

## Ag-venture in Iowa- 2 Day Tour

Experience Iowa Agriculture at its best from the award winning livestock at the Iowa State Fair to winding down with a glass of Iowa wine at Summerset Winery.

Day 1:

- 8:00 a.m. Arrive at the country's most famous state fair- the **Iowa State Fair**, listed on the National Register of Historical Places. Greeters will board the coach to give you the day's highlights, answer questions and provide daily programs and coupon books to all guests. From here, endless fun awaits. Learn about the animal birthing process, witness a live birth, or hold a newborn piglet in the **Animal Learning Center**. Next, visit the **Agriculture Building**, home to Iowa's finest agricultural commodities, an apiary exhibit and the World-Famous Butter Cow - an Iowa State Fair tradition that began in 1911. As you head south on Rock Island Avenue, you can't miss the **Livestock Pavilion** on your left. Take a seat inside and witness the finest livestock the Fair has to offer from one of the world's largest livestock shows.
- 11:00 a.m. Break for lunch- Taste delicious Fair food classics, including foot-long corn dogs, elephant ears and blooming onions. Don't leave without sampling something unique on-a-stick! Remember to use your coupon books for extra savings.
- 11:30 a.m. Save room for dessert and head to the **Dairy Parlor**, seated on the north side of the Cattle Barn. Here you can watch the process of fresh cow's milk ultimately becoming fresh ice cream. This ice cream is rumored to be some of the best on the Fairgrounds. Continue to the **Cattle Barn** to see the Super Bull, often weighing in at over 2,000 lbs. Next door you'll find the **Swine Barn**. Step inside and experience one of Iowa's most important products. In the northwest corner of the building, you will find the **Avenue of Breeds**, where there are many different breeds of ducks, chickens, horses, cattle and fish on display. Make your way across the street to finish out your barns tour in the **Sheep Barn**, home to over 1,000 bleating examples of the country's finest sheep.
- 2:00 p.m. Shop and browse more than 500 booths, displays and exhibits, explore, take in a show at one of the Fair's five free stages and eat some famous fair foods before returning to your coach.
- 3:00 p.m. Depart the Iowa State Fair for more farm fun in Woodward.
- 4:00 p.m. Sample country living and food at **Picket Fence Creamery**, an 80-acre family owned and operated dairy farm, creamery, and country store. Jeff, Jill, Jenna and James Burkhart milk 80 Jersey cows and bottle the milk at their on-site creamery. Tour the grounds and see the cows, calves, a few pigs, and roam through the organic vegetable garden to enjoy the sights, smells, and sounds of the farm! The store offers Picket Fence milk, cream, butter, cheese, ice cream, beef, pork and local foods from 89 Iowa families. Enjoy an early dessert with a piece of homemade apple crisp, topped with PFC ice cream and a glass of milk or cup of coffee!
- 6:00 p.m. Check into your hotel and rest up for another exciting day.

Day 2:

9:00 a.m. The **Berry Patch Farm** in Ames is a sustainable farm that has grown strawberries, raspberries, vegetables and apples since 1970. Tour the farm and see that they grow, sell and how they operate. Treat your self to your favorite fruits, hand pick your own August through October.

11:30 a.m. Break for Lunch at **Hickory Park Restaurant Co.** Hickory Park has been an Ames tradition since 1970 and is famous for their hickory smoked selections, ice cream parlor desserts, generous portions, modest prices and exceptional service.

1:30 p.m. Arrive at the **Maytag Dairy Farm** for a short tour and cheese sampling. In the past 12 years, employment has grown from 20 to 85 as cheese production has grown from 200,000 pounds a year to nearly one million pounds. Visit the cheese shop that overlooks the cheese plant and farm, tour the packaging and shipping areas, view a video of the history and significance of Maytag Blue, and of course, sample cheese!

3:00 p.m. Spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing at **Summerset Winery**, Iowa's largest winery. Nestled on 12.5 acres of vineyard in the scenic countryside of northern Warren County, the winery houses a wine tasting room, gift shop, wine cellar, and live music on Fridays and Sundays. Spend the afternoon sampling wines, touring the vineyard and enjoy cheese, crackers and wine in the lush landscape.

5:00 p.m. Depart for home.

## Tour Sites

Iowa State Fair  
East 30th and East University, P.O. Box  
57130  
Des Moines, IA 50317  
Megan Baron  
515/262.3111 ext. 335  
mbaron@iowastatefair.org  
www.iowastatefair.org

Picket Fence Creamery  
14583 S Ave.  
Woodward, Iowa 50276  
Jill Burkhart  
515/438.COWS  
jbmilk@netins.net  
www.picketfencecreamery.net

Berry Patch Farm  
62785 280<sup>th</sup> Street  
Nevada, IA 50201  
515/382.5138  
berry.patch@midiowa.net  
www.berrypatchfarm.com

Maytag Dairy Farms  
2282 East 8th Street North, Newton, IA  
50208  
641/792.1133  
www.maytagdairyfarms.com

Summerset Winery  
15101 Fairfax Street  
Indianola, IA 50125  
Kristin McClarnon  
515/961.3545  
summersetwine@msn.com  
www.summersetwine.com

## Restaurants

Hickory Park Restaurant Co.  
1404 S Duff Ave  
PO Box 765  
Ames, IA 50010  
515.232.8940  
www.hickorypark-bbq.com

## **Tours Planning Assistance**

Greater Des Moines Convention and  
Visitors Bureau  
400 Locust Street, Suite 265  
Des Moines Iowa 50309  
800/451.2625  
info@desmoinescvb.com  
www.seedesmoines.com

Ames Convention and Visitor Bureau  
1601 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 110  
Ames, IA 50010  
Angela Moore  
800/288.7470  
angelam@amescvb.com  
www.visitames.com

InBound Iowa  
Sharon Dixon  
800/990.6679  
info@inboundiowa.com  
www.inboundiowa.com