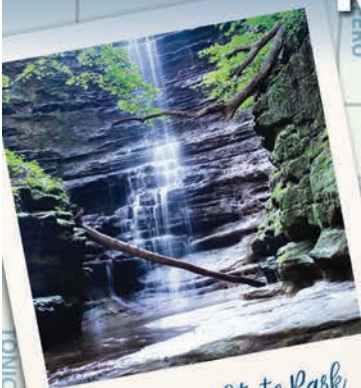


# LaSalle County

THE OFFICIAL MINI GUIDE

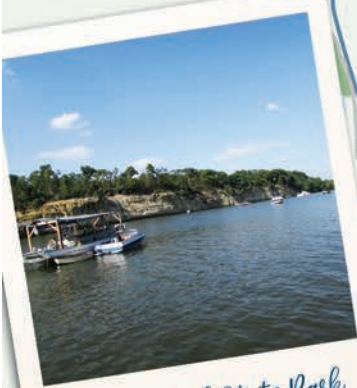
## ROAD TRIP



Matthiessen State Park



Starved Rock State Park



Buffalo Rock State Park



Illini State Park

Enjoy  
**LaSalle County**

Come for the Beauty, Stay for the Adventure.

ILLINOIS.  
ARE YOU UP FOR  
AMAZING?

*allin*



## IL River Road National Scenic Byway

If you love scenic road trips, then you will enjoy the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway. The 150-mile River Road Corridor stretches from Ottawa to Havana, IL.

The Illinois Valley area has a varied landscape – from the sandstone canyons along the Illinois River in Starved Rock State Park to wetland prairies and farmland to hardwood forests and woodland seeps.

As you travel along the wide water of the Illinois River, you will see the biodiversity of the raptors, waterfowl, and songbirds, along with deer and more.

There are many great attractions, historical sites, restaurants and shops throughout LaSalle County for you to enjoy along the way. Book your overnights in a local hotel, cabin, or bed and breakfast and explore the area as you travel along the byway.

[illinoisriverroad.org](http://illinoisriverroad.org)



**2019-20 OFFICIAL LASALLE COUNTY MINI GUIDE**  
For tourism information, extra copies of this booklet, or the 2019 LaSalle County Visitor Guide, visit [enjoylasallecounty.com](http://enjoylasallecounty.com).



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Icefall photo: [instagram.com/ryanpatrickfoster](https://www.instagram.com/ryanpatrickfoster) • Aerial of Buffalo Rock: [heliosvisions.com](http://heliosvisions.com)  
Eagle photo: Allen Hightower Photography • Weber House & Garden photo: Stuart Arndts

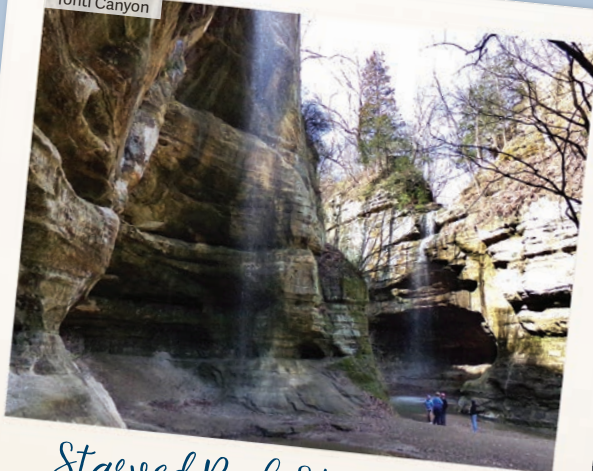
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5/19 35,000

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[@enjoylasallecounty](https://www.facebook.com/enjoylasallecounty)



Tonti Canyon



## Starved Rock State Park

Voted the #1 attraction in Illinois, Starved Rock State Park is one of the premier publicly held natural areas in all of Illinois. The park has eighteen distinct canyons that were formed out of St. Peter Sandstone by glacial melting and the Illinois River. Starved Rock State Park Visitor Center and Lodge offer a large variety of activities for you to enjoy, including self-guided and guided hikes, boating, camping, trolley tours, events, live shows, dining, shopping, and more.



Wildcat Canyon

## WATERFALLS

In Starved Rock, the majority of the canyons boast waterfalls. The most popular of the waterfalls can be found in St. Louis, French, Wildcat, Tonti, LaSalle, Ottawa, and Kaskaskia Canyons. Waterfalls in Starved Rock are seasonal and dependent upon precipitation. The best times to view waterfalls are in the spring and after heavy rainfall.



## FALL COLORS

Autumn in LaSalle County is bursting with color. If you would like to learn about basic tree identification, how leaves change color, and the history and geology of Starved Rock, join one of the free guided hikes on the third weekend in October, during Fall Colors Weekend.



Ottawa Canyon

## ICEFALLS

If you love waterfalls, the icefalls are a sight to see and are a reason to get out and about in the winter. Bundle up and get out and enjoy the beauty of winter in LaSalle County. Many trails have stairs, which can be challenging in the winter. It is highly recommended to wear YakTrax or Kahtoolas for greater traction on the snow and ice.

## WINTER HIKE

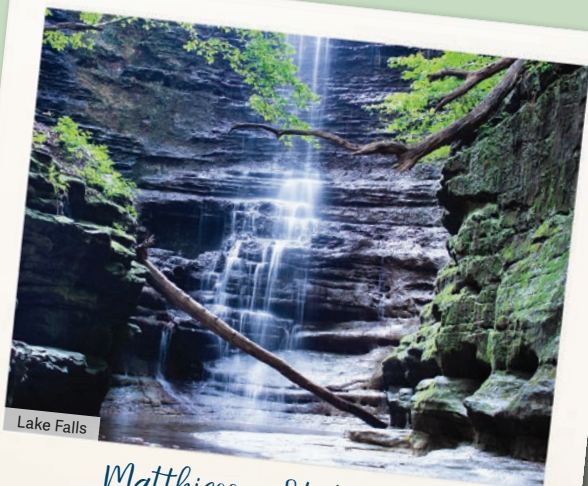
Guided hikes are available on select dates throughout the year in Starved Rock State Park through the Visitor Center and Lodge. During the winter months, you will hike to spectacular icefalls and watch the eagles soar and feed. You can call ahead to find out if icefalls are present, since they are dependent on precipitation and freezing temperatures.



## EAGLE WATCHING

With a wingspan of six to eight feet, there is nothing more majestic than an American Bald Eagle in the wild. Large flocks of eagles migrate to the area in search of open water to feed. When it gets really cold, eagles will often be found perched in the trees on Plum Island and Leopold Island. With the dam nearby, the location is ideal for finding fish as the turbulent water keeps the surface from freezing.

**QUICK TIP:** The best time for viewing the eagles is late December - March. They are most active between the hours of 7-9 AM and 4-5 PM.



Lake Falls

## Matthiessen State Park

Matthiessen State Park is a true gem in Illinois. The park's canyons, mineral springs, streams, seasonal waterfalls and icefalls, and Vermilion River views are a genuine delight for the senses. Adding to the grandeur of the main canyon is a 45-foot drop between the Upper and Lower Dells. There are five miles of hiking trails for leisure walks or brisk hikes to lead you to these spectacular spots.

Matthiessen is a popular location for a variety of activities and events throughout the year. The park contains nine miles of trails for mountain biking or horseback riding as well as hiking trails. There is also an equestrian campground nearby for riders and their horses west of Route 178 between Route 71 and the Dells Area entrance.



THE BEST  
TIME TO  
SEE THE  
SUNFLOWERS  
IS MID-JULY.

You can pack a lunch and use the picnic areas in both the Dells and the Vermilion River areas. Tables, water fountains, shelters, grills, bathroom facilities, and a playground are available in the park. For the hobbyist, there is a field archery range off of Route 71 near Deer Park Country Club and a radio-controlled model airplane field in the Vermilion River Area. Near the field are sixty acres of sunflowers, which is a beautiful sight mid-summer. Weather can impact the longevity of the blooms, so they may not last until August.

**2500 IL RT 178 • OGLESBY**  
**815-667-4726 • [dnr.illinois.gov](http://dnr.illinois.gov)**



## Buffalo Rock State Park

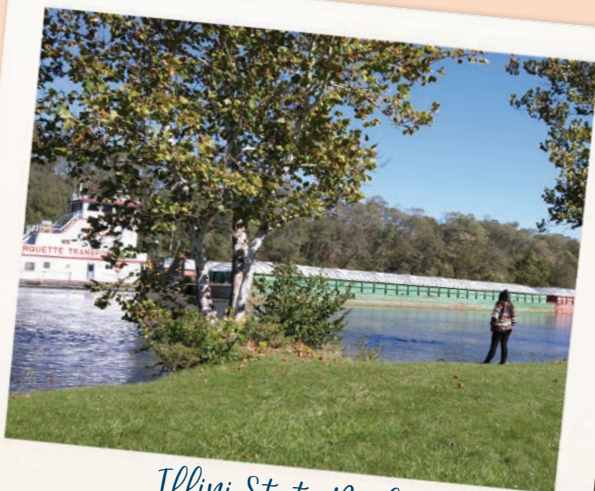
Buffalo Rock State Park is a 298-acre park on a bluff with trails and overlooks with magnificent views of the Illinois River. The bluff is rich in history as it was once home to the Illinois Tribe and visited by Louis Joliet and Father Jacques Marquette as they traveled the Illinois River. Buffalo Rock is also known for being the location of a French trading and missionary fort. Centuries later, it became the Crane Company's employee sanatorium.

Buffalo Rock has a variety of amenities and activities, including picnic areas, hiking, and cross-country ski trails, bird watching, baseball diamond, and biking and snowmobiling by way of the I & M Canal Access Point across the road from the park.

Buffalo Rock also is home to two American bison that reside in the park across from the baseball diamond. Stop in for a visit and enjoy the surroundings where many bison once roamed freely hundreds of years ago.



One of the most prominent displays of outdoor sculpture anywhere is at Buffalo Rock in a collection called the "Effigy Tumuli," created by artist Michael Heizer. It was inspired by Native American burial grounds that were once created thousands of years ago. The sculptures include a snake, turtle, catfish, frog, and water strider.



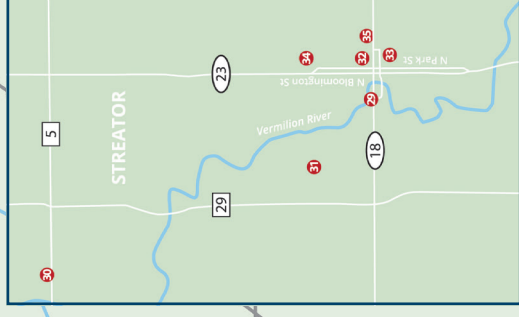
## *Illini State Park*

Once home to Native Americans, Illini State Park is still a place for gathering. Today it is a 510-acre park with a baseball field, a campground with 104 sites, and a boat ramp, along with areas for fishing, hiking, biking, and more. The trails are flat and easy to hike. During the winter, you can trek the cross-country skiing trails and go sledding. A shelter is available to warm up after hours of fun.



At the far west end of the park stands a living monument, which celebrates the lives of soldiers lost in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Illinois Fallen Soldiers Tree Memorial consists of 250 oak trees on 2.5 acres of land.











## REDDICK MANSION

The Reddick Mansion, a wonderfully unique landmark, stands proudly on the corners of Columbus and Lafayette streets in Ottawa. This twenty-two room Italianate mansion has drawn attention for many years as a private residence, a public library, and a public office building. Built in 1858 by William Reddick, it remained the family home for thirty years. William Reddick was a respected businessman and politician, but he was also a philanthropist.

With education being of utmost importance to him, he was instrumental in laying the foundation for the University of Illinois and the organization of free public schools in Ottawa. Upon his death and in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Reddick, the home became the property of the City of Ottawa to be used as a library. In 1974, the Reddick Mansion Association was chartered as a non-profit corporation in charge of ensuring the restoration, maintenance, and operation of the property.

100 West Lafayette Street • OTTAWA ★  
815-433-6100 • [reddickmansion.org](http://reddickmansion.org)



# HISTORIC HOMES

## HEGELER CARUS MANSION

Completed in 1876, this stately Second Empire masterpiece is a National Landmark. Designed by W. W. Boyington, architect of the famous Chicago Water Tower, the structure remains virtually unaltered. The mansion, which has seven levels, fifty-seven rooms, and approximately 16,000 square feet, is as unique on the interior as it is on the exterior. The home boasts beautiful, intricate parquet floors and hand-painted ceilings.

The Hegeler Carus Mansion was also a site for historic accomplishments in industry, philosophy, publishing, and religion. Visitors today experience the grandeur of a bygone era and the heritage of a fascinating family whose history is woven tightly with that of the Illinois Valley and the United States, as well as internationally.

1307 7th Street • LASALLE ★  
815-224-6543 • [hegelercarus.org](http://hegelercarus.org)



## WEBER HOUSE AND GARDEN

Streator is home to this charming country Tudor. Owner Ted Weber welcomes visitors to experience themed rooms and extensive gardens. The home was built in 1938 by his parents, Ernest and Zelma Weber. Ted became a radio interviewer for a Chicago station and had his own syndicated show. During his career, he interviewed many celebrities and was able to travel extensively. His travels furthered his appreciation of architecture and art. Realizing the importance of preserving his family home, Ted Weber moved back to Streator in 1983 and has made it his passion.

The Weber House has uniquely decorated rooms, which are appropriately named for celebrities he once interviewed. Each room reflects a different period design. The home now has a beautifully manicured English garden that is segmented into rooms. Mr. Weber, feeling the need to promote tourism in Streator, opened his home to the public.

1503 Baker Street • STREATOR  
815-672-8327 • [weberhouseandgarden.com](http://weberhouseandgarden.com)

# Directory

LaSalle County offers a wide variety of fantastic options for every budget and taste. Be sure to check out these advertisers, along with the other great locations that you will find while out and about.

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OTTAWA •  catseyewinebar

**CLARKS RUN CREEK GIFTS & WINE**  
815-691-8047 • UTICA • clarksruncreek.com

ILLINOIS RIVER WINERY • 815-667-4012  
NORTH UTICA • illinoisriverwinery.com

**STAR UNION SPIRITS** • 815-205-1234  
PERU • starunionspirits.com •  startunionspirits

TANGLED ROOTS BREWING CO. • 815-324-9549  
OTTAWA • tangledrootsbrewingco.com

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**101 SUPPER CLUB** • 815-223-0101  
LASALLE • 101supperclub.com

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**SOCIAL KITCHEN** • 815-252-2655  
LASALLE •  

**UPTOWN GRILL** • 815-224-4545  
uptowngrill.com

### MARSEILLES


**MARSEILLES FAMILY RESTAURANT**  
815-795-3111 •  MarseillesFamilyDiner

### MENDOTA

**CINDY'S ON 34** • 815-539-9000

### OGLESBY

**CINDY'S ON 39** • 815-883-3539 • 

**MR. SALSA'S** • 815-883-9299  
 mr-salsa's-mexican-restaurant

**THE ROOTBEER STAND** • 815-883-9254

**STARVED ROCK LODGE** • 815-667-4211  
starvedrocklodge.com

### OTTAWA

**HANK'S FARM** • 815-433-2540 • hanksfarm.com

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reddoggrill.com

### PERU

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**STONE JUG BARBEQUE** • 815-780-8275  
stonejugbbq.com

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866-399-3866 • grizzlyjacksresort.com

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OTTAWA • choicehotels.com

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PERU • Marriott.com/SQIPR

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holidayinnexpress.com/ottawail

**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES PERU**  
815-224-2500 • PERU  
holidayinnexpress.com/lasalleperu

**LAQUINTA INN PERU** • 815-224-9000  
PERU • lq.com

**PRAIRIE LAKES COUNTRY CLUB & INN**  
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**QUALITY INN** • 815-433-9600  
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**QUALITY INN** • 815-223-8585  
PERU • choicehotels.com

**RELAX INN** • 815-672-3168  
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**SUPER 8** • 815-615-9582  
MENDOTA • super8.com

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STREATOR • [fb](#) chef-toms

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OTTAWA • [heritageharborottawa.com](#)

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FOX RIVER EAGLE CABIN RENTAL • 815-343-6435  
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MARCIA'S BED & BREAKFAST  
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RIVER HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST  
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SHERIDAN • [campingdeercreek.com](#)

FOUR STAR CAMPGROUND • 815-795-5720  
MARSEILLES • [fourstarcampground.com](#)

GLENWOOD RV RESORT • 815-795-6000  
MARSEILLES • [GlenwoodRVResort.com](#)

HI-TIDE RECREATION • 815-495-9032 • LELAND

ILLINI STATE PARK • 815-795-2448  
MARSEILLES • [reserveamerica.com](#)

KATCHEWAN LAKES CAMPGROUND  
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LASALLE/PERU KOA • 815-667-4988  
UTICA • [koa.com](#)

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**PLEASANT CREEK CAMPGROUND** • 815-431-0936  
OGLESBY • [pleasantcreekcampground.com](#)

ROLLING OAKS CAMPGROUND  
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STARVED ROCK STATE PARK • 815-667-4726  
OGLESBY • [reserveamerica.com](#)

TROLL HOLLOW CAMPGROUND • 815-795-2537  
MARSEILLES • [trollhollow.com](#)

##### RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

**WOODSMOKE RANCH REALTY** • 815-357-1338  
SENECA • [woodsmokeranch.com](#)

## Places to Go

Whether you prefer the rush of adrenaline or the calm of leisure, there is always something to do in LaSalle County. From outdoor adventure and fun on the water to indoor attractions and unique shops, you are sure to find something that you will enjoy.

#### MUSEUMS & LANDMARKS

##### EARLVILLE

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SOCIETY MUSEUM

##### LASALLE

HEGELER CARUS MANSION

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LASALLE COUNTY GENEALOGY GUILD

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK

OTTAWA HISTORICAL SCOUTING HERITAGE MUSEUM

**REDDICK MANSION** • 815-433-6100  
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MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS WALL MEMORIAL

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**LASALLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MUSEUM CAMPUS** • 815-667-4861  
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##### OGLESBY

MEMORIAL PARK

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PERU • [westcloxmuseum.com](#)

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ILLINOIS LST MEMORIAL

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MJ. HOGAN GRAIN ELEVATOR

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NORSK MUSEUM

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STREATORLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

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WWII CANTEEN MONUMENT

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**RT 34 DRIVE-IN THEATRE** • 815-246-9700  
EARLVILLE • [Rt34DriveIn.com](#) • [f](#)

#### EVENTS

##### SENECA SHIPYARD COMMISSION:

• SENECA SHIPYARD DAYS FESTIVAL  
JUNE 26 - 29, 2019 • 815-795-7573  
• VENETIAN NIGHT & FIREWORKS  
JUNE 22 • SENECA • [senecail.org](#)  
[f](#) SenecaShipyardsDaysFestival

For additional events, visit [enjoylasallecounty.com](#) or the sites listed under tourism information for specific locations.

#### FISHING TOURS

**STARVED ROCK GUIDE SERVICE** • 815-830-9757  
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OTTAWA TO HAVANA • [illinoisriverroad.org](#)

**OTTAWA HISTORICAL AND SCOUTING HERITAGE MUSEUM** • 815-431-9353 • OTTAWA

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LaSalle • [punkinacrepaints.com/trail-riding](#)

#### INDOOR WATERPARK

**GRIZZLY JACK'S GRAND BEAR RESORT**  
866-399-3866 • UTICA • [grizzlyjacksresort.com](#)

**FOX RIVER RESORT'S PIRATE'S CAY**  
815-496-3292 • SHERIDAN • piratescay.com

#### MARINAS

**ANCHOR IN MARINA** • 815-357-6666  
SENECA • anchorinmarina.com

**HERITAGE HARBOR MARINA** • 815-433-5000  
OTTAWA • heritageharborottawa.com

**HIDDENCOVE MARINA** • 815-357-6869  
SENECA • thehiddencovemarina.com

**MARINERS MARINA** • 708-528-5880  
SENECA • marinersvillage&marina.com

**SOUTH SHORE BOAT CLUB** • 815-223-9890  
PERU • southshoreboatclub.com

**SNUG HARBOR MARINA** • 815-795-9080  
MARSEILLES

**SPRING BROOK MARINA** • 815-357-8666  
SENECA • springbrookmarina.com

**STARVED ROCK MARINA** • 815-433-4218  
OTTAWA • starvedrockmarina.com

#### OFF-ROADING LOCATIONS

**THE CLIFFS INSANE TERRAIN** • 815-795-5200  
MARSEILLES • thecliffsinsaneterrain.com

**DIRT RUNNER** • 630-291-0250  
MARSEILLES • dirtrunner.us

**FOX VALLEY OFF ROAD** • 815-431-9913  
OTTAWA • foxvalleyoffroad.com

#### PETTING ZOO & WAGON RIDES

**PAULY'S PETTING ZOO** • 815-481-3337  
CEDAR POINT • ccrstables.com

#### PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AREA TOURS

**STARVED ROCK CONNECTIONS** • 815-883-0232  
SENECA • starvedrockconnections.com

Also see [iandmcanal.org](http://iandmcanal.org), [pickusottawail.com](http://pickusottawail.com), [starvedrocklodge.com](http://starvedrocklodge.com), and historic homes on pages 9&10, for additional tours.

#### RACING

**LASALLE SPEEDWAY** • 815-223-6900  
LASALLE • lasallespeedway.com

#### SKYDIVING

**SKYDIVE CHICAGO** • 815-433-0000  
OTTAWA • skydivechicago.com

#### SPLASH PAD

**FOX RIVER PARK SPLASH PAD** • OTTAWA  
[cityofottawa.org](http://cityofottawa.org)

**SPLASH FIELD AT WASHINGTON PARK**  
PERU • [peru.il.us](http://peru.il.us)

#### TUBING

**FOX HOLLOW TUBING CO.** • 815-867-8823  
SHERIDAN • foxhollowtubing.com

#### WHITewater RAFTING

**VERMILLION RIVER RAFTING** • 815-667-5242  
OGLESBY • vermilionriverrafting.com

#### YOGA/SPA

**SALT TREE YOGA** • 815-343-2751  
OTTAWA • salttreeyoga.com

#### ZIPLINING

**ZIP CHICAGO** • 815-795-5001  
MARSEILLES • zipchicago.com

## TOURISM INFORMATION

**CITY OF LASALLE** • 815-223-3755  
LASALLE • [lasalle-il.gov](http://lasalle-il.gov)

**CITY OF MARSEILLES** •  
MARSEILLES • 815-795-2133  
[cityofmarseilles.com](http://cityofmarseilles.com)

**CITY OF OGLESBY** • 815-883-3389  
OGLESBY • [oglesby.il.us](http://oglesby.il.us)

**CITY OF PERU** • 815-223-0061  
PERU • [peru.il.us](http://peru.il.us)

**HERITAGE CORRIDOR CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU** • 815-667-4356  
UTICA • [HeritageCorridorCVB.com](http://HeritageCorridorCVB.com)

**I & M CANAL BOAT/LOCK 16 VISITOR CENTER**  
815-220-1848 • LASALLE • [iandmcanal.org](http://iandmcanal.org)

**IL RIVER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
815-795-2323 • MARSEILLES • [IRACC.org](http://IRACC.org)

**IL RIVER ROAD NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY**  
309-547-2730 • LEWISTOWN, IL  
[illinoisriverroad.org](http://illinoisriverroad.org)

**IL WATERWAY VISITOR CENTER** • U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS • 815-667-4054 • OTTAWA  
[mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Illinois-Waterway](http://mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Illinois-Waterway)

**ILLINOIS VALLEY AREA CHAMBER**  
815-223-0227 • PERU • [ivaced.org](http://ivaced.org)

**MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
815-539-6507 • MENDOTA • [mendotachamber.com](http://mendotachamber.com)

**OTTAWA VISITORS CENTER** • 815-434-2737  
OTTAWA • [pickusottawail.com](http://pickusottawail.com)

**STARVED ROCK STATE PARK VISITOR CENTER**  
815-667-4726 • OGLESBY • [dnr.illinois.gov](http://dnr.illinois.gov)

**STREATOR TOURISM** • 815-672-2055  
STREATOR • [streator.org](http://streator.org) • [ci.streator.il.us](http://ci.streator.il.us)

**VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA** • 815-667-4111  
UTICA • [utica-il.gov](http://utica-il.gov)

**VILLAGE OF SENECA** • 815-357-8771  
SENECA • [senecail.org](http://senecail.org)

## EMERGENCY

### MEDICAL

**IVCH** • 815-780-3300 • PERU  
Care Today • 815-780-3855 • Peru • [ivch.org](http://ivch.org)

**MENDOTA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL** • 815-539-7461  
MENDOTA • [mendotahospital.org](http://mendotahospital.org)

**OSF HEALTHCARE** • 815-433-3100 • OTTAWA  
PromptCare • 815-434-2273 • Ottawa  
PromptCare • 815-431-9208 • Ottawa South  
[osfhealthcare.org](http://osfhealthcare.org)

**ST. MARGARET'S HEALTH** • 815-664-5311  
SPRING VALLEY • [aboutsmt.org](http://aboutsmt.org)  
Midtown Health Center • 815-223-6843 • Peru  
Center for Family Health • 815-915-8748 • Princeton

### POLICE

911 • EMERGENCY

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DISTRICT 17**  
815-224-1150 • emergency  
815-224-1171 • non-emergency

**LASALLE COUNTY SHERIFF**  
815-433-2161 • non-emergency



## *I & M Canal State Trail*

Walk or bike the canal towpath where horses pulled passenger boats from 1848 until 1852 and mules pulled the heavy freight required to build Chicago and Northern Illinois. Follow the footsteps of famous Illinoisans, such as Abraham Lincoln, "Wild Bill" Hickok, and Chief Shabbona, along the shady canal across LaSalle County from Seneca on the east to LaSalle on the west. Check out the restored lock at the LaSalle access, the Fox River aqueduct at the East Ottawa access, and the restored MJ Hogan grain elevator in Seneca. Seven access points in LaSalle County provide parking and access to the 10-foot-wide crushed limestone trail. The 61.5-mile trail will take you all the way east to Joliet.

### **For Access In LaSalle County:**

LaSalle: I&M Canal Lock #14 Access  
Route 351/Joliet Street

Utica: West of downtown on Canal Street/Dan Carey Park

Ottawa/Buffalo Rock: North 27th Road (Dee Bennett Road)

West Ottawa: Boyce Memorial Drive

East Ottawa: Across from Fox River Park on Superior Street

Marseilles: Main Street & canal intersect

Seneca: Main Street & canal intersect

## **ILLINOIS & MICHIGAN CANAL LOCK 14**

CANAL ROAD BY RT 351 • LASALLE

Restored to its 1848 condition, this lock is representative of the mid-19th century canal locks. Lock 14 was built with local limestone and possesses massive white oak gates and swing arms. This site also provides visitors with an idea of the scale of canal boat operation.



[iandmcanal.org](http://iandmcanal.org)

**For more information on LaSalle County or  
area events, visit [enjoylasallecounty.com](http://enjoylasallecounty.com)**