

# Did you know?

A typical barge is 195 feet long and 35 feet wide and can carry 1,500 tons. That's equal to 15 rail cars and 60 semis. Many of the tow boats you see go by have 15 barges attached. That equals 225 rail cars and 900 semis.



Did you know you can visit 3 states in a matter of minutes? A Place to Sew is in Wisconsin, directly across the river is Iowa and slightly north is Minnesota. If you cross the river in Lansing, Iowa, and go 12 miles north, you will be in Minnesota.

The Mississippi River is the third largest river in the world. This portion of the river is part of the Great Mississippi Flyaway, a migratory route for 40% of North America's waterfowl. Swans, pelicans, blue herons, egrets, warblers, orioles, all use the river corridor for the spring and fall migrations.



Highway 35 is part of the Great River Road, which has been dubbed one of the most scenic routes in mid-America. Of its 250 miles, one stretch runs right in front of the Cottage and Steamboat House. The river is on one side, the majestic bluffs on the other – a spectacular sight!

## QUILT SHOPS IN IOWA

### 45-minute trip

- Ⓐ Postville, Iowa ~ Forest Mills, 650 Forest Mills Rd, 563-568-3807.
- Ⓑ Waukon, Iowa ~ Country Stitchin', 915 Hwy 76 South SE, 563-535-7376.
- Decorah, Iowa ~ Pine Needles Quilt Shop, 415 W. Water St., 563-382-4646.  
www.pnqs.net. **A Quilt Sampler Top 10 Shop**

### 90-minutes or less

- West Union, Iowa ~ One Block Over, 322 E. Main St., 563-422-3822,  
www.oneblockoverquiltshop.com.
- Elkader, Iowa ~ The BackStitch, 108 S. Main St., 563-245-2967.

### Two-hour trip

- New Hampton, Iowa ~ Quilter's Window, 101 East Main St., 641-394-6900.  
**A Quilt Sampler Top 10 Shop**
- New Hampton, Iowa ~ Material Magic, 22 E. Main St., 641-394-2461.

# Travel & Activity Guide

## Welcome to A Place to Sew!

Your primary reason to visit us at the Cottage or the Steamboat House is to find time to work on all of those beloved projects you don't have time for at home and to spend some quality time with friends and/or family. The breathtaking beauty of the upper Mississippi River region creates an inspirational stay.



Because the houses are located part way up a bluff, we have fabulous views of the Mississippi River's main channel and majestic bluffs. In March we know that spring is truly here as we anticipate the return of barges navigating the river and fresh green foliage blanketing the bluffs. Eagles, pelicans and cranes soar.

Summer calls boaters of all kinds to the river, a fascinating kind of traffic to sit and watch from the porches. Occasionally, you catch a glimpse of a steam or paddle boat quietly passing by.

From either house you can see an eagles nest right across the main channel. Eagles always come back to the same nest. We've been enjoying this pair for years.

When autumn arrives, her beautiful colors roll from one bluff to another. Winter is actually a breath-taking season at "the river." The contrasts of the sapphire blue sky with the limestone bluffs, cedar trees and white snow are spectacular.

I have to warn you that leaving is really hard! People come back again and again because the scenery is so spectacular, the time spent at either house is so precious and the memories made are dear to the heart. Looking forward to sharing some memories with you!

## PLACES TO EAT *(within a 8 mile radius)*

### De Soto, Wisconsin

#### ■ The Bright Spot, Tavern and Restaurant

608-648-3514

*Within walking distance (at the bottom of the hill)*

#### ■ The Great River Road House

608-648-2045

*½ mile north on Hwy 35*

#### ■ Swing Inn *(Ferryville, WI)*

608-734-9916

*Left on Hwy 35, 8 miles south.*

### Lansing, Iowa

*Turn left on Hwy 35 (2 miles), take a right on Hwy 82 (3 miles—cross the river), and a left on Hwy 9. (5 miles from A Place to Sew)*

#### ■ Grand Central Station

563-538-3333

#### ■ The Rivers Edge 563-538-4497

#### ■ Safe House Saloon 563-538-4104

#### ■ T.J. Hunters 563-538-4544

#### ■ Espresso Pizza & Deli

563-538-4349

#### ■ Milty's 563-538-4585

## FUN PLACES TO VISIT

### 1 Lansing, Iowa

Only 5 minutes away, Lansing is a quaint old-fashioned town with a beautiful river front.

- Mt. Hosmer City Park ~ spectacular river views
- Blumenthal/Lansing Button Factory-tours  
563-538-4211

#### Downtown:

The Red Geranium, The Eagles Nest Gallery, Moore's IGA, Mississippi River Explorer.

### 2 Viroqua, Wisconsin

*Right on Main St/Hwy 82 (a couple of blocks). Turn left (south) on Hwy 35 continue to Prairie du Chien (approx 28 miles).*

The Viroqua Main Street Farmers Market is a must see on Saturday mornings. Fresh produce, local artists, Amish vendors.

#### Downtown:

- Vernon County Food Coop
- Simply Country. A furniture store with lots of wonderful home decorating items.
- Many antique shops, quaint eating places.

### 3 La Crosse & Onalaska

Main St./Hwy. 82, right turn onto Hwy 35 (runs along the Mississippi River). Approximately 30 miles to La Crosse, and Onalaska is north of La Crosse.

### 4 Prairie DuChien, Wisconsin

- Cabella's (America's foremost outfitter)
- The Cannery ~ home decorating items, candles, antiques, ice cream & fudge
- The Produce Patch ~ women's clothing

#### Downtown:

- Simply ~ a coffee/sandwich and antique shop
- St Feriole Island Park ~ a beautiful riverfront park
- The Villa Louis ~ a state historical site
- Lucky Lady Casino ~ across the Mississippi River in Marquette, Iowa

## QUILT & FIBER SHOPS

### Ewetopia Fiber Shop

[www.ewetopiafibershop.com/](http://www.ewetopiafibershop.com/)  
608-637-3443 • 122 S. Main Street

### Quilt Basket and Creations

608-637-7002 • 117 FS Drive

### Kindred Threads

[www.kindredthreads.com](http://www.kindredthreads.com)  
608-637-0679

*E4621A Norwegian Hollow Rd.*

- Yarn
- Creations of local artists

### Olive Juice Quilts

**Onalaska**  
608-782-3257 • 1258 Cty.Hwy. PH  
• A Quilt Sampler Top 10 Shop

### River Road Quilt Shop

**LaCrosse** • 2501 South Ave.  
608-788-3257 • NelsonFlag.com

### Front Porch Quilts

608-326-4371 • 216 N. Marquette Rd.  
On Hwy 35 near Our Neck of the Woods.  
Open Thursday - Sunday.

### Pickett Fence

[www.pfcrafts.com](http://www.pfcrafts.com) 608-326-4593  
100 W. Blackhawk Ave.

### Sudhrons

10 m. west of Prairie duChien in Monona, IA  
608-326-4593 • 120 Center St.  
Open M-F 10-5, Sat. 10-12:30

## Our Stretch of the Mississippi River

