

The Iron County Heritage Trail passes by the Caspian Mine shaft.

to visit the Iron County Heritage Museum, across from the trailhead on Brady Road, where you will see the original mine shaft and engine house for the Caspian Mine, and a collection of log cabins and historic buildings from the area.

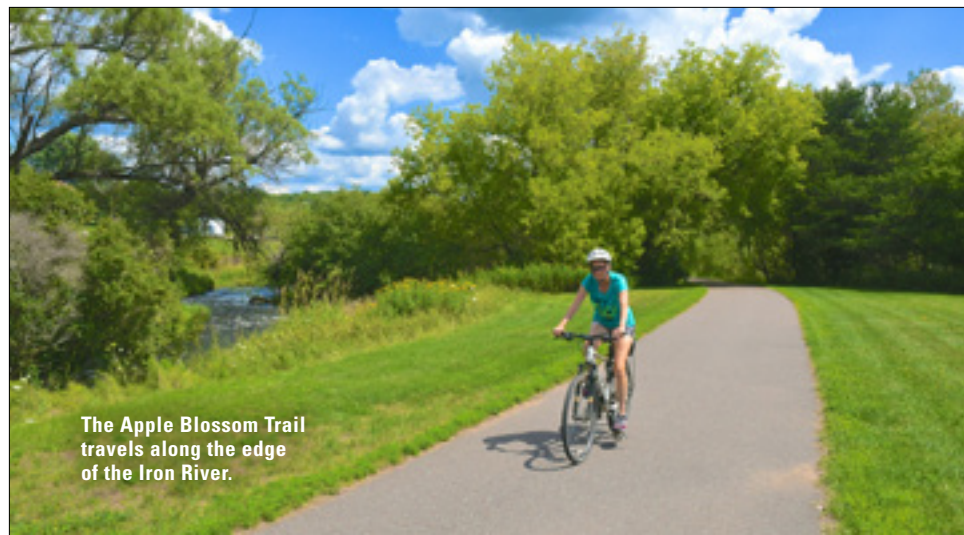
Iron County Heritage Trail

As you cross Brady Road at the Apple Blossom Trailhead, the paved trail changes its name to the Iron County Heritage Trail. The 6.82-mile trail was completed in 2017, from Caspian to Pentoga Park, and is the first phase of a long-range plan to create a 36-mile nonmotorized paved trail loop connecting several historic sites between the communi-

ties of Iron River and Crystal Falls. The first quarter-mile of trail passes through the Iron County Heritage Museum, past the Caspian Mine shaft and flooded remains of an open pit mine. The trail then climbs a steep ridge to the village of Gaastra, where you will find a nice staging area with restrooms on Main Street. From downtown Gaastra, the trail coasts downhill to the eastern trailhead overlooking Chicagon Lake. Ride about a quarter-mile east on CR-424 to enter Pentoga Park, an ancient burial ground and gathering place for local indigenous people. Here you will find a public beach, picnic area, restrooms and campground.

Apple Blossom Trail

Soak up the scenery and local history as you ride along the 2.53-mile Apple Blossom Trail from Nanaimo Park in Iron River to the trailhead on Brady Road in the village of Caspian. The trail follows the edge of the Iron River on an abandoned rail line that once served one of the most productive iron mining regions in America. Camping and lodging are available along the trail. This nicely landscaped paved asphalt trail intersects with the State Line and Iron Range rail trails, long-distance unimproved ORV and snowmobile trails that you can ride on a fat tire or mountain bike. You'll see interpretive signage and remnants of abandoned mining operations all along the trail. Make sure



The Apple Blossom Trail travels along the edge of the Iron River.