



Together with the Ice Age Trail Alliance, Ice Age Trail Communities enhance appreciation and awareness of the natural and scenic beauty of the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Visit our Trail Communities to enjoy small-town hospitality, local supper clubs, hometown bakeries, farm-to-table eateries, and sites highlighting Wisconsin's cultural heritage.

For current trail conditions, to connect with local volunteers, or to plan your Ice Age Trail hike, visit iceagetrail.org.

The **City of Portage** is dedicated to building on the past and providing a caring community. As the third oldest community in Wisconsin, Portage is located on the continental divide which are connected by the Portage Canal built in 1876. **Portage** welcomes hikers to its community, including local businesses and outdoor recreational opportunities.

WHERE TO HIKE

Dogs should be leashed (8-foot max) and under control at all times.

The Baraboo Hills/Heritage Chapter cares for the Ice Age Trail as it winds through Northern Columbia County and through Sauk County. The chapter works with the City of Portage and local conservation agencies to build and maintain the Trail. The Trail's route through the city helps highlight important Native American history alongside early European settlement in the area.



PORTAGE SEGMENT

(3.0 miles)

The Portage Segment's name is inspired by the compelling history that surrounds the Portage Canal, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The City of Portage is located between the Wisconsin and the Fox Rivers. The canoe portage here between the rivers was an important transportation route to Native Americans, French explorers and fur trappers moving between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi basin. The recently improved, three-mile Portage Canal Segment of the Ice Age Trail runs through the city. Following it, hikers can walk in the footsteps of explorers.

The connecting route from the Sauk County line to the City of Portage goes through the Pine Island Wildlife Refuge and is a relaxing walk with little traffic. Keep an eye out for the dozens of species of birds that live in the refuge. Get up on top of the Levee to see the Wisconsin River up close.

EATS & TREATS

Enjoy a cup of coffee at **Two Rivers Coffee**. Try the Denver omelet at **Portage Café**. Locals rave about the sushi at **Asian Cuisine** and the fresh burgers at **Tamarack Pizza**. Cheese curds have just the right stretch at **The Ball Room** and **Suzy's Steak and Seafood House** serves a traditional supper club meal. Stop for a craft beer at **Big Dog Saloon** or enjoy a margarita at **La Tolteca**. Fresh gyros prepared at **The Cottonwood**, a great prime rib at **Dino's** and a fresh salad bar at **B&B Hitching Post**. Stop for a Friday night fish fry at **1873 Grille**. **Red Apple Restaurant** is just a few blocks off Trail for a home-style meal or try a gourmet sandwich at **Canape Sandwiches**.

SHOPS & STOPS

Enjoy the outdoor patio with a chilled glass of wine or bourbon at **Neil's Wine House**. Cool off with a treat from the walk-up window at **Craig's Popcorn Corner**. Enjoy a game of bowling and homemade pizza at **J&J Fireball Lanes**. Replenish your supply of bug repellent, Chapstick and sunscreen at **Wilz Hometown Pharmacy**. Get your fill of old-fashioned candies, chocolates, and cheese at The Mercantile. Make a pit stop for snacks at **Jim's BP**, located right on the Trail.

RECREATION & RELAXATION

Nestled along Highway 33 as you enter Portage from the west is **Pauquette Park**. Bring your fishing pole and cast a line in the park's Bridal Pond, with its water fountain projecting a small rainbow through its plume. On the east end of town, and easily accessible from the Trail, stand two living museums, **Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters** and the **Historic Indian Agency House**. Enjoy a guided tour of both sites. Learn a little bit about the history of the area and the important role it played in our country's westward expansion. Spend an afternoon viewing the art exhibits on display at the **Portage Center for the Arts**. Learn about the historic importance of our community at the Museum at the Portage. In the winter months enjoy the slopes at **Cascade Mountain**, the Midwest's Premier Ski & Snowboard Area. Bring your bike and enjoy 13 bike loops throughout the roads of Columbia County with four leaving directly from Portage taking you into the countryside to see an abundance of wildlife.

Learn more about Portage, at portagewi.com.



STAY & PLAY

Spend a relaxing night at any of our hotels located on the north side of Portage

- **Best Western Hotel & Conference Center**
- **Ridge Motor Inn**
- **Super 8**
- **Sunset Motel**

If you are looking for a campground to enjoy the night outdoors, we have some options for you.

- **Sky High Camping Resort**
- **Pride of America Camping Resort**
- **Duck Creek Campground**
- **Indian Trails Campground**

GET INVOLVED

Contact the **Baraboo Hills/Heritage Chapter** of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, a dedicated group of volunteers who build, maintain and promote the beautiful segments of the Ice Age Trail throughout Columbia County and Sauk County.



PORTAGE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Map 57f-E

Columbia County

Includes Fox River, Portage Canal, Wisconsin River, French Creek State Wildlife Area, and Portage

0 1/2 1 mile

1 : 48,000 scale

- Ice Age Trail
- Connecting Route
- Future Trail
- Other Trail

