

IOWA Field Trip Quad Cities & Iowa City

Scott County + Johnson County, Iowa | Sept 25–29, 2026

A 6-day trip for California Democrats to canvas, fundraise, catch Rob Sand's town hall, and see the Quad Cities / Iowa City area. An impactful, educational and fun way to help democrats win in November.

Basic Info

Airfare:

Average airfare is between \$300 - \$500 to travel to Iowa. There are no direct flights to the Southeastern part of Iowa. Some people fly into Chicago and rent a car. The drive from Chicago to Iowa is about 3 hours.

Quad Cities International Airport (MLI) – Moline, Illinois (serves Davenport, Iowa)

- **American Airlines** (connections through Dallas/Fort Worth, Chicago O'Hare, and Charlotte)
- **Delta Air Lines** (connections through Atlanta)
- **United Airlines** (connections through Chicago O'Hare and Denver)
- **Allegiant Air** (primarily leisure routes to select destinations)

The Eastern Iowa Airport (CID) – Cedar Rapids, Iowa

- **American Airlines**
- **Delta Air Lines**
- **United Airlines**
- **Allegiant Air**
- **Frontier Airlines**

Lodging:

- Budget hotels \$100-\$130 a night.
- Midrange hotels \$120-\$180 a night
- Nice hotels \$170-\$250+ a night

Car Rental:

Average cost per day is between \$50-\$80 a day- depending on type of car and if booked in advance of trip.

Day 1 – Friday, Sept 25: Arrive, Iowa City / Coralville

Fly into **Eastern Iowa Airport (CID, Cedar Rapids)** — closest major airport to Iowa City (~25 min drive). **Moline/Quad Cities Airport (MLI)** is an alternative. MLI is roughly an hour drive to Iowa City. MLI is about a 20 minute drive from Davenport.

Check into lodging in **Iowa City or Coralville**.

Downtown Iowa City Options

- **Graduate by Hilton Iowa City:** Fun, university-themed boutique hotel located right in the heart of downtown near local shops and dining.
- **Hilton Garden Inn Iowa City Downtown University:** Modern, reliable central choice with an indoor pool and easy access to campus.
- **Hyatt Place Iowa City Downtown:** Contemporary comfort within walking distance of the Pedestrian Mall.

Coralville / Iowa River Landing Options

- **Drury Inn & Suites Iowa City Coralville:** Highly rated off I-80; features a free hot breakfast and a complimentary evening 5:30 Kickback®.
- **Homewood Suites by Hilton Coralville - Iowa River Landing:** All-suite property ideal for longer stays, featuring kitchenettes and an indoor pool.
- **Hyatt Regency Coralville Hotel & Conference Center:** Connected to the [Iowa River Landing](#) shopping and dining district.

Budget and Extended Stay

- **Home2 Suites by Hilton Iowa City Coralville:** Eco-conscious extended-stay setup with indoor pool facilities.
- **Comfort Suites Coralville I-80:** Reliable budget choice close to the [Coral Ridge Mall](#).

Evening: Meet up with the Indivisible Johnson County group for dinner.

Day 2 – Saturday, Sept 26: Canvass Iowa City (Johnson County)

Morning: Canvassing shift. Johnson County has an active coordinated campaign presence (the Iowa Democratic Party's "Iowa Forward" effort runs regular weekend canvasses out of its Coralville office). Sign up for a shift and get the exact address/time via:

- **Mobilize.us** — search "Iowa Forward" or "Johnson County Democrats"
- iowademocrats.org
- johnsoncountydems.org

Candidates whose races you'll be knocking doors for in this county: **Rob Sand** (Governor), **Josh Turek** (U.S. Senate), **Christina Bohannon** (U.S. House, IA-01), plus state legislative candidates like **Janice Weiner** and **Meghann Foster** (state senate) and **Amy Nielsen** (state house).

Afternoon:

Participate in local Pop-Up. Small sidewalk protest with signs at E. Burlington & S. Gilbert St. in Iowa City from 12-12:30.

Help students at the University of Iowa register to vote. Use Hawk the Vote, Indivisible Johnson County or Johnson County Democrats.

Afternoon: Free time — walk the University of Iowa campus, Kinnick Stadium exterior, or the Iowa River Landing area in Coralville.

Evening: Fundraiser. Local house-party fundraisers for state legislative and county candidates are common in this window but get scheduled close to the date. We will check **ActBlue** (search the candidate names above) and the **Johnson County Democrats event calendar** a week or two before we fly out, and RSVP as a group.

Day 3 – Sunday, Sept 27: More canvassing in Iowa City, then drive to Davenport

Morning: Second canvassing shift in Iowa City (Sundays are often lighter — good for a smaller/slower shift before travel).

Midday: Drive to Davenport (~1.5 hrs east on I-80).

Check into lodging in **Davenport**.

Stay at local home in mid-town Davenport - 4 bedroom house or

Historic & Downtown Boutique Hotels

- [Hotel Blackhawk](#): A luxurious AAA Four-Diamond choice featuring a spa, bowling alley, and classic upscale design right next to the Adler Theatre.
- **The Current Iowa, Autograph Collection**: A stylish downtown boutique option known for modern local art and vibrant social spaces.
- **DoubleTree by Hilton Davenport**: Centrally located on 2nd Street, putting you within walking distance of riverfront trails, dining, and local events.

Value & Family-Friendly Hotels

- **Best Western Plus Steeplegate Inn**: A relaxed, vintage-style property offering free hot breakfast and an indoor pool area.
- [Hampton Inn & Suites Davenport](#): A consistent, clean choice off Utica Ridge Road featuring complimentary hot breakfast and comfortable bedding.
- **Holiday Inn & Suites Davenport**: Conveniently located near Elmore Avenue shopping with an on-site restaurant and indoor pool.

Afternoon:

Canvassing: Scott County Democrats run their volunteer operation out of the **Iowa Forward office, 2824 W. Locust St., Davenport** (across from the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds; open Tue–Thu 10:30am–8pm, Fri 10:30am–7pm — confirm current hours before you go). Sign up for a shift via scottcountydems.org or Mobilize.

Candidates in play here beyond the top of the ticket: state house candidates **Adam Peters**, **Andrew Fitzgerald**, and **George Pickup**, and state senate candidate **Keith Soko**.

Evening: Dinner with the Indivisible Quad City group at a local restaurant.

Evening, fun: Downtown Davenport riverfront — the **Figge Art Museum**, a walk along the Mississippi at **LeClaire Park**, or live music at the **Redstone Room** (RIBCO). If you want something more low-key, the **German American Heritage Center** is a nice half-hour stop the next morning instead.

Day 4 – Monday, Sept 28: Canvass Davenport (Scott County)

Canvassing shift by partnering with local groups such as Iowa Forward, Scott County Democratic Party or the Indivisible Quad City group..

Afternoon: Help students at the St. Ambrose University register to vote. Use Indivisible Quad City or Scott County Democrats.

Afternoon fun: German American Heritage Center, or the **Vander Veer Botanical Park** in Davenport.

Evening: Fundraiser. JEANI- DO YOU HAVE A CANDIDATE IN MIND?

Day 5 – Tuesday, Sept 29: Last canvass shift + Rob Sand Town Hall

- **Morning/early afternoon:** Final canvassing push or literature drop in Scott County
- **Pro-democracy anti-Trump rally**, 4:15-5:45 p.m., "Five Points" (corner of West Locust, Division, and Hickory Grove), Davenport.
- **6:30 pm: Rob Sand Town Hall — Scott County.** This is a confirmed stop on his 100-county tour. Exact venue and RSVP link will be posted at robsand.com/events and on Mobilize closer to the date.

Day 6- Wednesday, Sept 30: Depart from Moline (MLI) the next morning, or drive back to Cedar Rapids that night if flying out of CID.
