

# Iowa Annual Convention

Sept 24-25, 2026 | Connections

# Des Moines Sights, Eats & Drinks Guide



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# Sights

**DSM ART CENTER:** LANDMARK  
ARCHITECTURE & CONTEMPORARY ART



**BOTANICAL GARDEN:** BEAUTIFUL INDOOR &  
OUTDOOR GARDENS

**PAPPAJOHN SCULPTURE PARK:** OUTDOOR  
COLLECTION OF MODERN & CONTEMPORARY  
SCULPTURES

**GRAY'S LAKE:** TAKE A WALK ON THE 2 MILE  
LOOP



**VALLEY JUNCTION:** LOCAL SHOPS AND  
FARMER'S MARKET ON THURSDAYS

**IOWA STATE CAPITOL:** TAKE A TOUR OF ONE  
OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CAPITOL  
BUILDINGS IN THE US!



# Coffee Shops



**SMOKEY ROW:** LOTS OF SEATING OPTIONS, GREAT PLACE TO GET SOME WORK DONE

**ZANZIBAR'S:** IN-HOUSE ROASTING AND ALL DAY BREAKFAST

**HORIZON LINE:** UNIQUE HOUSE-MADE SYRUPS

**DAISY CHAIN:** SPECIALTY COFFEE AND LOCAL HONEY

**WEST END ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE:** COFFEE BAR & 4-STORY SHOWCASE FOR ANTIQUES

**CHAIN & SPOKE:** COFFEE SHOP & CYCLERY



# Breakfast



**LA MIE:** PATISSERIE,  
BOULANGERIE, AND CAFE

**HOMEGROWN:** KNOWN FOR  
THEIR HOMEMADE POP-TARTS

**SCENIC ROUTE:** BAKED GOODS  
AND COFFEE



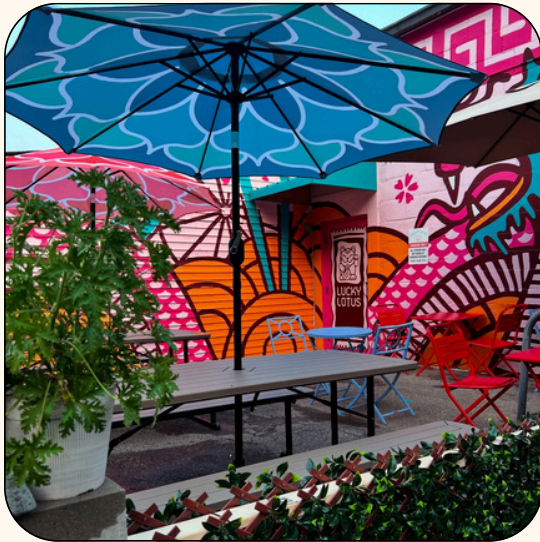
**WAVELAND CAFE:** DIVE-STYLE  
BREAKFAST

**EARLY BIRD:** MODERN TAKE ON  
YOUR CLASSIC DINER

**MULLETS:** LARGEST SELECTION  
OF DRINK FLIGHTS



# Lunch



**LACHELE'S:** SMALL DINER WITH GREASY BURGERS

**LUCKY LOTUS:** THAI FOOD IN A GREAT ATMOSPHERE

**EXILE:** CRAFT BEER PAIRED WITH SCRATCH KITCHEN FOOD

**HESSEN HAUS:** GERMAN FOOD AND BIER HALL

**LUA BREWERY:** HANDCRAFTED BEERS AND FOOD WITH LARGE PATIO

**MANHATTAN DELI:** SANDWICHES, SOUPS AND DESSERTS





# Dinner



**EATERY A:** MEDITERRANEAN AND WOOD FIRED PIZZA

**HARBINGER:** SOUTH EAST ASIAN FUSION

**CENTRO:** CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN WINING-&-DINING



**IOWA TAPROOM:** CRAFT BEERS & LOCALLY SOURCED AMERICAN FARE

**AKEBONO:** SUSHI, COOKED JAPANESE DISHES & COCKTAILS

**BUBBA:** SOUTHERN FARE WITH A LOCAL FLAIR



# Drinks



**BARTENDER'S HANDSHAKE:** MID-CENTURY MODERN COCKTAIL BAR

**EL BAIT SHOP:** 200+ BEERS ON TAP AND MORE IN CANS

**ERNIE'S BOONDOCK:** RETRO HANGOUT WITH AN OUTDOOR PATIO

**CARL'S PLACE:** CLASSIC DIVE WITH POOL AND DARTS

**SECRET ADMIRER:** COZY SPOT WITH CRAFT COCKTAILS

**JASPER WINERY:** LOCAL WINE AND CRAFT BEER

**RICOCHE:** BAR AND GAME LOUNGE

**REVIVAL HOUSE:** IMMERSIVE TIKI BAR