



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Tatonka Ska Trace

Iowa



Tatonka Ska Trace

Iowa

Located in the gorgeous Iowa Great Lakes region, the Tatonka Ska Trace is a developing rail-trail that will be 37 miles when complete.



As of 2023, the paved multiuse trail is about 11 miles, running between Spirit Lake and Lake Park. In the city of Spirit Lake, the rail-trail connects to the popular [Iowa Great Lakes Trail](#) at the Tatonka Ska Trailhead, which has restrooms, picnic tables, benches, a drinking fountain, a bike repair station, and a charging station.

The County Trails Board is actively working on expanding the trail and has already renovated a series of historic bridges and culverts along the railroad route in anticipation of the future trail.

As it grows, the Tatonka Ska Trace will provide a great means of recreation and transportation across a wide stretch of northern Iowa, giving residents and visitors alike a chance to get out and experience the history and beauty of the region.

Located in the gorgeous Iowa Great Lakes region, the Tatonka Ska Trace is a developing rail-trail that will be 37 miles when complete. The trail's name comes from the Lakota Sioux language, meaning "white buffalo." The name was chosen as the result of a contest held at a rally event to build support for the project. The rail-trail is ADA compliant and during the winter it is open for snowmobiling

Following an abandoned stretch of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, the rail-trail winds through Osceola County and Dickinson County—connecting the communities of Allendorf, Ocheyedon, Harris, Lake Park, Montgomery, Spirit Lake, and Orleans, ending just west of Superior. At its western end in Allendorf, the trail will connect with the [Ed Winkel Memorial Trail](#).



Tatonka Ska Trace

Iowa

States: Iowa

Counties: Dickinson, Osceola

Length: 11miles

Trail end points: Peoria Ave & Iowa Great Lakes Trail (Spirit Lake) to Lake Park

Trail surfaces: Concrete

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Snowmobiling, Walking, Wheelchair

Accessible

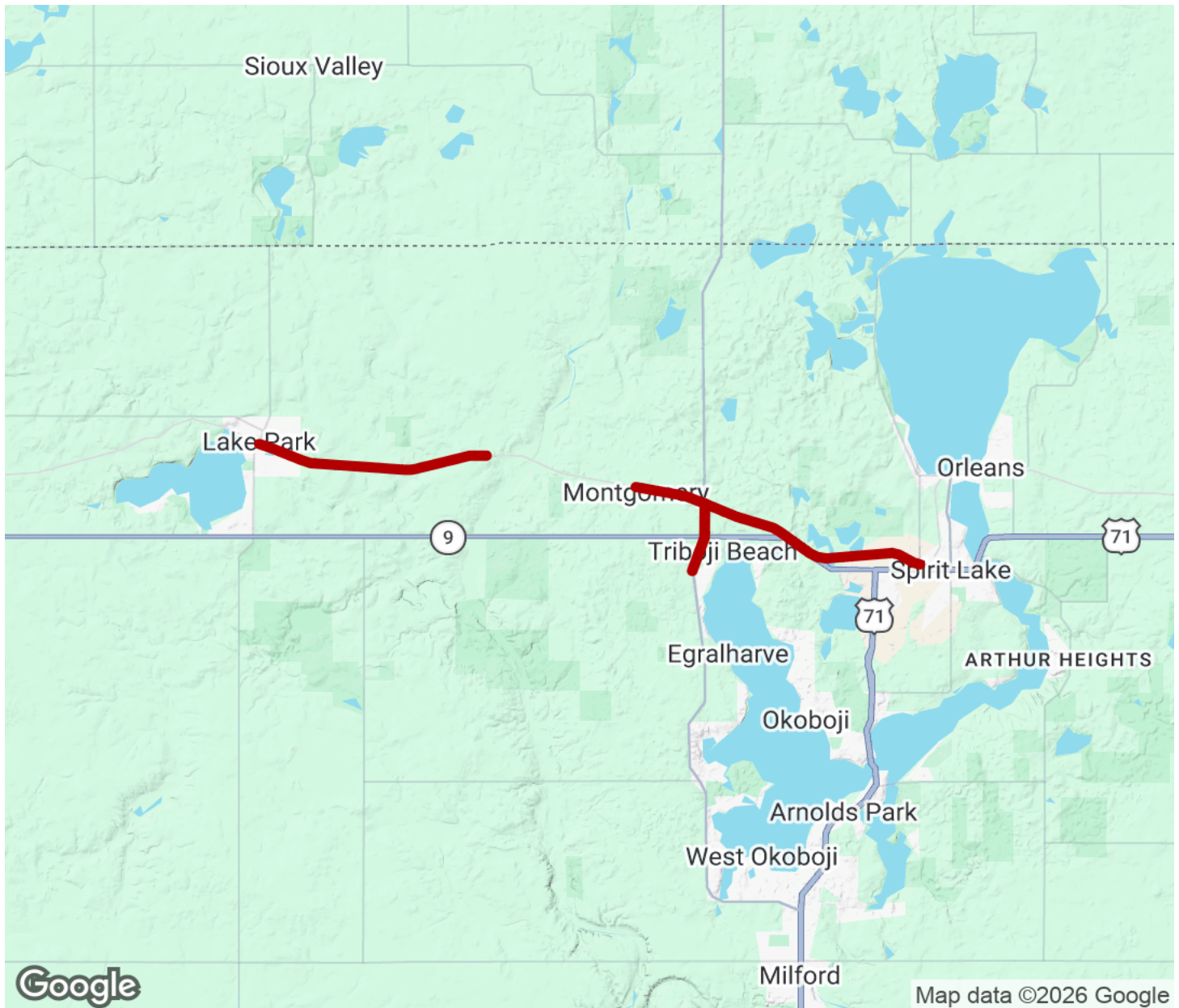
Parking & Trail Access

No dedicated parking is available for this trail as of yet; parking may be available at nearby local businesses. Be sure to follow any posted parking signs and regulations. Trail users can also utilize the trailhead for the Iowa Great Lakes Trail at Lincoln Avenue and 23rd Street in Spirit Lake, and follow that trail to connect with the start of the Tatonka Ska Trace.



Tatonka Ska Trace

Iowa



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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