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Summer 2011 Travel Guide

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**TRAVEL GUIDE**

**SUMMER 2011**

**Le Mars: Ice Cream Capital of the World**
Lighten things up with a sweet treat and a look at the Blue Bunny Factory that makes more ice cream than anywhere else in the world. The factory includes a museum and visitors’ center that shows a mock process of how the ice cream is made.

**Marshalltown: Big Treehouse**
Boasting twelve levels, fifty-five towers, electricity, microwaves, telephones, running water, spiral staircase, and more, the Big Treehouse of Marshalltown sounds more like a mansion. However, all these amenities are indeed suspended around one giant tree. The Swiss Family Robinson would be so jealous.

**Clear Lake: Sight of Buddy Holly’s Death**
Here is another great place to take a swim and relax a while, but even more interesting is the Surf Ballroom. This was the venue of Buddy Holly’s last performance before his plane out of the town crashed, resulting in his death.

**McGregor: Spook Cave Boat Tour**
“Heads up” takes on a whole new meaning in this cave spook tour. All enclosed, this boat tour boasts of its dark, watery passages and low hanging ceilings, keeping all entrants alerted for the “duck!” warnings.

**Sioux City: Flight 232 Museum**
In July 1989, United Flight 232 crash landed at the Sioux City airport. This museum, located at the sight of the crash, includes statues depicting the heroic efforts of the community to help the 185 survivors.

**Stanton: Coffee Cup and Pot Water Towers**
This stop is a great photo-op for your “road trip” album on Facebook. Pretend you are using this giant coffee pot and cup to get a good laugh.

**Villisca: Axe Murder House and Museum**
Here you can tour a home where a real-life horror story took place. A family was killed in their home one night by an axe murderer and their home is now open for tours. The case was never solved and the murderer remains a mystery.

**Winter Set: The Bridges of Madison County**
Make your first stop to see the natural set of “The Bridges of Madison County” and even sit in the stool Clint Eastwood sat in at the Northside Cafe. For all you John Wayne fans, this is a can’t-miss opportunity to see the home he was born in.

**Sioux City: Flight 232 Museum**

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**ROAD TRIP**

Summer vacation is all about having fun, oh, and working to try to save enough money for next semester’s tuition. Taking a fun summer trip doesn’t have to be time consuming or expensive; just look around, there are many sights right here in Iowa that you shouldn’t miss! Get out the maps and your camera and set out on an Iowa road trip.
Looking for a summer road trip destination? Craving some new jams? Look no further. We tracked down nine of the best festivals in the country, ranging in genre from punk rock to country to alternative. Choose a city, grab a friend, fill your gas tank and get ready to party in the USA.

**American Summer Music Festival**

By EMILY BLOOMQUIST & CHELSEA EVERS

SASQUATCH
George, WA: May 27 - 30

Sasquatch goers are in for a diverse and rockin’ long weekend. The Decemberists, with their folk, country- rock, and Emmylou Harris inspirations will be attending. Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings will be taking the stage, as well. Sharon and her band have been pumping out gospel, funk and soul inspired tunes for about a decade. Death Cab for Cutie will also be there as one of the bigger acts. The Grammy-nominated group will no doubt pull many fans into the festival. Sasquatch is held in the Gorge Amphitheatre close to the Columbia River in George, Washington. All ages are welcome to the festival, and camping and parking are both included in your single ticket purchase. Seating in the outdoor venue is general admission, so arriving early is recommended. The Gorge has been a nine-time winner of Pollstar Magazine’s “Best Outdoor Music Venue” award.

BIG COUNTRY BASH
Des Moines, IA: June 26

Look no further than just a short drive south on 35 to get your fill of up and coming and breakout country artists. The Big Country Bash, held during mid to late June in Waterworks park in Des Moines every summer, brings together an array of the country acts in an outdoor, festival atmosphere. Lineups are set to arrive April 7th, but past acts have included Gretchen Wilson, Rodney Atkins, Gloriana and local boy, Jason Brown. The bash is very much a family event, with an array of fans coming out to see the talent. Be sure to remember your lawn chair!

BONNAROO
Manchester, TN: June 9 - 12

In its tenth year, Bonnaroo 2011 puts out a solid lineup of well-known and up-and-coming artists. Eminem, Lil Wayne, The Black Keys, Florence and the Machine, Mumford & Sons, The Strokes and Neil Young will all be bringing in crowds of listeners. Other acts such as Big Boi, Robyn, Girl Talk and Iron & Wine will also be there. The festival is held on a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tennessee. Like many festivals this year, your ticket is your complete four-day pass, which includes camping and parking. Along with the plethora of music for Bonnaroo-goers to enjoy, they will also have sections of the site with merchandise, and food vendors. Attractions such as comedy clubs, an on-site arcade, and a beer festival may also be worth your time.

LOLLAPALOOZA
Chicago, IL: August 5 - 7

Quite possibly the most famous music fest in America, this 3-day Grant Park extravaganza begins with a bang this year. Now in its 20th year, Lollapalooza—which has featured the likes of MGMT, Phoenix, B.o.B. and Lady Gaga—is rumored to host Eminem, The Foo Fighters and Muse this August. Officials have promised a finalized lineup release in the next couple of months, so Lolla hopefuls will have to wait it out. Ticket prices range from $90 (for one day) to $215 for the weekend, but it’s worth the cost to attend a fame-laden festival that also provides attendees with opportunities for autographs, a wine tent, gaming stations and more.

SUMMERFEST
Milwaukee, WI: June 29 - July 3 & July 5 - 10

Just six hours northeast of Ames, this lakefront celebration prides itself on being the “World’s Largest Music Festival”—each year, 800,000 to 1 million people attend. Unlike Lollapalooza, Summerfest daily rates range from $8 to $15, depending on the time of day. Headline acts (read: nationally-known bands) are separately ticketed, but considering past infamous artists—Metallica, Dave Matthews and Britney Spears—it’s probably worth an extra chunk of change.

**Looking Back**

It would seem fitting that the Hawkeyes would boast of a cemetery residing dark angel that, legends say, will kill you with just one kiss. However, the gothic angel is an eerie sight that is worth visiting. And if you are feeling luckier than a Hawkeye, plant a kiss on her and see for yourself if the myths are true.

Gladbrook : Matchstick Marvels Museum
At the Matchstick Marvels Museum, millions of matchsticks have been invested into creating models of the U.S. Capitol, the space shuttle Challenger, the Iowa governor’s mansion, the USS Iowa, the Wright Brother’s Kitty Hawk, and so many more. Ripley’s Believe It or Not even ventured out to purchase some of these extraordinary buildings, and they’ve now displayed them all over the globe.

Harper’s Ferry : Effigy Mounds National Park
Stretch your legs and flex those hiking muscles at Effigy Mounds National Park. Recreational options include bike riding, hiking, and touring the rolling landscape with a ranger. After a long day in the car, exercising amongst the thirty-one animal shaped earthen mounds made by Native Americas is just what the doctor ordered.

Dyersville : Field of Dreams
“If you build it, he will come.” Turns out, if you build the Field of Dreams, everyone will come.

Iowa City : Black Angel
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