

## DOWNTOWN DES MOINES POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Iowa Capitol Building:** 1007 E Grand Ave (anchors the east end of the East Village), open 8AM-5PM weekdays and 9AM-4PM Saturdays, 515-281-5591, open to the public and definitely worth a look inside; good views of downtown from the west side steps
- **Raygun:** 505 E Grand Ave (in the East Village), 515-288-1323, the ultimate in kitschy t-shirts and Midwest memorabilia
- **Pappajohn's Sculpture Park:** 1330 Grand Ave; open sunrise to midnight daily; 2+ block open-air park with interactive sculptures from world-renowned artists; Kum & Go's national headquarters, designed by Italian architect Renzo Piano, anchors the park on the north side and the first floor is open to the public; several restaurants can be found bordering the south side on Locust Street, with Exile Brewery and Restaurant two blocks south at 1514 Walnut Street
- **Court Avenue District:** begins one block south of the hotel on 4<sup>th</sup> Street and continues onto Court Avenue and further south on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, several restaurants and bars, Hy-Vee Grocery with eat-in dining, and home to the Downtown Des Moines Farmers' Market
- **East Village:** east of the hotel across the Des Moines River primarily along E Grand Ave, E Locust Streets, and streets connecting; home to Zombie Burger, Raygun, AC Hotel's top floor bar, and many shops and restaurants
- **Downtown Walking and Bike Trails:** a loop stroll from the hotel to Gray's Lake (open 6AM-10PM) and back can be done in hour and a half to two hours
- **Principal Park:** 1 Line Drive; home to the Chicago Cubs triple A team, the Iowa Cubs; bars and restaurants on the north and west sides of the park
- **Des Moines Botanical Garden:** 909 Robert D. Ray Dr, 515-323-6290, about eight blocks east and north of the hotel on other side of the Des Moines River, use the Principal River Walk Trail
- **Major downtown corporations** include Wells Fargo, Principal Financial Group, Nationwide Insurance, Ruan Transportation, Wellmark, and Meredith Publishing Company; a Raygun t-shirt logo reads: "Des Moines! Our primary industries are kicking ass, taking names, and selling insurance!"
- **Ingersoll Avenue:** just west of downtown with shops, restaurants, and adjoining residential neighborhoods; taxi to Eatery A and from there stroll up and down this avenue for shopping and eating destinations; if your game, an hour walk back to the hotel
- **A Walgreens Pharmacy** can be found 3.5 blocks from the hotel at 606 Walnut St, 515-283-2591; **Hy-Vee Grocery** can be found 2 blocks from the hotel at 420 Court Ave, 515-697-0360
- **Des Moines Transit** runs a free bus, "the D Line" that for the most part travels west on Grand and east on Locust Avenues weekdays from 6:30AM-6PM and Saturdays 10AM-5PM. Find a bus stop with the D Line sign, wave a D Line bus down as it approaches and hop on for free; the line takes you past the Pappajohn Sculpture Park, to the East Village & Capitol, and points in between; every ten minutes
- **Other places of note:** West End Architectural Salvage, Mullet's, Hessian House, Americana, Fong's Pizza, Java Joe's, El Bait Shop, High Life Lounge, Django, Centro, Wooly's, the Continental, Lucca...