



# Western Iowa's Natural Wonders: The Loess Hills



Honey Creek



Honey Creek



Missouri Valley



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## Loess Hills, Honey Creek, Missouri Valley

Along the Missouri River in western Iowa exists a geological masterpiece that's recognized the world over as having the finest agricultural soil, and long-revered for its tapestry of scenic spaces, artisans and rich cultural heritage.

You'll discover the beauty of the Loess Hills while visiting Hitchcock Nature Center in Honey Creek, Iowa. Get hands on experiences learning about the preservation of this fragile ecosystem, viewing the unique wildlife or exploring the 13 miles of hiking trails perfect for all abilities.

Continue to explore the Loess Hills area gourmet artisanal foods and wine, organic farms, and embrace nature in its finest setting.

Smell the fragrance of French lavender fields and sip on some lavender lemonade at the Loess Hills Lavender Farm in Missouri Valley. The farm has more than 2,000 lavender plants. Harvest your own lavender, browse the gift shop featuring an assortment of homemade bath and skin care products.

Honey Creek Creamery is a farmstead dairy that prides itself on its quality artisan cheese crafted using fresh milk from goats that are fed rich, chemical-free alfalfa and raised on the farm. You'll have a chance to interact with the goats, learn how they are milked, see how the cheese is processed, and sample some of their products.

At Sawmill Hollow Family Farm in Missouri Valley you'll be introduced to the aronia berry, a fruit that's gaining in popularity because it's packed with antioxidants and considered the ultimate superfood. America's first aronia berry farm offers wines, gourmet food, tours, scenic lake and a picturesque Loess Hills experience.

The lowana Farm in Crescent is all about teaching what it means to grow certified organic produce in the Loess Hills and what heirloom seeds are. The vegetables are all grown on their grandfather's farm.

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**Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center** includes a Lincoln Highway Loess Hills Interpretive Center featuring films, a scenic overlook, one-mile trail through restored prairie, road demonstration area, and children’s transportation themed play space. The five-building historical complex features an original log cabin and one-room school. The welcome center includes an Iowa-themed gift shop – all enjoyed with a free sample of cherry drink!

Loess Hills Hospitality Association  
712.886.5441 | [loesshillstours.com](http://loesshillstours.com)

Loess Hills Scenic Byway  
712.482.3029 | [visitloesshills.org](http://visitloesshills.org)

**\*\*Note\*\***

*The above itinerary is a SAMPLE itinerary. Other attractions and activities can be substituted based on your preferences and the current seasonality to create a unique itinerary for your next visit.*

*Dining Suggestions – Some of the most memorable experiences when traveling involve the foods you eat. By sampling local cuisine, you get an authentic taste of place, its unique history and culture, as well as regional specialties and favorites. Western Iowa is home to a wide range of locally owned and operated restaurants, farms and artisanal food providers, wineries, craft breweries and distilleries. Ask the locals for their recommendations!*



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**Contact:**

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Hitchcock Nature Center, Pottawattamie County Conservation  
712.328.5638 | [pottcoconservation.com](http://pottcoconservation.com)