



BEST RV ROAD TRIPS IN NORTH AMERICA

**INCLUDES DETAILED TRIP PLANS FOR NORTH
AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR RV ROUTES**



NATIONAL RV OWNER'S ASSOC.

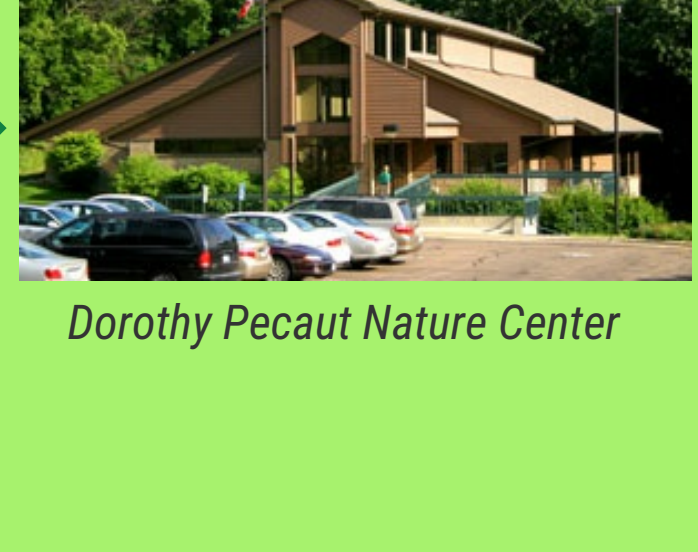
RV Traveler's
Roadmap to

Loess Hills Scenic Byway

The Loess Hills of western Iowa are truly an American treasure. The outstanding prairie and forest-covered bluffs draw people from around the world. With an impressive network of state parks, private preserves, and national landmarks, travelers to the byway have a myriad of opportunities to see and explore this natural wonder.

1

Highlights & Facts For The Ideal Experience



Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

- Trip Length:** Roughly 220 miles
- Best Time To Go:** April - November
- What to Watch Out For:** Check local road conditions and beware of slow-moving farm equipment.
- Must See Nearby Attractions:**
 - 1** Elk Horn Danish Villages (Elk Horn)
 - 2** Squirrel Cage Jail (Council Bluffs)
 - 3** Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge (Council Bluffs)
 - 4** Lewis & Clark Keelboat Display (Onawa)
 - 5** Prairie Crossing Vineyard and Winery (Treyror)

2

Traveler's Notes



Murray Hill Scenic Overlook

- When approaching the western border of Iowa, travelers are often intrigued by the view of a most extraordinary landscape of prairie and forest covered steep bluffs, narrow ridges and rolling hills. This unique landscape is known as Iowa's Loess Hills.
- The Loess Hills land form is an Iowa treasure that spans more than 1,080 square miles along the eastern edge of the Missouri River flood plain. This unique feature is up to 15 miles wide and 220 miles long. Bridging rural and metropolitan areas, the hills have something for everyone.
- See many archaeological sites where pottery, tools, and other artifacts have been left behind by the ancient Mill Creek and Glenwood cultures, who inhabited the area between 1000-1300 AD. In 2008, the State Archaeologist recorded over 1,500 inventoried archaeological sites in the Loess Hills. The Glenwood culture near the southern end of the Loess Hills has many 800-year-old earth lodges, and to the north is a small cluster of Mill Creek culture sites around Sioux City.

3

What To See Along the Way



- Waubonsie State Park Overlook
- I-680 Scenic Overlook
- Hitchcock Nature Area
- DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge
- Murray Hill Scenic Overlook
- Preparation Canyon State Park
- Sioux City
- Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

4

Facts & More Information To Plan Your Trip!



View of Preparation Canyon

- Waubonsie State Park Scenic Overlook:** Provides one of the rarest and greatest vistas of Iowa's unique Loess Hills. The park is also a site on the Lewis and Clark Historical Trail, a national historical trail. With the recent addition of the Wa-Shawtee Unit there are nearly 2,000 acres of recreational opportunity and quiet beauty to explore and enjoy.
- I-680 Scenic Overlook:** Gliding through some of the most fertile farmland in the state, the drive heads northeast from Council Bluffs on Rtes. 191 and L34.
- Hitchcock Nature Area:** Sprawling Loess Hills prairie refuge offering 10 miles of trails plus cabin & backwoods camping.
- DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge:** Located along the banks of the Missouri River in the U.S. states of Iowa and Nebraska. The 8,362-acre refuge preserves an area that would have been otherwise lost to cultivation.
- Murray Hill Scenic Overlook:** Offers a panoramic view of the Missouri River Valley. Yucca plants and native flowers dominate the Loess Hill prairie landscape.
- Preparation Canyon State Park:** Remote and lovely area still relatively untouched by humans. The park is located in Iowa's unique Loess Hills and is surrounded by dramatic ridges on the north, south and west.
- Sioux City:** Located in northwest Iowa, by the Loess Hills, and on the shores of the Missouri River, is the hub of the ever growing Siouxland area.
- Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center:** Hike a trail and let prairie grasses tickle your chin. Explore bur oak forests with 150-year old giants. Climb the ridges and imagine what Lewis and Clark might have seen.

Ready, set, go!