



DISCOVER

# Ames

IA

2026 Guide to **Ames & Iowa State University**

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# DISCOVER Ames IA

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## VISITORS WELCOME

The Discover Ames office is located at 1601 Golden Aspen Dr., Suite 110. Our hours are M-F 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; our entryway is filled with visitor information and is open 24 hours a day. Additional Discover Ames visitor information can be found at Ames 1864, a retail shop located at 500 Main St. in downtown Ames. Plan your trip at [DiscoverAmes.com](http://DiscoverAmes.com)

MEET IN  
*Ames* IA

Let us help you bring your meeting or event to Ames!  
Visit [DiscoverAmes.com/plan](http://DiscoverAmes.com/plan)



# Welcome to Ames and Iowa State University!

If you're looking for your next weekend getaway destination, I invite you to discover all that Ames has to offer. From our historic downtown shops and restaurants to our thriving art scene, world-class gardens, and the beautiful Iowa State University campus, there's something here for everyone. Let this guide help you plan the perfect itinerary for your time in Ames. Whatever your interests, you'll find plenty to explore and enjoy.

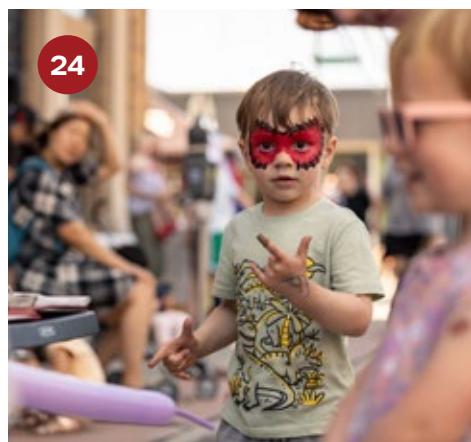
This year marks a special milestone for us as we celebrate Discover Ames' 40th Anniversary. For four decades, we've proudly welcomed visitors and shared the vibrant spirit, hospitality, and beauty that define our community. It's this same warmth and pride that continue to make Ames a destination worth discovering.

Whether you're in town for a Cyclone game, a concert, a new career opportunity, a campus tour, or an alumni reunion, there's no better time to discover why Ames was named the #6 "Best College Town in America" (College Transitions, 2024).

And when planning your next event, think Ames! Conveniently located and easily accessible from major Midwest cities like Kansas City, Minneapolis, Chicago, and Omaha, Ames offers outstanding facilities, accommodations, and service.

Enjoy your visit!

Kevin Bourke,  
President and CEO, Discover Ames



# What's inside?



Discover Ames is the official destination marketing organization for the city of Ames and the surrounding area.

**2026 GUIDE TO AMES AND IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**DIRECTOR OF MARKETING:** Andy Moore  
**MARKETING SPECIALIST:** Emma Jensen  
**CREATIVE SPECIALIST:** Melissa Mendivil

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# Top 10 *must-see* attractions and events in Ames

## 1 Reiman Gardens

For one of the most beautiful and vibrant spots in Ames, visit Reiman Gardens. This award-winning 17-acre botanical garden showcases stunning plant collections, seasonal displays, engaging events, and a captivating indoor butterfly wing with up to 800 exotic butterflies. Don't leave without snapping a photo with Elwood—the world's largest concrete gnome and a true local icon. [reimangardens.com](http://reimangardens.com)



## 2 Downtown Ames

Right in the heart of the city, Downtown Ames is where the community comes together. Find an abundance of local shops filled with clothing, books, toys, gifts, housewares, and more. After shopping, grab some grub at unique downtown eateries with pizza, ice cream, tasty barbecue, and much more. Once you're full, treat yourself to a drink at Whiskey River, Della Viti, or one of the dozen other watering holes. [downtownames.org](http://downtownames.org)

*Insider tip: Mark your calendars for a variety of community events that take place downtown throughout the year like 515 Days in the spring, Witches Walk in the fall, and Snow Magic Kick-off in the winter!*



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### Octagon Art Festival

For over 50 years, the Octagon Center for the Arts brings the best of local artists to downtown Ames. In the fall, explore fine art, meet the artists, enjoy family-friendly crafts and food trucks—and bring home a one-of-a-kind treasure. [octagonarts.org](http://octagonarts.org)



4

### Ames Main Street Farmers' Market

Every Saturday from May to October, discover something new at the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market. Browse seasonal produce, fresh flowers, baked goods, and prepared food while enjoying live entertainment, cooking contests, and weekly activities for the kids.

[downtownames.com/farmersmarket](http://downtownames.com/farmersmarket)

*Insider tip: Parking is free in the lot just south of Main Street. Get there early for a good spot!*

5

## Ada Hayden Heritage Park

Escape the bustling city for a day, and explore Ada Hayden Heritage Park. This stunning recreational lake area is tucked away on Hwy. 69 just north of Ames and offers a relaxing respite, with a 3.2 mile paved path, upland trails, and the opportunity to fish, canoe, paddleboard, and kayak. Pack a picnic and bring your camera! [cityoffames.org](http://cityoffames.org)



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## Iowa State Athletics

Cheer for Cyclone football, basketball, wrestling, gymnastics, volleyball, and more as ISU's Division I athletes face down their Big 12 competition in some of the best athletics facilities in the nation. [cyclones.com](http://cyclones.com)

## Ames History Museum

Step into the past and explore the history of the city at the Ames History Museum. With permanent and rotating exhibits, learn all about the people, culture, and businesses that made Ames what it is today. [ameshistory.org](http://ameshistory.org)

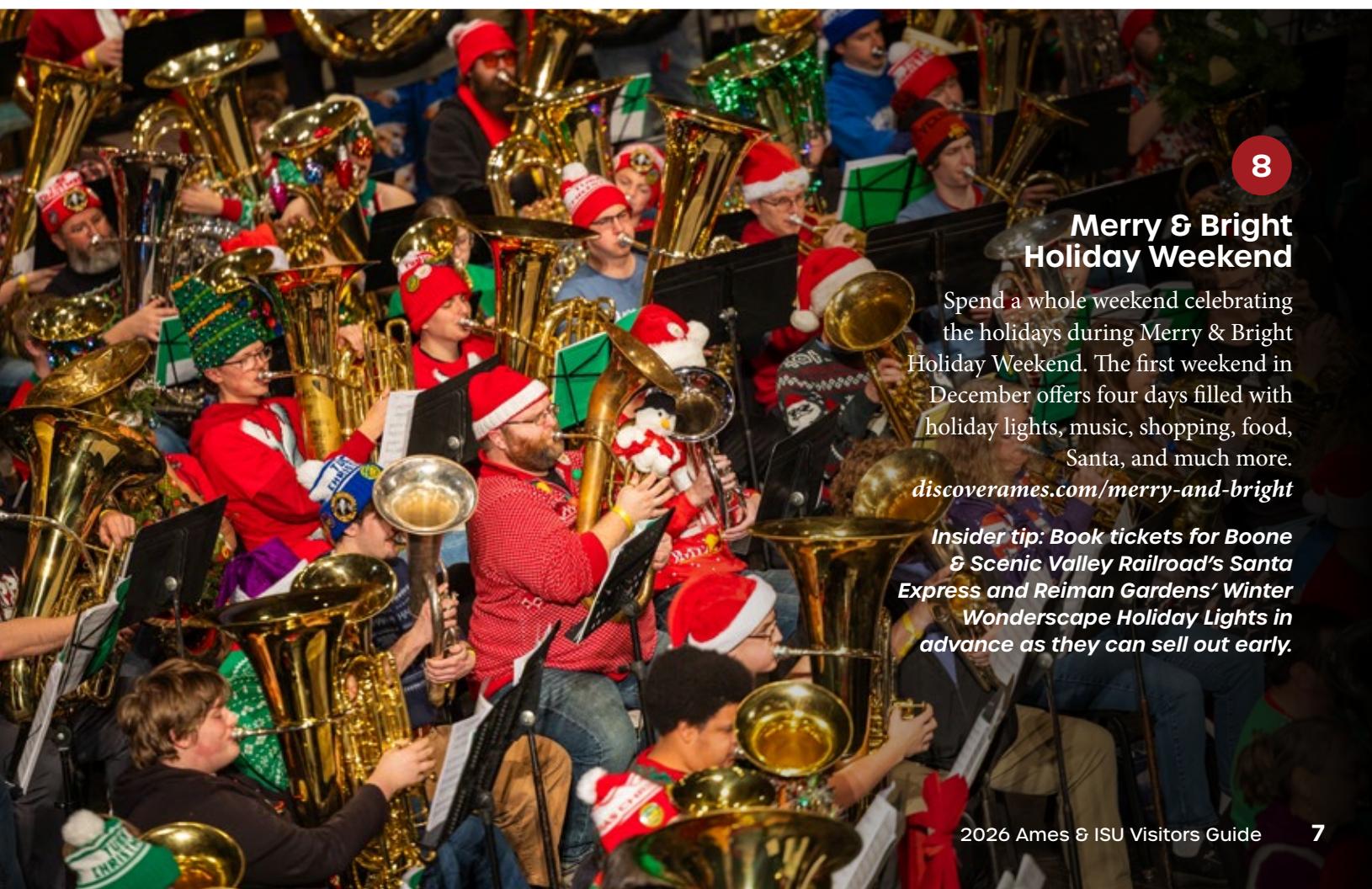
**Lights, camera, Ames!**  
Don't miss a brand-new episode of **John McGivern's Main Streets** exploring the Ames History Museum and other local hotspots, airing Spring 2026 on PBS.



## Merry & Bright Holiday Weekend

Spend a whole weekend celebrating the holidays during Merry & Bright Holiday Weekend. The first weekend in December offers four days filled with holiday lights, music, shopping, food, Santa, and much more. [discoverames.com/merry-and-bright](http://discoverames.com/merry-and-bright)

*Insider tip: Book tickets for Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad's Santa Express and Reiman Gardens' Winter Wonderscape Holiday Lights in advance as they can sell out early.*





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## Music & theatre

Live music fills the air in Ames, from intimate performances in local bars and restaurants to major concerts at Stephens Auditorium and Jack Trice Stadium. In the summer, the city comes alive with outdoor shows in parks, on patios, and along the streets of downtown. And if you're in the mood for theatre, Broadway musicals, or dance, Ames has it all—from national touring productions to captivating university and community performances.

*Insider tip: If you love live music, check out the lineups at Alluvial Brewing and Prairie Moon Winery, both in north Ames, and at the Maintenance Shop in Iowa State's Memorial Union.*



10

## Indoor adventures

When the weather doesn't cooperate, that doesn't mean the fun has to stop. Take your stir-crazy family to Inside Golf & Games, featuring duckpin bowling, golf simulators, axe-throwing, batting cages, and more. Get competitive with friends at Perfect Games, with 24 lanes of bowling, laser tag, arcade games, and pizza. Let the kids climb to their hearts content at Bluestem Boulders, an indoor rock climbing gym. Try karaoke at Time Out, an arcade bar near downtown Ames or experience a technology-rich escape room at No Escape Iowa. Don't forget to be on the lookout for the new indoor aquatic center opening in early 2026. [insidegolfandaxe.com](http://insidegolfandaxe.com), [perfectgamesinc.com](http://perfectgamesinc.com), [bluestemboulders.com](http://bluestemboulders.com), [timeoutentertainment.co](http://timeoutentertainment.co), [noescapeiowa.com](http://noescapeiowa.com)

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# Beyond the MAIN EVENT



## Here to visit your student

- Take a heartfelt campus stroll past the Campanile, Iowa State University's iconic landmark, where the charm of the campus provides the perfect backdrop for reconnecting. The walk invites quiet conversation, shared memories, and plenty of photo opportunities together.
- Share a relaxed meal at Café Beaudelaire, known for its vibrant atmosphere and Brazilian-inspired menu. Afterward, extend your afternoon with a stop at Reiman Gardens or the Brunnier Art Museum, both offering unique opportunities to explore art, nature, and culture.
- Conclude your day by exploring the shops and eateries in Downtown Ames, where local boutiques and restaurants showcase mouth-watering flavors and unique shopping. As the evening winds down, settle in for coffee or dessert at Café Diem, enjoying time well spent with your student.

## Here to celebrate the holidays

- Begin your holiday trip by browsing the shops in Downtown Ames, where festive storefronts and one-of-a-kind finds create the perfect opportunity to check items off your gift list. The charm of downtown adds warmth to your seasonal outing.
- Make your way to Reiman Gardens' Winter Wonderscape, where dazzling light displays transform the gardens into a glowing wonderland. The sparkling pathways and whimsical scenes set a magical mood that's sure to capture the spirit of the season.
- In the evening, enjoy the best of Ames' holiday offerings by attending a seasonal performance at Stephens Auditorium or sharing a meal at Aunt Maude's. Comfort food and cultural experiences make your trip more than just a family gathering.



## Here for business

- Before your day begins, start with a stroll through Iowa State University's art-filled campus. Public sculptures, historic buildings, and vibrant green spaces offer a refreshing change of pace, balancing out the demands of a packed meeting schedule.
- Between work sessions, take time to wander downtown and explore shops filled with local finds. These short breaks not only offer a chance to pick up a unique item but also to step away from the business mindset and recharge.
- When meetings are done, swap your laptop for a craft beer at Torrent Brewing Company and savor a delicious dinner at The Café, a cozy neighborhood spot with warm, relaxed vibes.

## Here for football game day

- Kick off your football weekend with a stop at the local Ames Main Street Farmers' Market or sit down for a hearty brunch at The Filling Station, fueling up for the excitement ahead. The relaxed start sets the tone for a full day of Cyclone pride.
- Spend the afternoon in the roar of Jack Trice Stadium, where the cheers, chants, and energy of fellow fans create an electric experience. Whether it's your first game or a yearly tradition, cheering on the Cyclones feels unforgettable.
- After the game, celebrate with dinner at Cornbred Barbecue or gather with friends for a drink at Alluvial Brewing Company. Extend your stay and explore Ames' parks! Take a peaceful walk at Ada Hayden Heritage Park, where scenic views offer the perfect way to wind down after an exciting weekend.

## Here for a Stephens Auditorium show

- Use the earlier part of your day to explore Ames at a comfortable pace. Whether you're browsing local shops, wandering the university campus, participating in community events, or simply relaxing, the hours before your evening performance will set the tone for the night to come!
- Fill up before the show with a stop at Sweet Caroline's, where classic flavors and big portions make it easy to find something you'll love. Whether you're craving comfort food or just need a hearty meal to power through the night, the laid-back atmosphere and tasty dishes make it a fun, memorable stop.
- Settle into your seat at Stephens Auditorium and enjoy world-class entertainment in a venue known for its stunning performances. Afterward, keep the night alive with dessert, drinks, or live music in Campustown at Bar La Tosca.





# Discover hidden gems around Ames

## 1. Lockwood Café

Discover the best crepes in Ames at Lockwood Café! Tucked away in West Ames, this charming hidden gem is the perfect breakfast spot to enjoy with friends and family. Indulge in sweet or savory crepes paired with your favorite drink from their menu. Warm, welcoming, and delicious, Lockwood Café is a must-visit for any brunch lover.

## 2. Cellar 626

Step through the cooler door at Cyclone Liquors and discover Cellar 626—a secret hideaway with a cozy, relaxed atmosphere. Sip handcrafted cocktails, unwind with friends, and enjoy one of Ames' best-kept secrets. This hidden gem offers an intimate experience that feels worlds away from the ordinary.

## 3. Anderson Sculpture Garden

Stroll through the serene Anderson Sculpture Garden on Iowa State University's campus. Shaded by lush greenery and flowers, its winding paths guide visitors past stunning works of twentieth- and twenty-first-century American sculptures. Peaceful and picturesque, this outdoor gallery is a true hidden gem in the heart of campus.

## 4. The Octagon Shop

Did you know you can shop locally made art right here in Ames? At The Octagon Shop in downtown Ames, you'll find one-of-a-kind creations from over 175 local and regional artists—with new pieces added every day. From handcrafted jewelry to unique home décor, this hidden gem is the perfect place to discover and support local talent.



Clouds Café

## 5. Clouds Café

Experience dinner in the sky at Clouds Café in Campustown, a charming European café celebrated for its stunning views of Iowa State University's campus. Whether you're attending a themed dinner, hosting a private event, or simply enjoying a laid-back study session or coffee date, this unique hidden gem offers an atmosphere as unforgettable as its menu.

## 6. No Escape Iowa

Grab your friends and put your problem-solving skills to the test at No Escape Iowa! Beneath Ames British Foods in downtown Ames, this hidden gem offers a variety of thrilling escape rooms that challenge your mind and spark your sense of adventure. With immersive themes and hours of fun, No Escape Iowa is the perfect spot for a memorable group experience.

## 7. Daisy's Drinks & Dogs

Tucked away in the middle of town, Daisy's Drinks & Dogs is a hidden gem worth seeking out. Known for its footlong hotdogs and tasty drinks, this spot offers more than just good food — it's also a hub for fun events like drag brunches and bingo nights. Whether you stop in for a quick bite or a night out, there's always something going on at Daisy's.





A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a person's legs and feet hanging from a swing set. The person is wearing blue shorts and black sneakers. The swing set is made of dark metal and is set against a backdrop of green trees and a clear sky.

Let the  
outdoor *fun*  
begin

Ames is full of recreational opportunities, from scenic trails to vibrant parks. And when you add in the countless adventures waiting in nearby Story and Boone counties, the fun only multiplies.

# Get outside!

**Soak up the sunshine and stay active with these fun ways to enjoy the great outdoors in Ames. Don't forget the sunscreen!**

## 1. Hike, bike, paddle

Enjoy some time in nature with Story County's 3,500 acres of parks, trails, lakes, and woodlands; the city of Ames' picture-perfect Ada Hayden Heritage Park; or the breathtaking Ledges State Park in nearby Boone County.

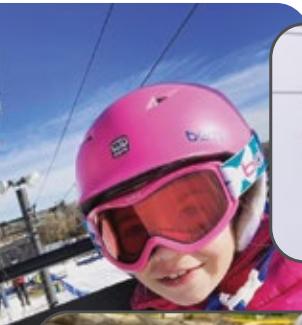
## 2. Make a splash

Furman Aquatic Center features three water slides, 50-meter pool, lazy river, and zero-depth splash pool. It's a must for any summer itinerary.

## 3. Compete with friends

Grab your crew and get competitive! Ames has outdoor pickleball courts, disc golf courses, tennis courts, and three public golf courses. Many are located in Ames' city parks.





Group Rates Available!



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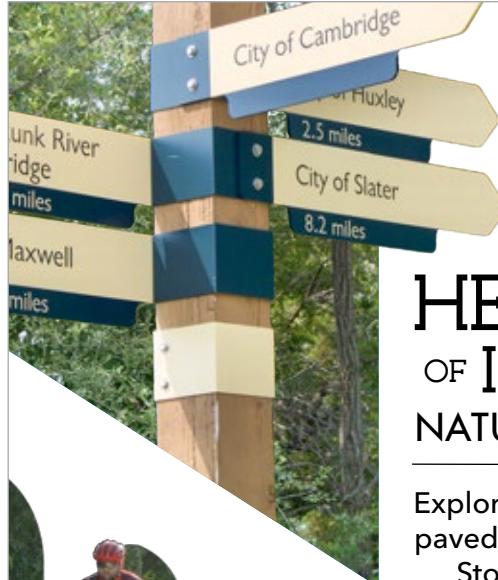


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# Enjoy the outdoors **WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT**

**You don't need to be a marathon runner or avid cyclist to enjoy the outdoor activities Ames has to offer.**

## **1. Unwind in nature**

With over 40 parks across Ames, there's no shortage of scenic paths to explore. Stroll around Ada Hayden Heritage Park, enjoy a picnic at Brookside Park, or take the kids to Story County's Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor at the ISU Research Park. Bring a blanket, watch the squirrels, and relax in nature!

## **2. Anyone can do it**

Children of all abilities can explore the inclusive playground at Inis Grove, an Ames city park that includes a sensory plaza, sliders canyon, and swing alley. At Treehouse Village—part of the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens in Madrid—the playground is built for everyone, with accessible features such as a wheelchair swing.

## **3. Engage with the community**

No need to break a sweat while strolling the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market every Saturday from May through October. Chat with local vendors, savor delicious bites, and browse hand-crafted and homegrown goods along Main Street. Depending on the season, enjoy community events like 515 Days in the spring, Winter Wonderscape at Reiman Gardens in the winter, Fourth of July fireworks in the summer, and much more!

## **4. Wine down**

If your idea of the perfect outdoor activity involves a comfortable chair, live music, and a glass of your favorite beverage, you've come to the right place. During warm-weather months, you can catch a concert and sip sangria in the vineyard at Prairie Moon Winery. Right next door, experience some of the best live music around (as you watch the sunset and enjoy a pint) on Alluvial Brewing's patio.

# Recreation Resources

**Ames/ISU Ice Arena**

1507 Gateway Hills Park Dr.  
[cityofames.org](http://cityofames.org)

**Ames Parks & Recreation**

[cityofames.org](http://cityofames.org)

**Ames Play Yard**

2175 232nd Ln.  
[amesplayyard.com](http://amesplayyard.com)

**Coldwater Golf Links**

1400 S. Grand  
[coldwatergolf.com](http://coldwatergolf.com)

**Furman Aquatic Center**

1635 13th St.  
[cityofames.org](http://cityofames.org)

**Harvest Pickleball & Tennis**

320 S. 17th St.  
[harvestpickleball.com](http://harvestpickleball.com)

**Homewood Golf Course**

401 E. 20th St.  
[cityofames.org](http://cityofames.org)

**Iowa Arboretum & Gardens**

1875 Peach Ave., Madrid  
[iowaarboretum.org](http://iowaarboretum.org)

**Nevada Parks & Recreation**

[cityofnevadaiaowa.org](http://cityofnevadaiaowa.org)

**Seven Oaks Recreation**

1086 222nd Dr., Boone  
[sevenoaksrec.com](http://sevenoaksrec.com)

**Story County Conservation**

[storycountyiowa.gov](http://storycountyiowa.gov)

**Veenker Memorial Golf Course**

2916 Veenker Dr.  
[veenker.golf.com](http://veenker.golf.com)



# Do the *districts!*

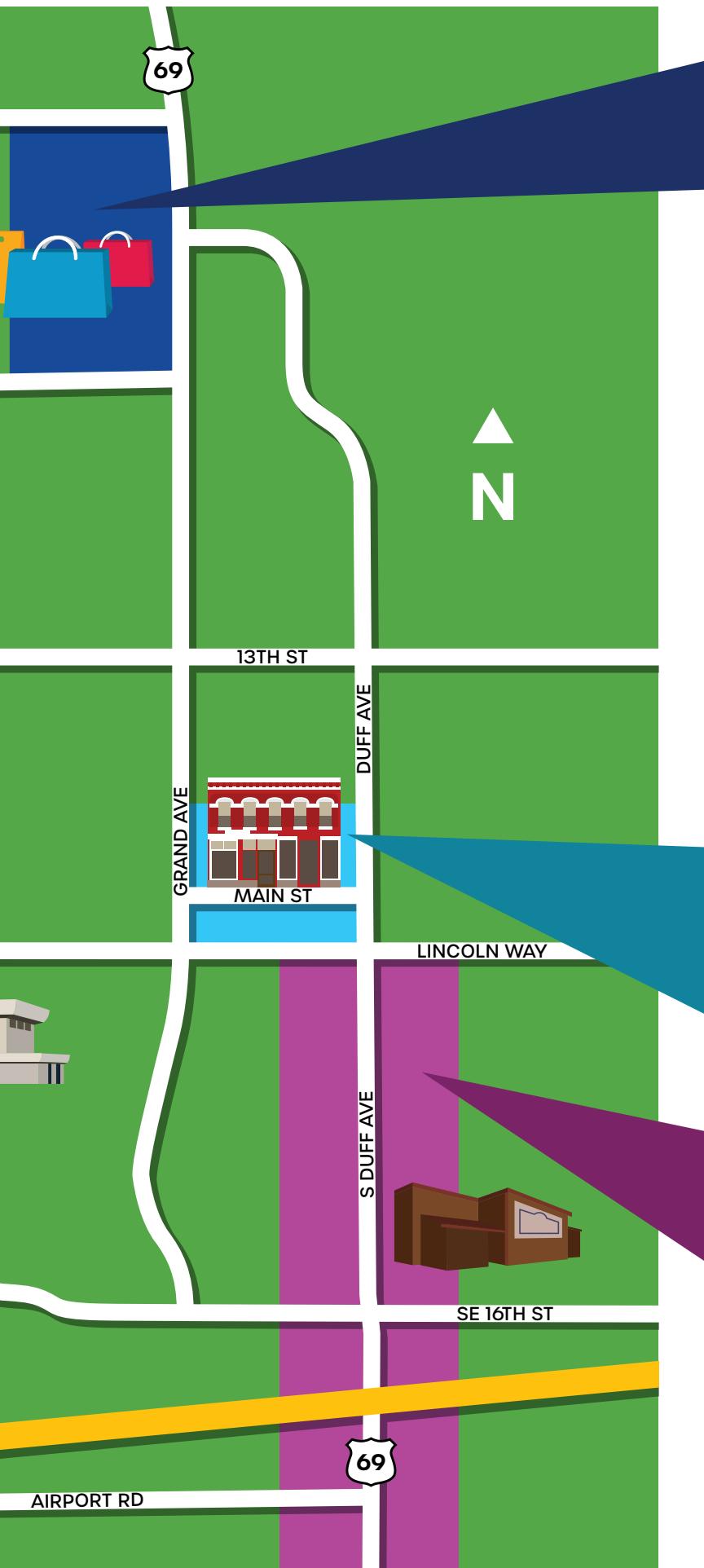
## Somerset

This vibrant lifestyle district in North Ames features a mix of modern housing, professional services, and some of the city's best dining spots. *Insider tip:* **Don't miss local favorites like The Café, Wasabi, El Azteca, Wallaby's Bar & Grille, and Burgie's North.**

## Campustown

Just across Lincoln Way from the ISU campus, this lively area offers over two dozen restaurants, a buzzing nightlife scene, Cyclone apparel shops, student housing, outdoor events, and an unbeatable atmosphere.





## North Grand

North Grand is more than just a shopping destination. While North Grand features popular national retailers, you'll also discover unique local boutiques, eateries, and entertainment options like the North Grand Cinema, conveniently located inside the mall. Beyond the shopping center, the surrounding area offers even more shopping, dining, and fun.

## Downtown

Downtown Ames is the true heart of the city, offering a charming mix of cozy coffee shops, independent restaurants, unique boutiques, salons, local art, a history museum, a brewery, and a wine bar. From May through October, enjoy the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market every Saturday morning, along with art walks, live music, pub crawls, and food trucks throughout the year.

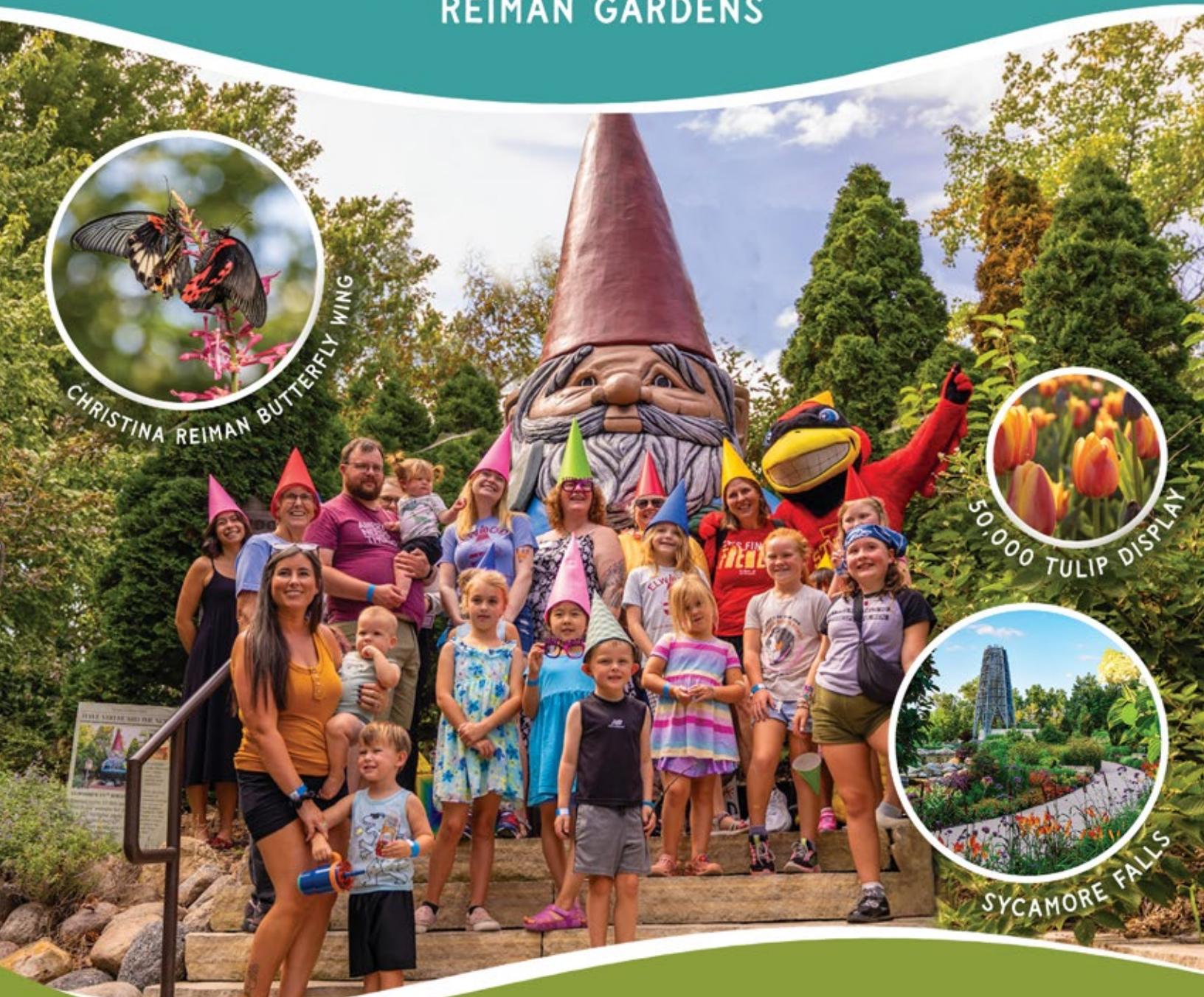
## South Duff

This area blends big-box retailers like Target with a mix of chain and local restaurants, specialty shops, drive-throughs, and a movie theater. ***Insider tip: Be sure to stop by Hickory Park—a local favorite for barbecue and ice cream!***

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[www.AmesHistory.org](http://www.AmesHistory.org)



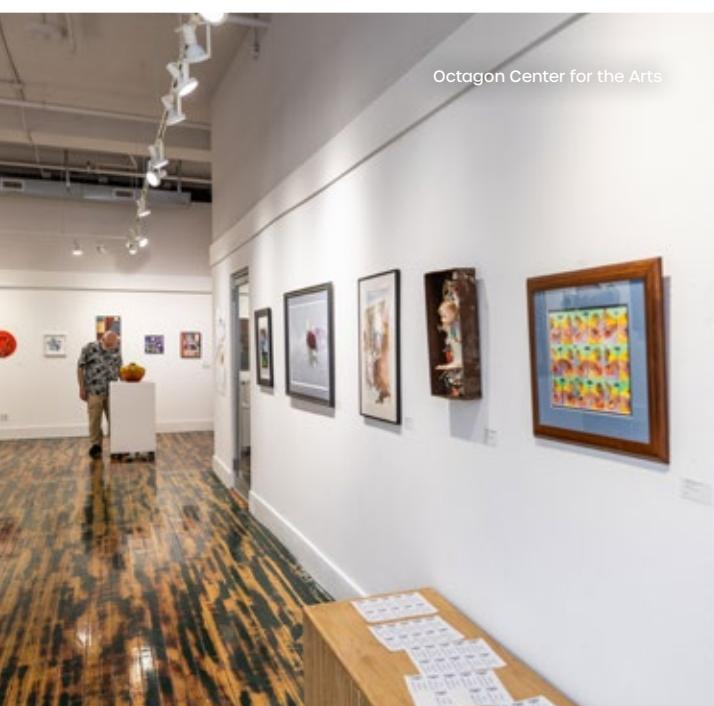
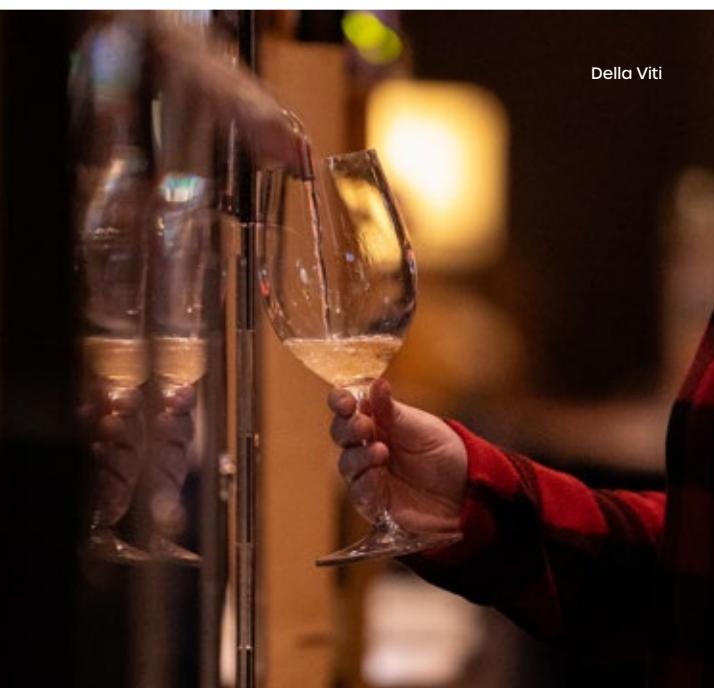
515 Douglas Ave.  
(515) 239-5646  
[www.AmesPL.org](http://www.AmesPL.org)





# Downtown: The *heart* of Ames

Shop, savor, sip & stroll  
in downtown Ames,  
the heart of the city!



# Spend the day **exploring** downtown Ames

Treat yourself to a full day in downtown Ames! You'll find coffee, tea, pastries (and enormous pancakes!) to start your morning. Then explore downtown's unique shops, restaurants, and bars. You can even pick up a new hobby, take a class, visit the Ames Public Library, learn about Ames history, and admire art.

## Local shopping

Explore the unique, independent shops along Main Street, Fifth Street, and nearby areas to discover clothing, gifts, toys, books, candles, home décor, pet supplies, housewares, wellness products, plants, specialty cheeses, European chocolates, and sustainable goods.

## Delicious food & drink

Savor local favorites such as Aunt Maude's, Della Viti wine bar, and Great Plains Sauce and Dough Co. You'll also find cozy coffee shops, charming bakeries, international cuisine, craft beer at Torrent Brewing, barbecue, ice cream, and a variety of inviting bars and restaurants. For something hands-on, try a cooking class at The Recipe and learn to create a delicious new dish.

## Intriguing art & history

Discover something new at the Octagon Center for the Arts, where free exhibits are open to the public year-round. Be sure to stop by the Octagon Shop to browse an impressive selection of locally made art or create your own art at Board & Brush. Then, visit the Ames History Museum to explore its newly expanded and redesigned galleries, open Tuesday through Saturday with free admission for children.



# Downtown: The place to be for community events

If you want to be an Ames insider, this is the place to be! Enjoy community favorites like Ames Pride, 515 Days, the Octagon Art Festival, the Witches Walk, holiday celebrations, live music, parades, pub crawls, and the fantastic Ames Main Street Farmers' Market.



# LIVE IN Ames

[www.LiveinAmes.com](http://www.LiveinAmes.com)



# WORK IN Ames

[www.WorkinAmes.com](http://www.WorkinAmes.com)

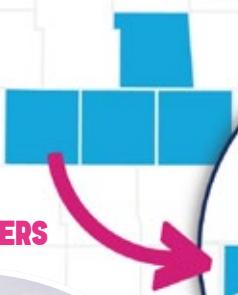


# PLAY IN Ames

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# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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## BY THE NUMBERS:

**31,105**  
students

**7**  
colleges



**We think Ames is Iowa's coolest college town, so Iowa State University must be Iowa's coolest college.**

The presence of Iowa State University enhances every aspect of life in Ames. Incoming students and their parents will find that ISU is a large university with limitless opportunities, but that it's also friendly and personal. Visitors and the Ames community can enjoy Cyclone athletics, the arts, lectures, and cultural offerings on campus.

In 2023, Iowa State received the top “Innovation and Economic Prosperity University Award” presented by the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities. ISU also ranked #1 in Iowa, #5 in the Midwest, and #12 nationally for its entrepreneurial studies program. Students choose from more than 100 majors, minors, and certificate programs as they turn their passion into profession.



**100+**  
undergraduate  
majors

**800+**  
student  
organizations

**1858**  
year  
founded

# A weekend of *student favorites* on the ISU Campus

Experience the best of Iowa State through a student's eyes! From iconic campus spots to hands-on fun, this three-day itinerary highlights the must-see locations and experiences that make ISU unforgettable.

## **Friday:**

Check in to one of Ames' two dozen hotels. Gateway Hotel and the Spark by Hilton are great choices with their proximity to campus and outstanding accommodations.

Explore Reiman Gardens, a 17-acre oasis just south of campus. Stroll through themed gardens, visit the tropical conservatory, and meet hundreds of butterflies in the Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing. Don't miss a photo with Elwood, the world's largest concrete gnome.

Wrap up the day at the Memorial Union's CyBowl & Billiards, featuring bowling, billiards, arcade games, and lounge space, perfect for friendly competition or laid-back fun.

## **Saturday:**

Browse Barefoot Campus Outfitter to grab Iowa State gear before the big game. From cozy crewnecks to classic baseball hats, you'll find everything you need to show your Cyclone pride.

Jump into the excitement at an ISU sporting event! Whether it's basketball, track, or football season, there's always a game day buzz around campus.

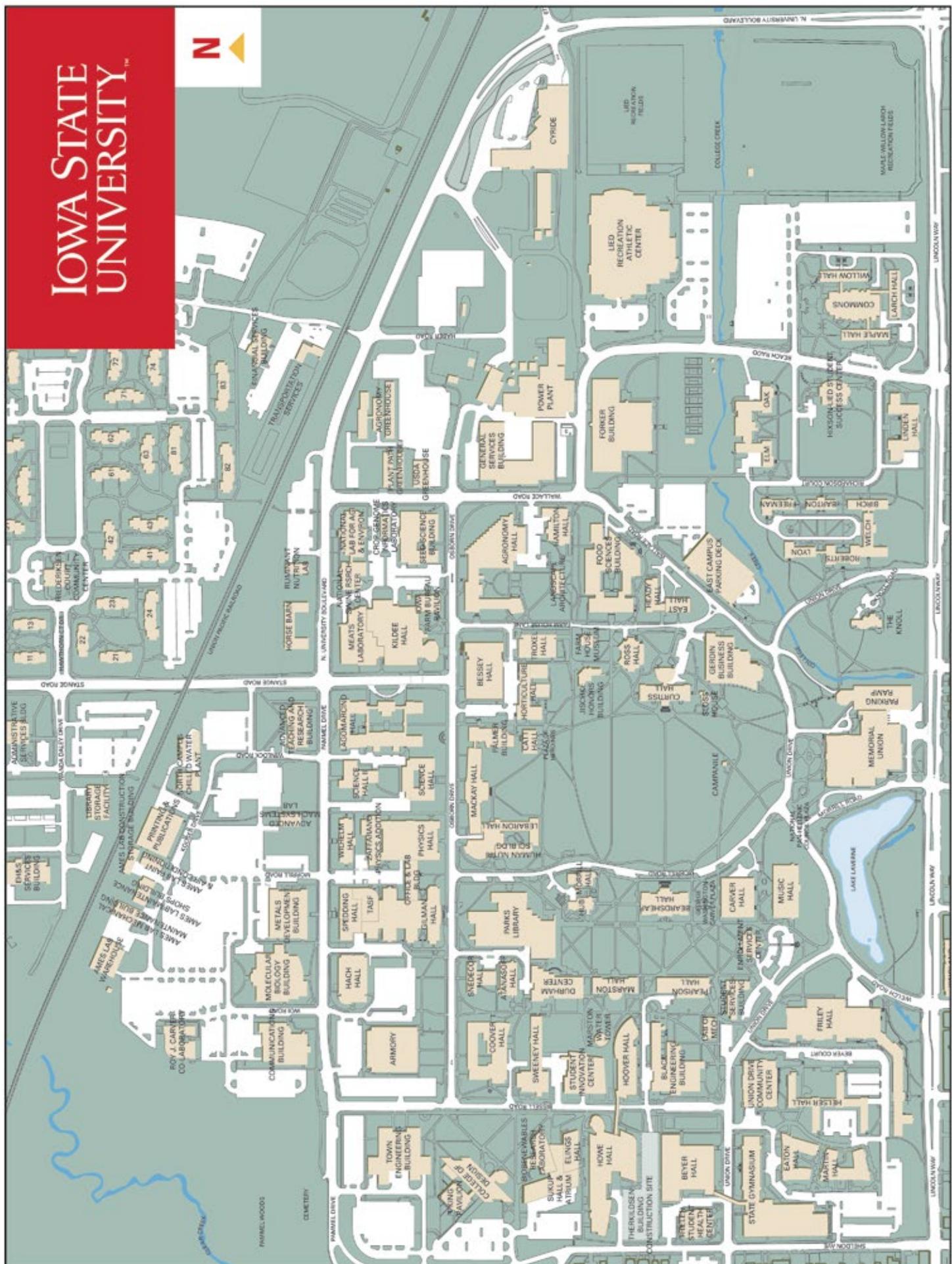
Celebrate a day full of Cyclone spirit with a visit to the Iowa State Creamery. Enjoy premium ice cream made by ISU students using fresh, local ingredients, making ISU one of the few university creameries in the country where students make and sell their own dairy products.

## **Sunday:**

Located in the Scheman Building, the Brunnier Art Museum is Iowa's only accredited decorative arts museum. Explore rotating exhibits of glass, ceramics, textiles, paintings, and more—each highlighting creativity and design excellence.

Take one last stroll through campus or revisit a favorite spot. From the Campanile's chimes to the beauty of central campus, it's the perfect way to end your Cyclone adventure.





Preserving the Past  
1980-1999



Haggen School



Haggen School



Haggen School

Culture and Conflict  
1960-1979

Arts in Culture

Cold War

Sexual Crime

World War

Arts and the War Effort  
1940-1959

Arts and the War Effort

Arts and the War Effort

Arts and the War Effort



Discover  
*the arts*  
in Ames and ISU



Iowa State University  
and the city of Ames  
offer a perfect blend of  
arts, history, culture, and  
entertainment.

# 5 WAYS to get your arts & culture fix

1. Discover musicals, theatre, dance, and concerts at Stephens Auditorium, Ames Community Theater (ACTORS), and Fisher Theater.
2. Find live music at the Memorial Union's Maintenance Shop, The Goldfinch Room, Alluvial Brewing, Ames City Auditorium, Bandshell Park, and many other locations throughout Ames.
3. Explore art and history on campus at the University Museums, which encompasses two art museums, a National Historic Landmark home museum, a sculpture garden, and one of the largest campus public art collections in the nation.
4. The Octagon Center for the Arts in downtown Ames offers a community gallery, a shop featuring local artists, and the annual fall Octagon Art Festival.
5. Newly expanded in 2024, the Ames History Museum showcases Ames and Iowa history with permanent and rotating exhibits.





### **Anderson Sculpture Garden**

Outdoor contemporary sculpture  
New Perennial Movement Garden  
*South side of Morrill Hall, open 24/7*

### **Brunnier Art Museum**

Changing, world-class exhibitions  
Decorative arts permanent collection  
*Scheman Building, next to Hilton Coliseum*

### **Christian Petersen Art Museum**

Contemporary and iconic works of art  
Two floors of quiet, insightful galleries  
*Morrill Hall, north of Beardshear Hall*

### **Farm House Museum**

National Historic Landmark (1860s)  
Oldest building in Ames  
*Farm House Lane, Central Campus*

# **Elevate your experience.**

World-class art, Iowa heritage, and sculpture garden at Iowa State University



Brunnier Art Museum

## **[museums.iastate.edu](http://museums.iastate.edu)**

### **The Art on Campus Collection**

There are more than 2,700 artworks across campus, including Grant Wood's largest murals. Find unique, custom commissions in nearly every building. Browse the interactive map at [museums.iastate.edu](http://museums.iastate.edu).



@university.museums



Sculpture Garden Mural



Farm House Museum

Start at the Brunnier Art Museum in Scheman Building to plan your route. All venues are ADA accessible and within easy walking, driving, or CyRide distance.

Hours vary by location.



## **Always free.**

Explore one of the nation's largest public art collections and experience multiple museums across Iowa State's campus—all with free admission. Museums offer rotating exhibitions, educational programs, and cultural experiences for all ages, all year long. Walk between venues in minutes. Discover something new every visit.

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**University Museums**



[museums.iastate.edu](http://museums.iastate.edu)

# SWEETCAROLINES

KITCHEN & COCKTAILS

316 MAIN ST, AMES, IA 50010  
(515) 802-4105

## TWO LOCAL FAVORITES

ENDLESS GOOD TIMES



(515) 612-4949  
134 MAIN ST, AMES, IA 50010

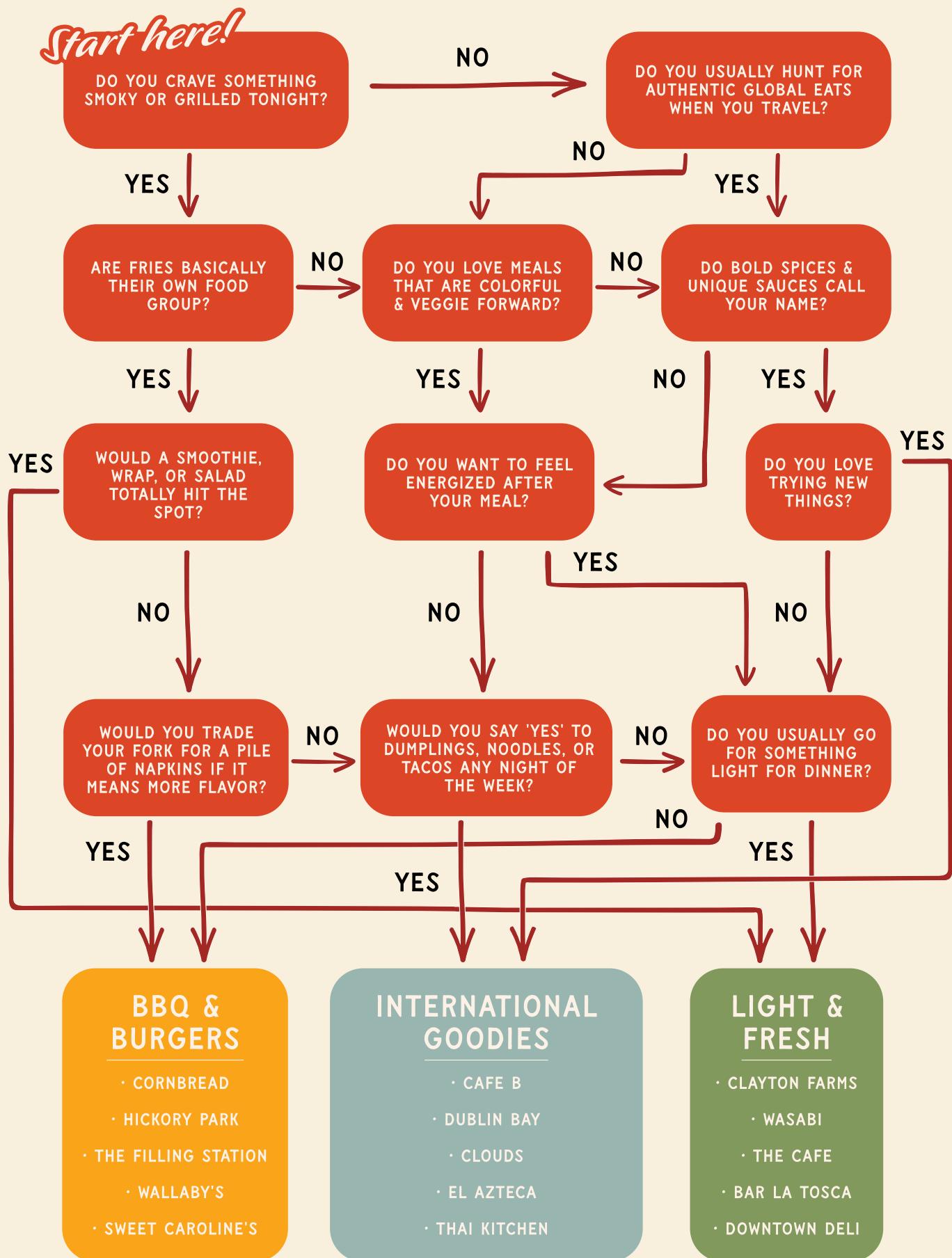
# Taste of Ames



**Craving something delicious? We've got just the spot.**

The Ames food scene is equal parts sophisticated, laid-back, and downright fun. You'll find local breweries, indie restaurants, a relaxing winery, and cozy coffee shops, along with some of the best pizza and barbecue around. Whatever you're craving, we'll help you find the perfect meal or snack.

# FOLLOW YOUR CRAVINGS



# Uniquely Ames

Pizza, barbecue, international cuisine, and local flavors...

Ames has it all! You'll recognize many of the chain and fast-food restaurants in town, but this guide will introduce you to a more unique taste of Ames. (*To view a list of all Ames restaurants, go to [DiscoverAmes.com/eat-drink](http://DiscoverAmes.com/eat-drink)*)



Take your morning to the next level with **Cornbread**

**Barbecue's Gigantoroll.** Topped with whipped icing and butter, this shareable Sunday staple is a must-try for your next brunch outing.



## ASIAN

**1+1 Restaurant & Tea**  
2814 West St.

**888**  
809 Wheeler St.

**Blue Fish Hawaii Poke Bowl**  
127 Welch Ave.

**Fuji Japanese Steakhouse**  
1614 S. Kellogg Ave.

**House of Chen**  
705 E. Lincoln Way

**Ichiban Japanese**  
117 Welch Ave.

**India Palace**  
120 Hayward Ave.

**Jade Dragon Buffet**  
1620 S. Kellogg Ave.

**Joy's Mongolian Grill**  
112 Hayward Ave.

**Le's Vietnamese**  
113 Colorado Ave.

**Pho & Tea**  
725 24th St.

**Szechuan House**  
3605 Lincoln Way

**Thai Kitchen**  
2410 Chamberlain St.

**The Spice Thai Cuisine**  
402 Main St.

**Wasabi Ames**  
926 S. 16th St.  
2707 Kent Ave.

**Wok N Roll**  
120 Welch Ave.

## FULL SERVICE / FINE DINING

**Aunt Maude's**  
547 Main St.

**Provisions Lot F**  
2400 N. Loop Dr.

**The Café**  
2616 Northridge Pkwy

**The IowaStater Restaurant at Gateway Hotel**  
2100 Green Hills Dr.

## PIZZA / ITALIAN

**Bar La Tosca**  
303 Welch Ave.

**Blaze Pizza**  
2320 Lincoln Way

**Ge-Angelo's**  
823 Wheeler St.

**Great Plains Sauce & Dough**  
129 Main St.

**Jeff's Pizza Shop**  
2402 Lincoln Way

**Pizza Pit Extreme**  
207 Welch Ave.

**Roni's Mac Bar**  
2702 Lincoln Way

## BAKERIES & SWEETS

**Bricktown Bakery & Popcorn**  
1150 6th St., Nevada

**Chocolaterie Stam**  
230 Main St.

**Cookies, etc.**  
2801 Grand Ave.

**Dutch Oven Bakery**  
219 Duff Ave.

**Piece & Freedom Bakery**  
301 Main St.

## MEXICAN

**Botanero Latino Colombian & International Cuisine**  
604 E. Lincoln Way

**El Azteca**  
2120 Isaac Newton Dr.  
2727 Stange Rd.

**El Jefe Authentic Mexican Cuisine**  
524 Lincoln Way

**La Casa Maya**  
631 Lincoln Way

**Mr. Burrito**  
2508 Lincoln Way

**Rico's Tacos**  
624 E. Lincoln Way

**Rinconcito Hispano**  
823 Wheeler St.

**El Patio Bar & Grill**  
4518 Mortensen Rd.

## COFFEE SHOPS / TEA\*

**Burgie's Coffee**  
3701 Stange Rd.  
110 Airport Rd.

**Cabin Coffee Co.**  
2721 E. 13th St.

**Café Diem**  
229 Main St.

**Café Milo**  
4800 Mortensen Rd.

**Clouds European Café**  
119 Stanton Ave.

**Little Woods: Herbs and Teas**  
136 Main St.

**Morning Bell Coffee Roasters**  
111 Main St.

**Scooters**  
104 Duff Ave.  
200 S 16th St.

**Stomping Grounds (Tosca)**  
303 Welch Ave.

**Tea Time**  
107 Welch Ave.

**Vinyl Café**  
303 Kellogg Ave.

\*Many of these locations also serve food

## SANDWICHES

**Downtown Deli**  
328 Main St.

**Great Harvest Bakery and Café**  
502 Burnett Ave.

**West Street Deli**  
2810 West St.

## GREAT FOR BREAKFAST

**Flip'N Jacks Pancake House**  
1520 S. Dayton Ave.

**Lockwood Café**  
4625 Reliable St.

**Perkins**  
325 S. Duff Ave.

**Potter's Shoppe & Eatery**  
330 5th St.

**The Dot Café**  
127 Dotson Dr.

**The Filling Station**  
2400 S. University Blvd.

**The Grove Café**  
124 Main St.

## BARBECUE

**Cornbread Barbecue**  
526 Main St.

**Hickory Park**  
1404 S. Duff Ave.

**Jethro's BBQ Steak & Chop**  
1301 Buckeye Ave.

**Whatcha Smokin' BBQ**  
403 Iowa Ave., Luther

## INTERNATIONAL LOVERS

**Café Beaudelaire**  
2504 Lincoln Way

**Dublin Bay Irish Pub and Grill**  
320 S. 16th St.

**Flame and Skewer**  
2801 Grand Ave.

**Garbanzo Mediterranean**  
414 S. Duff Ave.

**Macubana**  
116 Welch Ave.

**Mucky Duck Pub**  
3100 S. Duff Ave.

**Pammel Deli**  
113 Colorado Ave.

**Taza Mediterranean Grill**  
1310 S. Duff Ave.

## AMERICAN / BAR & GRILL

**BNC Fieldhouse Bar & Grill**  
206 Welch Ave.

**Boulder Tap House**  
114 S. Duff Ave.

**Daisy's Drinks & Dogs**  
1620 S Kellogg Ave #108

**Hy-Vee Market Grille**  
640 Lincoln Way

**Red Lobster**  
1100 Buckeye Ave.

**Sweet Caroline's Kitchen & Cocktails**  
316 Main St.

**Wallaby's Bar & Grille**  
2733 Stange Rd.

**Whiskey River**  
134 Main St.

## DRIVE-THRU

**B-Bops**  
1112 S. Duff Ave.  
2415 Grand Ave.

**Clayton Farms Salads**  
2435 Grand Ave.

## GROCERY

**Fareway**  
619 Burnett Ave.  
3619 Stange Rd.  
3720 Lincoln Way

**Hy-Vee Lincoln Center**  
640 Lincoln Way

**Hy-Vee West**  
3800 Lincoln Way

**Wheatsfield Cooperative**  
413 Northwestern Ave.

## BEER, WINE, & COCKTAILS

**Alluvial Brewing**  
3715 W. 190th St.

**Cellar 626**  
626 Lincoln Way

**Della Viti Wine Bar**  
323 Main St.

**London Underground**  
212 Main St.

**Prairie Moon Winery & Vineyards**  
3801 W. 190th St.

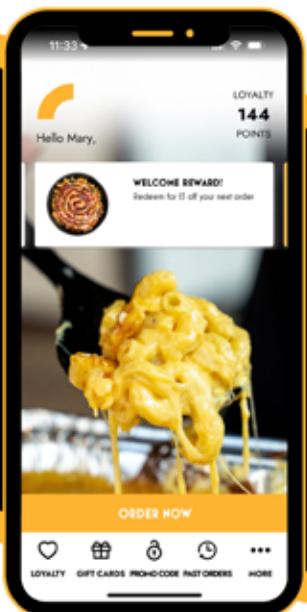
**Torrent Brewing**  
504 Burnett Ave.

**Welch Avenue Station**  
207 Welch Ave.

Raise a stein and celebrate Oktoberfest at **Torrent Brewing Company**! Sip on seasonal brews and soak in the lively, festive vibes throughout the taproom all night long.



## Download our App TO SAVE TIME & EARN POINTS!



Rewards program participation and benefits may vary by location.  
Points are earned on eligible purchases only. See app for details.



### BRICKTOWN BAKERY

Donuts, Popcorn & many more treats!

641-336-6887



It's the Simple Pleasures in Life with exceptional quality, a vintage aesthetic, and a personal touch to take on the old "coffee & donuts" routine.

"It's not just a bakery, and it's not just a popcorn shop, it truly is an experience!"  
I'm a former corporate meeting planner from Chicago and have had my share of corporate gifts from all over the place and your popcorn is by far the best I've ever had - even better than Garrett's. Yes, I said it, better than Garrett's popcorn! "J.W.

1105 6th Street, Nevada, Iowa 50201

### Candy for big girls!



Two of our newest one-of-a-kind tourmaline rings—simply spectacular!

### Ames Silversmithing Designers & Goldsmiths

220 Main    Downtown    515-232-0080  
[www.amessilversmithing.com](http://www.amessilversmithing.com)

### DOG TOWN University

Classic Iowa State Apparel



217 Welch Ave., Ames

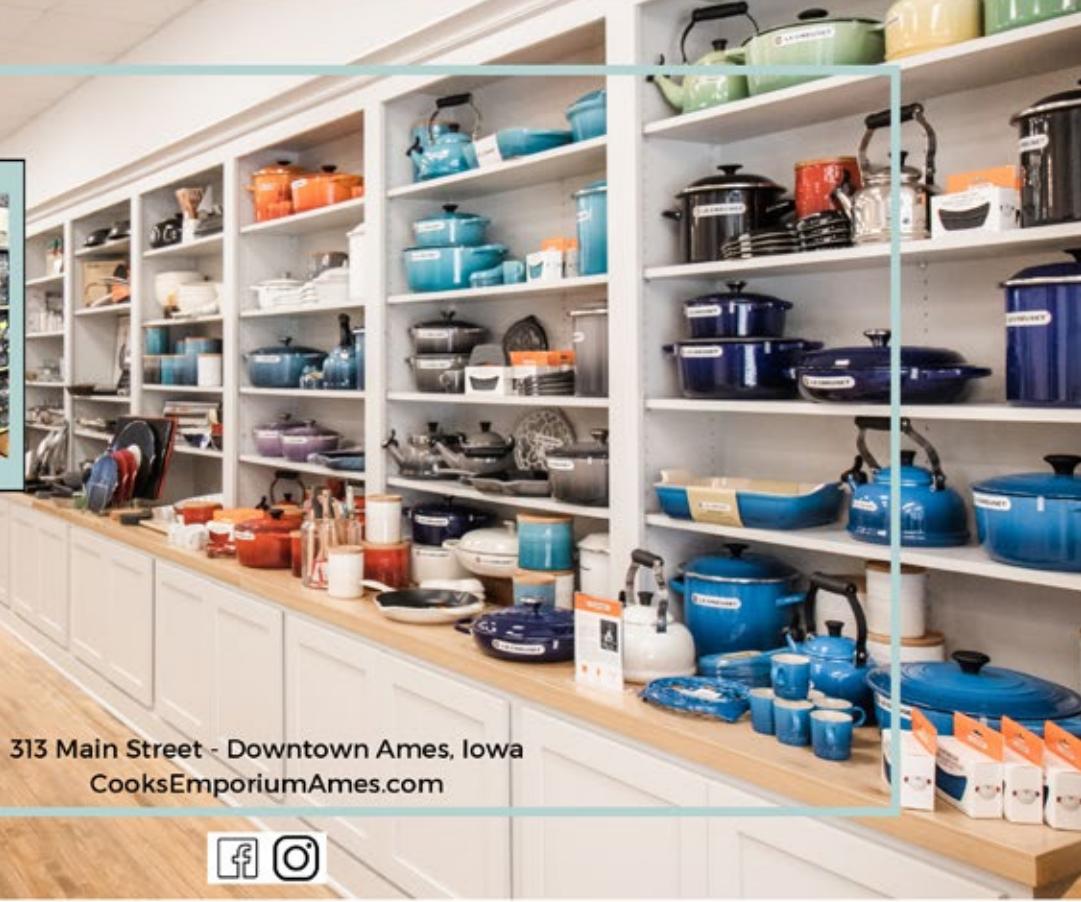
[dogtownu.com](http://dogtownu.com)

515-268-3355

# COOKS' EMPORIUM

EST. 1979

FREE  
TASTING OF  
OUR ON-TAP  
OLIVELLE  
OLIVE OIL &  
VINEGAR



313 Main Street - Downtown Ames, Iowa  
[CooksEmporiumAmes.com](http://CooksEmporiumAmes.com)



## NOOK & NEST



Stationery  
Gifts & Lifestyle

## Z.W. MERCANTILE



Sustainable Products  
Bulk Refilling

THE SHOPS AT CLARK & MAIN  
500 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101 - DOWNTOWN AMES

# Shop Ames

For a one-of-a-kind shopping experience filled with unique finds and friendly, personal service, there's no better place than Ames!



Skunk River Cycles





## Looking for something special? **START HERE**



**Ames 1864**  
500 Main St., Suite 101

**Ames British Foods**  
328 Main St., Suite 100

**Ames Silversmithing**  
220 Main St.

**Antiques Iowa**  
1639 Broad St., Story City

**Barefoot Campus Outfitter**  
2306 Lincoln Way

**Celebrations**  
302 S. 3rd St.

**Chocolaterie Stam**  
230 Main St.

**Ciccotti Art Glass**  
2306 258th St.

**Cooks Emporium**  
313 Main St.

**Dog-Eared Books**  
203 Main St.

**Dogtown University / A&R Marketing**  
217 Welch Ave.

**Everts Flowers, Home & Gifts**  
329 Main St.

**Gilger Designs**  
236 Main St.

**Homegrown**  
301 Main St., Suite 111

**Life Distilled**  
301 Main St., Suite 109

**Little Woods: Herbs & Teas**  
136 Main St.

**Moorman Clothiers**  
226 Main St.

**North Grand Indoor Farmers' Market**  
2801 Grand Ave.

**North Grand Mall**  
2801 Grand Ave.

**Oak Lane Candle Co.**  
121 Main St.

**Photosynthesis**  
317 Main St.

**Pro Nails & Spa**  
546 Main St.

**Savor on Main**  
300 Main St.

**The Shops at Clark & Main - Nook & Nest**  
500 Main St., Suite 101

**The Shops at Clark & Main - Z.W. Mercantile**  
500 Main St., Suite 101

**Skunk River Cycles**  
308 Main St.

**Strawberry Patch**  
2801 Grand Ave #1350

**Treats on a Leash**  
216 Main St.

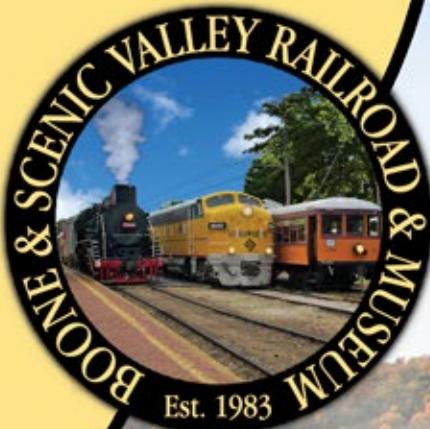
**Worldly Goods**  
223 Main St.

THE WOLF PICNIC TRAIN

THE WOLF LUNCH TRAIN

THE WOLF DINNER TRAIN

THE FRASER TRAIN



# RIDE THE TRAINS IN BOONE, IOWA



FOR TICKETS OR TRAIN RIDE INFORMATION

**WWW.BSVRR.COM**  
**515.432.4249**

DEPOT AND MUSEUM AT 225 10TH STREET IN BOONE, IOWA



# Get *outta* town!

## Top 6 Boone County destinations

Round out your visit to Ames with these short daytrips, none more than 25 minutes away.

### 1. Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad

Your family will love the Pumpkin Express, Santa Express, and Day Out with Thomas. You'll love the dinner train. Everyone will enjoy the scenic views along the way. [bsvrr.com](http://bsvrr.com)

*Insider tip: Purchase tickets early and leave time to explore the James H. Andrew Railroad Museum before or after your ride.*

### 2. Iowa Arboretum & Gardens

Tucked away in Madrid, the Iowa Arboretum & Gardens is one of the area's most beautiful hidden gems. In 2024, it unveiled the much-anticipated Treehouse Village, drawing delighted families and school groups alike. Along with its inclusive playground, the arboretum features scenic trails and lush greenery perfect for a peaceful stroll. [iowaarboretum.org](http://iowaarboretum.org)

### 3. Rail Explorers

Experience the thrill of Rail Explorers in Boone, where adventure meets stunning scenery. Ride electric-assist pedal carts along historic railroad tracks high above the Des Moines River Valley for a one-of-a-kind outdoor experience. Perfect for families, couples, or friends, this unforgettable ride combines fresh air fun with breathtaking views. It's a must-try adventure that's just a short drive away.

[railexplorers.net/tours/boone](http://railexplorers.net/tours/boone)

### 4. Seven Oaks Recreation

Yes, you CAN downhill ski in Iowa! At this fun, year-round destination, you can also snowboard, snow tube, float the river, kayak, and challenge your friends to a paintball match.

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

### 5. Ledges State Park

Ledges is one of the highlights of the Iowa State Park system, and it's right in our own backyard. Hike the trails, explore the canyon, wade through the creeks, or enjoy camping and picnicking at this beloved outdoor destination. [iowadnr.com](http://iowadnr.com)

### 6. Whatcha Smokin' BBQ & Brew

Whatcha Smokin' BBQ + Brew, located just 20 minutes west of Ames in Luther, serves up mouthwatering slow-smoked meats and classic sides in a laid-back, welcoming atmosphere. With tender brisket, juicy ribs, and local brews on tap, it's the perfect spot for authentic Midwestern barbecue and small-town charm.

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



Whatcha Smokin' BBQ & Brew



123 10th St, Boone, IA 50036  
[www.railexplorers.net](http://www.railexplorers.net) 1 877 833 8588

## Places to Visit in Story City

**Story City Mural**  
West Side of 515 Broad Street  
Artists: Rod Bohner, Kelly Zerr, and Pete Teklippe  
2022

**Freedom Flight Rock**  
West of Exit 124 off I-35  
Near McDonald's  
Artist: Rod Bohner  
2016

**Story City Antique Carousel**  
North Park, Story City  
Learn more: <https://www.storycityhistory.org/carousel/>

**Museums of Story City**  
Four different museums to explore!  
Learn more: <https://www.storycityhistory.org/>

**Historic Swinging Bridge**  
South Park, Story City

**Norse Statue**  
Kerry Van Winkle Field & Dallas Kray Track  
Artist: Tanner King  
Martin's Welding - Auburn, IA  
2025



Story City Antique Carousel

# Get *outta* town!

Here are a few destinations right here in **Story County**.

## Story City

Our neighbor to the north, Story City, is home to the expansive Antiques Iowa, along with a historic movie theatre, a beautifully preserved 1913 carousel, and the lively Scandinavian Days celebration.

## Nevada

If you haven't been to Nevada recently, you haven't been to Nevada. Just 15 minutes east of Ames, this charming community offers small-town warmth with an impressive mix of local favorites. Grab a sweet treat at Bricktown Bakery, enjoy a cozy meal at Renn's Café, catch a show at the historic Camelot Theater, and discover plenty more to love.

## Huxley

Cyclists taking the Heart of Iowa Bike trail through Huxley will enjoy Flight Bar + Grille, Fenceline Beer Lab, and Fabled Popcorn Company (with ice cream!).

## Center Grove Orchard

Find year-round events, from the strawberry patch and farm camp to the popular fall pumpkin patch. Kids and adults can pick apples, get lost in a corn maze, and have brunch with Santa. Located in Cambridge, just a few miles southeast of Ames. [centergroveorchard.com](http://centergroveorchard.com)





# GET AWAY FOR A DAY...! *or stay!*



Explore more at  
[MainStreetNevada.org](http://MainStreetNevada.org)

An afternoon awaits you in rural Story County. Nevada is home to a variety of locally owned eateries, entertainment venues and recreation spots. Join us for an afternoon or stick around for a while... we'll show you why we're a *best kept secret*.





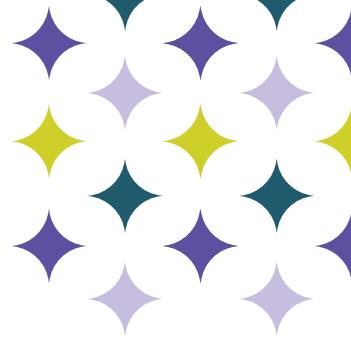
Nestled between Ames and Des Moines, Huxley invites you to slow down and enjoy its small-town charm. With cozy eateries, unique shops, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere, it's the perfect place to grab a meal, explore, and unwind.



*Scan the QR code to see our business directory!*



[HUXLEYIOWA.ORG](http://HUXLEYIOWA.ORG)



# Stay where the essentials shine.

## NEWLY RENOVATED HOTEL!

Enjoy our newly renovated hotel with spotlessly clean and comfortable guest rooms, tasty, filling and free morning bagel bar and freshly-brewed coffee, free, fast WiFi available, indoor pool and 24/7 fitness room, 24/7 coin laundry on site, and discounts on every stay with Hilton Honors.

**Spark by Hilton Ames**

2609 University Boulevard, Ames, IA / 515-259-1973 / [SparkbyHilton.com/Ames](http://SparkbyHilton.com/Ames)



## Come stay with us. (Repeat as necessary.)

At Hilton Garden Inn Ames, you'll find an open, inviting atmosphere with warm, glowing service — from the first hello to the next.

Thoughtful touches make your stay easier. Start with a cooked-to-order breakfast and enjoy lunch and dinner, just the way you like it. Wind down with shareable bites and a handcrafted cocktail. Or grab and go anytime with delicious snacks, cold drinks and all those travel essentials from the hotel shop.

Your room is your retreat with an *ahhhh*-inspiring bed and fresh, fragrant coffee or tea by the cup. Wi-Fi is always included.

Book now at [www.ames.hgi.com](http://www.ames.hgi.com)



 **Hilton  
Garden Inn™**

**Hilton Garden Inn Ames**  
1325 Dickinson Avenue  
Ames, Iowa 50010  
Tel: (515) 233-8000

**SPRINGHILL SUITES®**  
BY MARRIOTT

## EXTRAS THAT ADD UP TO MORE

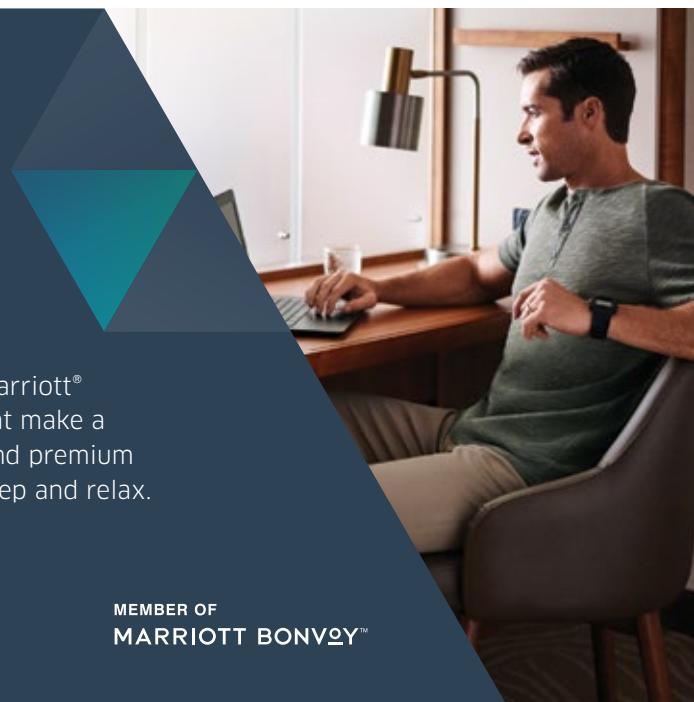
Whether you're traveling for business or pleasure, SpringHill Suites by Marriott® Ames promises a refreshingly unexpected stay filled with little extras that make a big difference. Enjoy free hot breakfast, a 24/7 market offering snacks and premium beverages, and spacious suites complete with separate areas to work, sleep and relax.

**SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT® / AMES**

1810 SE 16TH STREET / AMES, IA 50010

 515.598.8900 [SpringHillSuitesAmes.com](http://SpringHillSuitesAmes.com)

MEMBER OF  
**MARRIOTT BONVOY™**





# Stay and play



**Whatever brings you to Ames,  
we have a place for you to stay.**

Visitors to Ames can choose from accommodations near the Iowa State University campus, along major highways, or in peaceful countryside settings. Three full-service hotels provide on-site dining and spacious meeting areas ideal for groups and conferences.

# Ames-area hotels

**AmericInn by Wyndham**  
Indoor pool, free home-style  
AmericInn Perk breakfast.  
**2507 SE 16th St.**  
**515.233.1005**

**Baymont by Wyndham**  
**1605 S. Dayton Place**  
**515.337.2751**

**Best Western Plus**  
**University Park Inn & Suites**  
Hot breakfast, indoor pool, hot  
tub, exercise facility, and meeting  
space.  
**2500 University Blvd.**  
**515.296.2500**

**Cobblestone Inn & Suites**  
- Boone  
Hot breakfast, free wi-fi.  
**1900 Lakewood Dr., Boone**  
**515.212.8823**

**Comfort Inn & Suites Near**  
**ISU Campus**  
Hot breakfast, heated pool, indoor  
fitness center; next to Coldwater  
Golf Links.  
**603 S. 16th St.**  
**515.663.9555**

**Country Inn & Suites**  
Indoor pool, hot tub, fitness center,  
free breakfast.  
**2605 SE 16th St.**  
**515.233.3935**

**Courtyard by Marriott**  
Modern design, bistro, meeting  
space, full bar, and Starbucks  
coffee.  
**311 S. 17th St.**  
**515.620.5910**

**Days Inn by Wyndham**  
Self-check-in via kiosk, free wi-fi,  
business center, laundry facilities,  
free light breakfast.  
**229 S. Duff Ave.**  
**515.232.0280**

**EconoLodge**  
Affordable accommodations near  
Ames attractions.  
**2600 SE 16th St.**  
**515.233.6060**

**Fairfield Inn & Suites by**  
**Marriott**  
Newly renovated, in-room micro/  
fridge, suite options, pool, hot tub,  
fitness room, and hot breakfast.  
**2137 Isaac Newton Dr.**  
**515.232.4000**

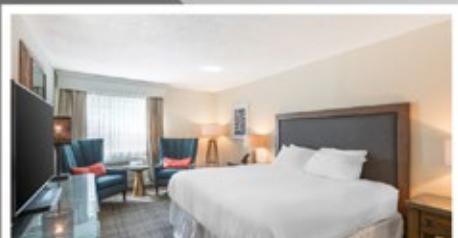
**Gateway Hotel &**  
**Conference Center at ISU**  
Premier full-service hotel for  
business meetings, conferences,  
and events; indoor pool, fitness  
center, and restaurant.  
**2100 Green Hills Dr.**  
**515.292.8600**

**GrandStay Hotel & Suites**  
Spacious suite hotel for business,  
family, and extended stay.  
**1606 S. Kellogg Ave.**  
**515.232.8363**

**Hampton Inn & Suites**  
Hot breakfast, fitness center,  
meeting space, and indoor pool.  
**2100 SE 16th St.**  
**515.232.5510**

**Hilton Garden Inn**  
Restaurant/lounge, indoor pool,  
fitness center, event space, full-  
service catering; suites available.  
**1325 Dickinson Ave.**  
**515.233.8000**

**Holiday Inn Express &**  
**Suites**  
Indoor pool, fitness center, board  
room, free hot breakfast.  
**2600 E. 13th St.**  
**515.232.2300**



[www.bestwestern.com](http://www.bestwestern.com)



**Best**  
**Western**  
**PLUS**<sup>®</sup>

Experience all that Ames, IA has to offer from the centrally located Best Western Plus University Park Inn & Suites, the ideal accommodation for friends, families, and fans. You'll be within a mile of the Iowa State University campus, offering easy access to games at Jack Trice Stadium and Hilton Coliseum, as well as the beautiful Reiman Gardens. Beyond campus, the hotel is just minutes from the bustling Main Street Cultural District, local businesses, and golf courses, ensuring a convenient stay for every visitor.

## Hotel Features:

- Complimentary Hot Breakfast
- Free Wireless Internet Access
- Daily Housekeeping
- 100% Smoke Free Hotel
- Indoor Heated Pool and Hot Tub
- Fitness Facility
- Meeting Space Available
- Business Center
- Ample Complimentary Parking
- Pet Friendly

Tripadvisor  
Travelers'  
Choice Awards



Best Western Plus University Park Inn & Suites  
2500 University Boulevard, Ames, IA 50010  
**515-296-2500**

**Home2 Suites by Hilton**  
All suite hotel with hot breakfast and indoor pool.  
*2125 Isaac Newtown Dr.*  
*515.219.8820*

**Home2 Suites Ankeny Tru by Hilton Ankeny**  
Free breakfast, pool, fitness center, and pet-friendly accommodations.  
*1230 SW District Dr., Ankeny*  
*515.644.1100*

**Microtel Inn & Suites**  
Affordable comfort in a great location.  
*2216 SE 16th St.*  
*515.233.4444*

**Quality Inn & Suites Ames Conference Center**  
Meeting space, suites with separate living room and kitchenettes.  
*2601 E. 13th St.*  
*515.232.9260*

**Red Roof Inn**  
*1418 S. Dayton Place*  
*515.232.6510*

**Sleep Inn & Suites**  
Located near Perfect Games in west Ames; indoor pool, hot tub, exercise room.  
*1310 Dickinson Ave.*  
*515.337.1171*

**Sonesta Essential Hotels Ames**  
*1400 S. Dayton Place*  
*515.450.5078*

**Spark by Hilton**  
Indoor heated pool, affordable guest rooms, free breakfast, and 24-hour fitness center.  
*2609 University Blvd.*  
*515.259.1973*

**SpringHill Suites by Marriott**  
All-suite hotel just minutes from Iowa State University and Hunziker Youth Sports Complex; pool and fitness center.  
*2507 SE 16th St.*  
*515.233.1005*

**Staybridge Suites**  
All-suites extended-stay hotel located minutes from I-35. Kitchen in each suite, and free hot breakfast buffet.  
*2111 Isaac Newton Dr.*  
*515.735.4980*

**TownePlace Suites by Marriott**  
Fully equipped kitchens, fitness center, and indoor pool.  
*1523 S. Dayton Place*  
*515.232.5500*

## B&B AND HOMESTAYS

**607 Guest House LLC**  
A spacious 1800s vacation home. Train-inspired with Iowa & Midwest heritage.  
*607 8th St, Boone*  
*607GuestHouse.com*  
*515.337.2275*

**Ames AirBnBs – Sam's Estates**  
Variety of properties, from 1-bedroom to 5-bedroom homes.  
*Sambrant.com/airbnb*

**Ames Best Short-Term Stays**  
5 Ames Stays, One Perfect Visit: Choose from 4 homes near ISU campus or a quieter spot a little farther out. All with SuperHost Status. Flexible Options.  
*Amesstay.com*

**Loya's Little House B&B**  
Scenic rural farmstead in the Skunk River Valley; quiet escape or large group entertaining; traditional full-service B&B, breakfast included!  
*56676 160th St.*  
*515.733.4701*

**Sunny Heights B&B**  
Charming bed and breakfast with a warm, cozy ambiance.  
*Sunnyheightsevencenter.com*

## START YOUR MORNING RIGHT

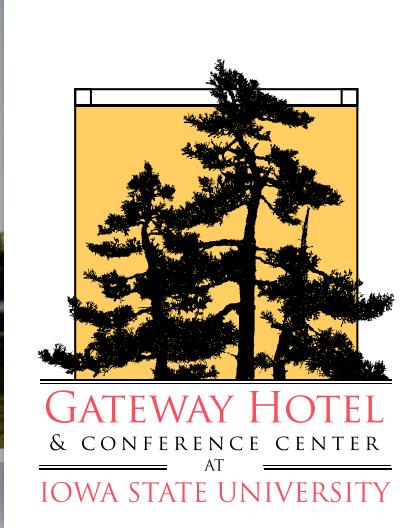


**Hy-Vee**  
**MARKET GRILLE**

**AMES PLAY-YARD**

Indoor fun, year round

2175 232nd Ln., Ames, IA, 50014      [amesplayyard.com](http://amesplayyard.com)



## A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AWAITS YOU!

You'll find us in the heart of Ames, Iowa—an easy walk from the ISU campus. As one of the few full-service hotels in the city (and home to the largest conference center), we provide a modern, welcoming destination for work or play.



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RENOVATED



POOL AND  
FITNESS AREAS



ON-SITE  
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CONFERENCE  
CENTER

**Plan your stay today! » [GatewayAmes.com](http://GatewayAmes.com)**



- Same-day, next-day appointments
- Common illness, immunizations
- 6 months of age or older
- Brief work and sports physicals

#### AMES

Lincoln Center Hy-Vee  
640 Lincoln Way, Ames  
515-956-4044

West Ames Hy-Vee  
3800 Lincoln Way, Ames  
515-956-4100

#### MARSHALLTOWN

Hy-Vee  
802 South Center Street  
641-844-5200



- Same-day appointments
- Non-life threatening illnesses & injuries
- 6 months of age or older
- X-Rays and Lab on site

#### AMES

3815 Stange Road, Ames  
515-956-4044

#### CARROLL

1214 S. Grant Road  
712-792-7500

[McFarlandClinic.com/NeedCareNow](http://McFarlandClinic.com/NeedCareNow)



McFarland Clinic

Each year Mary Greeley Medical Center's Emergency Department treats an average of **30,000** people.

**At the Emergency Department at Mary Greeley, the focus is on using the medical center's extensive resources to provide high-level emergency care. That includes:**

- 24-hour-a-day, 365-days-a-year staffing.
- A team of physicians specially trained in emergency care, and registered nurses with certifications in emergency medicine.
- Experienced paramedics who are trained to be life-saving first responders when a health emergency arises.



**Mary Greeley**  
MEDICAL CENTER

**Emergency** (Fire/Police/Ambulance) . . . . . 911

**First Nurse** . . . . . 515-239-6877  
. . . . . 800-524-6877

**Poison Center** . . . . . 800-222-1222

**Mary Greeley Medical Center**  
(non-emergent) . . . . . 515-239-2011

[www.mgmc.org](http://www.mgmc.org)



# DISCOVER Ames

EST. IA 1864

210TH ST

ONTARIO ST

X AVE

Y AVE

← BOONE

Edwards Elementary School



## Meet you on the byways!

Did you know that Ames is located at the convergence of two national historic motor routes? The **Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway**, established in 1913 as the first transcontinental highway in the U.S., spans 14 states from San Francisco to New York City. Iowa's section takes motorists 460 miles through the center of the state, from the Missouri to the Mississippi. The **Jefferson Highway Heritage Byway**, created in 1915, runs north and south from Winnipeg to New Orleans. Its 220 Iowa miles roughly follow U.S. Highways 65 and 69. Explore the byways and enjoy Iowa's history, attractions, small towns, and cities!

CAMERON SCHOOL RD

Ames Golf & Country Club

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER AVE

Ioway Creek

BLOOMINGTON RD

Somerset

24TH ST

Moore Memorial Park

Veenker Memorial Golf Course

Ames High School

Furman Aquatic Center

ISU Disc Golf Course

Brookside Park

ASU SKYLINE

UNIVERSITY BLVD

Iowa State University

Memorial Union

Fisher Theater

Scheman Building

LINCOLN WAY

S DAKOTA AVE

Ames Middle School

MORTENSEN RD

STATE AVE

WECH AVE

BEACH AVE

Campustown

Stephens Auditorium

Alumni Center

Hilton Coliseum

Iowa State Center

Jack Trice Stadium

Reiman Gardens

Southwest Athletic Complex

ISU Cross Country Course

Cyclone Sports Complex

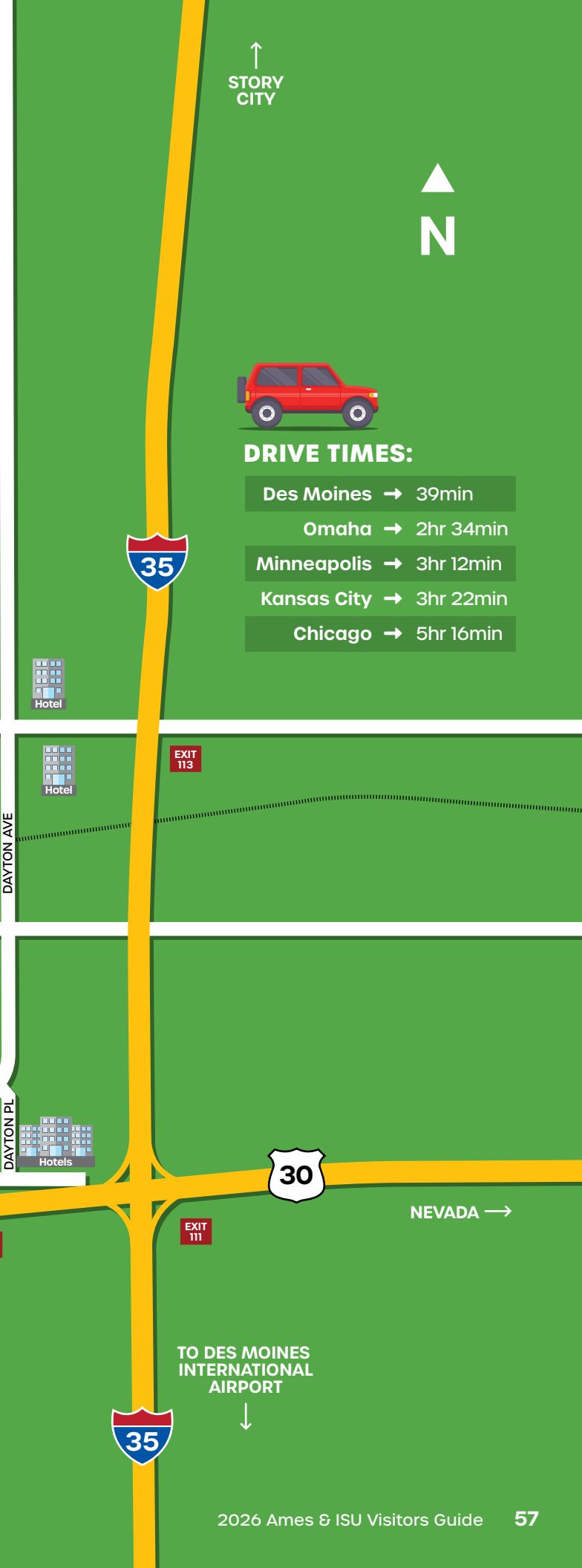
Ames & ISU Ice Arena

ISU Research Park

30

EXIT 144

EXIT 146



# ViSiT BOONE COUNTrY IOWA

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to believe it!



Follow us on social media! [!\[\]\(e8c13760be80e290331c1bce7c2e6e28\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(0d7b69b944dc488c93c347f5d8c9a239\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(b66b0d7eabecba9ddb1ec0e06224d085\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(6624db3d2baf9134a091c9aba6212090\_img.jpg\)](#)

For More Information

[www.visitboonecounty.com](http://www.visitboonecounty.com)

You can also visit us at our home office at  
Central Iowa Expo 1827 217th Road, Boone  
or give us a call at (515) 433-6900



# 2026 Ames-area events

For an up-to-date list of Ames events, go to [DiscoverAmes.com/events-calendar](http://DiscoverAmes.com/events-calendar)



## SPRING

**St. Patrick's Day** (March 17)

**Reiman Gardens' Spring Enchantment**

**Ames Renaissance Faire** (April 11-12)

**Pizza Pie Looza** (May 8-9)

**515 Days** (May 15-16)



## SUMMER

**Ames Main Street Farmers' Market**  
(May through October)

**Luke Combs Concert at Jack Trice Stadium** (April 11)

**Downtown Art Walk**

**Independence Day Celebration** (July 3)  
Fireworks)

**Farm Progress Show**  
(Sept. 1-3)

**Swimming: Furman Aquatic Center**

**Summer music series throughout Ames**



## FALL

**Cyclone football**

**Downtown Music Walk**

**Octagon Art Festival**  
(Sept. 27)

**Downtown Witches Walk**

**Reiman Gardens' Spirits in the Gardens** (October)

**Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad's Pumpkin Express** (select weekends)



## WINTER

**Cyclone winter sports**

**Reiman Gardens' Winter Wonderscape**  
(December weekends)

**Downtown Snow Magic**

**Merry & Bright Holiday Weekend** (Dec. 3-6)

**Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad's Santa Express**  
(select weekends)

**Small Business Weekend**  
(Nov. 27-30)

**Winter sports at Seven Oaks**



# Plan your next event in Ames!

By the numbers:

**14,000+**  
Largest single capacity venue

**2,000**  
Hotel rooms

**23**  
Hotels

**30+**  
Event spaces in Ames & ISU campus



**Discover Ames is committed to go the extra mile to create extraordinary events for our clients.**

Our venues, lodging, and attractions are perfect for small- to medium-sized conferences, special events, meetings, and sporting events.



**LET US HELP YOU DISCOVER AMES!**

[DiscoverAmes.com/plan](http://DiscoverAmes.com/plan)  
515.232.4032

EAT DRINK EXPLORE PLAY

WELCOME!



[DowntownAmes.org](http://DowntownAmes.org)



Ames' most iconic entertainment venue, featuring concerts, comedy, and more, since 1974

To see who's performing, visit [sub.iastate.edu/mshop](http://sub.iastate.edu/mshop)

## CYBOWL & BILLIARDS

8 bowling lanes,  
5 billiard tables,  
video games,  
and much more

For venue details and party rentals, visit [mu.iastate.edu/cybowl](http://mu.iastate.edu/cybowl)



Art classes, drop in crafts, and pottery painting in the heart of campus

Let your creativity flourish! Visit [mu.iastate.edu/workspace](http://mu.iastate.edu/workspace)



## MEMORIAL UNION ART GALLERY

Unique exhibits on display throughout the year featuring local artists and student artwork

Learn about our current exhibit, visit [mu.iastate.edu/exhibits](http://mu.iastate.edu/exhibits)