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Food programming is one of the fastest-growing segments of reality TV. It's no wonder producers of these programs flock to Iowa, a place known globally for feeding the world. Below are restaurants that have earned coverage on some of the nation's leading food programs.

1 Black Market Pizza

Ames

Featured on the Travel Channel program "Man vs. Food," Black Market specializes in converting open-face sandwiches to Chicago-style deep-dish pizza. Look for a Reuben, bacon cheeseburger or the lowegian that includes sausage, bacon, ham, and an Iowa Chop served with a cornbread or a sweet potato crust. Close to the Iowa State University campus, there's nothing quite like Black Market for a pizza twist on the traditional sandwich.

2 Ox Yoke Inn

Amana

Located in a National Historic Landmark home built in 1856, the Ox Yoke Inn features family-style dining. Its honey apple pork was featured on a special "Pork Paradise" segment of the Travel Channel's "Food Paradise" series. The Ox Yoke's entrées come from old-world German and American recipes passed down from four generations of the Leichsenring family, the Inn's owners. The hearty meals feature freshly prepared salads, vegetables, potatoes and bread.



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3 Maid-Rite

70 locations

Founded in Muscatine in 1926, Maid-Rite was among America's first fast-food restaurants and the first chain to offer a drive-through window. The chain earned a spot on the Travel Channel's "Bizarre Foods" series for its unique loose meat sandwich – a generous helping of ground beef sprinkled with a secret seasoning and served on a steamed bun.

4 Lincoln Café

Mount Vernon

Matt Steigerwald, the café's owner and head chef, shakes up his menu almost every week, offering customers dishes produced with the freshest locally grown foods and ingredients. That may be why the Lincoln Café earned a segment on the Travel Channel's "Bizarre Foods America." During the segment, Steigerwald served host Andrew Zimmern mint purée and roasted heritage pork brains.



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5 Jethro's BBQ

Des Moines

A chain of four restaurants in the Des Moines area, Jethro's has been featured on the Travel Channel's "United States of Bacon," "Food Paradise" and "Man vs. Food." All for one sandwich: the Adam Emmenecker, named for the most valuable player of the 2008 Drake University men's basketball team. This behemoth includes a pork tenderloin, an angus steak burger, slabs of Texas brisket, apple wood bacon and fried cheese, finished with buffalo chicken tenders. The entire sandwich is smothered with melted cheddar cheese and white cheddar sauce and served with a pound of waffle fries.



6 B&B Grocery, Meat and Deli

Des Moines

Home of the Killer Sandwiches, the B&B is a turn-back-the-clock neighborhood grocery store that serves up fresh sandwiches. Featured on the Food Network's "Outrageous Foods," B&B's Killosal includes deli meat, four one-third-pound burger patties, a giant pork tenderloin and cheese.

7 Iowa Machine Shed

Des Moines and Davenport

Recognized on the Travel Channel's "Food Paradise" as the best breakfast in America, the Machine Shed prides itself as a tribute to the American farmer and has become a favorite among tourists and locals. Known for chocolate covered bacon and monster cinnamon rolls, the Machine Shed brings the nostalgia of mid-century farming to life with implements and seed corn signs donning the walls, and wait staff clad in bib overalls.



8 Iowa 80 and Gramma's Kitchen

Walcott

A buffet full of home-cooked comfort food and 50-foot salad bar are the centerpieces of the Iowa 80 restaurant located in the world's largest truck stop. Showcased on the Travel Channel's "Food Paradise" segment on great truckstops, the show also featured Gramma's Kitchen, just across the street. This restaurant has earned acclaim for its homemade meatloaf and pork tenderloin sandwiches.

9 High Life Lounge

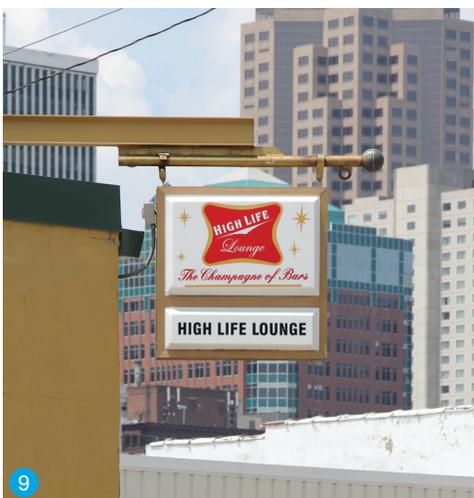
Des Moines

This bar on the edge of downtown Des Moines is a throwback to the sixties, complete with shag carpet, vintage wallpaper and wood ceilings. Featured on the Travel Channel's "Man vs. Food" program, the High Life's food and beer offerings remain true to the era. The menu features deviled eggs, Spam and egg sandwiches, and good old-fashioned pot roast.

10 Zombie Burger

Des Moines

This popular eatery is not for the faint of heart. Showcased on the "United States of Bacon," Zombie Burger serves up a sandwich called the Walking Ched (ched as in cheddar cheese). The sandwich features a bun made from deep fried macaroni and cheese. Inside the bun are bacon, a burger patty, lettuce, tomato, mayonnaise and more macaroni and cheese.



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