

Experience Placemaking: Ripon, WI

Welcome to Ripon, Wisconsin!

Ripon residents love visitors! The locals are proud of the many hidden gems in this thriving northern town. Known as the “**Birthplace of the Republican Party**,” Ripon is a bustling town with an impressive resume, giving its families much to smile about.

In March 2015, **Ripon was ranked in the top 10 best cities for young families in Wisconsin.** It has a walkable downtown that's easily navigated. A tour of the area boasts historic buildings dating back 100 years which have been transformed into modern day cafes, restaurants, and shops. Main Street doesn't get any more authentic than here - Ripon has been a **three – time semifinalist of the Great American Mainstreet Award**, an award that is given for immense improvements in a small town.

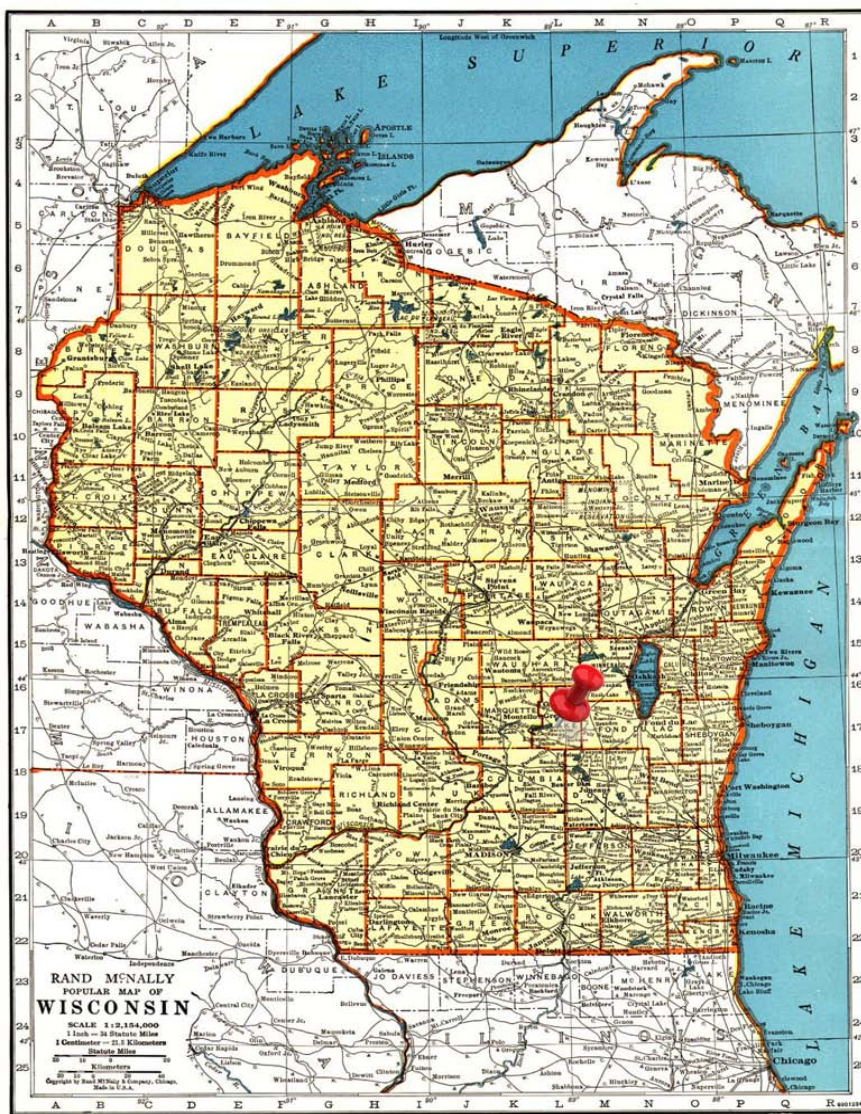


Photo credit: Rand McNally

Ripon in a Nutshell

Population: 7,733 (2010)

Land area: 5.019 mi²

Walkability score: 76

Explore Ripon, Wisconsin!

Ripon

Get a lesson in history at Ripon's Little White Schoolhouse, which was designated a National Historic Site. Built in 1853, the Little White Schoolhouse is a huge tourist attraction for visitors, and tours are available for groups too! Make a stop at school, and the birthplace of the Republican Party as well.



For some shopping therapy, there's something for everyone. Families can stroll the downtown shops and restaurants. Women - enjoy time with friends and stroll through downtown Ripon to dine, shop, and sip! "Women on Watson" is an event for women to take advantage of the unique shops of Ripon with their friends.



There's no better time than fall in Wisconsin. On a crisp September Saturday, the town of Ripon hosts Septemberfest - a lively fall festival with live entertainment, a custom car and motorcycle show, craft show, shopping and eating!



Safe and sound. Many people choose Ripon because of the sense of peace and safety they feel there. Located just 20 miles from the Fox Valley, Ripon affords convenience yet small town living with a family – oriented feel.



Reinvention is the name of the game. Ripon is constantly working to improve the downtown area. Ripon Main Street works with property owners, bankers, public officials, business associations and even residents to enhance downtown Ripon. With marketing, designing and balance, Ripon is becoming an attractive, desirable location.



Ripon is turning heads. Ripon's downtown area is a three – time semifinalist of the Great American Main Street Award. Ripon has a vacancy rate of only 7% - dozens of businesses have grown and become successful, most likely due to the revitalization of the community.

