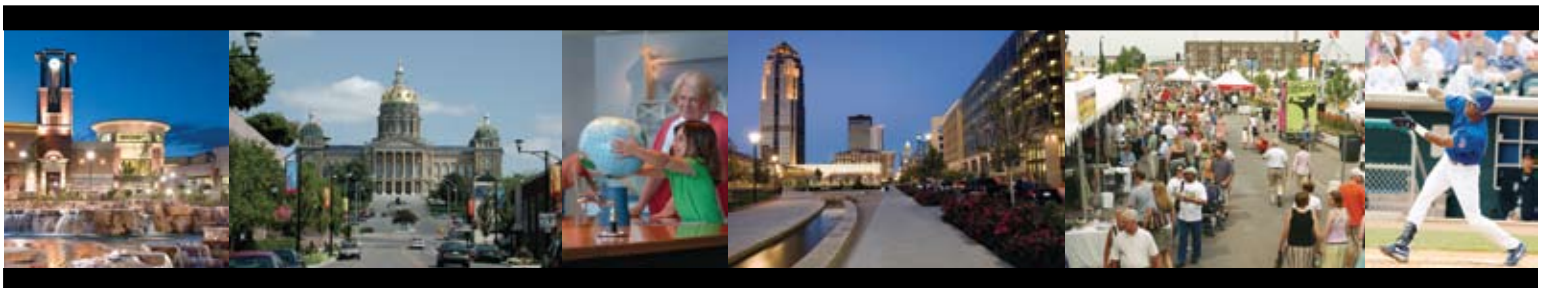




STAY. EXPLORE. DINE. DISCOVER. SEE.

Greater Des Moines Convention & Visitors Bureau 2009 Media Kit

DO MORE. **DES MOINES.**



Get to Know Greater Des Moines

SeeDesMoines.com

DES MOINES IS...

Des Moines is a cosmopolitan city with small-town charm offering a wonderful blend of city conveniences and Midwest hospitality. Its central location also makes it easily accessible.

Greater Des Moines' renaissance includes \$2.85 billion in development with a new riverwalk, science center, library designed by a world-class architect, 17,000-seat arena and 100,000 square-foot exhibit hall.

KEY FACTS

Time Zone: Central Standard Time

Convention Center: Iowa Events Center

Airport: Des Moines International Airport

Population: 551,819

Hotel Rooms: 10,000+

Skywalks: 4 miles of climate-controlled skywalks

Restaurants: 850+

Trails: 115.3 miles

Parks: 66 - including 30+ golf courses

Concert/Music Venues: 15+

Movie Theaters: 11

Major Shopping Malls: 4

DID YOU KNOW...?

In 2008, Des Moines was ranked the **most affordable city to host a tradeshow** by *Tradeshow Week* and the sixth best place to raise a family by *Best Life* magazine.

Des Moines was ranked **25th on the Milken Institute's Economic Growth list** for 2008, and was the only Midwestern city in the top 25.

CLIMATE INFORMATION

Because of its Midwest location, Greater Des Moines has a wide range of weather conditions, including four distinct seasons.

Average High Temperature: 86° (Summer months)

Average Low Temperature: 32° (Winter months)

Average Annual Precipitation: 34 inches

Average Annual Snowfall: 36.4 inches

GREATER DES MOINES CVB MUNICIPALITIES

Altoona

Ankeny

Clive

Des Moines

Grimes

Johnston

Perry

Pleasant Hill

Polk County

Urbandale

West Des Moines

Windsor Heights

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Wells Fargo & Co.

Principal Financial Group

Mercy Medical Center - Des Moines

Iowa Health - Des Moines

Nationwide/Allied Insurance

MidAmerican Energy

Pioneer, a DuPont Co.

Hy-Vee Food Stores

UPS

Wellmark Inc.



Major Events in 2009

SeeDesMoines.com

IOWA POWER FARMING SHOW

February 3-5, 2009

Iowa Events Center

The largest indoor agricultural show in the upper Midwest is designed to showcase new equipment and products for farmers.

IOWA BEEF EXPO

February 8-15, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

The Iowa Beef Expo is a function of the Iowa Beef Breeds Council (IBBC) representing the states pure-bred seedstock cattle producers.

DES MOINES HOME & GARDEN SHOW

February 12-15, 2009

Hy-Vee Hall

Visitors have the opportunity to see the latest in home and garden trends at this event. Celebrity designers, demonstrations and new products are also available.

KIDS FEST 2009

March 6-8, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

The largest children's festival is a three-day event offering fun activities and raises money for Children & Families of Iowa.

IOWA DEER CLASSIC

March 6-8, 2009

The Iowa Deer Classic is a full day of outdoor exhibitors, hunting seminars and trophy whitetails.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

April 6, 2009

Wells Fargo Arena

The reunion of all five members of the famed 90s group.

DRAKE RELAYS

April 23-25, 2009

Drake Stadium

The annual outdoor track and field event is held on Drake

University campus on the famous blue track. It has become one of the largest events in the U.S. and celebrates its 100th Relays in April 2009.



DOWNTOWN FARMERS' MARKET

7 a.m. - Noon Saturdays

May-October, 2009

Court District

The Downtown Farmers' Market brings fresh fruits, vegetables, home-baked pastries, apparel and jewelry, together with music and more!

PRINCIPAL CHARITY CLASSIC

May 26-31, 2009

Glen Oaks Country Club

The Principal Financial Group® annually brings the PGA Champions Tour pro golf tournament to Des Moines. Hosted by the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation, event monies raised will benefit a group of five select charities that support Iowa's children.

WINEFEST

June 11-13, 2009

Capital Square/Nollen Plaza

Iowa's premier wine tasting event featuring international, national and Iowa wineries.

WORLD PORK EXPO

June 3-5, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

The Iowa State Fairgrounds is home to this event featuring more than 1,000 swine industry exhibits.

DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL

June 26-28, 2009

Western Gateway Park

Western Gateway Park is home to the Des Moines Arts Festival. The Festival includes emerging Iowa artists, the Interrobang Film Festival, professional juried artists, street theater and other art activities.



Artist Juame Plensa's *Nomade* is a giant sitting man made of steel letters that will be part of the Pappajohn Sculpture Garden in Western Gateway Park.

Major Events in 2009

SeeDesMoines.com

ARTFEST MIDWEST, THE OTHER ART SHOW

June 27-28, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

Held the same weekend as the Des Moines Arts Festival, ArtFest Midwest features Iowa and regional artists.

YANKEE DOODLE POPS 2009

July 2, 2009

Iowa State Capitol West Terrace

Maestro Giunta and the orchestra lead one of Iowa's favorite Independence Day kick-offs. The FREE outdoor concert culminates with patriotic fanfare and the area's premier fireworks display.

GOOD GUYS - HEARTLAND ROD & CUSTOM NATIONALS

July 3-5, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

The largest event featuring street rods, custom cars and show cars stages an event every year in Des Moines.

AAU JUNIOR OLYMPICS

July 29-August 8, 2009

Metro Wide

Des Moines will be home to the 2009 JO Games. The annual event includes multiple sports for youth from across the U.S.

NATIONAL BALLOON CLASSIC

July 31-August 8, 2009

Indianola

2009 will mark 40 years of Indianola and Warren County hosting a hot air balloon festival.

NASCAR - NATIONWIDE RACE

August 1, 2009

Iowa Speedway

2009 marks the first year for the NASCAR Nationwide Series race to be held in Iowa. The race will be broadcast on the ESPN cable network.

IOWA STATE FAIR

August 13-23, 2009

Iowa State Fairgrounds

Annually held in August, the Iowa State Fair offers grandstand concerts, blue-ribbon competition, over 200 food choices and much more.

GREATER DES MOINES RESTAURANT WEEK

August 21-30

Metro-wide

Visit participating restaurants for a special prix-fixé menu all week long!

NASCAR TRUCK SERIES

September 5, 2009

Iowa Speedway

The Iowa Speedway hosts the Truck Series Race for the first time in 2009.

ARTSTOP

September 11-12, 2009

Various performing arts venues

A FREE two-day visual and performing arts event.

WICKED

September 23-October 18, 2009

Civic Center of Greater Des Moines

Wicked is a musical based on the novel by Gregory Maguire. This year it makes its debut in Iowa at the 2008-2009 Betts Broadway Series.

IMT DES MOINES MARATHON

October 18, 2009

Downtown Des Moines

Iowa's largest and fastest marathon, also featuring the half marathon, 5-person marathon relay challenge, 5K road race and a kids run.

AMERICAN QUILTER'S SOCIETY QUILT EXPO & CONTEST

October 28-31, 2009

Iowa Events Center

See quilts exhibited at the 2009 American Quilter's Society (AQS) Show.

JOLLY HOLIDAY LIGHTS

November 24-January 1

Waterworks Park

This Des Moines tradition includes 3.3 miles of holiday light displays.



From food festivals to art and film festivals, we are proud to offer you so many culturally diverse festivals throughout the year.

ARTFEST MIDWEST

Held the same weekend as the Des Moines Arts Festival, ArtFest Midwest features Iowa and regional artists. It is offered as an alternative, affordable art show to complement the downtown show.

CELEBRASIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

CelebrAsian, held in May, is the largest Asian-American event in Iowa, showcasing cultural exhibits, history, food, performance artists, sports, martial arts, children's villages and rides and other family-friendly activities.

DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL

The Des Moines Arts Festival is a free, three-day festival of the arts featuring 175 talented artists. The Arts Festival draws 1.5 million people to Western Gateway Park and features performing arts, emerging artists, live music and street theatre.

DES MOINES METRO OPERA'S 37TH FESTIVAL SEASON

The Des Moines Metro Opera's 2009 Summer Festival season will include three operas during June and July. The productions include Tosca, Der Freischutz and The Barber of Seville.

DES MOINES PRIDE FESTIVAL

Weekend-long festivities include a street party in the Historic East Village and a Pride Parade and festival. The celebration is held annually in June.

DES MOINES RENAISSANCE FAIRE

The Des Moines Renaissance Faire offers demonstrations by glass blowers, blacksmiths, potters, wood carvers, potters and painters. The Faire runs for three weekends in September, beginning Labor Day weekend at Sleepy Hollow Sports Park.

FESTA ITALIANA

Festa Italiana is an annual Italian food festival organized by the Society of Italian Americans in celebration of Italian culture with food vendors, entertainers and games and contests for best sauce.

FESTIVAL OF TREES & LIGHTS

Attend this five-day event to see and bid on decorated trees donated by local celebrities and community businesses.

INTERROBANG FILM FESTIVAL

Combining a traditional film production competition with a public screening during the Des Moines Arts Festival, Interrobang celebrates creativity and promotes a wide array of film genres.

IOWA STATE FAIR

The internationally acclaimed Iowa State Fair attracts more than a million visitors each year. The Fair, which takes place in August, offers 200+ food stands and more than 30 food items on-a-stick.

LATINO HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The Latino Heritage Festival is the largest Latino festival in the state. The Festival offers traditional foods, arts, crafts, cultural exhibitors, educational areas and a Saturday night street dance.

RIB AMERICA FESTIVAL

Attend the three-day Rib America Festival, featuring award-winning barbecue and upbeat performances on the music stage.

WINEFEST

Iowa's premier wine tasting event draws over 1,800 people each year. Enjoy an impressive line-up of international, national and Iowa wineries, as well as seminars and entertainment.

WILD ROSE INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

The Wild Rose Independent Film Festival is a celebration of beautiful cinema art being created by independent moviemakers.

WORLD FOOD FESTIVAL

This taste event celebrates Iowa's unique and diverse culinary traditions. Held in the Historic East Village, the World Food Festival partners with The World Food Prize.

80/35 MUSIC FESTIVAL

80/35 is a multi-day festival celebrating music, artists and fans. A main stage features national bands, with regional and local supporting acts on smaller side stages.

DES MOINES BUCCANEERS HOCKEY TEAM

Buccaneer Arena
(515) 278-9757
bucshockey.com

The Des Moines Bucs is a Junior A hockey team that competes in the United States Hockey League. Games are played from September to April.



IOWA CHOPS HOCKEY TEAM

Wells Fargo Arena
(515) 564-8700
iowachops.com

Wells Fargo Arena is home to the Iowa Chops Hockey Team. Games are played October through April.



DES MOINES MENACE SOCCER TEAM

(515) 226-9890
menacesoccer.com

The Des Moines Menace is Iowa's premier soccer team and belongs to the United Soccer League's Premier Development League. Menace home games are played at Valley Stadium in West Des Moines. The regular season runs from May through July.



IOWA CUBS BASEBALL TEAM

Principal Park
(515) 243-6111
iowacubs.com

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

IOWA BARNSTORMERS ARENA FOOTBALL TEAM

Wells Fargo Arena
(515) 633-BALL
theiowabarnstormers.com

The Iowa Barnstormers are the newest member of Arena Football 2. Home games are played March through July.



IOWA ENERGY BASKETBALL TEAM

Wells Fargo Arena
(515) 462-2849
iowanba.com

The Iowa Energy basketball team is a franchise of the NBA Development League. The team plays 24 home games November through April. NBA affiliates include the Chicago Bulls and Phoenix Suns.



Downtown Hotels

SeeDesMoines.com

With more than 100 area hotels/motels,
Greater Des Moines boasts 10,000+ rooms.

DES MOINES MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines
(515) 245-5500

EMBASSY SUITES

101 E Locust Street, Des Moines
(515) 244-1700

HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN AT MERCY CAMPUS

1050 6th Avenue, Des Moines
(515) 283-0151

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS AT DRAKE UNIVERSITY

1140 24th Street, Des Moines
(515) 255-4000

HOTEL FORT DES MOINES

1000 Walnut Street, Des Moines
(515) 243-1161
hotelfortdesmoines.com

QUALITY INN & SUITES EVENTS CENTER

929 3rd Street, Des Moines
(515) 282-5251

RENAISSANCE SAVERY HOTEL

401 Locust Street, Des Moines
(515) 244-2151

SUITES OF 800 LOCUST

800 Locust Street, Des Moines
(515) 288-5800



Visit our website at www.seedesmoines.com/stay/hotels.php
to find hotel information to accommodate your needs.

Daily Flights to Des Moines

AIRLINES

Allegiant Air

American Airlines

American Eagle
Chautauqua
Trans States

Continental Airlines

Express Jet

Delta Airlines

Atlantic Southeast
Comair

Northwest Airlines

Mesaba
Pinnacle
Skywest-Midwest Express

United Airlines

Mesa-United Express
Shuttle America
Skywest-United Express

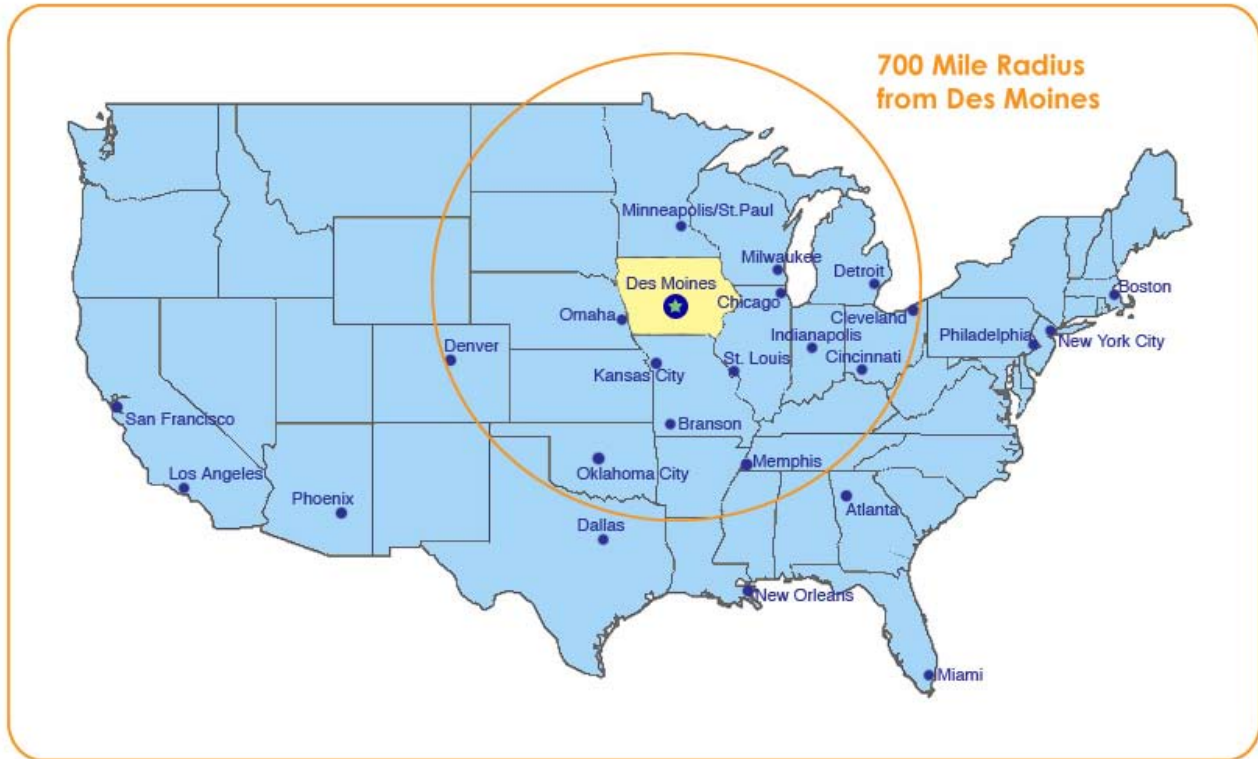
US Airways Express

Mesa

NONSTOP FLIGHTS TO

Atlanta, GA
Chicago-O'Hare, IL
Cincinnati, OH
Dallas Ft. Worth, TX
Denver, CO
Detroit, MI
Houston, TX
LaGuardia, NY
Las Vegas, NV
Los Angeles, CA
Memphis, TN
Milwaukee, WI
Minneapolis, MN
Orlando, FL
Phoenix, AZ
St. Louis, MO
St. Petersburg, FL
Washington, DC

One quarter of the U.S. population can drive to Des Moines in one day and 56 million people live within a 700 mile radius of Greater Des Moines.



Driving Mileage to Des Moines

* According to Google Maps

CITY	MILES	CITY	MILES
Atlanta	924	Los Angeles	1,683
Boston	1,300	Mason City, IA	120
Branson	401	Memphis	640
Cedar Rapids, IA	127	Miami	1,590
Chicago	333	Milwaukee	373
Cincinnati	586	Minneapolis/St. Paul	244
Cleveland	672	New Orleans	1,033
Dallas	748	New York City	1,106
Davenport, IA	168	Oklahoma City	546
Denver	672	Omaha	135
Detroit	599	Philadelphia	1,076
Dubuque, IA	200	Phoenix	1,581
Indianapolis	473	San Francisco	1,800
Iowa City, IA	114	St. Louis	372
Kansas City	194	Waterloo, IA	131

Contact Us

SeeDesMoines.com

Click on the links below for the information you need, including:

- Attractions
- Calendar of Events
- Did You Know...?
- Dining
- Greater Des Moines Info
- Hotels
- Maps
- Photo Galleries
- Press Releases
- Story Ideas
- Testimonials
- Transportation
- Visitor Resources

Contact Us

The Greater Des Moines CVB is here to help you find everything you need to know about our area.

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