

River Bluffs

SCENIC BYWAY

Group Travel Itinerary



Clayton and Fayette Counties in Northeast Iowa
Find mesmerizing views, majestic limestone bluffs and small town charm





RBSB

Group Travel Itinerary

The 109-mile River Bluffs Scenic Byway is aptly named as it weaves in and out of three different river valleys - the Turkey, Volga, and Mississippi Rivers. The views along and through the dramatic area won't disappoint. Natural areas including parks, caves, campgrounds, hiking, and water trails abound. However, the unique personality of the attractions will prove the route is not the only reason for visiting.

Unique Adventures

Located on the banks of the Turkey River, **Motor Mill Historic Site** is home to five historic limestone structures built between 1840 and 1870, including the stunning six-story Motor Mill with its adjacent bridge. In addition to historic structures, the more than 150 acres of park grounds includes a campground, fishing and paddling access to the Turkey River, and miles of hiking and mountain biking trails that wind through prairies, oak savannas, and woodlands. Friends of Motor Mill and Clayton County Conservation jointly operate a variety of tours, programs, and special events throughout the year.

Stop in Marquette for a Tom Sawyer Adventure of the Mississippi River. The 49-passenger **Maiden Voyage** will take you on a unique experience you'll never forget! Listen to local musicians on the Friday Night Music Cruise, or view eagles and other birds in their natural habitat on the Bird Eco Tour.

Scenic Spots

On the bluffs of the Mississippi River, **Pikes Peak State Park** has beautiful overlooks and trails that provide different perspectives of the river including views of Wisconsin and the Mississippi River Valleys for as far as the eye can see.

The overlook of the Turkey River Valley in **Goeken Park** encapsulates iconic and picturesque small town Iowa. The community of Eldorado is located in the wide valley, along the banks of the meandering Turkey River. The bluffs, forested hillsides along both sides of the valley and even the church steeple towering above the community can be seen from the overlook.

Points of Discovery

Effigy Mounds National Monument is the only National Monument in Iowa. This archeological wonder provides a glimpse into the human activity in the Archaic period, 10,500 – 2,800 years ago. Although the Effigy Mounds National Monument is well known for its bird and bear effigies, including the Marching Bears, there are actually more than 200 mounds located at the North and South Units of the park.

Gilbertson Conservation Education Area consists of 1,000 acres located along the banks of the Turkey River near Elgin. Offering a modern campground and remote backpack sites; nearly 10 miles of wooded trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding; a certified outdoor playscape; a fishing and paddling pond; and a nature center and petting zoo, Gilbertson truly offers something for every visitor.

Local Flavors

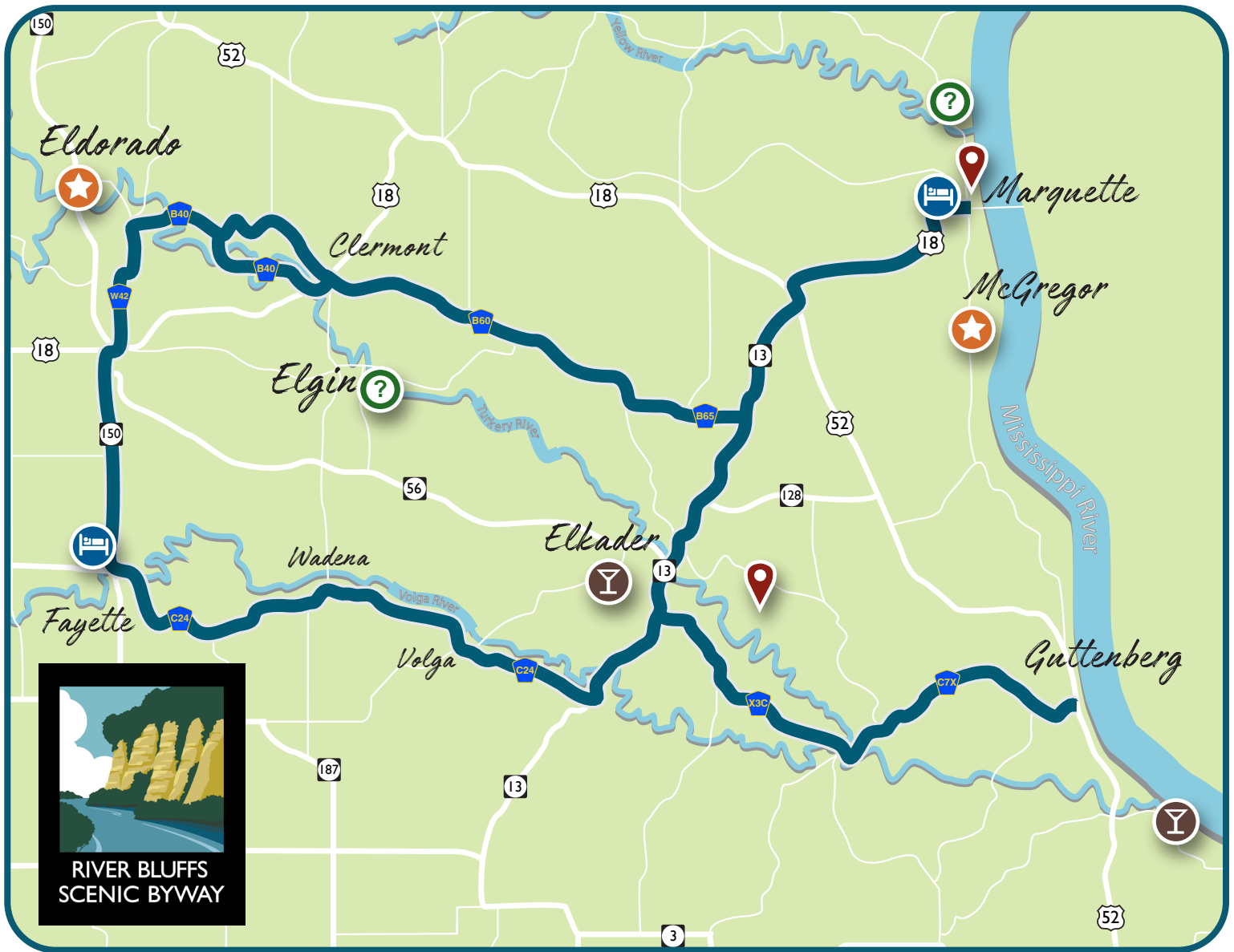
Nestled in the Southern hills of Guttenberg **PromiseLand Winery** offers a one-of-a-kind winery experience with a spacious tasting room and five boutiques. Take a walk or drive up to the vineyard to see where their award-winning wines begin. Enjoy some music in the front courtyard when the weather is nice or warm up by a cozy fire when it's too cold to be outside.

Family-owned and operated since 1968, **Pedretti's Bakery** is an Elkader staple, offering Fresh Baked Goodness - Daily! Stop in for a sweet treat like a cookie, donut, or coffee cake, or make dinner easy by picking up loaves of fresh bread, dinner rolls, and hamburger buns.

Lodging Locales

While in Marquette stay at the **Cobblestone Inn & Suites** located on the banks of the Mississippi River. The hotel allows access to the Mississippi observation deck and boardwalk. This universally accessible overlook is situated on a forest bluff above the community extending over historic downtown.

Boarders Inn & Suites (Fayette)



For More Group Tour Options

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