

TRAVEL
WISCONSIN™



OFFICIAL BIKING GUIDE



EIGHTH EDITION



Welcome

As Governor, it's my pleasure to invite you to explore our outstanding natural resources, charming towns and exciting cities on two wheels. Wisconsin is a leader in bicycling, offering a world class combination of linear and mountain bike trails and lightly-traveled rural paved roads. In fact, Wisconsin is home to the nation's first rails to trails program, which has now converted 80 former rail beds into recreational trails that crisscross the state.

From picturesque rolling country hills in southwestern Wisconsin to the premier CAMBA mountain biking trails in northern Wisconsin to exceptional touring trails in every corner of the state, Wisconsin offers an outstanding ride for all levels of biking enthusiasts. It's a great way to explore our natural beauty and rich heritage, and no matter where you are, there are plenty of friendly people ready to welcome you.

Use this guide as your starting point to plan your next biking adventure in Wisconsin. We look forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Walker', written in a cursive style.

Scott Walker
Governor



KOSHOWS, NINE FD



ROBB FISCHER



WISCONSINBIKE.FED



NICK COLUCCI

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Encourage sustainability

To underscore the Wisconsin Department of Tourism’s continuing commitment to stronger recycling markets in Wisconsin and a healthier world, this publication is printed on a paper stock with a 10% post-consumer recycled content. The paper used is Forest Stewardship Council™ certified, a mark of responsible forestry.





BIKING IN WISCONSIN

Ask any devoted bicyclist and they'll tell you straight: Wisconsin is a great state for cycling. Riding cliffside, cruising wide-open country roads, or dodging pines in a 1.5 million acre forest – this is Wisconsin biking. You haven't biked some of the country's greatest trails until you've biked our state. We're currently ranked as one of the top 10 biking states in the nation by the League of American Bicyclists.

Wisconsin was the first state to convert abandoned railways to multiuse paths. One of the best known, the Elroy-Sparta Trail, is the nation's first rails-to-trails conversion.

Wisconsin's secondary road system is among the best in the nation. Looking for open country roads? We've got 'em, complete with grazing cows in the distance for that true Midwest experience.

Think you're extreme? Give Wisconsin mountain biking a try. Our rolling hills make for intense off-roading adventures. Plus Wisconsin's landscape takes you to beautiful places you can't see from the road.

But it's more than just our miles of well-groomed trails and beautiful scenery. Our active state advocacy group, the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, is dedicated to funding the sport.

Wisconsin is also a favorite of world-class bicycle manufacturers. Companies such as Trek, Pacific Cycle and Saris love the combination of the state's urban and country landscape and sports culture and have built their businesses here.

So with that going for us, where else would you rather ride? Head on out and let the good times roll!

USING THE GUIDE

This edition of the Wisconsin Biking Guide is a sampling of some of the wonderful biking experiences Wisconsin has to offer. While the guide is by no means a comprehensive list of all the biking opportunities within the state, it offers an excellent starting point for planning your Wisconsin biking adventure. We've divided the state into seven geographic regions, and within each of those regions, the rides are divided into three categories: linear bike trails, mountain bike trails and road biking tours.

The location of each trail or route is indicated on the region map at the beginning of each section. The color-coded numbers correspond to the numbers before each trail or route.

The featured maps and road biking tours in each region have been selected from previous editions of the Wisconsin Biking Guides and represent a cross section of the many biking opportunities within each region. The key to the right refers to the symbols used in the maps.

Each region features a "Worth a Stop" sidebar highlighting some of the various tourist attractions you'll find in that region. We've also sprinkled in other interesting biking facts, information and safety tips.

To round things out, we've compiled a list of biking events throughout the state as well as additional biking resources.

SAFETY FIRST

When riding, always act in the best interest of yourself and your companions. Be sure to:

- Obey specific bicycle and general traffic regulations.
- Show courtesy to all road or trail users.
- Wear appropriate gear, including a well-adjusted helmet.
- Maintain your bicycle in excellent operating condition.
- Choose routes within the ability of you and your companions.
- Carry sufficient food, drink, first aid supplies, and tools.

MAP LEGEND

-  Interstate Highway
-  US Highway
-  State Highway
-  County Highway
-  Town Road (Paved)
-  Town Road (Gravel)
-  Bike Route on State Highways
-  Bike Route on County Highways
-  Bike Route on Town Roads (Paved)
-  Bike Route on Town Roads (Gravel)
-  Linear Bike Trail (Paved)
-  Linear Bike Trail (Unpaved)
-  Purpose-Built Mountain Bike Trail
-  Hiking Trail/Other Trail
-  County Lines
-  Railroad
-  Park Boundary
-  Parking Lot
-  Mileage Indicators
-  Trailhead
-  Trailhead with Parking Lot
-  Trailhead with On-Street Parking
-  Parking Lot
-  All Services
-  Some Services
-  Tavern
-  Bicycle Service
-  Shelter
-  Point of Interest
-  Unincorporated Town
-  Incorporated Town
-  Telephone
-  Lodging
-  Public Campground
-  Private Campground
-  Food Service
-  Grocery
-  Showers
-  Water
-  Flush Toilet
-  Pit Toilet
-  Hiking Only Trail
-  Park/Picnic Area
-  Playground
-  Historical Marker or Museum
-  Swimming
-  Underpass
-  State Park
-  County Park
-  Travel Wisconsin Welcome Center

Northwest



WISCONSIN STATE PARKS



4 Find more fun at travelwisconsin.com or call 1-800/432-8747.

Linear Bike Trails

1 Cattail State Trail

The Cattail State Trail travels 18 miles on a former rail corridor between the communities of Amery and Almena. Forests, farmlands, prairies, hills and various wildlife habitats surround the trail, which also passes through the Village of Turtle Lake. The trail is maintained and managed by Polk and Barron counties.

■ For more information call 715/485-9271 (Polk County) or 715/537-6295 (Barron County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

2 Chippewa River State Trail

This 30-mile trail extends from Phoenix Park in downtown Eau Claire and travels south along the Chippewa River through river bottoms, prairies, sandstone bluffs and wetlands. The trail joins the Red Cedar State Trail in the Dunnville Wildlife Area and ends at the town of Durand. The trail is part of the Chippewa Valley Trail System. When completed, the trail system will feature an 80-mile network of trails stretching from Cornell, through Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire to Durand and Menomonie. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 888/523-3866 or visit www.visiteauclaire.com

3 Eau Claire City Trails

Two city parks anchor this route offering scenery, history, entertainment and recreation. An impressive stressed iron railroad bridge connects to the west shore. In the future, the trail will extend east to Chippewa Falls and the Old Abe State Trail. At the southwest corner of the trail loop, the trail crosses the Chippewa River on another impressive iron bridge. It continues south another mile to join up with the Chippewa River State Trail that heads west to Durand and connects to the Red Cedar State Trail.

■ For more information call 888/523-3866 or visit www.visiteauclaire.com

4 Gandy Dancer State Trail

This 98-mile recreation trail follows an abandoned railroad grade from St. Croix Falls to Superior. The south trail segment extends 47 miles from St. Croix Falls to Danbury, paralleling Hwy 35 most of the way. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is

required for riders 16 and older on the south segment. A 1.5-mile blacktopped interlink trail begins at the Polk County Information Center. The northern segment offers a wilder, more remote trail experience and travels 51 miles from Danbury into eastern Minnesota and on to Superior. A highlight is the 520-foot bridge over the scenic St. Croix River near Danbury. No trail pass is needed on this section.

■ For more information call 800/222-7655 or 715-483-1410 (south section) or 715/636-4121 (north section) or visit dnr.wi.gov

5 Old Abe State Trail

The Old Abe State Trail is a paved 19.5-mile trail connecting Lake Wissota State Park near Chippewa Falls and Brunet Island State Park in Cornell. A newly paved section of trail runs from Jim Falls to Cornell. A future link with the Chippewa River and Red Cedar Trails will make this a 70-mile trail system. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 715/723-0331 or visit dnr.wi.gov

6 Osaugie Trail

This 5-mile asphalt-paved trail is a great way to sample the sights of the City of Superior and one of the busiest harbors on the Great Lakes. Huge oceangoing ships come through the ship channel at Wisconsin Point. The trail passes under the immense Burlington Ore Dock.

■ For more information call 800/942-5313 or visit www.superiorchamber.org

7 Pine Line Recreation Trail

This 26.2-mile trail follows a former railroad bed from Medford to Prentice in north-central Wisconsin. The trail is surfaced with limestone and crushed gravel. Camping is available at Pioneer Park and Campground in Ogema located one block off the trail.

■ For more information call 715/748-4729 or visit www.medfordwis.com

continued...

Bike trails may bring a number of different users to the trail at the same time. Always use good trail etiquette to ensure the enjoyment and safety of all trail users.

NORTHWEST

LINEAR BIKE TRAILS, CONTINUED

8 Red Cedar State Trail

See trail description below.

9 Saunders State Trail

This 8-mile county-operated trail links with the Gandy Dancer State Trail south of the city of Superior in Douglas County. Be aware that all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are allowed on the trail year-round.

■ For more information call 800/942-5313 or visit www.superiorchamber.org

10 Stower Seven Lakes State Trail

This 14-mile trail begins in Amery and ends about one mile from Dresser. Along the way, the trail passes through maple and oak forests, wetlands, prairies and farmlands, and past several picturesque lakes. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 715/485-9294 or visit dnr.wi.gov

11 Tri-County Corridor Trail

This multi-use trail joins the Osaugie Trail at the eastern edge of the city of Superior. The trail is also used by ATVs and other motorized trail uses. It runs a total of 60-miles, past scenic Amnicon Falls State Park to the city of Ashland.

■ For more information call 800/942-5313 or visit www.superiorchamber.org or www.visitashland.com

12 Tuscobia State Trail

This 74-mile multi-use trail connects the towns of Rice Lake and Park Falls and traverses the rugged Blue Hills, the Flambeau State Forest and the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The trail is open to ATVs and other motorized uses, with the exception of the 12-mile section from Birchwood to Rice Lake. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 800/269-4505 or 715/266-7032 or visit dnr.wi.gov

FEATURED TRAIL RED CEDAR STATE TRAIL

Distance: 14.5 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone

Fees: A State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

Caution: Hikers also use the trail. Always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

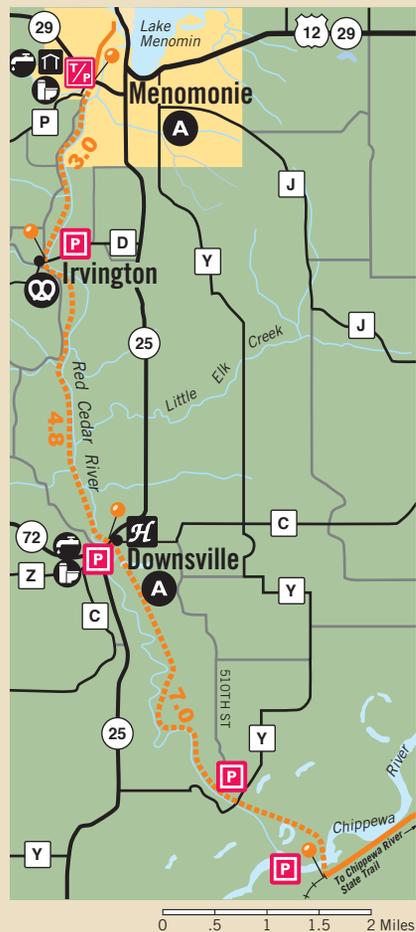
Red Cedar State Trail
715/232-1242

dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/redcedar

Greater Menomonie Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center
715/235-9087

www.menomoniechamber.org

This 14.5-mile trail shadows the steep walls of the Red Cedar Valley from Menomonie to its connection with the Chippewa River State Trail. The trail passes by prairies, marshland bottoms, forests and farmlands, including sandstone bluffs and other unique rock formations. In the Dunnville Wildlife Area, the Red Cedar trail connects to the Chippewa River State Trail. The Red Cedar State Trail is part of the Chippewa Valley Trail System. When completed, the trail system will feature an 80-mile network of trail stretching from Cornell, through Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire to Durand and Menomonie.



13 Wild Rivers State Trail

This 104-mile trail stretches through Douglas, Washburn and Barron counties. The area surrounding the trail is rich in natural resources and wildlife habitat. It crosses numerous rivers and streams, including the Namakagon River, a federally designated river and part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

■ For more information call 715/635-4490 (Washburn County), 715/537-6296 (Barron County), 715/378-2219 (Douglas County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

14 Wildwood Trail

The Wildwood Trail is a seven-mile off-road biking, hiking and snowmobile trail. In 1970, St. Croix County purchased the former railroad line from the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway. It runs from the Village of Woodville south to the St. Croix/Pierce County line. Motorized uses are allowed on this trail.

■ For more information call 715/531-1923 or visit www.co.saint-croix.wi.us

MORE RESOURCES

WISCONSIN'S LAKE SUPERIOR BYWAY

This 70-mile route follows the southern shoreline of Lake Superior and features breathtaking views of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

For more information visit:
www.lakesuperiorbyway.org

NORTHWEST URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard-surfaced, family-friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclist as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

ASHLAND

www.visitashland.com

MENOMONIE

www.menomoneiechamber.org

RIVER FALLS ★★★★★

www.rfchamber.com

www.co.saint-croix.wi.us

CHIPPEWA FALLS

chippewacounty.com

EAU CLAIRE ★★★★★

www.eauclairewi.gov

SUPERIOR

www.ci.superior.wi.us

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*



Frog Bay Tribal Park.

WORTH A STOP

Exhibits at the **Fairlawn Mansion** in Superior recall the mansion's Victorian days and its 42 years as a children's home. The **Richard I Bong Veterans Historical Center** honors the WWII "Ace of Aces" and Medal of Honor recipient Major Richard Bong, a native of Poplar, Wisconsin. Exhibits there include his restored P-38 Lightning.

In Ashland, the **Mural Walk** is a series of ten giant murals painted on downtown buildings depicting the city's history. The **Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center** includes an observation tower, 100-seat theater, visitor information, trip planning, and interpretive and historic exhibits.

Bayfield is the gateway to the 22 islands of the **Apostle Islands National Lakeshore**. The islands offer camping, boating, kayaking, sailing and lighthouse tours. **Big Top Chautauqua** features a summer season of 70 shows - historical musicals, variety shows, top national entertainers - all under the "Big Top." North of Red Cliff, **Frog Bay Tribal Park** is an incredible, undeveloped 89-acre property where beautiful sandy beaches meet boreal forests. It is the first tribal national park in the country.

The **Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame** in Hayward displays trophy mounts and photos of record setting fish, plus a 4-story building shaped like a musky.

In Phillips, **Wisconsin Concrete Park** is an outdoor folk-art museum that features concrete sculptures festooned with bits of broken glass, ceramics and stones, all the work of the late Fred Smith, a retired lumberjack and self-taught artist.

In St. Croix Falls, the Chateau **St. Croix Winery** is crafted in the image of a European estate, complete with an art gallery, vineyard, a carriage house, stables, gardens and a fishing pond. The **Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company** in Chippewa Falls offers free tours of the fifth oldest working brewery in the United States.

The **Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum** in Eau Claire displays an authentic reproduction of an 1890s logging camp.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

* See page 77.

Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 4 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails on page 10.

1 CAMBA Single Track Trails

The Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA) hasn't been content with the popular 300-mile, signed and mapped mountain bike trail system they've created in Bayfield and Sawyer Counties. Recently, they've begun constructing some very technical singletrack trails to give riders even more challenging options. If you like tight trails that demand real bike handling skill, then singletrack is for you. The deep forest and glacial moraine of southern Bayfield County is ideal for mountain biking. You'll use all of your gears on this seldom-level terrain. There's some wonderful Northwoods riding along the way. You can ride the Ojibwe Trail out and back; or take roads, cross-country ski trails, or one of the three other CAMBA trails back to the trailheads. Excellent signage, a detailed CAMBA map, and periodic “you are here” signs are the ticket to finding your way around. For a very challenging riding,

try the Telemark Terrain Park. This single-track snakes through the woods on the slopes of the Mount Telemark ski hill.

■ For more information call 800/533-7454 or visit www.cambatrails.org

2 Hickory Ridge Trail

There are approximately 11 miles of existing single track trails on this trail in the Chippewa County Forest. Construction is underway by the Chippewa Off-Road Bike Association to expand their offerings. The trails wind through scenic and hardwood forests and around glacial lakes offering a very technical experience over rocky terrain and through steep hills and valleys.

■ For more information visit chippewaoffroad.org

3 High Point Trail

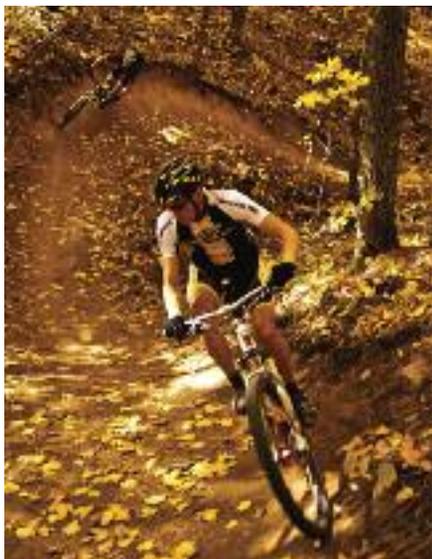
Located near Timm's Hill, Wisconsin's highest geographical point, these nine miles of non-motorized trails traverse some of the hilliest terrain in the state. The landscape viewed from the top of the observation tower on Timm's Hill is one not to be missed. Forests of hardwood and hemlock border the full length of the trail. This is one of the finest trail systems around. Most of the trail is hard-packed dirt with the exception of the portion between the pavilion and the observation tower which is gravel.

■ For more information call 800/269-4505 or visit www.pricecountywi.net



CAMBA Trails.

CARLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



CAMBA Trails.

CABLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

4 Lowes Creek Trail

Lowes Creek County Park is a 250 acre park located just south of Eau Claire off S. Lowes Creek Road in the town of Washington. Lowes Creek, a trout stream which flows through the park, is spanned with a bridge giving hiking, skiing and mountain biking access to both sides of the creek. The biking trails offer a variety of different levels perfect for everyone from the beginner to the more advanced. Five miles of trails also serve as double-track cross country ski trails. Six miles are more challenging, narrow singletrack trails winding through the forests and across creek beds reaching all corners of the park. Daily/annual vehicle entrance passes are required.

■ For more information visit chippewaoffroad.org

5 Northwest Park

In 2008, the city of Eau Claire approved plans for a new community park on the northwest side of town. Park developers asked the Chippewa Off-Road Bike Association to develop a system of mountain bike trails at this 120-acre site near the North Crossing and the Chippewa River. Through numerous volunteer hours, the trails at Northwest Park (NWP) have become an awesome reality. NWP has quickly become a favorite destination for winter fat-bikers as well as mountain bikers looking for a challenging and fun course to hone their skills on. The majority of trail building has been completed as of 2012 resulting in approximately six miles of bike trails with more planned.

■ For more information visit chippewaoffroad.org/trails/northwest-park

CAMBA MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL SYSTEM

The CAMBA Mountain Bike Trails are an off-road mountain biker's dream and rapidly becoming a Mecca for singletrack riding in the Midwest. CAMBA's Rock Lake Trail (page 11) is recognized by the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) as an Epic ride. Only a select few trails carry this designation.

The CAMBA system (which stands for the Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association) consists of more than 300 miles of marked and mapped routes throughout Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The trail system is a great way to sample the pristine beauty of the Northwoods along with peaceful lakes and abundant wildlife.

The CAMBA system is divided into six "clusters" of 25 to 60 miles located in the communities of Bayfield, Cable, Delta, Drummond, Hayward, Namakagon and Seeley. The routes follow a variety of paths including logging roads, fire lanes, snowmobile and ski trails, double-track and extensive singletrack trails. The recent completion of a final two-mile segment now connects the communities of Hayward, Seeley and Cable for a total of 44 miles of interconnected singletrack trails.

The terrain lends itself to riders of all abilities, from beginners to seasoned fat tire experts. Riders looking for an adrenaline rush should not miss the fun gravity features known as Gravity Cavity and 38 Special in the Seeley Cluster or Wall Street on the Rock Lake Trail.

Every September the Cable-Hayward area hosts the Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival – the largest mountain bike race in the country with over 3,000 participants.

CAMBA is a volunteer, non-profit organization that is funded through memberships, sponsorships, advertising, grants, donations and special fund raising initiatives. For more information on the CAMBA system visit www.cambatrails.org.

continued...

NORTHWEST

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS, CONTINUED

6 Otter Creek Park

Located in Altoona, these trails have been developed thanks to a partnership between the City of Altoona and the Chippewa Off Road Bike Association (CORBA) – a non-profit committed to developing trail-based opportunities in the Chippewa Valley. Otter Creek Park offers trails suited for every skill level with the majority of trails rated as either easy or intermediate, but some stretches of the trail for the advanced rider. The trails are open year-round for non-motorized recreational use including mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing and running.

■ For more information visit chippewaoffroad.org/trails/otter-creek-park

7 Pokegama Trail

Built to present a technically challenging four-mile ride, this tight and twisting singletrack trail will constantly surprise you with sudden drops down to narrow foot-and-a-half wide boardwalks followed by short, steep climbs. The singletrack winds through beautiful stands of white pine, cedars and paper birch. It's a shock when you pop out of the woods at the abandoned road and all your gear shifting and bike handling skills are no longer needed. You can choose to backtrack on the singletrack to the trailhead or just cruise on the flat road.

■ For more information call 800/942-5313 or visit www.superiorchamber.org



Namekagon Trail.

8 Rock Lake CAMBA Trail

See trail description on facing page.

9 White Tail Ridge

Whitetail Ridge Trail is located in River Falls and is a mix of wooded singletrack and open field sections. Originally built by local running coach Rick Cleary, these trails have a lot to offer: tight twisty single-track, rock sections, steep climbs, fast down hills, and new technical features including bridges, teeters, and a cool wooden berm. Races are held on Thursday nights in the summer.

■ For more information check out www.kinnioffroad.com/trails.html

LOOKING FOR A Milder RIDE?

BRULE RIVER STATE FOREST
715/372-5678
dnr.wi.gov

COPPER FALLS STATE PARK
715/274-5123
visit dnr.wi.gov

FLAMBEAU HILLS TRAIL
800/269-4505, 715/339-4505
www.pricecountywi.net

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST
715/332-5271
visit dnr.wi.gov

HOLY CROSS TRAIL
800/269-4505, 715/339-4505
www.pricecountywi.net

LAKE WISSOTA STATE PARK
888-947-2757, 715-382-4574
visit dnr.wi.gov

NAMEKAGON TRAIL
715/634-4821
www.cambatrails.org

NEWMAN SPRINGS TRAIL
800/269-4505, 715/762-2461
www.pricecountywi.net

PINES & MINES TRAIL
715/561-4334
ironcountywi.com

TIMM'S HILL TRAIL
800/269-4505
www.pricecountywi.net

TOTAGATIC TRAIL
washburncounty.com

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don't ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.

FEATURED TRAIL

ROCK LAKE CAMBA TRAIL

Distance: 12.1 miles for entire loop, 10.1 miles via the Emerson Cutoff, also 5 Mile Cutoff.

Difficulty: Difficult to very difficult. The Hildebrand Lake Loop has the most extreme sections with some purpose-built rock gardens and a narrow plank bridge.

Caution: The trail is also used by hikers; always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

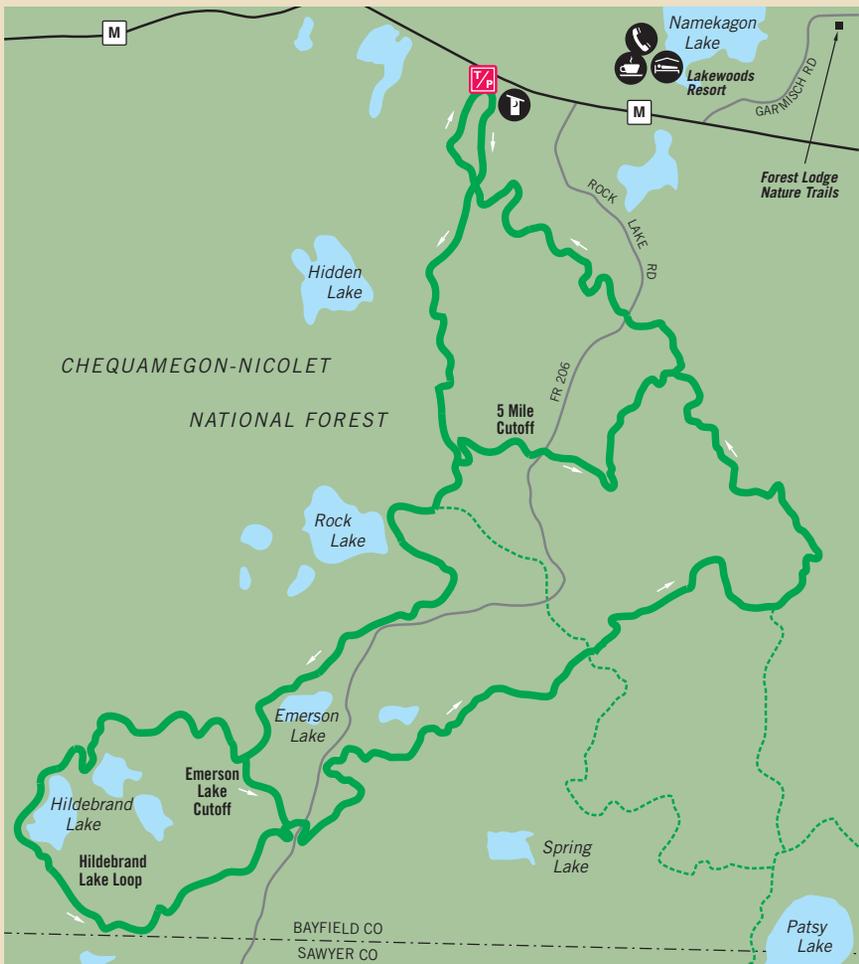
Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA)
www.cambatrails.org

Cable Area Chamber of Commerce
 715/798-3833; 800/533-7454
www.cable4fun.com

Get ready for some of the best off-road riding the Northwoods has to offer. Part of the Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association's (CAMBA) 300-plus mile system of trails, the Rock Lake Trails have been a favorite with mountain bikers since the

1980s. Originally a cross-country ski trail, the system was never designed for wheeled vehicles and overuse soon caused erosion problems. A few years ago, CAMBA undertook an extensive project to create a single-track trail system that replaced the erosion-prone ski sections.

Singletrack riding on the Rock Lake system varies from moderate to extreme. The new trail design switches back on slopes at relatively low grades making riding easier and reducing erosion. That doesn't mean there isn't plenty of challenge here. Rock Lake is full of twists and turns, rocks, roots and frequent grade changes. On the farthest loop around Hildebrand Lake, the trail designers chose to throw some warp-10 difficulty at riders tough enough to get that far. In places you'll find multi-step drops, narrow passages, thread-thin side hill sections, and the crowning glory, a single-plank bridge at the lake's outlet.



Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 4 for tour locations.

1 Around the Horn Tour

Distance: 53 miles

Difficulty: Very difficult, but a moderate out-and-back route is an option.

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Use the paved shoulder on Highway 13 between Cty K and Washburn.

For more information:

Bayfield Chamber of Commerce
800/447-4094, 715/779-3335
www.bayfield.org

Bayfield County Tourism & Recreation
800/472-6338, 715/373-6125
www.bayfieldcounty.org

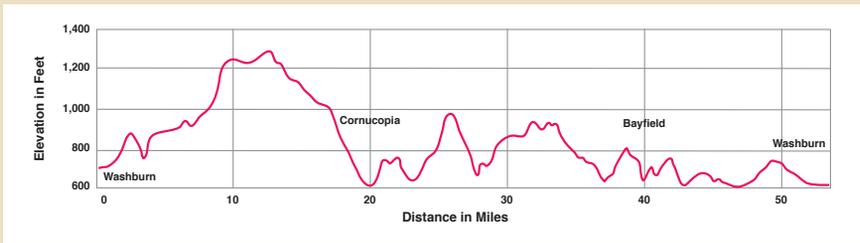
Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce
800/253-4495, 715/373-5017
www.washburnchamber.com

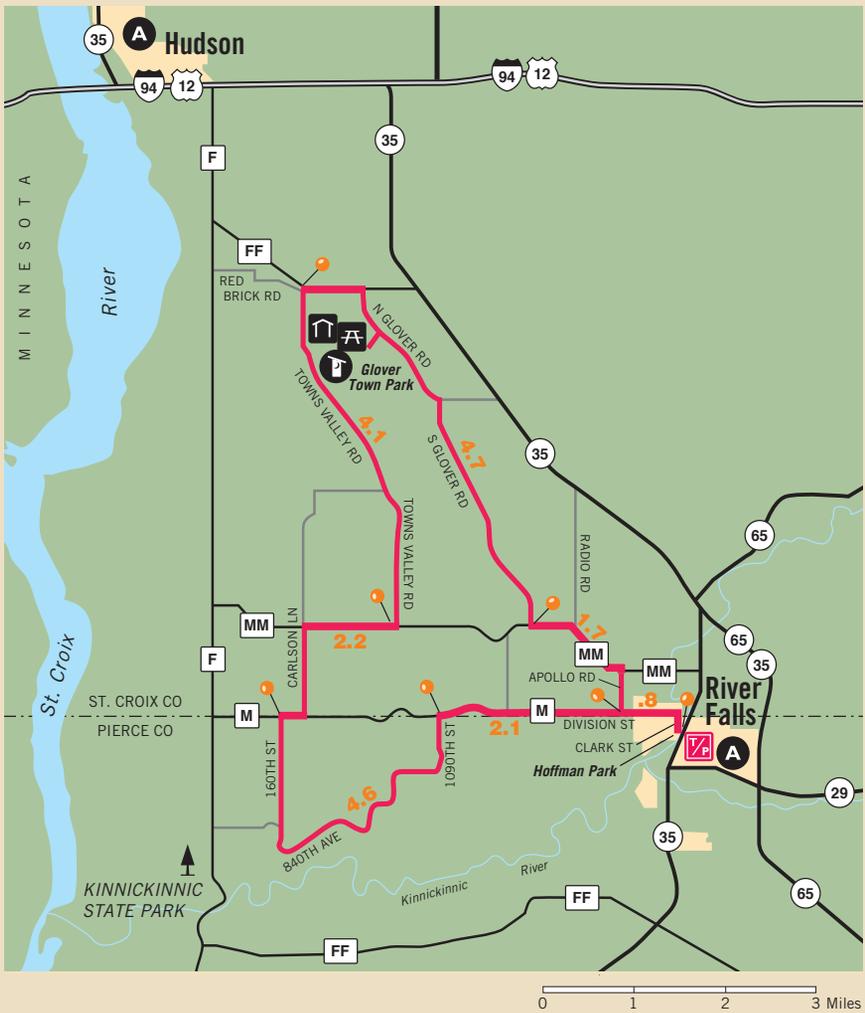
Wisconsin Lake Superior Scenic Byway
715/373-6125
www.lakesuperiorbyway.org

Test your legs on a challenging route around the horn of the Bayfield Peninsula. The ride pays off with some great scenery at the very top of the state. A large section of the route follows the 70-mile Wisconsin Lake Superior Scenic Byway.

There are some tough hills on this ride, but if you 'round the horn' clockwise, the last eight miles into Cornucopia are one of the best downhill runs anywhere. Be prepared, there are no services available on the long hauls between Washburn and Cornucopia or on to Red Cliff.

If that payoff doesn't seem worth the considerable effort of the long climb on County Highway C, you might consider a more modest 26-mile ride out-and-back on Highway 13 between Washburn and Bayfield. There are plenty of great views along that part of the route too.





2 River Falls Tour

Distance: 21 miles

Difficulty: Easy with a few moderate hills.

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Be sure to ride on the paved shoulder where available on County Highway M. Expect significant traffic on County Highway FF.

For more information:
Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau
 715/386-8411, 800/657-6775
www.hudsonwi.org

River Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
 715/425-2533
www.rfchamber.com

There's some wonderful rural Wisconsin biking country wedged between the scenic Kinnickinnic and St. Croix Rivers south of Hudson. River Falls, makes an interesting starting point for this mostly easy ride through rolling farmland and hilltop forests.

Bicycling is always a pleasure on the wide, well-paved, quiet roads you'll travel on this tour. From the trailhead parking lot at Centennial Park in downtown River Falls, head west out of town on Division Street

and Cty M. The route turns south on 1090th St.; then west on 840th Ave. to wind along the edge of the Kinnickinnic River valley; then north on 1160th St. back to Cty. M. If you're wondering, the roads south of Cty. M are numbered because they're in Pierce Co.; north of Cty. M you're in St. Croix County where the road names are more traditional.

Jogging north, you soon reach Townsvalley Road and the only significant hill on the tour, a 120-foot climb and descent. The road is part of the course for the popular locally organized Autumn Trek bike ride. In the fall, hilltops radiant with color make a scenic background for the picturesque farms along the route.

As you turn east on Cty. FF, watch for increased traffic. Riding south along North Glover Road, you can take a break at pleasant Glover Town Park. A bit past the park, you arrive at a three-way intersection where every road is a Glover: North Glover, South Glover, and just plain Glover. South Glover Road is your return ticket. After winding between several hills you are soon back on County MM and the outskirts of River Falls.

Northeast



WISCONSIN BIKE FED



Linear Bike Trails

1 Ahnapee State Trail

See trail description on page 17.

2 Bearskin State Trail

The 18-mile Bearskin State Trail travels through a variety of habitats – northern hardwoods, bogs, marshes, springs and trout streams. Numerous trestles and boardwalks provide ample viewing stops. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 715/536-8773 or dnr.wi.gov

3 Devil's River State Trail

See East Central region.

4 Fox River State Trail

The Fox River State Trail winds along the Fox River before extending another 25 miles. The trail has a rich history, beginning with the Native Americans who used footpaths to travel between their villages located along the river. Early French explorers, missionaries and traders built their posts and missions along these trails. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 920/448-4466 (Brown County), 920/439-1008 (Calumet County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

5 Heart of Vilas County Trail

The Heart of Vilas County Trail System features 40 miles of easy riding paved trails through the heart of some of the most pristine scenery the Northwoods has to offer. The trail system connects the communities of Manitowish Waters, Boulder Junction, Sayner, Star Lake and St. Germain.

■ For more information call 800/466-8759 or visit www.vilas.org

6 Mountain-Bay State Trail

See Central region.

7 Nicolet State Trail

This county-operated trail meanders for more than 89 miles through the Nicolet National Forest in northeastern Wisconsin. The trail follows the same corridor built by railroad companies in the late 19th century to open up Wisconsin's pine and hardwood forests for the timber industry. The Nicolet State Trail runs through several small communities from Gillett in Oconto County to the Michigan state line.

■ For more information call 715/528-5377 (Florence County), 715/478-3475 (Forest County), 920/834-6995 (Oconto County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

continued...



Fox River State Trail.

ROSEBANK PHOTO

NORTHEAST

LINEAR BIKE TRAILS, CONTINUED

8 Oconto River State Trail

This 8-mile trail passes through the forests and farms of Oconto County between the communities of Oconto and Stiles Junction. Outside of Oconto, the trail parallels the Oconto River. The river has a long history of human activity, dating back 6000 years to the early Native Americans who lived along the river, to the fur trading and logging operations of the last few centuries, to present-day recreation activities such as canoeing and kayaking.

■ For more information call 920/834-6995 or visit dnr.wi.gov

9 Three Eagle Trail

This is 12.2-mile crushed limestone trail follows the old C&NW railbed through the beautiful countryside of the Northwoods. The trail is open and groomed for cross-country skiing in the winter. Access on Hwy 32/45 is temporarily located on the south driveway for the new Clearwater Lake development.

■ For more information call 715/546-8032 or visit www.3eagletrail.com

10 Wilderness Lakes Trail

When complete, the Wilderness Lakes Trail will offer a 40-mile, multiuse loop, which will traverse the Wisconsin-Michigan border and encircle the 18,000-acre Sylvania Wilderness area. The existing paved Land O' Lakes Bike and Pedestrian Trail runs 8.5 miles west from Land O' Lakes and passes through a landscape dotted with postcard-perfect lakes and stands of ancient hemlock and white pine. The recently completed 3.2-mile Forest Lake Trail extends the total trail length to 11.7 miles.

■ For more information call 715/547-3432 or visit www.landolakes-wi.org

11 Wolf River State Trail

The Wolf River State Trail is open 19.7-miles from State Highway 55 in Lily to Crandon. The trail is currently under development in Langlade County from Highway 55 south. Once complete, the Wolf River State Trail in Langlade County will run for 23.4 miles from the Menominee/Langlade county line north into Forest County for a total of 37 miles. The trail runs adjacent to the Nicolet National Forest where camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, and cross-country skiing opportunities are available.

■ For more information call 888/526-4523 or visit dnr.wi.gov

MORE RESOURCES

DOOR COUNTY COASTAL BYWAY

Door County's Coastal Byway stretches over 66 miles of the beautiful Door Peninsula.

For more information:
www.doorcountycoastalbyway.org

NORTHEAST URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

GREEN BAY
www.foxrivertrail.com

ONEIDA NATION
www.oneidanation.org

STURGEON BAY ★★★★★
www.sturgeonbay.net

★★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

* See page 77.



Three Eagle Trail.

FEATURED TRAIL

AHNAPEE STATE TRAIL

Distance: 46 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone

Fees: None

Caution: Some sections are on public streets open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. The trail is also used by hikers and horseback riders. Always yield to pedestrians and don't spook animals.

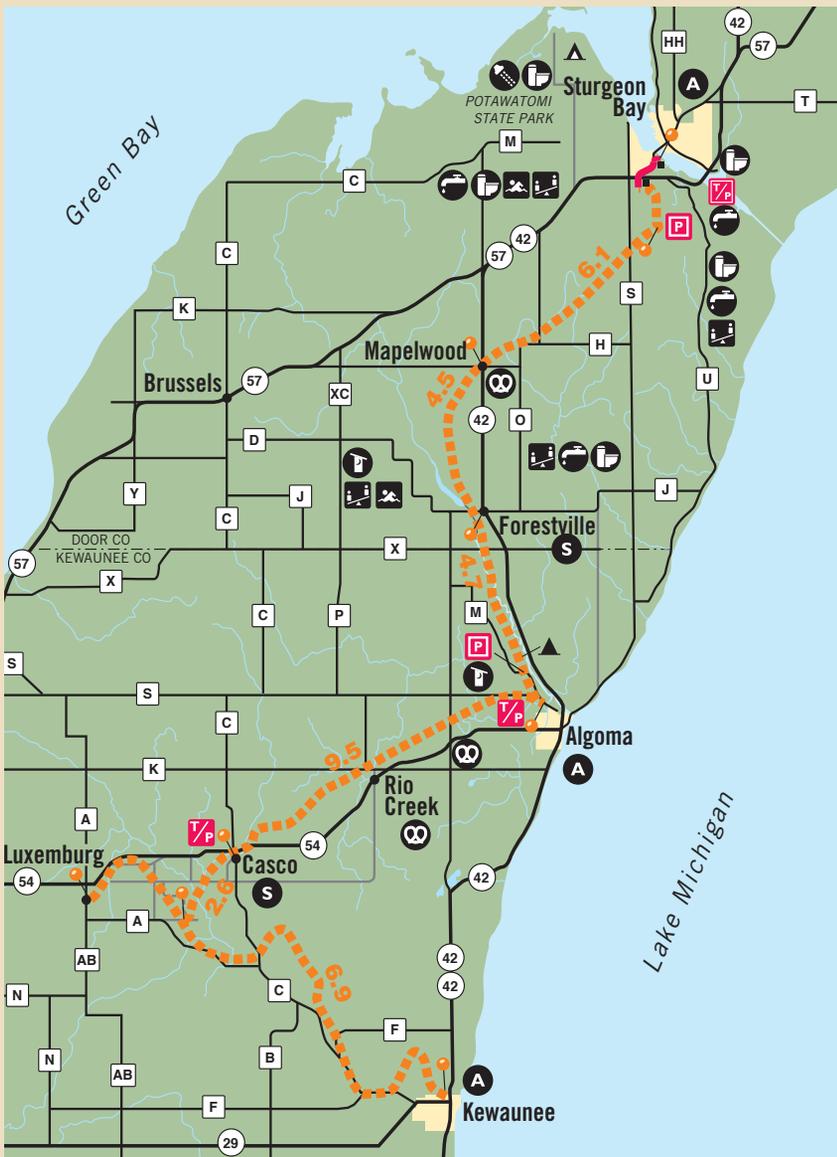
For more information:

Ahnapee State Trail
800/498-4888, 920/746-9959
dnr.wi.gov

Door County Visitor Bureau
800/527-3529, 920/743-4456
doorcounty.com

Kewaunee County Recreation Department
920/388-0444
www.kewauneco.org

From downtown Sturgeon Bay, this 46-mile, county-operated trail winds south along the beautiful Ahnapee and Kewaunee rivers to Algoma, Casco, Luxemburg and Kewaunee, passing by a mixture of ever-green glades, farmland, prairies and wooded areas teeming with wildlife and native wildflowers. The trail is shared with walkers, joggers, horseback-riders and even horse drawn wagons, buggies or carts. Be sure to use good trail etiquette to ensure the enjoyment and safety of all trail users. Near Sunset Road in Kewaunee County, the trail branches off in three directions, west to Luxemburg, northeast towards Algoma, and southeast to Kewaunee.



Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 14 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails on page 21.

1 Baird Creek Trail

Baird Creek Trail is divided into three areas and offers a variety of terrains from double track (hikers and bikers), singletrack and highly technical sections including rocks, roots and occasional creek crossings for the more adventurous rider. The west section has the main parking lot and the double track for the family rides or the beginner. A web of trails (intermediate & advanced riders) breaks off and follows the creek. Occasionally, these trails disappear or lead riders into a creek crossing. A continuous flowing ride is hard to achieve, but if you like to play, this is the spot.

■ For more information call 920/448-3365 or visit www.greenbaywi.gov

2 Kewaunee County Trails

Their club name, KRANKS (Kewaunee Riders Absolutely Nuts for Killer Singletrack), says it all. These trails draw riders from near and far to test their skills on real, no compromise singletrack. More than 1,000 volunteer hours went into building this trail system that takes full advantage of every inch of the 110 feet of elevation. If you ride each of the four color-coded loops you’ll need at least 1,000 feet of climbing in your legs. The elevation was created by glacial melt water that sliced through the thick moraine creating the bed of the Kewaunee River. Near the trails, Bruemmer County Park augments the riding experience nicely with shaded picnic areas and a chance to soak your feet in the cool water of the river.

■ For more information call 800/666-8214, 920/388-4822 or visit www.kewaunee.org

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don’t ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.

3 Mud Lake Trail

Mud Lake Trail offers 10 miles of steep uphill climbs, ravines and a log bridge over water. Part of this course is used every year for the WORS (Wisconsin Off Road Series). Enjoy beautiful scenery on this challenging course where advanced riders can hone their skills and newer riders can choose from some of the easier trail segments and mix that with some of the gravel and logging roads.

■ For more information call 800/236-4386, 715/365-7464 or visit www.oneidacountywi.com

4 Nicolet Roche Trail

See description on facing page.

continued...



Nicolet Roche Trail.

FEATURED TRAIL

NICOLET ROCHE TRAIL

Distance: 14 miles total with 13 miles of singletrack.

Difficulty: Moderate to very difficult.

Caution: The trails are two-way. When extreme obstacles are encountered obvious bypasses exist. Hikers may also use the trails; always yield to pedestrians and don't spook animals.

For more information:

Langlade County Economic Development Corporation
715/623-2085
langladedevelopment.org

The rocks you'll find on the Nicolet Roche Trail are not just any rocks. These megoliths dot the forest floor and offer a high skill challenge. But, if you're not up to tackling these monsters, there are obvious bypasses available.

Beyond the boulders you'll find short steep sections traversing 20 to 50 feet of elevation. The riding here is a bit easier, even though the trail sections have names like Beast, Gravity Cavity and Psycho Path. The 1.5-mile Boulder Lake Campground Trail is great for beginners or just an easy warm-up.



5 NHAL State Forest

Over 900 lakes dot the surface of the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. Within the 222,000 acre forest, you'll find almost 40 miles of designated bike trails and many more miles of old forest roads that are also open to mountain bicycling. Remote and challenging trails await you in the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest and the amount of wildlife in this is remarkable. A number of sites along the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trails can be found within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. The forest is also famous for some of the largest trees in the Northwoods, providing the necessary habitat for an exceptionally large population of bald eagles.

■ For more information call 715/542-3923 or visit dnr.wi.gov

6 Raven Trail

Located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest, Raven Trail offers a mix of intermediate and expert loops that wind through the woods and near Inkpot and Clear Lakes. There are a couple of steep hills along the way. Loops vary from 1.5, 2.5, 3.5 and 5 miles.

■ For more information call 715/542-3923 or visit dnr.gov

7 Reforestation Camp Trails

The Brown County Reforestation Camp may have the only mountain bike trails in the state where you can hear a lion growl. On a still day when the wind isn't rustling in the pines you could hear that and the sounds of other wild beasts. But they aren't your signal to shift to a higher gear and pedal faster. It's just background noise from the Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo (NEW Zoo) that occupies a portion of the 1,600-acre forest you're riding in. While the Camp is home to some unusual wildlife, the terrain is pretty ordinary. The hills here carry only about 30 feet of elevation. Still, the forest has long been popular with local mountain bikers. Some, seeking more challenge, strayed from the wide cross-country ski trails where riding was allowed. Making one's own trail was strictly forbidden until dedicated riders and forest management worked out a plan for a new system of singletrack mountain bike trails. Now, riders have the choice of pedaling the ski trails where they can roll along and watch the scenery, or they can take on more challenge on the narrow singletrack. Either way it makes for a memorable ride.

■ For more information call 920/448-6242 or visit www.co.brown.wi.us



Washburn Lake Trails.

ZION/CS/INW/BOC

8 Underdown Trails

Twenty-one miles of single track mountain bike, 20 miles of horse trails, and 8 miles of snowshoe trails are located on this 44,600-acre Underdown Recreation Area. The terrain for mountain biking is beautiful but can also be rugged and challenging. The trails pass through over 4,600 acres of Lincoln County Forest Land.

■ For more information call 715/536-0327 or visit www.thunderdown12.blogspot.com

9 Washburn Lake Trails

Thanks to a variety of terrain, the Oneida County Forest trails have long been popular with cross-country skiers. The County Forest also offers snowshoeing, sledding/tubing, and a warming shelter is available. Now, the addition of singletrack trails for mountain biking make them even more fun for skilled riders. It's Midwest singletrack at its finest: narrow passages with lots of tight turns, sudden grade changes and enough rocks and roots to make riding a technical challenge.

■ For more information call 800/236-3006 or visit www.oneidacountywi.com

LOOKING FOR A MILDER RIDE?

ANVIL NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL
715/479-2827
www.fs.usda.gov

DISCOVERY CENTER TRAILS
888/626-9877, 715/543-8488
www.discoverycenter.net

ED'S LAKE TRAIL
800/334-3387, 715/478-3450
www.visitforestcounty.com

NEWPORT STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 920/854-2500
visit dnr.wi.gov

PENINSULA STATE PARK TRAILS
888/947-2757, 920/868-3258
visit dnr.wi.gov

POTAWATOMI STATE PARK TRAILS
888/947-2757, 920/746-2890
dnr.wi.gov

RAZORBACK RIDGES TRAILS
800/236-3649
www.vilas.org

TOMAHAWK LAKE TRAIL
715/795-1782
www.barnes-wi.com

Visit travelwisconsin.com for even more great biking vacation ideas.



Whitewater rafting on the Peshtigo River.

WORTH A STOP

Wa-Swa-Goning in Lac du Flambeau is a re-created Ojibwe village with birchbark lodges and canoes. In Woodruff, **Scheer's Lumberjack Shows** features log rolling, chopping, sawing and climbing exhibitions. The **Snowmobile Hall of Fame** in St. Germain displays historic racing snowmobiles, uniforms, trophies, videos and biographies of its inductees.

You can view the world's largest mechanical globe planetarium in Rhinelander. At 22-feet in diameter, the **Kovac Planetarium** displays all the stars in the northern hemisphere visible to the unaided eye.

At the **Lumberjack Special Steam Train & Camp Five Museum Complex** in Laona, you can hop on a steam train and journey back in time to an authentic 1902 logging camp.

The **Wild Rivers Interpretive Center** in Florence features dioramas, murals and interactive exhibits that tell the story of the wild rivers and natural areas of Florence County.

Experience the thrill of whitewater rafting on the Peshtigo River at **Wildman Adventure Resort** in Athelstane.

In Sturgeon Bay, the **Dor County Maritime Museum** has over 20,000 square feet of nautical history on display including area lighthouses and shipbuilding. The **Simon Creek Winery** offers tours and tastings at their modern winery and 30-acre vineyard.

In Fish Creek, the **American Folklore Theatre** offers professional musical theatre in an outdoor amphitheater (summer), indoors in fall. **Stone's Throw Winery** offers wine tasting and a marketplace in an 80-year-old stone barn.

Bay Beach Amusement Park in Green Bay offers great fun for the kids with dozens of inexpensive rides and play areas. The exhibits, shows and memorabilia at the **Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame** captures the team's legendary history. In Algoma, tour the **von Stiehl Winery** and enjoy their Bohemian tasting salon.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 14 for tour locations.

1 High Falls Tour

Distance: 22 miles.

Difficulty: Easy - flat to gently rolling.

Caution: Entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use.

For more information:

Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce

800/236-6681, 715/735-6681
www.therealnorth.com

Crivitz Recreation Association

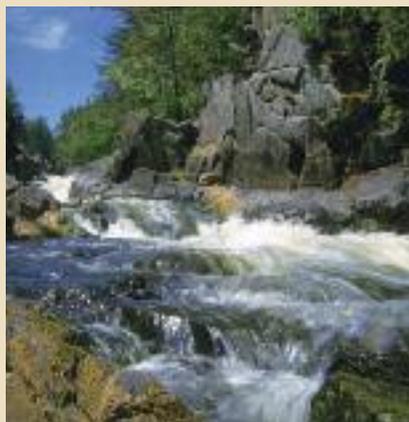
800/236-6681
www.crivitzrecreation.com

Marinette County is the state's waterfall champ. The vast pine and hardwood forest that covers the county frames many of these wonderful spots. On this tour you can visit Veterans Falls and take some time to relax in its gurgling cascade.

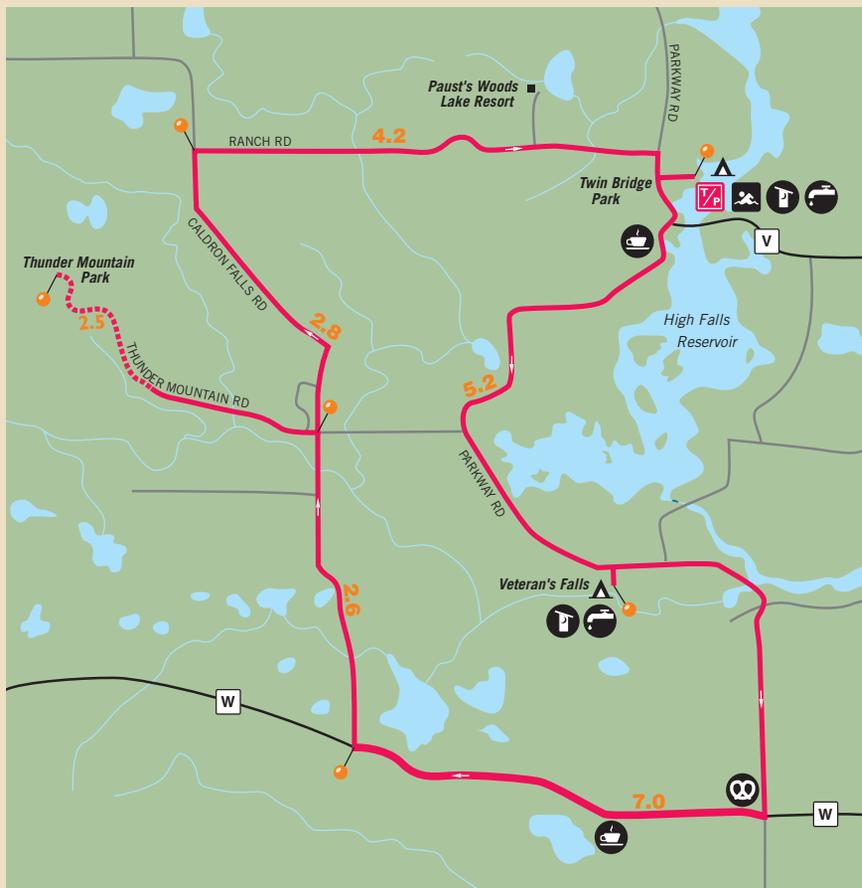
The dam at High Falls Reservoir has replaced the falls there, but the result is a beautiful lake. Twin Bridge Park on its shore is a great place to camp or swim.

If you are riding a mountain bike, you might test your aerobic capacity by taking on the gravel road that leads to another county park on the top of Thunder Mountain. The view will be worth the struggle.

Off-road riders can also check out the cross-country ski trails at Paust's Woods Lake Resort. Riders find the sandy roads and trails a tough work out.



Dave's Falls.



0 1 2 3 Miles



2 Shore to Shore Tour

Distance: 29 miles for the outer loop; 21 miles for the north loop; 15 miles for the south loop. All loops are on paved roads.

Difficulty: Mostly easy with several steep grades near the Green Bay shore.

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Be sure to use the paved shoulder on State Highway 42 between Peninsula State Park and Ephraim.

For more information:

Door County Chamber of Commerce
800/527-3529, 920/743-4456
www.doorcounty.com

With 275 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, the Door County peninsula is a picture postcard of coastal ambiance: spectacular sunsets, whitewashed lighthouses that rise above quiet fishing villages, and thundering waves that wet rocky shores. There's even an east and west coast on the Door County peninsula. On a sunny afternoon you can pedal shore-to-shore; a mini-transcontinental.

On the Lake Michigan side of the peninsula, the landscape is harder, the wind brisker and the water bluer. Leaving the trailhead at Baileys Harbor, you'll cross the

northern tip of Kangaroo Lake on County Highway E, then jog north to Peninsula Players Road for a final 3-mile roll due west to the Green Bay shore. With the first ten miles of the tour behind you, you've already crossed the Door County peninsula.

Rolling north along Cottage Drive, the friendly village of Fish Creek is the southern gateway to 3,800-acre Peninsula State Park. Riding the massive wooded bluffs of Shore and Bluff Roads, you'll understand why the park is one of Wisconsin's most popular. Along the way, Eagle Bluff Lighthouse north of Tennyson Bay is a great photo opportunity. Then, for a spectacular view of Eagle Harbor, you can stop and climb a 100-foot observation tower.

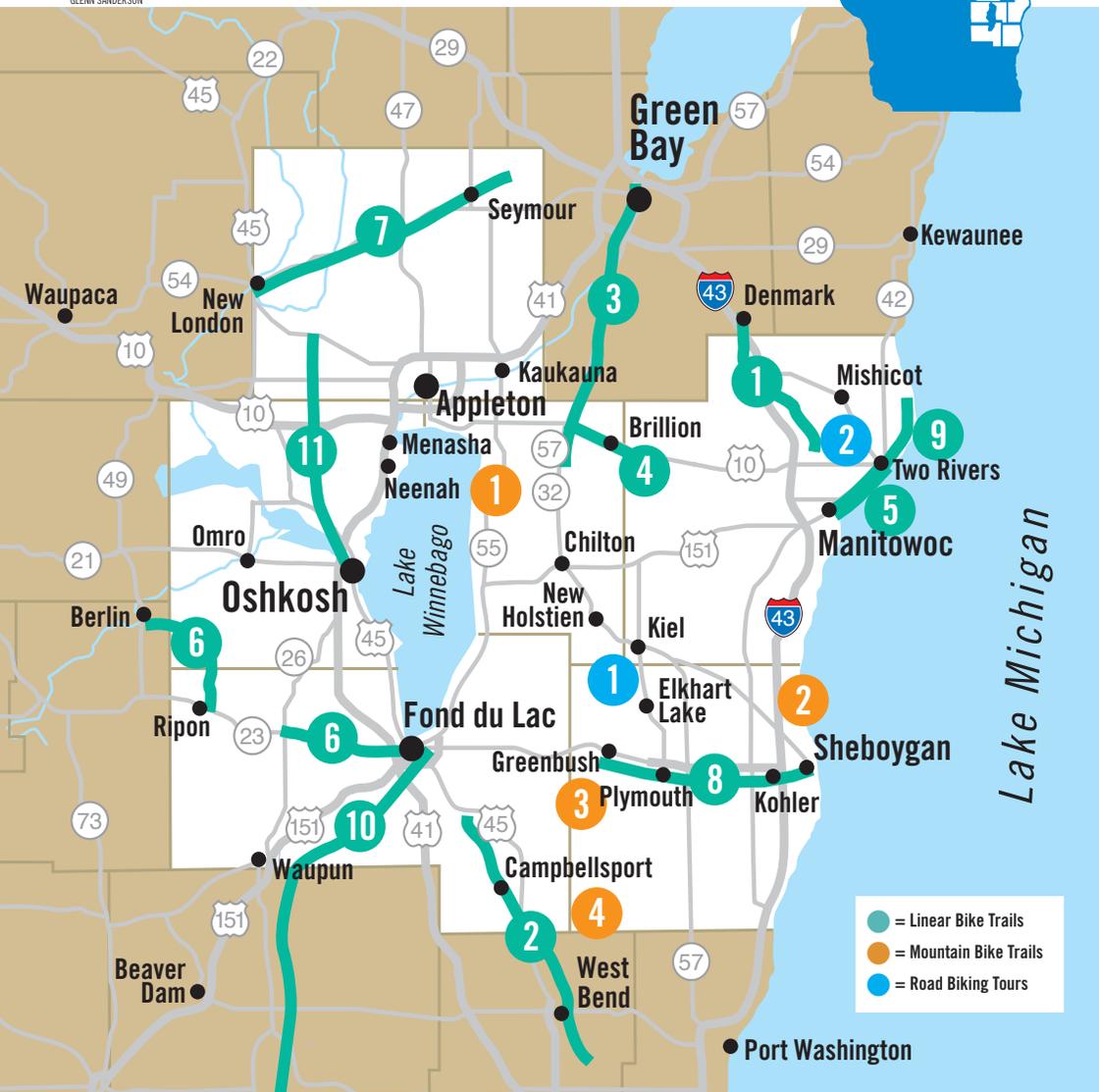
Rolling along Eagle Harbor, the village of Ephraim looks as though it belongs on Cape Cod. Here, you can stop for a round of golf, an ice cream cone, or a sailboat tour of the harbor. Leaving the waters of Green Bay behind, you'll continue south following Townline Road, Meadow Road and County Highway F on your return trip to Baileys Harbor.

There are many reasons, on and off the bike, to slow down and relax in Door County.

East Central



GLENN SANDERSON



Linear Bike Trails

1 Devil's River State Trail

This scenic rail trail in Brown and Manitowoc counties travels through four small communities while passing by a wide variety of scenery including farmlands, prairies, rivers and wetlands. The trail features two dramatic railroad trestles crossing the Devil's River and tributaries. Two segments of the trail are now open – the two-mile segment in Brown County from Denmark to the county line (Cooperstown Road) and a six-mile segment in Manitowoc County from Greenstreet Road to Rockwood Road.

■ For more information call 920/448-4466, 920/683-4189 or visit dnr.wi.gov

2 Eisenbahn State Trail

This 25-mile, county-operated trail extends from the historic city of West Bend into the scenic countryside of eastern Wisconsin past the glacial landscape of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Built on a former rail corridor, the history of the trail is remembered in the title "Eisenbahn," a German word for railroad. The trail passes through the communities of West Bend, Kewaskum and Campbellsport, ending at the village park in Eden. The trail is managed by Washington and Fond du Lac Counties.

■ For more information call 920/929-3135 or visit dnr.wi.gov



Eisenbahn State Trail.

3 Fox River State Trail

See Northeast region.

4 Friendship State Trail

The four-mile Friendship State Trail passes through woods and scenic farmland while traveling between the communities of Forest Junction and Brillion. The trail connects to the Fox River State Trail in Forest Junction.

■ For more information call 920/439-1008 or visit dnr.wi.gov

continued...



Fox River State Trail.

FEATURED TRAIL MARINERS TRAIL

Distance: 5.5 miles

Surface type: Paved asphalt.

Fees: No biking fee is required

Caution: Sections connecting the Mariners Trail and the Rawley Point Trail in Two Rivers are on public streets open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Hikers and in-line skaters also use the trails; always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention

Bureau

800/627-4896, 920/686-3070

www.manitowoc.info

Friends of Mariners Trail

920/684-0828

www.marinerstrail.net

Enjoy six-miles of paved lakeshore trail that joins the cities of Manitowoc and Two Rivers. This trail is designed for bicyclists, walkers, joggers and roller bladers and includes gardens, sculptures, telescopes, parking turn outs, restroom facilities, picnic areas, and the Flora and Fauna of the lakeshore. Along the way you can visit lighthouses, restaurants, motels and gift shops. At the north end, the trail connects with the six-mile Rawley Point Trail at Neshotah Beach in Two Rivers. The Rawley Point trail heads north through Two Rivers and into Point Beach State Forest. This seven-mile section utilizes city streets, limestone surfaces, and a five-mile section through the State Forest.



5 Mariners Trail

See trail description on facing page.

6 Mascoutin Valley State Trail

See trail description on page 28.

7 Newton-Blackmour State Trail

Nine miles of this new trail in northeast Wisconsin are open. When completed, the trail will run for 23 miles in Outagamie County. The trail name is derived from the four communities the trail passes through: New London, Shiocton, Black Creek and Seymour. In Seymour, the Newton Blackmour State Trail connects to the Duck Creek Trail which travels east towards Green Bay.

■ For more information call 920/832-4790 or visit dnr.wi.gov



Mariners Trail.

EAST CENTRAL URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

APPLETON★★★★

www.appletonparkandrec.org

OSHKOSH

www.co.winnebago.wi.us

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY★★★★

www.visitsheboygan.com

www.nomosheboygancounty.com

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

* See page 77.



KOHLER COMPANY

Kohler Design Center.

WORTH A STOP

In Manitowoc, the **Wisconsin Maritime Museum** features huge dioramas, a model ship gallery and a WWII submarine, the USS Cobia. Cross Lake Michigan from Manitowoc to Ludington aboard the **Lake Michigan Carferry Service/SS Badger**. The carferry runs daily late-May thru mid-October.

The **Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum** in Two Rivers displays 1.5 million pieces of wooden type and type-making equipment.

In Appleton, the **History Museum at the Castle** features a large collection of Harry Houdini memorabilia, as well as exhibits on local industry and history. The **Fox River Mall** is the largest shopping mall in Wisconsin with 180 stores.

The **Bergstrom-Mahler Museum** in Neenah houses a spectacular collection of glass paperweights and Germanic glass.

In Oshkosh, the **EAA AirVenture Museum** features more than 80 full-size historic civilian and military aircraft on display, plus plane rides aboard a 1929 Ford Tri-Motor. The **Paine Art Center and Gardens** features period rooms and traveling art exhibits in a Tudor Revival mansion with seasonal gardens.

At the **Children's Museum of Fond du Lac**, kids can explore a world of wonder and play through imagination, climbing, building, sliding, creating and performing.

The **Ledge View Nature Center** in Chilton is a 100-acre preserve with a nature center, trails, observation tower, and cave tours offered from late May-November.

In Kohler, the **John Michael Kohler Arts Center** is nationally recognized for its collections of folk and vernacular art. The **Kohler Design Center** displays their designer bath products displayed in imaginative settings.

Unwind at **Aspira Spa** in Elkhart Lake where services include specialized body treatments, chromatherapy and Vichy shower treatments, specialty facials, massages and other salon services.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

FEATURED TRAIL MASCOUTIN VALLEY STATE TRAIL

Distance: 20 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone.

Fees: No biking fee is required.

Caution: The trail may bring a number of different users to the trail at the same time; always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

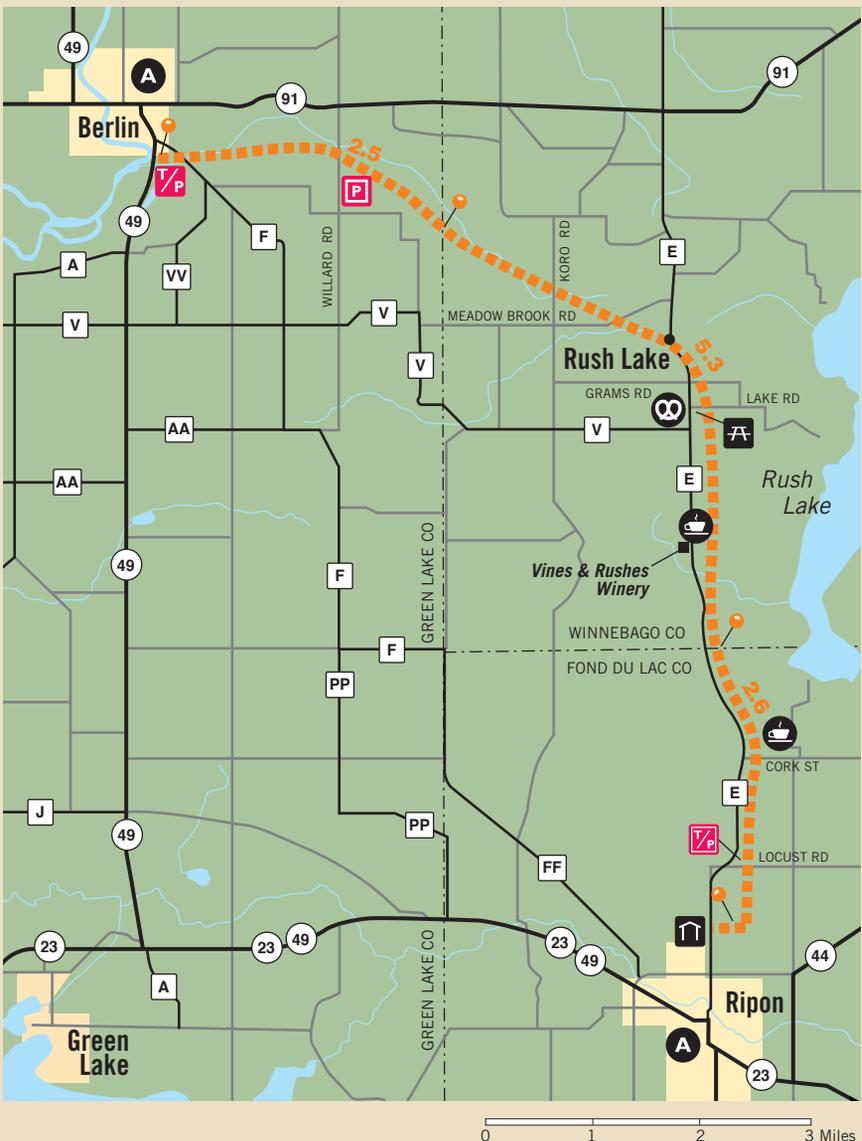
Mascoutin Valley State Trail
dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/mascoutin

Fond du Lac County Parks
 920/929-3135
www.fdlco.wi.gov

Green Lake County
 920/294-4032
www.co.green-lake.wi.us

Winnebago County Parks
 920/232-1960
www.co.winnebago.wi.us

Formerly Known as the Rush Lake Trail or the Ripon to Berlin Trail, the Mascoutin Valley State Trail is divided into two sections, each about 10 miles. The western section (shown in the map below) travels between Berlin and Ripon, and the eastern section travels between Rosendale and Fond du Lac. The gap in the two sections, between Ripon and Rosendale, is privately owned. The trail travels past farms, prairies and wetlands in scenic Green Lake, Winnebago and Fond du Lac counties. Great wildlife viewing opportunities are available in the Eldorado Marsh Wildlife Area in Fond du Lac County and the Rush Lake Marsh area in Winnebago County. There is even a local winery located along the trail.



8 Old Plank Road Trail

The Old Plank Road Trail runs west from Sheboygan roughly 17 miles to the town of Greenbush. The terrain varies from flat to gently rolling with one large climb just east of Greenbush. Future plans will extend the trail to the Fond du Lac County line.

■ For more information call 920/459-3060 or visit www.sheboygancounty.com

9 Rawley Point Recreational Trail

The Rawley Point Recreational Trail connects Mariners Trail in Two Rivers with Point Beach State Forest. The six-mile trail plunges into the cedars, hemlock, pines and birches of the 2,900-acre Point Beach State Forest. The trail ends near the Rawley Point Lighthouse.

■ For more information call 920/793-5564 or visit www.tworiverseconomicdevelopment.org

10 Wild Goose State Trail

See South Central region.

11 Wiouwash State Trail South

Named for the four counties it passes through, Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca and Shawano, the Wiouwash State Trail consists of two complete sections. The northern segment of the trail travels 19 miles between Birnamwood and Split Rock. The southern segment of the trail runs 22 miles from Hortonville to Oshkosh. The southern segment hooks up with the Friendship Trail and extends to the city of Menasha.

■ For more information call 920/232-1960 (Winnebago County), 920/832-4791 (Outagamie County), 715/524-5165 (Shawano County) or visit dnr.wi.gov



WBT/BOB KAM

BIKING ETIQUETTE

When riding the beautiful state trails of Wisconsin, please be considerate of all trail users and follow bicyclist etiquette.

- Ride single file. You can ride two or more abreast if you will not block other traffic. On curving or hilly trails, ride single file.
- Stay right, except to pass. Pass on the left and clearly alert others.
- Always look before changing positions on the trail.
- Know and respect all trail uses.
- Don't ride on muddy trails.
- Obey traffic (and other) laws and signs.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Pick up litter.



COMPTON/REUTERS

Mascoutin Valley State Trail.

Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 24 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails below.

1 Calumet Park Trails

There’s some tough mountain biking on the edge of Lake Winnebago. But you’ll find some easy riding as well in this compact trail package within Calumet County Park. It just depends on whether you’re riding north/south or east/west. The trails running parallel to the lake trace the easy shoreline or flat bluff top. Ride east to west and you’ll attack the steep 150-foot high Niagara Escarpment. The dictionary says an escarpment is “a long, precipitous cliff-like ridge,” an apt description of the eastern shore of Lake Winnebago. For mountain bikers, the meaning of escarpment is simple: steep climbs on grades of between 10 and 20 percent. It’s easy to see why the park is the site of the popular Calumet Sun Run mountain bike race.

■ For more information call 920/849-1493 or visit www.travelcalumet.com

2 Evergreen Park

The Evergreen Park Trail is mostly single-track and can be ridden in many different ways. Each October, it is made into a five-mile loop for the Bud Light Challenge. The trail on the quarry side can be wet in the spring and summer. The trail offers a nice mix of climbing and descending. The upkeep on the trail is done by the Fat Kats bike club.

3 Greenbush Trail

See facing page for trail description.

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don’t ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.



Kettle Moraine State Forest.

4 New Fane Trails

The New Fane Trails offer two trail systems within the Kettle Moraine State Forest. There are four loops of moderately-challenging mountain bike trails totaling 5.5 miles, interwoven with four loops of hiking trails totaling 7.7 miles. Hikers and off-road mountain bikers share this multiple-use trail system. For safety reasons, these trails are use-specific: hiking is not allowed on the bike trails, and biking is not allowed on the hiking trails.

■ For more information call 262/626-2116 or visit dnr.wi.gov

LOOKING FOR A Milder Ride?

GLACIAL BLUE HILLS COUNTY PARK
262/335-5080
www.ci.west-bend.wi.us

HIGH CLIFF STATE PARK
920/989-1106
dnr.wi.gov

KOHLER ANDRAE STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 920/451-4080
dnr.wi.gov

POINT BEACH STATE FOREST
888/947-2757, 920/794-7480
dnr.wi.gov

FEATURED TRAIL

GREENBUSH TRAIL

Distance: 9 miles of singletrack, 4 loops.

Difficulty: Easy to very difficult.

Trailhead locations: On weekends, you can use the parking area at the group campground shelter 2.5 miles south of Greenbush via Cty T & Kettle Moraine Drive; or use the picnic area 0.5 mile further at anytime.

Fees: Daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older. Self-pay stations are located at trailhead parking lots.

Note: Riding on the existing 8 miles of cross country ski trails is prohibited.

Caution: The trail loops are intended for one-way travel. They cross the Ice Age Trail used by hikers, and a horse trail. Always yield to pedestrians and don't spook animals.

For more information:

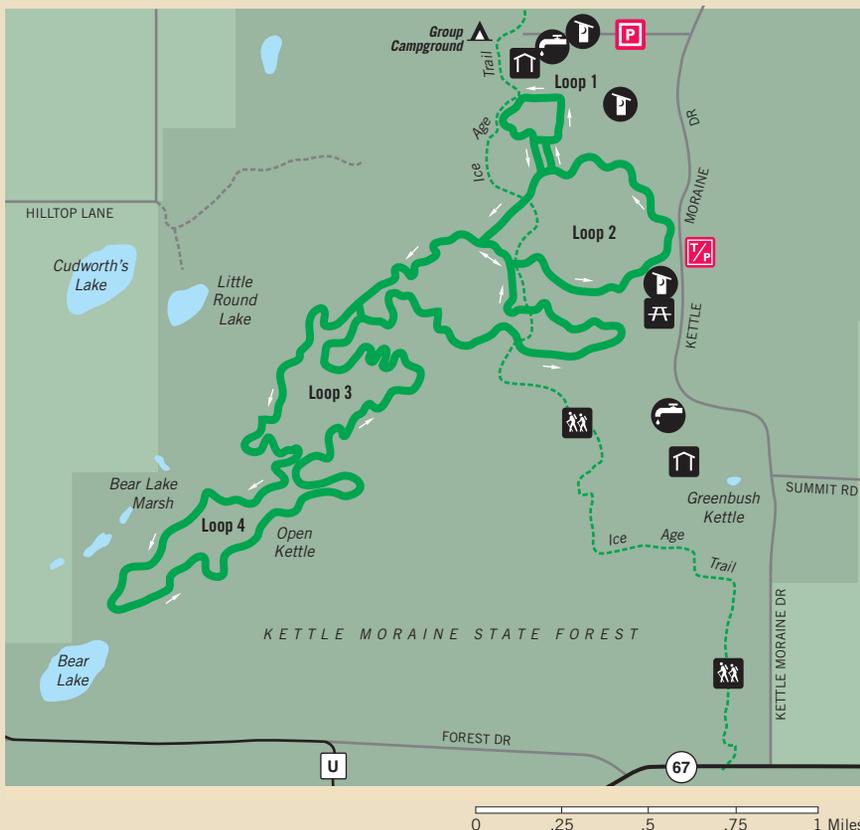
Sheboygan County Convention & Visitors Bureau
920/457-9495
www.sheboygan.org

Kettle Moraine State Forest, Northern Unit
262/626-2116
www.wiparks.net

The Northern Unit of Wisconsin's Kettle Moraine State Forest has everything a mountain biker could want – exciting terrain, plenty of room to expand, and a beautiful forest setting. All that was lacking was a first-rate, purpose-built trail system. Now you'll find that here too.

When off-road riding boomed in the mid-'80s there were no restrictions; you could ride almost anywhere on public lands. But conflicts with other trail users soon changed that. Bikers were restricted to only those trails explicitly designated. Cross-country ski trails seemed to be ideal. But that concentrated throngs of riders on relatively few miles of trail never designed to handle the impact.

IMBA (International Mountain Bicycling Association) guidelines were used to solve the erosion issues with demanding design standards and with new trail building techniques. In the Kettle Moraine, scores of volunteers and dedicated Wisconsin DNR staff pitched in. Now you can enjoy exciting, challenging riding on sustainable single-track trails without harming the environment. The trails take full advantage of the relief of the famous steep-sided "kettles" that range from 20 to 70 feet deep.





0 1 2 3 Miles

2 Two Rivers Tour

Distance: 28 miles

Difficulty: Easy

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use.

For more information:

Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau
800/627-4896
www.manitowoc.info

The Chamber of Manitowoc County
866/727-5575, 920/684-5575
www.chambermanitowoccounty.com

Great bicycling, lots of attractions and a terrific shoreline make a trip to the Two Rivers/Manitowoc area a biker's delight.

The vast expanse of Lake Michigan is the star attraction at Point Beach State Forest. Five miles of sandy beach and wind-blown dunes follow the curve of the point. Head south from the Point Beach trailhead on County Highway O – a true back road gem. Indeed, the first five miles of County Highway O have been designated as Rustic

Road R-16. The paved Mariners Recreation Trail connects Point Beach with Two Rivers. On the south side of town, the trail follows the beach nearly all the way to Manitowoc.

Two Rivers and Manitowoc are treasure troves of services and attractions. You'll leave Two Rivers via Riverview Drive where homes line the steep bank of the East Twin River. On County VV there's a great view of a sharp river bend before you scoot cross-country to a rendezvous with the West Twin River at the little village of Shoto.

Five miles to the north, an easy roll over gentle farm terrain brings you to Mishicot. Leaving Mishicot, the hilliest part of the tour lies ahead. The hard work is short-lived though; after crossing the valley of the East Twin River you're back in easy riding farm country. Turning east, the steel-blue horizon of Lake Michigan comes into view. To complete the tour, swing south on Lakeshore Road past the Rahr Memorial Forest and back to the trailhead at Point Beach.

Central



WISCONSIN BIKE FED



Linear Bike Trails

1 400 State Trail

The entire 22 miles of the 400 State Trail follows the Baraboo River valley from Elroy to Reedsburg. The trail is named for the Chicago-Northwestern passenger train that once operated on this grade. The train traveled the 400 miles between Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul in 400 minutes. The renovated Reedsburg Depot is the trail headquarters and the office for the Reedsburg Chamber of Commerce. The trail links to the Elroy-Sparta State Trail at Elroy Commons on the west end and to the Hillsboro State Trail in Union Center. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 800/844-3507 or visit dnr.wi.gov

2 Elroy-Sparta State Trail

See Southwest region.

3 Green Circle State Trail

Encircling the city of Stevens Point, this trail meanders along the scenic Wisconsin and Plover rivers recalling the history of the lumber-making and pioneer settlements of the area while connecting secluded natural and wildlife areas, the Schmeeckle Reserve and many city parks. The trail, including all spurs, is 31 miles long and features river scenery, forests, wetlands, prairies, boardwalks and quiet neighborhoods. A one-way spur in Plover connects to the Tomorrow River State Trail.

■ For more information call 715/346-4992 or visit www.greencircletrail.org

continued...



The 400 State Trail.



Stevens Point Brewery.

WORTH A STOP

In Waupaca, take a lake cruise aboard a sternwheeler or motor launch "Lady of the Lakes" at **Clear Water Harbor/Chief Waupaca**.

You can enjoy the latest high-tech slot machines and more than 500 slot games at **Ho-Chunk Gaming** in Wittenberg, or try your luck at blackjack, slots and bingo at **Mohican North Star Casino & Bingo** in Bowler.

The **Menominee Logging Museum** in Keshena has the largest collection of logging artifacts in the world.

Wausau's **Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum** exhibits its collections of art of the natural world, with an emphasis on birds. The 1,172-acre **Rib Mountain State Park** offers hiking, picnicking and spectacular scenic overlooks.

The **Stevens Point Brewery** offers tours and tastings at the nation's 5th oldest, continuously operated brewery.

In Marshfield, **Jurustic Park** features a whimsical array of junkyard creatures and jewelry shop.

The **Rudolph Grotto Gardens & Wonder Cave** features floral walkways and gardens, as well as folk-art memorials, shrines and a museum.

In Neillsville, the 146-acre **Highground Veterans Memorial Park** honors veterans and their families. The park includes four miles of hiking trails, picnic areas and shelters and overlooks 500,000 woodland acres.

The 44,000-acre **Necedah National Wildlife Refuge** is home to sandhill cranes, migrating waterfowl, wild turkeys, eagles, shorebirds and songbirds as well as the world's largest population of endangered Karner blue butterflies.

At **Escapade Lake Cruises** in Green Lake, you can tour the lake aboard a 60-foot catamaran-style vessel.

Take a tour of the **Wild Rose Fish Hatchery**. The cold-water hatchery produces trout, salmon, northern pike, lake sturgeon and musky.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

FEATURED TRAIL

MOUNTAIN BAY STATE TRAIL

Distance: 83 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone with a short asphalt paved section in Shawano.

Fees: A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for ages 16 and over.

Caution: Make a complete stop at all road crossings. Hikers also use the trail. Always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

Wisconsin State Parks System
920/448-4466
dnr.wi.gov

Brown County Parks Department
920/448-4466
www.co.brown.wi.us

Shawano County Parks Department
715/526-5216
www.co.shawano.wi.us

Marathon County Parks, Recreation and Forestry
715/261-1550
www.co.marathon.wi.us

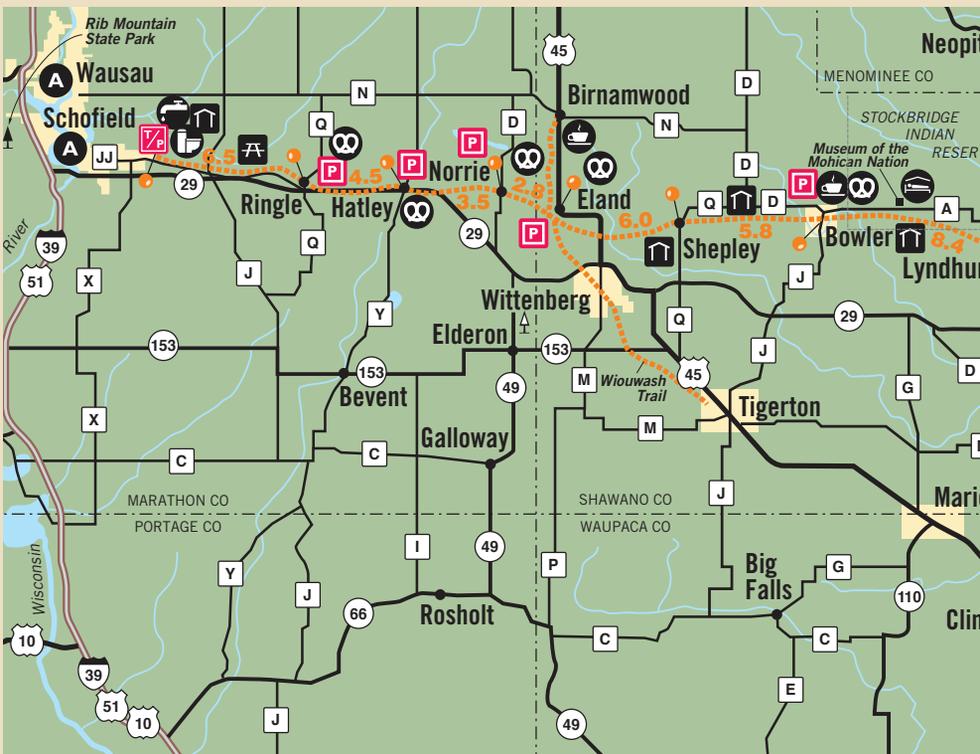


Mountain Bay State Trail.

There is a short gap in the trail in the city of Shawano near the Wolf River, where local roads are utilized.

The trail is operated and maintained by Marathon, Shawano and Brown counties. It passes through several small communities and a wide variety of landscapes including farmlands, forests and wetlands, and features numerous bridge crossings over rivers and streams. In Eland, the Mountain-Bay State Trail connects to the northern segment of the Wiouwash State Trail. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

The Mountain-Bay State Trail is one of the longest rail-trails in Wisconsin. The trail travels for 83 miles between the two geologic features it is named for; Rib Mountain and Green Bay. On the western end, the trail ends in Weston, just east of Wausau. On the eastern end, the trail ends at Howard Memorial Park near the city of Green Bay.



4 Mascoutin Valley State Trail

See East Central region.

5 Mountain-Bay State Trail

See trail description on facing page.

6 Omaha Trail

This 13-mile trail runs south from Camp Douglas to Elroy. At nearby Mill Bluff State Park you'll have the opportunity to get up close and personal with the park's signature towering sandstone bluffs. The trail runs south to Elroy where it joins the Elroy-Sparta and "400" State Trails. On the way, you'll visit the quaint village of Hustler, then roll through a short tunnel, the only other trail tunnel in the state besides those on the Elroy-Sparta and Badger State Trails.

■ For more information call 608/847-9389 or visit www.trailsfromrails.com

7 Tomorrow River State Trail

This 29-mile rail trail travels through scenic glacial terrain and farm country from Plover in Portage County to just outside the village of Manawa in Waupaca County. The western end of the trail connects to the Green Circle State Trail in Plover. There is a short one-mile gap in the trail in Amherst Junction, and trail users will need to use

local roads as the trail route. The eastern terminus of the trail in Waupaca County ends at Wolf Road. Users will need to use local roads for about .5 miles between the trail and the village of Manawa. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 715/346-1433 (Portage County), 715/258-6243 (Waupaca County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

8 Wiouwash State Trail

See East Central region.

CENTRAL URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

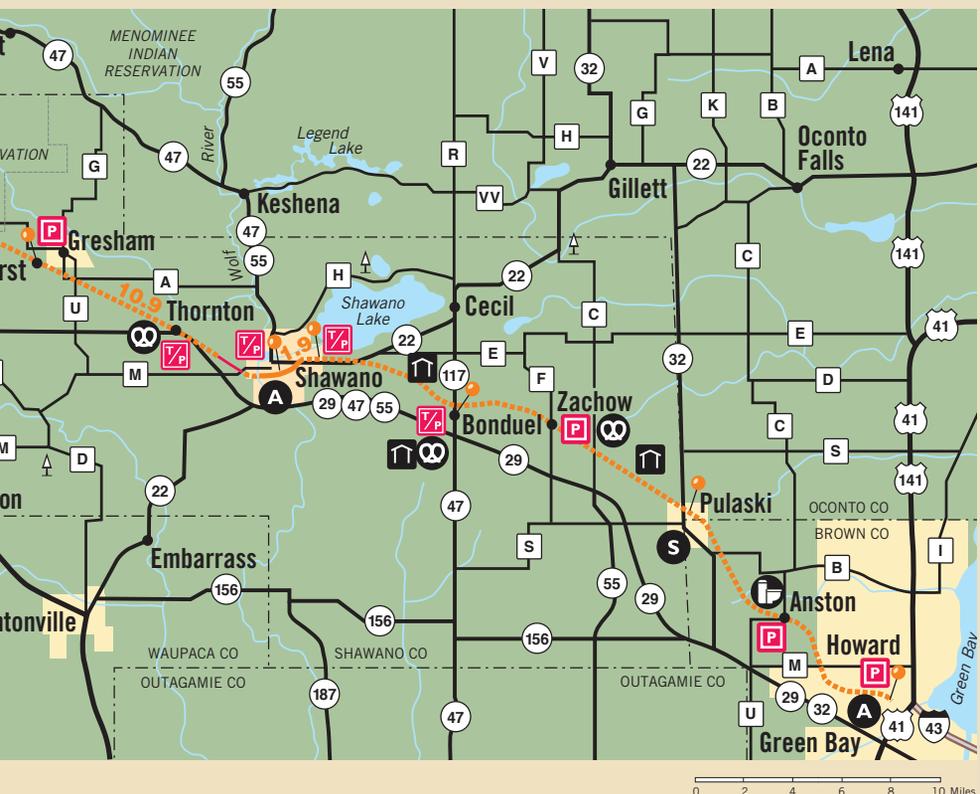
GREEN LAKE
visitgreenlake.com

STEVENS POINT ★★★★★
www.stevenspointarea.com

WAUSAU
www.bicyclewausau.org

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

* See page 77.



Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 34 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience.

1 Big Eau Pleine Park

There over ten miles of winding singletrack trails available at this expansive, 2,050 acre park. The trails are all granite based and shared with hikers and horses. The park is located just 15 minutes southwest of Mosinee. A large parking lot is available across from the park manager’s office and serves as the trailhead. Frequent wildlife sightings can be found on the trails that meander through hardwoods along with scenic views of the Big Eau Pleine Flowage. The trails are maintained by the local IMBA chapter, Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition.

■ For more information call 715/261-1550 or visit www.co.marathon.wi.us

2 Hartman Creek State Park

There are currently six miles of fully-benched, IMBA approved singletrack trails at Hartman Creek State Park. The trails include a beginner and intermediate loop. The green loop is the easiest of the loops with smaller hills and lower grades, but still offers plenty of twists and turns to mix things up. The blue and black loops are accessible from the green and a bit more challenging, with longer climbs and faster downhill sections. There are two new technical man-made features on the black loop, a double teeter totter and dragon’s back, a roller coaster bridge. Both features offer bypasses. The blue and black loops feature a number of log jumps. There are also another six miles of doubletrack if you care to tack on a few extra miles of riding. The trails are maintained by state park personnel. Bikers age 16 and older must have a daily or annual state trail pass to use trails within the park.

■ For more information call 715/258-2372 or visit dnr.wi.gov

3 Levis Mound Trails

See trail description on facing page.



Levis Trow Trails.

DAVE SCHROEDER

FEATURED TRAIL

LEVIS MOUND TRAILS

Distance: 10 miles of doubletrack cross-country ski trails, 16 miles of singletrack.

Difficulty: Easy to extreme; difficult sections can be avoided.

Surface type: Grassy cross-country ski trails with frequent sandy sections and some steep rocky stretches. Hardpack or sandy forest floor with rocks and roots on the singletrack.

Fees: Daily or annual trail pass is required.

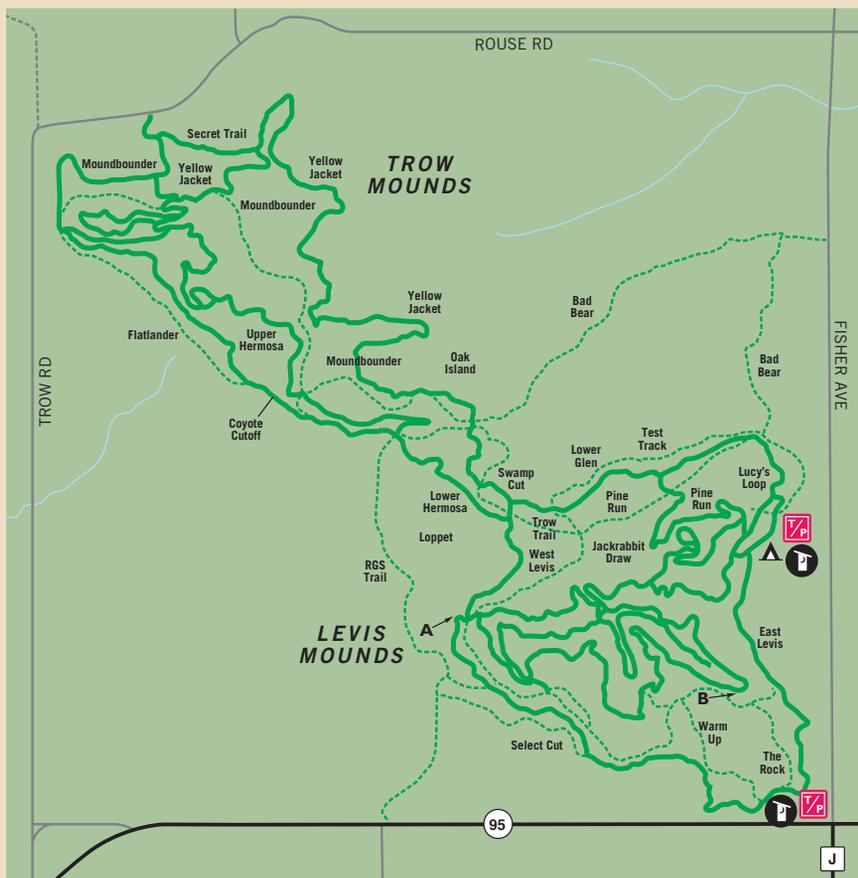
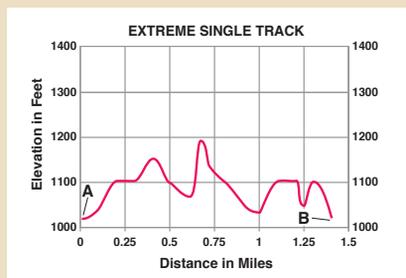
Caution: Hikers may also use the trails; always yield to pedestrians and don't spook animals.

For more information:

Clark County Forestry & Parks
715/743-5140
www.co.clark.wi.us

Whether you circle Levis and Trow mounds or go over them, you're in for some terrific off-road riding and gorgeous scenery on the 9.4 miles of singletrack trails. The mounds are called nunataks – islands rising above a sea of glacial ice. The 200-foot sandstone crags jut up from the rolling forest floor. On the extreme singletrack, you ride right under them in places. With trail

names like Select Cut, Dead Turkey and Pile Driver, you can expect some pretty intense riding. Toad Road is a favorite. It is demanding, but incredibly beautiful as it winds along the face of a sandstone cliff. It's the perfect place to snap a photo that will make your friends ask, "You really rode that?" For a tough combination, link Toad Road, Pile Driver and Switchback into a loop. If you've got the appetite for a second lap, you're really in super shape. For some easier singletrack riding, head for the low land between the two mounds. The side-hill singletrack is usually soft with many switchbacks. Keep track of how often you have to put a foot down if you can count that high.



CENTRAL

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS, CONTINUED

4 Nine Mile Forest Trail

See trail description on facing page.

5 Nordic Mountain

Nordic Mountain has eight miles of mountain bike trails covering almost every inch of their 104 acres. In some spots, the trails are very technical, while other sections are super fast. The climbs can be tough, but overall, the trails provide a nice mix of riding. From a world-class cross country course to numerous downhill and freeride lines, Nordic Mountain is fast becoming a favorite mountain biking destination. The best part is, the trails are free and always open. For the past few years, Nordic Mountain has hosted the Subaru Cup Pro XCT. The course they use is technical and very challenging, but everyone has the opportunity to ride the very same track that Olympic level riders compete on.

■ For more information call 800/253-7266, 920/787-3324 or visit www.nordicmountain.com

6 Standing Rocks Trail

The trails at this Portage County park have attracted cross-country and downhill skiers to its slopes and trails for years. The standing rocks are huge glacial erratics, granite boulders rolled here by the continental ice sheet. You'll find enough of their smaller brothers in the trail's surface to make for a challenging ride in places. Approximately 10 miles of cross-country ski trails are open for mountain biking, and in 2003, over 13 miles of well-marked single-track was added. The trails are seldom the same grade for more than a few yards. There are plenty of climbs, roots, and rocks that wind throughout the park that will keep you shifting and anticipating the next steep climb or downhill. There is a lot of moderate riding here, but the periodic steep stuff is unforgettable. Two long 100-foot climbs are tests of aerobic capacity and willpower. Your effort will take you on a roller coaster ride through a beautiful forest of red pine, aspen and oak. The view of Bear Lake from the top of the ski hill is thrilling. The trails are open daily from May 1 to November 16.

■ For more information call 715/346-1433 or visit www.co.portage.wi.us

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don't ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.



WISCONSIN BIKE FED

WINTER FAT BIKING

Exploring the state on two wheels is a great way to see the distinct beauty of Wisconsin's four seasons.

In the winter months, the appearance of snow doesn't slow the biking fun, but rather adds to it! Not only are bikes ridden as year round transportation by many in cities such as Madison and Milwaukee, but biking is also a growing recreational sport during Wisconsin's winter months.

Plowed city streets are not the only place for bicyclists to ride when snow covers the state. "Fat biking" as it is called, or riding bicycles with wider tires on approved snow-covered trails for recreation is a growingly popular sport in Wisconsin. Whether riding professionally groomed trails, frozen lakes, or less packed down powder, fat bikes have extended the biking season for enthusiasts and added a whole new twist for those who enjoy Wisconsin's expansive offerings of biking trails and routes.

Out of this newly popular sport has spawned a number of new clubs, events and races in Wisconsin for those wishing to get involved with others who share their passion. For more information about where to get started, check out wisfatbikeracing.com, greatlakesfatbikeseries.com, fatbikebirkie.com, and fat-bike.com/tag/wisconsin for comprehensive information about the sport. Please check with the local biking sources to make sure that you are riding on approved trails.

FEATURED TRAIL

NINE MILE FOREST TRAIL

Distance: 19.6 miles of cross-country ski trails, and 11.6 miles of singletrack trails.

Difficulty: Easy to extreme.

Fees: \$2 daily donation. Use the self-pay station at the trailhead.

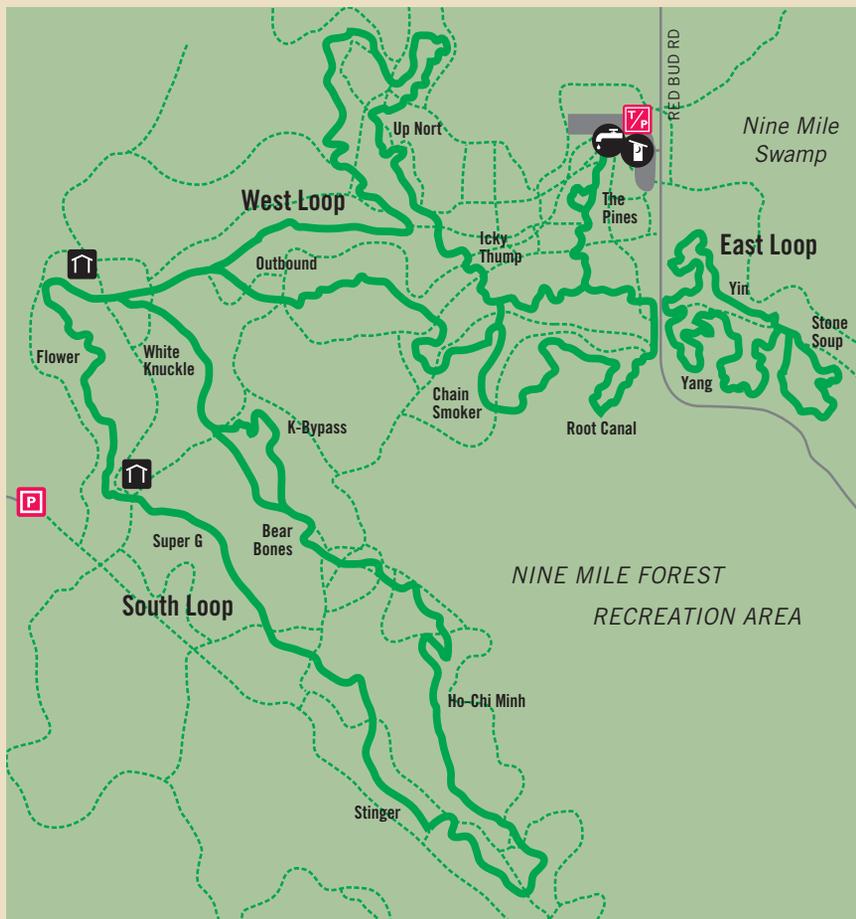
Caution: Hikers also use the trails. Hunting is allowed in season, so portions of the trail system may be closed. Nine Mile is a managed forest; you may encounter active logging in places. Always yield to pedestrians and don't spook animals.

For more information:

Wausau-Central Wisconsin CVB
888/948-4748
www.visitwausau.com

The trails at Nine Mile Forest have been favorites of cross-country skiers for decades. Mountain bikers love this easy-to-get-to trail system too; great riding smack in the middle of the state and just a few miles off I-39. Over the years, local enthusiasts have laid out nearly a dozen miles of singletrack trail adding even more fun. Eleven loops of singletrack offer riding from mild to wild.

The wide cross-country ski trails are great for high speed cruising, sight seeing, or a tough aerobic workout. Singletrack trails aren't for bird watching, but the skill and concentration they require make them fun and challenging. The farther south you go, the steeper the slopes become. There the ski trails and singletrack snake over the sides of a steep, 140-foot-high ridge; enough elevation to get anyone's heart pumping. If you haven't tried singletrack riding, Trail 4 is a good place to start. Twisting through the deep pine, oak and birch forest, the trail keeps your speed low. It's challenging, but not too hard. If you venture onto connecting Trail 5, you'll begin to experience some of Nine Mile's signature obstacles; low berms and log piles to test your bike handling skill. Riding the higher-numbered trails, you'll find greater elevation changes, narrower passages between trees, and rocks and roots on the trail.



Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 34 for tour locations.

1 Chain O' Lakes Tour

Distance: 24 miles for the outer loop, 14 miles for the east loop, and 18 miles for the west loop.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate – some steep hills on the west loop.

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Be sure to use the paved shoulder on County Highway QQ.

For more information:

Waupaca Area Chamber of Commerce
888/417-4040, 715/258-7343
www.waupacamemories.com

Hartman Creek State Park
715/258-2372
dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/hartman

This central Wisconsin road tour is a delightful roll through Waupaca's popular Chain O' Lakes area on a pair of rustic roads, designated roads that are protected from development. You'll be glad they are when riding Rural Road (R-23) and Emmons Creek Road (R-24).

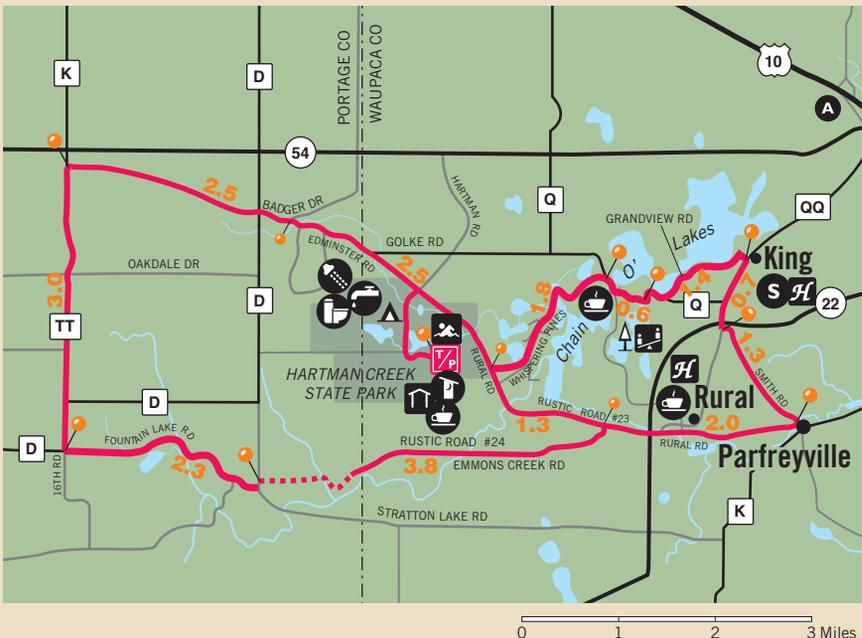
Leaving the Hartman Creek parking lot, head east or right onto Windfeldt lane (the road adjacent to this lot) until you reach the beach parking lot. Continue until you reconnect with the bike trail. This trail will lead you back out to Rural Road. Continue southeast and you'll cross the meandering Crystal River twice on quaint stone bridges before turning northeast on Whispering Pines Road. Here the wind whistles in the

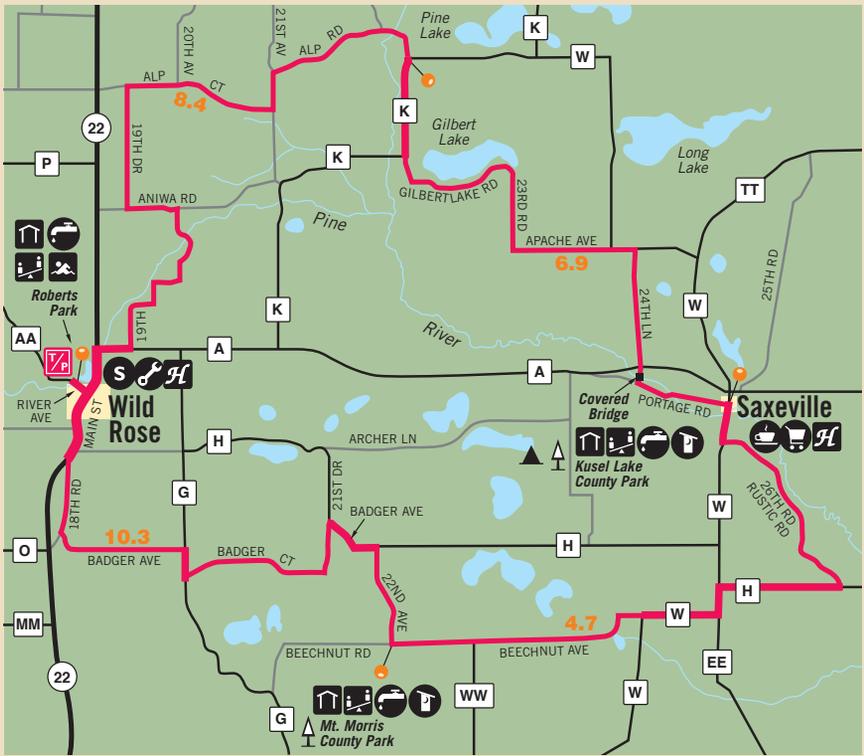
tall pines as the route winds along the north shore of the Chain O' Lakes. Follow Grandview Road along the Chain's south shore to King, a pleasant little village with a real tourism flavor. You'll enjoy a string of boutique gift shops, as well as several good restaurants.

You'll roll south from King on County Highway QQ and Smith Road to sleepy Parfreyville. Turning west, simple Greek Revival and Italianate Victorian homes mix with woods and fields along Rural Road. You'll pass the Village of Rural, an historic crossroads town with several 1840s homes and the picturesque Crystal River Inn Bed & Breakfast.

Rolling west, you can stay on Rural Road to complete the short loop, or you can opt to extend your ride by taking the tour's second rustic road, Emmons Creek Road (R-24). Here, the route plunges into a forest canopy adjacent to a wildlife preserve. Cool fragrant air from the dense pine and hardwood forest flows over the road. You'll cross a babbling trout stream along the way. Keep in mind that the westernmost mile has a gravel surface.

At Stratton Lake Road, you'll segue to Fountain Lake Road, a favorite for its twisting downhill run through the woods. Turning north on County Highway TT, then east on Edminster Road brings you back to Hartman Creek State Park. The Hartman Lake beach is a great place to end your ride.





2 Wild Rose Covered Bridge Tour

Distance: 30 miles

Difficulty: Easy

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use.

For more information:

Waushara Area Chamber of Commerce
920/787-3488
www.wausharachamber.com

With its scenic, easy riding on quiet back roads, the Covered Bridge Tour is what Waushara County is all about. There are only a handful of unpaved roads in the entire county, so riding anywhere is fine. The picturesque village of Wild Rose with its cafes and Roberts Park on the scenic millpond makes a great trailhead.

Covering gently rolling terrain and well-paved roads, the Covered Bridge Tour pays several visits to the Pine River, the area's Class A trout stream. The stretch along 19th Drive is particularly lovely. Any of the roads are great places for spotting pheasants, deer, fox and a myriad of songbirds.

As you approach Saxeville, you'll pedal through the romantic light and shadow of a covered bridge over the Pine River. When the old bridge needed rebuilding, public funds would only provide a nondescript replacement. So local people volunteered their time, skills and money to build this more appropriate reminder of the past.

The tiny village of Saxeville is a popular stop for pie at the local café or supplies at its country store that looks little different than it did 100 years ago. Just outside Saxeville, you'll pedal along quiet 26th Road, (Rustic Road 48), that brushes the Pine River and curves around the rolling hills of the area's ground moraine.

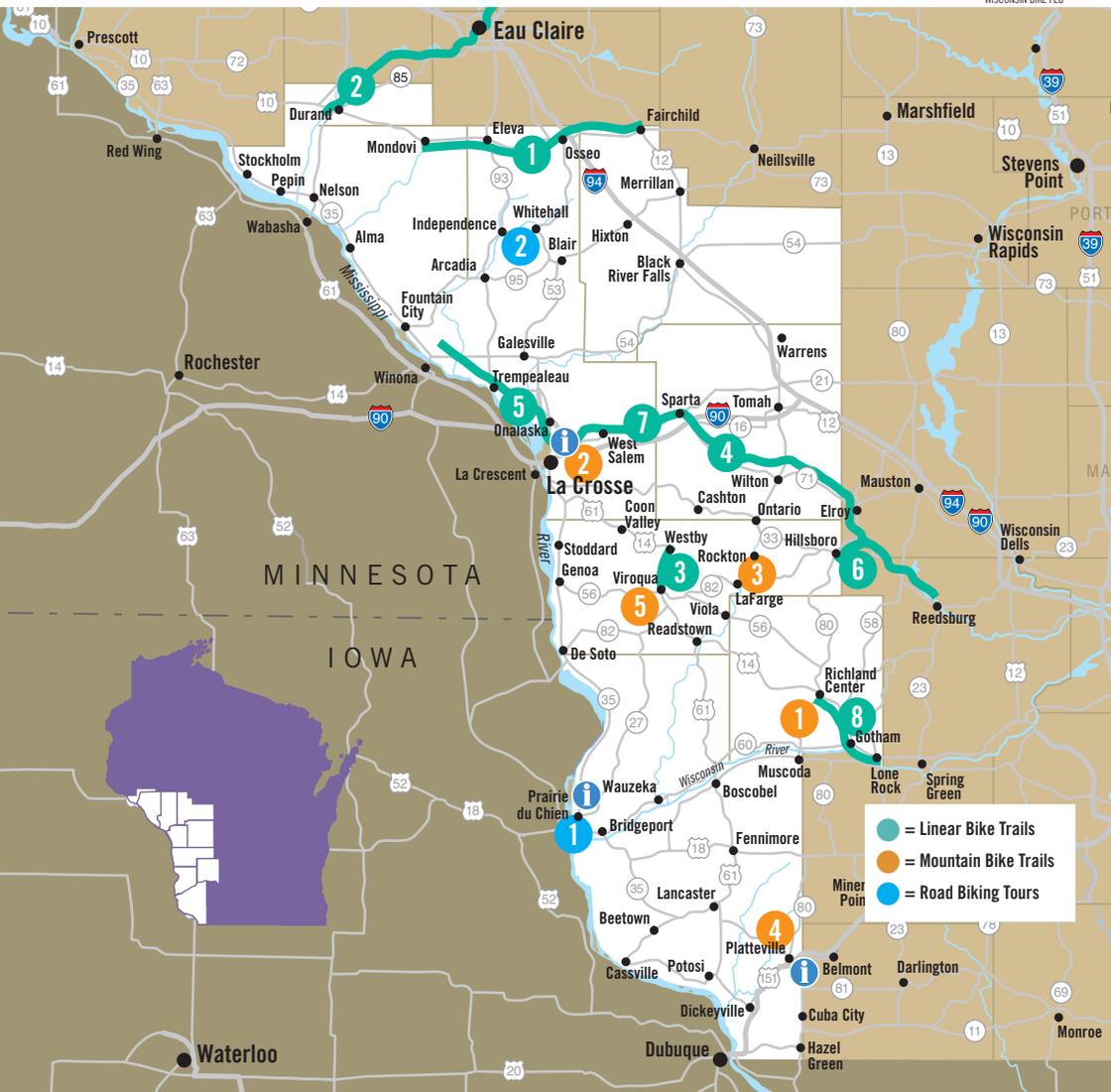


Saxeville Covered Bridge.

In the middle of this 30-mile loop is Kusel County Park, a nice side trip on a hot day when a relaxing dip in a clean lake is a welcome break from pedaling. Nearby Mt. Morris County Park offers a grand overview of the area's lakes, forests and farms. You can hike to the top of this 250-foot remnant of Magnesian limestone that the great continental glacier could not subdue.

That's the same glacier that made the rest of Waushara County such wonderful riding terrain.

Southwest



Linear Bike Trails

1 Buffalo River State Trail

This trail in west-central Wisconsin follows the scenic Buffalo River valley for 36 miles between Mondovi and Fairchild. Early French explorers called the river Riviere de Beufs for the many bison that once inhabited the area. The trail is built on a former railroad corridor and passes by farmlands, woods, hills and wetlands. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/534-6409 or visit dnr.wi.gov

2 Chippewa River State Trail

See Northwest region.

3 Coon Prairie Trail

The new Coon Prairie Trail is a five-mile, multiuse path that was part of a recent four-lane highway expansion project. The asphalt-paved path connects the communities of Viroqua and Westby. Wayside Park is located about halfway between the two communities.

■ For more information call 608/637-5485 or visit www.vernoncounty.org

4 Elroy-Sparta State Trail

See trail description on page 46.

5 Great River State Trail

The 24-mile Great River State Trail travels through the prairies and backwaters of the upper Mississippi River valley. Built on an abandoned Chicago-Northwestern railroad line, the trail has a finely crushed limestone surface suitable for walking and bicycling for much of the year and snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter. The Great River trail is within a larger area called the Mississippi Flyway and passes through two National Wildlife Refuges. The trail is in Wisconsin's scenic Coulee Region, part of the Driftless Area that was untouched by glaciers during the last Ice Age. Visitors to the Great River trail will enjoy the changing wetlands of the Mississippi River backwaters, 500-foot bluffs, hardwood forests, unique sand prairies and oak savannahs. The Great River Trail Prairie and the Midway Railroad Prairie are state natural areas with direct access from the trail. The trail links to the La Crosse River State Trail via a short road route in the city of La Crosse. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/534-6409 or visit dnr.wi.gov

continued...



Great River State Trail.

FEATURED TRAIL

ELROY-SPARTA STATE TRAIL

Distance: 32.5 miles one-way between Elroy Commons and the Sparta Depot.

Surface type: Crushed limestone.

Fees: A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for ages 16 and older.

Caution: Dismount and walk bikes through the tunnels. The tunnels are always cool and sometimes wet; windbreakers, flashlights and caps are recommended. A short section near Sparta is open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Hikers also use the trail; always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

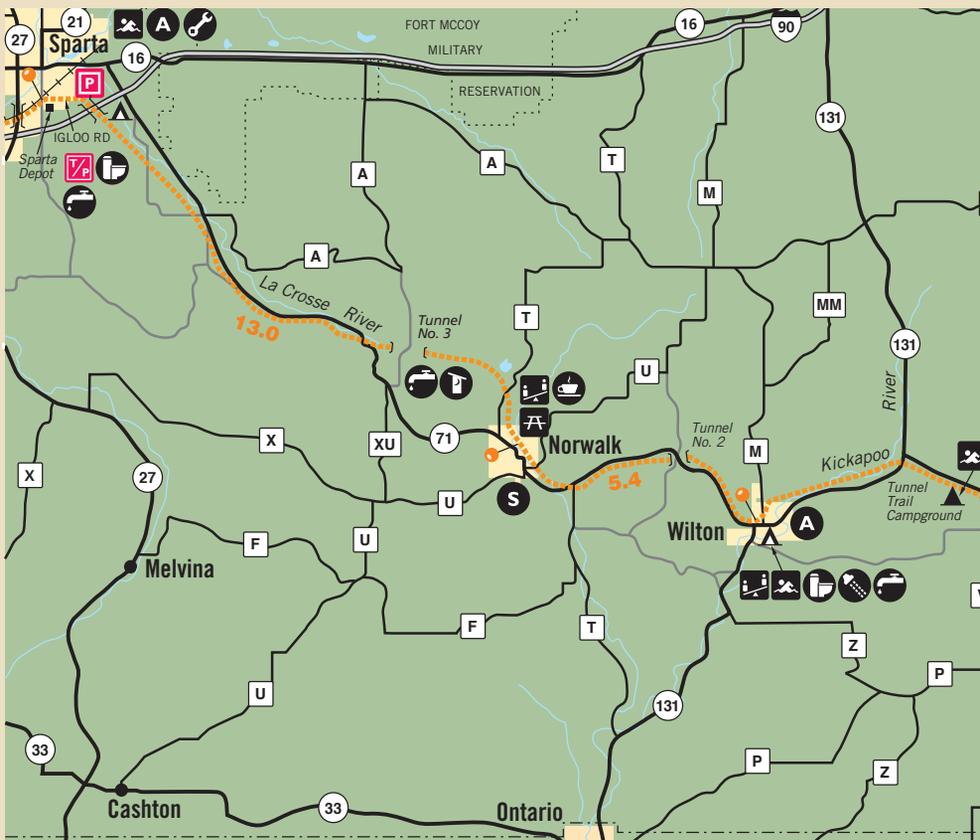
Wisconsin State Parks System
608/463-7109
dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/elroysparta

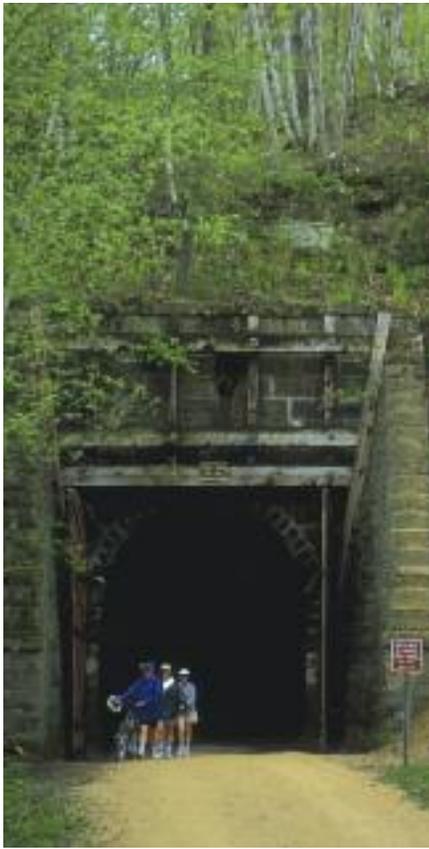
Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce
800/354-2453, 608/269-4123
bikesparta.org/elroy/elroy-sparta-trail

City of Elroy
608/462-2410
www.elroywi.com

Elroy-Sparta National Trail, Inc.
608/463-7109
www.elroy-sparta-trail.com

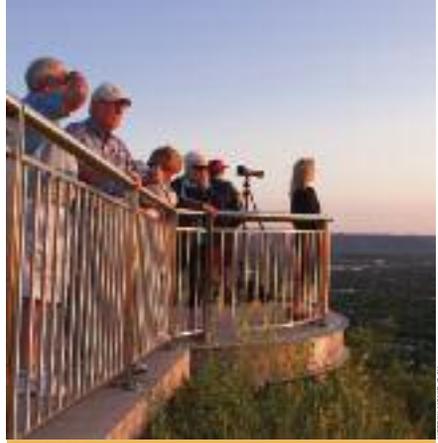
Considered the first rail-to-trail in the United States, the Elroy-Sparta State Trail remains one of the most popular trails in the country. With three rock tunnels and five towns along its 32.5-mile route, the trail is a favorite Wisconsin biking destination. Between Sparta and Elroy the trail passes by wetlands, prairies, farmland and unglaciated areas. Three century-old railroad tunnels highlight the trail. The tunnels near Kendall and Wilton are each about a quarter-mile long. The tunnel between Norwalk and Sparta is three-quarter-mile long. The tunnels are dark and cool, even on the brightest days, and flashlights are a necessity. The Elroy-Sparta State Trail links to two other state trails. A bridge over Interstate 90 in Sparta connects the La Crosse River State Trail to the Elroy-Sparta State Trail on the west end, and the 400 State Trail connects to the trail at Elroy Commons on the east end. There is also a connection at Elroy Commons to the 13-mile Omaha Trail. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.





Elroy-Sparta State Trail.

BL & JIMMY MILLER



BL & JIMMY MILLER

Grandad Bluff.

WORTH A STOP

In Stockholm, visit the **Maiden Rock Winery & Cidery** to sample their unique collection of premium hard ciders and wines.

Perrot State Park in Trempealeau offers river bluff overlooks, camping, biking, and a nature center.

La Crosse's **Grandad Bluff** features breath-taking views of the Mississippi River and several bluff side hiking trails. **Mississippi Explorer Cruises** offers cruises of the mighty river aboard a 98 foot riverboat.

In Coon Valley explore the Norwegian heritage museum, nature trails and pioneer homestead at the **Norskedalen Nature & Heritage Center**.

Enjoy camping, hiking, scenic overlooks, and equestrian trails at **Wildcat Mountain State Park** near Ontario.

Explore the progression of travel from the bicycle to astronaut Deke Slayton and beyond at the **Deke Slayton Memorial Space & Bike Museum** in Sparta.

In Warrens, the museum and gift shop at the **Wisconsin Cranberry Discovery Center** is dedicated to Wisconsin's cranberry industry.

In Black River Falls, check out the tasting room and gift store at the **Sand Creek Brewing Company** located in the historic 1856 Oderbolz Brewery building.

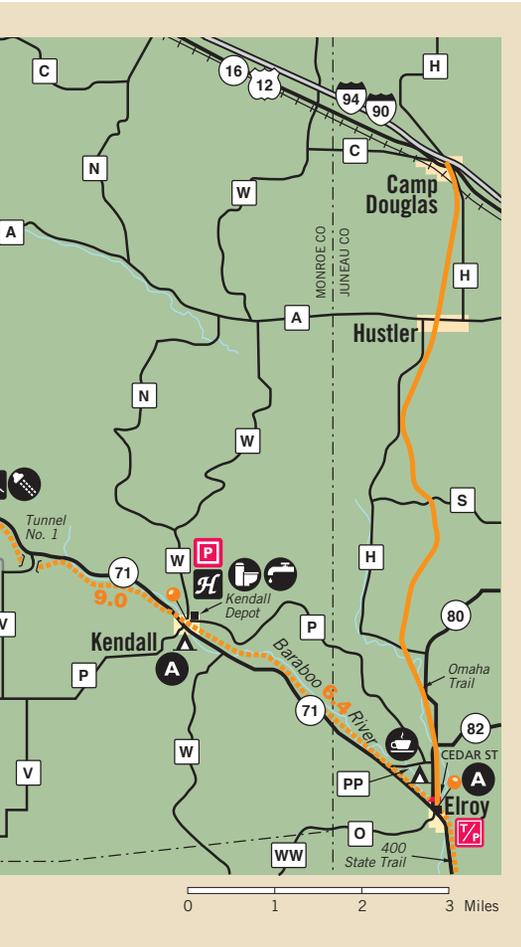
The Victorian home and furnishings of Wisconsin's first millionaire fur trader are preserved at **Villa Louis** in Prairie du Chien.

The **Potosi Brewery & National Brewery Museum** is a \$7 million restoration of a the historic brewery that also includes a microbrewery, restaurant and Great River Road Interpretive Center.

Stonefield in Cassville is a replica of a 1900s Wisconsin rural village. The Agricultural Museum displays a collection of historic farm machinery.

At the **Mining Museum-Rollo Jamison Museum** in Platteville you can ride the mine train, then descend into the old Bevans Lead Mine.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.





Biking Grant County.

FEATURED TRAIL LA CROSSE RIVER STATE TRAIL

Distance: 24 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone.

Fees: A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for ages 16 and older.

Caution: The trail parallels an active rail line to the north.

For more information:

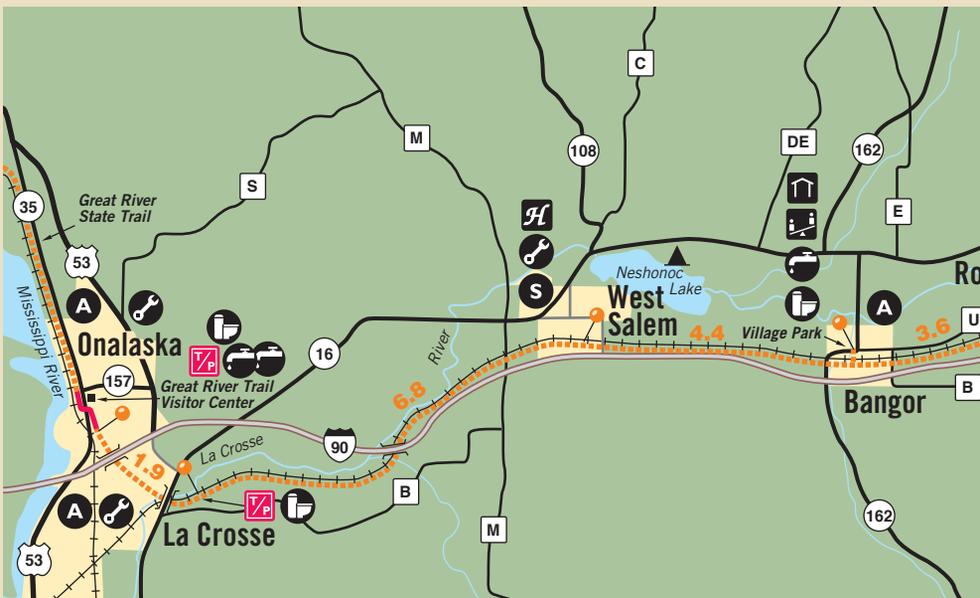
Wisconsin State Parks System
dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/lacrosseriv

Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce
 800/540-8434, 608/269-4123
bikesparta.org

La Crosse Convention & Visitor Bureau
 800/658-9424, 608/782-2366
www.explorelacrosse.com

La Crosse River State Trail
www.lacrosserivstatetrail.org

The 24-mile La Crosse River State Trail has been developed from the abandoned Chicago and Northwestern Railroad between Sparta and La Crosse. Packed-limestone screenings provide a smooth surface for bicycling. The trail lies in the La Crosse River valley and parallels an active rail line to the north. Prairie remnants, farmland, trout streams, hardwood forests and wetlands can be found along the trail. The trail passes through the communities of La Crosse, West Salem, Bangor, Rockland and Sparta. It directly links to two other state trails, the Elroy-Sparta State Trail on the east end, and the Great River State Trail on the west end. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.



6 Hillsboro State Trail

This four-mile trail connects the communities of Hillsboro and Union Center while crossing woods, farmland, winding streams and the beautiful Baraboo River. The Hillsboro State Trail connects to the 400 State Trail in Union Center. The 400 State Trail connects to the Elroy-Sparta State Trail in Elroy. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

For more information call 608/489-2521 (Vernon County), 608/847-9389 (Juneau County) or visit dnr.wi.gov

7 La Crosse River State Trail

See trail description on facing page.

8 Pine River Recreation Trail

Richland County's incredible river bluff country can be hard on a bicyclist's legs. On the Pine River Trail you can take a lazy ride up a lazy river and enjoy bluff scenery without having to ride over it. Along the way you'll cross 15 bridges that span the meandering Pine and its tributaries. One bridge is a whopping 241 feet long. Between Richland Center and Lone Rock you'll enjoy views of green-forested bluffs lining the broad valleys of the Pine and Wisconsin Rivers. The river backwaters are havens for great blue herons, egrets, and other wildlife. Town Parks in Gotham and Lone Rock offer pleasant rest stops.

For more information call 608/647-2100, or visit www.rclrs.net



MORE RESOURCES

LOWER WISCONSIN RIVERWAY SCENIC BYWAY – HIGHWAY 60

Wisconsin's 100-mile Scenic Byway 60 follows the graceful curves of the Lower Wisconsin River.

For more information: www.scenic60.com

GREAT RIVER ROAD SCENIC BYWAY

The Wisconsin Great River Road parallels the Mississippi River for 250 miles of the most incredible scenery in the Midwest.

For more information: wigreatriverroad.org

CYCLE SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN

28 pre-designed bike tours that take you on a picturesque journey through southwest Wisconsin's "Driftless Area."

For more information: www.cyclesouthwestwisconsin.com



Fall trail riding near La Crosse.

SOUTHWEST URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

LA CROSSE ★★★★★
www.bicyclelacrosse.com

ONALASKA ★★★★★
www.discoveronalaska.com

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

* See page 77.

Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 44 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails below.

1 Ash Creek Community Forest

The mountain bike trails in the 350-acre Ash Creek Community Forest feature about seven miles of single and doubletrack mountain bike trails. The singletrack has a nice mix of fast runs, switchbacks, steep climbs and bone-rattling descents. The trails are not marked but are easy to follow.

■ For more information call 608/647-2100 or visit www.rclrs.net/parkcommission

2 Human Powered Trails

See description on facing page.

3 Kickapoo Valley Reserve Trail

The Kickapoo Valley Reserve offers approximately 24-miles of designated mountain bike trails that run the entire length of the 8,600 acre property. Although not singletrack, the trails present many challenges for serious off-road bikers. You’ll encounter steep uphill climbs, hairpin turns, and rapid descents as you travel through hardwood forests and open meadows with breathtaking overlooks along the way. Mountain biking allows access to some of the more remote areas of the Reserve seldom visited by others. However, there are places where the bike trail may accompany equestrian trails; and hikers may be encountered at any point on the system. The Kickapoo Valley Reserve also offers five miles of family-friendly blacktop riding on the Old 131 trail.

■ For more information call 608/625-2960 or visit www.kvr.state.wi.us

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don’t ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.

4 Mound View Park

The Mound View Park (MVP) trail is the first official singletrack trail built in the city limits of Platteville. It serves as the base for future expansion through the valley. MVP is designed for riders of all abilities and traverses both pine and deciduous woods. The trail also follows along a self-producing trout stream. MVP is managed and maintained by Platteville Human Powered Trails. The one-mile loop also connects to the city’s gravel trail adding more fun to the ride.

■ For more information call 608/348-9741 (Ext. 1) or visit www.plattevilletrails.org or www.platteville.org

5 Sidie Hollow County Park

The mountain bike trails at Sidie Hollow County Park have been a collaborative effort between Vernon Trails – the local mountain bike club – and the Vernon County Parks Department. Since 2006, over 200 volunteers have built 4.5 miles of shared use singletrack trails. This new trail network, along with the 2.5 miles of existing doubletrack, combines to create over seven miles of mountain biking trails. The lower loop is a two-mile doubletrack that meanders around the lake, ideal for beginners or as a perfect warm-up. The other trails climb 300 vertical feet up and down the bluffs. On these lung-busting climbs you’ll find plenty of rocks, roots, log piles, switchbacks, and a perfectly designed benchcut.

■ For more information call 608/637-5485 or visit www.vernoncounty.org

LOOKING FOR A Milder Ride?

BLACK RIVER STATE FOREST
715/284-4103
dnr.wi.gov

PERROT STATE PARK
608/534-6409
dnr.wi.gov

PERRY CREEK TRAIL
800/404-4008, 715/284-1400
www.blackrivercountry.net

WYALUSING STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 608/996-2261
dnr.wi.gov

FEATURED TRAIL

HUMAN POWERED TRAILS

Distance: 11 miles of trails including the TNT connector trail to the Hixon Forest trailhead.

Difficulty: Easy to very difficult.

Fees: Donations encouraged at main trailhead or on website.

Note: No riding on hiking trails in the Hixon Forest.

Caution: Obstacles and narrow passage on the advanced trails require high technical riding ability. The TNT and easy trails are two-way. Horses may be encountered on the easy trails. All trails are open to hikers and runners. Be careful not to spook animals and always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

La Crosse Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

800/658-9424, 608/782/4082

www.explorelacrosse.com

Outdoor Recreation Alliance

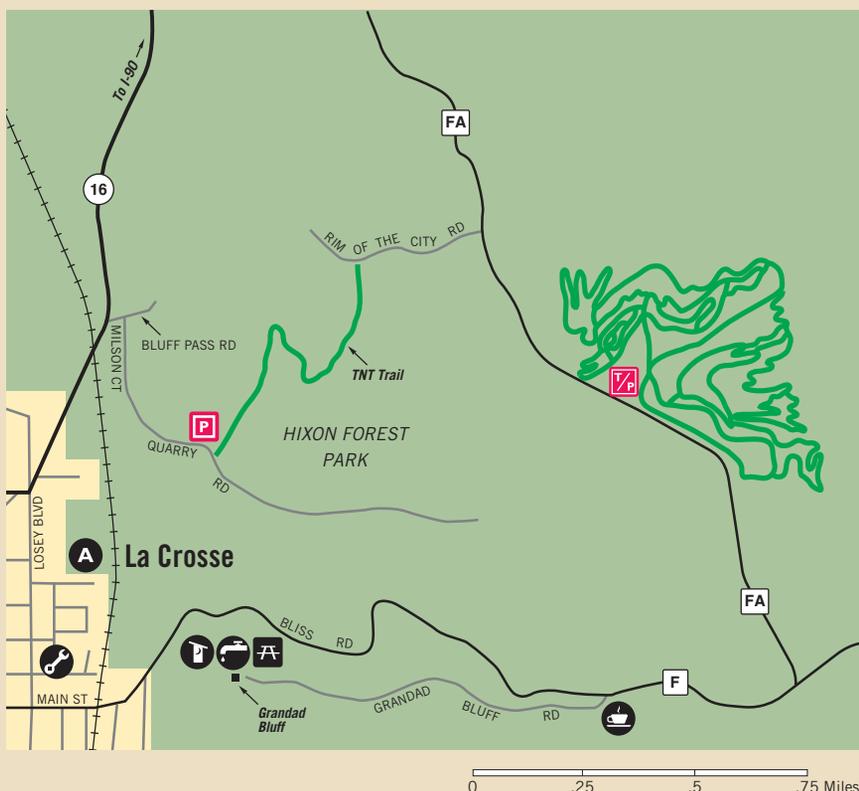
www.naturesplacetoplay.com

When La Crosse area mountain bikers were looking for a place to ride back in 2000, they managed to convince the city fathers to turn them loose on public land on the city's far east side. They created a trail system for riders, runners and hikers. It even offers horseback riding by permit on the easier trails.

The purpose-built mountain bike trail system that resulted is remarkable. The trail met the local demand and also attracted riders from the surrounding states of Minnesota and Iowa. The trails were constructed using IMBA design standards to minimize erosion, a common problem on many popular trails. In 2007, La Crosse was deluged with heavy rains. Despite the rain and steep terrain, the impact on the HPT Trails was hardly noticeable.

The advanced trails on the Human Powered Trails are not for the faint of heart however. They feature some tough obstacles like log and rock piles and tight switchbacks. The switchbacks are located on some steep terrain; take a turn too wide and you'll end up careening down a wooded hillside. Due to that steep terrain, when the trail is wet, riding can be extremely challenging. The tamer intermediate trails offer plenty of hills as well as some great vistas overlooking the Mississippi River.

An alternate route to the trail is the two-way TNT Trail from the Hixon Forest trailhead at the bottom of the bluff, but be ready for a very tough climb of 500 plus feet.



Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 44 for tour locations.

1 Prairie du Chien Tour

Distance: 23 miles

Difficulty: Very difficult, but easy out-and-back riding is possible north and south of Prairie du Chien.

Caution: Almost the entire route is on public roads open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Be sure to use the bike path on the south side of Highways 18/35 and the paved shoulder to the east. Some slopes are long and steep; take care to control your downhill speed.

For more information:

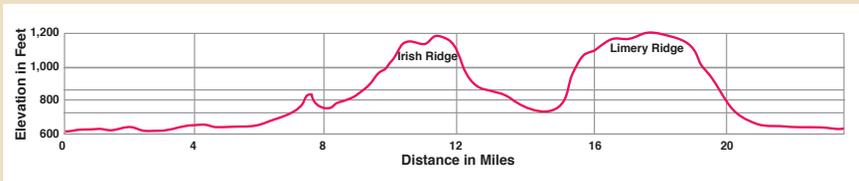
Prairie du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce
800/732-1673
www.prairieduchien.org

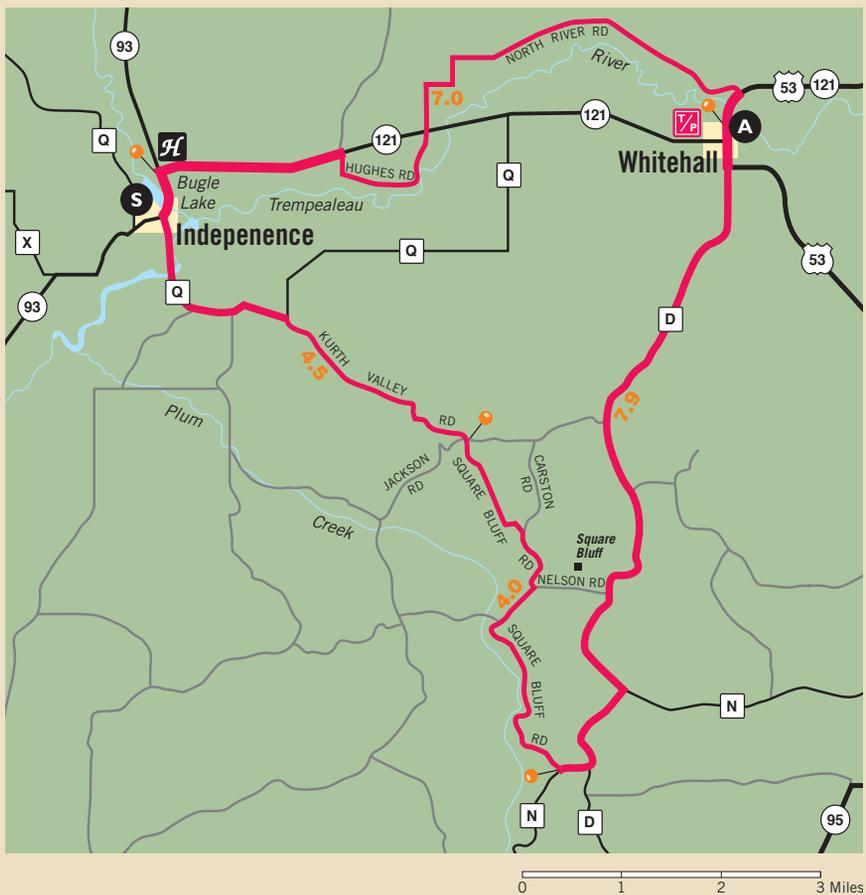
Long before the invention of bicycles, trains or automobiles, Prairie du Chien was a crossroads of travel in the heart of the continent. Located at the confluence of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers, Prairie du Chien was a popular trading or rendezvous

spot for the Native Americans who used the rivers as canoe highways. Several effigy mounds from the area's pre-European era are preserved in Wyalusing State Park located just south of the city across the Wisconsin River.

Riding east from Prairie du Chien you can take advantage of the paved bike path on the south side of Hwy 18/35 before veering up a side valley of the Wisconsin River on Bouska Road. At the top of the climb you'll have a fantastic view of the river valley to the southeast. You'll plunge off the ridge into the deep, narrow valley of Gran Grae Creek before an even steeper climb back up to the bluff-top farmland on Wachuta Road. The short unpaved stretch on Wachuta Road is nearly dead flat and should pose no riding problem for any type of bike.

Riding around historic Prairie du Chien is not only fun and scenic, it's great exercise too.





2 Top of the World Tour

Distance: 23 miles

Difficulty: Very difficult, but a moderate out-and-back route is an option.

Caution: The entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Be sure to use the paved shoulder on State Highway 121. Some slopes are long and steep; take care to control your downhill speed.

For more information:

Trempealeau Chamber of Commerce
608/534-6780
www.trempealeau.net

Trempealeau County Tourism Council
www.ruralexperiences.com

You'll feel like you're on top of the world when you pedal this high-flyin' route in one of the most bicycling-friendly parts of the state. The route is part of the course for an

annual event of the same name held each August and part of the welcome mat Trempealeau County rolls out for bicyclists.

While a quick glance at this course's profile makes it clear that it's not an easy ride, you can lower the bar a bit by riding out-and-back between Whitehall and Independence. That 14-mile round trip is a pleasant roll through the flat bottomland of the Trempealeau River valley.

Following the loop south of Independence, it's up, up and away as you climb nearly 400 feet to County Highway N & D. The four miles you ride atop Square Bluff bring some of the best views anywhere. Of course, the descents are plenty of fun too.

South Central



Linear Bike Trails

1 400 State Trail

See Central region.

2 Badger State Trail

The Badger State Trail travels 40 miles between Madison and the Wisconsin-Illinois border while traversing farmlands, woods, rolling hills, scenic meadows, remnant prairies, ravines, glacial topography and several small communities. Highlighting the trail is the 1,200-foot long Stewart Tunnel. Due to the fact that it is built on a curve, you will not be able to see the other end when you first enter the tunnel. Flashlights and jackets are recommended, as the tunnel is dark and cool, and water from springs above can trickle onto the trail. Bikers should walk bikes through the tunnel. The Badger Trail connects to the Capital City, Military Ridge and Sugar River State Trails and the Madison bikeway system. In Madison, the Badger State Trail corridor continues into the city along the Southwest Path. At the Illinois border, the Badger State Trail connects to the Jane Adams Trail, which continues on to Freeport, Illinois. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/527-2335 or visit dnr.wi.gov

3 Cannonball Path

The Cannonball Path is a paved multiuse trail constructed on the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad corridor that runs from the Beltline to McKee Road near the intersection of Verona Road. Recent construction of a bicycle overpass of the Beltline Highway (US Highways 12, 18, 14, and 151) will make for easy crossing of the highway and access to the city of Madison trails. The next phase of expansion will cross County Highway PD and connect with the Military Ridge State Trail.

■ For more information call 608/288-8284 or visit www.fitchburgchamber.com

continued...



MADISON B-CYCLE

From the hottest days of summer to the snowiest days of winter, bicyclists can be seen getting around the city on two wheels. In such a bike friendly community with numerous bike paths as well as a commitment to safely sharing roads between motorists and bicyclists, it makes sense that B-cycle saw an opportunity in Madison.

In 2010, B-cycle launched the first large-scale smart-technology bicycle sharing system in the United States in Denver. The Madison B-cycle program began a year later with six stations and about 60 bikes. In just two years, the program has grown to 350 bikes and 35 stations. The program is the result of a partnership between the City of Madison and Trek Bicycle Corporation headquartered in nearby Waterloo, Wisconsin.

Urban bike sharing provides an economical, convenient and environmentally friendly way to use bikes for trips that are too far to walk but too short to drive. Here's how it works. B-cycle memberships may be purchased online or at any B-station. Members may check out a bike at any B-cycle station and ride to the B-station nearest their destination. To start a new trip, they simply check out another B-cycle. The system is designed to encourage shorter trips, therefore, trips longer than 30 minutes incur additional fees.

B-cycle currently has systems operating in more than 25 U.S. cities. In addition to Madison and Denver, B-cycle can be found in Boulder, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Houston, Salt Lake City, Charlotte, Nashville and Broward County. In 2014, Milwaukee unveils its very own B-Cycle.

For more information on Madison B-cycle visit madison.bcycle.com.



Military Ridge State Trail.

BY LINDA MILLER

FEATURED TRAIL MILITARY RIDGE STATE TRAIL

Distance: 40 miles

Surface type: Crushed limestone

Fees: A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for ages 16 and over.

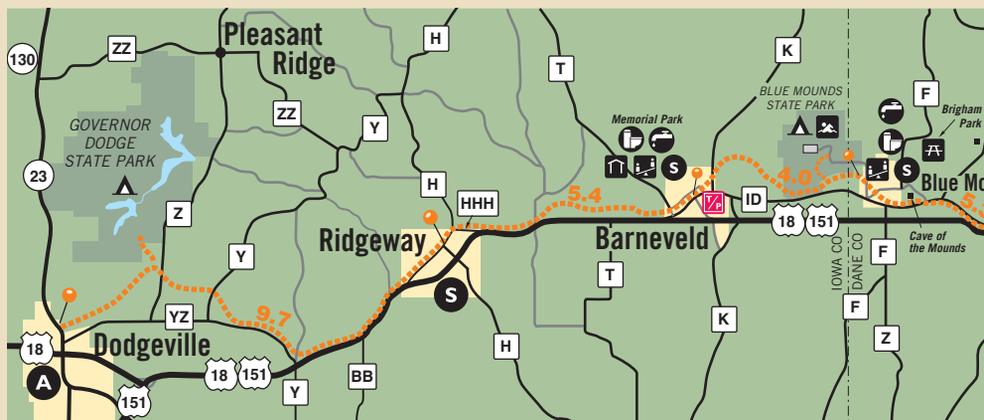
Caution: The connector trails into the State Parks are very steep. The trail is also used by hikers; always yield to pedestrians.

For more information:

Wisconsin State Parks System
608/437-7393
dnr.wi.gov

The 40-mile Military Ridge State Trail connects Dodgeville and Madison by way of an 1855 military route between Verona and Dodgeville. The trail runs along the southern borders of Governor Dodge and Blue Mound state parks passing by agricultural

lands, woods, wetlands and prairies. Most of the trail follows the former Chicago and North Western Railroad corridor, which has a gentle grade of only two to five percent. Between Dodgeville and Mount Horeb it runs along the top of the Military Ridge, the divide between the Wisconsin River watershed to the north and the Pecatonica and Rock River watershed to the south. Between Mount Horeb and Fitchburg, the trail goes through the Sugar River Valley. The Military Ridge State Trail connects to the Capital City and Badger State Trails in Fitchburg. It also connects to the new six-mile Shake Rag Trail that travels along US Highway 151 between Dodgeville and Mineral Point. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.



4 Capital City State Trail

The Capital City State Trail is the link around and through Madison between the Military Ridge State Trail and eventually the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. Nine miles of the trail go through the scenic Capital Springs State Recreation Area (Dane County E-way) south of Madison. In the city, the trail follows seven miles of city bikeways past the Monona Terrace Convention Center and through the city's east side. The trail also connects to Madison's Southwest Path and the Badger State Trail, which runs all the way to the Illinois state line. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/224-3730 or visit dnr.wi.gov

Bike trails may bring a number of different users to the trail at the same time. Always use good trail etiquette to ensure the enjoyment and safety of all trail users.

5 Glacial Drumlin State Trail West

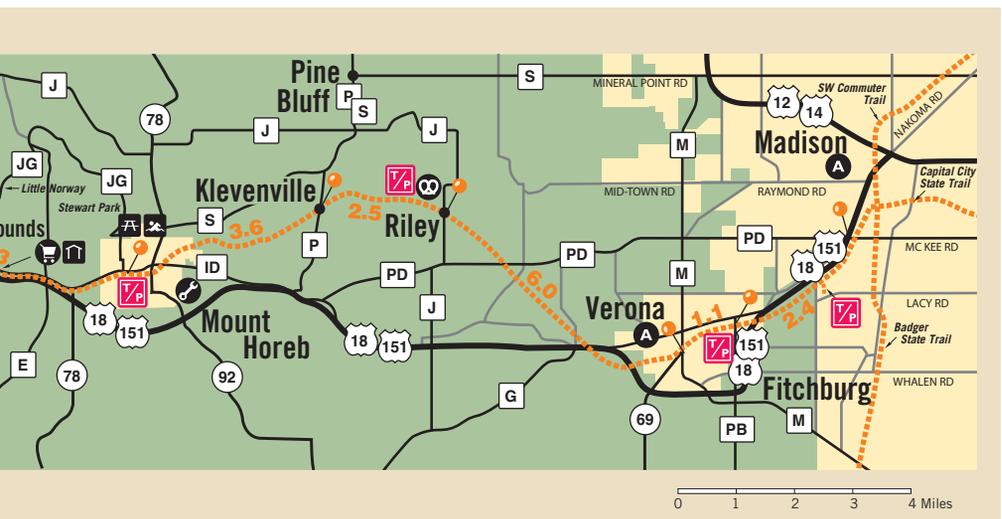
Running between Wisconsin's two largest urban areas, the Glacial Drumlin State Trail stretches for 52 miles through farmlands, glacial topography and several small towns from Cottage Grove to Waukesha. The western portion of the trail is the drumlin side. Here the trail winds among teardrop-shaped hills that were formed under the great continental ice sheet. Streams and rivers poke their way around the hills as well. The trail crosses the meandering Koshkonong Creek five times. The larger Crawfish and Rock Rivers are crossed on impressive, stressed iron bridges. A 1.5-mile section northeast of Jefferson between State Highway 26 and County Highway Y uses public roads as the trail route. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 920/648-8774 or visit dnr.wi.gov

continued...



Capital City State Trail.



SOUTH CENTRAL

LINEAR BIKE TRAILS, CONTINUED

6 Glacial River Trail

The Glacial River Trail is an 8.6-mile former rail bed trail running south from downtown Fort Atkinson to the Jefferson/Rock County line. The northern most portion of the trail is asphalt, with the balance being crushed limestone. This spectacular recreational attraction features an archway, bronze sculptures, rest areas and fountains. It makes for a relaxing and scenic ride through Fort Atkinson.

■ For more information call 920/563-7781 or visit www.fortparksandrec.com

7 Military Ridge State Trail

See trail description on page 56.

8 Pecatonica State Trail

Running 10 miles through the picturesque Bonner Branch Valley, this county-operated trail links Belmont with the 47-mile Cheese Country Trail in Calamine. The trail follows the old Milwaukee Road railroad corridor that at one time hauled lead through this valley, reminiscent of the mining era which once dominated this region of Wisconsin. The western terminus of the trail ends in Belmont but eventually will continue to the city of Platteville. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/776-5706 or visit dnr.wi.gov

9 Pelishek-Tiffany Nature Trail

The Pelishek-Tiffany Nature Trail is a six-mile, abandoned railroad bed trail that offers snowmobiling in the winter and hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and bird watching in the summer. The trail starts in the Rock County community of Clinton.

■ For more information visit www.co.rock.wi.us

MORE RESOURCES

GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA – JEFFERSON COUNTY

A network of Jefferson County parks, wildlife and natural areas, historic and cultural sites connected by trails and waterways.

For more information:
www.glacialheritagearea.org

TREK FACTORY TOURS

Want to see where the best bikes in the world go from an idea to reality? Visit the TREK world headquarters in Waterloo, WI.

For more information:
www.trekbikes.com



Madison Museum of Contemporary Art.

WORTH A STOP

In Wisconsin Dells, take a one-hour guided tour of the Lower Dells aboard an authentic WWII era amphibious vehicle at **Dells Army Duck Tours**. Everything is under one roof at the African-themed **Kalahari Resort**, home to Wisconsin's largest indoor waterpark.

BigFoot Zipline Tours features six lines with over 4,300 feet of fun.

In Baraboo, **Circus World** features circus memorabilia, miniature circus layouts, the world's largest collection of circus wagons, and big top performances. You can see all fifteen of the world's crane species at the **International Crane Foundation**.

Tour the state's oldest winery and sample the wines at **Wollersheim Winery** in Prairie Du Sac.

House On The Rock in Spring Green is Wisconsin's most popular single attraction and a treat for the imagination. **American Players Theatre** offers eight plays in rotating repertory in the outdoor amphitheater Up the Hill and in the indoor Touchstone Theatre.

At **Pendarvis** in Mineral Point, costumed interpreters guide you through preserved miners' homes from the 1840s.

Explore **Cave of the Mounds** in Blue Mounds, a registered National Natural Landmark that is often referred to as the "jewel box" of America's major caves.

Take a relaxing stroll through Janesville's **Rotary Gardens**, an exquisite 15-acre, internationally themed botanical garden.

In Madison, the **Madison Museum of Contemporary Art** features changing exhibits of contemporary and modern art. The **Henry Vilas Zoo** is one of the state's finest zoos and there is no admission fee! One of the largest farmer's markets in the country, the **Dane County Farmers Market**, is held every Saturday from April to November on the Capitol Square.

The **Horicon National Wildlife Refuge** near Mayville is home to one of the widest arrays of plants, animals and birds in the Midwest.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

SOUTH CENTRAL URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

JANESVILLE

www.ci.janesville.wi.us

MADISON ★★★★★

www.cityofmadison.com

FITCHBURG ★★★★★

www.fitchburgchamber.com

MIDDLETON

visitmiddleton.com

SUN PRAIRIE

www.cityofsunprairie.com

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

* See page 77.

10 Sugar River State Trail

The Sugar River State Trail travels 24 miles from New Glarus to Brodhead. A short access trail connects the trail to New Glarus Woods State Park. Fourteen trestle bridges cross over the Sugar River and its tributaries, while the trail passes by farmlands, woods, rolling hills, and scenic meadows. North of Brodhead, the trail goes over a replica covered bridge. The trail headquarters is located in the restored 1887 railroad depot in New Glarus. The trail connects with the Badger State Trail just south of the Monticello trailhead. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/527-2334 or visit dnr.wi.gov

11 Wild Goose State Trail

This 34-mile rail trail skirts the western edge of the vast Horicon Marsh from Fond du Lac to Clyman Junction. The Horicon Marsh, a National Wildlife Refuge and State Wildlife Area, is home to over 250 bird species and is world-famous for its numerous migrant waterfowl and endless V-shaped formations of Canada geese. Wildflowers, woodlots, wildlife, prairie remnants and fertile farm fields are common sites along the trail. The trail was Wisconsin's first "cooperative" state trail and is maintained and operated by Dodge and Fond du Lac counties.

■ For more information call 920/929-3135 (Fond du Lac County), 920/386-3700 (Dodge County) or visit dnr.wi.gov



© JEFFREY M. HARRIS

MADE IN WISCONSIN

With miles of bike trails, charming towns, and picturesque scenery, Wisconsin is a great place to travel on two wheels. Some of the nation's top biking terrain is located here, and those who seek leading equipment for the sport don't need to leave the state to gear up for their rides. In fact, Wisconsin has the largest domestic concentration of bike industry companies, headquarters and related manufacturing in the nation. Leading bicycle brands, Trek Corporation and Waterford Precision Cycles, are both manufactured in Wisconsin.

Headquartered in Waterloo, Wisconsin, Trek began making bikes in 1976 and has since evolved into a brand known all over the world. From recreational riding to bicycles built for year-round commutes, Trek is committed to transforming the way they build and deliver their bikes hoping their practices and commitment to people will transform the way people think about the role of biking in their lives.

Not too far from Trek Headquarters in Waterloo, you will find Waterford Precision Cycles in Waterford, Wisconsin. Founded in 1993, Waterford was formed out of the Schwinn Paramount Factory. Waterford is a custom frame builder trusted by riders who count on their bicycles to perform – whatever their preferred riding style.

Manufacturing in Wisconsin does not stop at the bikes themselves. A variety of other biking parts and accessories are also made right here in Wisconsin. Some of these include Saris Cycling Group producing bicycle racks and bicycle-related fitness equipment, bike racks by MadRax and Rudy Rac, bicycle brakes by Hayes Disc Brake and a variety of bicycle clothing by Mt. Borah Designs. Pacific Cycle, North America's largest bicycle company is headquartered in Madison.

Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 54 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails below.

1 Bluemound State Park Trails

Bluemound State Park offers 15.5 miles of challenging off-road, singletrack bicycle trails. At 1,719 feet of elevation, the top of Blue Mound is the highest point in southern Wisconsin. The vast overview from the observation towers make the climb worth the effort. On the north side, new technically challenging singletrack trails and doubletrack cross-country ski trail connectors take you on an odyssey through the deep fragrant hardwood forest that cloaks the steep slopes. On the milder side, the Pleasure Valley Trail circuits an open prairie to the east. A steep connector trail accesses the Military Ridge State Trail where riders can roll on a near-level railroad grade. If you’re looking for some aerobically challenging terrain, you’ll find it here. Working with the park staff, local volunteers have added miles of twisting singletrack trails that completely encircle the mound and take advantage of its elevation, rocks, roots and terrain. If you ride the trails and climb the paved road to the top you’ll have 500 feet of elevation to play with. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 608/437-5711 or visit dnr.wi.gov

2 Cam-Rock Trails

See trail description on facing page.

3 Devil’s Head Ski Area

In the winter months, Devil’s Head Ski Resort attracts skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels to its 500 vertical feet of ski slopes. In the warmer months, those same slopes become challenging singletrack mountain biking trails that provide some of the most exhilarating mountain biking in the Midwest. As you may expect being that

these are ski hills, you’ll encounter plenty of ups and downs, plus a lot of challenging features for riders of all abilities. Fast downhill and technical singletrack make this one of the best mountain bike destinations in the state.

■ For more information call 608/493-2251 or visit www.devils-head.com

4 Quarry Ridge Recreation Area

Just minutes from downtown Madison, the Quarry Ridge Recreation Area features a network of singletrack trails for beginner to expert riders. The trail consists of a one-mile main loop as well as several downhill lines of varying difficulty. The singletrack on the main loop is fast with only one technical section that might trip up beginners. More advanced riders can challenge themselves to power through the steep climb and slice through the long downhill with as little brakes as possible. New trails have been added making the trail system much more family friendly. The trails are free and open year round. The Fitchburg Parks Department partners with Capital Off-Road Pathfinders (CORP) to develop and maintain the trails.

■ For more information call 608/270-4288 or visit www.city.fitchburg.wi.us

LOOKING FOR A Milder RIDE?

BADGER PRAIRIE COUNTY PARK
608/224-3730
www.countyofdane.com

DEVILS LAKE STATE PARK
608/356-8301
dnr.wi.gov

GOVERNOR DODGE STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 608/935-2315
dnr.wi.gov

MIRROR LAKE STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 608/254-2333
dnr.wi.gov

PLEASANT VIEW MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS - MIDDLETON
800/688-5694
visitmilton.com/trails

YELLOWSTONE STATE PARK
888/947-2757, 608/523-4427
dnr.wi.gov

FEATURED TRAIL CAM-ROCK TRAILS

Distance: 1.8 miles at Cam-Rock 2; 2.6 miles at Cam-Rock 3; and 2.3 miles for Cam-Rock 1 and the connector to Cam-Rock 3.

Difficulty: Easy to very difficult.

Fees: A daily or annual Dane County Parks trail fee is required. Self-pay stations are located at the trailheads.

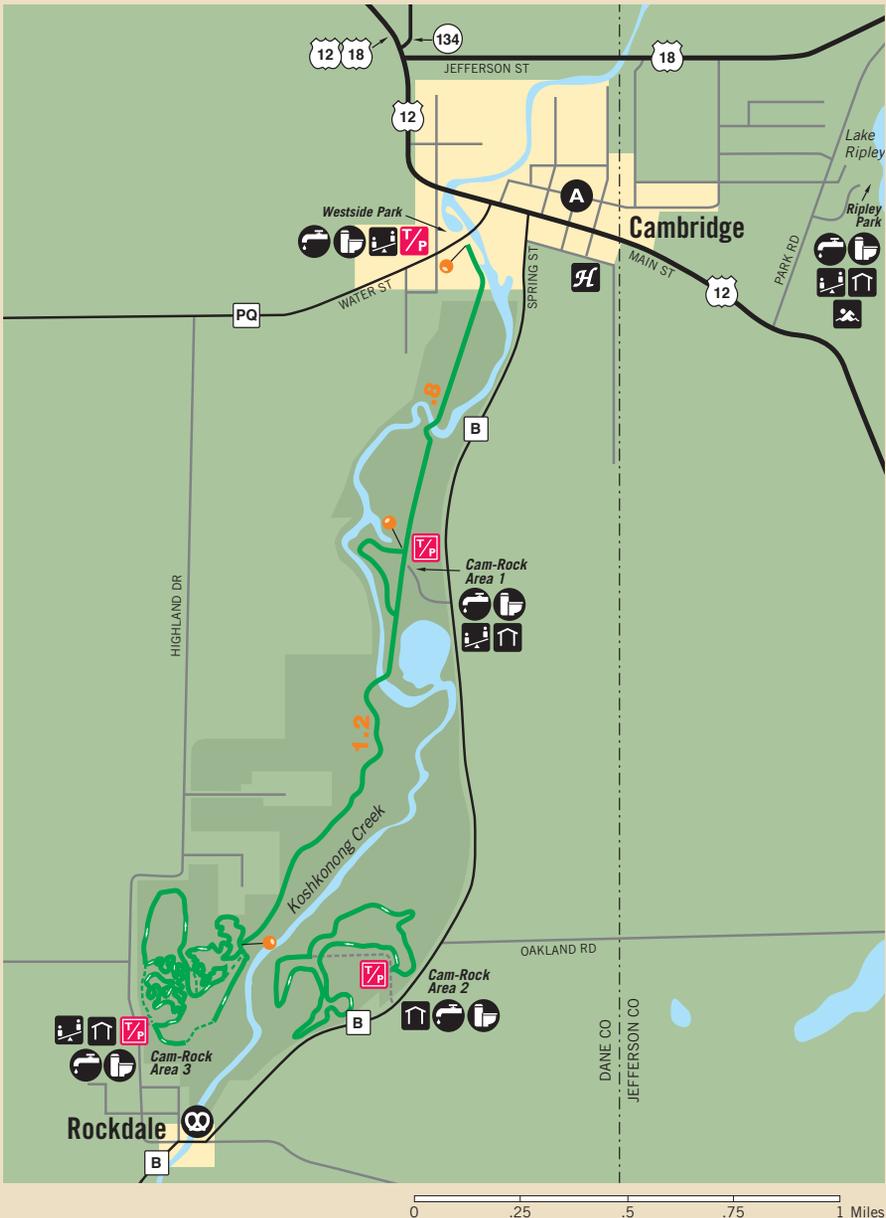
Caution: singletrack trails at Cam-Rock 2 and the trails at Cam-Rock 3 are one-way. The connector trail at Cam-Rock 1 is two-way. The trails are also used by walkers and hikers, particularly Cam-Rock 1.

For more information:

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
608/423-3780
www.cambridgewi.com

There's something for everybody at Cam-Rock County Park, from an easy riding railbed trail at the north end to loop systems on moderate cross-country ski trails at Cam-Rock 2 to extreme singletrack at Cam-Rock 3. The trails at Cam-Rock 2 present riders with a few short steep slopes that are great for novices.

Things really get interesting at Cam-Rock 3 where trail builders had more than 100 feet of relief to work with. Singletrack always challenges riding ability, but here the trail designers had rock outcroppings, gullies and other obstacles as well. On the newest and northernmost loop, riders will find an extreme six-foot drop and totally wacko spin cycle.



Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 54 for tour locations.

1 Frank Lloyd Wright Tour

Distance: 20 miles for the long route on paved and gravel roads. The 10 mile short loop is entirely on paved roads.

Difficulty: Difficult or moderate. The long route has five steep hills. The short route has two.

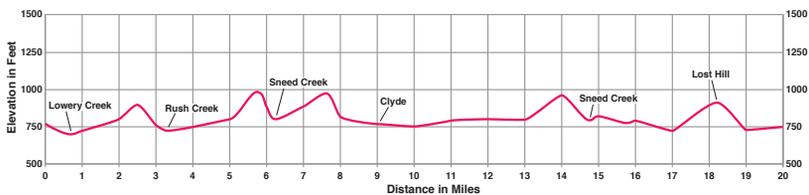
For more information:

Spring Green Area Chamber of Commerce
800/588-2042, 608/588-2054
www.springgreen.com

Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center
608/588-7900
www.taliesinpreservation.org

Frank Lloyd Wright was the most productive architect in world history. For nearly fifty years he lived and taught at Taliesin (Tally-es-in) near Spring Green. Wright drew inspiration from nature's beauty, creating a unique American architecture that influences the way we live today. From the picture window to the kitchen island, Wright spent his life designing from a human perspective.

Thanks to recent preservation efforts you can tour the Wright complex including Taliesin, Hillside School, and Midway Farms. Or, you can skirt Taliesin on a new bike path, then hit the road into the hills and valleys Wright loved. The Spring Green area is loaded with attractions from the eclectic bonanza that is House on the Rock to classic stage plays performed beneath the sky at American Players Theatre. You'll love riding where points of interest meet lines of adventure.



Linear Bike Trails

1 Bugline Trail

The Bugline Bike Trail owes its existence to the quarries near Lannon. Trains once hauled famed Lannon Stone from the deep limestone pits which still operate today. A look down into the quarries from the trail is an impressive sight. Further along, perhaps you'll be able to spot homes built from the Lannon Stone. Dense woods close to the trail often hide the fact much of your ride is through suburbs. You can make your trail ride a tour of comfortable area parks; three line the trail. At the west end of the trail is the tiny village of Merton. The old mill there still operates, and the adjacent mill house is an architectural gem.

■ For more information call 262/548-7801 or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov

2 Eisenbahn State Trail

See East Central region.

3 Fox River Trail – Waukesha

The six-mile Fox River Trail runs through the city of Waukesha along the Fox River starting on the north end of Frame Park and continuing south along the east side of the river to Fox River Park. The trail surface is mainly asphalt with a few brick sections downtown. Water and restroom facilities can be found at several parks along the trail system.

■ For more information visit www.midwestroads.com

4 Glacial Drumlin State Trail East

See trail description on page 66.



Glacial Drumlin State Trail.

5 Hank Aaron State Trail

Named in honor of baseball legend Hank Aaron, this 14-mile trail traverses Milwaukee County from Lake Michigan through the Historic Third Ward and the Menomonee Valley to the Milwaukee/Waukesha County Line. The trail passes numerous places of interest such as Lakeshore State Park, Discovery World, the Milwaukee Art Museum, Summerfest, the Harley-Davidson Museum, Miller Park, the Urban Ecology Center, and State Fair Park. Interpretive signage and artwork along the route will focus on the rich cultural/historic value of the area, the natural resources along the route and interesting facts about its namesake.

■ For more information call 414/263-8559 or visit dnr.wi.gov

6 Lake Country Recreation Trail

Located on the former Milwaukee - Watertown Interurban Railway. This eight-mile recreation trail stretches between the Landsberg Center trailhead (just north of Interstate 94 on Golf Road, west of County Highway T) and Cushing Park in the City of Delafield.

■ For more information call 262/548-7801 or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov

7 Lakefront Oak Leaf Trail

Variety is what cities are all about, and you'll find plenty along this nearly 100-mile route. From Juneau Park, a rail bed trail follows the river to the Kilbourn House historic site. Stately mansions line Newberry Boulevard, Wahl, and Terrace Avenues. The lake parks have their own treasures: the white lighthouse, soaring Gothic water tower, and streamlined McKinley Park Beach House are priceless.

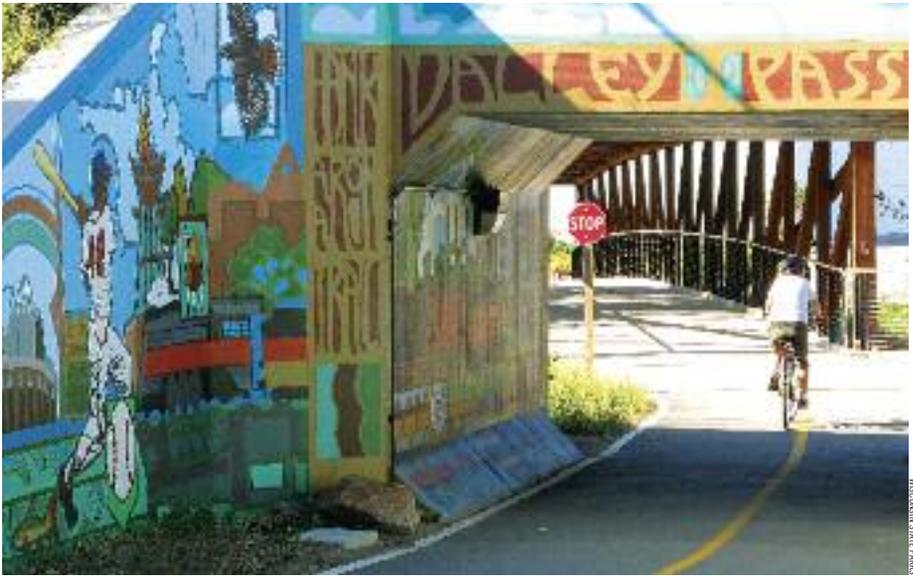
■ For more information call 414/257-6100 or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov

8 New Berlin Recreation Trail

The New Berlin Recreation Trail is a seven-mile multiuse trail located that extends from South 124th Street just south of Greenfield Avenue (State Highway 59) at the Milwaukee/Waukesha County Line to Springdale Road in Waukesha.

■ For more information call 262/548-7801 or visit www.county.milwaukee.gov

continued...



Hank Aaron State Trail.

SNOWPILATES/ISTOCKPHOTO

FEATURED TRAIL GLACIAL DRUMLIN STATE TRAIL

Distance: 52 miles

Surface: 39 miles of crushed limestone and 13 miles of paved asphalt.

Fees: A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for ages 16 and over.

For more information:

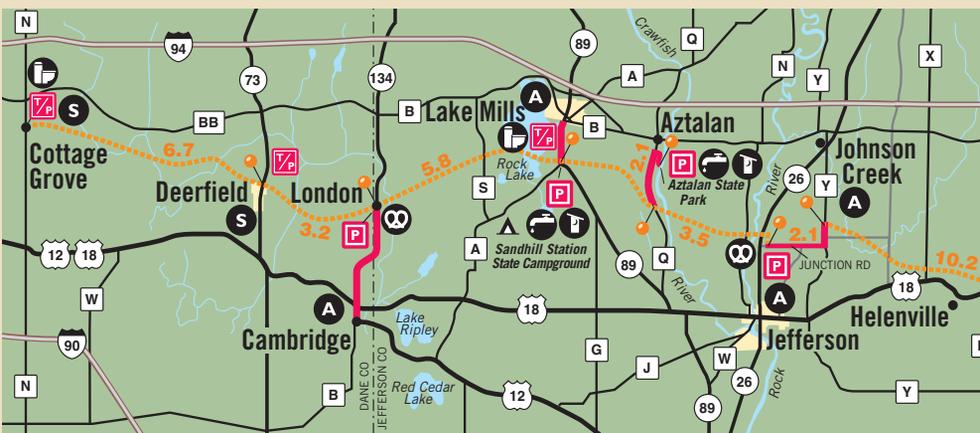
Glacial Drumlin State Trail – West
920/648-8774

dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/glacialdrumlin

Glacial Drumlin State Trail – East
262/646-3025
dnr.wi.gov

Running between Wisconsin's two largest urban areas, the Glacial Drumlin State Trail stretches for 52 miles through farmlands, glacial topography and several small towns from Cottage Grove to Waukesha. It's the easiest trail through the Kettle Moraine

you'll ever take – guaranteed. The railroad ferreted out a level route through the jumbled glacial legacy of hills and valleys. You get to enjoy all of the famous Kettle scenery without the usual effort. The rail bed trail covers another hard to bike natural feature as well; between Dousman and Sullivan the grade crosses a vast marsh that is home to abundant wildlife. On the east end, Waukesha's downtown is an architectural gem, and the street plan has a definite European feel. In the country, friendly small towns along the route are pleasant spots to take a break. The trail is on an abandoned rail corridor, except for a 1.5-mile section north-east of Jefferson which currently uses public roads as the trail route. An off-road connection is in the works.



9 Ozaukee Interurban Trail

The 30-mile paved Ozaukee Interurban Trail runs north from the Milwaukee County line through Thiensville/Mequon, Cedarburg, Grafton, Port Washington and Belgium to the Sheboygan County line.

The trail includes biking, walking, rollerblading and cross-country skiing.

■ For more information call 800/403-9898, 262/284-9288 or visit www.interurbantrail.us

10 Pike Bike Trail

The scenic 10.2-mile Pike Bike Trail runs through Kenosha County near several points of interest including three National Register Historic Districts, Lake Michigan, two historic lighthouses, recreational opportunities and Porio Nature Center.

■ For more information call 262/653-4080 or visit www.kenosha.org

11 Seven Waters Trail

This scenic trail stretches more than 17 miles between Burlington and Muskego Lake and into Waukesha County. Three existing trails, Burlington, Waterford-Wind Lake and Norway, were stitched together to form Racine County's system of bike paths.

■ For more information visit publicworks.racineco.com/biking

12 White River State Trail

This 12-mile trail follows a former rail corridor as it travels between Elkhorn and Burlington, passing numerous bridges, scenic vistas, quaint towns, farmlands and wetlands. The trail is operated by Walworth County and is within five miles of Lake Geneva and Big Foot Beach State Park. The western end of the trail begins at County Highway H near Elkhorn. The eastern end

SOUTHEAST URBAN BIKING OPTIONS

The following communities offer terrific urban bicycling opportunities. Most are hard surfaced, family friendly, and generally traverse a given city's most scenic areas. Many are recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as an Official Bicycle Friendly Community.

KENOSHA
www.visitkenosha.com

MILWAUKEE ★★★★★
city.milwaukee.gov/Parks

RACINE
www.cityofracine.org

SHOREWOOD ★★★★★
www.villageofshorewood.org

WAUKESHA
bikewaukesha.org

★★★★ = Official Bicycle Friendly Community*

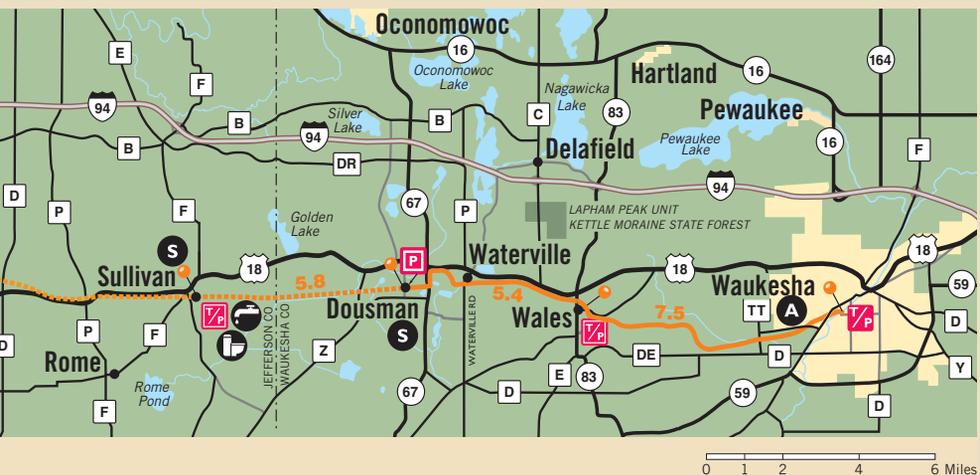
* See page 77.

of the trail is at Spring Valley Road near the Walworth-Racine county line, just west of Burlington. A daily or annual State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 and older.

■ For more information call 262/741-3114 or visit dnr.wi.gov



White River State Trail.



Mountain Bike Trails

See region map on page 64 for trail locations.

The following is a list of “constructed” or “purpose built” mountain bike trails. These trails are more challenging, specially-constructed, narrow-width trails built to the trail standards of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). They are designed to present a singletrack mountain biking experience. If you’re looking for a less technical ride, check out the list of less challenging off-road trails on page 71.

1 Hoyt Park Trail

The 2.5-mile Hoyt Park Trail winds along the Menomonee River just northwest of downtown Milwaukee. The trail is designed for novice riders, but there are sections that will provide a definite challenge for more advanced riders. The trail is primarily technical singletrack with copious amounts of roots, rocks, and trees. As a bonus, there’s even a jump section on the south section. The trail is funded in part by an REI grant administered by the Park People. The Metro Mountain Bikers, the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, and the Milwaukee County Parks Department were all instrumental in developing the trail.

■ For more information call 414/257-7275 or visit www.county.milwaukee.gov/parks

2 John Muir/Emma Carlin Trails

See trail description on facing page.

3 Lake Geneva Canopy Tours

Lake Geneva Canopy Tours has almost nine miles of hiking and biking trails from beginner, intermediate, to expert level. The Arbor Trails singletrack winds through the forest and features plenty of obstacles on the intermediate and expert level routes including ladder bridges, jumps, and switchbacks. A handy location between the metro areas of Milwaukee and Chicago makes these trails a regional favorite. When you hang up the bikes, be sure to experience the thrill of flight high above the forest floor at the 100-acre zipline adventure park.

■ For more information visit www.lakegenevacanopytours.com

MOUNTAIN BIKING TIPS: Always wear a helmet and eye protection. Control your bike; don’t ride beyond your skill level. Ride only on open trails; others may be illegal, and never intentionally spook animals.



John Muir/Emma Carlin Trail.

FEATURED TRAIL

JOHN MUIR/EMMA CARLIN TRAILS

Distance: 25 miles for the outer circuit of both trail systems and the connector trail.

Difficulty: Mostly moderate to difficult with some extreme sections.

Fees: Daily or annual State Park Vehicle Admission required, plus a daily or annual State Trail Pass.

Caution: There is two-way bike traffic near the parking lots and on the Connector Trail. A short on-road section open to motor vehicles is used to join the John Muir Trails to the Connector Trail. The trails are also used by hikers; always yield to pedestrians.

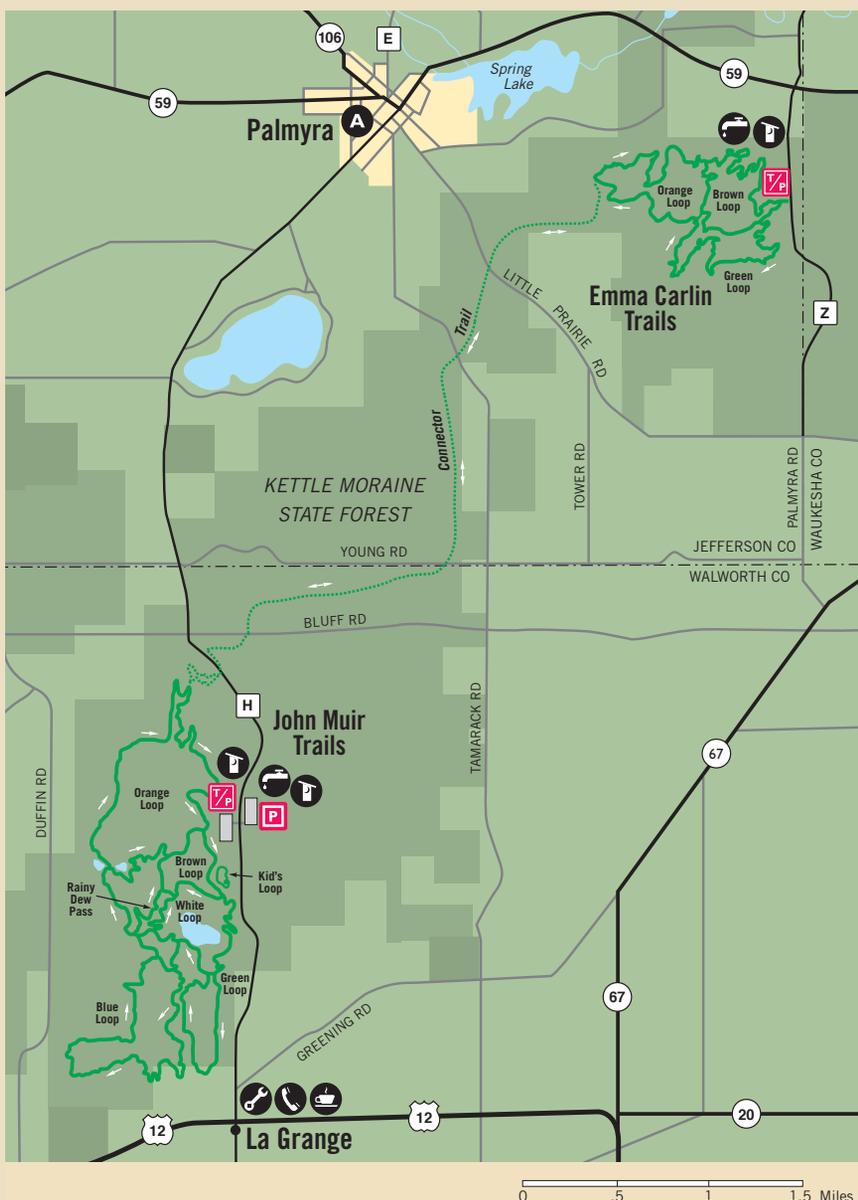
For more information:

Kettle Moraine State Forest, Southern Unit
262/594-6200
dnr.wi.gov

Close proximity to both Madison and Milwaukee make these trails two of the most popular mountain biking destinations in the state.

Over the years, the Muir and Carlin trails have been continually improved to cope with the intense use that fills their parking lots on any good riding weekend. A big part of the attraction is mostly one-way trails in the challenging terrain of the beautiful Kettle Moraine State Forest.

The rugged terrain, hills and kettle-like depressions make for some tough riding and may not be for everyone. But for riders looking for challenging, technical riding – this is the place.





Milwaukee Alpha Trail.

4 Milwaukee Alpha Trail

Milwaukee mountain bikers are blessed to have high-quality singletrack riding right in the metro area. The trails here are the result of the tenacity and energy of the Metro Mountain Bikers. They've worked to make legal, compatible and sustainable mountain bike riding a reality in the Milwaukee County Parks system. You'll find two distinct terrain characteristics here. Flat riding in the bottomland of the Root River offers narrow passages, tight turns and occasional rocks and roots. There are some nice views of the river if you can take your eyes off the trail long enough to look. In contrast, the Crystal Ridge ski slope makes you climb up a 200-foot, steep, double-track road to the top where a variety of tricky trails await. As the highest spot in the county, the ski hill is worth the climb just for the views. When you ride the Alpha Trail you're right next to two of Milwaukee County's showpiece attractions, the Boerner Botanical Gardens and the 625-acre Whitnall Park.

■ For more information call 414/273-7222 or visit www.county.milwaukee.gov/parks.

5 Minooka County Park

Waukesha County has partnered with the Waukesha Bicycle Alliance (WBA) in the design, construction and maintenance of mountain bike trails at Minooka Park. The trail system is the first trail designated for off-road bicycle only use in the county parks system. The Minooka Park Trails in-

clude singletrack trails as well as a multi-use trailhead. The trails are designed for a range of skill levels, from beginner to advanced, encompassing a variety of terrain. The trails are open sunrise to 10pm, April 1st to November 31st. A daily or annual park pass is required.

■ For more information call 262/548-7803 or visit www.waukeshacountyparks.com or www.bikewaukesha.org

6 Pleasant Valley Park

The Ozaukee County Mountain Bikers and Town of Cedarburg recently celebrated the grand opening of new mountain bike trails at Pleasant Valley Park. Additional work continues on the new trail network with a beginner loop, intermediate loop and a three to eight mile advanced loop.

■ For more information call 262/377-4509 or visit www.town.cedarburg.wi.us

7 Ray's Indoor Mountain Biking

Ray's Indoor Mountain Bike Park is just what it says – an indoor mountain bike park run by guys who love to ride. The park was created as a way to give mountain bikers a place to ride during the inclement winter months. The course offers sections for all skill levels including beginner, novice, sport and expert. Ray's is open from early October to late April, although the jumps, foam pit, and street park may be open on select summer weekends.

■ For more information call 414/355-7433 or visit www.raysmtb.com

LOOKING FOR A Milder RIDE?

HARRINGTON BEACH STATE PARK
262/285-3015
dnr.wi.gov

KETTLE MORaine STATE FOREST -
LAPHAM PEAK
262/646-3025
dnr.wi.gov

MILWAUKEE OAK HILL TRAIL
metromountainbikers.com
414/257-7275

RICHARD BONG STATE
RECREATION AREA
262/878-5600
dnr.wi.gov

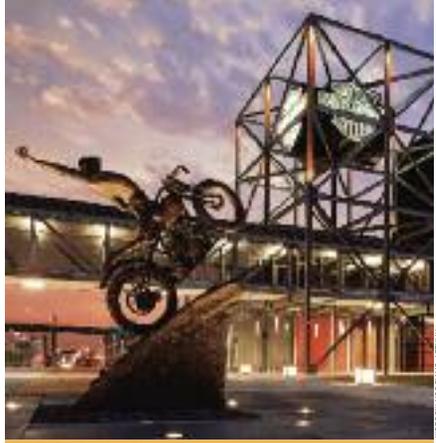
8 The Rock Sports Complex

Designed by Gravity Logic, the number one bike park designers in the world, The Rock is the first downhill bike park in the Midwest. The Rock has a total of 13 trails and three skills areas, giving trail riders of all skill levels over seven miles of amazing downhill and cross-country trails to ride. The Rock Bike Park also offers group and private lessons by professionally trained instructors that will take you from beginner to pro in no time.

■ For more information call 414/529-7676 or visit www.rockcomplex.com/bike-parks



The Rock Recreational Complex in Franklin.



The Harley-Davidson Museum.

WORTH A STOP

As you might expect, there's no shortage of things to do in the state's largest city. Milwaukee's **Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin** is a hands-on, interactive exploratory for families connecting technology and the Great Lakes. It includes the tall ship S/V Denis Sullivan, a 137-foot, three-masted Great Lakes schooner. At the **Harley-Davidson Museum** the Harley-Davidson story is told through photos, videos, exhibits, apparel, rare documents and other fascinating artifacts. Visit the spectacular Santiago Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion and Burke Brise Soleil at the **Milwaukee Art Museum**. You'll find high-stakes bingo, slot machines, and a fabulous performing arts center at **Potawatomi Bingo & Casino**.

Browse through 30 shops, galleries and a winery in a restored 1864 woolen mill at Cedarburg's **Cedar Creek Settlement** or sample award winning Wisconsin wines at the **Cedar Creek Winery**.

Only the works of Wisconsin artists are featured in the exhibitions and collections of the **Museum of Wisconsin Art** in West Bend.

At **Old World Wisconsin** in Eagle you can take in an outstanding collection of 60 historic buildings, organized in several ethnically themed pioneer villages.

Tour **Ten Chimneys** in Genesee Depot, the eclectic retreat of Broadway legends Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne.

The **Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for The Arts** in Brookfield spotlights performance and visual arts.

Kenosha's lakefront museum campus includes the **Kenosha Public Museum**, **Dinosaur Discovery Museum**, **Kenosha History Center**, and the **Civil War Museum**.

Kenosha's **HarborPark** is a breathtaking lakefront development that blends beautifully with the adjacent historic downtown featuring shops, galleries, an outdoor market, and eateries — all linked by a vintage electric streetcar system.

For information on even more great regional attractions call 800/432-8747 or visit travelwisconsin.com.

Road Biking Tours

See region map on page 64 for tour locations.

1 Covered Bridge Tour

Distance: 30 miles for the long route (32 miles with a side trip to Covered Bridge Park); 16 miles for the short route (13.5 miles if you take the Inter-Urban Trail back to Cedarburg).

Difficulty: Easy - flat to gently rolling with a few hills on the long route.

Caution: Entire route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use.

For more information:

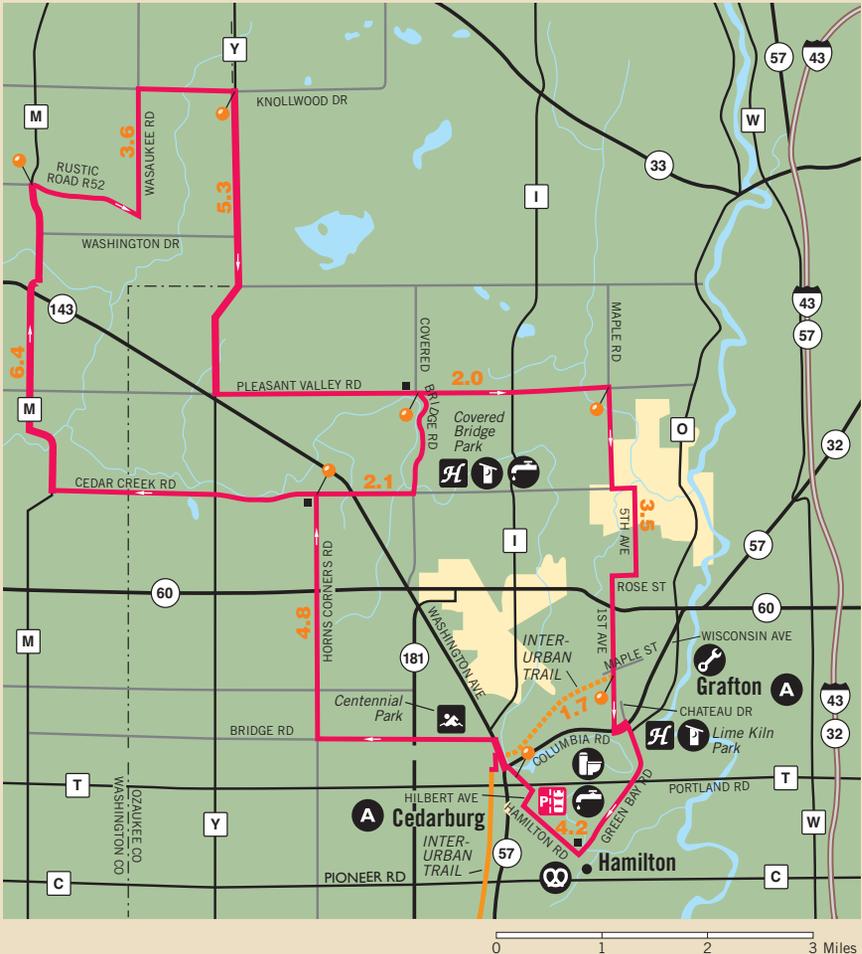
Cedarburg Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center
 800/237-2874; 262/377-5856
www.cedarburg.org

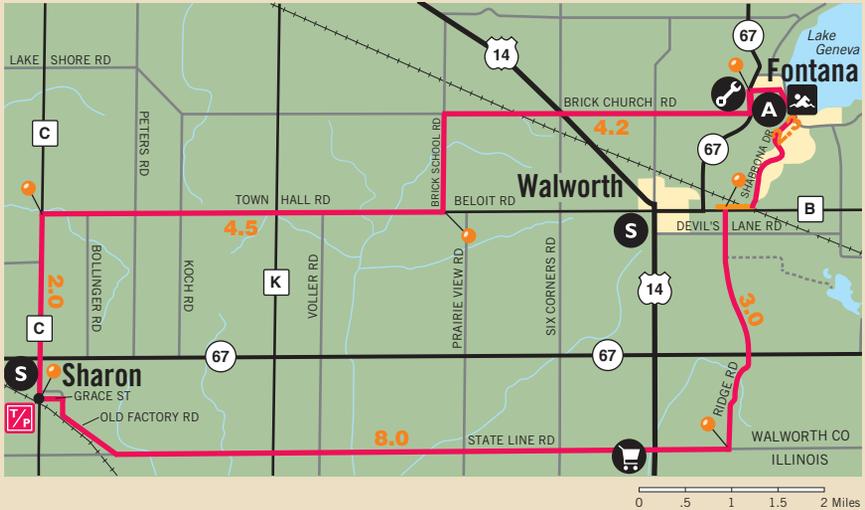
You can't drive a car or even a horse and buggy over Wisconsin's only remaining original covered bridge, but you can ride your bike across it and experience the flickering light and shadow of the oak lattice-work. It's an ideal spot for a picnic.

If there had ever been a mason's Olympics, Cedarburg's builders would have won hands down. The town and countryside are dotted with dozens of gems of 19th century architecture. German, Yankee, and Irish masons worked their magic with brick and stone. The Cedarburg Mill and Concordia Mill, crafted of dressed limestone blocks, are worth gold medals by themselves. In other buildings, field stone was used. These rounded igneous and crystalline rocks were left by the glacier. Laid up into walls they created a lovely dappled effect.

For an easy roll, or a short cut back into Cedarburg, try the Inter-Urban Trail. Laid out on an old trolley line, the route features a beautiful iron bridge across Cedar Creek.

REMEMBER: Ride single file. You can ride two or more abreast if you will not block other traffic. Always ride single file on curves or hills.





2 Sharon to Fontana Tour

Distance: 24 miles
Difficulty: Moderate
Caution: Nearly all of the route is on public roadways open to shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. Railroad tracks cross Brick Church Rd at a sharp angle. Use the paved shoulder on Hwy. 67.
For more information:
Lake Geneva Convention and Visitors Bureau
 800/345-1020
www.lakegenevawi.com
Walworth County Visitors Bureau
 800/395-8687, 262/728-6000
www.visitwalworthcounty.com

It is amazing to find such quiet rural farmland so near one of Wisconsin's most popular tourism destinations. But the land between the tiny border town of Sharon and the blue waters of Lake Geneva is just that.

Sharon has a picture perfect block-long downtown. Beautiful nineteenth century cream brick buildings are dressed with colorful window box flowers. The town's cafés and antique shops are pre-ride or post-ride attractions.

Riding through the countryside you'll cover gently rolling terrain punctuated with pretty farms, churches and roadside maple trees. Nearing Fontana, the terrain rises to form the bowl that cradles Lake Geneva. In Fontana, the route skirts the lake where pleasant town parks and beaches invite you to rest.

Leaving the lake basin you face the steepest climb of the ride on Shabbona Drive. The twisting ascent leads to what appears to be a castle gate. Once through, you can jump on a paved off-road bike trail for a short distance. Back in the countryside, Ridge Road offers fine overviews of the surrounding farmland.



Fall ride through the scenic Kettle Moraine.

BRONX/MALLOY

Wisconsin Biking Events

ONGOING

Wisconsin Endurance Mountain Bike Series
Wisconsin Off Road Series

MARCH

Fat Bike Birkie, Cable

APRIL

Adventure Triathlon, Grantsburg
Classic Mammoth Gravel Bike Race, St. Croix Falls
Wheel & Sprocket Bike Expo, West Allis
WISPORT Friendly Metric Century or Less Bike Ride & Bicycling Clinic, Willard

MAY

Bike for Habitat, New Glarus
Birky Challenge, Fond du Lac
Cable Area Off-Road Classic, Cable
Chippewa Valley Century Ride, Chippewa Falls
Chocolate Fest, Hortonville
Dar's Midwest Time Trial Championship (Festival of the Wheel), Willard
Hip Breaker Bike Tour, Trempealeau
Mt. Borah Epic, Cable
Opening of State Bike Trails, Sparta
The Opener, Cable
West Salem Classic Bike Tour, West Salem
Woolly Mountain Bike Race, St. Croix Falls

JUNE

Aurora BayCare High Cliff Triathlon, Sherwood
Badger State Games Aspirus YMCA Duathlon, Weston
Battle of CamRock, Cambridge
Carl Zach Cycling Classic, Waukesha
Commonwealth Classic Bike Race, Fond du Lac
Frederic Lion's Classic Bike Race, Frederic
"Got Energy" YMCA Touchstone Energy Triathlon, West Salem
GRABAAR, Madison
Horribly Hilly Hundred, Blue Mounds
Introduction to Road Touring, West Bend
Menominee River Century Bicycle Ride, Marinette
Minds in Motion Bike Tour, Onalaska
Northwoods Bicycle Retreat, Manitowish Waters
Ride the Drive, Madison
Pie Ride, Janesville

Pleasant Prairie Triathlon, Pleasant Prairie
Ridges Ride for Nature, Baileys Harbor
Stower Seven Lakes State Trail
Superior Vistas Bike Tour, Washburn
Tour of America's Dairyland
Triathlon@Soo Line Park, Amery
UPAF Ride for the Arts, sponsored by Miller Lite, Milwaukee
WORS Red Eye Rendevous Mountain Bike Race, Wausau

JULY

Best Friends Gourmet Bike Tour, Neenah
Bike Northwoods Tour, Madison
Cambridge Lake Ripley Ride, Cambridge
Chequamegon Bay Sprint Triathlon, Ashland
Flavors of Wisconsin Bicycle Tour, Fitchburg
Highground Bicycle Tour, Neillsville
Lactic Edge Triathlon, Stevens Point
Pedal for Paws, New Glarus
Pewaukee Multisport Weekend, Pewaukee
Phillips Chain of Lakes Tri, Phillips
Scenic Shore 150 Bike Tour, Mequon
Trempealeau Lions Catfish Days, Trempealeau

AUGUST

Annual Lakes and Leaves Ride, Summit Lake
Bike Unite Duathlon, Stevens Point
Changing Colors Ride & Oktoberfest, Amery
Colorama Bike Tour, Merrill
CORP Fest with 12 Hours of Pitch Black Single Track, Rockdale
Escarpment Bicycle Tour, Chilton
Flambeau 40, Park Falls
Kiwanis Ride to Read, Portage



Wausau 24.



Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival Weekend, Cable.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM



THE BUREAU

WISCONSIN'S BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

In 2013, Wisconsin ranked 8th in the country with ten communities, 29 businesses and one university receiving a Bicycle Friendly America certification. The ten communities are Appleton, Fitchburg, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, Onalaska, Sheboygan County, Shorewood, Stevens Point and Sturgeon Bay.

The program, run by the League of American Bicyclists, is an effective tool to make bicycling a real transportation and recreation option for everyone. The Bicycle Friendly America program provides a roadmap, hands-on assistance, and recognition for states, communities, universities and businesses. Each year, the League assesses all 50 states, and all applicants get customized feedback on their application and access to technical assistance.

Bicycle Friendly America is more than a rewards program. It is making biking better and safer for cyclists across the country by setting standards for what constitutes a real bicycling culture and environment. It affects decisions on how communities, businesses, universities and states grow. It inspires action, involvement and coordination among people who want to improve conditions for bicyclists and acts as a roadmap for what steps communities, businesses, universities and states can take.

For more information on the Bicycle Friendly America program visit www.bikeleague.org/bfa.

Midwest Recumbent Rally, Stevens Point
Northern Woods & Waters Bicycle Tour, Three Lakes
Race the Lake, Fond du Lac
SAGBRAW, Madison
Seeley Lions Club Pre-Fat Bike Race, Hayward
Silver Lake Triathlon, Portage
Wausau 24

SEPTEMBER

Bike the Barn Quilts, Shawano
CAMBA Fat Tire Tour, Seeley
Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival Weekend, Cable
Colorama "Try-athlon," Phelps
Deer Fly Chase Mountain Bike Race, New Auburn
Door County Century Ride, Sturgeon Bay
Fat Tire Memorial Tour of Geneva Lake, Lake Geneva
Girls Just Want 2 Have Fun Bike Ride, Hudson
Hayward Fall Festival, Hayward
Hayward Library Fall Century Tour, Hayward
Irish Fest Central Wisconsin, Weston
La Crosse Area Labor Day Weekend Bicycle Festival, La Crosse
Maywood Earth Ride, Sheboygan
Pedal the Kettle, Waukesha
Peninsula Century Ride, Sister Bay
Taste of Cross Plains, Cross Plains
The Autumn Trek Ride, River Falls

OCTOBER

St. Croix Falls AutumnFest, St Croix Falls
Tour de Cheese, Monroe
Tyranena Oktoberfest Bike Ride, Lake Mills

Enjoy THE BEAUTIFUL STATE TRAILS OF WISCONSIN



Please be considerate of all trail users and follow bicyclist etiquette.



Ride single file. You can ride two or more abreast if you will not block other traffic. On curving or hilly trails, ride single file.



Stay right except to pass. Pass on the left. Clearly alert others before passing.



Always look before changing positions on the trail.



Know and respect allowed trail uses.



Don't ride on muddy trails.



Obey traffic (and other) laws and signs.



Pack it in, pack it out. Pick up litter.



Go to dnr.wi.gov
and search 'bike'

Share The Road!

Bicycles are vehicles, just like automobiles, busses, and trucks, and bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as the driver of any other vehicle. Help keep the roads safe by remembering these important traffic rules:

- Bicyclists should stay to the right as far as practicable, not as far as possible.
- Bicyclists are entitled to use the entire lane if the lane is narrow.
- Bicyclists are permitted to ride two abreast on any street if other traffic is not impeded.
- Bicyclists must ride on the right, in the same direction as other traffic.
- Bicyclists passing a parked, stopped or moving vehicle are required to give at least 3 feet of clearance.



Courtesy, common sense and following the rules can make roads safer for everyone. For more bicycle safety information visit: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/vehicle/bicycle/index.htm



SPECIAL THANKS

The *Wisconsin Biking Guide* was made possible through financial and creative support from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and the Wisconsin Bike Federation. Together, we share a commitment to provide a safe, healthy and enjoyable biking experience for Wisconsin's residents and visitors.

**YOUR NEXT RIDE
AWAITS YOU
IN WISCONSIN.**

FILM COURTESY OF
**TRAVEL
WISCONSIN
.COM**



THE BICYCLING INDUSTRY IS GEARED FOR SUCCESS IN WISCONSIN

The bicycling culture is embraced both by biking enthusiasts and the bicycle industry in Wisconsin. A substantial bike manufacturing infrastructure is why leading national companies like TREK Bicycle, Saris Cycling Group and Pacific Cycle proudly call Wisconsin home. These companies, plus an impressive supply chain of equipment parts and accessory manufacturers and wholesalers, provide over 13,000 jobs statewide. To learn more about the advantages of doing business In Wisconsin®, visit InWisconsin.com or call 855-INWIBIZ [toll free].



WISCONSIN STATE BIKE MAP



Wisconsin is a premier state for bicycling. The Wisconsin State Bike Map helps bicyclists get from one location in the state to another, the map classifies state and county roads throughout the state in terms of bicycling conditions, identifies recreational bicycle trails and mountain bike facilities, provides contacts for local bicycle route information. Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) also has Urban Area Bike maps for Wisconsin municipalities with populations greater than 25,000. These maps complement the state bike map

and provide information about traffic volume of major urban streets and various bicycle facilities such as wide outside lanes, designated bike lanes, signed bike routes and paths.

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/bike-foot/bikemaps.htm

RIDE ON WISCONSIN

FIND A RIDE GO

EVENTS RIDING TIPS GET INVOLVED GET CONNECTED

Explore the amazingly bikeable Badger state.

The Bike Fed has teamed up with Shine United to bring you an amazing new website. Find trails, rides, events or submit your own. Connect with other cyclists, browse the classifieds for a bike, and even find the nearest bike shop – all in one beautiful, easy to use location... rideonwisconsin.com



Biking allows visitors and residents the opportunity to experience Wisconsin's great outdoors and exciting urban destinations. It's also a FUN way to stay fit and active! Visit the Department of Health Services website to learn more about nutrition, staying active, and living a healthy lifestyle.



Wisconsin
Department of
Health Services

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/physical-activity

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LET YOUR
(ECO) CONSCIENCE

rest easy

IN WISCONSIN



April 22, 1970. The first Earth Day. Founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin to raise environmental consciousness.

Wisconsinites continue to dig in to the Earth Day tenets of preserving the environment and enhancing our quality of life.

That brings us to the notion of an eco-friendly vacation, a concept the Wisconsin Department of Tourism pioneered when it launched Travel Green Wisconsin™ in 2006. Travel Green was the first certification program in the country that went beyond accommodations to include tourism businesses of all sorts – events, attractions, restaurants, and everything in between.

So if leaving a lighter footprint is important to you, then consider patronizing the hundreds of Travel Green Wisconsin™ certified businesses when visiting. Visit travelwisconsin.com for a listing.

To summarize: Go green. Have fun. Rest easy.



To order more free
Wisconsin travel guides visit
travelwisconsin.com or call
toll-free 1-800-432-8747



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A full-color, 80 page guide to over 500 Wisconsin attractions – a perfect tool to plan your next getaway.



Wisconsin Activity Guide

A full-color, 80-page guide to recreational opportunities on the land, on the water, and on the snow.



Wisconsin Event Guides

Full-color, 40 page guide to some of Wisconsin's top events. Two editions per year – spring/summer and fall/winter.



Wisconsin Lodging Directory

A comprehensive directory describing more than 1,100 Wisconsin hotels, motels, resorts and B&Bs. Provided by the Wisconsin Innkeepers Association.



Wisconsin Bed & Breakfast Directory

Lists 220 charming Wisconsin B&Bs in a handy, pocket-sized brochure. Provided by the Wisconsin Bed & Breakfast Association.



Wisconsin Art & Craft Fairs Directory

A 64-page guide to nearly 200 art and craft fairs held throughout Wisconsin.



Native Wisconsin

A full-color guide showcasing the attractions, events and history of Wisconsin's Indian people. Provided by Native American Tourism of Wisconsin.



Wisconsin Campground Directory

A 66-page guide to the private campgrounds of Wisconsin, listed by region. Provided by the Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners.



Wisconsin State Parks Visitor Guide

A 24-page full-color booklet detailing the recreational facilities offered at Wisconsin's state parks, forests and trails.



Wineries of Wisconsin

Includes a list of wineries, maps and complete information for planning your tour of Wisconsin's five wine regions. Provided by the Wisconsin Winery Association.

Get connected and
stay connected at
travelwisconsin.com



Fall Color Report

A weekly report on fall color conditions around the state. Available in September and October.



Snow Conditions Report

A weekly report on conditions for downhill skiing, cross country skiing and snowmobiling around the state.



Wisconsin Traveler

Essential information for the Wisconsin traveler. A twice-monthly newsletter that brings you the latest in Wisconsin getaway ideas, events, packages & deals and more!



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Travel Wisconsin Apps

Find the fun faster while you're on-the-road in Wisconsin with the Travel Wisconsin™ iPhone® and Android™ apps.



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Explore. Save. Share. Create a new trip or edit existing trips, then print details of your trip and share your trip with friends on your favorite social network or via email.

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