

## Essential Gravel Grinder 44

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| 44 miles | 90%+ red granite gravel | Northwoods forest + dairy farm scenery | ~1,250 ft |
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### Trail details

The Essential Gravel Grinder 44™ is exactly what the name promises—an iconic Wisconsin gravel loop packed into a perfectly rideable 44 miles. This route delivers some of the best gravel in the state, combining smooth red granite roads with long stretches of Northwoods forest that feel remote and untouched. Between the wooded corridors, you'll roll through classic dairy country with wide-open farmland views, red barns, and peaceful rural roads that make the ride feel like a true Wisconsin gravel postcard.

With steady rolling terrain and minimal traffic, this is an ideal route for riders looking for a high-quality “go-to” loop—whether you're training, riding with friends, or just chasing scenic miles.

*Distance:* 44 miles

*Difficulty:* Moderate

*Surface:* Mostly hardpacked red granite gravel with some paved connectors (est.)

*Elevation Gain:* ~1,250 ft (est.)

*Trailhead:* IRONBULL Trailhead (Athens area / Marathon County)

*Parking:* Parking available at the IRONBULL start location

### Trail Highlights

- Some of the smoothest red granite gravel in Wisconsin
- Long scenic stretches through Northwoods forest
- Quiet dairy farm backroads with classic Wisconsin views
- Minimal traffic and great flow for steady pacing
- Perfect mid-distance loop for training or weekend rides
- Strong “gravel race feel” without the race-day chaos

[Essential Gravel Ride Details — IRONBULL](#)

[Ironbull Essential Gravel Grinder 44 · Ride with GPS](#)