

Create a Get-Away... In Clayton County, Iowa

With so much to experience, a wide variety of tours are available & can be adapted to suit specific needs & preferences. Please contact us regarding a tour of your choice.

Agricultural Tours... visit a tractor museum, agri-grain businesses, grain terminal view stations and/or working livestock facility in the midst of production.

Amish Tours... visit an Amish community flourishing in Clayton County.

Arts & Artists Tours... Clayton County is home to a vast array of local artists.

Bed & Breakfast Tours... discover the charm of our unique historical homes & inns in our county.

Bike Tours... explore Clayton County's landscape & fresh air on two wheels.

Boat Trips... on the Mighty Mississippi in runabouts, pontoons or houseboats.

Canoe Tours... paddle either of our two rivers, the Turkey & the Volga.

Cemetery Tours... plan a genealogy trip to trace your roots at the numerous cemeteries within Clayton County.

Festivals & Ethnic Activity Tours... experience many cultures within our communities.

Golf Tours... five challenging & scenic golf courses span the county for your golfing pleasure.

Heritage Tours... experience our extensive history through our many museums, churches, cemeteries & historic landmarks from stone arch bridges to 19th century architecture. www.silosandstakestacks.org

Shopping Tours... plan a shopping excursion to unique bookstores, an assortment of antique shops & an array of other specialty stores.

Techie Tours... plan a treasure hunt to locate geo caching sites in Clayton County via internet and Global GPS devices. www.geocaching.com

Wine Tours... make plans to visit our wineries and enjoy the spectacular scenery along the way.

Visit... www.claytoncountyiowa.com to
Create A Get-Away to suit your interests.

Recreation

Rolling hills, valleys, limestone bluffs, streams, rivers & timber have cultivated our landscape into a paradise for nature enthusiasts & sportsmen alike. This scenic environment is home to a variety of wild game and fish.

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge District Office and Visitor Center is located between McGregor & Marquette. The refuge is one of the largest, most popular wildlife refuges in the United States.

Effigy Mounds National Monument contains the largest concentration of 1,300 to 2,500 year old prehistoric effigy mounds in the United States. An interpretation center, hiking trails & a view overlooking the Mississippi River are available for your enjoyment.

The Mississippi River offers great opportunities to fish remote backwaters, channels, along sandbars, islands, dams & spillways.

Lock & Dam #10 located at Guttenberg, is one of the 29 locks on the upper Mississippi River. The Mississippi River also has many locations for public boating access, several marinas & houseboats are available for rent.

The Guttenberg Fisheries Station is an excellent place to talk to fishery biologists & to obtain information regarding area fishing conditions.

Big Spring Trout Hatchery, an integral part of Iowa's trout program, is an excellent place to gather fishing information & helps anglers shorten the time between bites.

The Turkey & Volga Rivers are popular routes for canoeing, kayaking & tubing. The Turkey River is the largest river in the area and flows 120 miles before it joins the Mississippi River. Sandbars and variety of wildlife can be found along both rivers.

Pikes Peak State Park the highest bluff on the Mississippi River provides a view of the Wisconsin River as it joins the Mississippi River. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, camping & trails.

Backbone State Park, folklore named Iowa's First State Park for it's high ridge bedrock carved by the Maquoketa River. Camping, cabins, trails, trout fishing & picnicking are available for visitors. The lake area offers swimming, boating, fishing & concessions.

photo by
Larry Dore

Bixby State Reserve offers a quiet picnic area, fishing, hiking, bird watching or just quiet contemplation. Complementing nature's geological features, such as the Ice Cave, Steamboat Rock and the Big Springs, are several historic CCC structures.

Osborne Conservation & Welcome Center provides visitors with many activities. The Osborne Native Wildlife Exhibit houses wild turkey, white-tailed deer, coyote, gray wolf, bird of prey, black bear, bobcat & cougar for visitors to view. The Nature Center, Arboretum, flower gardens & several trails provide nature lover's recreational opportunities.



photo by
Anette Photo

County Parks include Bloody Run, Buck Creek, Cox Creek, Elkader Wetland, Frenchtown Park, Frieden Park, Joy Springs, Kleeve Fen, Lover's Leap, Motor Mill, Osborne Conservation & Welcome Center & Turkey River Park.

Public Hunting Areas include Big Spring, Bloody Run, Buck Creek, Ensign Hollow, Joy Springs, Mossy Glen, Motor Mill & Say Magill/North Cedar. Collectively, these areas allow deer, grouse, squirrel & turkey hunting.



Photo by
Doreen Cookman

Public Fishing Areas include Big Spring, Bloody Run, Buck Creek, Ensign Hollow, Joy Springs, Mossy Glen, South Cedar, Maquoketa River, Say Magill/North Cedar, Turkey River, Volga River & the Mississippi River.

City Parks can be found in Edgewood, Elkader, Gamavillo, Guttenberg, Luana, Maquette, McGregor, Monona, Postville, Strawberry Point & Volga City. You will find many other quality city parks & private parks throughout the county. Please take the time to discover & enjoy them!

Scenic By-Ways are numerous throughout the county. They are found along State Highways 13 & 18 and County Highways B60, B65 & C24. The Great River Road along the Mighty Mississippi River runs the length of Clayton County along which a bicycle trail travels.

Public Swimming Pools are found in the communities of Edgewood, Elkader, Guttenberg, Monona, Postville & Strawberry Point.

Public Golf Courses are available in Edgewood, Elkader, Guttenberg, Luana, & Strawberry Point.

Clayton County Fairgrounds located at National has the distinction of being one of the oldest & best county fairs in Iowa. The fair is also recognized as having one of the largest 4-H and FFA Exhibitions in the state.