
Stop 54. Enroute to Lewis and Clark

Arrival datetime: Friday, July 19, 8:00PM
Sites visited: Falls Park
Accommodations: Super 8
States traveled: South Dakota, Iowa

Our destination was Lewis and Clark State Park in Iowa. But it was a long drive, so we chose Sioux Falls as a waypoint, hoping to get there in time for lunch. That turned out to be impossible, but we did find a South Dakota tourist information station so we could plan what to do when we finally got there. All the various types of pamphlets on Sioux Falls agreed that it took great pride in its bicycle trails. We saw that the main trail went to a park at Sioux Falls called Falls Park. So we called the Chamber of Commerce to ask if bikes were rented at the park. They gave us the name of a bicycle shop a mile from an access point to the bike trail that was six miles from Falls Park. We had to navigate road construction for the first mile, but the 6 or so miles on the bike path to Falls Park were just beautiful. The sound of the road faded often enough to give the illusion of a trail through the country. The path was shaded by elms, oaks, and a host of other deciduous trees.

Sioux Falls had several man-made handicap-accessible observation platforms into which we could coast or walk our bikes. The Falls were in their natural setting, surrounded for the most part by grass, tumbling over great broken slabs of brick red rock. They were a series of several tiers, mostly two to three feet, but one that was at least six and very



Jennifer on Bike Trail to Sioux Falls.

wide. A Visitor Center at the falls offered a view from a four-story tower. It was about 95°. We drank substantially from the water fountain and refilled our only water bottle. We took turns watching the bikes out the window while the other went up to the observation tower. This gave us a good twenty minutes in air conditioning.

We tried to stop in Sioux City for dinner, but were unable to find a restaurant on the water other than a casino. We keep forgetting that rivers out here are used for industry, not so much for tourism. By the time we gave up on the waterfront, we were already south of the city, so decide to make the best of it in Onawa. The receptionist at the Super 8 directed us to B2B's, a smoky bar with a dining room in the back where Michael had the best steak he has had on the trip. Jennifer's fish



Sioux Falls.

selections were all fried, but well-prepared fried walleye is good.

Lewis and Clark State Park was just a hop away from our motel. But we

checked out anyway so we could jump on the highway directly from there. So after finally getting email and over our free continental breakfast, we took off.

Miles traveled: 431
Departure datetime: Saturday, July 20, 9:30AM
Departure weather: 80° Sunny