

# Burlington, Iowa, USA

Perched on the bluffs above the Mississippi, Burlington is best known for Snake Alley — one of the crookedest streets in the world — and a compact historic downtown steps from the dock.

Docked — downtown riverfront

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

US Dollar (USD)

English

## MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_ All aboard: \_\_\_\_\_

Excursion: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## GETTING ASHORE

**Docking:** Alongside at Port of Burlington, 400 N Front St — right on the downtown riverfront

**Best For:** American history, quirky landmarks, scenic riverfront walks

**Walk to center:** 5 min walk to Heritage Hill and Snake Alley; flat along the river, then a steep climb

**Don't Miss:** Snake Alley — five half-curves over 275 ft; voted crookedest street in the world by Ripley's

Getting around: Taxi \$8–15 · Rideshare Uber, Lyft

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- SNAKE ALLEY & HERITAGE HILL WALK** — Stroll up from the riverfront to Burlington's most photographed attraction — a cobblestone street with five half-curves and a 21% grade, surrounded...
  - GARRETT-PHELPS HOUSE MUSEUM** — An elegant 1851 Victorian mansion with nine furnished rooms showcasing antiques dating back to 1774 — one of Iowa's finest house museums.
  - DES MOINES COUNTY HERITAGE CENTER** — Burlington's main history museum, covering the county's settlement, industrial, and cultural
- heritage through engaging exhibits and galleries.

  - STARR'S CAVE PARK & PRESERVE** — A 184-acre preserve just minutes from downtown with hiking trails, Flint Creek views, and caves including Devil's Kitchen and Crinoid Cavern.
  - GEODE STATE PARK** — Named for Iowa's state rock, this park 20 minutes from town offers a lake for kayaking and fishing, plus hiking trails through wooded hills.

## BEST WALKS

- RIVERFRONT TO SNAKE ALLEY LOOP** 1.5 miles | 45-60 min | Moderate — Walk north along the riverfront from the dock, turn inland up the bluff stairway on Columbia Street, continue to Snake Alley on North 6th Street, then loop back through...
- MOSQUITO PARK OVERLOOK** 0.5 miles | 20 min | Easy — A short walk or quick drive to Mosquito Park on the bluffs above the river for sweeping panoramic views of the Mississippi and the Great River Bridge.

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

**CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

|     | Mon | High | Low | Rain |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| Apr |     | 52°  | 35° | 12d  |
| Jun |     | 75°  | 58° | 10d  |
| Aug |     | 79°  | 63° | 10d  |
| Sep |     | 72°  | 57° | 10d  |
| Oct |     | 59°  | 46° | 12d  |

**DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 6:36AM–8:02PM · Jun 5:38AM–9:01PM · Aug 6:25AM–8:21PM · Sep 6:59AM–7:28PM · Oct 7:33AM–6:35PM

US Dollar (USD)

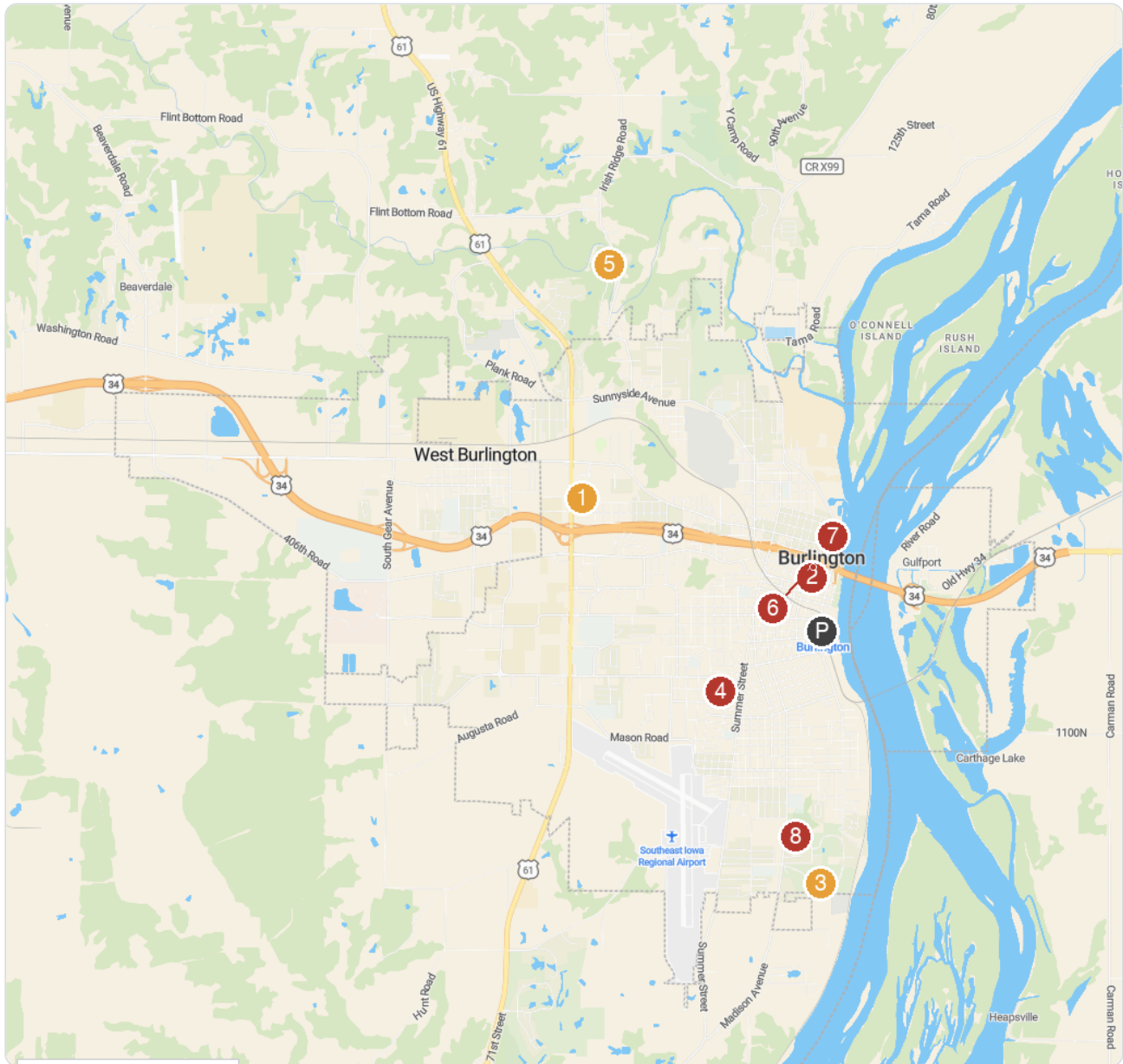
## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Dock is central — the Port of Burlington is right on the riverfront, so no tender or bus needed to reach downtown.
- Wear walking shoes — the climb from river level up to Snake Alley and Heritage Hill is steep. Worth it, but not sandals.
- Cash and cards both work — Burlington is a normal small American city; credit cards accepted nearly everywhere.
- Midwest weather varies — summer calls can be hot and humid; spring and fall are ideal. Bring a layer for evenings on the river.
- Local dining — downtown Burlington has independent restaurants and bars along Jefferson Street; skip the chain options near the highway.
- Compact port — the main highlights (Snake Alley, Heritage Center, house museum) take 3-4 hours total, leaving time to relax on the riverfront before all-aboard.

# Burlington, Iowa, USA — Port Map

[cruiseports.org](https://cruiseports.org)

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1 Fun City</b> Indoor water park, casino, arcade, and bowling entertainment complex.</p> <p><b>3 Crapo Park</b> Historic park with river views, arboreta, and Native American mounds.</p> <p><b>5 Starr's Cave Nature Center</b> Nature center with caves, hiking trails, and exhibits.</p> <p><b>7 Mosquito Park</b> Small, historic park with unique name and river views.</p> <p><b>P Cruise port / terminal</b></p> | <p><b>2 Des Moines County Heritage Center Museum</b> Local history museum in a former federal building.</p> <p><b>4 Perkins Park</b> Park featuring a disc golf course and playground.</p> <p><b>6 North Hill Park</b> Quiet neighborhood park offering scenic views of the city.</p> <p><b>8 Dankwardt Memorial Park</b> Large park with a pool, golf course, and walking trails.</p> |
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