

11.) THE LAST DAY OF RAGBRAI

Saturday, 7/25

Location in Dubuque

- Your final day of cycling is a short one - about 35 miles to our site with about 1788 feet of climb.
- We will provide a map of Dubuque soon, showing our location on the SW side of Andersen Windows, just across the street from the Long-Term Parking lot.
- When you reach Dubuque, you will be routed past the site where you can dip your front tire in the Mississippi River and then ride south on flat streets, about 1.5 miles along the river to our staging area.
- Our bus-staging and bike-loading area is **in the parking lot of Andersen Windows**.
- Showers will operate in our staging area, and multiple food vendors will be set up across the street from us, with convenience and fast food locations nearby.

PLAN THIS DAY

- You have 33.7 hilly miles to ride today, plus 1.5 more to our staging area. Please bear in mind these things as you ride.
- On the last day, everyone has a schedule to keep, so make your stops for hydration and food, for a stretch and a rest... but don't get sidetracked at the stops along the route or at the river.
- Get into our staging area in plenty of time for your chores. Do you need help packaging your bike for air travel? More on this below. Get the bike loaded where it belongs, shower, grab some food for the coach, load up your bags, and climb aboard.
- SEE BELOW: "Chores You'll Do In Dubuque."

Shuttle Departure Times and Destinations

We operate multiple coaches to three locations on the last day, you will be notified via email of your assigned bus number ahead of time:

- NOON departures to the Quad Cities International Airport, 1.5 hours away on a good day. We drop everyone (and their bikes/luggage) at the departures area of the Quad Cities airport. From here, you can go to car rentals, take a shuttle to your airport hotel, or go directly to the gates.
- 1:30 PM departures to the Quad Cities International Airport, 1.5 hours away on a good day; however, this will be peak traffic time. Plan for a little slow down on our way out of Dubuque. We drop everyone at the departures area of the Quad Cities airport. From here, you can go to car rentals, take a shuttle to your airport hotel, or go directly to the gates.
- 2:15 PM departures to the Omaha International Airport (6 hours on a good day). We drop everyone in the parking lot of the Candlewood Suites hotel (next door to the Best Western Plus) very near the Omaha airport.
- 2:30 PM departures to the Des Moines International Airport (3+ hours on a good day). We drop everyone in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn at 6111 Fleur Drive, quite near the airport
- For all post-RAGBRAI shuttles, baggage goes under your coach, and bikes are loaded on the appropriate trailer.

In Order to Shuttle to PBV on the Last Day

- Our staging area in Dubuque is on the SW side of Andersen Windows, across the street from Long-Term Parking.
- Those who are shipping bikes with PBV can ride directly to our staging area. If you have luggage to get to us from another charter or RAGBRAI Main – please check those locations and compare with ours to make a plan.

Chores You'll Need to Do in Dubuque on the Last Day

- It's usually wise to come to our front desk, look at the COB, ask your questions, and allow us to direct you.
- Some people will ride directly to their car, load their bikes on their cars, then collect their bags at our staging area. They'll grab a shower and a bite to eat, and be on their way.
- Some folks need time to **claim bike-shipping containers** and pack up bikes for shipping or airline travel before catching one of our shuttles. Crew members will be on hand to help you find YOUR container. *Don't take someone else's* cardboard box, which may fit their bike perfectly. We will have some extra boxes if needed, too.
- Some folks need help packaging their bikes for air travel. You must contact pete@pkbelly.com to sign up for the service in advance. It's \$100, and we will be prepared to serve those who are on our list – **so we need to know this in advance**.
- Some need to **load bikes**, boxed up or not, on the appropriate trailer for transport with our shuttles to Quad Cities, Des Moines, or Omaha airports.
- Most people will want a shower before taking off in their car or on a shuttle.
- Plenty of folks will be hungry sometime during this process and will find something to eat with our food vendors (across the street) who will be ready to serve you.
- Remember to allow time for your chores and be ready to board your coach about 20 minutes before departure.
- Our showers are open until 2:00 PM.
- Ask for help. Our crew will be all over the site, happy to help you find what you need.

Process for Bus Departure Check-in

- Please note your shuttle departure times and schedule your day accordingly. Quad Cities buses are either Noon or 1:30, depending on what time you chose upon registration. All Omaha buses are departing at 2:15. All Des Moines buses are departing at 2:30.
- Well ahead of time, we will email you bus rosters with your assignments. Please make note of this and be ready to board the correct bus at the appropriate time.
- Like any other day, **use the COB**. Our Campground Orientation Board, located at one end of our Front Desk, has answers to many questions. We have special magnetic pieces for this day only, showing where baggage is located, particularly if you've been using a rental tent or a PHAT Room all week. The COB will show you locations of bike trailers going to different airports. And the usual symbols for showers, food, and more will help you find what you need. Look first to the COB and then turn to us—we'll be right there at the Front Desk to help you!
- We'll point out where things are and to which bike truck you should take your bike. Other crew members in camp can direct you, too.
- If you feel like you're running late and worried about making your shuttle, forget the COB and ask for our help.

Ways of Dealing with Your Bike, FIRST THING!

- Take care of your bike first, in one way or another—keep reading.
- Early on Saturday, our crew will unload all bike cases and bike boxes that we have stored during the week. You can claim your case or box at our staging area in Dubuque.
- If you need assistance packaging your bike for air travel, allow plenty of time, and get this handled immediately on your arrival to our staging area. (You need to sign up in advance for this service, \$100.)
- If you can package your bike yourself for air travel, get this done quickly and take your bike to the appropriate trailer for your shuttle. Trailers will be signed.
- Have you purchased bike shipping to send your bike home with Bikeflights? Collect your shipping label from Kay, and then claim your shipping container and hand off your bike for shipping at the appropriate trailer. Trailers will be signed.
- If you pack your own bike for shipping, affix your shipping label and take your bike to our UPS trailer in our Dubuque staging area on the SW side of Andersen Windows and hand it to a crew member to put on the truck. Do not load your bike yourself.
- Is your unboxed bike being transported on a shuttle? See that your bike is tagged with your name and loaded on the appropriate trailer for your shuttle. Trailers will be signed.

After the Bike, What's Next?

- If you're so inclined, drop a tip in the special coffee can or pickle jar designated for crew appreciation.
- Shower, grab a bite from our wonderful vendors, and celebrate your completion of RAGBRAI!
- Keep track of the time.
- Board your coach on time.
- Our crew will be around to guide you, every step of the way.
- If you're running late for one of our shuttles, come straight to the front desk and ask us for help.
- As you leave Dyersville on Saturday morning, remember that this to-do list is waiting for you in Dubuque. Plan this day.

Shipping Bikes Home

- Bike shipping is available until 5:00 PM on July 25th. We will not extend our hours, so manage your time on the last day of RAGBRAI.
- If you're not with PBV during the week of RAGBRAI, and if you DO need to ship your bike with us after RAGBRAI, ride straight to our location. (By then, you'll have our map.) After you've dealt with your bike, you will be able to shuttle elsewhere in Dubuque, using the town's shuttle system.
- If you have ordered your shipping label online at Bikeflights.com, it will be mailed to PBV, and you can claim it from Kay in Dubuque.
- Don't count on purchasing shipping labels during the week or in Dubuque. Internet connections are very unreliable.
- A UPS trailer will stage in or near our staging area in Dubuque to receive boxed bikes and other parcels that are ready to ship on the day.
- As ever, we will have your flattened bike boxes, extra cardboard bike boxes for the taking, your bike bags and your hard-shell bike cases in camp at Dubuque on the last day.
- We'll have tape, extra cardboard boxes, and markers.

OPTIONS FOR SHIPPING or FLYING BIKES HOME:

Some of this is repeat info, but it may clarify options for those who haven't read all the updates.

- **The first option for shipping your bike home** is to box it yourself in Dubuque, affix your shipping label, and hand the package over to our crew to load onto a UPS trailer immediately. Our bike mechanics will have some tools that you may borrow. This option requires no additional payment and includes very little assistance from our bike mechanics, but it is a great option for those who are accustomed to working on their own bikes.
- **The second option for shipping your bike home** allows you to turn your bike, your shipping container, and your return-shipping label over to our crew or the bike mechanics for return shipping. Some bikes will be packed up on site in Dubuque. Others will be transported safely to an air-conditioned shop, where our mechanics will package your bike for shipping. This option costs an additional \$100, payable in advance. You have selected this packaging option when you purchased your outbound shipping at Bikeflights.com, or you can write to us and send payment for packaging between now and RAGBRAI. You can expect your parcel to enter the UPS system after RAGBRAI, by Tuesday, July 28.
- **Packing your bike for Air Travel:** This task is more urgent, as all bikes will need to be packaged by your shuttle departure time. Anyone who needs assistance and must package his/her bike on the last day of RAGBRAI in Dubuque for airline travel Omaha, Des Moines, or Quad Cities airports, please write to pete@pkbelly.com now and order this service. We need to know about it right away. The price is \$100. Remember to avail yourself of this service well before 1:30 p.m.
- For anyone **who ships bikes to/from Iowa by some means other than Bikeflights.com**, we charge an \$70 fee for providing the "ground game" at RAGBRAI. That's \$35 each way. Contact Pete for our shipping address and to have this service added to your registration.

Bike Shipping Outside PBV

For those who are shipping bikes to/from RAGBRAI but are not using the services of Pork Belly Ventures during the week--your shipping containers, bike mechanics, and all bike-shipping services will be in our Dubuque staging area on the SW side of Andersen Windows. We will publish maps soon. Ride directly to us, handle your bike shipping, and then shuttle to other locations in Dubuque. We will only be on site until 5:00 PM for bike shipping.

Bike Transport

Bike Transport is included with all PBV post-RAGBRAI shuttles. At our Front Desk, ask which truck is going to Quad Cities, to Des Moines, and to Omaha. You'll take your bike to the appropriate truck, and our crew will load it.

Lag Time for Bike Truck on Omaha Shuttle

All bags and bikes will be unloaded outside the Candlewood Suites hotel on the evening of the 25th. Claim all of your possessions that night. We will unload bikes on a field out behind the Best Western Plus hotel, also very close to Candlewood.

Bike trucks will depart Dubuque when they are full. The departure and arrival times of bike trucks/trailers will not necessarily coincide with the departure and arrival times of our buses. Plan to watch for the arrival of bike trucks/trailers in the field behind Best Western Plus. We will unload safely, as fast as we can. Bikes must be claimed on Saturday night, the 25th.

Airtags or another tracking device in your bike box or case (or attached to your bike) will allow you to gauge when your bike will arrive in Omaha.

DO NOT CALL OMAHA HOTEL STAFF AND REQUIRE THEM TO CLAIM YOUR BIKES. THIS IS NOT THEIR JOB.

If we're saying farewell in Dubuque, remember to claim your bags before we clear out of town at 3:00 or shortly thereafter. We will be on site—just a few last crew members for bike shipping—until 5:00, when bike shipping is finished. Any remaining duffels will be placed in a likely area of the parking lot. (This is what RAGBRAI does with unclaimed baggage.) Before we depart town, we will call cell phone numbers on the baggage tags of bags left in our area. If you have any trouble finding them, check your phone messages, please.