

# Things to Do in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

## **African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa**

The African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa is a facility on the banks of the Cedar River. It is Iowa's only cultural center designed to interpret African American history to the broader community

## **Brucemore**

Tours of the 21-room mansion provide a glimpse of the privileged life of another time. Interiors feature a Wagnerian mural, rich woodwork and a magnificent pipe organ. Today Brucemore is alive with events and is a community hub for cultural and educational activities. Throughout the year, Brucemore offers a variety of special events and programs, including an Easter Egg-stravaganza.

## **Cedar Rapids Museum of Art**

This downtown museum houses the world's largest collection of paintings by the Iowa-born artist Grant Wood.

## **The History Center**

The History Center boasts exhibits that trace the history of the area in its Living Along the Tributaries, which serves as the central exhibit of the museum; there is also a vast and eclectic assortment of objects in the museum's collection that range from hat pins to electric cars, with over thirty five thousand objects in the collection.

## **Scale Solar System Model – Mt Vernon, IA**

In downtown Mount Vernon, IA you will find a sign with the sun on it. A description of the solar system is also provided. From there, you can move west and see another sign about the planet Mercury. Continue west and you will find signs for each of the other planets. All of these signs are placed so that the distance between them is in scale with the entire solar system. The Asteroid Crossing sign is located several blocks from the "Sun". Pluto? Oh, it's out in the country about 6 miles away.

## **Cedar Rapids Kernels Baseball Team**

The Cedar Rapids Kernels are a Midwest League Class A team affiliated with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Game schedules are available on line.

## **Czech Village**

The Czech Village shows the history of immigrants of Czech, Moravian and Slovakian ancestry that immigrated to the Cedar Rapids area around the turn of the 20th Century. Try Zindrick's Restaurant or Sykora's Bakery for authentic Czech food. The National Czech Museum is presently displaying in Lindale Mall due to the recent flood.

## **Duffy's Collectable Cars**

This museum of classic cars features over one hundred beautifully restored cars dating from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, including hardtops, convertibles, and more; also other memorabilia associated with the history of the car.

## **Local Golf Courses**

Airport National Public Golf course offers a first rate family golfing experience east of the Airport on Wright Brother's Blvd.

Ellis Golf Course opened for play in the 1920s. This course offers eighteen holes, a pro shop, golf carts, and a snack bar.

Jones Park Golf Course opened as a nine-hole facility in 1959, and expanded to an eighteen-hole course in 2001.

Twin Pines Golf Course is a Certified Cooperative Audubon Sanctuary and offers eighteen holes for play that are easy to walk, although golf carts are also available.

## **Indian Creek Nature Center**

During the day you can explore the eleven miles of nature trails that lead through woodlands, wetlands, and prairies; there are also indoor exhibits, a maple sugar house, an indoor honeybee hive, events, public programs, & gift shop.

## **Iowa Masonic Library**

Open to the public, this library has over one hundred thousand tomes in its collection of both Masonic and general natures. The largest Masonic Library in the world.

## **Legion Arts**

Located in a renovated century-old Czech social hall, Legion Arts is known for being a presenter and champion of contemporary art, music and theatre.

## **Palisades-Kepler State Park – Mt. Vernon, IA**

Palisades-Kepler State Park lies along the beautiful Cedar River "just across the river" from the Palisades-Dows facility. The 840-acre park has dramatic river bluffs, deep ravines, majestic hardwood trees, a large variety of wildflowers and an abundance of wildlife. Palisades-Kepler State Park is also important for its prehistoric past. A molar tooth of a mammoth was once found here and the exposed rocks along the Cedar River are laden with fossils of millions of years of history. The presence of Indian mounds reminds us that this was a favorite haunt of Native Americans hundreds of years ago. The lodge at Palisades-Kepler is a beautiful stone structure built in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

