



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides   



**Mountain-Bay  
State Trail**  
*Wisconsin*



# Mountain-Bay State Trail

Wisconsin

*Overview The 85.2-mile Mountain-Bay State Trail, one of the longest trails in the state, travels a mostly scenic, wooded route*



## Overview

The 85.2-mile Mountain-Bay State Trail, one of the longest trails in the state, travels a mostly scenic, wooded route through three counties—Marathon, Shawano, and Brown—as it makes its way from Weston in central Wisconsin to Howard in the east. Despite its length, numerous parking facilities are located along the length of the trail, and restrooms are frequent.

Bikers, take note: mountain bikes or tires measuring 25 millimeters or wider are necessary to negotiate the trail's surfaces and conditions, which vary but are generally passable. Snowmobiling is permitted on the trail in Marathon and Shawano Counties—and for 6 miles in Brown County—and snowmobiling clubs along its length

help keep it open for users year-round. Horseback riding is also permitted in Shawano County.

NOTE: A State Trail Pass (\$25 annually/\$5 daily) is required for bicyclists ages 16 and older. Snowmobilers must display either a Wisconsin registration or a snowmobile State Trail Pass. For information, go to [dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/trailpass.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/trailpass.html).

## About the Route

Leaving off from the trail's western endpoint in Weston, the route heads southeast for about 11 miles, where the route reaches the small village of Hatley. Here, the Mountain-Bay State Trail joins the Ice Age Trail—a 1,200-mile hiking route across the state—for about 2 miles. Another 7 miles farther, the trail reaches Eland, where the trail briefly shares the route with the Wiouwash State Trail for about 0.7 miles, at which point the Wiouwash State Trail breaks off and heads another 36 miles south to Split Rock; to continue east on the Mountain-Bay State Trail, stay left at this break.

The multiple bridges along the route can become slippery when wet, so be careful when crossing. About 12 miles from Eland, the trail reaches Bowler and a highlight of the trail: a covered bridge that crosses over the North Branch Embarrass River. Here, trail users can access the bank of the river for a dramatic picture of the covered bridge above.

After another 20 miles, the trail approaches a gap before reaching the city of Shawano at Maple Avenue. Signs direct trail users along several lightly traveled roads until the route meets up again with the off-road trail at County Road M and heads into the city, paralleling West Oshkosh Street. Here, trail users can find many restaurants, shops, stores, a former train depot turned bicycle-and-outfitters shop, and Twig's Beverage (South Washington Street), a soda factory and museum that offers tours.

After leaving Shawano, the route continues through a long



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**States:** Wisconsin

**Counties:** Brown, Marathon, Shawano

Length: 85.2 miles

**Trail end points:** 5201 Mesker St. (Schofield) to  
904-942 Lakeview Dr. (Howard)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Crushed  
Stone, Dirt, Grass, Gravel

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline  
Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback  
Riding, Mountain

## Parking & Trail Access

The Mountain-Bay State Trail runs between 5201 Mesker St. (Schofield) and 904-942 Lakeview Dr. (Howard), with parking available at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

- N 4540 Norrie Rd. (Birnamwood)
- 801 S Water St (Shawano)
- Pulaski Community Park, 429 E Pulaski St. (Pulaski)

There are numerous parking options along the route, please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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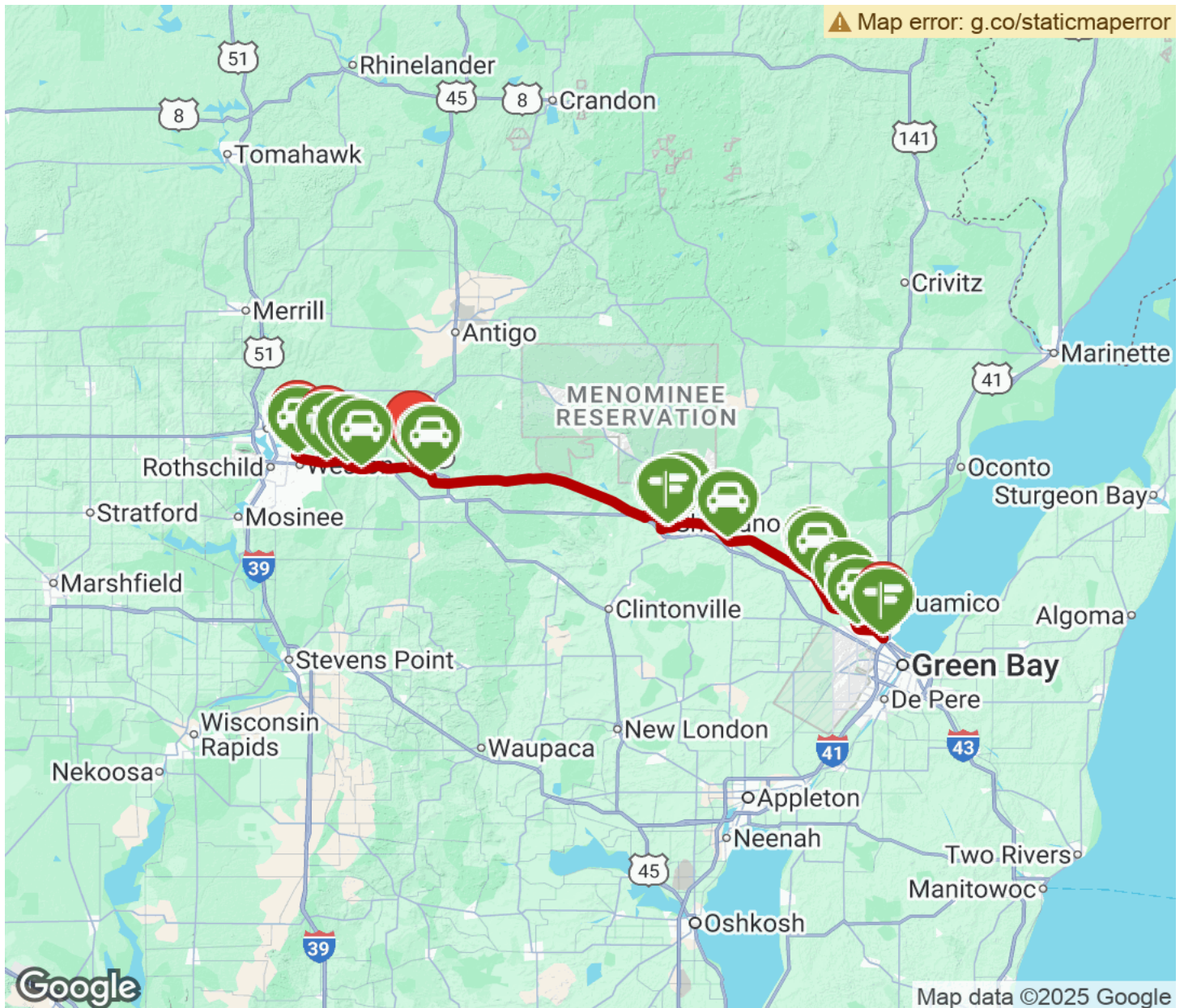
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# Mountain-Bay State Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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