Iowa State University

Adventure Ahead

Ames.
We are thrilled that you have chosen to visit the Iowa State University campus. We hope this visit provides you with the information you need to discover if Iowa State is the right fit for you.

While in Ames, I invite you to explore our campus and community. You will find that Ames is a great city in which to learn, live, work, and play.

The City of Ames and Iowa State University work together to ensure students’ needs are met. One example is CyRide, the Ames public transportation system. CyRide is recognized as one of the safest and most effective systems in the country and provides fare-free bus service to students on campus and throughout the Ames community.

If you have questions about Iowa State or Ames, please feel free to ask!

Again, we welcome you to our city and our campus. Enjoy your visit!

Kristin Chapman
Campus Visits Coordinator

AMES FACTS

Population

Ames: 63,266
Story County: 94,073
Iowa: 3,107,126
*Based on Census Bureau data
Beneath the small town charm of Ames, Iowa, beats the heart of a much larger city. A city that has become a player in developing the world’s bio-economic future. A city with top-quality education, from kindergarten through grad school. A city that regularly draws performers like Echosmith, Sam Hunt, and Kevin Hart, along with international symphonies and Broadway musicals. A city with hundreds of acres of parks, numerous bike paths, and cultural festivals and celebrations. A city that’s been ranked the 2nd most liveable small city in the nation.

Ames is located roughly 30 miles north of the state capital Des Moines.

In 2014, Ames was ranked #1 by Livability.com as the best college town in the nation.
THINGS TO SEE AND DO

Ames is a great place to stay busy. From live music venues to outdoor activities and arts and culture, whatever your interest there is always something to do.

Attractions

- Reiman Gardens
  1407 University Blvd // 515 294-2710

- Main Street Cultural District
  304 Main Street // 515 233-3472

- Furman Aquatic Center
  1635 13th Street // 515 232-7665

- Ada Hayden Heritage Park
  5205 Grand Avenue

- Center Grove Orchard
  32835 610th Avenue // Cambridge, IA // 515 383-4354

- Seven Oaks Recreation
  1086 22nd Drive // Boone, IA // 515 432-9457

- High Trestle Trail Bridge
  Madrid, IA // 515 795-3880

- Ledges State Park
  1515 P Avenue // Madrid, IA // 515 432-1852

COME AND STAY

Ames has more than 1,400 hotel rooms to choose from and all of them within miles of the action. Whether you want to be near the entertainment at Hilton Coliseum or Stephens Auditorium or in the heart of the Iowa State campus, Ames has a number of great places to stay.

Hotels

- AmericInn
  2507 SE 16th St // 515 233-1005

- Best Western Plus
  University Park Inn & Suites
  2500 University Blvd // 515 296-2500

- Comfort Inn
  1605 S Dayton Pl // 515 232-0689

- Country Inns & Suites
  56461 180th St // 515 233-3935

- Days Inn
  229 S Duff Ave // 515 232-0280

- Econo Lodge
  2600 SE 16th St // 515 233-6060

- Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott
  2137 Isaac Newton Dr // 515 232-4000

- Gateway Hotel & Conference Center
  2100 Green Hills Dr // 515 292-8600

- GrandStay Residential Suites & Hotel
  1606 S Kellogg Ave // 515 232-8363

- Hilton Garden Inn Ames
  1325 Dickinson Ave // 515 233-8000

- Holiday Inn
  Ames Conference Center
  2609 University Blvd // 515 268-8808

- Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
  2600 E 13th St // 515 232-2300

- Iowa House Hotel
  405 Hayward Ave // 515 292-2474

- Microtel Inn & Suites
  2216 SE 16th St // 515 233-4444

- Quality Inn & Suites
  Starlite Conference Center
  2601 E 13th St // 515 232-9260

- Red Roof Inn
  1400 S Dayton Pl // 515 239-9999

- Sleep Inn & Suites
  1310 Dickinson Ave // 712 262-2979

- Super 8
  1418 S Dayton Pl // 515 232-6510

- TownPlace Suites
  1523 S Dayton Pl // 515 421-0416
DINE AND SIP OUR AWARD-WINNING WATER

Ames offers a plate and a taste for all its visitors, including many regional and national restaurants that you have come to enjoy at home or on the road.

Local Favorites

+39 Restaurant, Market & Cantina
Ali Cakes
Arcadia Café
Aunt Maude’s
Bar La Tosca
Battlecry Smokehouse
Brick City Grill
Buford’s Steakhouse & BBQ
Burgie’s Coffee and Tea Company
Café Beaudelaïre
Café Diem, Coffee House
Cafe Milo
Depot Deli
Downtown Deli
Dublin Bay Irish Pub and Grill
Dutch Oven Bakery
El Azteca
Flame and Skewer
The Fighting Burrito
Ge-Angelo’s Italian Restaurant
The Great Plains Sauce and Dough Company
Grove Cafe
Hickory Park Restaurant Co.
HyVee Market Grille
Indian Delights
The Iowa Stater Restaurant
Jeff’s Pizza
Little Taipei
Lorry’s Coffee
Mandarin Chinese Restaurant
The Mongolian Buffet
Mr Burrito
Mucky Duck Pub/Ames British Foods
Olde Main Brewing Company & Restaurant
Open Flame Steak & Lounge
Salt & Pretzel Co.
Scallion Korean Restaurant
Shogun Japanese Steakhouse
Stomping Grounds Café
Thai Kitchen
The Café
The Spice Thai Cuisine
Vesuvius Wood-Fired Pizza
Wallaby’s Bar & Grille
West Street Deli
West Towne Pub

Regional and National Favorites

Applebee’s
Arby’s
B-Bops
Buffalo Wild Wings
Burger King
Caribou Coffee
Chick-fil-A
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Chocolaterie Stam
Culver’s
Dairy Queen
Domino’s
Dunkin’ Donuts
Firehouse Subs
Fuji Japanese Steakhouse
HuHot
Insomnia Cookies
Jimmy Johns
KFC
La Fuente Mexican Restaurant
McDonald’s Restaurant
Noodles & Company
Old Chicago
The Other Place
Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt
Papa John’s Pizza
Pancheros Mexican Grill

AMES HISTORY

The city was founded in 1864 as a station stop on the Cedar Rapids and Missouri Railroad. Ames was named after 19th century U.S. congressman Oakes Ames of Massachusetts, who was influential in the building of the transcontinental railroad.
**GETTING HERE**

Traveling to Ames is easy: by car from north or south, use Interstate 35; east-west travelers use Interstate 80. By air, many commercial and commuter airlines serve the Des Moines International Airport. Private planes land at Ames Municipal Airport.

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**CAMPUS VISITS**

All college campuses look alike, or do they? You might begin to think differently after stepping foot on Iowa State’s campus. Nestled on more than 1,900 acres you’ll find one of the most beautiful college campuses in the country. And we’re not just saying that!

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**Daily Campus Visit**

A daily campus visit is a great way to know if Iowa State is the right fit for you. A visit to campus includes a Preview of Iowa State presentation, a campus tour, and a residence hall tour. On most weekdays, we can arrange a visit with an adviser or professor in the academic area of your choice.

Other activities can be arranged according to your special interest. You may choose to meet with staff from the University Honors Program, ROTC program, and Women in Science and Engineering.

For more information, visit admissions.iastate.edu/visit/daily.php.

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**Experience Iowa State**

The Experience Iowa State program includes all the events that take place during a daily campus visit and more!

Feel what it’s like to be a student. Talk to a panel of Iowa State students and find out what makes Iowa State so special. Tour areas of campus and see for yourself why Iowa State has been named one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.

For more information, visit admissions.iastate.edu/visit/eis.php.

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**TIPS FOR A GOOD VISIT**

Schedule your visit at least 10 days in advance. This allows us to follow up on your request and email you confirmation materials to help you prepare for your visit.

**Check the Ames weather forecast before you come.** Our campus visit does include a lot of walking. We suggest you wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for the weather, as we will be outside quite a bit.

**Review your itinerary.** Double check your schedule and directions before leaving home.

**Prepare a list of questions.** Take advantage of the time you’ll have with current students and academic advisers.

Be ready for an exciting adventure!

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Iowa State’s central campus was one of only three colleges to receive the American Society of Landscape Architects medallion award given to outstanding landscape sites.
Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to Robinette Kelley, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, and Affirmative Action Officer, 3350 Beardshear Hall, Ames, Iowa 50011, Tel. 515 294-7612, email eooffice@mail.iastate.edu.