

Merrimac, WI – Devil’s Lake, Sauk Point and Merrimac IAT Segments (SC-2)

Wisconsin Ice Age Trail (WI IAT) Regional AVA Program Y2283

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This map and directions may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association (AVA) athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

IAT Alliance Snapshot: This route includes:

Devil’s Lake Segment: Arguably the most dramatic IAT segment, exploring Wisconsin’s largest and most-visited state park and offering magnificent views from the top of 500 foot quartzite bluffs overlooking a 360 acre lake.

Sauk Point Segment: A very quiet corner of Devil’s Lake State Park, offering access to Parfreys Glen.

Merrimac Segment: Highlights the diverse landscape of Riverland Conservancy’s Merrimac Preserve.

Start/Finish Point: 1.) To parking area near Merrimac Ferry loading: From Baraboo WI take St. Hwy 113 south for 18 minutes to the parking area near the car ferry loading area. Seasonal restrooms and water are nearby.

2.) To Cty Hwy DL parking area near Parfreys Glen Creek: From Baraboo WI take St. Hwy 113 south. Cty Hwy DL will join Hwy 113 from the right, continue on both passing Solum Lane and South Lake Rd./Dr. until Cty Hwy DL separates to the left, Turn Left on DL. Follow DL a little over two miles to the parking area on your left, BEFORE reaching Bluff Rd. Parking area has seasonal restrooms and water.

GPS: 1.) 43°22'21.2"N 89°37'39.7"W 43.372551,-89.627696 2.) 43°24'34.7"N 89°38'14.0"W 43.409633,-89.637223

Hike Options:

1.) From parking near Merrimac Ferry landing:

6km From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to the better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, after it bends West the trail meets Marsh Rd., turn around here to return to Start Point.

13km From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 at parking area, start of IAT Merrimac Segment (green dot). Turn around and return to Start Point.

16km * Linear Route From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 and continue on trail hiking along the East Bluff of Devil’s Lake State Park to the parking area, with seasonal restrooms and water at the south end of Devil’s Lake (South Lake Rd./Dr. is nearby). Continue around bottom of Devil’s Lake to turn North following the West Bluff to the North Shore Visitor’s Center with restrooms and water, also the Start Point for the Dairyland Walkers Devil’s Lake Event. This route is intended when two cars can be used for both ends, or when a hiker can be met by a driver not walking. The State Park is a fee area.

24km From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 and continue on trail hiking along the East Bluff of Devil’s Lake State Park to the parking area, with seasonal restrooms and water at the south end of Devil’s Lake (South Lake Rd./Dr. is nearby). Turn around and return to Start Point.

36km * From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 and continue on trail along the East Bluff of Devil’s Lake State Park to the parking area, with seasonal restrooms and water at the south end of Devil’s Lake. Continue around bottom of Devil’s Lake to turn North following the West Bluff to the North Shore Visitor’s Center with restrooms and water, also the Start Point for the Dairyland Walkers Devil’s Lake Event. Turn around and return to Start Point.

39km * From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 and continue on trail trailing along the East Bluff of Devil's Lake State Park to the parking area, with seasonal restrooms and water at the south end of Devil's Lake. Continue around bottom of Devil's Lake to turn North following the West Bluff to the North Shore Visitor's Center with restrooms and water, also the Start Point for the Dairyland Walkers Devil's Lake Event. Continue along yellow blaze marked trail to parking area along St. Hwy 113 and DL. Turn around and return to Start Point.

This route would also work well for a Linear Route if two cars were employed at parking areas at both ends, or a driver meets the hiker at the end for a **20km** route (approximately). The State Park is a fee area.

44km * Linear Route From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow trail North, West and Northwest crossing Cty Hwy DL to St. Hwy 113 and continue on trail hiking along the East Bluff of Devil's Lake State Park to the parking area, with seasonal restrooms and water at the south end of Devil's Lake. Continue around bottom of Devil's Lake to turn North following the West Bluff to the North Shore Visitor's Center with restrooms and water, also the Start Point for the Dairyland Walkers Devil's Lake Event. Continue along yellow blaze marked trail passing parking area at St. Hwy 113 and DL and hike Sauk Point IAT Segment to its start at parking area on Cty Hwy DL near Parfreys Glen Creek. Seasonal water and restrooms available.

This route would also work well for a Linear Route if two cars were employed at parking areas at both ends, or a driver meets the hiker at the end for a **22km** route (approximately).

64km * From parking lot head north away from the ferry landing to Baraboo St., follow Baraboo St. 0.3 miles, left on Cemetery St. for 0.9 miles to better marked trail at the parking area. (Cemetery St. turns into Marsh Rd.) Follow entire trail on map for maximum route distance, turning around at parking area on Cty Hwy DL near Parfreys Glen Creek to return to the Start Point. Seasonal water and restrooms available. This is the maximum distance sanctioned as this WI IAT AVA route, hikers trek three complete IAT segments: Merrimac, Devil's Lake and Sauk Point IAT segments.

This route would also work well for a Linear Route if two cars were employed at parking areas at both ends, or a driver meets the hiker at the end for a **32km** route (approximately).

2.) From Parking on Cty Hwy DL near Parfreys Glen Creek:

6km Begin trail from parking area, follow yellow blaze markings Northwest and West, passing Solum Lane. A smaller path will appear on your left that heads to a small parking area, after the hiker passes this path turn around and return to the Start Point.

10km Begin trail from parking area, follow yellow blaze markings Northwest and West, passing Solum Lane. A smaller path will appear on your left that heads to a small parking area, continue on main trail to St. Hwy 113 parking area. This is the end of the Sauk Point IAT Segment, turn around and return to the Start Point.

* If following this route with your AVA Event and Distance books, a hiker could stop in the Park Registration Visitor Center on Park Rd. / North Shore Rd. to register for the Dairyland Walkers Baraboo – Devil's Lake Event and walk this additional route while in the park to secure a second AVA stamp and, without a car, no park entrance fee will be collected.

Alert: None.

Note: Taking you and your car, or just you on the Merrimac Ferry is free to the public.

AVA Special Program: Wisconsin Ice Age Trail (WI IAT) Regional Program.



In Case of emergency, dial 911. For an AVA administrative issue, contact the NC Regional Director Jerry Wilson at (cell) 608-695-6449, leave a message, expect a return call as close to immediately as possible.

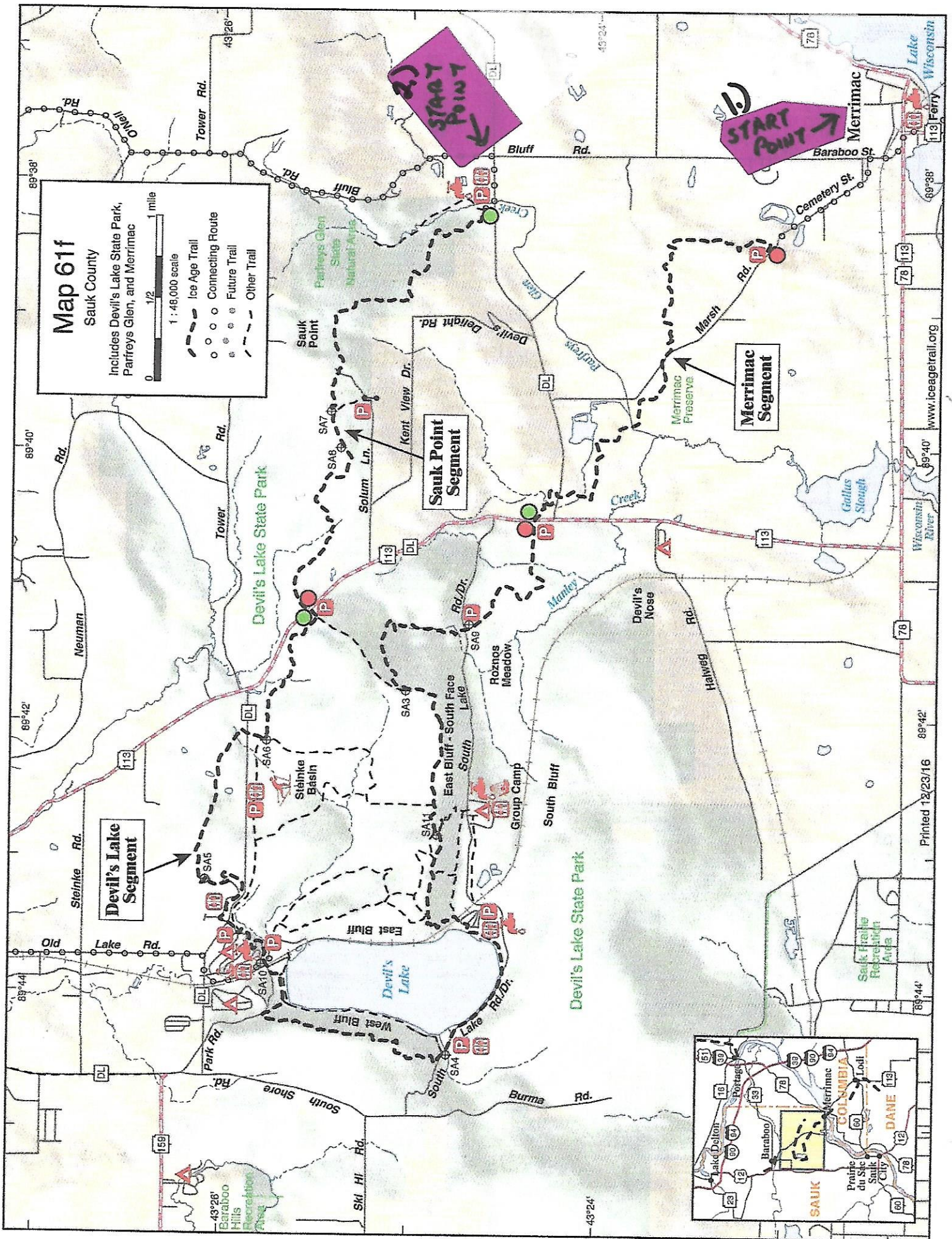
Congratulations! You have finished this WI IAT route, this is 1 of 16 routes. Don't forget to return to the Online Start Box to check-in within the required timeframe to secure credit for your event and distance books. WI IAT Regional Program credit will be achieved and stored online until all 16 routes have been completed.

Also in the area: The Dairyland Walkers have a Devil's Lake State Park seasonal event (April 1 – December 31) with a separate AVA stamp. See AVA.org - Baraboo, WI. The event begins within the state park, a vehicle sticker is required.

This walk is sponsored by the North Central Region of the American Volkssport Association. Please send constructive comments to NC_RD@AVA.org.



America's Walking Club!



Things to Know - Wisconsin Ice Age Trail (WI IAT) AVA Regional Program

WI IAT AVA Segments: Many Start Point locations have seasonal restrooms and water, some do not. Please read directions in advance and prepare yourself.

Hiking with another person is recommended. These routes were established under the AVA Regional Program "Wisconsin Ice Age Trail" in conjunction with the Wisconsin Ice Age Trail Alliance. These 16 routes are "hikes" rather than walks; although portions of a few routes can be rated below 3C when on bike paths and roads or in urban areas, portions of some could be considered rated 4D.

Drinking water, insect repellent, hiking boots, sunscreen and a hat/cap may be necessary, depending when the trail is hiked. Many will want a walking stick. Checking for ticks after completing a hike is suggested.

Property Types: The Ice Age National Scenic Trail is uniformly marked with yellow blazes, but as a "partnership" project the land ownership and management for the Trail are anything but consistent. The Trail crosses a wide variety of property types, including private lands owned and managed by municipal, county, state and federal agencies. Generally speaking, lands open to public access are shown on maps with green shading. The patchwork of land management also yields different regulations for camping, hiking with pets, parking and so on.

The IAT segments chosen for the Wisconsin Ice Age Trail Distance AVA Regional Program for the most part avoid "connecting routes"; however, some are included but walkers have the option to skip these portions by driving from one trail segment to another. *Disclaimer:* Roads on connecting routes, while legally open to pedestrians, may not have been designed for safe use by pedestrians (in contrast to Ice Age Trail segments). By identifying these routes, neither the Ice Age Trail Alliance, National Park Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources nor the local governmental body, or the American Volkssporting Association, are implying any guarantee about their safety or suitability for Ice Age Trail hikers/walkers.

While AVA participants will be given a route map and limited instructions, to make the participants IAT experience most fulfilling we suggest AVA Regional Event participants consider purchasing the IATA Trail Guidebook for more detail about each segment. The IATA also has a three-ring binder Atlas that has larger segment maps (8.5" x 11") for all segments statewide (over 100 maps). These maps were made available by the IATA for AVA planning use.

IATA provided maps include a green dot and red dot where the local IATA chapters designate the start and end of each segment. These markings rarely coincide with the designated AVA route because we chose to start hikers at locations with parking and allowed hikers to go one direction, the other or both. Hiking both allows longer distance hiking passing your vehicle midway.

When walking, generally follow the yellow blaze IAT signs. Participants will also encounter other IATA signage marking the trail. Refer to the provided map frequently, especially related to leaving parking areas, trail turns and when crossing roads or following roads.

Safety: Personal Safety is a concern when one ventures to unfamiliar places. Always use common sense and take precautions. It is best not to hike alone. Following are some IATA inspired suggestions:

- Leave a trip itinerary with family or friends and stay in contact while away.
- Consider medications that may be needed when leaving home.
- Secure your vehicle and leave nothing in plain sight.
- Carry a cell phone, but realize there may be "no service" portions of trails.
- Avoid camping within a half-mile of road crossings.
- Do not tell strangers where you are headed or plan to camp.
- If you encounter a suspicious person, consider moving to another location.
- Always trust your instincts.
- Take precautions to avoid mosquito & tick-borne illnesses, including insect repellent. Light colors make ticks easier to find. Promptly remove ticks!
- Consider the various Wisconsin hunting seasons when dressing to walk, be visible, "Blaze Orange" and other bright colors are encouraged especially walking September – December.

Examples of IAT Signage:

