



"Spider" by Louise Bourgeois at the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park.

DSM

DES MOINES

The city's abuzz with new energy as it basks once again in the political spotlight.

Why Now: With the U.S. presidential campaign season heating up, candidates swoop into Iowa almost daily to vie for attention ahead of the Iowa Caucuses. They base their campaign offices in Des Moines, where they're within easy reach of festivals and county fairs. This is your big chance to shake

hands with a future president. **Where to Go:** Spend the night at the Renaissance Savery Hotel, for years a favorite of politicians and journalists. It's a stone's throw away from the East Village, a quirky, never-been-hotter neighborhood at the foot of the state capitol. Among the area's 60

or so indie shops are Domestica, known for handmade Etsy-esque home décor, and Ray-gun, a lofty design studio and showroom that prints clever, irreverent tees. Grab lunch at Zombie Burger + Drink Lab, where the "Dead Moines" burger comes with smoked Gouda, prosciutto, ham and

truffle mayo. Or duck into tiny Tacopocalypse for bacon-chorizo, wasabi brisket and other unconventional tacos. Refueled, stroll along a revitalized riverfront or through the world-class John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park. But even here, don't always count on calm: The park hosts the nationally recognized Des Moines Art Festival (June 26-28) and the 80/35 Music Festival (July 10-11), this year with Weezer and Wilco as headliners. —**SHAWN GILLIAM**

HIT THE TOWN

☉ **The Riverwalk Hub**

Sip a craft beer and drink in city views at this glass-wrapped gem.

☉ **Des Moines Social Club**

Visit for eclectic programming such as circus classes and the hot Latin restaurant Malo.

☉ **Eatery A**

Inventive pizzas and other artful fare made it an instant hit when it opened last year.



TRAVEL ACCESSORIES

PRIMERA TRIO PORTABLE PRINTER

Don't let having to work while you're on the road weigh you down. This 2.6-pound printer/scanner/copier turns any location—taxi, hotel room, even the pool—into an office. \$399



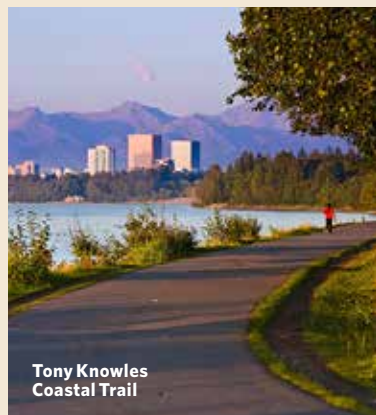
FRANK COFFEE SCRUBS

Wake up your travel-weary skin with a jolt of java in body scrub form. Opt for the original blend or choose one pumped up with cacao, coconut or peppermint. Starting at \$14.95



PHILIPS FL3X

It's all about that bass with this colorful Bluetooth speaker, whose sides pull out for a fuller sound. It's small but mighty, providing up to 12 hours of tunes on one charge. \$49.99



Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

BOARDING PASS

ANCHORAGE

In June, Anchorage basks under seemingly endless hours of sunlight. Start the day pedaling the **Tony Knowles Coastal Trail**, eyes peeled for shy moose and bright white belugas. After a picnic lunch from **Brown Bag Sandwich Co.**, hop a free shuttle to the **Alaska Native Heritage Center** and explore authentic dwellings under open sky. As the sun starts to bid adieu, relax with cold brews and inlet views on the deck of **Snow Goose Restaurant**.

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