

*Franklin
County
Iowa*



Stay Awhile; Enjoy A Lot!

Welcome To Franklin County, Iowa

Neatly tucked between Minneapolis and Des Moines, Dubuque and Sioux City, Franklin County has many interesting and fun things to see and do. We are happy to share with you the special places you can find here and simple country pleasures you can experience here. Our goal is to please and accommodate, allowing you to relax and enjoy.

So tell us, what are your interests? If shopping is your thing then look no further for we are known for the specialty gift shops in Hampton. For the recovering shopaholics among us we have alternative fun such as a tour of our fine museums and buildings on the National Historic Register. Time to get outside? Let's talk camping and outdoor sports. We have great camping facilities and a wide range of fishing and hunting. If you are more the indoor type we've got you covered with a brand name motel or cozy B & Bs. Not sure what you want to do? Give us a call and let us design a visit best suited to you.

No matter what you decide to do you will find yourself warmly welcomed and truly appreciated for we want you to —

“Stay Awhile, Enjoy A Lot!”

Franklin County Convention & Visitor's Bureau

5 First Street SW
Hampton, IA 50441
641-456-5668
hacc@hamptoniowa.org

For more information, please check out the web at
www.iowatourism.com

Communities

See what Franklin County has to offer!

Parks

Many parks, campgrounds and recreational areas to choose from

Recreation

Disc golf course, nine-hole courses, swimming pools and outdoor trails

Map

Annual Events

A quick glimpse of special events of interest to tourists

Attractions

Museums, historical theme parks and architecture

Tours & Getaways

Let us help you plan that tour or getaway in Franklin County



Franklin County is unique, in that we are 10 incorporated cities and two unincorporated towns (Bradford and Chapin). Each community has something special to offer. You are invited to experience the hospitality and amenities of these communities as you live, play, work or travel in Franklin County.



Prairie Style Barn

Ackley

Population: 1809 City Hall: 641-847-3332
ackleyiowa.net · hardincountyonline.com

Ackley offers many historical places to visit: Settlement of the Prairie Site featuring the Limburg I-House, Clutterville Country School, Charley's Farm Windmill, a Prairie Style Barn and a blooming prairie garden; Soda Fountain & Museum on Main Street and the Restored Illinois Central Railroad Depot. Ackley offers a variety of shops, antique store, restaurant and banks. Also available is a public golf course, swimming pool, city park and Prairie Bridges Park which has RV and primitive camping, featuring walking trails and ponds for fishing.

Alexander

Population: 170 City Clerk: 641-444-7329

Alexander is a small farming community. A city park offers a new shelter house and playground equipment. Hawkins Game Management Area is 3 miles east of Alexander and offers hunting. Buffalo Basin is 4 miles north and also offers hunting on 145 acres of land. Alexander offers baseball and softball fields, a motor-cross track and a tennis court and churches.

www.franklincountycvb.com

Coulter

Population: 262 City Hall: 641-866-6942

Coulter is a small farming community located 1 mile from Interstate 35. A city park offers a shelter house, ball diamonds, Frisbee disc golf course and playground equipment. A community center is available for rentals for gatherings or meetings. Coulter offers a gift and upholstery shop, car wash, machine and welding shop and a Pizza & Pub eatery. The Coulter Marsh is located near Coulter and offers hunting. Interstate Lake Park is located 2.5 miles west of Coulter and offers hunting, fishing, canoeing and a boat ramp.

Dows

Population: 675 City Hall: 515-852-4327
dowsiowa.com

Dows is located 2 miles off Interstate 35 near the Iowa River. The Historical District, which consists of the Mercantile Store and Community Center, is located on Main Street, along with a variety of clothing, beauty, pharmacy, flower, gift shops, a bank and restaurant. Camping park and the swimming pool is located south of Dows. White Tail Flats is 3 miles south of Dows and offers hunting and fishing.



Blacksmith Museum

Geneva

Population: 177 City Hall: 641-458-8119

Geneva is one of the smaller communities in Franklin County. Maynes Grove is located 4 miles west and offers a new 4-season rental lodge with seating of 140, fishing, and horseback riding.

Hampton**Population: 4218 City Hall: 641-456-4853****franklincountycvb.com****hamptoniowa.org****franklincountyiowa.com**

Hampton is the largest community in Franklin County and holds the county seat. It is the home of Beeds Lake State Park, as well as other parks that provide a variety of recreational activities. Hampton has a variety of specialty stores that offer great gifts and shopping. There are a variety of businesses, restaurants, lodging, and an airport available in Hampton. Hampton offers a golf course, Frisbee golf course, two Wellness Centers and city park that includes a swimming pool, volleyball and tennis courts.

Hansell**Population: 90 641-456-5460**

Hansell is a residential community.

Latimer**Population: 535 City Hall: 641-579-6452****latimer-iowa.com**

Latimer is located just 2 miles off Interstate 35 and calls itself "Iowa's Northern Star." Latimer is a progressive community that offers a variety of businesses including a truck and auto repair business, steakhouse and lounge, café, and a gift shop. Latimer parks offer playground equipment, shelters with picnic tables that provide opportunities for community or family gatherings. The Latimer Golf Club is a public 9-hole golf course that offers reasonable green fees. An athletic complex is located at East Park, which includes a softball diamond for everyone to enjoy. A Veterans Memorial is also located in Latimer.

Popejoy**Population: 78 515-859-7486**

Popejoy is a small town with a big heart. Popejoy offers a café and senior center to stop for coffee and fellowship. The second Saturday in August, Popejoy hosts the Annual Tractor Pull, along with other activities throughout the day for excitement and fun for the families. Popejoy Conservation Park is 1.5 miles SW and offers camping, picnicking, shelter house, fishing, canoeing, and winter activities. Hunting and fishing is also available at Oakland-Iowa River Conservation Area 3 miles SW of Popejoy.

Sheffield

Population: 930 City Hall: 641-892-4718
sheffeldiowa.com

In Sheffield you will find Galvin Park which offers camping sites, enclosed shelter, and a winter sledding hill and Legion Park which has playground equipment and a gazebo for picnics. Main Street offers a variety of businesses that include a photographer, gift and flower, antique and grocery stores and a restaurant. Sheffield has a public 9-hole golf course with club house that offers fine dining. Also available in Sheffield is a Veterans Memorial.



Fishing The Day Away



Beeds Lake

Beeds Lake State Park
1422 165th Street, Hampton
641-456-2047

Beeds Lake provides over one mile of great shore-line fishing as well as a boat ramp for access to the lake. Beeds Lake also has two miles of walking trails. A 170 foot long spillway with horizontal layers of limestone drops an abruptly 40 feet. Beeds Lake offers 99 electrical and 44 non-electrical camping sites, picnic shelters, fishing with a bait house open during summer season, boating, swimming, hiking, biking and jogging trails.



Camping at Beeds Lake

Creeden Prairie
4 miles north, 2 miles east of Hansell
641-456-4375

Canoeing, fishing and hunting.

Ingebretson Memorial Grove
2 miles west, 1 mile north of Sheffield
641-456-4375

Hiking trail and cross country skiing.



Ingebretson Memorial Grove

Interstate Lake Park

2 1/2 miles west of Coulter, 1 mile south

641-456-4375

Boat ramp, canoeing, fishing, hunting and ice fishing.



Canoeing in Franklin County

Mallory Park

4 1/2 miles south of Hampton, 2 miles west

Semi modern camping sites with picnic area and hiking trails.

Maynes Grove

4 miles south of Hampton

641-456-4375

Excellent hiking and cross country skiing trails with a new four season lodge available for public use. Picnic areas, horseback riding, canoeing, fishing and hunting.



Maynes Grove

Popejoy Conservation Park
1 1/2 miles southwest of Popejoy
641-456-4375

Popejoy Conservation Park has a sledding hill that is used during the winter months. Popejoy Conservation Park also has a shelter building which includes a wood burning stove for your comfort. Camping, picnic shelter and areas, canoeing, fishing and snowmobiling.

Prairie Bridges
2 miles north of Ackley on Highway 57,
641-847-2214

Camping, fishing, swimming and hiking trails.

Robinson Park
1 mile north, 1 mile east of Hampton
641-456-4375

Camping, picnic shelter and areas, hiking trails and fishing.

Sheffield Game and Management Area
2 miles west, 1 mile north of Sheffield
641-456-4375

Canoeing, fishing and hunting.

West Fork Wildlife Area
3 miles north, 4 miles east of Hansell
641-456-4375

Canoeing, fishing and hunting.

WKW Conservation Park
1 mile north, 1 mile east of Hampton
641-456-4375

Camping, interpretive and hiking trails, cross country skiing.



Golf Courses

Dows Golf Course

200 85th Street, Dows

515-852-4751

9 hole course

Latimer Golf Club

125 East Street, Latimer

641-579-6090

9 hole course with clubhouse

Hampton County Club

1620 Country Club Lane, Hampton

641-456-3256

9 hole course with clubhouse

Ridge Stone Golf Club

7 Brickyard Road, Sheffield

641-892-8040

9 hole course with clubhouse

Frisbee Disc Golf

East Park

Highway 3, Hampton

Coulter City Park

Main Street, Coulter

Swimming Pools

Outdoor swimming in Ackley, Dows,
Hampton and Sheffield

Fitness Centers

Franklin Wellness Center

641-456-2827 - Hampton

Indoor pool, track, basketball courts,

volleyball, weight equipment,

therapy pool, swimming pool

BodyWorks

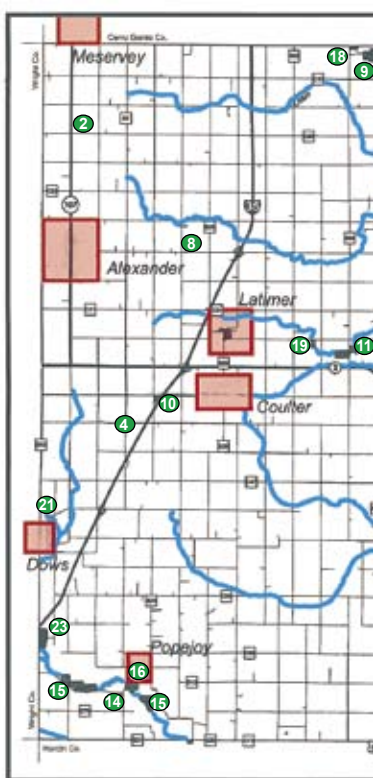
641-456-4106 or 641-456-3255 - Hampton

Weight equipment, strength training,

tanning bed

Latimer Walking/Biking Trail

www.franklincountycvb.com



"For in the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught." - Baba Dioum



ACRES

Picnicking

1	Beeds Lake*	1 mi. W Hwy 3, 2 mi. N of Hampton	320	•	
2	Buffalo Basin*	4 mi. N of Alexander	145		
3	Burkley Park	1.5 mi. W of Geneva	6		
4	Coulter Marsh*	4 mi. W Hwy 3, 2 mi. S of Coulter	184		
5	Creeden Prairie	4 mi. N, 2 mi. E of Hansell	420		
6	Deer Meadow Wildlife Area	9 mi. E, .5 mi. N of Hampton	84		
7	Handorf Roadside Park	8 mi. E of Hampton on Hwy. 3	4	•	
8	Hawkins Game Mgmt. Area	3 mi. E of Alexander	1		
9	Ingebretson Memorial Grove	2 mi. W, 1 mi. N of Sheffield	118		
10	Interstate Lake Park	2.5 mi. W Coulter-Hwy 3, 1 mi. S	26		
11	Longspur Habitat Area-Lukes Wetland	4 mi. W, .5 mi. N of Hampton	102		
12	Mallory Park	4.5 mi. S, 2 mi. W of Hampton	71	•	
13	Maynes Grove	4 mi. S of Hampton	280	•	
14	Oakland Valley Game Mgmt. Area	1.5 mi. SW of Popejoy	2		
15	Oakland-Iowa River Cons. Area	3 mi. SW of Popejoy	291		
16	Popejoy Conservation Park	1.5 mi. SW of Popejoy	61	•	
17	Robinson Park	1 mi. N, 1 mi. E of Hampton	30	•	
18	Sheffield Game Mgmt. Area	2 mi. W, 1 mi. N of Sheffield	16		
19	Spring Creek Wildlife Area	5 mi. W, 1.5 mi. NW of Hampton	20		
20	Thorn Apple Woods	4 mi. N, 2 mi. E of Hansell	93		
21	Toft Wildlife Area	.5 mi. NE of Dows	14		
22	West Fork Wildlife Area	3 mi. N, 4 mi. E of Hansell	123		
23	White Tail Flats*	3 mi. S of Dows	391		
24	WKW Conservation Park	1 mi. N, 1 m. E of Hampton	54	•	

* Owned by Iowa DNR

Bluegrass Festival

Hampton - Spring
3 days of Bluegrass Bands
641-456-5668



Main Street Car Show

Hampton
Third weekend in June
(Father's Day)
641-456-5668

Sauerkraut Days

Ackley
Last weekend in June
641-847-3332

Municipal Band Concerts

Hampton
Every Tuesday in June
641-456-5668

Coulter Fun Day

Coulter
Last Saturday in June
641-866-6942

4th of July Celebration

Hampton
4th of July
641-456-5668



Franklin County Fair

Hampton
Second week in July
641-456-2049

Latimer Fun Days

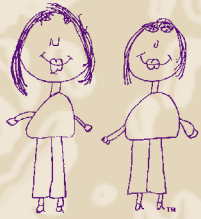
Latimer
Last weekend in July
641-579-6452

Dows Corn Days

Dows
First weekend in August
515-852-4327



SISTER FRIEND
A WEEKEND FOR WOMEN OF ALL AGES™



Sister Friend Weekend

Hampton

First weekend in August

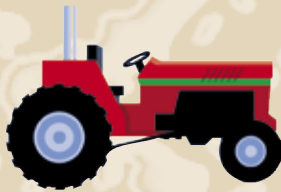
641-456-5668

Popejoy Tractor Pull

Popejoy

Second Saturday in August

515-859-7582



Sheffield Big Days

Sheffield

Last weekend in August

641-892-4718

Summerfest

Hampton

Labor Day weekend

641-456-5668



Bradford Day

Bradford
Labor Day weekend
641-648-3546



Bluegrass Festival

Hampton
October
3 days of Bluegrass Bands
641-456-5668

Harriman-Nielsen House Fall Festival

Hampton
October
641-456-5668

Christmas in Hampton Hampton Unwrapped

Hampton
First weekend in December
641-456-5668



**Settlement of the Prairie Site
Ackley – North Butler Street
641-847-2201**

Restored 1870 prairie site which features: the Limburg I-House, Clutterville Country School, Charley's Farm Windmill, Prairie Style Barn and a blooming prairie garden.



Prairie House

**Soda Fountain & Museum on Main Street
Ackley – corner of Park & Mitchell
641-847-2201**

Historic displays & full service soda fountain treats.

**Ackley Heritage Center
Ackley – 208 State Street
641-847-2201**

Displays, exhibits and genealogical archives.

**Dows Historical Center and
Depot Welcome Center
Dows – 1896 Railroad Street
515-852-3595**

Built in 1896, this Burlington Northern/Rock Island Depot is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is furnished with period railroad memorabilia & historical artifacts.



Dows Mercantile Store & Fillmore Building
Dows – 122 East Ellsworth
515-852-3533

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places the Mercantile Store features folk art, antiques, fine art and gifts. Crème de la Crème is the perfect place for sandwiches and ice cream.

Vernon Township Center #5
Dows – 201 East Ellsworth
515-852-3595

The Vernon Township Country School was built in 1887. It is the perfect example of the Iowa one-room schoolhouse, furnished with original desks, blackboards and supplies.



Country School

Quasdorf Museum – Blacksmith, Wagon & Machine Shop
Dows – Railroad Street
515-852-3595

Built in 1899, the museum displays and demonstrations highlight the actual machines and tools used for nearly a century in this family-owned business. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Evans Little Prairie House
Dows – 201 West Railroad
515-852-3595

Restored farm home of the Ingebret Evans family in the late 1800s.

**Franklin County Historical Society Museum
Hampton – Franklin County Fairgrounds
Highway 3 West
641-456-5777**

Exhibits of: period kitchens, clothing, entertainment, military history, machinery hall and a genealogy library.

**GAR Memorial Hall
Hampton – Federal Street & Highway 3
641-456-5777**

Civil War Museum honors all people who have served in all conflicts and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Harriman Nielsen Farm House
Hampton – 10 Street NW
641-456-5777**

This 20-acre farm's Italianate house was built in 1881 by Dr O.B. Harriman and has been restored. This attraction is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Old Stone House
Hampton – four miles south on Highway
65 and two miles east on C47
641-456-5777**

The Old Stone House was built in 1854 by Leander Reeve using stone and timber from nearby Maynes Creek and Grove. This gracious home plus a nearby cabin served as the seeds for the first settlement in Franklin County.



Old Stone House

**Maysville School
Hampton – five miles south and 1/4 mile
east on 95th Street
641-456-5777**

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the school is the only remaining building of the early town of Maysville.

www.franklincountycvb.com



Pleasant Hill



**Pleasant Hill Village & Grandpa's Farm
Hampton – Franklin County Fairgrounds
Highway 3 West
641-456-5777**

Take a step back in time as you visit this charming prairie community featuring vintage buildings in an old time setting. The village features a saloon, jail, country church, country school, mercantile, bank and post office, livery, blacksmith shop and wood shop.

**R.E.A. Power Plant Museum
Hampton – four miles south on Highway 3
and 1 1/2 mile west on 110th Street
641-456-5777**

On the National Register of Historic Places, this first rural electric utility plant has been selected as a point of interest in the Silos and Smoke Stacks National Heritage Area.

**Rock Island Depot
Hampton – Franklin County Fairgrounds
Highway 3 West
641-456-5777**

The last Rock Island Depot to operate in Franklin County was moved one block to its present site. Exhibits include telegrapher's equipment, section hands' cars, rail-laying tools, mortarboard and lanterns.

**Latimer Historical Museum
Latimer – 108 South Akir Street
641-579-6452**

Historical museum displays depicting Latimer's history.

Tours and Getaways available just for you...

Planning a bus tour? Planning a day or week-end out with friends or family? We invite you to “getaway” in Franklin County. We offer many types of tours and getaways. Not sure if we can offer it – give us a call and we will accommodate your wishes.

- Bus tours welcome
- Specialty store shopping
- Charming Shop Hop
- Spa Time/Massages
- Radio Station Tours
- Franklin County Fair – July
- Jewelry Making
- Diamond Class
- Wine Tasting
- Franklin County Historical
- Main Street Tours
- Farm Tours
- Candle Factory Tours
- Park Tours
- Courthouse Tours

Mix and match to meet your desires.
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Hampton, IA 50441
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We invite you to consider Franklin County, Iowa

Like what you've seen so far? Then by all means please spend time with us. Franklin County, Iowa is a welcoming community of ten towns of varying sizes and personalities and we like showing our friendly side.

We also have an energetic business side. Our diverse workforce and lucrative incentives have proved attractive to companies like Winnebago Industries, Sukup Manufacturing, AFG Glass, Northrup King and Syngenta, Creative Solutions Unlimited, Omnium, Northern Pipe Products, Schwan's, Twin States, Redneck Trailer Supply and SeaBee Corporation.

- Strategically located to suppliers and markets
- Skilled, business-friendly workforce
- Available land and buildings
- Strong business support

We invite you to consider Franklin County, Iowa as a great place to visit or, better yet, a great place to locate your business and live your life.

Learn more at www.franklincountyiowa.com

Best regards,

Franklin County Development Association

5 1st St. SW

Hampton, Iowa 50441

641-456-5668

fcda_director@mchsi.com



www.franklincountycvb.com

Restaurants

Hampton

Hardee's
10 3rd Street S.W.
641-456-3312

Hong Kong Chinese Restaurant
7 1st Ave. N.W.
641-456-2788

Honk 'n' Hollar
709 Central Avenue West
641-456-2437

McDonald's
211 Central Avenue
641-456-4122

merry bees
117 1st Street NW
641-456-2141

Seven Stars Family Restaurant
709 4th Street S.E.
641-456-5378

Subway
217 Central Avenue West
641-456-4000

Latimer

Latimer Café
110 North Akir Street
641-579-6102

Latimer Golf Course
125 East Street
641-579-6090

Mother's Place
115 North Akir Street
641-579-6401

Dudley's Corner
648 Highway 3
641-866-6999

Popejoy

Popejoy Café
1011 Main
515-859-3819

Sheffield

Marty's Saloon
112 Gilman Street
641-892-4367

Paul's Steak & Seafood
116 Gilman Street
641-892-4208

Ridge Stone Golf Club
7 Brickyard Road
641-892-8040

Sheffield Inn
223 Gilman Street
641-892-4320



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