

4.) EAST/WEST SHUTTLE

Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18

Basic E/W Shuttle Info

- From end town to start town, Dubuque to Onawa, on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, 7/17 and 7/18
- We estimate a 5.5 hour trip, if traffic is good
- Departures at 1:00 and 3:00 on Friday, space available at this writing.
- Departures at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 am on Saturday, all available at present.
- We'll use comfortable coaches, restroom-equipped and air-conditioned. Your bags will go into the compartments under the coach, and your bike will be loaded on a trailer. [See section on Protecting Your Bike for Truck Transport, and see "Bike Transport" below.]
- Coaches WILL BE FULL. Anything you carry on board the coach may be in your lap throughout the trip. Some coaches have an overhead shelf and some don't. This is beyond our control.
- We allow two bags per person under the coach and one bike per person on our trailers. Keep reading for more about extra bikes on the E/W Shuttle.

Location/Parking in Dubuque

- In Dubuque, the Pork Belly Ventures staging area will be located at McAleece Park, 1800 Admiral Sheehy Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001.
- We will publish a map as soon as we can.
- We will load bicycles and board the coaches in our staging area at McAleece Park. If you are utilizing Dubuque's long-term parking, you will need to drop off your luggage and bike at McAleece Park, then park your car and shuttle back to our staging area.
- Dubuque requires you to show your printed email parking confirmation to their volunteers at the parking area, which is located at 799 East 16th Street.
- You may wish to create your own dashboard sign with your name and cell phone number, in case Dubuque would need to contact you.
- On Saturday, July 25, we will be located just across the street from the long-term parking, in the Andersen Windows parking lot. See later sections of this letter for details about the last day of RAGBRAI.

Groups on Coaches

- If two members of the same group requested different departure days/times, we have granted each person's request, and you will not ride across the state together.
- If you wish to be together with other group members on a coach, you need to select the same departure on the drop-down menu *and* provide PBV with a common group name for all group members. The group name goes in the group-name field on your registration form. We've published many reminders about the need for a common group name. This common group name must be *exactly* the same – "The Bike Team" will not be sorted with "Bike Team", for example.
- Our team (Dave Kennedy) has worked to complete bus assignments for our shuttles. These rosters are complete, and new riders are being added as they continue to sign up for the E/W Shuttle.

- We'll publish rosters in early July, so you can know/see to which coach and departure time you're assigned.
- We have multiple coaches departing at each departure time, please be sure you get on the correct bus.
- If you don't have your group's name on your registration form, please don't assume we can take apart our bus assignments to move you. This affects other people.

Hours in Dubuque

- PBV Bike loading in Dubuque, on Friday, 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM
- PBV Bike loading in Dubuque on Saturday: 6:00 AM to 8:30 AM
- Dubuque's Parking and Shuttle hours on Friday: 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM
- Dubuque's Parking and Shuttle hours on Saturday: 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM

What To Do Upon Your Arrival in Dubuque

People will have different scenarios, arriving on different days, at different times. Please use these points to make the best plan for you.

- Find us at our staging area and unload your bike and baggage. Present your bike for loading.
- Then go park the car (you will show your parking confirmation to the Dubuque volunteers) and shuttle back to us at McAleece park.
- You may create your own dashboard sign with your contact info, if you like.
- Regardless of what departure you have chosen, Friday or Saturday, you may certainly load bikes on Friday. In fact, we encourage you to load bikes on Friday, if possible.
- Expect and allow time for a little congestion in Dubuque. We will have 6 coaches running on Friday and 11 on Saturday, plus those of other charters. So allow extra time for congestion in the parking area and our staging area on both Friday and Saturday, plus ample time to shuttle between the two (note: Long-Term Parking is not at the same location as our staging area before RAGBRAI).
- Needless to say, do not rush into town at 8:15 AM Saturday and expect to find us, get your bike loaded, park your vehicle, manage your baggage, and board your bus by 9:00 AM. It's important to pad your schedule and make a workable plan.
- Budget your time. Arrive plenty early. Allow for delays. Give yourself a smooth start to your week.
- Portatoilets and food and drink are available in our staging area, but allow time for these things before your departure time.
- Any box lunches you've ordered can be claimed from local volunteers at our staging area—at McAleece Park. Ask our crew where to get your pre-ordered lunch. If you need to order yours, you can do so on Dubuque's parking website until July 3rd.
<https://dubuqueragbrai.ticketspice.com/traveldubuqueragbrai>
- Crew members will check you off as you board coaches.
- We depart on time.
- Coaches are restroom equipped, and you should plan for no stops.

Have You Signed Up for Long-Term Parking in Dubuque?

Here is the link for long-term parking again—with additional details updated on an ongoing basis.

<https://www.traveldubuque.com/ragbrai#section-shuttles-parking>

Our Dubuque Schedule and Crew

- The crew will load bikes on Friday (hours above) and supervise the departures of Friday coaches, 4 at 1:00 and 2 coaches at 3:00 PM.
- They will load bikes until 7:00 PM. (Then they lock up and take off to eat and sleep!)
- The crew will return to our staging area at 6:00 AM on Saturday morning to continue bike loading and supervise the boarding of our Saturday buses departing at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 (several buses at each departure time, 11 total).

One Bike Per Person on E/W Shuttle

- As we plan for trailer space, we assume one bike per person.
- If a member of your group is using a different PBV shuttle, then you can bring his/her bike to be transported on the E/W Shuttle for no additional charge, but we need to know about it now.
- If the owner of the extra bike is not using another PBV shuttle prior to RAGBRAI, we charge \$75 per bike for transporting more than one bike per person.
- If you will have more than one bike per person for loading in Dubuque on the 17th or 18th, you must write to Kay@pkbelly.com. This will help us make a plan for adequate truck space. (Some of you have already done this. No need to do it again.)

Sleeping Options in Dubuque on Friday, 7/17, Prior to RAGBRAI

- Hotels stays are up to you. We don't recommend particular hotels on the east side of Iowa, just because we aren't familiar with them. Dubuque is a larger city with many hotel options.
- We have arranged for Indoor Sleeping at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Dubuque, a short drive from McAleece Park and the long-term parking location. At the time this was written, there were 16 spots remaining. It is not too late to select this option on your Pork Belly Ventures application for a \$25 donation to this historic church. They will also have their famous turkey & dressing sandwiches available for sale that evening!
- For those who prefer to tent-camp, you may do so at McAleece Park, where our staging area is for shuttles. Registration with Dubuque is required for this, available here: <https://www.traveldubuque.com/ragbrai#section-camping>
- No Rental Tents in Dubuque Though PBV rental tents are available in Onawa on Friday night (for an additional \$50), they are not available in Dubuque.

Bike-Loading Details

- On both Friday night and Saturday morning, we'll provide handlebar tags and markers. Please label your bike with your name before handing it over.
- Please don't leave your bike unattended: wait patiently with it until one of our crew can take it from you.
- Please don't climb into a truck or trailer, just hand your bike up.
- See section at the end of this letter on Protecting Your Bike for Truck Transport – while we are very careful, we do not assume any risk for damages to bikes that are not boxed.
- If you have CARBON WHEELS, it's your responsibility to let our loaders know at the time they are loading bike. You should tag the handlebars with this message: "Do Not Hang This Bike." We don't hang carbon wheels, if we know your bike has them. (Carbon-framed bikes may have alloy wheels.)

Bus-Boarding Details for Dubuque, and Departing the Bus in Onawa

- All buses will stage about 30 minutes prior to departure.
- Please stand back and let the earlier departures get loaded and boarded. When they roll, move on up and get ready to place your bags in the compartments under the coach.
- It's your job to place your bags in the compartments under your bus.
- Be available to board your coach about 15 minutes before departure.
- Our coaches are restroom-equipped and very comfortable.
- Please, bring food and drink with you and be prepared for the bus to make no stops across the state. While it is preferred to have the coaches drive straight through, the drivers have their own reasons for making a stop sometimes. Truth is, we don't have control over this, all we can do is ask you to be prepared.
- On arrival in Onawa, when you step off the bus, remember to first pull your bags out of the bus baggage compartments.
- Our Onawa crew will direct you to the bike trucks, so you can claim your bike as it's being unloaded.
- They will also direct you to check-in at our Front Desk if you are spending the week with Pork Belly Ventures.

Arriving in Onawa on Friday Night

- Those who take the 1:00 and 3:00 Friday shuttles from Dubuque should arrive in our Onawa campsite around 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. respectively.
- You can check-in for PBV Weeklong Support on Friday night.
- For those who are not using our Weeklong Support, we'll have a designated camping area for you. Welcome!
- Our crew will direct folks to their rental tents, when applicable.
- Some of you will set up your own tents after check-in.
- Pork Camp is located at the Onawa Country Club. On Friday night, they will be serving Iowa Chops, a baked potato bar, roasted sweet corn, and have the full bar open—and everyone who camps with us is welcome to patronize the club after your long shuttle ride. For those arriving earlier, there will be a band from 7 – 9 PM.
- Around 10:00 p.m., our crew will go to bed and rest up for a busy Saturday.
- On Friday night, there won't be much in the way of services until morning.
- Our showers will be up and running Saturday morning.
- Everyone who uses our shuttles is welcome to go into the golf club for breakfast!
- Krista will be brewing coffee on our coffee trailer in the parking lot on Saturday morning at 6:00 a.m. (For the rest of the week, she brews coffee from about 5:00 to 7:00 a.m.)

Pork Belly Ventures Location in Onawa

PBV will be located at the Onawa Country Club, 1825 235th Street, Onawa, IA 51040. We have long-term partners who are involved with this Country Club, and it's a good location for buses and bicycle trailers to pull in and unload, and depart. It's a pretty place, too, and the town of Onawa WILL be running shuttles from about a block from our location down to the festivities.

Onawa on Saturday, Festivities and Bike Expo

On Saturday, the huge RAGBRAI Bike Expo will be downtown. The locations of the main campground, the bike expo, and the festivities will be noted on our map.

Arriving in Onawa on Saturday

- Check-in is open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and our busiest time is around noon to 3:30 or so.
- We will check you in for our Weeklong Support as quickly as we can, but remember that you don't necessarily have to get in line for check-in first thing (just remember to do it!).
- We'll have a food vendor in the parking lot, and the golf club will also be offering food and drink. Please watch updates for a list of offerings. There'll be music on stage for a few hours in the afternoon, and a lot of fun stuff going on.
- Please don't leave camp without checking in and doing your chores; however, if the lines for check-in are long, you're free to go set up your tent, claim your bike, eat a bite, and wait to check in at our Front Desk until the lines have gotten shorter.

To non-Porkers on the E/W Shuttle

Thanks very much for using our shuttle, and we wish you a great RAGBRAI.

We will take you from Dubuque directly to *our* Onawa campsite, address above.

- You should unload your baggage there and claim your bike.
- The general or main RAGBRAI camping area will be designated on our map of Onawa.
- Some folks on the shuttle are with a different charter—not PBV—for the week. We don't know where every charter is camping in Onawa, so please do your research now and find out precisely where your charter will be camping.
- Onawa is a very small town (less than 3,000 people on a non-RAGBRAI day), which means that nothing is too far away. However, our intel has let us know that some of the golf club members will be available with their carts or personal vehicles on Saturday afternoon to help folks get from our campsite to their own weeklong campsites or the main campground. Our crew will direct you to where you can make use of this great service. It's likely that they will carry your baggage, and you can follow along on your bike.
- Onawa will also be running shuttles around the town, another way to get where you're going! The shuttle stop will be about a block east from our campsite.
- Pork Belly Ventures will also chip in when we can, with a pick-up truck for baggage. But our team will be too busy at certain times, so please don't plan on this option.
- Another alternative might be to ask if your weeklong charter can come and pick up your luggage while you ride your bike to their campsite.
- In July, we'll send you our host-town map of Onawa, noting our campsite, in case your weeklong group can assist with your transfer.