Amana Colonies
Bike and Hike Weekend
July 11-12, 2020

Bike Trails and Routes

Millstream Brewery Tour de Brew
July 11th
Join Millstream Brewing for their annual 38 mile bike ride at Millstream Brewery. This is definitely a "tour de brews" and a great way to get out and enjoy the great outdoors!

Start at Millstream Brewery, go to Norway, then onto Blairstown, through West Amana and back to Millstream. The event is a poker run with stops to pick up your poker cards. Of course, there is a great micro brewed beer waiting for you at each stop. Root Beer too. At the end of the ride the best poker hands will receive door prizes. Nick Stika will greet you with live music from 1-4pm as you get back from your ride and we will be grilling those great Amana Brats. Begin and end at Millstream Brewery. This year we will be setup up out back of the brewery in the grassy area before and after the ride to accommodate the social distancing and give us more room to spread out! See ya there!

Registration is the day of the event at Millstream between 9:30 - 10:30. Registration is $27.

Our Gravel Bike Route

The Middle to High Loop
Challenge yourself on our Gravel Bike Route that connects Middle Amana, High Amana, and West Amana. This gravel road route loops north of Middle Amana past the golf course and through a hard wood timber. Take the loop to High Amana and stop at the High Amana General Store for a step back in time then pedal over to the Amana Arts Guild and view the work of local artists. This ride is approximately 7 miles round trip.

The High to West Loop
Now for something more challenging and a view north of the Colonies that was the inspiration for the famous artist Grant Wood and his painting “Young Corn”. Ride north out of High Amana and take the West Amana loop, you’ll discover High Amana sits on a ridge and shortly after traveling out of Amana land you will encounter a sizeable slope. Control your speed down to the flat area. Follow the signs and navigate the route up a twisting hill that will eventually lead you to the ridge and West Amana. This ride is approximately 17 miles round trip.
Pick-up the special map at the Visitor Center for these routes.

Special Events

Amana Museum to Middle Communal Kitchen
This 4.5 mile route will give you a little more exercise as you walk from Amana to Middle Amana and back. (1) Begin at the Amana Heritage Museum by viewing the video on Amana History and tour the grounds. Then walk to Middle Amana on the paved trail. You’ll find the (2) Communal Kitchen and Cooper Shop Museum on the farthest street north.

Price-$8 person.
Includes Admission to all museum sites.

Upcoming Festivals and Special Events in 2020

July 25
Colonies in Bloom

July 31-Aug 2
Take a Bite Food Festival

August 8
Bike Ride of Iowa County (B.R.I.C.)

August 29
Wurst Festival

September 19
Apfelfest

October 2-4
Oktoberfest

November 28-December 19
Tannenbaum Forest and Prelude to Christmas

Enjoy a weekend designed to get you outdoors and active in the beautiful and unique Amana Colonies. These trails are set-up for a variety of skill and interest levels.

Park your car and unpack the bicycle or put on your walking shoes. There are fun and interesting things to see and do throughout the seven villages. Take one of our suggested routes or make your own. The most important thing is that you’re outside and enjoying the Colonies.

Please practice social distancing.

www.amanacolonies.com
Bike and Hike Weekend
319-622-7622
Hiking (and walking) Trails for all ages. Select the route that matches your interests.

History Trail - 1.5 miles
This trail features historic sites and businesses in the village of Amana. (1) Start at the Amana Heritage Museum and learn about our unique history (Admission $8). (2) Cross the main street and walk behind the Painted Cupboard Antique Shop to view the old Hog Powder house with its windmill. (3) Back to the main street and walk east past the Amana General Store, the sandstone home across the street was Christian Metz’s home. Now turn left and go north on 45th Ave. in the middle of the block take the alley to view the largest of our churches. (4) Go back to 45th Ave. and continue north to F St and turn east, here you’ll see the Amana Meat Shop. They make great bratwurst and other sausages, grab a sample. (5) Continue east on F St and then turn south on 46th Ave, on the left are historic barns that were once used in our farming operation. (6) Now take the diagonal 47th Ave straight down to the Amana Woolen Mill/Hotel Millwright where our blankets are woven on the looms and the mill race (canal) is just to the south side. (7) Just up the street and to the north is the Amana Furniture Shop, housed in the former Calico Factory. (8) Continue north and back to the main street to head west and return to the Amana Heritage Museum.

Culinary Trail - 1 mile
(due to COVID19 sampling may be restricted)
This trail will let you sample your way across the village of Amana. (1) Fireside Winery in the Village on the west end of our main street features samples of their cheeses. (2) Next door Ackerman Winery features award winning fruit wines, get a sample of their Blackberry wine. (3) Continue east and across the street to the Amana General Store. In the lower level you’ll find the Amana Coffee and Tea Company. Try a sample of their coffees. (4) Now head north on 45th Ave to the Amana Meat Shop and try a sample of their sausage or beef jerky. (5) Trek down the diagonal 47th Ave straight to the Amana Woolen Mill/Hotel Millwright and across the street you’ll find Millstream Brewery where you can sample a couple of brews. (6) Take the street north and on the right side the Village Winery features samples of their fruit wines. (7) Right across the street White Cross Cellars offers samples of their award winning traditional grape wines. (8) Continue north to get back to the main street and head west to the Chocolate Haus to sample something sweet. Across the street you’ll find fresh baked breads and pastries at the (9) Amana Colonies Bakery and Café. Next door is the (10) Amana Colonies Popcorn and Ice Cream Co and a huge selection of popcorn flavors. One more block to the west and you’ve hit (11) Prosit Wines where you can sample wines made from Iowa Grapes.

Antique Walk - 1 mile
Amana is an Antique hunter’s paradise and this 1 mile walk will take you to some of the best antique shops in the state. Start at the Visitor Center and cross the main street to (1) Heritage Haus Antiques then head west to (2) Amazing Grace Antiques, you’ll find it on the south side of the street. (3) Continue west on our main street to the Painted Cupboard Antique Shop. Now back track just a little to 44th Ave and turn left for one block and then right on F St walk east for one block, next to the Amana Meat Shop you’ll find the (4) Grapevine Antiques and then go across the street to (5) Renate’s Antiques Gallery. From here you go east and then south on 46th Ave where you’ll find the Visitor Center on your left, now take the fork in the road, 47th Ave, east and walk to the end of the street where you’ll find (5) Neu Dawn on the left.

Art and Crafts - .5 mile
Art found in the Amana Colonies are pieces that are uniquely made, truly one of a kind. Several different techniques are used and displayed all around the Colonies. This walk will take you to some of the best. To start it all off, begin at 724 48th Ave the (1) Amana Furniture Shop. From here take 48th Ave west to our main street and continue west to 46th Ave and go right ½ block to (2) Heritage Designs Quilt Shop. From here head back to the main street and turn right and cross the street to (3) Creative Colony. Next, continue west up the street about ½ block and you’ll see (4) Cattiri’s Art Oasis on the left. Right next door is (5) Michelle Maring-Miller Art Gallery. Continue west to (7) the Amana Heritage Museum to see numerous pieces of art/crafts.

Homestead Trail
Begin at the far west end of town and walk east. On the north side of the street is (1) Alma’s Wash House which was the community laundry building. Also on the north side of the street you will find the old (2) Blacksmith Shop and next to it a small brick building that was the (3) Drying Haus. This was where fruits and vegetables were dried so they could be stored. The next building was formerly the (4) Homestead Butter Shop and Meat Market. The large brick building just up the street and on the south side is the (5) Homestead Church (now part of the Amana Heritage Museum). Continuing east you’ll find (6) Zuber’s Homestead Hotel (named after a former New York Yankee pitcher that operated a restaurant here for many years). Next door is (7) Troy Thomas Art Gallery (at one time a communal kitchen) and then (8) Rawson’s B&B, followed by (9) Next Door Event Center (formally the Homestead General Store) and (10) Die Heimat Country Inn.

Nature Trails
Amana Colonies Nature Trail
This beautiful walk through the hardwood timber is located just outside of Homestead at the junction of Highways 151 and 6. There are a variety of trails to follow from 1 to 3.2 miles in length. The trail will take you past Indian Mounds, wildlife and wild flowers with a scenic overlook of the Iowa River at the far north end of the trail.

Lily Lake Circle
This 2.5 mile trail should feature a variety of shorebirds, muskrats, turtles and more. Start at the pavilion just off of Highway 220 and walk east on the paved path and then south. Where the trail meets a gravel path turn west onto the gravel and follow this path with the Lily Lake to the north and the Mill Race to the south. When the path turns to paved again follow it across the Highway and veer to the east. This will take you back to the pavilion.