

# GROUP TOUR GUIDE



## GUIDE TO THE GROUT MUSEUM DISTRICT

503 SOUTH STREET WATERLOO, IOWA ▪ [WWW.GMDISTRICT.ORG](http://WWW.GMDISTRICT.ORG) ▪ 319-234-6357



Touch It. See It. Feel It.



*"All in all, a great museum, a fantastic museum, friendly staff, a treasure in the City of Waterloo. We hope the citizens of Waterloo and the surrounding area appreciate and support your museum with those wonderful exhibits."*

Edward & Dorothy - Wilmington, Delaware



# WELCOME

What began as one man's curiosity has become an entire district celebrating the region's culture and natural history. If you're interested in history, you'd have gotten along famously with its founder, Henry Grout. That interest, along with his generosity, has been on display for generations of visitors.

The Grout Museum District truly has something for everyone. Science demonstrations, hands-on activities, a unique Mid-Victorian Italianate home, agricultural and industrial exhibits, annual quilt displays and the most recent addition, the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum, which is not your typical stop, stand and stare museum, is loaded with both traditional and innovative displays.

The following pages outline a wide variety of tour options for any type of group. Arrange a full day trip touring all of the sites or a quick tour of only one site. We will be happy to customize any combination of tours for you. We can add a meal or a refreshment break and recommend other area attractions and restaurants. If you would like to stay for a few days, we can also assist you with an Eastern Iowa itinerary.

We look forward to assisting you and hope to see you soon.

**To schedule a tour call 319-234-6357 or email [info@gmdistrict.org](mailto:info@gmdistrict.org)**

## CONTENTS

### MUSEUM INFORMATION

- 1 IOWA VETERANS MUSEUM**
- 7 GROUT MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE**
- 8 BLUEDORN SCIENCE IMAGINARIUM**
- 9 RENNELAER RUSSELL HOUSE MUSEUM**

### PLAN YOUR VISIT

- 10 TOUR PRICING & GUIDELINES**
- 11 SPECIALTY TOURS**
- 14 STEP-ON GUIDE**
- 15 TOUR & LUNCH**
- 16 MENU**
- 17 FULL DAY ITINERARY**
- 18 MAP & DIRECTIONS**

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

# IOWA VETERANS MUSEUM



The Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum collects, preserves and interprets the stories and artifacts of Iowa's veterans and homefront workers who served from the Civil War to present. The 13,000 square foot exhibit area opened in November 2008 with both traditional and innovative technological displays. While the stories are Iowan, the narrative is the history of America's wartime experience.

**Guided Tour:** \$4

**Specialty Tour:** Meet the Sullivans - \$3, see page 12 for details

The veteran kiosk lists Iowans who served from the Civil War to the present. Didn't find your name on the database? Complete a registration form to be entered into our expanding veterans file. If you, or someone you know, has completed a veteran interview, you can view a short excerpt on the kiosk or arrange to see the full interview in the library.



Dog tag stations provide insight into the lives of soldiers and citizens. In each combat period, a station will "read" your dog tag and tell how your persona might have experienced events of the time. There are eighteen different personal profiles.



No one can better describe the experiences of war than someone who was there. The Grout Museum District turned to veterans to learn about their fear, anger, loneliness and humor. The mini-theater segments are drawn from over 1000 video interviews in the museum's archives.

There are artifacts from every combat period - uniforms, weapons, personal items, photos and newspapers. Each provides insight into the larger military story.



World War II was the ultimate Big Story and the museum has a map large enough to explain it. The laser map outlines the main events, trends and results in a style that attracts both young and old.

The Civil War comes to life on the big screen, complete with explosions for the battles, an ongoing narrative and graphics to show the changing battlefield. Visitors can follow the route of regiments formed in any county in Iowa.



# CIVIL WAR - WWI



## CIVIL WAR

Nearly half of all adult males in Iowa (over 76,000) volunteered to fight in the Civil War. Iowa contributed the largest percentage of troops given its population in the Union army. Sixty regiments, including one African American unit and a regiment of men all over age 45, marched off to preserve the Union. The war took a heavy toll as 13,000 Iowa soldiers died during the conflict.



## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Four Iowa regiments volunteered to fight in the Spanish-American War, but the conflict ended before they were deployed. However, the 51st Iowa did make it to the Philippines in 1899 where they fought Filipino insurrectionists for seven months. With only one combat death, disease was a far greater threat than bullets.



## WORLD WAR I

Nearly 115,000 Iowans answered the call to serve in World War I, the “war to end all wars”. Their contribution was critical to halting the German offensive in 1918. They fought in the trenches and went “over the top” along the Western Front in France.



# WWII & THE SULLIVAN LEGACY

## THE SULLIVAN FAMILY

Waterloo's five Sullivan brothers gained national attention when they enlisted in the Navy after Pearl Harbor. Insisting they be allowed to 'stick together,' the Navy assigned them to the *USS Juneau*. Tragically it was lost in November 1942 and the Sullivans were among the 700 sailors who died. It was the largest single combat loss for any family in American military history.



## WORLD WAR II

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 launched the U.S. into a huge war effort to destroy the forces of totalitarianism. In the global war, Iowans did everything from flying B-29s to working as "code-talkers." It was a time of patriotism and doing whatever necessary to win the war.



# THE HOMEFRONT

## LIFE ON THE HOMEFRONT

A war cannot be won without support from the homefront. Starting with the Civil War, women and family members provided moral and material support for soldiers in the field. Food, medicine, bandages and care packages were sent along with prayers to remind troops what they were fighting for. During World War II a huge workforce at home supplied everything from bullets to bacon to make American troops the best fighting force in the world.



*Finally, someone has told the story of how women worked and served in the military to help win World War II.*

*- Marcia from Waterloo, Iowa*



# KOREA - CURRENT CONFLICTS



## KOREAN WAR

The Cold War began in 1949 and was the start of 40 years of uneasy peace interrupted by periods of conflict. The Korean War erupted into heavy fighting in 1950. Although an armistice ended combat in 1953, American troops remain “on the line” today to secure the peace. This inconclusive end led many to refer to Korea as the ‘forgotten war’ or the ‘forgotten victory.’



## VIETNAM WAR

The Vietnam War drew hundreds of thousands of young Americans into battle halfway around the world in the 1960s and 70s. A difficult guerilla war, an indecisive political and military policy and opposition to the war at home all resulted in a frustrated American public and an embittered veteran population. The passage of time lends perspective and the recognition that the men and women who served were not responsible for the policy - they deserve to be honored for their service and sacrifice.



## CURRENT CONFLICTS

The end of the Cold War did not bring the peace many envisioned. New political and religious forces threaten American security, sending troops to Iraq in 1990-91 and to Afghanistan and Iraq after the attack of September 11, 2001. In the new volunteer military, with its dependence on National Guard and Reserve units, Iowans are again serving on the front lines.

# GROUT MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE



The Grout Museum of History and Science features permanent and continually changing exhibitions of area history, regional flora and fauna, and the only public planetarium in Northeast Iowa. It is also home to the McKinstry Library/Archives, northeast Iowa's largest genealogical reference library. The library also contains an archival collection numbering 21,617 maps, photographs, video histories, audio/video tapes, clippings and documents relating to the Cedar Valley.

**Guided Tour:** \$4

**Specialty Tours:** Quilt Tour & Gallery Talk - \$3, Grout Inside Out - \$3  
See page 12 for details



## ENGINE OF THE HEARTLAND

View the evolution of the metro area into a Midwest industrial center. Machines of transportation and power are featured along with agri-production, food processing, farm implement manufacturing and printing. Interactive elements and compelling displays allow you to explore the events and people that make up the "engine of the heartland."

## PIONEER HALL

Experience what life was like when Iowa became a state in 1846. Life-size scenes, a mural of the prairie as the pioneers found it and a computer kiosk help tell the story of pioneer life.

# BLUEDORN SCIENCE IMAGINARIUM

The Carl A. and Peggy J. Bluedorn Science Imaginarium opened in 1993 in response to increased interest in the Grout's science programs. Described as a "playground for the imagination," this interactive science center provides fun hands-on exhibits that demonstrate how science impacts everyday life.

**Self-Guided Tour:** \$3

**Specialty Tours:** Universal Science - \$8, Scouting for Science - \$10  
See page 13 for details

## ROBOTIX

Use your imagination to build futuristic machines and creatures on the ROBOTIX table, then just add power to make them go.



## ANGULAR MOMENTUM

Get on the angular momentum machine and discover why ice skaters can spin so fast without falling.



# RENSELAER RUSSELL HOUSE MUSEUM

## VICTORIAN ELEGANCE

The Rensselaer Russell House Museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is often cited as Iowa's finest example of Italianate architecture. As the Grout Museum District's largest artifact, the house has been restored to the 1890s - the period when electricity was added to the home. In an era of gracious living, the Rensselaer Russell house was a showplace of the community. An 1889 Steinway grand piano, one of the first grand pianos in the area, was the center of many gatherings, and is the jewel of the Russell family collection. Guided tours bring the home to life with original furnishings and stories of the Russell family and their experiences in Victorian Waterloo.

**Guided Tour:** \$4

**Specialty Tours:** Tea & Tour - \$8, Tea, Tour & Talk - \$9  
See page 11 for details



## STEINWAY PIANO

This piano was one of the first grand pianos in the area. Lillian Russell loved music. As an adult, she studied piano in Chicago and later gave piano lessons to others. In 1993, the piano was sent to Steinway and Company in New York City for restoration.



# TOUR PRICING & GUIDELINES

LOCATION	SELF-GUIDED	GUIDED
Iowa Veterans Museum/ Grout Museum	\$6	\$7
<i>Veterans group rate</i>	\$4	\$6
Grout Museum of History & Science	N/A	\$4
Iowa Veterans Museum	N/A	\$4
Rensselaer Russell House Museum	N/A	\$4
Bluedorn Science Imaginarium	\$3	N/A
Children (at any site)	\$3	\$4
Add-ons:		
Audio Tour ( <i>not available at Imaginarium</i> )	\$3	N/A
Private Planetarium Show*	\$1.75	\$1.75
Private Science Demonstration*	\$1.75	\$1.75

Youth tours (*scouts, daycares, clubs*) require 1 adult per 8 children. Those adults receive free admission.

*\*If your tour occurs during a regularly scheduled show your group may attend for free.*



## TOUR GUIDELINES

- A non-refundable \$30.00 administration fee must be paid at least two weeks prior to the scheduled tour date. This is required for all tour groups. The full amount will be applied toward the total tour cost.
- You will receive a confirmation packet detailing costs, maps and parking directions
- Submit **ONE** check for the full amount payable to the Grout Museum District. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are also accepted.
- Reservations for guided tours **MUST** be made at least two weeks prior to tour.
- Reservations for self-guided tours **MUST** be made at least one week prior.
- Reservations are booked on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Group tour operators are required to supply an approximate number of persons at least one week in advance.
- Guided tours require a fifteen person minimum. If a tour does not meet the minimum, it may be changed to a self-guided tour.
- All Saturday tours must be self-guided unless otherwise negotiated directly with the Director of Group Tours.

# SPECIALTY TOURS

The Grout Museum District's specialty tours offer unique insight into some of the museums most interesting exhibits.

## TEA & TOUR

\$8.00 per person

Rensselaer Russell House Museum

A guided tour of the Rensselaer Russell House Museum followed by tea and refreshments at the Snowden House.

## TEA, TOUR & TALK

\$9.00 per person

Rensselaer Russell House Museum

A guided tour of the Rensselaer Russell House Museum followed by tea and refreshments at the Snowden House and a special program based on the topics below.

*Please specify program preference at the time of registration.*

### TEA ETIQUETTE

Learn the proper manners, menu, and table setting for afternoon tea.

### VICTORIAN FASHION

Learn about popular fashion for rich and poor Victorian men and women.

### TRANSPORTATION

How did Victorians get around? Learn how they stayed warm while traveling in the winter.

### CALLING CARDS

What were calling cards? Learn their proper use and etiquette and see some examples of Victorian calling cards.

### FAN ETIQUETTE

Did you know fans can talk? Learn what Victorian ladies were saying when they were using and flirting with their fans.

### PARLOR GAMES

What were popular Victorian games? Enjoy some afternoon tea and maybe even play a few games.

### VICTORIAN DINING

What did Victorians have for dinner? Did they have the same rules of etiquette as we do now?



Short on time? Get to the heart of what you're interested in with a short specialty tour or add one on to a guided or self-guided tour to make your group's experience extra special.

### **MEET THE SULLIVANS**

**\$3.00 per person**

Iowa Veterans Museum

View *The Life and Times of Waterloo's Five Sullivan Brothers*, a close-up look at the historic and tragic loss of Waterloo's Sullivan family. Following the video, take a short tour of the Sullivan Family exhibit area. Step out on the bow of the USS *Juneau*, view family photos and newspaper articles, Alleta Sullivan's gold star flag and many other Sullivan family artifacts.

### **QUILT EXHIBIT TOUR & GALLERY TALK**

**\$3.00 per person**

Grout Museum of History & Science

Explore the annual quilt exhibit at the Grout Museum of History & Science. Get an up close and personal look at these beautiful works of art. Tour also includes brief descriptions of various quilts in the exhibit from the exhibit curator. This tour is only available when the Quilt Exhibit is on display. For more details and dates please contact the Director of Group Tours.

### **GROUT INSIDE OUT**

**\$3.00 per person**

Grout Museum of History & Science

You've seen exhibits at museums, but did you ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes? This interesting presentation and tour expands on the four main functions of a museum: collections, preservation, interpretation and exhibition. The work behind the scenes is just as fascinating as the exhibits.



# SPECIALTY TOURS



## UNIVERSAL SCIENCE

**\$8.00 per person**

**Bluedorn Science Imaginarium**

Take a journey into space! Scientific principles related to human space flight and exploration, the solar system, and exploring the stars invite children and adults to join in the fun of investigating the universe. Be transported into space in the portable planetarium. Hands-on activities challenge and advance understanding of the universe.

## SCOUTING FOR SCIENCE

**\$10.00 per person**

**Bluedorn Science Imaginarium**

Take your scouts to the next level. The Scouting For Science programs are a wonderful way for scouts and families to grow together. You provide the families, we provide the activities to fulfill badges for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in the following areas:

### WEATHER

Want to learn to forecast the weather? This badge will teach scouts to read weather maps, explore the properties of air, and make a weather instrument.

### SCIENCE DISCOVERY

Discover the fun in science. Earn the Science Discovery Badge by experimenting with chemical reactions, friction and the properties of water.

### SPACE EXPLORER

Do your scouts like stars and space shuttles? Then this is the badge for them! Learn about the four forces of flight, try astronaut food and study the stars.

# STEP-ON GUIDE

## HISTORIC BUS TOUR OF DOWNTOWN WATERLOO

\$50.00 per bus

Tour historic downtown Waterloo with a step-on guide. Learn the story of Waterloo from its emergence as a factory city in the 1890s to the contemporary city redefining itself with renovations and historic preservation. Waterloo has always been an ethnic and racially diverse, hard-working community, which is reflected in a 2007 mural by Richard Thomas, an artist/musician, who relocated to Waterloo after hurricane Katrina. The continued infusion of new people who bring their talents and vision are also reflected in Bosnian immigrant, Paco Rosic's spray paint reproduction of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel in his restaurant, Galleria de Paco. Stops may also include historic buildings such as the James Black Dry Goods Company, the Masonic Temple, East High School, the Rath Packing Company grounds, Veteran's Memorial Hall, The Russell Lamson Hotel and Historic Church Row. *All stops subject to availability.*



### RATH PACKING COMPANY

Rath Packing Company relocated to Waterloo from Dubuque in 1891. At its peak in 1952, Rath employed 6500 workers in 150 buildings in Waterloo and around the country. Due to changes in the national meat packing industry, the company ceased operations in 1985.



# TOUR AND LUNCH



## TOUR AND LUNCH

\$20.00 - \$25.00 per person

*Price varies depending on tour(s) scheduled and lunch selection*

Take a guided tour of the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum, Grout Museum of History & Science or both! Before or after your tour, enjoy a catered lunch in the beautiful glass lobby under the P51D Mustang.

*Please choose only ONE entrée and ONE dessert per group from the menu to the right. Other catering options are available. Inquire when calling to schedule tour.*



## BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

\$50.00 up to 50 people

\$100.00 more than 50 people

Rent the mess hall along with your tour. Bring in sack lunches, cater in your own food or have a potluck. This option is designed for anyone planning a tour along with an event - birthday parties, reunions, community group gatherings, bridge clubs, etc. Fee(s) listed above are valid only with a scheduled tour. Fee will be added to the total per person group tour admission fee.

# MENU

## ENTREES:

- Chicken salad croissant with chips or potato salad
- Deli sandwich and cup of soup
- Full salad bar and cup of soup
- Chicken salad, ham salad and macaroni salad garnished with vegetable sticks
- Open faced beef or turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes, gravy and seasonal vegetable blend
- BBQ beef brisket, coleslaw and twice baked mashed potatoes
- Meat loaf, mashed potatoes with gravy and green beans
- Roasted chicken with baked potato and chefs seasonal blend vegetable
- Chicken breast dijon with mashed potatoes, gravy and corn

*All entrees include rolls, butter, dessert, coffee, tea and lemonade.*

## DESSERTS:

- Brownie or cookie
- Fresh baked apple crisp
- Apple pie
- Chocolate mousse
- Lemon squares
- Scoop of ice cream



# FULL DAY ITINERARY



## **TOUR OF GROUT MUSEUM DISTRICT & LUNCH**

**\$30.00 per person**

- 9:15 Arrive @ Grout Museum District - Introduction
- 9:45 Guided Tour of Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum (Lower Level)  
*See pages 1-3*
- 10:30 The Life and Times of the Five Sullivan Brothers  
*Exclusive video documenting Waterloo's Sullivan family.*
- 11:00 Guided Tour of Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum (Upper Level)  
*See pages 4-7*
- 12:00 Restroom Break
- 12:15 Lunch in the Iowa Veterans Museum Lobby under the P51D Mustang  
*Choose from a variety of options on pages 15 & 16*
- 1:00 Guided Tour of the Grout Museum of History and Science  
*See page 7*
- 2:15 Restroom Break
- 2:30 Tour of Rensselaer Russell House Museum  
*See page 9*
- 3:30 Step-On Guide: Historical Bus Tour of Downtown Waterloo  
*See page 14*
- 4:30 Depart from Grout Museum District

*Guided tours can be adjusted to self-guided. Half-day trip/tour is available.*

# MAP AND DIRECTIONS

Located just south of downtown Waterloo, any site at the Grout Museum District is easy to access. All buildings are within two blocks of each other. The District is 105 miles north of Des Moines, 200 miles south of Minneapolis and 270 miles west of Chicago.

## GROUT MUSEUM DISTRICT

503 South St.

Waterloo, IA 50701

319-234-6357



## FROM EAST:

Head west on I-380 N  
Exit onto I-380 N/US-218  
Slight right at Bluff St  
Continue onto Washington St  
Turn left at W Park Ave

## FROM WEST:

Head southeast on US-218 S  
Take exit 180 toward Downtown  
Merge onto Washington St  
Turn right at W Park Ave

## FROM NORTH:

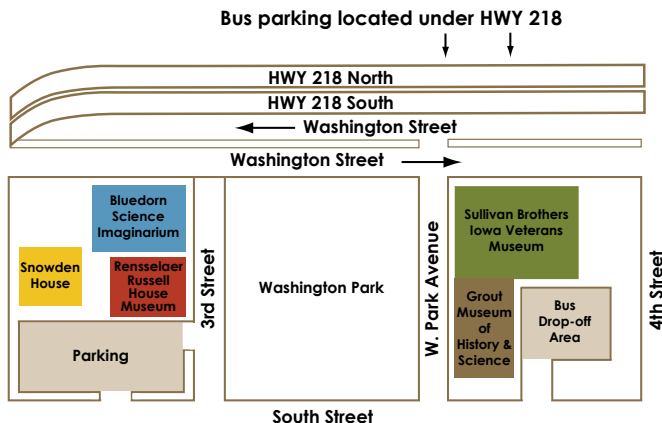
Head south on E Mullan Ave/HWY 63  
Stay left at fork  
Continue onto Washington St  
Turn right at W Park Ave

## FROM SOUTH:

Head northeast on Sergeant Rd  
Take the 2nd right onto University Ave  
Turn right at W 1st St/W Mullan Ave  
Continue onto Washington St  
Turn right at W Park Ave

## PARKING:

Bus unloading for the Iowa Veterans Museum/Grout Museum is available in parking lot on South St. Free bus parking is located under US-218. When visiting the Imaginarium or Russell House an unloading zone and parking is available in the lot behind the buildings on South St.



# AREA ATTRACTIONS

African American Historical Museum & Cultural Center Of Iowa - [www.blackiowa.org](http://www.blackiowa.org)

Breitbach Country Dining - [www.breitbachscountrydining.com](http://www.breitbachscountrydining.com)

Brush Creek Winery - [www.brushcreekwinery.com](http://www.brushcreekwinery.com)

Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art - [www.crma.org](http://www.crma.org)

Celebration River Cruises - [www.celebrationbelle.com](http://www.celebrationbelle.com)

Country Junction Restaurant - [www.countryjunctionrestaurant.com](http://www.countryjunctionrestaurant.com)

Dan Gable Wrestling Institute & Museum - [www.wrestlingmuseum.org](http://www.wrestlingmuseum.org)

Field Of Dreams Movie Site - [www.fodmoviesite.com](http://www.fodmoviesite.com)

Fireside Winery - [www.firesidewinery.com](http://www.firesidewinery.com)

Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center - [www.gbpac.org](http://www.gbpac.org)

Galleria De Paco - [www.paco-rosic.com](http://www.paco-rosic.com)

Heartland Acres Agribition Center - [www.heartlandacresusa.com](http://www.heartlandacresusa.com)

The Isle Casino & Hotel - [www.theislewaterloo.com](http://www.theislewaterloo.com)

National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium - [www.mississippirivermuseum.com](http://www.mississippirivermuseum.com)

Old Creamery Theatre Company, Inc. - [www.oldcreamery.com](http://www.oldcreamery.com)

Old Man River Restaurant & Brewery - [www.oldmanriverbrewery.com](http://www.oldmanriverbrewery.com)

PZAZZ! Entertainment Complex - [www.thepzazz.com](http://www.thepzazz.com)

River Cruises - [www.riverboattwilight.com](http://www.riverboattwilight.com)

Riverside Casino and Golf Resort - [www.riversidecasinoandresort.com](http://www.riversidecasinoandresort.com)

Stone Cliff Winery - [www.stonecliffwinery.com](http://www.stonecliffwinery.com)

University of Northern Iowa Athletics - [www.unipanthers.com](http://www.unipanthers.com)

Waterloo Center for the Arts - [www.waterloocenterforthearts.org](http://www.waterloocenterforthearts.org)



These are just a few of the great attractions Eastern Iowa has to offer. To see a complete list of area attractions visit:  
**[WWW.EASTERNIOWATOURISM.ORG](http://WWW.EASTERNIOWATOURISM.ORG)**



Want to see all Waterloo has to offer? For more information and assistance in planning your tour to Waterloo please contact Lonnie at 800-728-8431 or [lonnie@travelwaterloo.com](mailto:lonnie@travelwaterloo.com).  
**[WWW.TRAVELWATERLOO.COM](http://WWW.TRAVELWATERLOO.COM)**





*Groot Museum District*  
*503 South St.*  
*Waterloo, Iowa 50701*

**CALL NOW TO BOOK YOUR TOUR**  
**319-234-6357**