

Villages of Van Buren County, Iowa

www.villagesofvanburen.com

9:00 am – Bentonsport National Historic District

www.bentonsport.com

Meet your **Step-On guide**.

*Nestled along the lazy banks of the scenic Des Moines River, is the former riverboat village of **Bentonsport**. Within the village you will discover most buildings are the original structures from the 1800's, and now are homes to a variety of **specialty shops**, including the **Greef General Store**, offering a broad spectrum of hand made gifts, from weaving to woodcarving and antiques. Also, witness working artisans, as a skilled blacksmith and potter demonstrate beautiful artistic creations in **Iron & Lace**. Here is where you will find the famous "Queen Anne's Lace Pottery". Bentonsport is also the home to other local artists. You will be able to stroll across an old iron pedestrian bridge, which spans the Des Moines River. A beautiful historic rose garden awaits your visit as well. Bentonsport is a "must-see" for all visitors to Van Buren County.*

11:00 am- Bonaparte Pottery.

www.bonaparte-pottery.com

*The **Bonaparte Pottery** has been recognized as a National Historic Archeological Site. Established in 1865, it produced a variety of stoneware until 1896. Archeological digging continues and several original pieces and molds have been unearthed. You'll take a fascinating, guided tour through this historical wonder!*

11:45 am- National Historic Riverfront District of Bonaparte

www.bonaparte-iowa.com

*Browse through the several specialty shops like **the Olive Branch**...and don't forget the fudge at **Addie Mae's Fudge Shop**!*

12:30 pm- Lunch @ Bonaparte Retreat

www.bonaparteretreat.com

*Enjoy a delicious fare and the unique atmosphere of an old restored flour and gristmill of 1878, as you dine at the regionally famous **Bonaparte Retreat**. This restaurant affords you a spectacular view of the lazy Des Moines River, a Riverfront Park and an extensive collection of memorabilia from the colorful past of southeast Iowa.*

1:45 pm- Dutchman's Store &/or Cantril Antiques & Gifts

*The **Dutchman's Store** is filled with bulk food items and dried goods. It is also known as "A Quilter's Paradise" with 1000's of bolts of quilting material and supplies. Don't be surprised to see an Amish horse and buggy tied up at the hitching post, as the areas very large Amish and Mennonite community do their grocery shopping.*

3:00 pm- Milton Creamery

*Take a quick visit to the new **Milton Creamery** and learn how this Mennonite family processes Amish milk into delicious cheese. Don't forget to grab some fresh cheddar cheese curds to enjoy after you get home!*

3:45 pm- Yoder's Indian Creek Furniture Shop

Yoders Indian Creek Furniture is the areas newest Amish furniture store. Visit the wood shop where the quality furniture is constructed with fine Amish craftsmanship...and then have an opportunity to purchase a variety of handmade products at their new retail store.

4:30 pm- Whispering Pines Winery

www.whisperingpineswinery.biz

You'll tour the vineyards and then learn the process of turning grapes into a fine wines. You'll have plenty of sampling to do and you may want to take a bottle or two home with you!

5:00 pm- Depart for home with fond memories of the Villages of Van Buren.

The cost for this magnificent trip through the historic Villages of Van Buren is only:

\$16.50 per person

A group of 30 affords you 2 comps. Cost per person is all-inclusive. 50% deposit is required 30 days prior to tour date.