



### Pere Marquette State Trail Baldwin to Ewart

The 56-mile Pere Marquette State Trail slices through Michigan's midsection on a former CSX Railroad line from Baldwin to Clare. Along this route, you will encounter a diversity of landscapes as the trail takes you past woodlands, wetlands and farmland, with picturesque views of the Baldwin, Hersey and Muskegon rivers.

The 33-mile section from Baldwin to Ewart begins at the trailhead in downtown

Baldwin where you will see the World's Largest Brown Trout Sculpture, measuring 25 feet from front tooth to tail fin. The trailhead is close to several stores, restaurants, lodging, an ice cream shop and a museum.

The 20-mile section from Baldwin to Reed City is surfaced with finely screened and compacted limestone. A staging area at the US-131/US-10 interchange offers convenient access to the trail. The Reed City Depot, at the intersection of the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail, is a great place to begin or conclude your ride, or stop for a picnic, and

is close to several stores and restaurants in downtown Reed City.

The paved 13-mile section from Reed City to Ewart follows along the Hersey and Muskegon rivers, passing by farms, pine groves and clusters of seasonal wild flowers. Halfway between Hersey and Ewart, you'll discover a scenic overlook offering stunning views of the Muskegon River. A beautifully restored rail depot welcomes you to downtown Ewart with convenient access to several stores and restaurants, and camping and picnicking at Riverside Park.

### Ewart to Clare

The 28-mile section of the Pere Marquette State Trail from Ewart to Moose Lodge Staging Area is paved with a smooth asphalt surface. The trail takes you on a scenic tour with long expanses of natural beauty, traveling through two distinctly different landscapes.

The restored rail depot in Ewart offers an excellent staging area with close proximity to stores, restaurants and Riverside Park. From the Muskegon River bridge, the trail passes through two tunnels as it gradually climbs a ridge and reaches

its highest elevation as it crosses M-66. It then begins a gradual descent into a complex of lakes and wetlands that surround the village of Lake Station.

The rail depot in Lake Station features a new staging area. Just east of Lake Station you'll see a towering concrete "coal dock," a silent reminder of the steam locomotives that once powered down this historic rail line. The trail ends (or begins) at a public parking area in front of the Moose Lodge on M-115 just west of Clare.

To continue east on the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail to Midland (see page 155), you will need to ride 2.3 miles along the shoulder on M-115 to where the eastern trail begins south of downtown Clare near the public library (look for the directional signs).

Pere Marquette State Trail Access			
Access Site	Parking	Restrooms	Water
1 Baldwin Trailhead	Yes	No	No
2 MDOT Rest Area	Yes	Vault	Yes
3 US-131 Staging Area	Yes	Vault	No
4 Reed City Depot	Yes	Yes	Yes
5 Hersey Staging Area	Yes	No	No
6 Ewart Depot	Yes	Yes	Yes
7 Lake Station Depot	Yes	Portable	No
8 Farwell Staging Area	Yes	No	No
9 Farwell City Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
10 Moose Lodge Staging Area	Yes	No	No
11 Clare Depot	Yes	Yes	Yes

Pere Marquette State Trail

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Trailhead for the Pere Marquette State Trail

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[www.LakeCountyMichigan.com](http://www.LakeCountyMichigan.com)

1 See location on map.

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6 See location on map.

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