



OzLeisure Traveller episode 7

Iowa – 22nd February 2008

Hosts

Richard Maguire from OzLeisure.com.au in Melbourne, Australia

Guests

Nancy Landess, Manager Iowa tourism office.

General information

Iowa is the 29th state admitted to the US, and located in the central northern area of the country. This mid-sized state (25th largest) is bordered by the mighty Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the east and west, but what lies between them is a fascinating place to visit with spectacular views, heaps of attractions and events and the friendliest of people.

With so much to see and do, we couldn't possibly hope to cover it all in this episode but Nancy tells us about a raft of activities and events available within Iowa.

There are many items mentioned in the show so be sure to check out the list of URLs below. Also, there were some important items that didn't get mentioned in the show that Nancy would like everyone to know about, so they are listed below too.

Region covered



Bordered by the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, Iowa is in the North Central area of the US

Products mentioned

Iowa travel main website

<http://www.traveliowa.com>

Iowa department of transportation

<http://www.511ia.org/>

Accommodations

<http://www.traveliowa.com/travelapp/aec/accommodations.asp?strNav=travelnav.html>

Bridges of Madison county

<http://www.madisoncounty.com/>

Danish Immigrant Museum

<http://www.danishmuseum.org>

Des Moines art festival

<http://www.desmoinesartsfestival.org/>

Field of dreams

<http://www.fodmoviesite.com>

Glenn Miller Festival

<http://www.glennmiller.org>

Great river road

<http://www.experiencemississippiriver.com>

Iowa state fair

<http://www.iowastatefair.org>

King's Pointe Resort (indoor/outdoor water park)

<http://www.kingspointeresort.com/>

Knoxville raceway

<http://www.knoxvillraceway.com>

Le Mars: Ice cream capital of the world

<http://www.wellsdairy.com>

Living History farms

<http://www.livinghistoryfarms.org>

Matchstick marvels

<http://www.matchstickmarvels.com/matchstickmain.html>

Mississippi river

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississippi_River

Missouri river

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_river

National Czech & Slovak Museum & library

<http://www.ncsml.org>

National Mississippi river museum and aquarium

<http://www.rivermuseum.org>

National sprint car hall of fame

<http://www.sprintcarhof.com>

Orange City Tulip Festival

<http://www.octulipfestival.com>

Pella's Tulip Times Festival

<http://www.pellatuliptime.com/>

RAGBRAI (Registers Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa)

<http://www.ragbrai.org>

Science center of Iowa

<http://www.sciowa.org/>

Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum

<http://www.vesterheim.org>

Additional attractions and events

- Grant Wood: Iowa native Grant Wood is celebrated as the painter of America's most famous work of art - "American Gothic." The Grant Wood Scenic Byway travels the rounded hills and colourful woodlands that inspired him. The Cedar Rapids Museum of Art in Cedar Rapids houses the world's largest collection of Grant Wood works. (www.crma.org) His original studio is also located nearby. (www.grantwoodstudio.org). The house that served as the backdrop to "American Gothic" is still standing in the town of Eldon. A new visitor centre includes parodies of the artwork as well as costumes so visitors can take their own picture in front of the house. (www.iowahistory.org/sites)
- National Motorcycle Museum, Anamosa: More than 200 rare and vintage motorcycles dating back to 1903 on display, along with thousands of photos and motorcycle memorabilia. www.nationalmcmuseum.org
- Loess Hills, western Iowa: German for loose or crumbly, loess is a gritty, lightweight porous material composed of tightly packed grains of quartz, feldspar, mica and other materials. Iowa's Loess Hills are a rare geological feature because the layers of loess are extremely thick, as much as 200 feet in some places. Shaanxi, China, is the other location where loess layers are as deep and extensive. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loess_Hills
- Honey Creek, Centerville: Iowa's first destination state park is scheduled to open in August 2008. When completed, it will include a lodge, indoor water park, golf course and conference centre. <http://www.iowadnr.com/parks/honeycreek/index.html>

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If you have an idea for a podcast series that you would like to discuss with OzLeisure.com.au, please contact us by e-mail: info@ozleisure.com.au and we would be delighted to discuss it with you.