



Corn-u-copia of Agricultural History in Western Iowa



Orient



Audubon

Albert City, Audubon, Coon Rapids, Manning, Newell, Orient

Western Iowa was home to agricultural pioneers who played pivotal roles in developing farm innovations in the 20th century. From hybridizing seed corn to renowned livestock breeders, you'll have the opportunity to see how they continue to impact the rural landscape in the 21st century.



Coon Rapids

Wallace Country Life Center, Orient

Inspired by the Wallace family legacy, the Wallace Centers provide a variety of programs and services to build awareness of local food, sustainable agriculture, and civility.



Newell



Manning

The Country Life Center in Orient is on the birthplace farm of Henry A. Wallace who founded seed corn company Pioneer Hi-Bred in 1926 and was an editor at Wallaces Farmer magazine. He later he served the nation as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Vice President, and U.S. Secretary of Commerce.



In the 1930s Wallace brought the idea of soil conservation to the forefront of agricultural practices. Those ideals are reflected on the farm in the restored Iowa prairie and pond, orchard and produce gardens. Menus at the Gathering Table restaurant are built around what is available to harvest from the gardens. During the growing season, the Market offers fresh produce for sale to the public from the garden and orchard.

Operation T-Bone and Albert the Bull, Audubon

In the early 1950's cattle shippers from Audubon were transporting large numbers of cattle to the livestock market in Chicago via railroad. Learn the story of "Operation T-Bone" and the one-of-a-kind statue that pays tribute to it -- Albert the Bull.

Whiterock Conservancy, Coon Rapids

Roswell Garst was an Iowa farmer, successful producer of hybrid corn seed and international goodwill ambassador during the Cold War who hosted Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev during his historic 1959 visit to the United States. Garst was an

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innovative and progressive ag expert, an early proponent of the use of insecticides, herbicides and fertilization, favored increased mechanization and early harvesting of corn.

Today the historic Garst Farm is known as Whiterock Conservancy. The non-profit land trust strives to continue the Garst legacy of innovative farming by demonstrating sustainable farming practices, natural resource protection and to provide opportunities for the public to experience and learn from this rare and beautiful landscape.

Leet-Hassler Farmstead Historic District, Manning

The Leet-Hassler Farmstead was home to an innovative and progressive early twentieth century Poland China purebred hog breeding operation known as the Fashion Herd. Get acquainted with the Gatsby-like owner, Billy Leet, and the savvy breeder Fred Hassler, and Grand Master, the prize boar. Built as something of a country estate, the high quality Arts and Crafts style home, barn and other farm structures were meant to impress and reflected the most progressive ideas in farm buildings and livestock production of the day.

Allee Mansion and ISU Research Farm, Newell

Before hybrid seed corn, farmers saved their best ears to use as seed for the following year. After graduating from college, George Allee returned to his hometown of Newell to help manage his family's 20 farms. Allee developed his own corn lines and marketed them. To help educate farmers, he organized a local Farmer's Institute and the Newell corn show. As his legacy, Allee left his farm to Iowa State University to be used as an experimental farm. Today, the Allee Research and Demonstration Farm uses and demonstrates advanced and modern methods of farming. You can also visit the restored mansion that was his home.

****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!

Contact:

Audubon County Tourism
712.563.2742 | auduboncounty.com

Manning Chamber of Commerce
712.655.3541 | manningia.com

Manning Hausbarn-Heritage Park
712.655.3131 | germanhausbarn.com

Newell Historical Society/Allee Mansion
712.272.4556 or 712.730.0520 |
newellhistorical.org

Wallace Centers of Iowa, Country
Life Center
641.337.5019 | wallace.org

Whiterock Conservancy
712.790.8221 x 112 or 115
whiterockconservancy.org

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