

Iowa Sports Heritage Tour

- A two-day tour to experience the rich sports heritage of Iowa by visiting seven of its finest museums -

Day One

Morning. Arrive in Des Moines. Enjoy the **Iowa Hall of Pride** on the lower level of the new Hy-Vee Hall in downtown, showcasing the achievements of all Iowans, from student-athletes to sports legends. The high-tech and interactive venue is open Monday through Saturday and is a great destination for people of all ages. Following lunch, drive west of Des Moines on I-235 and I-80 to the **Bob Feller Museum** in Van Meter, saluting the Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher for the Cleveland Indians (1936-56). Walk back in time viewing original artifacts from the life and career of Bob Feller; open Tuesday through Sunday.

Afternoon. Drive southeast on I-80, I-35, Highway 5 and Highway 65 to the north end of Indianola, home of the **National Balloon Museum**. Experience the history of ballooning from its beginnings in the 1700's in France to the modern day is presented in a variety of displays and exhibits. The museum is open seven days a week, including its Children's Learning Area. Following a short drive east to Knoxville on Highway 92, you will find the **National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum** on Highway 14 north, located on turn number two of the legendary Knoxville Raceway half-mile dirt track. The museum, which is open seven days a week, features over 25 restored 'big cars', sprint cars and supermodifieds, plus plenty of other open-wheel racing memorabilia.

Evening. Drive east on Highway 92 and north on Highway 1 to the quaint community of Kalona, where you can enjoy a relaxed home-cooked dinner and overnight stay in a genuine Amish settlement.

Day Two

Morning. Drive north on Highway 1 to Iowa City, home of the ultimate fantasy of Iowa Hawkeye fans... the **University of Iowa Athletics Hall of Fame**. Photos, biographies, interactive displays, Nile Kinnick's Heisman Trophy and more memorabilia are on display on three floors of black-and-gold memories. The Hall is open seven days a week, year-round. Continue driving north on Highways 218 and 151 to Anamosa and its **National Motorcycle Museum**, where you can cruise in and experience more than a century of two-wheeled adventure. An extensive collection of vintage motorcycles, and thousands of photographs, posters and postcards await your arrival.

Afternoon. Drive south on Highway 151 before heading northwest on I-380 and Highways 218 and 63 to Waterloo. There, following lunch, you will enjoy the **Dan Gable International Wrestling Institute and Museum**, which boasts over 600 displays as it takes visitors through the history of wrestling, from ancient Greece through the present day Olympics. The Professional Wing of the museum has a half-size wrestling ring, a wall devoted to the legendary Frank Gotch, the George Tragos/Lou Thesz Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame, and many other exciting displays.

Evening. Drive southwest on Highways 63 and 20 and I-35 and I-235 back to the capital city of Des Moines, where you will find many options for dining and accommodations.

Contact Information:

Iowa Hall of Pride, 330 Park Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50309, 515-280-8969
www.iowahallofpride.com

Bob Feller Museum, 310 Mill Street, Van Meter, Iowa, 50261, 515-996-2806,
www.bobfellermuseum.org

National Balloon Museum, 1601 North Jefferson Way, Indianola, Iowa, 50125, 515-961-3714,
www.nationalballoonmuseum.com

National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum, One Sprint Capital Place, Knoxville, Iowa, 50138,
641-842-6176, www.sprintcarhof.com

University of Iowa Athletics Hall of Fame, 2425 Prairie Meadow Drive, Iowa City, Iowa, 52242,
319-384-1031, www.hawkeyesports.com

National Motorcycle Museum, 200 East Main Street, Anamosa, Iowa, 52205, 319-462-3925,
www.nationalmcmuseum.org

Dan Gable International Wrestling Institute and Museum, 303 Jefferson Street, Waterloo, Iowa, 50701,
319-233-0745, www.wrestlingmuseum.org