On the Midway

The Iowa State Fair is the single largest event held in Iowa. It has been held annually since 1854 and is one of the oldest and largest agricultural and industrial expositions in the United States. An inspiration for a novel, three movies and one musical, the Iowa State Fair is the country's most famous fair. The Mighty Bluegrass Shows midway is known for its double Ferris wheel and Big Ben drop tower as well as rides and games for all ages.



Wild Rose Waltz

The Wild Rose was designated as the official state flower in 1897. It was chosen because the rose was inscribed on the silver service that was presented by the state of Iowa to the battleship USS Iowa that same year. While there are many different species of wild roses, the Wild Prairie Rose is the species that is most commonly cited as the official flower.

Wild roses are found everywhere in the state and bloom during the summer months.



River Rhapsody

Rivers are very important in the state of Iowa. The eastern boundary of the state is formed by the Mississippi River, separating Iowa from Wisconsin and Illinois. On the western side of the state, the Missouri River forms the boundary with Nebraska, while the Big Sioux River forms the boundary with South Dakota.

The largest river within the state is the Des Moines River, which is 485 miles long.

