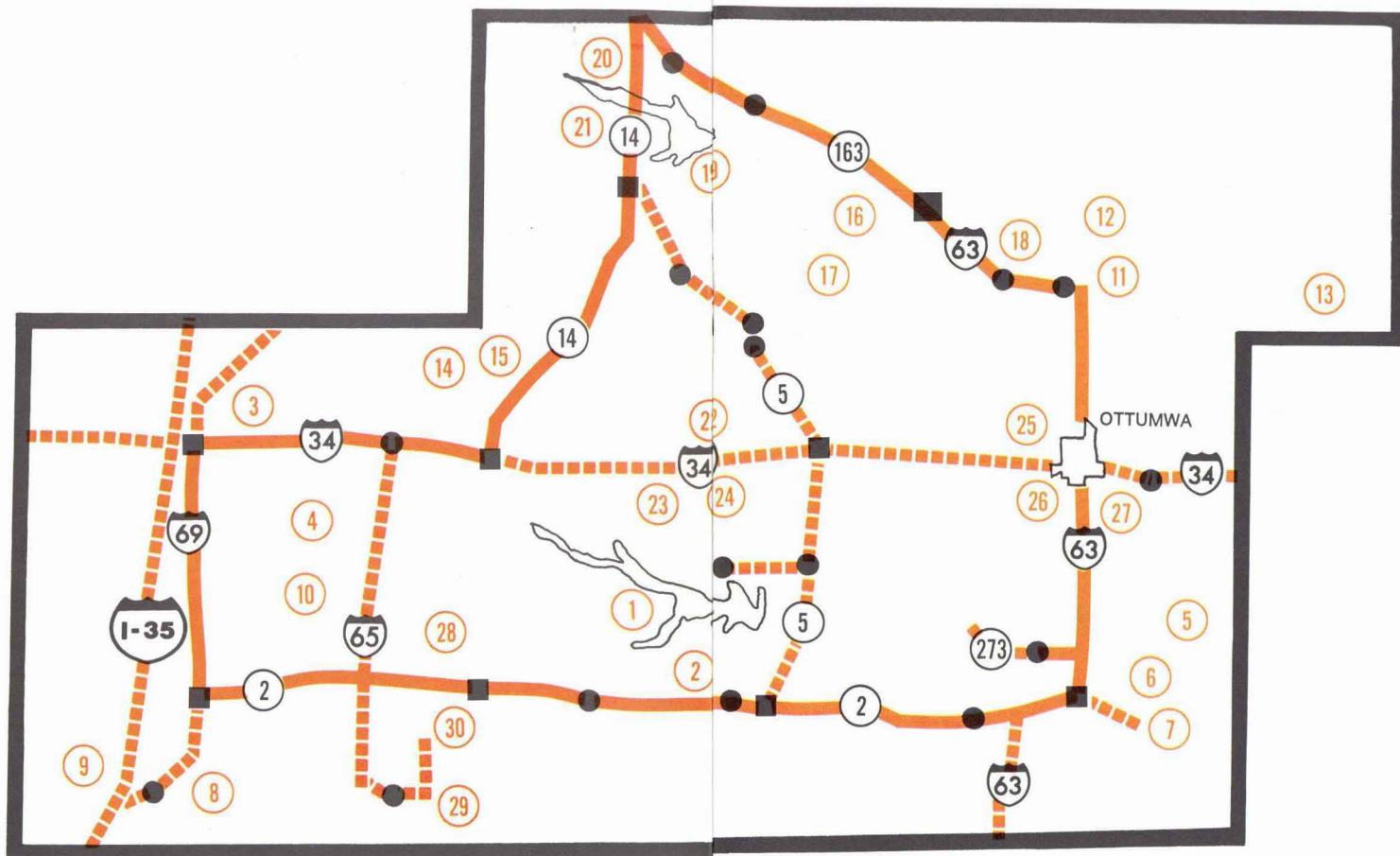
For centuries Indians moved through the hills and valleys of this region hunting and fishing, appreciating the beauty of the land and raising their young. In the 1800's they were joined by the Mormons who came pushing their carts on their trek Westward.

Much of the land is the same but two huge dams have created thousands of acres of recreation land, which, combined with the region's many natural lakes, provide untold hours of enjoyment for the watersports enthusiast.

Plan also to spend time enjoying this region's charming and quaint country festivals which celebrate everything from tulips to antique airplanes.

Whether hunting in the fall, backpacking in the spring, waterskiing during the summer or just plain sight-seeing anytime at all, the Indian Hills Lake Region provides a unique "change of pace" vacation.





INDIAN HILLS LAKE REGION

1. **Lake Rathbun** Near Centerville
2. **Little Flock Chapel** Near Plano
3. **Clarke County Museum** Osceola
4. **Mormon Trail** Near LeRoy
5. **Lock Tenders House** Near Eldon
6. **Davis County Museum** Bloomfield
7. **Davis County Court House** Bloomfield
8. **Slip Bluff Park** Near Davis City
9. **Joseph Smith Home** Lamoni
10. **Trailside Historical Park** Near Garden Grove
11. **Delta Covered Bridge** Near Delta
12. **What Cheer Opera House** What Cheer
13. **Rock Creek Church** Near Ollie
14. **Lucas County Historical Museum** Chariton
15. **Stephens State Forest** Near Chariton

16. **Chief Mahaska Statue** Oskaloosa
17. **Nelson Homestead Pioneer Farm & Crafts Museum** Oskaloosa
18. **Lake Keomah** Near Keomah
19. **Pella Historical Museum** Pella
20. **Red Rock Reservoir** Near Pella
21. **Marion County Historic Park** Knoxville
22. **1860 Period Downtown Area of Albia** Albia
23. **Kendall Place** Albia
24. **St. Patrick's Church** Albia
25. **Antique Airfield & Museum** Ottumwa
26. **Wapello Historical Museum** Ottumwa
27. **Mars Hills Pioneer Log Church** Near Floris
28. **Harry's Dog House** Humeston
29. **Little Red School House** Near Lineville
30. **Bob White State Park** Near Allerton

Iowa's Golden Southwest

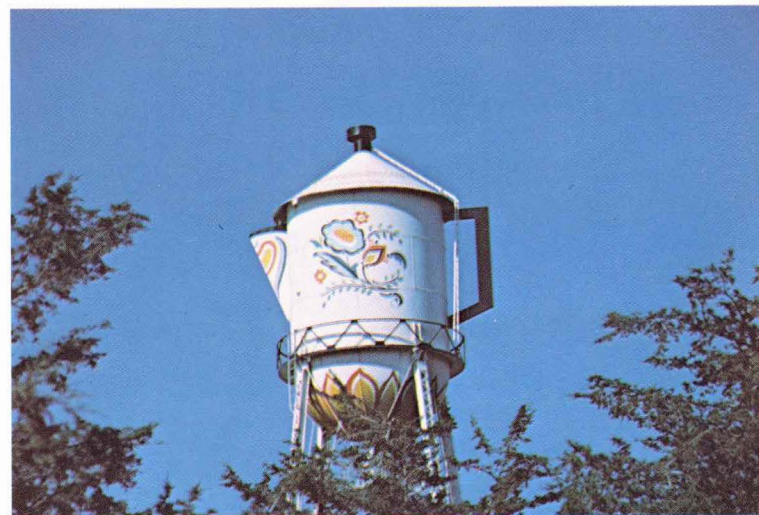


Railroads, train robbers, explorers, bank bandits, pioneers in search of new opportunities and Mormons escaping persecution—all played a part in the colorful history of Iowa's Golden Southwest region.

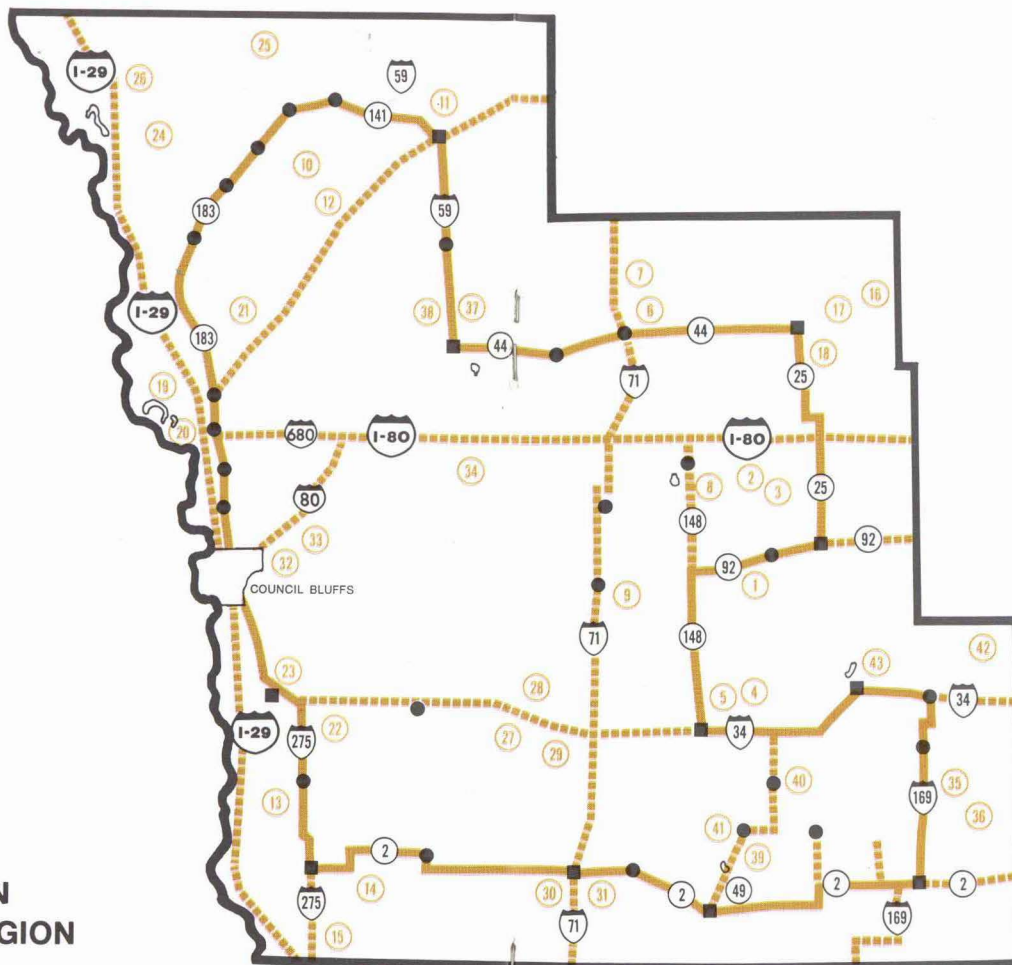
It is not surprising, in a region chocked full of history, to find a number of museums and landmarks. Much of what was left behind has been preserved for everyone to enjoy today.

The Missouri River fly-way provides a heavy migration of ducks and geese every spring and fall, making this region a paradise for sportsmen & naturalists alike.

There is ample opportunity for camping, fishing and picnicking. You'll also find festivals, celebrations and one of the nation's largest authentic western rodeos. Iowa's Golden Southwest provides enjoyment for the entire family.

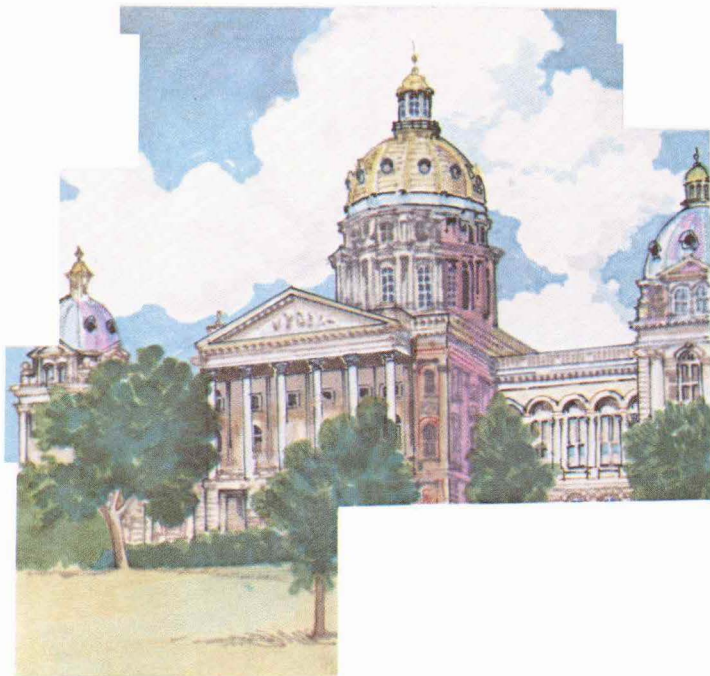


IOWA'S GOLDEN SOUTHWEST REGION



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Mormon Trail Park Near Bridgewater | 24. Preparation Canyon State Park Near Moorhead |
| 2. Site of Jesse James Train Robbery Near Adair | 25. Maher's Arlington Hotel & Antiques Mapleton |
| 3. Adair County Museum Greenfield | 26. Lewis & Clark State Park Near Onawa |
| 4. Adams County Museum Corning | 27. World's Largest Coffee Pot Stanton |
| 5. Icarian School House Corning | 28. Chautauqua Park Pavilion Red Oak |
| 6. Plow in Oak Park Near Exira | 29. Viking Lake State Park Near Stanton |
| 7. Albert The Bull Audubon | 30. Colonel W. P. Hepburn Home Clarinda |
| 8. Lake Anita Near Anita | 31. Goldenrod School Museum Clarinda |
| 9. Cass County Museum Griswold | 32. General Dodge House Council Bluffs |
| 10. Dow House Dow City | 33. County Rotary Jail Council Bluffs |
| 11. W. A. McHenry House Museum Denison | 34. Walnut Heritage House Museum Walnut |
| 12. Nelson Park Near Dow City | 35. Pioneer Cottage Ellston |
| 13. Forney's Lake Near Thurman | 36. Buffalo Wallow Near Beaconsfield |
| 14. Manti Memorial Park Near Shenandoah | 37. Dinesen Prairie Near Harlan |
| 15. Interstate Nursery Garden Near Hamburg | 38. Potters Park Harlan |
| 16. Turn of the Century Museum Panora | 39. Lake of Three Fires State Park Near Bedford |
| 17. Springbrook State Park Near Guthrie Center | 40. Wilson Park Near Lenox |
| 18. Nation's Bridge Park Near Stuart | 41. Windmill Lake Near Bedford |
| 19. The Bertrand Steamboat Artifact Exhibit Near Missouri Valley | 42. Mount Pisgah Near Lorimor |
| 20. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Near Missouri Valley | 43. C.B. & Q. Depot & Museum Clarinda |
| 21. Magnolia Memorial Log Cabin & Museum Magnolia | |
| 22. House of a Thousand Bottles Hastings | |
| 23. Early Trails Monument Near Glenwood | |

Heart of Iowa

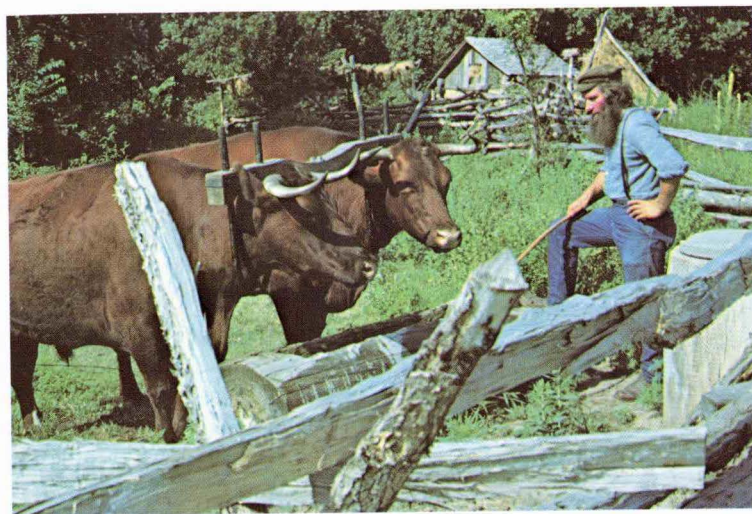


When you travel to the Heart of Iowa region, whether on vacation or a weekend trip, you will experience that which is the most “typically Iowa” of all the regions.

Heart of Iowa is a land of contrasts, abundant with centers of science, learning, culture, history and government—as well as wooded campsites, hiking trails, rivers and lake recreation areas.

From Des Moines, Iowa’s capital city, rich farmlands stretch as far as the eye can see, picturesque towns and villages dot the countryside and there is much that lives on today that is reminiscent of turn-of-the-century America.

Throughout the Heart of Iowa region indoor and outdoor activities are plentiful, whether it be attending fairs, festivals and sporting events or visiting bridges, museums, mansions or just picknicking by a quiet lake or in one of several parks.



Siouxland



Indian canoes cut quietly through the waters of a blue lake, proud hunters ride across the prairie grass chasing huge herds of buffalo. Smoke drifts softly skyward from an Indian camp near a stream, "The Beautiful Land" unfolds as far as the eye can see.

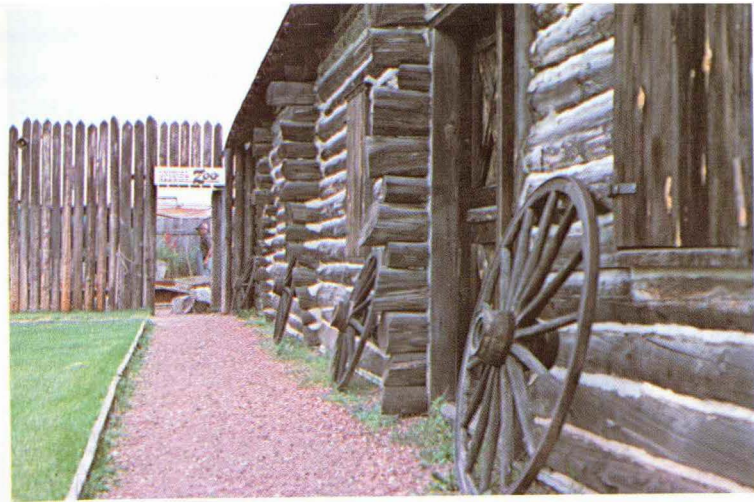
The region is Siouxland, an original hunting and fishing land of the Sioux Indians.

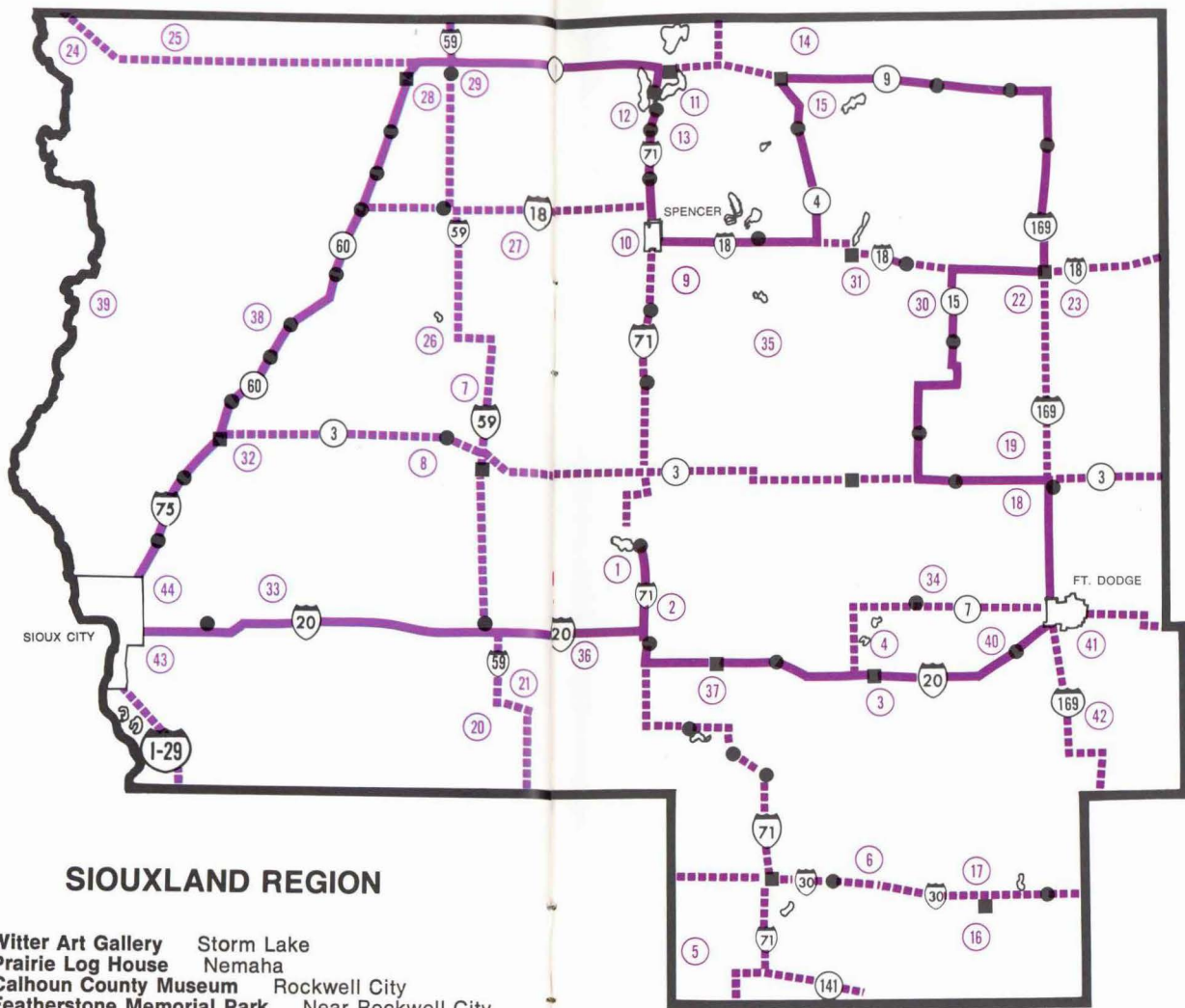
Today this area is a recreational haven for all who visit this region's many lakes. One is the sight of a famous massacre, another is one of three blue water lakes in the world.

In addition to the recreational facilities at the lakes, there are quaint small town festivals throughout the region celebrating everything from Irishmen to tulips.

Other sightseeing musts are a replica of an original prairie fort and a religious grotto, which has been called one of the "Wonders" of the world.

Winter sports have seen rapid growth making Siouxland, like all of Iowa, twelve months of recreational fun.





SIouxLAND REGION

1. **Witter Art Gallery** Storm Lake
2. **Prairie Log House** Nemaha
3. **Calhoun County Museum** Rockwell City
4. **Featherstone Memorial Park** Near Rockwell City
5. **Holstein-Friesian Museum** Manning
6. **Grave of Merle D. Hay** Glidden
7. **Sanford Museum & Planetarium** Cherokee
8. **Stiles School House Museum** Near Quimby
9. **Cornell Museum** Near Webb
10. **Parker Historical Museum** Spencer
11. **Iowa Great Lakes** Spirit Lake
12. **Gardner Cabin** Arnolds Park
13. **Arnolds Park Funland, U.S.A.** Arnolds Park
14. **Estherville Meteorite** Near Estherville
15. **Fort Defiance State Park** Near Estherville
16. **Mehanay Memorial Carillon Tower** Jefferson
17. **Telephone Museum** Jefferson
18. **Frank A. Gotch State Park** Near Humboldt
19. **Old Mill Farm** Dakota City
20. **Battle Hill** Near Battle Creek
21. **Morehead Pioneer Park** Near Ida Grove
22. **Ambrose A. Call State Park** Near Algona
23. **Stinson Prairie** Near Algona
24. **Gitche Manitou State Park** Near Larchwood
25. **First Reinforced Concrete Bridge in U.S.** Rock Rapids
26. **Wittrock Indian Village Site** Near Sutherland
27. **Covey Church Park** Near Hartley
28. **Osceola County Co-op Creamery** Sibley
29. **Johnson Wilderness Area** Near Allendorf
30. **Grotto of the Redemption** West Bend
31. **Kearney State Park** Emmetsburg
32. **Plymouth County Historical Museum** LeMars
33. **Southeast Wildwood Park** Near Kingsley
34. **Kalsow Prairie** Near Manson
35. **Little Cedar Creek Game Farm** Near Albert City
36. **Sac County Historical Building** Sac City
37. **Chautauqua Building** Sac City
38. **Heritage Room & Hoeven Room** Orange City
39. **Big Sioux Park** New Hawarden
40. **Ft. Dodge Historical Museum** Near Ft. Dodge
41. **Blanden Art Gallery** Ft. Dodge
42. **Pioneer Museum** Harcourt
43. **Floyd Monument** Near Sioux City
44. **Sioux City Art Center** Sioux City



Land of Four Seasons



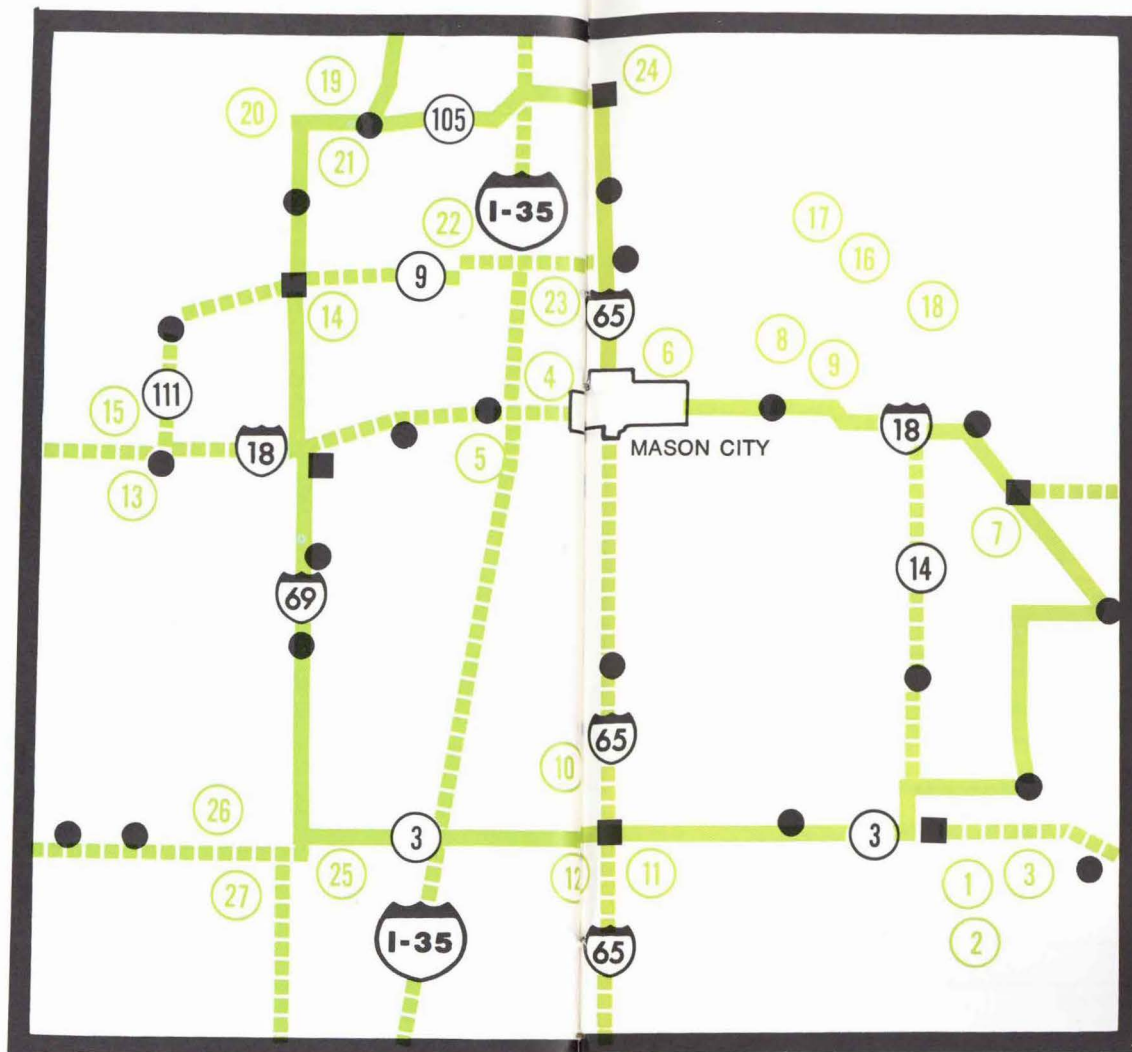
The Land of Four Seasons Region is Iowa's year 'round area for family recreation.

In early summer you can almost hear the music man and his "76 trombones," as this region plays host to a mammoth high school band festival.

The region's six lakes provide facilities for picnicking, camping and water sports. As the seasons change, the region becomes one of Iowa's most popular areas for hunting. Winter activities include ice fishing, snowmobiling, ice skating and ice sailing—appealing to the sports minded of all ages.

This wide variety of events and activities make north central Iowa a fun filled vacation spot for your whole family, twelve months of the year.





LAND OF FOUR SEASONS

1. Little Yellow Country School House Allison
2. Pilot Rock Near Allison
3. Wedeking Buffalo Herd Near Greene
4. Pioneer Museum and Historical Society Near Mason City
5. Clear Lake Clear Lake
6. Charles H. MacNider Art Museum Mason City
7. Floyd County Museum Charles City
8. Sherman Buffalo Herd Near Nora Springs
9. Mathers Forest Nora Springs
10. Beeds Lake State Park Near Hampton
11. Maysville School House Near Hampton
12. Mallory Park Near Hampton

13. Armstrong House Britt
14. Pilot Knob State Park Near Forest City
15. Hancock County Museum Britt
16. Hamlin Garland Home Near Osage
17. St. Ansgar Mill Near St. Ansgar
18. Mitchell County Museum Osage
19. Hogsback Area Near Lake Mills
20. Lake Harmon Near Scarville
21. Rice Lake Near Lake Mills
22. Elk Creek Marsh Near Joyce
23. Fertile Mill Park Fertile
24. Ochee Yahola Park Near Northwood
25. Bingham Park Near Rowan
26. 4-H Historical Building Clarion
27. Pikes Timber Near Clarion

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

There are over 300 different free pieces of information available for places and events throughout Iowa. To receive this material on one or all of Iowa's seven travel regions, please complete and return the appropriate coupon with your request to:

TRAVEL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Iowa Development Commission
250 Jewett Bldg.
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

1. Explorerland **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
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_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

2. Great Rivers Region **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

3. Indian Hills Lake Region **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

4. Iowa's Golden Southwest **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

5. Heart of Iowa **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

6. Siouxland **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

7. Land of Four Seasons **Mini-vacations ***

Please send specific information on:

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Number in your family _____

EXPLANATION OF INTERLOCKING LOOPS

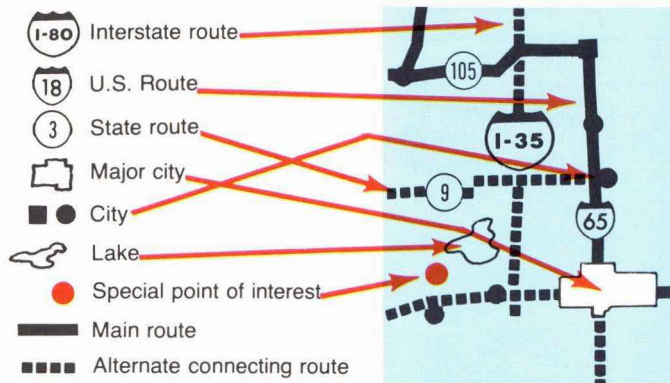
This map is designed to show you how you can combine the loops of more than one region to make your own multi-regional mini-vacation.

You may start at any point and go any direction.

The map shows alternate routes and how they interconnect with other routes.

It also shows how you can get to the various loops from points that originate outside the state of Iowa.

Legend:



Use with an official Iowa highway map.

Scale:  40
SCALE IN MILES

TRAVEL AIDS

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