



# The CatchList

## FREE THINGS TO DO

In Greater Des Moines, we pride ourselves in being affordable (and fun!) no matter what activity you choose to do. But whoever said “Nothing in life is free” clearly hasn’t been to Des Moines. There are a whole host of ways to experience Des Moines without spending a dime...or at least, less dimes than you’d spend in other cities.

FREE ARTS ACTIVITIES			
ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
<b>Des Moines Art Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Free art museum with emphasis on contemporary art.</li> <li>▶ Collections from artists like Georgia O’Keeffe are hosted in three striking buildings, on beautiful grounds with numerous sculptures.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tue - Wed:</b> 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Thur:</b> 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Fri:</b> 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sat - Sun:</b> 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p>	<p>4700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://desmoinesartcenter.org">desmoinesartcenter.org</a></p>
<b>John &amp; Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Spend a sunny day picnicking in the 4.4-acre park with over 30 world-class sculptures.</li> <li>▶ The Nomade sculpture is the most selfied spot in the state.</li> </ul>	<b>Year-round</b>	<p>Western Gateway Park, 1330 Grand Avenue, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://desmoinesartcenter.org/visit/pappajohn-sculpture-park">desmoinesartcenter.org/visit/pappajohn-sculpture-park</a></p>
<b>Art Route</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Downtown art route unites 87 pieces of public art.</li> <li>▶ Follow the painted circles and chevrons leading to sculptures, murals, and architecture.</li> </ul>	<b>Year-round</b>	<p>Downtown Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://artroutedsm.com">artroutedsm.com</a></p>
FREE EAST VILLAGE			
ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
<b>Iowa State Capitol</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Beautiful capitol building is only 5-domed capitol in U.S., with 23-karat gold plated dome.</li> <li>▶ Free guided or self-guided tours.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mon - Fri:</b> 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sat:</b> 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p>	<p>E 9th Street &amp; Grand Avenue, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://legis.iowa.gov/resources/tourcapitol">legis.iowa.gov/resources/tourcapitol</a></p>
<b>State Historical Museum of Iowa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Explore three floors showcasing Iowa’s accomplishments and heritage.</li> <li>▶ Exhibits include Hollywood in the Heartland and First in Nation - Iowa caucus.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tue - Fri:</b> 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m</p>	<p>600 E Locust Street, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://iowaculture.gov/history/museum">iowaculture.gov/history/museum</a></p>
<b>Robert D. Ray Asian Gardens</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ This picturesque garden serves as a photo op spot and tribute to Robert D. Ray.</li> <li>▶ The free gardens are a celebration of diversity within the community.</li> </ul>	<b>Year-round</b>	<p>Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://dsmpublicartfoundation.org/public-artwork/robert-d-ray-asian-gardens">dsmpublicartfoundation.org/public-artwork/robert-d-ray-asian-gardens</a></p>



# The CatchList

## FREE THINGS TO DO

### FREE DOWNTOWN

ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
<b>DART's D-line shuttle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Get around downtown using the free D-line, which runs in a loop every 15 minutes.</li> <li>▶ Services the East Village to Western Gateway with stops along Grand and Locust.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weekdays:</b> 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sat:</b> 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Look for D-Line bus stop signs on Locust and Grand Avenues, Downtown Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://ridedart.com/routes/shuttles/42-d-line-downtown">ridedart.com/routes/shuttles/42-d-line-downtown</a></p>
<b>Principal Riverwalk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Recreational park district featuring 1.2-mile trail and two pedestrian bridges.</li> <li>▶ Bridges connect the east and west sides of downtown and feature Brenton Skating Plaza and Luarisdan Skatepark, the largest in the nation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Year-round</b></p>	<p>115 Grand Avenue, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R75.php">dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R75.php</a></p>
<b>Gray's Lake park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Downtown oasis features 2-mile path around the lake with skyline views.</li> <li>▶ Hit the public beach or rent a kayak or paddleboat along the lake.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sun - Sat:</b> 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.</p>	<p>2101 Fleur Drive, Des Moines</p> <p><a href="http://dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R58.php">dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R58.php</a></p>

## Parks, trails and beaches

Greater Des Moines is home to many beautiful **parks**, an 800-mile connected **trail system**, and several public **beaches and waterways**. High Trestle Trail, Jester Park, Saylorville Lake and Ledge State Park are just a few of our faves. Check out [The Great Outdoors Itinerary](#) for more great ideas



# The CatchList

## DON'T MISS THESE FREE EVENTS:

**St. Patrick's Day Parade** (March)

**Live Horse Racing at Prairie Meadows Racetrack Casino Hotel** (April through September)

**Des Moines Downtown Farmers' Market** (May through October)

**CelebrAsian** (May)

**Capital City Pride Parade** (June)

**Des Moines Arts Festival** (June)

**Yankee Doodle Pops** (July)

**Iowa State Fair Parade** (August)

**World Food and Music Festival** (September)

**Latino Heritage Festival** (September)

**Jingle in the Junction** (November/December)

**East Village Holiday Promenade** (December)