



## 4. Livestock

The Iowa State Fair is one of the largest livestock shows in the country. Many national breed shows are held at the Fair where exhibitors compete for top honors. From cattle, sheep and swine to poultry and rabbits, to the draft horse pulling competitions and llamas, there are livestock competitions featuring animals of all shapes and sizes!



## 5. Games & Rides

People of all ages can find a thrill at the Iowa State Fair Thrill Parks! From amusement park rides to games, there's some fun to be found. Scream your way down the Giant Slide, see the Fair from above while riding the Sky Glider or take a slow ride through the historic Ye Old Mill, one of only three remaining in the United States.



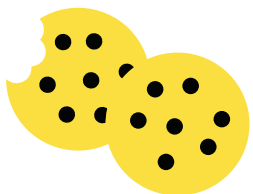
## 6. Entertainment

Are you a music lover looking for free entertainment? Go to the Bill Riley Talent Search at the Anne and Bill Riley Stage, or find free music entertainment options at the Iowa State Fair's three main stages where you can find artists playing rock, country and more!



## 7. Kid Activities

Kids can find adventure at the Iowa State Fair! Watch 4-H and FFA members show their livestock, present demonstrations and share their static exhibits in the Bruce L. Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building and FFA Display Building. Or, get hands-on at the Andringa Family Foundation Little Hands on the Farm, Blue Ribbon Kids' Club, or the Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center, where you get a chance to make fair crafts to take home or see baby animals. It's all part of the fun at the Iowa State Fair!



## 8. Fair Sights

There are many different places to relax on the Iowa State Fairgrounds! Look over the grounds from Expo Hill or enjoy water features in the Pella or Ruan Plazas. The Polk County Master Gardener's Discovery Garden is also a beautiful setting to relax.

## 9. Contests

Every year, thousands of Fairgoers and exhibitors compete for first place. Contests range from the Ugliest Cake in the Elwell Family Food Center to the Bubble Gum Blowing Contest on the Anne and Bill Riley Stage. The Iowa State Fair has one of the largest food departments and quilt shows in the country. Competition and special contests vary each day, so see the daily program for more information!



## 10. Shopping

If your wallet is feeling heavy, lighten it at the Iowa State Fair! Find creative crafts in the Walnut Center, wander the aisles of the Varied Industries Building and the Machinery Grounds to discover new businesses and industries in Iowa, or find treasures under the Grandstand and in the Cultural Center.



## 11. New Experiences

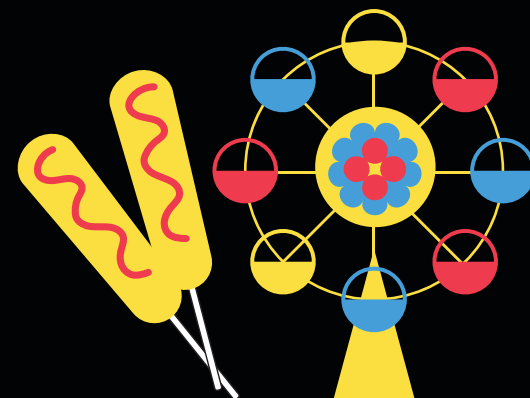
There is fun for everyone at the Iowa State Fair! Adults and children alike can find wonder in the Animal Learning Center, where newborn chicks, pigs, cattle, goats and sheep are born every day! Adults can learn more about Iowa's wine industry at the Iowa Wine Growers Association in Grandfather's Barn, or relax with your favorite craft beer at the Iowa Craft Beer Tent.

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# Iowa State Fair



## Guide For First-Time Fairgoers



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COMPARES**

**AUGUST**  
**7-17** 2025

# First Time Fairgoers

Welcome to the Iowa State Fair! We are so happy you are here. From livestock to food on a stick, from rides and games to industry and machinery exhibits, there's something for every Fairgoer to taste, see or hear. Let us know what we can help you find at the Iowa State Fair.

## 1. Culture & History

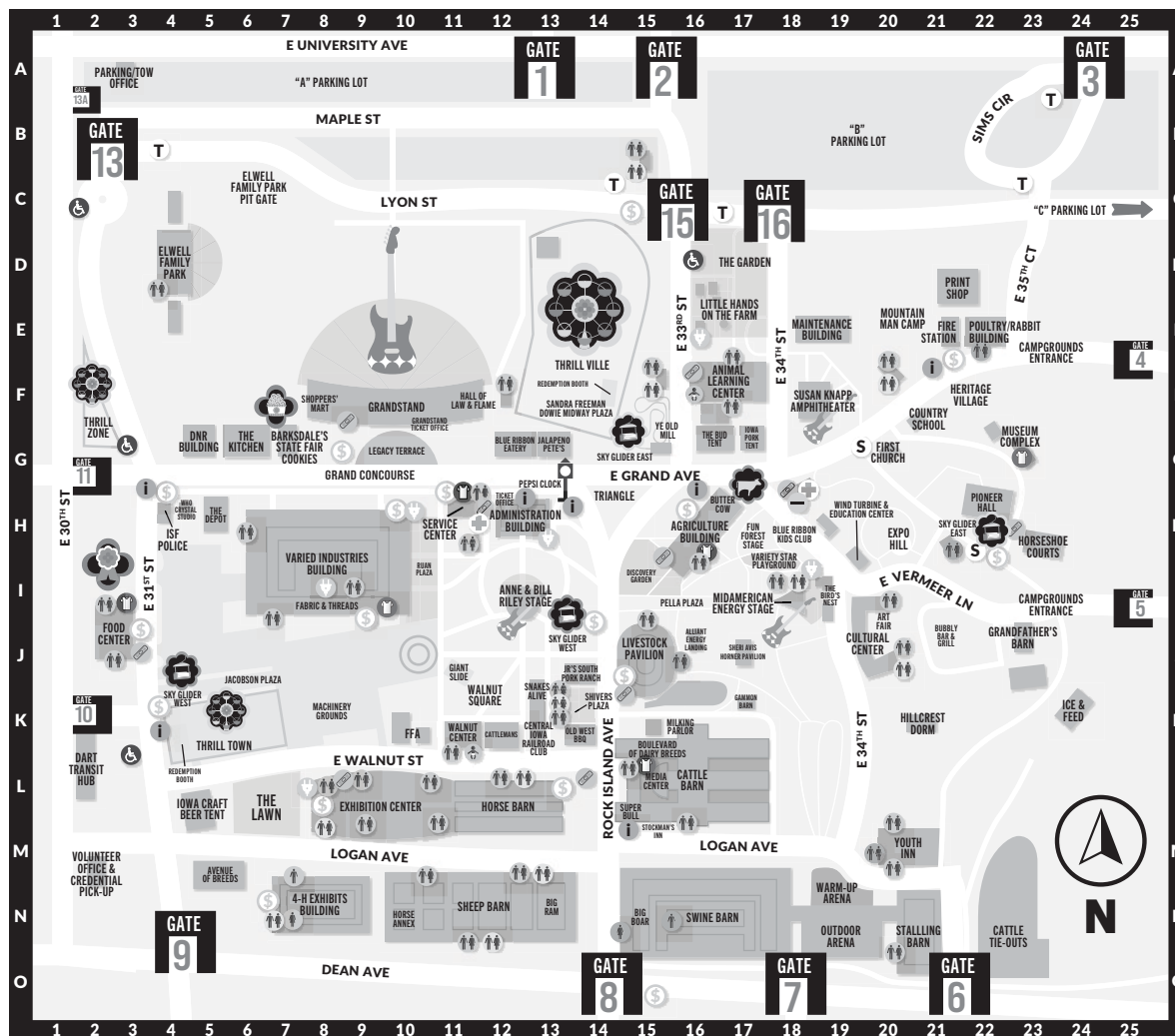
For those interested in arts and history, go to Pioneer Hall and the Cultural Center. At Pioneer Hall, you might hear the Mom Calling Contest or see the Rubber Chicken Throwing Contest. The Patty and Jim Cownie Cultural Center is full of visual masterpieces that artists have created or may even be creating today! The First Church and Country School take you back in time, and the two museums share our rich history.

## 2. Food

Are you hungry? With more than 60 foods on a stick to choose from and our increasing list of new foods, you won't be hungry for long. Traditional favorites of corn dogs and lemonade can be found, but check out the new food list, too!

## 3. Fair Traditions

The Iowa State Fair's Butter Cow has a long-lasting legacy, and you'll want to take a picture with her in the Agriculture Building! Go to the John Deere Agriculture Building for the famous butter cow and the DNR Building to learn about Iowa's great outdoors.



Administration Building .....	H13	FFA Display Building .....	K10	MidAmerican Energy Stage...	I18	Thrill Ville.....	E14
Agriculture Building .....	H16	4-H Exhibits Building .....	N8	Museum .....	G23	Thrill Zone .....	F3
Alliant Energy Landing.....	J16	Fun Forest.....	H17	Museum Complex.....	G23	Varied Industries Building.....	H8
Animal Learning Center.....	F17	Fun Forest Stage .....	H17	Outdoor Arena .....	N19	Volunteer Office and Credential	N2
Anne and Bill Riley Stage .....	I12	Gallery .....	G23	Parking/Tow Office .....	A3	Pick Up .....	N2
Avenue of Breeds.....	M6	The Garden.....	D17	Poultry and Rabbit Bldg .....	E22	Walnut Center .....	K12
Cattle Barn.....	L16	Grandfather's Barn .....	J23	Pioneer Hall.....	H22	Wind Turbine & Education	H19
Country School.....	F21	Grandstand.....	F10	Service Center .....	H11	Center .....	H19
Cultural Center .....	J20	Grand Concourse .....	G3-14	Sheep Barn .....	N11	Ye Old Mill .....	F14
DNR Building .....	G5	Horse Barn .....	L12	Sky Glider East.....	G14/H22	Youth Inn.....	M20
Elwell Family Park.....	D4	Iowa State Fair Police.....	H4	Sky Glider West.....	K4/K13		
Exhibition Center.....	L10	The Kitchen.....	G6	Stalling Barn .....	N21		
First Aid Center .....	G18	Legacy Terrace.....	G10	Susan Knapp Amphitheater..	F19		
First Church.....	G20	Little Hands on the Farm.....	E17	Swine Barn .....	N16		
Food Center .....	J2	Livestock Pavilion.....	J15	Thrill Town.....	K6		

