

IABR2026 Logistical Planning

RAGBRAI presents unique challenges for travel. The ride starts in the western side in Onawa and finishes on the eastern side in Dubuque, 5 hours by car. We have a plan!

For those arriving by car, we will rendezvous on the eastern side of Iowa in Dubuque, the finish line of RAGBRAI. We have a partnering church in Dubuque. Those arriving by car can meet us in Dubuque on Thursday night, after 8pm, July 16 or Friday morning July 17. Overnight sleeping is available in the church. Participants' cars can be parked at the church for the duration of RAGBRAI. Therefore, participants' cars will be staged for the last day's ride to the finish line in Dubuque. Immediately following the conclusion of RAGBRAI, participants can access their parked car, pack their gear, and depart.

On Friday morning July 17, the Ends' van will depart Dubuque by 10am. Participants can arrive up to 10am. The Ends' van will go to Onawa, using Route 20. There is a possibility we could pick up Iowan residents along the way at an exit off of Rt 20. However, any participant being picked up is responsible for their own plan of returning to that point, at the conclusion of RAGBRAI. The Ends' van will NOT be going west, across Iowa again, after RAGBRAI is complete; the Ends' van will go eastward.

The Ends' van will arrive in Onawa early Friday evening July 17 and will go to our overnight host: Nebowa Christian Camp. Participants will be staying at Nebowa, in camp housing, with other RAGBRAI participants. Nebowa Christian Camp is opening their facilities to RAGBRAI participants with a set fee per person as a fundraiser for the camp. Any RAGBRAI participants staying at Nebowa Christian Camp will be in dorm housing with same gender participants. Ends will be staying with non-Ends participants in shared dorms. The fees for the use of Nebowa housing will be covered by Ends.

For those arriving by plane, we are asking that all airline passengers arrive in Omaha, Nebraska (OMA – Eppley Field) on Saturday July 18. This airport is a 1-hour drive from Nebowa Christian Camp. Flights arriving at OMA are widely available. Arrivals should occur on Saturday July 18 (preferred) or Friday evening July 17. If it is necessary for you to arrive by plane on Thursday, you can fly into Quad Cities International Airport with arrival time by 6pm on Thursday July 16. You would then be picked up to join our Ends' van crew en route to Dubuque for the Thursday night church sleepover. We need all participants arriving by plane to arrive by Saturday afternoon, 4pm at the latest. Orientation will begin at 6pm with dinner. Participants will be able to visit the RAGBRAI Expo, if arrival time permits, on Saturday afternoon. Participants can also have an optional bike ride from Nebowa to the tire dip in the Missouri River at individual's discretion and timing with strong encouragement to go in pairs or a group.

For those departing by plane, we are asking for you to depart at the end of the week from a different airport than where you arrived: Quad Cities International Airport located in Moline, Illinois (MLI). Quad Cities is 1-hour and 20-minute drive from Dubuque.

Participants can schedule airfare departure from MLI on Saturday July 25, after 3:30pm. The Ends' van will shuttle participants to Quad Cities on Saturday afternoon. After dropping off passengers for airline travel, the Ends' van will continue travel eastward.

Any questions, concerns, or requests to operate outside this plan should be directed to Dan Kriel, Ride Director. Approval must be given by Dan, in writing, before proceeding. Any questions or concerns can be discussed with Dan, 717-357-7859.

IABR2026 Logistical Planning – Arrival to Iowa Summary Schedule

July 16 - Thursday: Ends' Van en route to Dubuque, IA
July 16 – Thursday 6pm: pick-up any incoming early arrivers at Quad Cities Airport
July 16 – Thursday 8pm: IABR2026 car arrivals can arrive in Dubuque
July 17 – Friday 10am: Ends' Van departs Dubuque for Onawa, IA with passengers
July 17 – Friday 5pm: Ends' Van arrives at Nebowa Christian Camp, Onawa, IA
July 17 – Friday evening/night: Ends' Van car arrival participants overnight in Onawa
July 18 – Saturday morning/afternoon: Ends' Van available for airport shuttle to Omaha
July 18 – Saturday afternoon: participants can visit RAGBRAI Expo
July 18 – Saturday afternoon: optional bike ride to tire dip in Missouri River
July 18 – Saturday 6pm: Spaghetti Dinner (fundraiser) at Nebowa Christian Camp
July 18 – Saturday 7pm: Orientation at Nebowa Christian Camp chapel

IABR2026 Logistical Planning – Departure from Iowa Summary Schedule

July 25 – Saturday noon: those who arrived by car can access their car in Dubuque
July 25 – Saturday afternoon: Ends' Van departs Dubuque toward Moline, IL
July 25 – Saturday afternoon: Ends' Van drops off airline departures at Quad City