

# **PAC Tour's Southwest Wisconsin Hill County Tour**

## **July 8 -15, 2017**

### **Day 1 Saturday July 8th Arrive in Beloit - Optional on your own loop ride 35 miles, 800' climbing**

If you fly into Chicago, there is bus service to Beloit on Coach USA - We will pick you and your bike up at the bus station. Check in is at the Rodeway Inn from noon to 4 PM. Look for the PAC Tour Trailer in the rear parking lot. Collect your rider packet with route cards and clothing. Assemble your bike and go out for the 36 mile ride to the Sharon, WI ice cream shop. A group dinner at the Chinese buffet, scheduled at 5:30 PM is to welcome everyone followed by a short informative rider meeting.

### **Day 2 Sunday July 9th Beloit to Mineral Point 90 miles, 4,900'**

We head northwest into the rolling and steeper hills of the state where the roads are too small to have paint lines down the middle. The Mineral Point Railroad Depot Museum and the Pendarvis Historic site are interesting afternoon destinations. [www.mineralpoint.com](http://www.mineralpoint.com)

### **Day 3 Monday July 10th Mineral Point to Viroqua 86 miles, 5,000'**

More hills are the highlight of today. Some of the roads tend to be rough in this region so bring wider 25mm or 28mm wide touring tires. There are many Amish farms and buggies in this area of Wisconsin which hasn't changed much in 150 years. Viroqua's downtown is on the Wisconsin State Historical Registry with many quaint shops and restaurants.

### **Day 4 Tuesday July 11th Viroqua to Mauston 82 miles, 3,000'**

We will visit to National Bicycle Museum in Sparta which is the self proclaimed Bicycle Capital of the United States. Later that morning we ride 30 miles on the famous Elroy - Sparta Bike Trail which offers three long dark old train tunnels. Be sure to bring a bright headlight for your bike. The tunnels are dripping wet and you might have to walk your bike because of the darkness. Award winning Carr Valley Cheese company operates a factory and retail store in Mauston. There are also bakeries and coffee shops in the downtown area.

### **Day 5 Wednesday July 12th Mauston to Spring Green 77 miles, 3,600'**

The Circus World Museum in Baraboo was the headquarters for the famous Ringling Brothers Circus. You will have time to stay for a tour and show at this unique and entertaining recreation of circus history. All these roads offer rolling hills with some steep 10% grades.

### **Day 6 Thursday July 13th Spring Green to New Glarus 87 miles, 5,300'**

In the morning you can plan to tour the Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor's Center or go for a more detailed tour of his home. Taliesin® Preservation Inc. -- [www.taliesinpreservation.org](http://www.taliesinpreservation.org) There is another optional tour of "House on the Rock" collector museum. New Glarus "Little Switzerland" is an interesting old town founded in 1845 by Swiss immigrants. You can tour the Swiss Historical Village or New Glarus Brewery Company. Dine at the many fine Swiss restaurants. There is miniature golf course across from our Swiss style hotel.

### **Day 7 Friday July 14th New Glarus to Beloit 76 miles, 3,500'**

Our final day offers two route options to return to Beloit. One route follows the 28 mile Sugar River Bike Trail along the flat railroad path. Another route travels the hillier small roads through the farm country of southern Wisconsin. Each route will be a good way to end a full week of cycling. Bike re-packing will commence when riders return to the Rodeway Inn. Lodging included on Friday July 14th.

### **Day 8 Saturday July 15th Depart for Home**

We can provide a lift to the bus station if you return to Chicago by Van Galder/Coach USA.