



Villages of
Van Buren County



**2024-2025
VILLAGES GUIDE**

800.868.7822

VILLAGESOFVANBUREN.COM

Villages of Van Buren
 809 1st Street, PO Box 9
 Keosauqua, IA 52565
 800.868.7822 / 319.293.7111
 info@villagesofvanburen.com
 villagesofvanburen.com



Welcome to the Van Buren County Welcome Center & McCoy Historical Museum, your gateway to the Villages! Step back in time as you explore a charming 1870 Folk Style house filled with fascinating antiques, snapshots of history, and unique memorabilia. Our enthusiastic staff will guide you to the hidden treasures of all 11 Villages, including Bentonsport, Birmingham, Bonaparte, Cantril, Douds, Farmington, Keosauqua, Milton, Mt. Sterling, Selma & Stockport.



*Experience a peaceful escape from the modern world
 in a place where there are no stoplights, just the
 simple beauty of rural Iowa in the Villages of Van Buren!*

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Located in Iowa, our team is devoted to providing the highest quality print from your marketing pieces to direct mail. Specializing in catalogs, books, brochures and newsletters, mailing domestic and foreign. We offer in-house design services to assist with your projects. Contact Diane Sayre at 319.750.1766 or diane@sutherlandprinting.com to schedule an appointment!

SHOPPING

CANTRIL

Dutchman's Store
103 Division Street, Cantril
319.397.2322

dutchmansstore.com

Step into a world of delightful surprises! Our shop offers a vast selection of bulk foods, candies, fresh produce, deli delights, and grocery essentials. Explore our fabric and craft room, footwear, homemade items, and unique gifts. Enjoy seasonal specials and spring bedding plants. Experience the charm of yesteryear with our friendly service, low prices, and one-of-a-kind merchandise! Visit us today for a nostalgic shopping journey! Open Mon-Fri 8am-6pm; Sat 8am-5pm. Closed Sunday. ATM available inside.



Open Mon-Fri 8am-6pm; Sat 8am-5pm. Closed Sunday. ATM available inside.

MILTON

Milton Creamery
202 East Hwy 2, Milton
641.656.4094

miltoncreamery.com

Experience the symphony of flavors that have captured the hearts of cheese lovers across the United States! We craft award-winning cheeses using the finest quality milk from local Amish and Mennonite dairy farmers. Each batch is handcrafted with care, hand packed in traditional hoops, and aged to perfection. Our viewing window offers a glimpse into the process and we offer samples of our fresh curds and fine cheeses for you to savor. Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 9am-4pm. Closed Sunday. For inquiries email: cheese@miltoncreamery.com.



Our viewing window offers a glimpse into the process and we offer samples of our fresh curds and fine cheeses for you to savor. Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 9am-4pm. Closed Sunday. For inquiries email: cheese@miltoncreamery.com.

BENTONSPORT

Addie May Fudge
21964 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport
319.592.3579 / 641.233.7793

Indulge in the irresistible charm of Addie May Fudge at the Historic Greef General Store! Savor our 18 delectable flavors of fresh butter and cream fudge, available daily. Quench your thirst with our beverages, and on weekends treat yourself to our delightful sandwiches from 11:30am-1:30pm. Catering and shipping is also available. Like us on Facebook.



Historic Greef General Store
21964 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport
319.592.3579

What was once a busy 1840's general store that provided everyday essentials to a bustling river community is now an antique store. You'll find local handmade crafts, a wide variety of antiques and Addie May Fudge. We also have several Indian & local artifacts on display. Closed Monday & Tuesday. Open Wed-Sun 10am-4pm. Nov-April hours: Friday-Sunday 10am-4pm. Like us on Facebook.



SHOPPING

BENTONSPORT

Iron & Lace

21952 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport

319.592.3222

ironandlaceiowa.com

Unique store featuring Queen Anne's Lace pottery, raku, hand forged artistic ironwork, handmade jewelry, over 200 hand woven rugs & placemats. Demonstrations by chance or appointment. A must-see shop! Open Thursday-Saturday, 10am-5pm. Outside of these hours, give us a call!



Sweet Maple Mercantile

21960 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport

607.205.5024

A modern day general store in a historic setting. Every day goods for everyone, including a few quirky and artistic twists. All items crafted in Iowa with loving hands. Craftsmanship inspired by simpler times. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram. Open Thursday-Sunday from 10am-5pm, May-October. Friday-Saturday, 10am-4pm, November-April. Or by appointment.



Treen Woodworks

21968 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport

563.271.8253

Come and explore our shop full of exquisitely handcrafted treasures, each item made from wood and steel. You will find heirloom quality handcarved wooden bowls and spoons, crafted out of local native hardwoods. We have a large selection of beautiful charcuterie boards made from cherry, spalted maple, and walnut. All charcuterie boards have hand forged iron handles, hammered out at our workshop. Open May to December, Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm



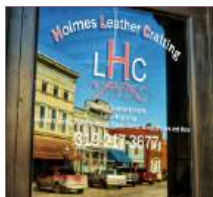
BONAPARTE

Holmes Leather Crafting

605 First Street, Bonaparte

319.217.3677

Your local outlet for leather goods, repair, and knife sharpening. We feature jackets, vests, and hats, as well as leather repair and custom leather work including belts, earrings, holsters, sheaths and more. We sell accessories for motorcycles and riders. Come see our Damascus knives and line of unique toys and wood models. There truly is something for everyone! Stuart Holmes, Master Craftsman. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9am-5pm. Monday by appointment.



Simply Irresistible

622 First Street, Bonaparte

319.592.3311

An old-timey drug store. Vintage items on display and for sale, handmade soy candles and more. Cold drinks, hot beverages, daily baked goods and soup on Friday and Saturday. Local wines for sale. Open Monday-Wednesday, 8am-Noon; Thursday-Saturday, 8am-4pm. Closed Sunday.



SHOPPING

BONAPARTE

Sunrise Bakery

21913 White Avenue, Bonaparte
319.677.0865 (voicemail)

Discover the authentic charm of this Amish bakery and indulge in an assortment of baked goods, jams, jellies, and homemade noodles. Savor our daily fresh fried pies and make your weekends sweeter with donuts and cream-filled long johns on Fridays and Saturdays. In the fall, treat yourself to homemade candy. Join us for our renowned Amish buffet on select weekends (*visit villagesofvanburen.com for dates*). Catering and special meals for gatherings also available. Open Wednesday-Saturday, 9am-6pm.



Waterfront Place

606 First Street, Bonaparte
641.919.0882

waterfrontplaceantiques.com

Uncover hidden treasures and find a piece of the past! We offer a unique variety of antiques and collectibles. Stop in today! Open Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm or by appointment.

FARMINGTON

Riverfront Flowers

607 South Front Street, Farmington
319.878.4258

riverfrontflowersnmore.com

This three generation, family owned flower shop, greenhouse and garden center nestled along the Des Moines River has been hand-delivering premium floral arrangements, potted plants and gift baskets since 2005. We are here to serve you from birthdays to anniversaries, commemorating a loved one, and every little "just because" in between. Our stunning arrangements will allow nature's beauty to inspire your special moment. We are dedicated to your satisfaction. Offering fresh cut flower arrangements, seasonal annuals, perennials, bushes, planters, hanging baskets, fresh cut Christmas trees, grave blankets and more. Along with a full service greenhouse featuring hand painted Mexican pottery and metal art. There is something for everyone! Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm; Saturday, 9am-Noon. Closed Sunday. Greenhouse seasonal hours. Open seven days a week.



LEBANON

Yoder's Indian Creek Furniture LLC

22769 Route V64, Milton (just south of Lebanon)
319.538.7332 (voicemail)

Bring us your dreams and we will custom build to fit your needs! Visit our store and you'll find a great selection of quality hardwood furniture including tables, chairs, hutches, bedroom sets, rockers, gliders, and recliners. Also, maintenance-free outdoor furniture, high-quality mattress sets, rustic cedar log furniture, pie safes, bird feeders, wind chimes, gazebos and so much more. 4 miles north of Cantril or 3/4 miles south of Lebanon on Route V64. Open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm and Saturday, 9am-4pm. Closed Sundays. Also closed Jan 1, March 29, May 9, Nov 28, Dec 25-26.

SHOPPING

KEOSAUQUA

Jeanette's Floral and Decor

205 Van Buren Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3161

Florals, gifts, home decor, and more!
Specializing in wedding and funeral
florals. Blooming and green plants,
tropicals, silks, great gifts, home decor,
jewelry, The Captured Harvest soaps and lotions, and Anchored
Northwest candles. Offering traditional and contemporary floral
designs ideal for birthdays, anniversaries, get well gifts, new baby,
sympathy, holidays or just because. Stop and browse my home
decor and gift items. Locally owned by Jeanette Goehring.
Open Monday-Wednesday & Friday, 9am-5pm; Thursday &
Saturday, 9am-Noon.



Wasko Hardware

810 1st Street, Keosauqua
319.293.6468

waskohardware.com

We carry camping supplies, BBQ supplies,
kitchenware, giftware, plumbing,
electrical and more! Come see our
Kitchen & Bath Showroom and let the experts help you design
your dream kitchen or bath. New Wasko Cabinetry, Amish Built,
Iowa Made. Free delivery! Financing available (subject to credit
approval, minimum monthly payments required). We pride
ourselves on customer service. Thank you for visiting us! Open
Monday-Friday, 8am-5:30pm; Saturday, 9am-4pm.



Zinc

715 1st Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3335

Showcasing items for an elegant home, gracious
living, unique jewelry, and gifts that inspire and
delight. Find a handcrafted creation amongst
the treasures as you enjoy exceptional service
in Zinc's tranquil atmosphere. Let Zinc help
you live your best life through interior design!
Owner Christina Hedstrom offers free in-store
consultations as well as complete interior design services. She will
help you make the most of your space and create an inspiring
and harmonious home. Open Tuesday-Friday, 1-4:30pm or by
request.



VILLAGE FRIENDS

Hinterland Dairy Farmstead Cheese

2149 Franklin Road, Donnellson
319.470.3919

hinterlanddairy.com

Sitting in the beautiful, rolling hills of SE
Iowa. For the Krogmeier family,
dairying is not just an occupation; it's a
way of life. Cheese is made right here
on the dairy farm, using only farm fresh milk from our cows.
Come visit our viewing area and on-farm cheese shop featuring
our cheeses, ice cream, and other locally made products. Open
spring through Christmas on Friday, 12-6pm; Saturday, 10am-
4pm; Sunday, Noon-4pm or by appointment.



DINING & DRINKS

BONAPARTE

Bonaparte Retreat

713 First Street, Bonaparte

319.592.3339

bonaparteretreat.com

Located in a refurbished grist mill, built in 1878. Enjoy a hearty meal in a truly unique atmosphere and make dinner

an event at the regionally famous Retreat, a Southeastern Iowa tradition! Lunch served daily 11am-1pm. Dinner served at 5pm.



CANTRIL

Cantril Fox Den

104 Division Street, Cantril

319.397.2151

Indulge in the cozy embrace of the Cantril Fox Den where every dish is a homemade delight. Savor our signature comfort food and discover daily specials that tantalize the taste buds. Conveniently located across from the

Dutchman's Store, it's the perfect spot to unwind and enjoy prior to your shopping quest. Join us for a taste of home! Open Monday-Wednesday, 10am-3pm; Thursday-Friday, 10am-7pm, and Saturday 9am-7pm.



DOUDS

Lunch Box Cafe

14191 Hwy 98, Douds

641.936.4444

Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11am-7pm. Delicious home cooked meals! Everyone can't seem to get enough of our Bigfoot Tenderloin, Texas Tators,

Bug-Z Burger, Chicken Club & Salads. Catfish is served every Friday night 5-7pm and Homemade Tacos on Saturday. Stop in for some of the best cookin' around and enjoy browsing our extensive collections of memorabilia.



FARMINGTON

Bridge Cafe & Supper Club

101 Olive Street, Farmington

319.878.4000

Established in 1932 and still locally owned, serving quality food at reasonable prices. Famous for our homemade pies, entree menu and

specialty nights with live entertainment. Our weekend breakfast and Sunday buffets are always popular. Walk into our cafe side and you're immediately one of the locals. Catering available. Free wifi. Open Monday-Wednesday, 8am-8pm; Thursday, 8am-2pm; Friday & Saturday, 8am-8pm; Sunday, 8am-3pm.



The Bean Pot - Coffee Shop

201 Elm Street, Farmington

319.288.2467

Escape to our inviting haven and uplift your day with our delightful selection of coffees, smoothies, teas (boba, iced and hot), and hot chocolate, along with a bite to eat for breakfast and lunch. Join us Tuesday-Friday, 6am-3pm, and Saturday, 7:30am-3pm.

DINING & DRINKS

KEOSAUQUA

Great Day Cafe

202 Main Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3581

greatdaycafekeosauqua.com

It's always a great day at the Great Day Cafe! Stop in for a signature specialty coffee and enjoy some homemade fudge, pies & assorted desserts. We also have a variety of breakfast options including made from scratch biscuits & gravy. Lunch options include paninis, salads, tenderloins, wraps, assorted burgers, gourmet specialty franks and more! The menu has something for everyone! This family run cafe is open Tuesday-Saturday, 7am-2pm. Private meeting room available.



Misty's Malt Shop

106 Main Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3815

Located just off the bridge on Hwy 1 in Keosauqua. Start your day with our hearty breakfasts, served Monday-Saturday at 7am. Enjoy homemade tenderloins, sandwiches, wraps, salads and more for lunch and supper. Don't miss our world-famous black raspberry ice cream, a perfect treat to cool yourself on a sunny day! Relish our cozy indoor dining area or bask in the sun on our outdoor seating, conveniently next to our walk-up ordering window. Open 7 days a week, with extended hours until 9pm in the summer.



Riverbend Pizza & Steakhouse

603 1st Street, Keosauqua
319.293.9900

We take pride in operating a clean, casual and family-friendly restaurant. You'll love our phenomenal pizzas, steaks, appetizers and fresh-breaded tenderloins! Our onion rings, chicken wings, fried pickle spears & Iowa 'Soft Shell Tacos' are local favorites! Offering a variety of daily specials! Open 7 days a week. Monday, 11am-8pm; Tuesday, 4-8pm; Wednesday & Thursday, 11am-8pm; Friday & Saturday, 11am-9pm; Sunday, 11am-7pm. Winter hours may vary.



Town & Country Tavern

203 Van Buren Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3879

Join us for one of our famous Bloody Mary's, cheer on your favorite sports teams, or shoot a game of pool on our 100-year old 9-foot pool table. Town & Country is home to the "shotski" so grab your friends for a great photo opportunity! Open daily. Happy Hour: Monday-Friday 4-6pm. Stop in, relax, and drink what makes you happy with friends who make you laugh!



DINING & DRINKS

KEOSAUQUA

Vets Club Bar & Grill

202 Van Buren Street, Keosauqua
319.293.9153

As the Vets Club, formerly the VFW, we continue to honor all veterans. Open to the public year round. If we're open, our kitchen is open! Serving up food fresh off the grill with fried chicken every Friday night, 5-7pm. Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 2pm-close; Thursday-Saturday, 10am-close. Closed Sunday & Monday.



MT. STERLING

A.J.'s Saloon

101 Elm Street, Mt. Sterling
319.494.5582

The place for the best giant tenderloin in Southeast Iowa! Nestled in scenic Mt. Sterling overlooking the Fox River Wildlife Management area. This hidden gem has a delicious menu and fully stocked bar. Play some pool, put some tunes on the jukebox, and enjoy a great meal in this relaxed atmosphere! Open six days a week. Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-10pm. Closed Monday.



LEISURE & FUN

Bloom and Bark Glass Blowing - Keosauqua

18517 County Road J40, Keosauqua

319.293.6168

bloomandbark.com

Glass Blowing Studio, Local Artisan Market and Natural Farm. Find the artist within! No experience needed. Glass blowing classes and demonstrations available. Shop our Local Artisan Market filled with local art and fine crafts. A little something for everyone. Join us on the farm where, along with all the glass blowing fun, you can watch the chickens and pet the dogs and cats. Check out the clay ovens built to make artisan bread and taste some of our homemade jams. Open by appointment or chance. We live where we work - don't be shy, stop on by! Find us on Facebook [@bloomandbarkfarm](https://www.facebook.com/bloomandbarkfarm).



The glass artist behind the VILLAGES ORB PROJECT!

VILLAGES ORB PROJECT

An interactive art installation in which hand blown glass orbs are hidden along trails in the Villages of Van Buren.

Explore villagesofvanburen.com/villages-orb-project and follow along on Facebook!



LEISURE & FUN

Cedar Valley Winery - Batavia

2034 Dewberry Avenue, Batavia

641.662.2800

cedarvalleywine.com

Nestled in Southeast Iowa's beautiful countryside, our winery and events venue offer nationally recognized, award-winning wines which are grown, produced, and bottled exclusively from our 8-acre estate. We invite you to visit our Tasting Room to satisfy your palate and enjoy a glass of wine as you relax on one of our outdoor decks overlooking the picturesque vineyard. Sophisticated serenity awaits you. Open Tuesday-Friday, 1-5pm; Saturday, 10am-5pm.



Rent A Horse - Farmington

1116 Hwy 2, Farmington

319.878.3596

westerccamps.weebly.com

Ride a guided 2 1/2-hour trail ride on one of our horses or mules through Shimek State Forest for only \$55 per person. We are open every day! Call for reservations.



Villages Folk School - Keosauqua

809 First Street, Keosauqua

319.288.0047

villagesfolkschool.com

13 teaching artists and several visiting instructors offering classes countywide year-round in traditional and contemporary arts. Glass blowing, pottery, painting, letterpress, foraging, blacksmithing, rug weaving, soap making & more!



Van Buren County Trails

Bentonsport River Trail - 1/2 mile hike.

Bentonsport Nature Trail - 2 mile hike w/interpretive signage.

Indian Lake Park - (Farmington) 2.2 mile gravel, bike & pedestrian. Benches and picnic area.

Keosauqua Loop Trail - 2+ miles with trail head at Roberts Memorial Building on Hwy 1 North. Bike & pedestrian trail with asphalt/gravel surfaces. Map available.

Lacey-Keosauqua State Park - Extensive trail system (about 13 miles), rough terrain. Map available.

Lake Sugema - 2 mile dirt hike. Trailhead at southern boat ramp.

Lindsay Wilderness - (Bonaparte) 200 acres of public hunting, hiking trails with 2 stocked ponds.

Milton Trail Park - 1.5 mile gravel, bike & pedestrian. Benches, covered bridges & shelter. Trailheads Hwy 2 and Old Main St.

Morris Park - (Stockport) 1.1 mile hike.

Shimek State Forest - (Farmington) Extensive trail system with rough terrain. Hike, snowmobile, bike & equestrian trails.

Waubonsie Park Trail - (Cantril) 1 mile gravel, bike & pedestrian trail, covered bridges & picnic areas.

Van Buren County Water Trail - 41 miles on the Des Moines River. Boats, canoes, kayaks. Eight access points between Selma and Farmington. Brochure available, includes map.

LEISURE & FUN

Van Buren County Conservation Areas

vbcountyconservation.com

Des Moines River Access: (8 acres) 2 miles S of Bonaparte (south side of the river). Boat ramp, public hunting & fishing.

Lindsay Wilderness: (200 acres) NE of Bonaparte. Public hunting & hiking.

Reno Timber: (60 acres) NE of Bonaparte. Public hunting & hiking.

White Timber: (10 acres) 2.8 miles from Bonaparte (Hwy 2 East) & 100 yards south of Hwy 2. Public hunting.

Bentonsport Timber: (60 acres) NE of Bentonsport. Public hunting & hiking.

Des Moines River Access-Douds: Boat access, shelter & 2 campsites with 30/50amp hookups.

Shidepoke Access: West of Selma. Boat access to Des Moines River. Fishing.

Austin Park: 2 miles NE of Pittsburg on Des Moines River. Boat access, primitive camping & fishing. Toilet & shelter.

Chequest Wildlife Area: (38 acres) 2 miles west of Pittsburg. Public hunting & hiking.

Daugherty Timber: (83 acres) 1 mile west of Hwy 1 on 240th Street. Public hunting & hiking.

Schultz Conservation Area: (2 acres) 2 miles west of Kilbourn (south side). Public hunting, fishing & hiking.

CONSERVATION NATURALIST PROGRAM

The Van Buren County Conservation Naturalist program works to foster a deeper connection between the community and the natural world, developing and providing access to public spaces and recreational activities that promote health, conservation, and community well-being.

Get outside and engage with your natural environment!

For additional details and events, go to vbcountyconservation.com\naturalist-programs.html and be sure to follow on Facebook!



HISTORICAL SITES

Historic Presbyterian Church - Bentonsport

21827 Ridge Road, Bentonsport

319.592.3222

bentonsportheritage.org

Dedicated in 1855, this church remains a house of worship. The church is open to the public 10am-5pm daily, May-October. Non-denominational services held Sundays at 9am, June-September. Available for rental.



HISTORICAL SITES

Aunty Green Hotel Museum - Bonaparte

210 Washington Street, Bonaparte

319.371.5020

Built by John Green c. 1844. It was the first brick home in Bonaparte. Around 1855 it was converted into a hotel operated by Mary Green. Guest baggage was unloaded from a wagon onto the second story porch. Open by appointment.



Douds Depot

14168 Walnut Street, Douds

319.293.3209 / 641.936.4485

The Douds Depot was built in 1907, replacing an earlier structure, and remained in service until 1972. It is presently a mining and railroad museum. Open by appointment.



Mt. Moriah Church - Douds

14889 120th Street, Douds

319.293.3209 / 641.936.4485

The Mt. Moriah Methodist Church was built in 1892. It served a congregation until 1958. In 1997, the church was restored. The church is located two miles north of Douds. It is the only surviving country church in the county in near original condition located on the original site of a church/cemetery combination. Open during special events or by appointment.



Oak Grove Community - Douds

15818 Iowa Oak Grove Avenue, Douds

319.293.3066

The Oak Grove School held its first classes in 1872. A new addition was built in 1909 and the building served students until 1959. The adjacent Oak Grove Church was built in 1895 and is one of the last remaining church/schoolhouse sites in the state. Open for special events or by appointment.



Valley School No. 3 - Douds

14779 Ferris Street, Douds

319.293.3209 / 641.936.4485

This old country school was built in 1928 and served as a school until 1966. It remained as a community building and polling place until 1990. In 1995, the building was moved six miles into Memorial Park in Leando. The school has been restored and is complete with period furnishings. Open by appointment.



DID YOU KNOW?

*Popular author Phil Stong was born in Pittsburg. He wrote the best selling 1932 novel **State Fair** which was later adapted for both stage and screen. The novel was banned for 25 years (1932-1957) from the Keosauqua Library because of controversial content for the times.*

HISTORICAL SITES

Pearson House Museum Complex - Keosauqua

718 Dodge Street, Keosauqua

641.431.0581

This stone and brick house was built c. 1845. Local legacy endorses it as a station on the Underground Railroad. Few of these safe houses for runaway slaves remain. A trap door hiding place under the floor can still be viewed. Also featured is a one-room schoolhouse with original desks. The Log Cabin is a step back in time to 1800's pioneer living. Open Sundays, 1-4pm. (Memorial Day through mid-October) or by appointment.



Twombly Museum - Keosauqua

801 First Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3343

Voltaire Twombly was the first Iowan to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. In 1875, he established a mercantile on the first floor and his home above in this landmark limestone building. Museum artifacts showcase the rich history of Van Buren County.

Temporarily closed for renovations. Looking to open in 2024!



Van Buren County Courthouse - Keosauqua

902 Fourth Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3129

This 1843 courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest in continuous use in Iowa. It is the second oldest in the United States. In 1846, the courthouse was the scene of the first legal death sentencing and hanging in Iowa. Tours available Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm.



American Gothic House & Center - Eldon

300 American Gothic Street, Eldon

641.652.3352

americangothichouse.org

See the facade that inspired an iconic piece of American art! The house Grant Wood sketched in 1930 can be viewed year-round from dawn to dusk. Adjacent visitor's center includes exhibit gallery, gift shop, film, and use of costumes with paid admission. Center is open Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm; Sundays, 1-4pm. Ages 13-59, \$5; 60+ \$4. Tours of house interior on select dates. No costumes during scheduled events. Tour groups welcome.



Eldon Depot Museum - Eldon

405 KD Avenue, Eldon

660.349.9843

eldoniadepotmuseum.org

ALL ABOARD! Come check out our authentic caboose & flatcar and then blow the whistle on the locomotive! Tour the museum (original Rock Island Depot) to see telegraph equipment, tools, passenger train items, signals, pictures, articles and more. Housed in a separate "Rocket Room" building is a huge model railroad display & motorcar. Free to the public! Open Saturday & Sunday, 1-4pm (May through October) "Like" us on Facebook at Eldon Depot Museum and Eldon Iowa Model Railroad.



HISTORICAL SITES

Selma Log Cabin

Hwy 16 West, Selma

641.936.8822 / 641.777.7762

Selma's log cabin was built in 1846. The cabin was moved to the park from its original site east of town and restored in 1969. It is owned by the Van Buren County Historical Society. Open for special events or by appointment.



Morris Park - Stockport

10938 Timber Road, Stockport

319.796.2253

In addition to camping, hiking and fishing, you can experience a piece of history in this quiet county park. The log cabin is furnished as it would have been in 1838 and the 1868 schoolhouse has era specific furnishings. The Big Barn is the highlight, with several pieces of antique farming equipment including a horse-drawn hearse, complete with a coffin. There is also a climate-controlled museum for historic textiles and other sensitive artifacts.



Peavine Line Museum - Stockport

104 N Main Street, Stockport

317.694.0407

The depot/museum was built in 1882 at Longview (2.5 miles NW of town). In 1890, the depot was moved on two flat cars to the current location at the 4-way stop in Stockport. You will find railroad memorabilia from the C.B. & Q. Railroad, and the Peavine Line that ran from Ft. Madison to Ottumwa. The railroad began as a narrow gauge, by 1890 it had changed to a standard gauge. The rails in front of the depot date back to 1889. Open during special events or by appointment.



Indian Artifact Museum - Bentonsport

21929 Des Moines Street, Bentonsport

View an extensive collection of Indian artifacts including an impressive display of arrowheads. The artifacts are displayed in intricately designed inlaid wood showcases. Open weekends or by chance.

Milton Heritage House

217 N Main Street, Milton

319.288.1162

Built in 1898 as a Presbyterian Church.

Open during special events or by appointment.

Pioneer Museum

205 S 4th Street, Farmington

319.470.3374 / 303.518.8591 / 319.878.3785

The second oldest First Congressional Church building west of the Mississippi, built in 1848. Open by appointment.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1836, Farmington hosted the inaugural meeting of the Van Buren County court, marking the beginning of the county's judicial history. The county seat briefly shifted to Rochester, now a Forgotten Village, in December 1837, before settling permanently in Keosauqua in 1838, where it remains today.

HISTORICAL SITES

Mormon Trail

The Mormon Trail is a 1,300 mile route that members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints traveled from 1846 to 1868. It extends from Nauvoo, Illinois to Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1846, Brigham Young's party entered Van Buren County and camped downstream from the current bridge at Bonaparte. Some families settled in Bentonsport and labored in construction. Many of these buildings still stand today. Later, the Pioneers took a route along the Dragoon Trail (roughly along Hwy 2) into Keosauqua, crossing the river at Ely's Ford in Lacey-Keosauqua State Park and on to Richardson's Point Camp (11251 Route J40, Milton) where the first deaths of the journey occurred. These marked graves are memorialized with access for visitors.



LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Keosauqua Lions

641.799.7953

Keosauqua Lions are central to our community's spirit, leading the annual Fourth of July Celebration, and the heartwarming Festival of Trees for Christmas for Kids. Don't



miss their popular annual soup supper and auction! They also enhance major events like Memorial Day, Fly Van Buren, and Bike Van Buren with their food services. Support the Lions as they continue to enrich our community.

Bonaparte Community Improvement Association (BCIA)

641.919.8098

bonapartecia@gmail.com

BCIA's mission is investing in the future of Bonaparte and the Villages of Van Buren County.

Our current project is providing areas for local businesses and organizations in our building, the former elementary school in Bonaparte. Current businesses utilizing our building include the public library, local food pantry, dog grooming, massage therapist, medical coding and billing, artist's studio, and village workout room. We also provide rental space for family gatherings, weddings, dance recitals, and music festivals.



Des Moines River Valley of Serve Outdoors

319.288.0874

Serve Outdoors, established in 2008

in Van Buren County, offers people with disabilities, veterans, youth, and the elderly the chance to experience the great outdoors through hunting and fishing. Guided by local volunteers, participants utilize specialized equipment like handicapped blinds and boats. They are funded by donations, memorials, and an annual banquet/auction the third Saturday in January.



LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Engage Keosauqua
engagekeo@gmail.com



Engage Keosauqua is a volunteer organization that supports the Keosauqua community with its mission to educate, inspire, and create. They host festivals, live music, and work with businesses, groups, and individuals to accomplish meaningful community growth that makes Keosauqua the premier southeast Iowa destination to live, work, and play. Check us out online at keosauqua.com!

THE VILLAGES

KEOSAUQUA
319.293.3536
keosauqua.com

Nestled on the banks of the Des Moines River's picturesque horseshoe bend lies Keosauqua, pronounced KEE-o-SAW-kwa. It is the largest village, with a population of 952, and serves as



the vibrant heart and county seat. Surrounded by lush woodland hillsides, this enchanting village offers a quaint downtown. Nature enthusiasts will find their haven in Lacey-Keosauqua State Park and Lake Sugema, renowned as Iowa's premier fishing lake. It is also a treasure trove of historical gems. The Pearson House Museum Complex, a confirmed safe house on the Underground Railroad, and the Van Buren County Courthouse, the oldest courthouse in continuous use west of the Mississippi and second oldest in the nation. Experience where small-town hospitality, history, and nature intertwine to captivate all who wander its way.



BENTONSPORT
historicbentonsport.com

Bentonsport National Historic District was once a thriving port of call on the Des Moines River with an estimated population of 650 people.

Today, there are about 40 residents, most of them living in the original 1840 structures. The picturesque village was named one of the 10 most beautiful towns in Iowa by Culturetrip.com. You'll discover a historic inn, rental cottages, antique and craft shops, resident artisans such as potters, blacksmith, quilters, sculptors and more. The old truss bridge is now a pedestrian bridge and the former mill site has been transformed into a beautiful Rose Garden along the riverfront.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Honey War of 1839 was a territorial dispute that determined today's Iowa-Missouri border.

THE VILLAGES

BIRMINGHAM

319.498.4296

Birmingham (pop. 370) was laid out in 1839. The city park, located in the center of this charming Village, features a wonderful park shelter, a beautifully restored gazebo and historic log cabin, originally built in 1923 by veterans of WWI and



community volunteers to serve as an American Legion Post. This outdoor setting provides an excellent environment for weddings, receptions, family reunions, and community events.

BONAPARTE

319.592.3400

bonaparte-iowa.com

Within this small village (pop. 358), situated along the banks of the Des Moines River, is the historic



Riverfront District which was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. The Riverfront District is garnished with a butterfly garden, historic lock walls, a refurbished bandshell, and restored mills. Visitors enjoy the architecture, unique shops and the down-home friendly atmosphere. It has received recognition as one of 12 Distinctive Destinations in the nation, an acknowledgment given by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

DID YOU KNOW?

John Fremont "Grandpa" McCullough, founder of the soft-serve dairy product known as Dairy Queen, was born May 1871 in Douds.

DOUDS / LEANDO

Douds and Leando are fondly referred to as Van Buren County's "Twin Cities". Leando (south side of Des Moines River) was settled in the 1830s. Douds was platted about 30 years later but never incorporated. From 1830 to 1990 there was no buying or selling intoxicating liquor in Douds. The two towns saw



much rivalry until the river bridge was built in 1898. Today the two cities have joined and are regarded as one community, Douds. Douds is home to the largest underground limestone mine in the state, which is operating today as Douds Stone, Inc.

FARMINGTON

319.878.3711

farmingtoniowa.com



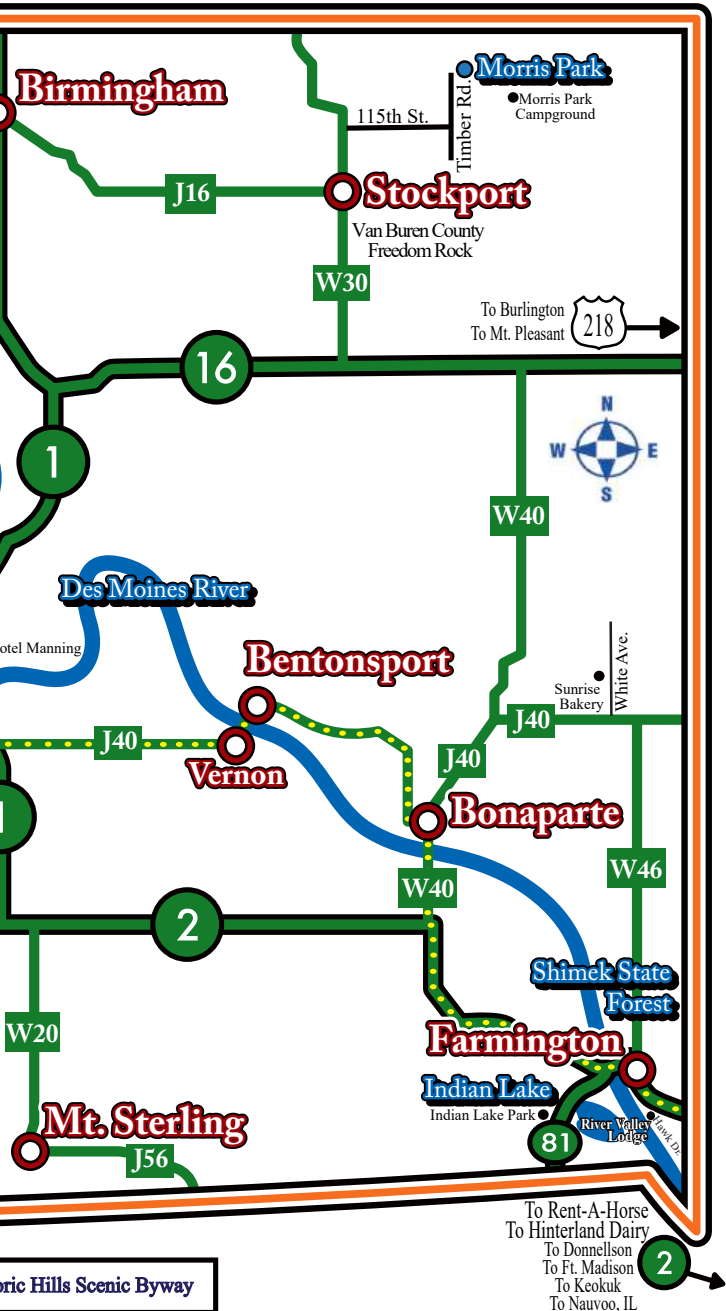
Farmington (pop. 583), platted in 1839, is the oldest village of Van Buren County. It is home to the annual Strawberry Festival held in June, beautiful Indian Lake Park, the lush woods of Shimek State Forest, and the Pioneer Historical Museum, a place you can get lost in the artifacts and stories of the past.

319.293.7111 / 800.868.7822

Explore & Enjoy Van



Buren County, Iowa



THE VILLAGES

STOCKPORT

319.796.2135

cityofstockport.com

The area that was to become Stockport (pop. 272) was settled in the late 1800s but was not incorporated until 1902, making it our youngest village. The railroad reached the settlement in 1882. Stockport's first school was organized in 1889. This village proudly shows its patriotism with an impressive "Avenue of Flags," display four times a year: Flag Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day. Stockport is also home to Morris Park and the county's Freedom Rock.



CANTRIL

319.397.2295

cantrilia.com

Cantril (pop. 224) was founded in 1872 and is currently the heart of the Amish & Mennonite communities and the beautiful 25-acre Waubonsie Trail Park, a nature lovers dream.

MILTON

641.656.4454

Milton (pop. 380) was founded in 1844, platted in 1851 and incorporated in 1878.

LEBANON

This quaint community, just west of Keosauqua, at junction J40 and V64 is home to Old Order Amish families. Renowned for their craftsmanship in carpentry and woodworking, the area also boasts greenhouses, small engine repair, and fresh produce. Visit during regular hours, but note that Sundays are when the Amish observe a day of rest. Schools and homes adhere to a lifestyle without electricity or modern conveniences, offering a glimpse into a simpler way of life. Please respect their beliefs by not taking photographs.



MT. STERLING

Platted in 1853, is known by the nickname, Dog Town. It gained worldwide attention in 2003 when Mayor Jo Hamlett proposed a "No Lying Ordinance". A haven for outdoor enthusiasts, it has nearly 3,000 acres of public wetlands and hunting grounds and home to a diverse array of wildlife.

PITTSBURG

Phil Stong, famed author of "State Fair", was born here and his father operated the general store. The Pittsburg Cemetery is the burial site of Voltaire Twombly, the first Iowan to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Civil War.

SELMA / IOWAVILLE

Where the echos of a fierce battle occurred when the Sac & Fox warriors clashed with the peaceful Iowans. Wander the lands once roamed by the legendary Chiefs Blackhawk and Keokuk, and visit the Iowaville cemetery, where ancient stones date back to the mid-1800s.



THE VILLAGES

VERNON

This was one of the earliest towns of Van Buren County, laid out in 1837, directly across the river from Bentonsport. On June 29, 1837 a license was issued for a ferry to run between Bentonsport & Vernon. It operated seven days a week from daylight to dusk. In 1868, a second ferry was added, making this the only location on the Des Moines River with two operating ferries. The iron truss bridge was built in 1883 and served vehicular traffic until the bridge was closed in 1985 when the new bridge was constructed upriver. Vernon is home to the studio of the late renowned water-color artist, Wendell Mohr (photo).



FORGOTTEN VILLAGES / GEOCACHING

Discover the Forgotten Villages of Van Buren County. Travel in the footsteps of Iowa's first pioneers.



The Van Buren County Historic Preservation Commission has located these settlements and commemorated each with a plaque marker. Each plaque has historical facts on it about the Forgotten Village it marks. Want to add some additional excitement to your Forgotten Village quest? There is a series of 36 Geocaches that coincide with the Forgotten Villages! The map/brochure is available at the Welcome Center and at villagesofvanburen.com.



LODGING: Hotels/Motels

Americinn by Wyndham
2104 South Main Street, Fairfield
641.451.6600
americinn.com

Right next to Van Buren County is this 3-story hotel featuring an open lobby with beer, wine & beverage bar, breakfast dining area, business center and meeting room. Start the day with a delicious free breakfast then utilize the indoor pool, hot tub or fitness center. Each room features a refrigerator and microwave. Free wifi.



Cobblestone Inn & Suites
4901 Avenue O, Fort Madison
319.246.1401
staycobblestone.com/ia/fortmadison

Comfort and convenience are just a short drive from the Villages. Step into our welcoming lobby, adorned with a cozy rock fireplace, local artwork, and inviting seating. Our attentive staff is on hand to ensure a delightful stay, offering amenities like a complimentary breakfast, in-room microwave and refrigerator, an onsite exercise facility, and business center. Providing free high speed internet and pet friendly. Big city quality with small town values!



LODGING: Hotels/Motels

Hotel Manning

100 Van Buren Street, Keosauqua
319.293.3232

hotelmanning.com

A community-owned boutique hotel on the banks of the Des Moines River. Visitors can step back in time and relax among the historic treasures that distinguish the hotel, head outside to enjoy serene river views from the hotel's wrap-around porches, or unwind at the riverside courtyard or Sample Room Lounge. Enjoy one of the 14 antique furnished rooms (all with private baths) or stay in the Riverview Inn or Standard Motor Lodge.



Southern Comfort Sportsman Lodge

602 2nd Street, Mt. Sterling
641.680.1561

Tucked away just 10 miles south of Keosauqua, our quiet lodge is perfect for outdoor enthusiasts. Each of our units are tailored to suit your needs with a full kitchen, bath, TV, wifi, and two queen beds (linens provided). A fish cleaning station and fire pit available. 1,500 acres of public hunting with many lakes makes our lodge perfect for the great outdoorsman! Pets welcome for a \$20 fee.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Hotel Manning's stone foundation was built in 1839 as a one-story building until a fire destroyed it in the 1890s and two more stories were added to create the hotel.

LODGING: Cabins

A-Frame Lacey Trail

23634 Lacey Trail, Keosauqua

515.290.5179

keocabins.com

Remote cabin on 11.5 acres bordering Lacey-Keosauqua State Park with Lake Sugema located just 1/2 mile south.

Relaxing cabin comes fully furnished with a full kitchen, appliances, utensils, A/C, linens, grill, 1.5 baths, broadband internet, large flat screen TV, and 3 bedrooms. Unwind outdoors next to the front yard fire pit, small frog pond, and fully stocked 1.5 acre fishing pond with fire pit. Sleeps five max. \$179 (3-person fee minimum). \$59 per additional guest.



Riverside Cabins

903 Front Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3232

hotelmanning.com

Three fully furnished modern cabins. Each cabin includes kitchen utensils, linens, central heating/air, and covered porch overlooking the Des Moines River. Located near the boat dock, picnic shelter, city park and adjacent to the historic Hotel Manning. Open year round.



LODGING: Cabins

Indian Lake Park Cabins

28163 Willow Avenue, Farmington

319.878.3706

farmingtoniowa.com

Try one of our rustic wooden cabins that sleep four, metal cabins that sleep four, or open floor plan cabins that sleep eight. All cabins have heat & A/C, private bathroom, and full kitchenette. Bring your own bedding and towels. Pet friendly. Check-in 2:00pm/Check-out 11:00am.



Pine Ridge Retreat & Lodging

24120 Lacey Trail, Keosauqua

641.919.7829 (text or call)

pineridgeretreat.com

Three large and six family sized fully furnished modern cabins for both large & small gatherings. Cabins surround a private 2-acre pond for fishing and paddleboating. Located between Lacey-Keosauqua State Park and Lake Sugema with easy access to nature trails, fishing, boating, hunting, and exploring the Villages of Van Buren. Pets welcome. Open year round. Visit our website or Facebook for details and online reservations.



Red Fox Lodging Co.

19640 Jersey Avenue, Keosauqua

319.293.3041

redfoxlodging.com

Whether you're seeking adventure in fishing, hiking, or hunting, or simply yearning to relax and reconnect with loved ones, our tranquil retreat offers the perfect backdrop. Find your haven here with our modern log cabins nestled on the south side of Lake Sugema, off Hwy 2. Choose between serene lake views or lush timber views, with a playground, fish cleaning facility, and boat dock nearby. Our cabins are ideal for family reunions and group escapes.



River Valley Lodge Cabins

29080 Hawk Drive, Farmington

319.878.3888 / 319.878.4208

rivervalleyhorsecamp.com

Enjoy a unique camping experience in one of our 12 primitive character cabins or two cowboy suites, each with different themed decor. All cabins have A/C, most have mini-fridges and microwaves. Cowboy suites come complete with kitchenette and bath. Showerhouse/restroom has heat and A/C, located within a short walk from the cabins. You bring your linens and supplies. Pet friendly.



Waubonsie Park Cabins

601 W. North Street, Cantril

319.397.2193

cantrilia.com

This quaint cabin, located in the Waubonsie Park campground is ADA accessible and sleeps up to 6 people with one queen bed and two full size futons. Full kitchen, dining area, and full bath/shower. The only thing you need to bring are your clothes, personal items, and food! Free wifi.



LOGGING: Vacation Rentals

Acorns to Oaks Retreat

18807 Route J40, Keosauqua
319.551.4073
vrbo.com/3638191

Peaceful, spacious 4-bedroom home near Lacey-Keosauqua State Park and just minutes from Keosauqua is waiting for you. Recently renovated, it boasts a large living room, full kitchen, dining room, sun porch, 1.5 baths, wifi, smart TV, and basement hangout for your entertainment! Step outside to enjoy a large yard surrounded by trees, complete with gazebo, picnic table, fire ring, and lovely pond. Immerse yourself in nature while experiencing all the comforts of home in this idyllic retreat!



Alexander's Cottage

21930 Wall Street, Bentonsport
319.592.3152 / 515.975.4179
alexandersbentonsportcottage.com

Relax in historic Bentonsport near the Des Moines River, listen to the birds sing, watch the deer dine on our hostas and enjoy a campfire. The renovated 1840's cottage sits near the defunct Rock Island line, has a screened porch, deck, 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, kitchen, living room & dining area. The cottage is fully equipped and includes smart TV, DVD, wifi, washer and dryer. It is furnished with antiques and country charm. Email: alexande@netins.net



Bent River Extended Stay

701 Broad Street, Keosauqua
319.293.7766
bentriverextendedstay.com

Enjoy the comforts of home in our luxury extended stay suites, located just two blocks from downtown and the Des Moines riverfront. Choose from our spacious two-bedroom suite with a large living room, full kitchen and bath, or our handicap accessible ground floor suite with a fireplace, kitchenette, and king-sized bed. Both are perfect for families or large groups, offering ample space to relax and unwind, private parking, and free wifi.



Cedar Valley Winery Lodge

2034 Dewberry Avenue, Batavia
641.662.2800
cedarvalleywine.com

Call it a hunting lodge, a cottage, a getaway, or whatever you want! This newly renovated escape, nestled in the heart of Cedar Valley Winery's tranquil countryside with its panoramic views, is the home away from home your heart has been dreaming of. Experience the perfect blend of comfort and convenience with free wifi, large screen TV, spacious bathroom, modern large farm-style kitchen, and all the amenities you need. From hunting to honeymoon, this magical sanctuary, centrally located in southeast Iowa's thriving tourist destination, is waiting to entertain!



LOGGING: Vacation Rentals

Lake Shore Hideout
24418 Lacey Trail, Keosauqua
641.680.1561
lakeshorehideout.com

Come enjoy your next adventure in paradise with the best views of Lake Sugema out your front door! Perfect for hunters, fishermen, and families coming to enjoy the Villages! We offer all the amenities of your home with a full living and kitchen area, two bedrooms, a bathroom, patio/deck, free wifi, and satellite TV. Daily and weekly rentals available. Open year round! Credit cards are accepted. Wander our way for your next adventure in the Villages of Van Buren County!



Riverview Hideaways Airbnb
Keosauqua
[sites.google.com/view/riverview-hideaways/home](https://www.google.com/view/riverview-hideaways/home)

These unique homes, coupled with the serene setting and the charm of the Villages, create a retreat for guests looking to unwind from the hustle and bustle of life. The river adds an extra layer of tranquility and opportunities for outdoor activities. Explore the beautiful natural surroundings, go fishing, take a leisurely stroll along the riverbank or simply relax and enjoy the views. Use the website to book your stay with us and choose between three beautiful and relaxing options! The Roost, The Henhouse, or The Nest! Follow us on Facebook @RiverviewHideawaysAirbnb



LOGGING: Bed & Breakfasts

Mason House Inn Bed & Breakfast
21982 Hawk Drive, Bentonsport
319.592.3133
themasonhouseinn.com

Experience a unique blend of history and comfort. Established in 1846, this charming B&B offers nine private rooms and a quaint caboose cottage, all with private bathrooms. Enjoy a complimentary breakfast, free wifi, and an EV charging station. Perfect for reunions, retreats, and getaways. Immerse yourself in its rich past as a riverboat stop, Civil War hospital, and Underground Railroad refuge. Book your memorable stay with us!



Sunrise Inn & Retreat
17248 Hwy 1, Keosauqua
952.334.4123
sunriseinnandretreat.com

Built in 1900, this historic farmhouse has rustic features like original floors and woodwork, but modern comforts like cozy beds, brand new bathrooms with in-floor heat, and free wifi. Continental breakfast items, snacks, and coffee available anytime in the hospitality room, along with mini fridge and microwave. Sitting on 3.27 acres, we are surrounded by farmland, fruit trees and charming out-buildings, including our 124 year-old restored barn. Come join us at the Sunrise Inn & Retreat!



CAMPGROUNDS

Austin Park Campground

19178 Eagle Drive
319.293.3589

vbcountryconservation.com

Located two miles northeast of Pittsburg along the Des Moines River, this rustic campground provides space for primitive camping, a shelter house, and NEW boat and kayak launch.



Bentonsport Campground & Park

22098 Hawk Drive
319.293.3589

vbcountryconservation.com

This peaceful setting has 23 modern sites with gravel camp pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and 30-50 amp electricity and water hydrants throughout. Pit toilet, shower house, shelter, and dump station. Reserve your spot online.



Indian Lake Park Campgrounds

28163 Willow Avenue, Farmington

319.878.3706

farmingtoniowa.com

Come enjoy our beautiful 177-acre nature retreat with a 44-acre no wake

lake for fishing, boating, and swimming. Hike a 2 mile trail surrounding the lake or take a stroll through Birdwatch Walk. We offer tent camping, RV camping with full hook-ups, water/electric, or electric only. We also offer public shower house/bathrooms, stone lodge, open shelters, and playground equipment.



Lacey-Keosauqua State Park

22895 Lacey Trail, Keosauqua
319.293.3502

Reservations:

iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com

This renovated campground area has 65 sites; 51 electric (13 with full service), 13 non-electric & 1 youth group site. Come enjoy one of Iowa's largest parks with 1,653 acres! Two picnic shelters are available for rent. 13 miles of hiking trails. Lacey Lake (30 acres, no wake) has a boat ramp and excellent fishing. The swimming area is always popular during the summer months. Reservations and current pricing for camping, cabin, lodge, and shelter rentals are on the website.



Lake Sugema Recreation Area

19640 Jersey Avenue, South of Keosauqua
319.293.3532

vbcountryconservation.com

Enter this beautiful 574-acre, no-wake lake area from Hwy 2. Campgrounds include 22 reservable sites on concrete pads, 12 full service, 10 modern, and 7 non-reservable gravel pads with electric. Amenities include shelter house, shower house, playground, dump station, boat ramps, fish cleaning station, and parking areas with electric outlets. The lake is known for its largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie and channel catfish. Roughly 3,600 acres for public hunting, hiking, bird watching, and other activities to enjoy in the great outdoors!



CAMPGROUNDS

Morris Park

10938 Timber Road, Stockport

319.796.2148

vbcountyconservation.com

Located northeast of Stockport on a quiet, 60-acre park. Featuring seven buildings containing artifacts from the county's farming past. Visitors may view a glass sided horse-drawn hearse, a Utica huckster wagon, a rare hay stacker and more. A one-acre pond is stocked with bluegill, bass and channel catfish. Enjoy the nature trails, picnic, and playground area. 15 camping sites, 30-50 amp electricity, new shower house, dump station, and picnic shelter.



River Valley Lodge, Campground & Horse Camp

29080 Hawk Drive, Farmington

319.878.3888 / 319.878.4208

rivervalleyhorsecamp.com

2024 Rates: \$40 water/electric includes 12'x12' stall (additional stalls \$15) Weekday rates: \$30/\$10. Primitive camping: \$15. Bunkhouse sleeps 6: \$100; Cabins sleep 2-6: \$50-\$100; Cowboy Suites sleep 2-4: \$150. A western themed campground within one mile of Farmington on paved road. A/C and heated shower house, laundry, shelters, playground, wifi, bunkhouse and cabins. Fifty campsites with water/electricity. Fishing pond on site. Primitive camping along Des Moines River. Equestrian facilities include 94 covered stalls, arenas, round pens, on-site extreme course and trail to adjacent Shimek State Forest. Lodge rental for group parties, weddings, reunions, etc. Pets welcome.



Shimek State Forest

319.878.3811

iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com

One of the largest continuous areas of timber in the state with 9,000 acres. Four large ponds, stocked with largemouth bass, catfish and other pan fish. Electric trolling motors are allowed. Public hunting, cross country skiing and snowmobile trails. Equestrian trails and camping facilities are available at the Lick Creek unit. Picnic tables, cook sites and primitive camping sites are throughout the forest.



Waubonsie Park

601 W North Street, Cantril

319.397.2193

cantrilia.com

The 23-acre Waubonsie Trail Park on the northwest edge of Cantril features 12 campsites (some with 50 amp hookups), rustic camping cabin (sleeps 4), and an ADA Cabin (sleeps 6). Handicapped accessible showers, sewer dump station, two picnic shelters, large playground, 1+ mile hiking trails, three covered bridges, a pond, 9-hole Disc Golf Course, horseshoe pits, bird watching station, tall grass prairie and wildflower areas. Storm shelter. Free wifi.



DID YOU KNOW?

Lacey-Keosauqua State Park is Iowa's second state park, dedicated in 1920. Many of the parks structures were built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

CAMPGROUNDS

Douds County Park Campground

Just off 14367 Walnut Street
319.293.3589

vbcountyconservation.com

Along the Des Moines River, there are two camp sites with 30-50 amp hookups, a shelter house, and boat ramp.



BUSINESS & SERVICES

BANQUET & MEETING FACILITIES

Fair View Barn

20493 Hwy 1 North, Keosauqua
641.680.0026

vanburencountyfairia.com
thefairviewbarn.com

This big red barn features a large ballroom/meeting room, seating up to 320. Full kitchen, tables, and chairs available. A charming and rustic venue for weddings, receptions, graduations, retirement parties, and many more special events. The barn is available year round. Located on the Van Buren County Fairgrounds. Follow us on Facebook @thefairviewbarn.



River Valley Lodge

29080 Hawk Drive, Farmington
319.878.3888 / 319.878.4208

rivervalleyhorsecamp.com

Fully decorated western themed multi-purpose facility featuring prep kitchen, stainless steel serving area, stage, attached open air shelter and a grand rustic 75 foot front porch. Seats up to 200. This unique venue is an idyllic setting for weddings, receptions, reunions, showers, family and holiday gatherings, and more!



Roberts Memorial Center

20497 Hwy 1 North, Keosauqua
319.293.3794

A multi-purpose center featuring a large stage, sound system, wifi, full kitchen, tables and chairs to seat up to 300, and ample parking. A perfect venue for weddings, receptions, reunions, community dinners, and numerous other special events.



The Stone House - A Village Meeting Place

26985 Route J40, Bentonsport
319.592.3222

bentonsportheritage.org

The historic 1850 building is now a modern, handicap accessible all-season facility. Seats up to 80. Full kitchen and restrooms. Available for year-round rental.



BUSINESS & SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

DVIP (Domestic Violence Intervention Program) **800.373.1043 (24 Hour Hotline)**

dviowa.org

Providing support for victims/survivors of domestic abuse, dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking. Services include safety planning, medical and legal advocacy and resource assistance. All services are free and confidential to anyone in need. Advocates are available 24 hours a day and appointments are available by calling 800.373.1043.



The Roost Laundromat

802 1st Street, **Keosauqua**

641.919.4323

sites.google.com/view/theroost-laundromatllc/home

The Roost Laundromat is the quickest way to tackle one of your most dreaded jobs. A self-service facility that lets members of the public wash and dry their clothes using commercial-sized machines built to handle constant use and heavy loads. We are a small-town laundromat for Keosauqua and the surrounding communities. The laundromat has a variety of Dexter washers and dryers to serve the county's needs. Open 24 hours!



CONVENIENCE STORES

Circle B

111 Main Street, **Keosauqua**

319.293.3079

facebook.com/circlebmarket

Fuel up and satisfy your cravings at your one-stop shop for delicious eats and essential conveniences! Offering a wide variety of carry-out items, including pizza, subs, salads, wraps, sandwiches, appetizers, Chinese cuisine, and more. Don't miss our mouth-watering monthly pizza specials and daily lunch specials. Need a quick pick-me-up? Enjoy our selection of beverages, ice cream, and coffee. Limited dine-in seating available. Follow us on Facebook for our latest offerings! Open Mon-Sat 5am-9pm; Sunday 6am-9pm. Open until 10pm Mon-Sat in the summer.



Jet Stop

121 Hwy 1, **Birmingham**

319.498.4663

202 Washington St., **Bonaparte**

319.592.3281

109 E Hwy 2, **Milton**

641.656.4215

jetstops.com

Convenience stores with gas, pop, food, beer, ice, and more. Open 365 days a year. ATM at all locations.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 8th site in Iowa to have a press was Keosauqua (ahead of Ottumwa, Fairfield, & Keokuk) when two men set up the Iowa Democrat & Des Moines River Intelligencer in 1843.

BUSINESS & SERVICES

FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES

Farm Bureau Financial Services

713 1st Street, Keosauqua

319.293.7101 (Main Office)

P. Alex Kessel, MSFS, AEP, ChFC, CLU, CFP
Associate Manager, Financial Advisor, Agent

Offices located at:

103 S 2nd Street, Farmington 319.878.3737

106 N 28th Street, Fairfield 641.472.2128

424 Main Street, Donnellson 319.835.5126



First Iowa State Bank

714 First Street, Keosauqua

102 Division Street, Cantril

888.226.5232

1stiaowa.bank

Employee-owned bank with offices in Keosauqua, Cantril, Bloomfield, Albia,

and Eddyville. Dedicated part of our community since 1931. MEMBER FDIC

Fortress Insurance Services

707 1st Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3752

thefortress.net

We provide clients a one-on-one focus approach working with you every step of the way to ensure our products are meeting your needs. Contact us today for a consultation.



State Central Bank

612 1st Street, Bonaparte 319.592.3372

101 S 2nd Street, Farmington 319.878.3320

116 S Main Street, Stockport 319.796.4660

514 Main Street, Keokuk 319.313.8091

statecentralbank.com

You can count on us to be safe, strong, and secure while helping you organize your finances. We offer deposit and savings products, a full array of loan options, and trust services. You will appreciate the convenience of our online banking and bill pay, credit cards, and debit cards. We are committed to the communities we proudly serve. A bank where families have enjoyed financial services for generations. MEMBER FDIC



Libertyville Savings Bank

20390 Hwy 1, Keosauqua

14155 Iowa 98, Douds

641.472.9839

lsbia.bank

We are a family owned & operated bank that believes in working hard, playing hard, and knowing our customers on a personal level.

HEALTHCARE

Keosauqua Health Care Center

819 Country Lane Road, Keosauqua

319.293.3761

keosauquahealthcare.com

KHCC is a comprehensive skilled nursing facility offering a full spectrum of care including rehabilitation, short-term skilled care, and long-term care.



BUSINESS & SERVICES

HEALTHCARE

Wells Hometown Drug

1547 Broad Street, **Keosauqua**

319.293.7757

wellshometowndrug.com

We take great pride in the high-level care and convenience we provide our community. Current customers can easily request prescription refills online and new customers can contact us for quick on-site prescription fills. We look forward to serving you! Open Monday-Friday, 8am-5:30pm; Saturday, 8:30am-12:30pm. Closed Sunday.



Van Buren County Hospital & Clinics

304 Franklin Street, **Keosauqua**

319.293.3171 / 800.873.8224

vbch.org

emergency care, lab, and radiology services. Affordable health care provided in four health clinics throughout the county.

Affiliated with MercyOne. Providing around the clock

HOME & CONSTRUCTION

Douds Lumber and Home Center

14792 Washington Street, **Douds**

641.936.7115

doudslumber.com

A full-service supplier of lumber, building materials, hardware & tools, as well as fencing supplies, hydraulic hoses, Key clothing & more! We'll work with you on every phase of your project from design to completion. Located south of Van Buren County Elementary, on the Leando side of the river. Open Monday-Friday, 7am-5pm; Saturday, 7am-Noon. After hours design consultations are available by appointment.



MEMORIAL SERVICES

Cranston Family Funeral Home

1517 Broad Street, **Keosauqua**

319.293.3531

cranstonfamilyfuneralhome.com

We are dedicated to serving families that allow us to help them through this difficult time. Providing funeral service, monument sales, preplanning, and our own onsite crematory. Whether you've lost a loved one, are planning your own end-of-life care, or are continuing on your grief journey, we are here for you.



REAL ESTATE

Boley Real Estate

barb@boleyrealestate.com

641.777.4872

boleyrealestate.com

Since 1985, Boley Real Estate, founded by the Boley family in southeast Iowa, has been a beacon of trust and expertise.

Our team, with over 35 years of experience and led by Barb Hendricks Boley and Jim Boley, is dedicated to transforming your real estate dreams into reality. Allow us to expertly guide you to your ideal home or investment, where our generational experience meets our passion for assisting others.



BUSINESS & SERVICES

SERVICE STATIONS

Osborne Oil

303 Main Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3155

osborneoilco.com

Osborne Oil is a multi-service business from general vehicle maintenance to tires and towing. We have a great selection of used cars and trucks close to home. Offering 24/7 pay at the pump for your convenience with BP quality gas and diesel fuel. Now offering U-Haul rentals. We do it all! Open 7am-6pm, Monday-Saturday. Closed Sunday.



UTILITY PROVIDERS

Van Buren Telephone Co.

617 First Street, Keosauqua

319.293.3187

vbtelco.com

Independent telecommunications service provider serving the Villages since 1923.

Offering an array of services including

local and long distance

telephone service, calling features, and

broadband internet service.

“Where Technology Meets Tradition.”



Keosauqua Light & Power

319.293.3406

Serving the electrical needs of Keosauqua since 1950. We take care of our customers with top-notch service 24/7, 365 days a year!



KEOSAUQUA LIGHT & POWER REVOLVING LOAN FUND

This fund is a dynamic financial resource to fuel growth and progress in the Villages of Van Buren County. With low-interest loans, we support projects that boost community prosperity. Together, we can build a thriving, vibrant community that stands as a beacon of growth and development in the Villages.

For detailed guidelines, eligibility criteria, and application go to villagesofvanburen.com/industry

Turn your vision into reality in the Villages of Van Buren!

Southern Iowa Electric Cooperative



Southern Iowa
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

641.664.2277

sie.coop

We are a member-owned distribution cooperative serving approximately 4,800 homes, farms,

businesses, and industry in southern Iowa. SIEC is a Touchstone Energy Cooperative.

Northeast Missouri Electric Power Cooperative

573.769.8215

northeast-power.coop

Proudly serving eight member-distribution cooperatives including Southern Iowa Electric Cooperative in Bloomfield & Access Energy in Mt. Pleasant.

2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

MAY 24

VILLAGES FOLK SCHOOL FIVE O'CLOCK FRIDAY BBQ

MAY 25-26

BENTONSPORT FLEA MARKET & CRAFT SHOW

MAY 26

ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER MUSIC FESTIVAL

MAY 31-JUNE 2

BIRMINGHAM HOMECOMING

JUNE 7-9

FARMINGTON STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

JUNE 8

FLY VAN BUREN

PEARSON HOUSE HERITAGE DAY

JUNE 22

DOUDS FIELD DAY

BENTONSPORT HERITAGE DAY

JUNE 29

BONAPARTE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

JULY 4

KEOSAUQUA INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

JULY 24-29

VAN BUREN COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 10

J40 FARM CRAWL

AUGUST 17-18

BIKE VAN BUREN XXXVIII

AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 1

FARMINGTON BLUEGRASS WEEKEND FESTIVAL & JAM

SEPTEMBER 6-7

STOCKPORT LIONS BBQ DAYS

OCTOBER 11-13

SCENIC DRIVE FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 1

VILLAGES FOLK SCHOOL BOTTOMLESS SOUP SUPPER

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 31

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGES

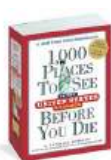
DECEMBER 6-8

FESTIVAL OF TREES

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CURRENT EVENTS
VISIT VILLAGESOFVANBUREN.COM/CALENDAR

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OUR NEIGHBORS

Eldon - Pop. 769

641.652.3352

americangothichouse.org

25 minutes west of Keosauqua on Hwy 16. Home to the iconic American Gothic House, Grant Wood's famous painting & Eldon Depot Museum (original Rock Island Depot).



Bloomfield - Pop. 2,852

641.664.1104

visitdaviscounty.com

30 minutes west of Keosauqua on the Historic Hills Scenic Byway (Route J40). Abundant shopping opportunities and historic courthouse. Nearby Drakesville is rich with Amish tradition and businesses.



Ottumwa - Pop. 24,902

641.684.4303

ottumwaiowa.com

50 minutes NW of Keosauqua. You'll find shopping opportunities, large water park, several hotels and restaurants. The Pro Balloon Races are held annually in August.

Fairfield - Pop. 9,480

641.472.2828

travelfairfield.com

25 minutes north of Keosauqua on Hwy 1. A unique community with diverse culture and the most eclectic dining scene in SE Iowa. Wide variety of festivals and shopping opportunities.



Mt. Pleasant - Pop. 9,013

319.385.3101

mountpleasantiowa.org

45 minutes east of Keosauqua. Home to Iowa Wesleyan University & great shopping opportunities. Midwest Old Threshers Reunion runs for 5 days ending on Labor Day and draws thousands of visitors every year.

Burlington - Pop. 23,296

319.752.6365

growburlington.com

60 minutes east of Keosauqua. Located on the Mississippi River with charming downtown shopping, casino, water park and home to Ripley's Believe It or Not, "Crookedest Street in the World" ...Snake Alley.



Ft. Madison - Pop. 9,950

800.210.TOUR

fortmadison.com

45 minutes east of Keosauqua on Hwy 2. Home to the first US military fort on the upper Mississippi River, which has been re-constructed and open to the public. Also home to the world's longest swing-span double decker bridge which is open to traffic.

Keokuk - Pop. 9,358

319.524.5599

keokukiowatourism.org

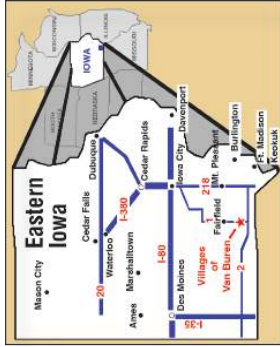
50 minutes SE of Keosauqua. Keokuk is home to the best Geode hunting in Iowa! Bald Eagle Appreciation Days is held annually on the third weekend in January.





809 1st Street, PO Box 9
Keosauqua, IA 52565

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



CONTACT US:

800.868.7822 / 319.293.7111

info@villagesofvanburen.com

villagesofvanburen.com