



The CatchList

HIDDEN GEMS

In Des Moines, our Midwestern humility is a blessing and a curse. It keeps us grounded, but also keeps us a best kept secret (or so we're told). Within the confines of our little best kept secret are several hidden gems (this is very meta) that our followers weren't afraid to blow the lid off. You're probably familiar with the Greatest Hits, but here are some of the Des Moines deep tracks that are too good not to share.

RESTAURANTS

ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
Simon's	▶ Steak de Burgo and red velvet cake = date night done right.	Mon - Thur: 5 - 9 p.m. Fri - Sat: 5 - 10 p.m.	5800 Franklin Avenue, Des Moines simonsdsm.com
Coaches Kolaches	▶ Czeck pastries by way of Texas filled with either fruit or eggs, sausage, and cheese.	Wed - Fri: 7 a.m. - Noon Sat - Sun: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.	8527 University Boulevard, Suite 1, Clive, IA facebook.com/Coacheskolaches
Angry Goldfish Pub & Eatery	▶ Cool neighborhood joint with Makers Mark lamps known for their Sriracha Goldfish breaded tenderloin.	Mon - Thur: 11 a.m. - 12 a.m. Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 2 a.m. Sun: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.	2301 SW 9th Street, Des Moines angrygoldfishdsm.com
The Walnut	▶ Former food truck found a home in a converted 1920's garage, known for Royal Bird sandwich.	Tue - Thur: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.	1417 Walnut Street, Des Moines walnutdsm.com
Francie's Bar & Grill	▶ Southside gem with patty melts, crinkle fries, and waitresses who call you "hon".	Mon - Thur: 11 a.m. - 12 a.m. Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.	2100 Wakonda View Drive, Des Moines franciesbarandgrill.com/restaurant
Sonny's Pizza Bistro	▶ Look up "pizza joint" in the dictionary and you may find a picture of Sonny's.	Refer to website.	6594 NW 6th Drive, Des Moines sonnypizzabistro.com



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BARS

ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
Carl's	▶ Everyone's favorite dive bar, from townies to hipsters to visiting media come Caucus time.	Sun - Sat: 10 a.m. - 2 a.m.	1620 Woodland Avenue, Des Moines
Cooney's	▶ Everything you want in an Irish bar: Guinness, fireplace, and free popcorn.	Mon - Fri: 1 p.m. - 2 a.m. Sat - Sun: Noon to 2 a.m.	3708 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines cooneystavern.com
The Lift	▶ The best martinis in town in a space that feels like something from a Tim Burton movie.	Mon - Fri: 5 p.m. - 2 a.m. Sat - Sun: 7 p.m. - 2 a.m.	222 4th Street, Des Moines dmlift.com
The Bartender's Handshake	▶ Cool, hipster cocktail lounge with a funky patio and without the attitude.	Mon - Tue: 2 p.m. - 12 a.m. Thur - Fri: 2 p.m. - 12 a.m. Sat - Sun: 11 a.m. - 12 a.m.	3615 Ingersoll Avenue, Des Moines thebartendershandshake.com
Ken's Speakeasy	▶ Sip whiskey surrounded by dark wood and Templeton Rye whiskey barrels on the wall.	Wed - Sat: 5 p.m. - 12 a.m.	215 E 3rd Street, Suite #100 Des Moines iowataproom.com/kens

PARKS

ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
Easter Lake	▶ Beautiful little lake on the south east side with pontoons, kayaking, and a swimming beach.	Year-round	2830 Easter Lake Drive, Des Moines polkcountyiowa.gov/conservation/parks-trails/easter-lake-park-mark-c-ackelson-trail
Yellow Banks Park	▶ 140-foot bluffs offer breathtaking views of Des Moines River as you hike.	Year-round	6801 SE 32nd Avenue, Pleasant Hill, IA polkcountyiowa.gov/conservation/parks-trails/yellow-banks-park/
Brenton Arboretum	▶ Rolling hills, tall prairie grass, a natural playground, and labyrinth make this the place to lose yourself in your thoughts.	Open daily 9 a.m. - sunset	25141 260th Street, Dallas Center, IA thebrentonarboretum.org
Union Park	▶ Home to a giant metal rocket slide and Heritage Carousel from the 60's. Still 50 cents a ride!	Refer to website.	1801 Pennsylvania Avenue, Des Moines heritagecarousel.org/union_park.html



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ATTRACTIONS

ACTIVITY:	CATCH THIS:	WHEN TO VISIT:	INFO:
Rusty Stars Alpacas	▶ Visit this free alpaca farm on Saturdays for cute pics and furry socks.	Sat: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	2054 Rustic Lane, Winterset, IA facebook.com/rustystarsalpacas
Badger Creek State Park Sunflower Fields	▶ Arguably the most Instagrammable spot in the state from July through August.	Sun - Sat: 4 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.	120th Street, Van Meter, IA iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks/Iowa-State-Parks/Badger-Creek-State-Recreation-Area
Civic Center Tours	▶ Behind-the-scenes tour of performing arts venue that's hosted <i>Hamilton</i> and more.	Refer to website.	221 Walnut Street, Des Moines desmoinesperformingarts.org/tours
Middlebrook Farm	▶ Cool "agrihood" with a working farm that serves as a gathering space for events.	Refer to website.	4300 Cumming Avenue, Cumming, IA middlebrookfarm.com
Selfie Wrld	▶ Iowa's first "selfie museum" with 27 different Instagrammable rooms to snap a pic.	Tue - Fri: 3 - 8 p.m. Sat: Noon - 8 p.m. Sun: Noon - 5:30 p.m.	3800 Merle Hay Road, Suite 912, Des Moines selfiewrlddsm.com
Woodland Cemetery	▶ Cemetery that was established in 1848, rich with history and stories.	Year-round	2019 Woodland Avenue, Des Moines dsm.city/departments/parks_and_recreation-division/places/cemetery_history_-_woodland.php