

Guide to Discovery Sites

Minnesota River Valley

NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY



Discover The River of Stories

(888) 463-9856 mnrivervalley.com

m
EXPLORE
MINNESOTA

Historic ADVENTURES MNHS

Explore history of the Minnesota River Valley at these historic sites.

BEGIN AT MNHS.ORG/VISIT

LOWER SIOUX AGENCY
MORTON • mnhs.org/lowersioux

The site of the Battle of Birch Coulee

BIRCH COULEE BATTLEFIELD
MORTON • mnhs.org/birchcoulee

Explore 7,000-year-old sacred rock carvings

JEFFERS PETROGLYPHS
COMFREY • mnhs.org/jefferspetroglyphs

Scene of Civil War & US-Dakota War history

FORT RIDGELY
FAIRFAX • mnhs.org/fortridgely

The crossroads of Minnesota history

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX
ST. PETER • mnhs.org/traversedessioux

Where innovation took root

W. W. MAYO HOUSE
LE SUEUR • mnhs.org/mayohouse

JOIN. MEMBERS GET THE BEST DEAL IN HISTORY.

WANT MORE? Visit us online!

At MNRiverValley.com you can personalize your visit to the Byway to suit your travel needs. Explore events, itineraries, U.S.-Dakota War history, motorcycle tours, and so much more!



BYWAY MAP

The interactive Byway Map allows you to choose an area you want to explore, find the attractions you want to visit, and even add alternate routes for a truly personalized adventure along the Byway.



THINGS TO DO

Looking for the best camping spots? What about history, eating, or shopping? Unique map filters allow you to only see the attractions and destinations that interest YOU.



HISTORY

The Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway traverses the ancient remnants of what was once one of the largest rivers to ever exist. Explore the vibrant small towns, Dakota communities, historic sites, and scenic overlooks that reflect this region's history.



ITINERARIES

Can't decide what to see and do along the Byway? Relax and let us do the planning for you! Our unique itineraries offer the perfect mix of history and recreation, as well as suggestions on where to eat and where to stay.

See you online! [f](https://www.facebook.com/mnrivervalley) [ig](https://www.instagram.com/mnrivervalley) [yt](https://www.youtube.com/mnrivervalley)

#mnrivervalley



WACIPI: Dancers of all ages travel from tribal communities across the United States and Canada to participate in Wacipi events. See page 8 for the Byway Wacipi Calendar. *PHOTO CREDIT: Pricilla Gruendemann*



This publication was made possible in part by the people of Minnesota through a grant funded by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Any views, findings, opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the State of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society, or the Minnesota Historic Resources Advisory Committee.

Minnesota River Valley NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

4
Discover the River of Stories

6
Dakota Language Byway Tour

8
Wacipi: A Celebration of Life

9-27
Discovery Sites

28
A River's Legacy: Ice, Rock and Water

38
Byway Directory

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY: Carolyn Marti Smith, Chad Wengert, Explore Minnesota, James Berglund, Julie Thorleifson Muesing, Kate Grabosky, Kristi Link Fernholz, Kyle Krenz, Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway Alliance, New Ulm CVB, Ron Bolduan, Visit Mankato



FOR MORE BYWAY INFORMATION,
VISIT US ONLINE OR CALL.
www.mnrivervalley.com
1-888-463-9856

OR VISIT OUR MAIN
INFORMATION CENTER:
New Ulm Visitor Center
1 North Minnesota - New Ulm, MN
56073-0384

#mnrivervalley

COVER PHOTO (TOP): Men's Traditional Dance Style,
Photograph by Ben Stoterau
Lower Sioux Wacipi 2022, Morton Minnesota



*"Dakota people refer to this region as 'Mni Sota Makoce,' the land where the water reflects the skies. We recognize these lands as our homelands and the place of our *Wiçahunkake* (ancestors)."*
See more at
www.mnrivervalley.com/dakota-homeland-story/



The Minnesota River flows in the oversized ancient river bed of the Glacial River Warren.



Discover the Minnesota River Valley and unlock a piece of American history.

The U.S.-Dakota War of 1862

The Minnesota River Valley played a crucial role in the conflicts that erupted between Euro-American settlers and the Dakota people as they struggled to call this land "home." The U.S.–Dakota War of 1862 was a significant event for the region and for our nation— a tragic chapter that foreshadowed wars to come, and permanently shaped the cultural identity of the Minnesota River Valley.

In 1862, the Minnesota River Valley region erupted in war when a contingent of Dakota *akíçita* (warriors), frustrated by broken treaty promises, encroachment onto reservation lands and corruption that left them starving, attacked traders and government employees and a warehouse full of food at the Lower Sioux Agency. More were killed on all sides in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 than Minnesota lost in combat deaths

during the Civil War. As a result of the war, Governor Ramsey called for all Dakota people to be exterminated or driven from the state.

Thousands fled the state and those that did not were separated into two groups. Women, children and mostly older men were imprisoned at Fort Snelling before being removed from the state in May 1863. The *akíçita* that were not executed at Mankato were imprisoned at Davenport Iowa. In March 1866 the surviving prisoners were released to join their families in exile.

Decades later small groups of Dakota eventually started to return to their homelands in the late 1800s, and lived in small communities near where the Upper and Lower Sioux Agencies had been. Nearly 50 years later these small groups were organized into what is now the Upper and Lower Sioux Dakota Communities.

The Formation of the Minnesota River Valley

The Minnesota River Valley is home to some of the oldest exposed rock on the face of the earth. This region was carved from dramatic and massive floodwaters that resulted from the overflow of glacial Lake Agassiz scouring a jagged path across Minnesota and uncovering ancient bedrock outcrops.

The Minnesota River travels through rich wetlands, prairies, granite outcroppings, wooded hills, farm fields, villages and small cities. Over millennia, the river valley's people, plants, and animals have interacted in a complex and unique ecosystem. Throughout the valley, evidence of the interactions between these species can be seen. Today, the valley's natural features offer a fascinating number of interpretive opportunities.



Dakota Language Byway Tour

Mni Sota Wakpa (Minnesota River) flows through Dakota homeland. The river valley and surrounding landscape is a region to which Dakota people have always been connected. The depth and importance of these connections is reflected in Dakota names for natural features and places along the riverway. Dakota stories and traditions are also related to some of these places. Using Dakota names as you visit these places or spot waŋbdi (eagle) flying in the sky is a way to maintain and honor Dakota ties to the river valley and the places that we share along the byway.

Dakota is an oral language. Beginning in the 1830s, Christian missionaries developed a Dakota alphabet, dictionaries, and grammar guides for the purpose of translating the Bible and other writings into the language. Much of these language studies and translation work took place along the Minnesota River valley – particularly at the Lac qui Parle Mission.

In the Dakota language the emphasis is most often placed on the second syllable of a word. Phonetic guides to help with pronunciation are provided in parentheses in the checklist. Syllables are separated by dashes. The stressed syllable is capitalized.

FOR MORE BYWAY INFORMATION, VISIT www.mnrivervalley.com OR CALL 1-888-463-9856



Bde Hdakinyan
Lake Traverse

Bde Inyan Takinyanyan
Big Stone Lake

Bde Iyedan
Lac qui Parle

Mayawakan Wakpa
present-day Chippewa River

Pežihutazizi Wakpa
Yellow Medicine River

Čaŋšayapi Wakpa
Redwood River

Wağa Ožu Wakpa
Cottonwood River

wi
sun

waniyetu
winter

wetu
spring

bdoketu
summer

ptanyetu
autumn

waŋbdi
eagle

maħpiya
clouds

mağažu
rain

pte / tatanċa
buffalo

ptežičadan
buffalo calf

tiŋta
prairie

Pežihutazizi Oyate
Upper Sioux Community

Čapa Wakpadan
Beaver Creek

Čaŋšayapi Otunwe
Lower Sioux Community

Mni Sota Wakpa
Minnesota River

Mağatanċa Ota Bde
Swan Lake

Čaŋ Kaška Wakpadan
Shantaska Creek

kimamana
butterfly

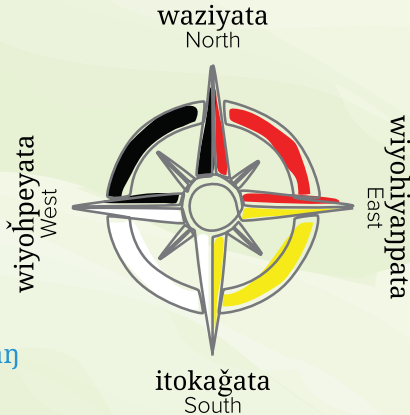
waħča
flowers

peži
grass

psipsičadan
grasshopper

iŋyan
stone

taħča
deer



NATURE CHECKLIST

- ☐ ahdeška (ah-DAY-shkah)
salamander or lizard
- ☐ čañ (chahn)
tree
- ☐ čapuŋka (cha-POON-kah)
mosquito
- ☐ četan (chay-TAHN)
hawk
- ☐ iŋyan (EEN-yahn)
stone
- ☐ kimamana (kee-MAH-mah-nah)
butterfly
- ☐ peži (pay-ZHEE)
grass
- ☐ psipsičadan (p'see-P'SEE-cha-dahn)
grasshopper
- ☐ pte (p'TAY)
buffalo cow, also buffalo (general)
- ☐ ptežičadan (p'tay-ZHEE-cha-dahn)
buffalo calf
- ☐ taħča (TAHK-cha)
deer
- ☐ tatanċa (ta-TAHN-ka)
buffalo bull, also buffalo (general)
- ☐ tiŋta (TEEN-tah)
prairie
- ☐ waħča (wahk-CHA)
flowers
- ☐ waŋbdi (wahn-b'DEE)
eagle
- ☐ wabdoša (wah-B'DO-sha)
red-winged blackbird
- ☐ zitka (zee-TKAH)
birds



Dressed in traditional clothing, or regalia, dancers compete in contests organized by age group and style of dance such as Traditional, Grass, Fancy, or Jingle.

PHOTO CREDIT: SPX Sports – Mankato

WACIPI

A Celebration of Life

During the summer, Dakota communities along the Byway hold an annual Wacipi (pronounced wah-chee-pee) or powwow. These weekend-long events bring family and friends together for a cultural celebration of life and heritage. It is also a time to remember and honor relatives and to commemorate special occasions.

In the Dakota language, Wacipi means “they dance” and dancing is at the center of a powwow. Dancers travel from tribal communities across the United States and Canada to participate in exhibitions and contest powwows. A dancer’s regalia can take several years to create and may incorporate heirloom family pieces and objects that are significant.

Each day’s activities begin with the Grand Entry. This vibrant procession is led by flag bearers and eagle staff carriers, many of whom are veterans. Following the flagbearers are honored guests, tribal leaders, and elders. Then dancers of all ages fill the arena’s circle. The host drum group provides the entrance song. The drum holds special cultural significance and is the heartbeat of the Wacipi and the

people. The entrance song is followed by a prayer and honor songs for the flag and veterans.

Food booths and artists selling crafts, clothing, and jewelry are also part of the gathering. Throughout the Wacipi, Native American cultural heritage is preserved, celebrated, and renewed.

WACIPI ETIQUETTE

All are welcome at a Wacipi.

Please follow these general guidelines and others that are shared during the event. The emcee will announce the day’s program and when it is appropriate to stand or when photographs should not be taken. Additional information may be found on the hosting community’s website.

The Arena

The arena is sacred ground that has been blessed with prayer and offerings. Treat this area with respect. The arena is reserved for the dancers; do not cut across or let children run into and play in it. Pets and smoking are also not allowed inside the arena’s dance area.

Seating

Some seating or bleachers may be available, but you may bring your own lawn chair. Be mindful of those around you and that some areas may be reserved for elders or people with disabilities. Chairs should not be placed between drum groups and the dance area. Guests should seat themselves behind dancers, farthest away from the dance area.

Drums

The drum holds special cultural significance. The drum is the heartbeat of the Wacipi and the people. Never touch the drum or drumsticks. Please do not walk between the drum and the chairs of the drum circle.

Grand Entry

During the Grand Entry, the flag and veteran songs, and the invocation, spectators are asked to stand and remove their hats. Refrain from talking during prayers.

Regalia

Dancers wear traditional regalia, not costumes. Do not touch someone’s regalia without asking. If you see a piece of regalia fall on the ground, please point it out to the wearer but do not retrieve it yourself.

Eagle Feather Ceremony

Some staffs and regalia incorporate eagle feathers which are regarded as a special honor. If an eagle feather should fall on the ground, a ceremony is performed to retrieve it. Photography is not allowed during this ceremony.

Intertribal

Spectators may be invited to dance in the arena during “Intertribal” events. Walk in time to the beat of the drums and follow what others are doing. Be considerate of this time and honor it by being respectful.

Photography and Video

Ask permission before taking photographs of individual dancers or before recording drum groups. Professional photography and video require permission ahead of the event.

DISCOVERY SITES

The meandering Minnesota River—stretching across the south-central region of the state—is overflowing with stories to tell. Along this scenic river valley, you’ll find state and local parks, vineyards, breweries, historic sites and so much more.

As you traverse the 287-mile **Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway**, you’ll view remnants of two consequential Minnesota stories: the **geological formation** of the river valley and the **U.S.-Dakota War of 1862**.

Our Discovery Sites will guide you to the can’t-miss locations highlighting these important stories, paying homage to people and places of the past, while looking forward to a hopeful future.

The following attractions are listed in order from west to east, along the Minnesota River Valley. Many sites are open seasonally and some may charge an admission fee, **so always call ahead before you visit**.

Your road to memories...

Minnesota River Valley NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

WEST—p10-11

CENTRAL—p16-17

EAST—p22-23



More information can be found at www.mnrivervalley.com, featuring additional tidbits and mapping information to help you plan your next Byway adventure!

FOR MORE BYWAY INFORMATION, VISIT www.mnrivervalley.com OR CALL 1-888-463-9856.

BYWAY WACIPI CALENDAR



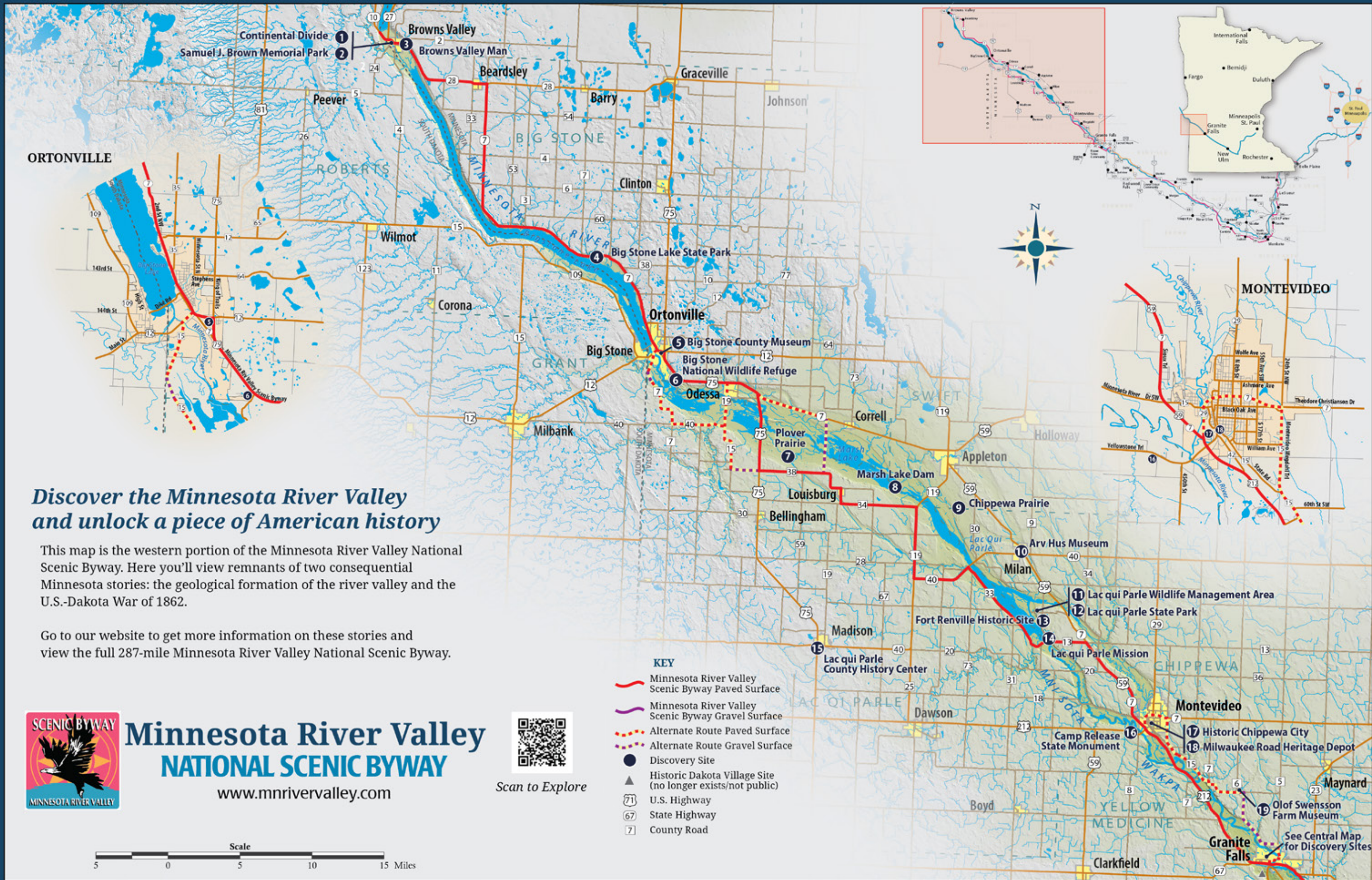
Lower Sioux Wacipi
second weekend in June
Lower Sioux Indian Community—Morton
lowersioux.com



Pezihutazizi Oyate Traditional Wacipi
first weekend in August
Upper Sioux Community—Granite Falls
uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov

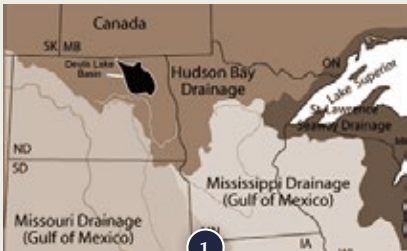


Mahkato Annual Traditional Wacipi
third weekend in September
Land of Memories Park—Mankato
mahkatowacipi.org



DISCOVERY SITES
WEST

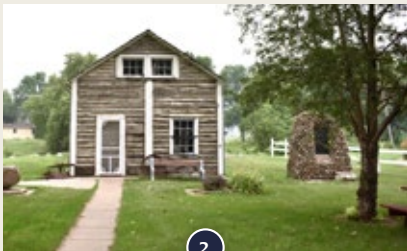
VIEW A MAP OF THE WESTERN PORTION
OF THE BYWAY ON PAGE 8.



Continental Divide

At this remote site west of Browns Valley on Highway 28/7, you will find a section of the Laurentian Divide, a continental divide in central North America. The Laurentian Divide separates the Atlantic watershed to the South and the Hudson Bay watershed to the North. Because of its position on the divide, water from Lake Traverse will end up in the Hudson Bay via the Red River and water from Big Stone Lake will end up in the Gulf of Mexico via the Mississippi River, despite only being a few miles apart.

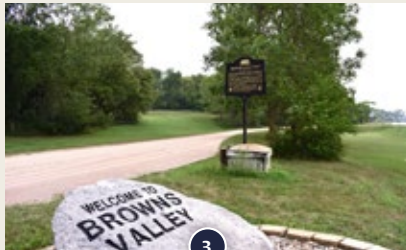
320-695-2110 (BV city hall)



Samuel J. Brown
Memorial Park

From downtown Browns Valley, travel two blocks west along West Broadway Avenue, across the bridge spanning the Little Minnesota River. The main attraction is a log cabin, originally built in 1863 at Fort Sisseton, SD and moved to Browns Valley by Joseph R. Brown in 1866. Samuel Brown, Joseph's son, is known as the "Paul Revere of the Frontier" for his dangerous ride through a blizzard to warn settlers of an impending Dakota attack. Today the cabin serves as a museum and contains many artifacts of this early pioneer's life and the city that shares his name. Call for appointment to tour cabin.

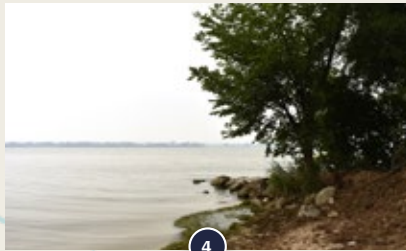
796 West Broadway, Browns Valley
320-695-2110 (BV city hall)



Browns Valley Man

Visit the site where the Browns Valley Man was uncovered by a farmer in 1933. Experts named the bone fragments "Browns Valley Man" and estimated it to be 9,000 years old.

TH 28/7 E, Browns Valley



Big Stone Lake State Park

From Ortonville, located seven miles northwest along State Hwy 7. Nestled on the shores of Big Stone Lake, or what the Dakota people called Bde Injyarj Takinyanyarj, this state park offers visitors a quiet camping experience complete with great fishing, swimming, hiking and bird watching. The park landscape includes native hillside prairie, oak basswood forest, oak savanna woodland, cattail wetlands, and spring-fed streams. This park has two units separated by about eight miles. The Bonanza Education Center is located at the Bonanza unit of the park.

35889 Meadowbrook State Park Rd, Ortonville

320-839-3663

dnr.state.mn.us



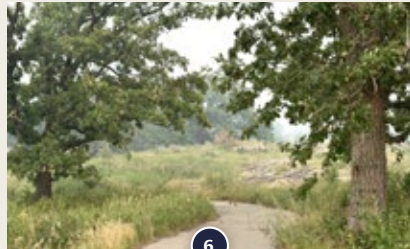
Big Stone County Museum

Located at the junctions of State Highways 12 and 75 in Ortonville. The museum is the home of many historical treasures of the past. A granite anchor, a symbol of glacial River Warren—now Big Stone Lake and the headwaters of the Minnesota River, and the

Muskegon-Golden Bantam boat are on display. Come see the Charles Hanson North American Wildlife Collection. This collection contains over 500 waterfowl from across the Americas and the world. You'll see native waterfowl, upland birds, and other exotic specimens from places as far away as the Arctic Sea.

985 U.S. Hwy 12, Ortonville

320-839-3359



Big Stone National
Wildlife Refuge

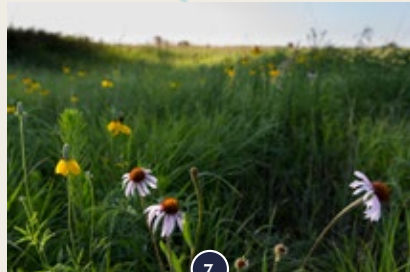
One mile southeast of Ortonville, off of Highway 7/75 is the start of the Auto Tour. The Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge consists of 10,795 acres of marsh and open water created by the three-mile dam across the Minnesota River Valley. The refuge offers a four-mile self-guided auto tour along which you will experience western prairie, mixed hardwoods, and wetlands which are home to over 230 different species of birds. A foot trail provides a close-up view of prairie plants, river meanders, and wildlife. The 100 acres of granite rock outcrops support unusual species of cactus and other plants and provide an excellent view of the refuge.

43966 720th Ave CR 5, Ortonville (Auto Tour)

44843 County Rd 19 Odessa (Visitor Center)

320-273-2191

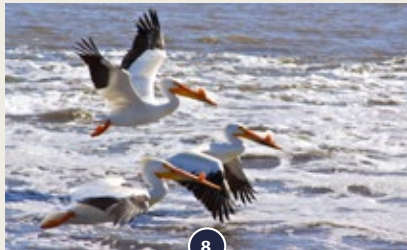
fws.gov/refuge/big-stone



Plover Prairie

A unique plethora of plant and animal species call this wet prairie home. Located in the heart of the Minnesota River Valley, this Nature Conservancy preserve joins thousands of acres of state and federally owned lands to create a large block of habitat for plants and animals.

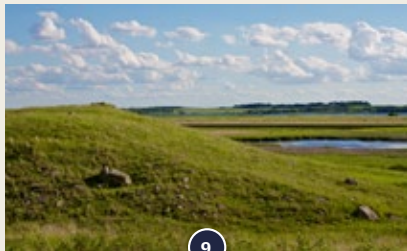
Odessa, MN



Marsh Lake Dam

Located within the Lac Qui Parle Wildlife Management Area and home to Minnesota's largest breeding colony of American white pelicans and several species of fish such as crappie, walleye, northern pike and white bass. From Appleton head south from Hwy 59/7 to Hwy 119, then turn west onto Hwy 51/90th St SW which turns into 240th Ave SW, turn right onto 100 St SW.

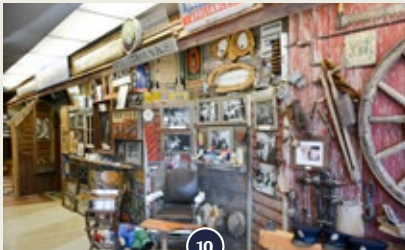
Appleton



Chippewa Prairie

From the junction of Hwy 40 and Lac qui Parle County Rd 33, cross Lac qui Parle Lake on Hwy 40 and turn left onto Chippewa County Rd 30. Travel three miles, turn left onto County Line Rd and continue half a mile. Spring and fall are great times on The Nature Conservancy's Chippewa Prairie preserve to view migrating flocks of geese, ducks, sandpipers, godwits, and other shorebirds. On spring evenings, listen for the haunting call of the upland sandpiper. In mid-summer, visitors may see the short-eared owl, a species of special concern. Dominant plant species on the preserve include big bluestem, little bluestem, and Indian grass. Rare plants include slender milk vetch and small white lady's slipper—also species of special concern. This site has no maintained recreational trails.

Chippewa-Swift St NW, Appleton



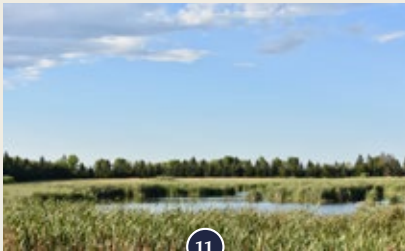
Arv Hus Museum

This museum is a treasure trove of history and culture and is packed with artifacts and photographs. It's a great place to stop and learn the history of Milan and its surrounding area.

228 Main St, Milan

320-734-4868

milanmn.com



Lac qui Parle Wildlife
Management Area

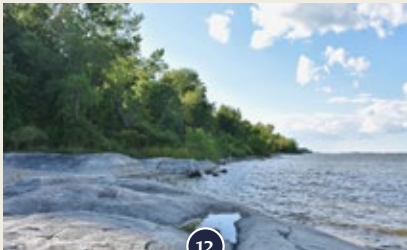
Located in the Minnesota River Valley, northwest of Montevideo. The Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area is about 25 miles long, 1 to 3 miles wide, and encompasses more than 33,000 acres of land and water. It is made up of wetlands, brush lands, woodlands, native prairie, and more. Lac qui Parle Lake and Marsh Lake are the most prominent features. Public hunting is the primary recreational activity, although thousands of bird watchers and nature observers visit the area each year. In the fall as many as 100,000 Canada geese are on the unit at one time.

14047 20th St NW, Watson (Lac qui Parle

DNR Headquarters)

320-734-4451

dnr.state.mn.us



Lac qui Parle State Park

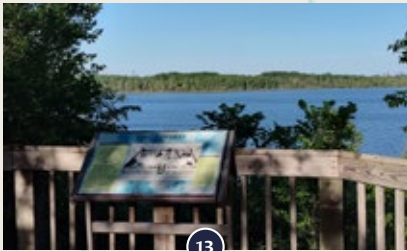
In French, Lac qui Parle means "lake which speaks"; in Dakota, Bde ledarj, or "little talking lake." In the spring and fall, "little talking lake" resounds with a chorus of honking, quacking, and other vocalizations from migratory birds. This area was once settled by a Wahpetunwanj Dakota village near the site of Fort Renville. Lac qui Parle Lake provides visitors with a quiet place to get away from the city year-round, where visitors can engage in canoeing and kayaking, fishing for walleye, northern, perch, and crappie, exploring trails by foot, and watching deer and other wildlife, including bald eagles perched in nearby trees. Spring and fall migrations can be spectacular at the park.

14047 20th St NW, Watson (Lac qui Parle
DNR Headquarters)

3749 State Park Rd, Montevideo (Lower
Entrance)

320-734-4450

dnr.state.mn.us/



Fort Renville Historic Site

From the Mission site, continuing up the road 3/4 mile on your left is an observation deck with an interpretive panel about Fort Renville. Fort Renville was a fur trading post established in 1826 at a Wahpetunwanj Dakota village on the shore of the Minnesota River.

320-269-7636

173 140th Avenue NW, Watson (Ft. Renville)

mnhs.org/lacquiparle





14

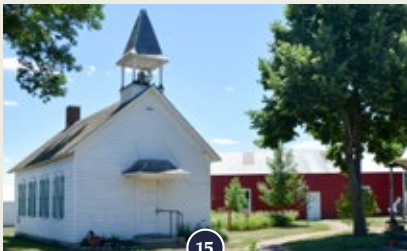
Lac qui Parle Mission

From Watson, 1/2 mile northwest on Hwy 7/59, turn left on Chippewa Cty Rd 13, go 2.2 miles, turn right before the dam on Chippewa Cty Rd 32 and go another block where the Mission is on your right. Joseph Renville invited missionaries to establish the Lac qui Parle Mission near this post in 1835. The replica Mission has interpretive panels about the mission site inside. It is not staffed, however it is open to the public. The Chippewa County Historical Society manages this Minnesota Historical Society site.

115 140th Ave NW, Watson (Lac qui Parle Mission)

320-269-7636

mnhs.org/lacquiparle



15

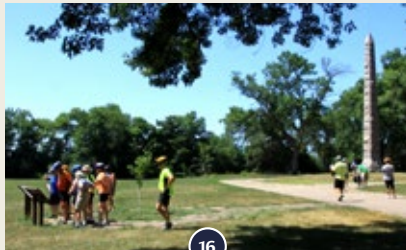
Lac qui Parle County History Center

Exhibits at this museum feature the pioneer lifestyle, agriculture, Civil War artifacts and more. Walk through Robert Bly's study, where the famous poet did much of his early writing.

250 8th Ave S, Madison

320-598-7678

lqphc.org

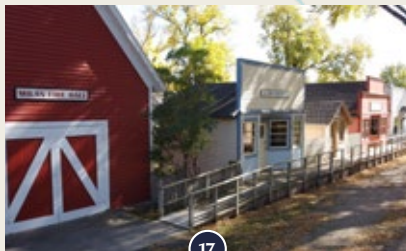


16

Camp Release State Monument

The Camp Release Monument, dedicated in 1894, stands as a reminder of Minnesota's tragic early state history. It commemorates the release of 269 captives taken during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and the surrender of some Dakota bands to Colonel Henry Hastings Sibley. The four faces of the 51-foot granite monument are inscribed with information about the battles that took place along the Minnesota River during the war, the Dakota surrender, and the creation of the monument. Dakota notes: Some Dakota warriors surrendered here after the Battle of Wood Lake. Some Dakota warriors became prisoners of Colonel Sibley, and after brief military trials, some Dakota warriors were executed at Mankato, and some were imprisoned in military prisons.

1893 445th Ave, Montevideo



17

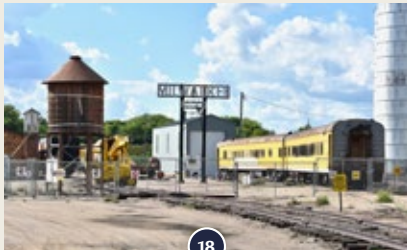
Historic Chippewa City

Located at 151 Arnie Anderson Drive, junction of Highway 59/7, Montevideo. A unique, 24-building, turn-of-the century village. Stroll the boardwalks as you reminisce of times gone by. Visit the Millinery Shop, Law Office, School House, and the authentic log cabins. A new permanent exhibit on the Chippewa River Dugout Canoe, which was radiocarbon dated from 1436-1522 is available with an interpretive video kiosk in the Gateway Building.

151 Arnie Anderson Dr, Montevideo

320-269-7636

chippewacohistory.org



18

Milwaukee Road Heritage Depot

Tour the Depot Building built in 1901, complete with exhibits and model railroad trains. The Turntable and Hobo camp are also available to tour. This museum reviving the history of the Milwaukee Road Railroad is led by an organization who wants to preserve the history of railroads in western Minnesota.

301 State Rd, Montevideo

320-321-1197

montevideomrhc.org



19

Olof Swensson Farm Museum

From Montevideo go six miles east on Highway 7, turn right and go five miles south on County Road 6, turn left and go 1/4 mile on County Road 15. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Olof Swensson Farm Museum includes a 22-room brick house, timber-framed barn, family cemetery, and remains of a gristmill. Constructed in 1901, the house contains original furnishings from this unique Norwegian/Swedish family.

115 County Rd 15 SE, Granite Falls

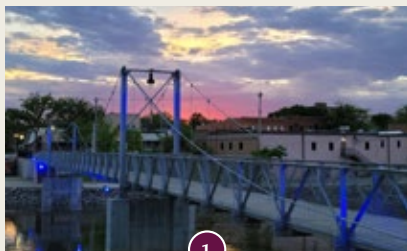
320-269-7636

chippewacohistory.org



DISCOVERY SITES CENTRAL

VIEW A MAP OF THE CENTRAL PORTION OF THE BYWAY ON PAGE 14.



1

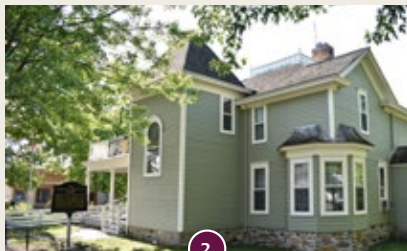
Granite Falls Footbridge

This suspension pedestrian bridge that links the two sides of Granite Falls across the Minnesota River was built in 1935 by the Minneapolis Bridge Company with the design and materials from the historic Roebling & Sons Company (known for the design and construction of the Brooklyn Bridge). As you stroll across the bridge, keep in mind that it is an actual suspension bridge, supported by the cables and towers that make up its structure. Nearby, the dam creates hydroelectric power for half the city of Granite Falls. Pelicans and ducks are frequently at home near the dam as green spaces line the riverfront. Located in downtown Granite Falls.

791 Prentice St, Granite Falls

320-321-3202

granitefallschamber.com



2

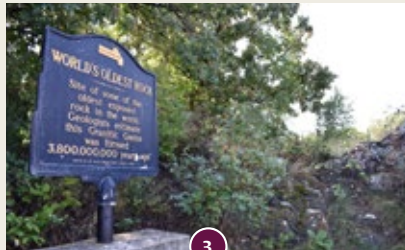
Andrew J. Volstead House Museum

The Andrew J. Volstead House Museum is a National Historic Landmark, a high honor designated for the national importance of Congressman Volstead in the co-authoring of the Capper Volstead Cooperatives Act and authoring of the Prohibition Enforcement Act or Volstead Act. The museum is located at 163 9th Ave. The House Museum is owned by the City of Granite Falls.

163 9th Ave, Granite Falls

320-564-3011

volsteadhouse.org



3

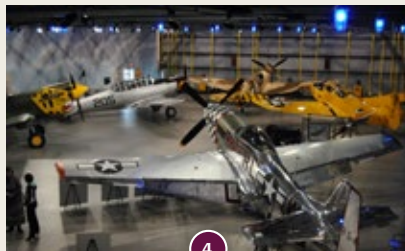
Yellow Medicine County Historical Museum

At the intersection of Highways 23 & 67 in Granite Falls. The museum displays geology, archaeology, and Native American artifacts. Items exhibited show the life of the early settlers and their progress through the pioneer years. Authentic log cabin and church on the site.

98 MN Hwy 67, Granite Falls

320-564-4479

facebook.com/YMCHS/



4

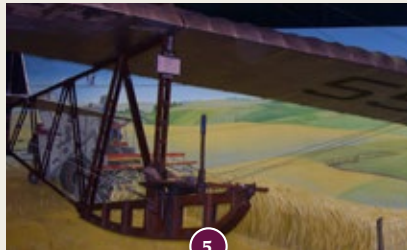
Fagen Fighters World War II Museum

The Fagen Fighters WWII Museum consists of three hangars (Trainer Hangar, Fighter Hangar, and Bomber Hangar), a WWII Quonset hut, and control tower. The museum is home to the pristine collection of WWII trainer, fighter and bomber aircraft restored, owned and flown by Fagen Fighters; authentic, fully operational ground vehicles; a growing library; permanent exhibits, and the Voices of Valor Theater. Located at the Lenzen-Roe Memorial Airport, 3 miles south of Granite Falls on State Hwy 23. Tours are available by appointment.

2450 540th St, Granite Falls

320-564-6644

fagenfighterswwiimuseum.org



5

Minnesota's Machinery Museum

Located 1 1/2 blocks west of Highway 23 in Hanley Falls. Five large buildings contain a marvelous collection of antique tractors, gas engines, implements, automobiles and tools in mint condition. Plan an hour or two to experience rural Minnesota's finest look at yesterday's agriculture. You will see a recreation of a farm kitchen where butter was churned and hungry threshing crews were fed, a parlor, bedroom, turn-of-the-century blacksmith shop, an excellent miniature and toy machinery collection, and several buildings housing pioneer farm machinery and tools. Explore the rooms of a farm home, general store, vintage automobiles, and railroad memorabilia, along with a "Made in Minnesota" gift shop. Enjoy browsing on your own or join a guided tour. Closed in the winter.

100 N 1st St, Hanley Falls

507-768-3522

mnmachinerymuseum.com



6

Upper Sioux Agency State Park and Historic Site

Eight miles southeast of Granite Falls on Highway 67. This 1,280-acre park was named for the historic site within its boundaries. The Upper Sioux Agency (or Yellow Medicine Agency) was established by the federal government in 1854 to be a center for instructing the Dakota in farming methods. The park offers two campgrounds, 18 miles of trails, two picnic areas, river fishing, and three rental tipis. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Travel alert! St. Hwy 67 is closed interior of the park. Access to the main entrance and horse rider campground is from the Granite Falls side on the West and access to the Yellow Medicine River Campground is from the East.

5908 Hwy 67, Granite Falls

320-564-4777 | 800-766-6000

dnr.state.mn.us







7

Sacred Heart Area Museum

On the west edge of Sacred Heart stands a stucco building with a dome-style bell tower where people once congregated for church services. Built in 1916, it houses all of the collections of the Sacred Heart Area Historical Society. Emphasis is placed on past and present businesses, churches, families, organizations, military personnel, and schools of the area.

300 5th Ave, Sacred Heart
320-765-8868
sacredheartareamuseum.org



8

Renville County Parks: Skalbekken

Skalbekken County Park is nestled in the Minnesota River Valley southwest of Sacred Heart. Skalbekken offers scenic views of the rushing waters of Limbo Creek, Hawk Creek, and the Minnesota River. Park amenities in this 400-acre park include shelters, restrooms, water, picnic areas, rustic camping areas, river fishing, hiking trails, plus horse trails and camps with horse ties and manure bunkers.

79257 County Rd 10, Sacred Heart
320-523-3747
renvillecountymn.com

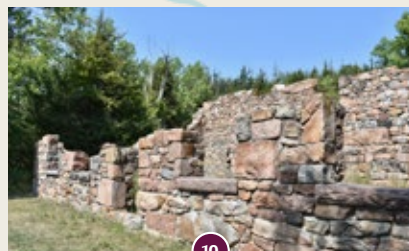


9

Wood Lake Monument and Battlefield

On County Road 18, west of Highway 67, between Granite Falls and Echo. A granite monument was erected by the state in 1910 in memory of the government soldiers who died in this battle. Travel less than a mile to the core of the battlefield and walk a mowed path along Wood Lake Creek where the battle between the forces of General Sibley and Chief Little Crow took place on September 23, 1862. A private non-profit organization obtained the lease for the battlefield access.

6029 210th Ave, Echo (Monument address)
2136 600th St, Echo (Wood Lake Battlefield)
woodlakebattlefield.com

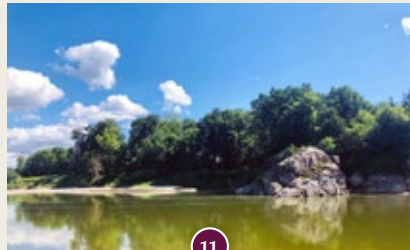


10

Joseph R. Brown State Wayside Rest

Located on Renville County Road 81, south of Sacred Heart, the Joseph R. Brown State Wayside Rest displays the granite ruins of Brown's home from 1862. Destroyed during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, the three-story home was a mansion compared to normal pioneer homes. Brown's family was spared because of his wife Susan's Dakota heritage. Brown was a politician, inventor, publisher and Indian Agent. Staff from Upper Sioux Agency State Park manage this site.

76941 145th St, Sacred Heart
320-564-4777
dnr.state.mn.us

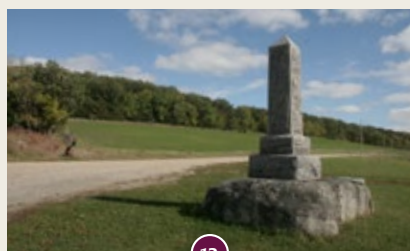


11

Renville County Parks: Vicksburg

Vicksburg County Park offers a shelter, water, restrooms, rustic camping and picnic areas. The river is great for fishing, as well as canoeing and playing on the sandbar. The park features ancient granite and gneiss outcrops, a large sandbar, and oxbow ponds. View an interpretive panel that describes the beginning of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862.

73715 County Rd 6, Renville
320-523-3747
renvillecountymn.com



12

Schwandt Memorial

Located on Renville County 15, south of Sacred Heart. The Schwandt Memorial Monument was erected on August 18, 1915, near the spot where the Johan Schwandt family died during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. It was built in memory of the six Schwandt family members and two of their friends who died on August 18, 1862. Two of the Schwandt children survived. The daughter, Mary, was taken captive, but was protected by a Dakota woman, Snana Win. This powerful story is memorialized today with an interpretive panel onsite.

County Rd 15, Renville

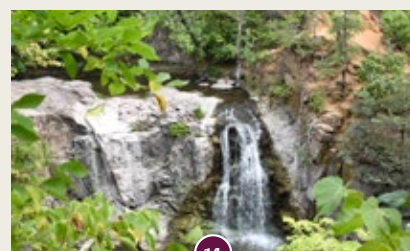


13

Redwood County Historical Museum

On the west edge of Redwood Falls on Highway 19/67. The Old Redwood County Poor Farm, which was constructed in 1908, houses two stories of relics. There is also an 1881 country schoolhouse, and 1865 one-cell jail – both located behind the museum.

913 W. Bridge St, Redwood Falls
507-641-3329 | 507-430-5781
redwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com

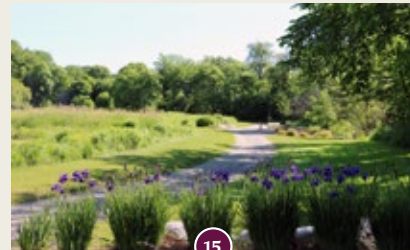


14

Ramsey Park, Caŋšayapi

At 219 acres in size, Ramsey Park is the largest municipal park in the state of Minnesota. Termed as the "Little Yellowstone of Minnesota," the park is enhanced by 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps shelters, bridges, and picturesque Ramsey Falls. The park serves as a focal point for community events, festivals, and summer activities. The park features campground facilities, shelter houses, four miles of paved hiking trails, a trout stream, scenic overlooks, and a zoo. There are a number of stories that have been told about how the place known as **Caŋšayapi** got its name. "The place where they painted the trees red" is a sacred spot for the Dakota, and many believe that site has its roots in what is now Ramsey -Cansayapi Park in Redwood Falls.

99 E Oak St, Redwood Falls
507-616-7444
redwoodareacommunitycenter.com



15

Renville County Parks: Beaver Falls

Beaver Falls County Park is divided into two parts: the horse camp and the recreation area. The horse camp features wooded ravines, horse ties, manure bunkers and Beaver Creek. The upper half features the Beaver Creek Recreational Area. Both areas consist of shelters, restrooms, water, fire pits and ample multi-use trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Beaver Creek was formed when the Minnesota River Valley was carved into the landscape by the massive Glacial River Warren. See remnants of the old town of Beaver Falls that boasted a population of 500 people and was the county seat of Renville County from 1860-1900.

31521 County Rd 2, Morton
320-523-3747
renvillecountymn.com



16

Birch Coulee Battlefield State Historic Site

Two miles north of Morton on US Highway 71, then east on Renville County Road 2. On September 22, 1862 an advance party of 150 soldiers was surprised and attacked at this site by Dakota *akicita* during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. The battle went on for 36 hours with heavy U.S. casualties. Visitors can walk a self-guided trail through recreated prairie and read about the battle from the perspectives of Joseph Anderson, a captain in the U.S. Army, and Wamditanjka (Big Eagle), a Bdewakantjwaj soldier. Sketches from soldier Albert Colgrave provide vivid battle details. Guideposts help pinpoint where the U.S. soldiers were camped and the positions the Dakota took while surrounding the U.S. soldiers.

County Hwy 2, Morton
800-657-3773
mnhs.org/birchcoulee

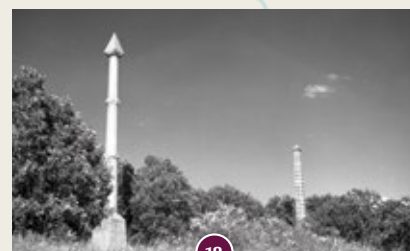


17

Renville County Historical Museum

Visit Morton, Minnesota and explore the Renville County Historical Society & Museum! The Historical Society has been preserving Renville County's history since 1940. The museum grounds consist of six buildings. The main museum features exhibit areas, a research library, and a gift shop. Take a trip back into history in the Norfolk Township District 36 schoolhouse, learn of pioneer life in the 1869 Lerud log cabin in the Heritage Building, experience early farming in the machine shed, and visit St. John's Church built in 1891 and remodeled in 1909

441 N. Park Dr, Morton
507-697-6147
renvillecountyhistory.com



18

Morton Monuments

Upon the bluff, just east of Morton, stand two granite markers memorializing the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. They are not on the battlefield, but were instead placed on the old Renville County Fairgrounds in the 1890s. In 1894 an obelisk was erected "in grateful remembrance of the heroism of those gallant soldiers and citizens who fought the Battle of Birch Coulee." The second obelisk was erected in 1899 and is referred to as "The Faithful Indians Monument" to commemorate the Dakota that saved the lives of Euro American settlers. Six names are listed on the monument. The road leading to the monuments may need to be walked instead of driven depending on the current road conditions.

35003 650th Ave, Morton





19

Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site

The Lower Sioux Agency was established in 1853 by the U.S. government to distribute promised goods and services to the Dakota people. Visitors will learn more about the government's efforts to remove the Bdewakanjurwar and Wahpekute bands of Dakota to reservation lands and colonize them into self-sufficient farmers. Explore the history, art, and culture of the Dakota Oyate (nation), learn about the effort to change their traditional way of life at the agency, and discover the roots of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 in the visitor center exhibit. Hikers can investigate the original 1861 agency warehouse and three miles of trails with a self-guided virtual tour explaining more of the agency's story.

32469 County Rd 2, Morton, MN
Located on Redwood County Hwy 2, south of Morton.

507-697-8674
mnhs.org/lowersioux



20

Gilfillan Farm Estate

Six miles southeast of Redwood Falls on Highway 67. This technologically advanced historic 1872 estate was built by the Gilfillan family, which was known for exporting prime beef for European consumption during the early 1900s. The Gilfillan Estate Grounds and Pavilion can be rented for weddings, meetings, and other celebrations. Basic campgrounds are also available. The site is also the location of Farmfest, an agricultural extravaganza held each August.

28269 State Hwy 67, Redwood Falls
507-430-2686
redwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com

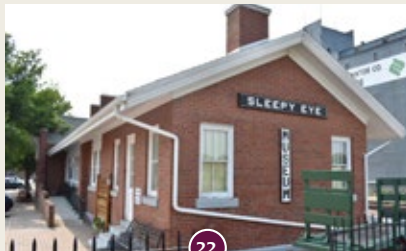


21

Fort Ridgely State Park & Historic Site

Located off Highway 4, south of Fairfax. Fort Ridgely State Park offers opportunities for camping, hiking, picnicking, and horse trails. Within the state park is the Fort Ridgely State Historic Site, managed by the Minnesota Historical Society. Built in 1853 without a protective outer wall, Fort Ridgely was a staging ground for Civil War soldiers. Fort Ridgely was attacked twice during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. Fort Ridgely Cemetery exists within Fort Ridgely State Park.

72158 County Rd 30, Fairfax
507-426-7840 (park office)
507-628-5591 (historic site)
dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/mnhs.org/fortridgely



22

Sleepy Eye Depot Museum

The Sleepy Eye Depot Museum, a 1902 Chicago & North Western Railroad passenger depot, is an affordable place to spend the day and get lost in Minnesota prairie history. Incorporated in 1872, the community of Sleepy Eye is named after a Sisseton Dakota Chief, Ish Tak Ha Ba, which means "Sleepy Eyes," because of his droopy eyelids. A lovely, restored train depot houses the museum, an original telegraph office, Chief Sleepy Eye pottery, Sleepy Eye Mill items, and Babe Ruth's barnstorming visit in 1922. The Drum & Bugle Corps Band instruments and uniforms from 1929-60 are showcased, as well as so much more. Dakota Chief Sleepy Eye is buried on site under an impressive obelisk, with a full-size statue of him across the street at Wooldrik Park.

100 Oak St NW, Sleepy Eye
507-794-5053
sleepyeyechamber.com
thedepotlady.blogspot.com



23

Harkin Store

The 1870s general store was important to early settlers arriving by steamboat to the town of West Newton, which flourished until the railroad bypassed the community in 1873. This state historic site is currently self-guided, outside only. Administered by the Minnesota Historical Society. Located on County Road 21, eight miles northwest of New Ulm.

66250 County Rd 21, New Ulm
harkinstore@mnhs.org | mnhs.org

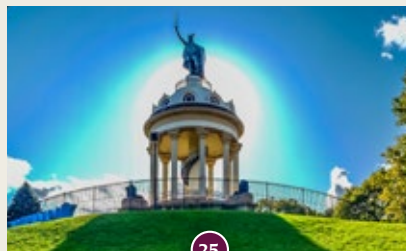


24

Milford Monument

Once a small settlement, a monument stands where more than 50 Milford Township residents were killed during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862.

20870 County Rd 29, New Ulm



25

Hermann Monument

This 102' tall monument and statue honors an ancient German hero who repulsed the Romans in the famous Battle of the Teutoburg Forest in 9 A.D. Climb to the top for a stunning 15-mile panoramic view of the river valley! Located on top of the Center Street hill.

14 Monument St, New Ulm
hermannmonument.com



26

Wanda Gág House Interpretive Center and Museum

The childhood home turned museum of Wanda Hazel Gag, author of classic children's books. The home, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features skylights, an artist's studio, open turrets and has been restored to reveal seven areas of original stenciling by her father Anton.

226 N Washington St, New Ulm
507-359-2632
wandagaghouse.org



27

Glockenspiel

A unique 45-foot, free-standing clock tower with animated figures that depict the city's history.

327 N Minnesota St, New Ulm
888-463-9856
newulm.com



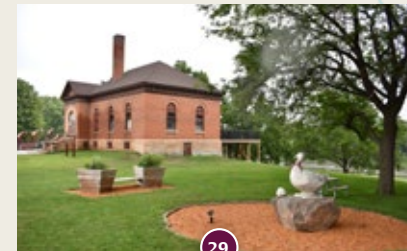
28

Kiesling House

Explore the past at the Kiesling House. Constructed in 1861, it survived the 1862 Dakota Conflict and is the only wood-framed house from that era remaining in Brown County. Learn about early pioneer settlement, customs and traditions of area immigrants and events, like the U.S. – Dakota War of 1862, that shaped New Ulm. Observe reenactments of heritage trades, chores, and activities. View displays, listen

to musical performances, participate in hands-on craft activities, enjoy theatrical presentations, and watch demonstrations. Shop in the Gift Shop for unique items. Open seasonally and by appointment.

220 North Minnesota, New Ulm
507-351-2636
browncountyhistorymn.org/kiesling-house/

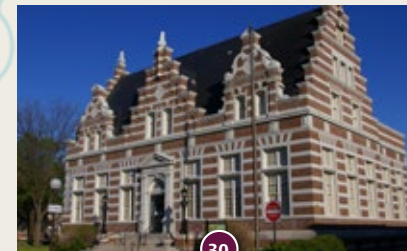


29

Riverside Environmental Learning Center

Discover the role the Minnesota River played for New Ulm. Explore hands-on displays, photographs, newspapers, and more. The "pirate ship" playground is a hit among kids.

101 S Front St, New Ulm
507-766-5770
newulm.com

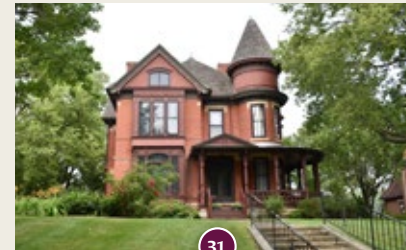


30

Brown County History Museum

This notable building was constructed in 1910 in an eye-catching Northern German Renaissance style as the town's post office, becoming the County Museum in 1984. Inside are three floors of rotating exhibits, featuring an award-winning exhibit of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. It contains over 5,000 family history files to help researchers. Today, the museum's German Renaissance style attracts photographers, sightseers, and residents alike. An interpretive panel sharing the locations and brief histories of the 7 remaining structures after the U.S. Dakota War of 1862 interpretive panel is in front of the museum. Open year-round.

2 North Broadway, New Ulm
507-233-2616
browncountyhistorymn.org



31

John Lind House

Built by Minnesota's 14th governor in 1899, the John Lind house has been restored in the style in which it was originally built and is open for tours.

622 Center St, New Ulm
507-354-8802
lindhous.org



32

Minnesota Music Hall of Fame

New Ulm was proposed as the site of the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame back in 1962 when the idea originated to honor musicians, both past and present, who have contributed significantly to the Minnesota music scene. Established with categories reflecting the wide variety of Minnesota's musical heritage, the founding organization is incorporated and trademarked as the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame, Inc. See memorabilia of individual musicians and musical groups as well as photographs of all who have been inducted. Exhibits honor Minnesota music legends like Bob Dylan, Judy Garland, Prince, Eddie Cochran, Bobby Vee, Ervin Wolfe, Whoopie John Wilfahrt, Harold Loeffelmacher, Earl Schmidt, Wally Pikal and The Andrews Sisters. It also documents local ethnic music like the popularity of polka music in rural Minnesota.

27 Broadway St N, New Ulm
507-354-7305
mnmusicalloffame.org





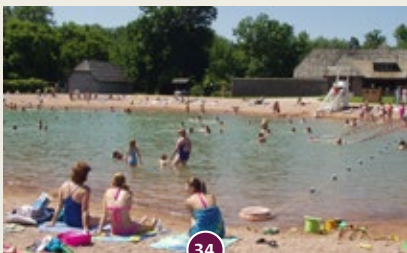


33

August Schell Brewery Museum

South on Broadway, then west on 18th Street, in New Ulm. New Ulm's oldest industry, the August Schell Brewing Company, was founded in 1860 and is now in the 6th generation of continuous family operation. Schell's brews have won many national and international brewing honors. The brewery also offers an indoor tap room, outdoor biergarten, gardens, Museum of Brewing, Gift Shop, and brewery tours.

1860 Schell Rd, New Ulm
507-354-5528
schellsbrewery.com



34

Flandrau State Park

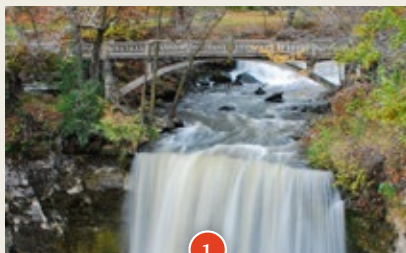
The gentle flowing Big Cottonwood River meanders through this state park, with picnic area, campgrounds, and group center. The highlight of Flandrau is the unique chlorinated, filtered sand bottom swimming pool. The terrain is diverse, offering views of wooded river bottoms, oxbow marshes and open grasslands. Hikers and cross-country skiers enjoy the flat trails on the bottom of the valley or more challenging routes on the oak-shaded bluffs. Visit historic stone buildings crafted by Works Progress Administration (WPA) crews. Flandrau features 84 campsites and 2 cabins available for year-round use.

1300 Summit Ave, New Ulm
507-233-1260
dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/



DISCOVERY SITES EAST

VIEW A MAP OF THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE BYWAY ON PAGE 20.

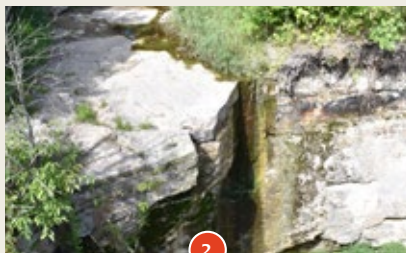


1

Minneopa State Park

The third oldest state park in Minnesota is located a couple of miles west of Mankato on County Highway 68. Minneopa features a double waterfall dropping almost 50 feet into a deep gorge and a re-established bison herd. The Dakota people called this location Mni Highe Nurpa, which is said to mean "water falling twice," or "two waterfalls," a description of the unique and beautiful waterfalls located there. This state park also features the Seppmann Mill, a gristmill built in the early 1860s, and historic structures built by the Works Progress Administration from the 1930s. Visitors can enjoy camping, picnicking, hiking, and biking trails along with naturalist programs. There are two different sections of Minneopa State Park (Waterfalls side at 54497 Gadwall Road and the Campground/ bison side off of Highway 68).

54497 Gadwall Rd, Mankato
507-386-3910 (Minneopa),
888-646-6367 (DNR Information Center)
dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/minneopa

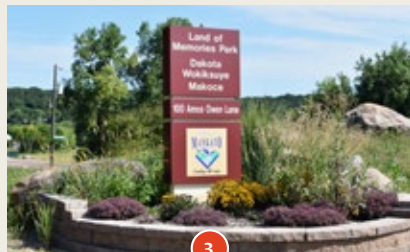


2

Minnemishinona Falls

Minnemishinona Falls plummets 42 feet into a sandy pool, creating a stream that flows through a deep gorge and empties into Minnesota River backwater area. The falls are fairly easy to visit and a short walk from the parking area. NOTE: the waterfall does not run at all times and there are no services at this site.

40923 Judson Bottom Rd, Mankato

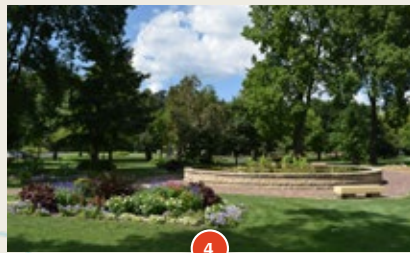


3

Dakota Wokiksuye Makoce (Land of Memories) Park

Visitors of all ages will enjoy the hiking trails that wind along the Blue Earth and Minnesota rivers and through the woods in Mankato's Land of Memories Park. The park features bike trails, a campground, disc golf course, fishing, Floyd Roberts Jr. Pavilion (available to rent), hiking trails, river access, and soccer and lacrosse fields. The Dakota People historically gathered here each fall to trade goods and share ideas at the confluence of the Blue Earth and Minnesota rivers. Land of Memories Park is the home to the annual Mahkato Wacipi Powwow, held annually in September.

300 Amos Owen Ln, Mankato
507-387-8600

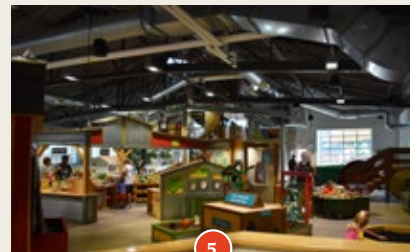


4

Sibley Park

The park was established in 1887 and sits at the confluence of the Minnesota and Blue Earth rivers. The area offers recreational opportunities on the north side with softball, tennis, fishing and a sliding hill. On the south side of the park there are extensive landscapes and gardens, Sibley Farm (featuring farm animals and playground) open space and picnicking areas. Three levels (easy, moderate and experienced) of walking trails are available. The hilltop of the mound is being reclaimed through native plantings to create an Oak Savanna environment similar to what originally existed at that location. The park also features the CHS Pergola, which overlooks the park and valley.

900 Mound Ave, Mankato
507-387-8600
mankatomn.gov/parks

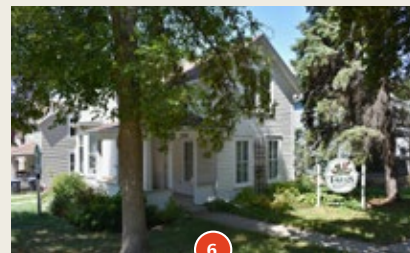


5

Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota

Discover southern Minnesota's family-favorite destination for fun and learning. Devoted to exploration and play for all ages, the Children's Museum is one of southern Minnesota's most immersive and hands-on museums. Opened at its award-winning location near the Minnesota River in downtown Mankato, the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota features unique exhibits, art, and artifacts reflecting this diverse region. Experience exhibits, art, and hands-on activities inspired by members of the Dakota community and form a new understanding of and connection to Minnesota's rich cultural heritage.

224 Lamm St, Mankato
507-386-0279
cmsouthernmn.org

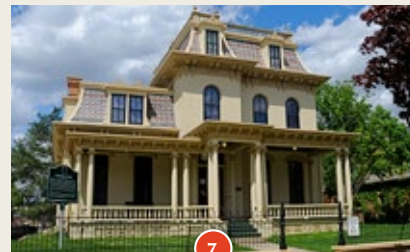


6

Betsy-Tacy Houses Literary Landmarks

Betsy's House is the childhood home of Maud Hart Lovelace (1892-1980), beloved author of the famed children's series of Betsy-Tacy books. The author is the real-life character of "Betsy" and the books are historical fiction based on her childhood memories of growing up in Mankato, the fictional town "Deep Valley." With over a million and a half books sold, they have drawn national as well as international attention to Mankato, MN. The Betsy-Tacy Society has spent the past decade preserving the legacy of the author, her books, and her childhood home. Tacy's House serves as its headquarters, gift shop, and interpretive center. Betsy's house and Tacy's house are both designated National Literary Landmarks.

332 & 333 Center St, Mankato
507-345-9777
betsy-tacysociety.org



7

R.D. Hubbard House Museum

The Historic R.D. Hubbard House is operated by the Blue Earth County Historical Society. The historic house museum chronicles the life and times of Mankato flourmill entrepreneur R.D. Hubbard in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Hubbard home, built in 1871, stands as one of the finest examples of Second Empire architecture and design in Minnesota. The adjoining Carriage House contains a collection of horse-drawn vehicles and antique automobiles. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

606 S. Broad St, Mankato
507-345-5566
blueearthcountyhistory.com

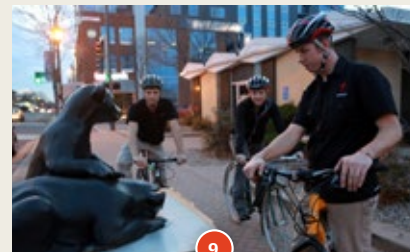


8

Blue Earth County History Center and Museum

The Blue Earth County History Center and Museum is operated by the Blue Earth County Historical Society. It features an interactive history museum dedicated to the rich heritage of Blue Earth County, a fully staffed Research Center for historians and genealogists, and an extensive book and gift shop featuring unique local items such as Marian Anderson fine art prints. The History Center also hosts traveling exhibits, a community art gallery and a hands-on discovery lab for kids of all ages.

424 Warren St, Mankato
507-345-5566
blueearthcountyhistory.com

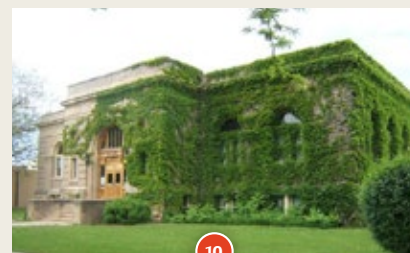


9

CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour

Explore outdoor sculptures displayed year-round in the City Centers of Mankato and North Mankato, Minnesota.

3 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 100, Mankato
507-388-1062
cityartmankato.com

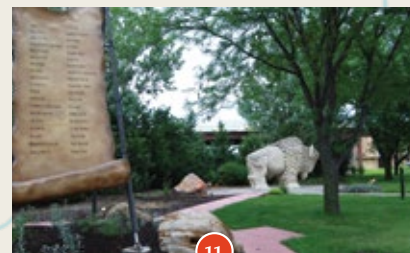


10

Carnegie Art Center, Mankato

This Renaissance Revival-style architecture Carnegie Library now houses a gallery of local artists' work.

120 S. Broad St, Mankato
507-625-2730
thecarnegiemankato.com



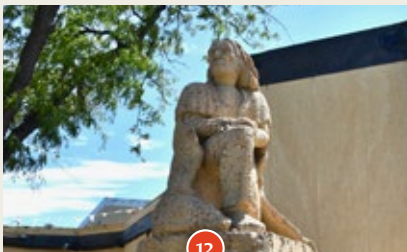
11

Reconciliation Park

Reconciliation Park was dedicated in 1997 and includes a limestone buffalo, sculpted by artist Tom Miller, that symbolizes the spiritual survival of the Dakota people and honors their heritage. In 2012, a 10-foot-by-four-foot scroll listing the names of the 38+2 Dakota men executed in 1862 was dedicated in the park. The park is a collaboration of the Mdewakanton Dakota and Mankato communities in a spirit of reconciliation. Learn more about reconciliation efforts: mankatomn.gov/about-mankato/diversity-and-inclusion.

100 North Riverfront Dr, Mankato
507-387-8600
mankatomn.gov/parks



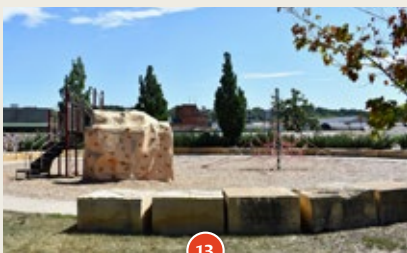


12

Winter Warrior and Memorial Marker

Across the street from Reconciliation Park on the grounds of the Blue Earth County Library, a bronze historic marker recounts the events of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and limestone sculpture titled “Winter Warrior” by artist Tom Miller depicts a Dakota Warrior. The historic marker was erected by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1976. The Winter Warrior monument was unveiled on December 26, 1987 in remembrance of the 38+2 Dakota Warriors during the Year of Reconciliation.

cityartmankato.com/cityart/winter-warrior/

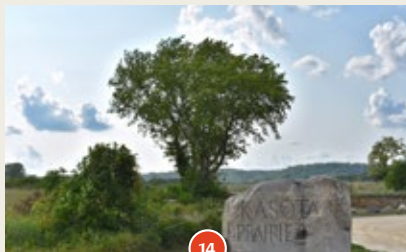


13

Riverfront Park

Riverfront Park provides a scenic overlook of the bend in the Minnesota River, near the birthplace of Mankato. Amenities include a biking trail and connection to the North Minnesota River Trail, canoe launch, hiking trail and playground. A shelter and restrooms are also available on site. The park is home to Vetter Stone Amphitheater, which hosts events June through September.

309 West Rock St, Mankato
507-387-8600
mankatomn.gov/parks



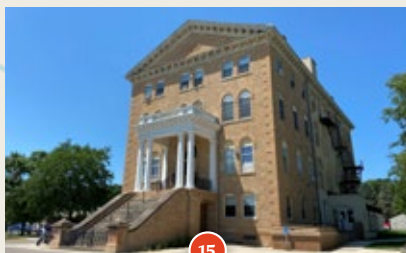
14

Kasota Prairie Scientific & Natural Area

Located on a rock terrace 70 feet above the Minnesota River Valley, the Kasota Prairie, meaning “cleared-off plac,” is named for its view. Tread lightly, as there are no walking paths here, but the walking is rated relatively easy and bird watching is good.

Township Rd 140, Kasota
651-296-5484

wildlifeviewingareas.com/viewing-area/kasota-prairie-area-sna

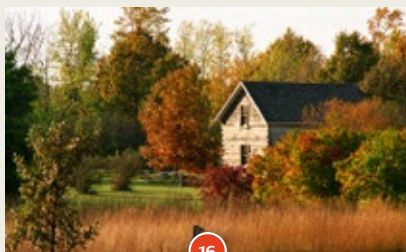


15

St. Peter State Hospital Museum

The museum displays the history of Minnesota’s first and oldest state hospital.

100 Freeman Dr, St. Peter
507-985-2249



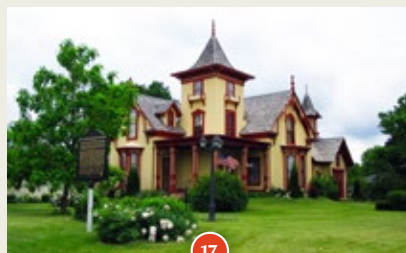
16

Arboretum at Gustavus Adolphus College

Located on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College, the Arboretum provides an enriching natural environment to explore, educate the mind, revive the spirit, and delight in Minnesota’s natural history. With beautiful gardens, outdoor gathering areas, wild spaces, and miles of trails, the Arboretum encourages visitors of all ages to explore. The Arboretum features coniferous forest, tallgrass prairie, and deciduous forest as well as manicured landscapes and formal

gardens with plants from around the world. The Interpretive Center is available for visit or rental by appointment, and plays host to numerous featured events. Visitation of grounds is free of charge. Use of Interpretive Center is fee-based.

800 W College Ave, St. Peter
507-933-6181
gustavus.edu/arboretum/

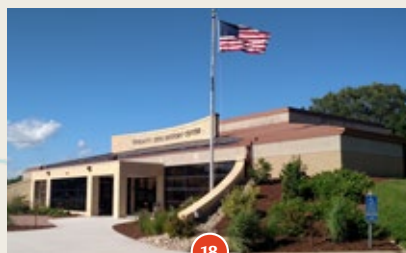


17

E. St. Julien Cox House

Home to one of the earliest settlers of St. Peter, Eugene Cox, the house was built in 1871, and is one of the few fully restored Italianate homes in Minnesota. Today the home provides a colorful backdrop to programs, social gatherings, and group tours.

500 N Washington Ave, St. Peter
507-934-2160

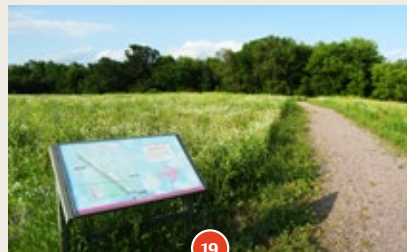


18

Treaty Site History Center

Located along the scenic Minnesota River, the Treaty Site History Center is the headquarters of the Nicollet County Historical Society. A county museum and more, the site’s exhibits explore the fascinating history of Nicollet County and Minnesota’s territorial expansion. During your visit to the Treaty Site History Center, you will explore the stories of Nicollet County’s first inhabitants, the Dakota people, explorers, traders, and settlers. The interaction between these people laid the historical groundwork for the signing of the 1851 Treaty of Traverse des Sioux, signed here in July of 1851. Throughout the year the Treaty Site delves into stories of local agriculture, business, geology, and much more in its rotating exhibits and programs featuring Nicollet County history. Admission charged.

1851 N Minnesota Ave, St. Peter
507-934-2160
nchsmn.org



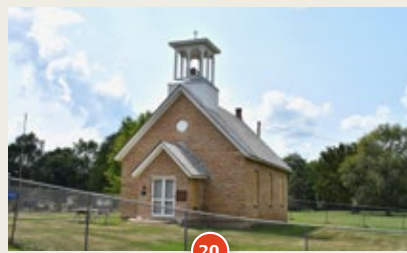
19

Traverse des Sioux Historic Site

For thousands of years, the Dakota lived and worked at Traverse des Sioux, located on the lower Minnesota River. By the early 19th century, European American fur traders, missionaries, and adventurers were frequent visitors. Then in 1851, this site witnessed the signing of the Treaty of Traverse des Sioux between the US government and the Dakota. Follow the paths used by generations of Dakota and early French fur traders as you learn about the deeply complex historical significance of the site.

1851 N Minnesota Ave, St. Peter
507-934-2160

mnhs.org/traversedessioux



20

Ottawa Town Hall and Stone Church

While on the byway, visitors arriving in Ottawa step back in time to experience a quaint village overlooking the Minnesota River. Recognized as a state historic district, many of its original buildings constructed of native limestone are on the National Register, with seven in use today. These buildings and village history are featured on a self-guided tour map available at the information kiosk in front of Town Hall. The fully restored Stone Church, one of Minnesota’s oldest Methodist sites, is open for public visits during summer months.

39138 County Rd 23, Le Sueur



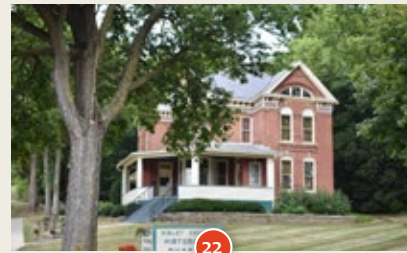
21

W.W. Mayo House

Join costumed guides as you tour this small 19th-century, Gothic-style house hand-built by Dr. William W. Mayo, site of his first medical practice before moving to Rochester and founding the Mayo Clinic. Later, the house was home to three generations of the Cosgrove family, founders of the Green Giant Company and the first Library in Le Sueur.

118 N. Main St, Le Sueur
507-665-3250

mnhs.org/mayohouse



22

Sibley County Historical Museum

The Sibley County Historical Museum was established in 1948, housed in an 1884 brick mansion, built as the home of August and Emilie Poehler. The property is on the National Register of Historic Places. The collection includes cultural materials representing the scope of human activities, thoughts, and endeavors within the geographic area of Sibley County, and areas that are significant to Sibley County history. Dakota history interpretive panels are located at the north edge of Henderson, along the Scenic Byway, Sibley County Road 6.

700 Main St, Henderson
507-248-3434
sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com

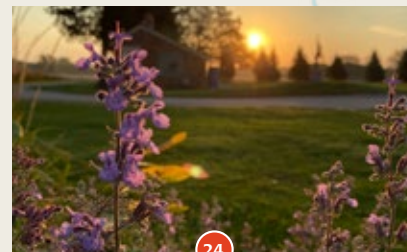


23

Joseph R. Brown Minnesota River Center

An interpretive center telling the story of this exceptional man who helped shape Minnesota history; a place to study the geographical and cultural history of the Minnesota River Valley. Multiple exhibits tell stories of the ancient River Warren, prehistoric people, indigenous Dakota, pioneer settlement, and the flora and fauna of the valley. There is also a Brown family room. Brown founded Henderson in 1852 as the starting point of his road from Henderson to Fort Ridgely. His influence on early Minnesota government, relations with the Dakota and business endeavors are explained in the Center, located on the second floor of the Henderson Community Building, formerly the 1879 Sibley County Courthouse. Also, visit the city cemetery on the top of the valley overlooking town to see the monument in honor of Joseph R. Brown.

600 Main St, Henderson
507-248-3234
joebrownrivercenter.org



24

Ney Nature Center

Sitting on the bluffs of the Minnesota River near Henderson, the Ney Nature Center (NNC) is home to 446 acres of native and restored prairie, big woods remnants, and abundant wildlife. Educational programs are offered year-round to the general public and group programs for youth by knowledgeable staff. Winter equipment rentals open every winter providing snowshoes and cross-country skis. As a Le Sueur County Park, the Ney Nature Center is open for exploration from sunup until sundown. The Education Building, which houses the office and staff, is open Monday through Friday. Visit the Ney Nature Center for hiking, walking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, birdwatching, geocaching, and/or wildlife observations.

28238 Nature Center Ln, Henderson
507-357-8580
neycenter.org



A River's Legacy: ICE, ROCK AND WATER

Explore places that tell the story of melting ice, ancient rock, and the power of water to shape the landscape.

The dramatic story of the Minnesota River valley began about 13,000 years ago as the ice sheet of the last glaciers receded northward. The meltwater from the ice pooled to form Glacial Lake Agassiz. The lake grew so expansive that it overflowed in a torrent of water known as Glacial River Warren. The force of the escaping floodwaters excavated millions of tons of earth and uncovered ancient bedrock outcrops of granite and gneiss (pronounced 'nice'). Today, the Minnesota River slowly winds its way through the gorge carved by the monstrous ancient river.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

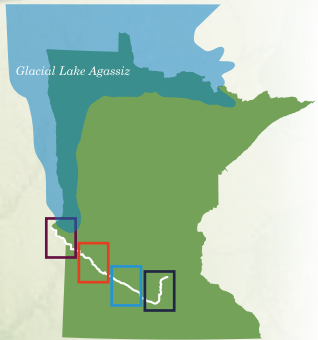

Geological Society of Minnesota
gsmn.org
Minnesota River Basin Data Center,
Minnesota State University, Mankato
mrbdc.mnsu.edu
Roadside Geology of Minnesota by
Richard W. Ojakangas. 2009.
Mountain Press Publishing Company,
Missoula, Montana.

Granite Falls Area
A Witness to Time

Between Montevideo and Granite Falls, the Byway passes through the lakebed of a glacial meltwater lake older than Lake Agassiz. You can experience the flatness and dark soils of the **Glacial Lake Benson [4]** lakebed along County Road 15 to the west of the **Swensson Farm Museum**. Near Granite Falls are impressive bedrock outcrops dated to 3.6 billion years making it the oldest rock in Minnesota and among the oldest exposed bedrock in the world. Look at the **Yellow Medicine County Historical Society** for a large bedrock outcrop and a Byway interpretive marker. Nearby **Blue Devil Valley [6]** and **Gneiss Outcrops [7]** Scientific and Natural Areas offer the opportunity to walk among the outcrops but be mindful that SNAs do not have trails or other amenities and have been set aside to protect rare and sensitive natural resources. For one of the best views of the expanse of the valley carved by glacial River Warren, stop at the **Minnesota River Valley Overlook [5]** where you will also find a Geological Society of Minnesota marker.

Big Stone Lake Area
Where the River Gets its Start

The **Continental Divide [1]** is a remnant of the ridge that once held back Lake Agassiz until the lake grew so large and deep that it broke through about 12,000 years ago. For a view of the impressive valley carved by the outflow of River Warren head up the bluff to the **Big Stone County Museum [2]**. At the overlook you will find a Byway marker and a Geological Society of Minnesota marker illustrating the story of River Warren and the geology of the Ortonville Region. To see massive outcrops of ancient granite worn smooth by glacial waters visit the **Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge [3]** Granite Outcrop loop trail (partially paved) or drive the auto tour route through the refuge.



Redwood Falls Area

Ancient Outcrops

An impressive exposure of 3.6-billion-year-old Morton Gneiss is preserved within the **Morton Outcrops Scientific and Natural Area [9]**. A careful walk up the bluff will yield an exceptional view of the river valley. Look too for circular potholes ground into the solid bedrock by pebbles or sediment caught in circular currents within the turbulent glacial river. The Redwood Falls area also tells a story of geological change. During the late Cretaceous period, about 100 to 80 million years ago, a warm tropical climate eroded the upper layers of the gneiss. The effects of this process can be seen in **Čanšayapi / Ramsey Park [8]** in Redwood Falls. The gneiss mostly broke down into white kaolin clays that can be seen in in bank of the Redwood River near the lower park shelter where the Geological Society of Minnesota has placed a marker. Exposures of white clay can also be seen in the banks of Fort Ridgely Creek within **Fort Ridgely State Park [10]** and at other points along the river valley.

Mankato Area

Mystery of the Big Bend

The reason for the dramatic bend in the Minnesota River is a geological mystery. One theory is that layers of bedrock blocked Glacial River Warren's eastward path and turned it north. Another theory is that the river encountered a buried ancient river channel and followed it north. Perhaps it was a combination of both the resistant bedrock and an easier path offered by the old valley that created the bend. For a water's edge view of the river flowing around the big bend visit **Riverfront Park [13]**. Another point of view from further up the bluff can be found at **Lookout Drive Scenic Overlook [12]** where the Geological Society of Minnesota placed a Mankato Region geology marker. Another geological story is told at nearby **Minneopa State Park**. The park's bison enclosure is on an old terrace across which River Warren once flowed. This flat prairie is scattered with large, rounded boulders called glacial erratics that were carried and pushed into the area by glaciers about 14,000 years ago. The prairie scattered with stones and an impressive view of the wide river valley can be seen from the **Seppman Mill Overlook [11]**.

Waterfalls OF THE MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY

Several waterfalls are present along the Minnesota River where tributary streams tumble over bedrock shelves on their way to the river. Among them are the double falls of **Minneopa Falls [A]**; the deep drop of **Minnemishinona Falls [B]**, and picturesque **Ramsey Falls [C]**. The waterfall that lent **Granite Falls [D]** its name has since been covered by a hydropower dam, but the cascading water is still a sight to see.

FOR MORE BYWAY INFORMATION, VISIT www.mnrivervalley.com OR CALL 1-888-463-9856



Big Stone Lake

Annual Sports & Leisure Show - 3rd Weekend in March
Annual Cornfest - 3rd Weekend in August

Big Stone Lake Area Visitor Information
For Information Packets, Events Calendar & FREE Lake Map:
320-839-3284 • www.bigstonelake.com • chamber@bigstonelake.com



APPLETON HAS A LOT TO OFFER!



Appleton Area Off Highway Vehicle Park
2 miles NE of Appleton on Hwy 59

Campgrounds

Canoeing & Kayaking

Riverview Park & Playground

Aquatic Center

Dog Park

Applefest 3rd weekend in September

Golf Course along Pomme de Terre River

Close to Lac qui Parle Lake, Refuge & State Park, Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge, Chippewa Prairie, Marsh Lake, Lake Oliver and Artichoke Lake

Great Hunting, Fishing, Birding and Snowmobile Trails

Summer Concerts in the Park

...and so much more!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT!

EXPLORE MINNESOTA



support@aaccmn.com

aaccmn.com | [@AACCMN](https://www.facebook.com/AACCMN)

Shop—Eat—Spend—Enjoy... LOCAL



Open 24 Hours | Daily Pool Pass Available

Building a Stronger & Healthier Community
offering fitness activities & classes for adults, youth & seniors and community facilities

320-564-3127 | [f](https://www.facebook.com/kilowattcenter)
600 Kilowatt Drive - Granite Falls
nrichter@granitefalls.com



Serving breakfast All Day • Open Daily
Try out our Broasted Chicken
610 W Hwy 212 - Montevideo
320-269-8662



CLUB 7-75 SUPPER CLUB

Located at the junction of Hwy 7 & Hwy 75
Odessa, MN 56276
Open Wednesday - Saturday 5:00PM
Nightly Specials
320-273-2339

SHADY OAK Realty
PROUDLY SERVING THE BIG STONE LAKE AREA FOR OVER 25 YEARS
320.839.2118
shadyoakrealty.com

Jim Nitz Agent, Jon Hartman Broker, Krista Hartman Agent, Tom Oakes Broker, Dillon Dwyer Agent

ORTONVILLE Liquor STORE
CHEERS!
LIP STICKING COLD BEER
GREAT SELECTION OF WINE AND LIQUOR
OPEN MON-SAT 10A-10P SUN 11A-4P
786 US HWY 75, ORTONVILLE, MN
320-839-3139

PIZZA • CHICKEN • WRAPS • BUFFET

BERKNER PIZZA

320-839-3660

205 2ND ST NW • ORTONVILLE, MN

SCHMIDT'S LANDING
BIG STONE CITY • SD

LAKESIDE SUITES • CAMPING
C-STORE • BAIT & TACKLE
605.432.6911
WWW.SCHMIDTSLANDING.COM

LAKESHORE RV PARK, INC.
320-839-3701
1-800-9FOR FUN

- Large Seasonal Sites, Digital Cable Included
- Weekend Camping • 3 Cabins
- Lake Access Area
- WiFi Available
- RV & LP tank refill on site
- Outdoor Pool • Playground
- Room Available • Hot Tub
- Heated Swimming Pool
- Pontoon & Boat Rentals

Boat Gas Available at Dock!

Book your reservations online
www.lakeshorervpark.fun

39445 LAKESHORE RV PARK RD • ORTONVILLE, MN

montevideo

scenic valley • trail • outdoor sports • rivers • hike • hunt
• fish • canoeing • kayaking • golf • bike • prairie arts
• entertainment • boutiques • history • dining

montevideo
area chamber of commerce
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

www.montechamber.com

EXPLORE MINNESOTA

Viking Motel
320-269-6545

Sportsmen Inn
320-269-8889

Fiesta City Motel
320-269-8896

Grandstay Hotel & Suites
320-269-8000

Western Minnesota PRAIRIE WATERS
Adventure awaits...
Prairiewaters.com
866.866.5432

DAWSON
THE SMALL CITY WITH THE BRIGHT FUTURE

For visitor information:
Dawson Area Chamber of Commerce
320.769.2981
City of Dawson
320.769.2154
dawsonmn.com

Wegdahl Park



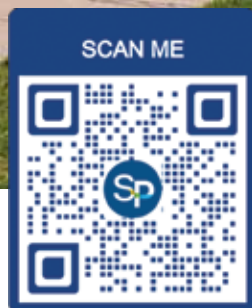
Wegdahl Park offers **two new rentable cabins** that are similar to those found in State Parks, and can be used year round. Enjoy **public water access** and a convenient location just 6 miles south of Montevideo on the Minnesota River. Call **320-269-6231** to reserve your cabin today and let your adventures start!

Visit these Chippewa County Historical Society sites



Historic Chippewa City Swensson Farm Museum Lac qui Parle Mission
www.chippewacohistory.org 320-269-7636

Picture Yourself at the Pearly Gates of Saint Peter!



Saint Peter Visitors Bureau
101 South Front Street | Saint Peter, MN
507-934-3400



*a dream built
from the
ground up...*

Our scenic, family-owned, vineyard and winery offers a patio with breathtaking views, excellent wine, craft beer and unbelievable pizza.

100% Minnesota-grown grapes.
Event destination.
ATVs welcome!

OPEN: W 4-9 (Jun-Dec only)
Th 3-9 F 11-11
Sa 11-11 Su 12-6



42703 Grandview Ave | Belview, MN
507.938.9463
gvwinery.com

More than you imagine...

All year round.

Ole and Lena Days *1st week in February*

Makers Markets *1st Thursday in June, July, August*

Western Fest PRCA Rodeo *weekend after Father's Day in June*

Bluenose Gopher 50 Gravel Road Race *3rd Saturday in July*

SquidFest/RibFest *3rd Saturday in September*

Winter Solstice Celebration *December 21st*

visitgranitefalls.com

Granite Falls
Convention & Visitors Bureau

EXPLORE **m** MINNESOTA

Granite Falls

Andrew Volstead House

Open for tours Friday and Saturday during the summer months.

Solve our escape room based on the history of Nellie Volstead located in the kitchen of the Andrew Volstead House Museum. Included is a photo booth with 1920s clothing available.

\$19 per person or \$10 per student ages 10-16*
163 9th Ave, Granite Falls **volsteadhouse.org**



Special Volstead ornament awarded to those who solve the puzzle!

RENVILLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



441 N Park Dr
Morton, MN
507-697-6147
info@renvillecountyhistory.com
renvillecountyhistory.com
f @RCHSMuseum t @RenvilleCoMNHs
Sept – May 10 am – 4 pm Mon – Fri
June – Aug 10 am – 4 pm Mon – Sat
#letsgotoMorton 4th of July



REDWOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM



913 W Bridge St
Redwood Falls, MN
507-641-3329
507-430-5781
Open Memorial Day through Labor Day
Weds-Sun 12-4

HISTORIC 1872 GILFILLAN ESTATE
28263 State Hwy 67
Redwood Falls, MN
Tours, Camping, Weddings & Events
507-430-2686



HOME OF FARMFEST **AUG 2, 3, 4, 2022**
redwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com f

#LetsGotoMorton

MORTON AREA CHAMBER & TOURISM BUREAU



Celebrate
4th of July
in Morton

507-697-1884

mortonareachamber.org f @mortonmnchamber

LET'S PROMOTE AND TELL THE HISTORY OF WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA!

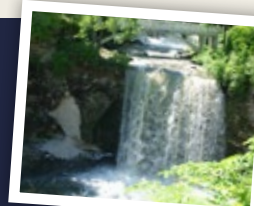
We're a collaboration of the county and area historical societies and museums of 10 counties in West Central Minnesota:

Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Renville, Swift and Yellow Medicine.



wcmhamn.org f

Byway BUCKET LIST



Photograph a waterfall

Hear the thundering waters of Ramsey Falls, Minneopa Falls, Minnemishinona Falls and many others. Spring is the best time to visit, as the fresh snowmelt fills the state's rivers to the brim.



Investigate a museum

Dozens of museums reflect the Byway's past. Explore the geological history of the land as well as the people who settled it. From ancient glaciers to pioneers, you're sure to learn something along the Byway.

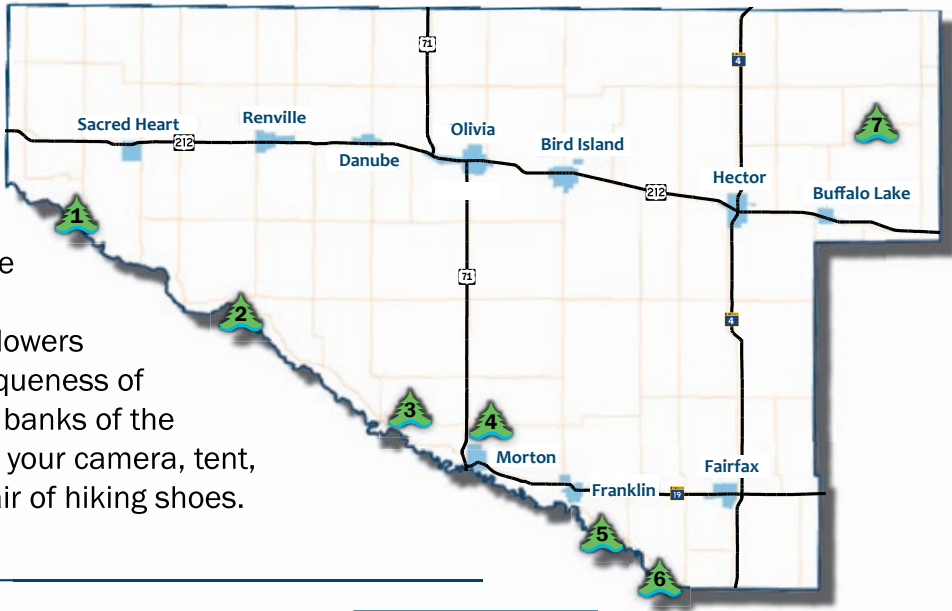


RENVILLE COUNTY

MORE THAN EXPECTED!

Whether you choose to visit for a day, or stay for a lifetime, you will discover “More Than Expected” in Renville County, Minnesota!

Experience the natural beauty of Renville County by visiting our 1,300 acres of parkland featuring multi-use trails, wildflowers and native prairies, wildlife, and the uniqueness of bedrock outcroppings located along the banks of the Minnesota River. You may want to bring your camera, tent, canoe, binoculars, horse, and a good pair of hiking shoes. *We hope to see you soon!*



Renville COUNTY PARKS

320-523-3747
ParksDept@renvillecountymn.com
www.renvillecountymn.com

Renville County Parks

Renville COUNTY
 Service • Stewardship • Shared Responsibility
 HRA/EDA

320-523-3656
EDA@renvillecountymn.com
www.renville.com

Renville County Housing & Economic Development

COUNTY PARK LEGEND:

- 1 - Skalbekken
- 2 - Vicksburg
- 3 - Beaver Falls
- 4 - Birch Coulee
- 5 - Anderson Lake
- 6 - Mack Lake
- 7 - Lake Allie



It's all so close!

**FAMILY FUN
 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
 ARTS & CULTURE
 AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES**

visitmankatomn.com

Photo Credit: Sara Hughes

EXPLORE MINNESOTA

REDWOOD AREA CHAMBER & TOURISM

www.redwoodfalls.org

Building Business. Building Relationships.

View our Community Videos 'Welcome to the Redwood Area' and 'This is My Town' at www.redwoodfalls.org

Redwood Area Chamber & Tourism **#redwoodarea**

\$5.00 Chamber Bucks | **PLANNING A VISIT OR ARE YOU NEW TO THE REDWOOD AREA?***
Stop in to the Chamber Office and get your \$5 Redwood Area Chamber Bucks and have a treat on us! *photo ID required

507.637.2828
 200 S. Mill Street | Redwood Falls, MN
chamber@redwoodfalls.org
 Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Byway
BUCKET LIST

Appreciate the arts at unique galleries
 Local artisans display their work at galleries along the Byway, showcasing a variety of artwork including pottery, ironwork, willow furniture, rosemalings, paintings, and drawings of all sorts.

Check out our videos here: www.mnrivervalley.com/stories/videos/

GET INVOLVED:
Become a member of the Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway!

Why do we need your support?
 The byway's goal is to strengthen communities in the Minnesota River Valley through tourism based economic development by the promotion of the river valley's exceptional historical, scenic, cultural, and recreational opportunities.

What is the Alliance?
 The Alliance is made up of business, chamber, museum, agency, citizen, city and county volunteers. This group meets monthly to work toward the objectives of the byway. Visit our website at www.mnrivervalley.com/get-involved/ or call **888-463-9856** for more information on this opportunity.



Shopping
Dining
German Culture
Festivals
Breweries



newulm.com

m EXPLORE MINNESOTA



Visit Minnesota's only underground winery!
Artisan wine, craft beer, local food, & serious music

Regionally Grown, Locally Produced, Nationally Recognized

23707 478TH AVENUE | NEW ULM, MN | 507-947-3547 | MORGANCREEKVINEYARDS.COM



Visit the Childhood Home of *Wanda Gág* World Famous Children's Author, Illustrator & Artist
photo by Mark Boettger

226 North Washington - New Ulm
wandagaghhouse.org | 507-359-2632




150 YEARS Sleepy Eye
Experience It All!
Sleepy Eye Chamber of Commerce & CVB

Experience It All

www.sleepyeyechamber.com





Party like a German the first 2 weekends in October!
NEWULM.COM




Sleepy Eye
Summerfest
Celebrating the HOG Days of Summer
Happens the 3rd Weekend of August
www.sleepyeyesummerfest.com

DOWNTOWN NEW ULM

THE SECRET IS OUT!
WE ARE YOUR DESTINATION FOR RETAIL THERAPY...

Open Daily!




Inspired
Elements for Life and Home
www.inspirednewulm.com
f i

Fashion • Gifts • Decor • Children's

NEW ULM... A
Quilter's
DESTINATION

THREE UNIQUE QUILT SHOPS. ONE CHARMING TOWN.


Spinning Spools Quilt Shop
FABRICS - BOOKS - PATTERNS - SAMPLES - KITS - AURIFUL THREAD
106 S Minnesota | New Ulm, MN | 507-359-2896 | spinningspoolsquiltshop.com



5,800 SQUARE FEET OF CREATIVITY!
507.354.8801
SewingSeedsQuiltCo.com
1417 South State Street
New Ulm, MN

Quilt Sampler Quilt Sampler
ENCORE 2021

PANELS • PANELS • PANELS • PANELS • PANELS • PANELS • PANELS

 **THIMBLEBOX**
507.354.6721
2 South Minnesota Street | New Ulm, MN | thimblebox@newulmtel.net

HOME OF THE Panel Queen!

Henderson on the Minnesota: We Celebrate the CLASSICS!
UNIQUE ANNUAL FESTIVALS • HISTORIC DOWNTOWN • ECLECTIC SHOPS • PARKS & TRAILS

 <p>Classic Car Roll-ins: Summer Tuesdays 5-8 Cars, Music, Food & More</p>	 <p>Sauerkraut Days: Family Fun Daily Parades • Live Music Games/Contests • Free Kraut Last full weekend in June</p>	 <p>Hummingbird Hurrah: 3rd Saturday in August Garden at 3rd & Oak Open 24/7/365</p>
---	---	---

SPONSORED IN PART BY THE HENDERSON AREA CHAMBER

BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Blue Earth County History Center
Historic R.D. Hubbard House
Marian Anderson Art Gallery

BLUEEARTHCOUNTYHISTORY.COM
507.345.5566

BYWAY GUIDE DIRECTORY

ATTRACTIONS/MUSEUMS

Blue Earth County Historical Society

Explore, engage, and connect at the History Museum, Discovery Lab and Art Gallery.

507-345-5566

www.blueearthcountyhistory.com

Chippewa County Historical Society

Step back in time! Experience early settler life at Historic Chippewa City and Swensson Farm.

320-269-7636

www.chippewacohistory.org

Grandview Valley Winery

Minnesota wines, handmade pizza with gluten-free options, 14 beers on tap and breathtaking scenery.

42703 Grandview Ave – Belview

507-938-9463

www.gvwinery.com

Granite Falls Historial Society

Andrew J. Volstead House Museum
Visit our progressive on the prairie exhibit.

163 9th Ave – Granite Falls

www.volsteadhouse.org

Kilowatt Community Center

Offering fitness activities & classes for adults, youth & seniors and community facilities.

600 Kilowatt Dr – Granite Falls

320-564-3127

Minnesota Historical Society

Visit 26 historical sites across Minnesota as well as several along the National Scenic Byway

www.mnhs.org

Morgan Creek Vineyards

Located between Mankato and New Ulm. Offers an outdoor European-style setting and underground tasting room.

23707 478th Ave – New Ulm

507-947-3547

www.morgancreekvineyards.com

Renville County EDA/Parks

One County. Seven Parks. 1,300 Acres. Discover the unexpected in Renville County!

320-523-3747

ParksDept@renvillecountymn.com

Renville County Historical Society

Preserving Renville County history since 1940. Research your Renville County connection today! Six building museum complex.

441 N Park Dr – Morton

507-697-6147

www.renvillecountyhistory.com

Wanda Gag House

Childhood home of Wanda Gag, noted children's author and illustrator.

226 N Washington St – New Ulm

507-359-2632

wandagaghouse.org

West Central Minnesota Historical Association (WCMHA)

WCMHA is a collaboration of the county and area historical societies of 10 counties in West Central Minnesota.

www.wcmhamn.org

Yellowstone Trail of Minnesota

Follow the Yellowstone Trail from Washington County to Big Stone County learning about history, arts, and nature.

Drive a trail of history.

www.yellowstonetrailmn.com

CAMP GROUNDS/RV PARKS

City of Mankato

Land of Memories Park Campground
Located along the Minnesota River, the campground has 36 campsites for tents and RVs.

300 Amos Owen Lane – Mankato

507-387-8600

www.mankatomn.gov/parks

Lakeshore RV Park

Seasonal camp sites, outdoor pool, hot tub, boat and pontoon rentals, lake access.

39445 Lakeshore RV Park Rd – Ortonville

320-839-3701

www.lakeshorervpark.fun

Schmidts Landing

Camping, cabins, C-store with bait and tackle, snacks, pizza, with lakeside suites.

605-432-6911

www.schmidtslanding.com

Wegdahl Park

The park is located 6 miles south of Montevideo and features 2 camper cabins that can be used year round.

629 N 11th St – Montevideo

320-269-6231

CASINOS

Prairie's Edge Casino Resort

24-hour exhilarating gaming action with over 1000 slot machines! Guests are invited to relax and enjoy their stay in one of our hotel rooms or the RV Park.

5616 Prairies Edge Ln – Granite Falls

320-564-2121

www.prairiesedgecasino.com

CHAMBERS/CVBs

Appleton Area Chamber of Commerce

Appleton has a lot to offer! Check us out.

www.aaccmn.com

Big Stone Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

"A Place for All Seasons!" Visit the Big Stone Lake area! Call for free map!

987 US Hwy 12 – Ortonville

320-839-3284

www.bigstonelakechamber.com

City of Maynard

Find peace & quiet, friendly people and a strong community. Come to our 4th of July celebration!

321 Mabel St, PO Box 247 – Maynard

320-367-2140

cityofmaynard.com

Granite Falls Convention and Visitor's Bureau

More than you imagine — art, history, river recreation, shopping, dining, music, community, and the Midwest's only Squid Fest.

www.visitgranitefalls.com

Henderson Area Chamber

Historic town within the Minnesota River Valley. Featuring: Tuesday Car Roll-Ins, Sauerkraut Days and the Hummingbird Hurrah

www.hendersonmn.com

Montevideo CVB

Enjoy local art, beautiful parks, outdoor recreation, unique shops, fantastic dining, coffee shops & local brewery!

www.montechamber.com

Morton Area Chamber & Tourism Bureau

#Let'sGoToMorton Enjoy the Minnesota River, Parks, Historic Plaes and more! Come celebrate the 4th of July!

507-697-1884

www.mortonareachamber.org

New Ulm Chamber

Town of festivals, history and so much more!

1 N. Minnesota St.

888-463-9856

newulm.com

Redwood Area Chamber

Visit Redwood Falls with Ramsey Park's miles of paved trails, zoo, & famous waterfall.

200 S. Mill St – Redwood Falls

507-637-2828

www.redwoodfalls.org

Saint Peter Chamber and Tourism Bureau

Nestled into the Minnesota River Valley with 50 structures on National Register of Historic Places.

101 S. Front St.

507-934-3400

www.stpeterchamber.com

Sleepy Eye Chamber of Commerce & CVB

Experience It All in Sleepy Eye! Don't let the name fool you, there is nothing 'sleepy' about us!

115 2nd Ave NE – Sleepy Eye

507-794-3741

www.sleepyeyechamber.com

Visit Mankato

Escape to Mankato for exciting outdoor adventures and a rich cultural experience!

www.visitmankatomn.com

DINING

Berkner Pizza

Specializing in pizza, chicken, buffet, dine in, carry out or delivery.

205 2nd St NW – Ortonville

320-839-3660

Club 7-75

Steak and seafood super club specializing in hand-cut steaks.

Hwy 7 & Hwy 75 – Odessa

320-273-2339

The Rivers Family Restaurant

A family restaurant with a relaxed environment. Great place for a sit down meal!

610 W Hwy 212 – Montevideo

320-269-8662



REAL ESTATE

Shady Oak Realty

A full service real estate office that will help you through every aspect of your real estate transaction.

320-839-2118

www.shadyoakrealty.com

SHOPPING

Inspired

Inspired is your retail destination to find elements for everyday living, apparel and gift giving!

Downtown New Ulm

507-233-4350

www.inspirednewulm.com

Ortonville Liquor Store

A full service off-sale liquor store with all your liquor, beer and ice needs.

786 U.S. Hwy 75 – Ortonville

320-839-3139

Sewing Seeds Quilt Company

We proudly offer 5,000 bolts of quality quilting fabrics, hundreds of samples on display, kits, wool and Valdani thread!.

1417 S State St – New Ulm

507-354-8801

www.SewingSeedsQuiltCo.com

Spinning Spools Quilt Shop

Let us help you "spin" the creative quilter in you! Visit our trellised garden.

106 South Minnesota – New Ulm

507-359-2896

www.spinningspoolsquiltshop.com

Thimblebox

Home of the Panel Queen!

2 South Minnesota – New Ulm

507-354-6721

thimblebox@newulmtel.net

WILDLIFE/BIRDING

Ney Nature Center

Ney Nature Center is a wildlife preserve open to everyone with education and recreation.

28238 Nature Center Lane – Henderson

www.neycenter.org

Byway
BUCKET LIST

Eat a delicious meal

The Byway offers a variety of dining opportunities. Whether you're seeking ethnic food, a small café, fast food, or a gourmet steak, you're sure to satisfy your taste buds.





Southwest Minnesota's *Premier Destination*

Minnesota Nice! We didn't invent it, but we sure do believe in it. For us it isn't just a saying, it's a way of doing business. It is a way of treating our family, our friends, and our guests. We strive to be the friendliest casino resort in the Midwest.

We invite you to visit us. While you are here enjoy 24-hour gaming action with the hottest video slots plus your favorite classic coin machines. We also offer two Non-smoking gaming areas. From our deli, to our delicious specials, we are sure to satisfy your appetite. Then relax in one of our hotel rooms or pull-in and spend the night at PrairieView RV Park.

Non-Smoking Gaming Area. This area is the **largest** self-contained non-smoking gaming area with its own HVAC system in Minnesota! In addition to the gaming expansion the main floor is home to the Prairie Tap House offering twenty-four draft beers and catch all your favorite games on our High Definition LED video wall, the centerpiece of our main floor.

Prairie's Edge
CASINO RESORT

5616 Prairies Edge Lane | Granite Falls, Minnesota | www.prairiesedgecasino.com

GAMING | HOTEL | RV PARK | CONVENTION CENTER
RESTAURANTS | TAP HOUSE | ROOFTOP PATIO

Owned and operated by the Upper Sioux Community. We invite you to join us and please play responsibly.