

Muscatine, Iowa, USA

Once the Pearl Button Capital of the World, Muscatine sits on a sweeping bend of the Mississippi where Mark Twain once praised its sunsets. Today river cruisers step ashore to a walkable historic downtown, a world-class art collection, and one of the river's most scenic stretches.

Docked — Riverside Park

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

US Dollar (USD)

English

Pearl Button history

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships dock at Riverside Park on the Muscatine Riverfront — a short walk to downtown.

Best For: Mississippi River history, pearl button heritage, small-town Iowa charm.

Walk to Center: Downtown is 5–10 min on foot from the dock; the riverfront trail connects the two.

Don't Miss: National Pearl Button Museum and the Muscatine Art Center (Musser Mansion).

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ Varies · 📱 **Rideshare** ✅ Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **National Pearl Button Museum** — Muscatine once made 37% of the world's buttons from freshwater mussel shells.
 - **Muscatine Art Center** — Housed in the 1908 Musser Mansion, this small-city museum holds a surprisingly strong collection — Chagall, Picasso...
- **Wildcat Den State Park & Pine Creek Grist Mill** — About 12 miles from the riverfront, Wildcat Den shelters hiking trails through sandstone bluffs and the Pine Creek...
 - **Historic Downtown Walk & Mark Twain Connection** — Mark Twain lived in Muscatine in 1854-55 and later wrote in Life on the Mississippi that he had never seen sunsets...
 - **Lock & Dam No. 16 Tour** — The U.S.

BEST WALKS

- **Riverfront to Downtown Loop** 1.5 miles · Flat · 30-45 min — From the Riverside Park dock, walk north along the riverfront trail past the Mississippi Mist Fountain and the World's Largest...
- **West Hill Historic District Stroll** 1 mile · Gentle hills · 20-30 min — A short climb from downtown into the West Hill neighborhood reveals a dense collection of Victorian and early 20th-century homes, many...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	60°	41°	11d
Jun	82°	64°	11d
Aug	82°	66°	9d
Sep	77°	61°	8d
Oct	63°	48°	10d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:24AM–7:44PM · Jun 5:30AM–8:39PM · Aug 6:13AM–8:02PM · Sep 6:45AM–7:12PM · Oct 7:16AM–6:22PM

US Dollar (USD)

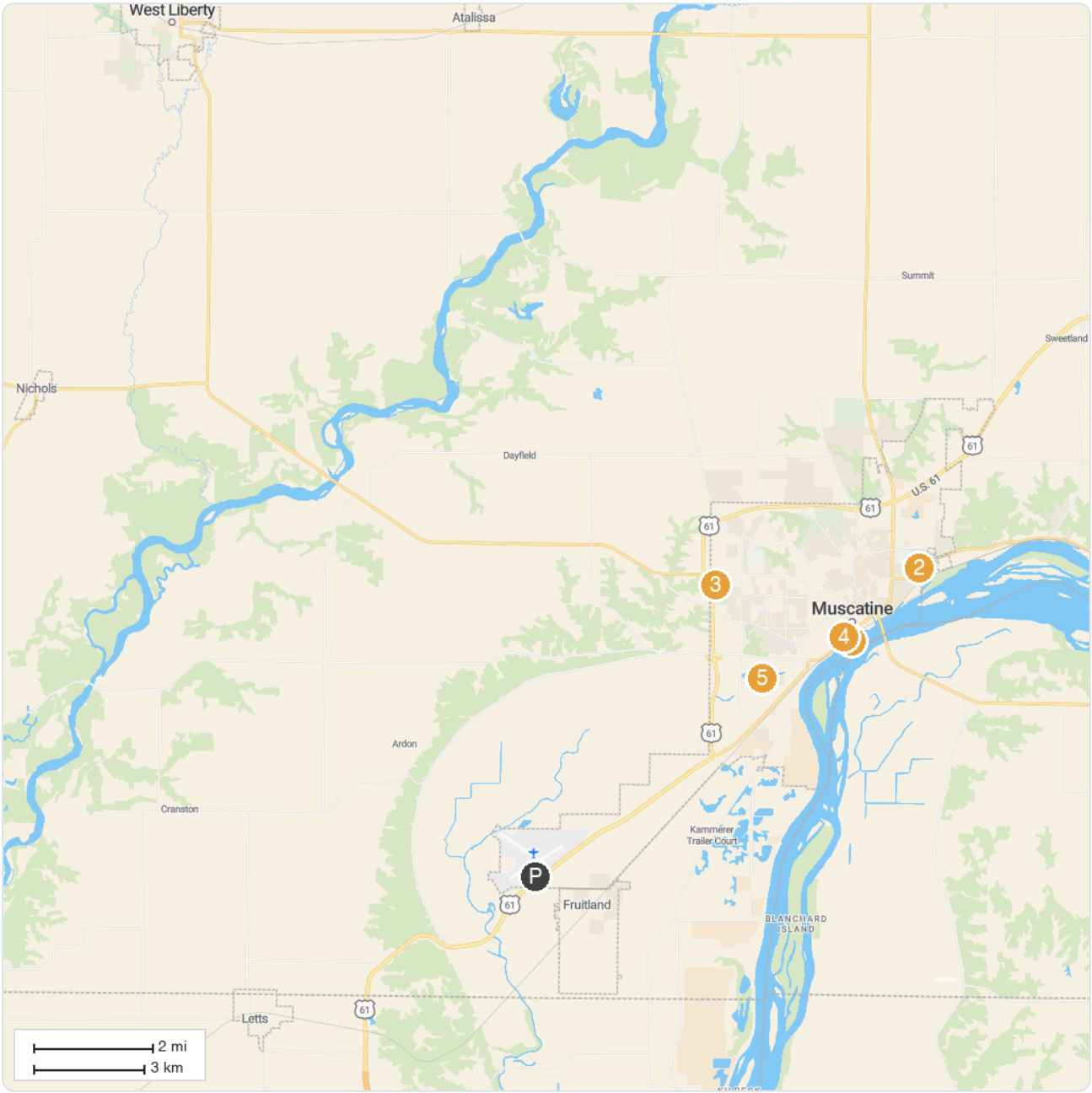
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- The button story is genuinely fascinating. Don't skip the Pearl Button Museum — it's free with most cruise excursion packages and tells a completely unique slice of American...
Mark Twain praised Muscatine sunsets. If your ship stays into evening, the view west across the Mississippi from Riverside Park is

Muscatine, Iowa, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



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| 1 Riverside Park | Riverside Park is a scenic park along the Mississippi River. | 2 Weed Park Maintenance Shop | Weed Park Maintenance Shop is a park operations facility. |
| 3 Discovery Park | Discovery Park offers nature trails and outdoor recreation. | 4 The National Pearl Button Museum @ The History and Industry Center | This museum showcases Muscatine's pearl button industry history. |
| 5 Muscatine Kent-Stein Park | Kent-Stein Park offers sports fields and recreational areas. | P Cruise port / terminal | |