

# Experience Placemaking: Stevens Point, WI

## Welcome to Stevens Point, Wisconsin!

Located in Portage County, many people might not think of Stevens Point as a place to visit. Most people probably think of the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, which, in 2014 was ranked one of the top 50 schools in the nation based on outcomes after graduation. Does beer come to mind? Stevens Point is proud to be a beer making town at the **Stevens Point Brewery**.

Just south of downtown is the Stevens Point Brewery where tours are given. Visitors can learn the history of the brewery, the process it takes to brew the variety of beers, and of course, enjoy a sampling of beer. Stevens Point Brewery is the fifth oldest continuously operating brewery that still remains in the U.S. It began in 1857 and served its beer to troops fighting in the Civil War.

Each summer Stevens Point hosts "Riverfront Rendezvous" with music, activities and of course, locally brewed beer!

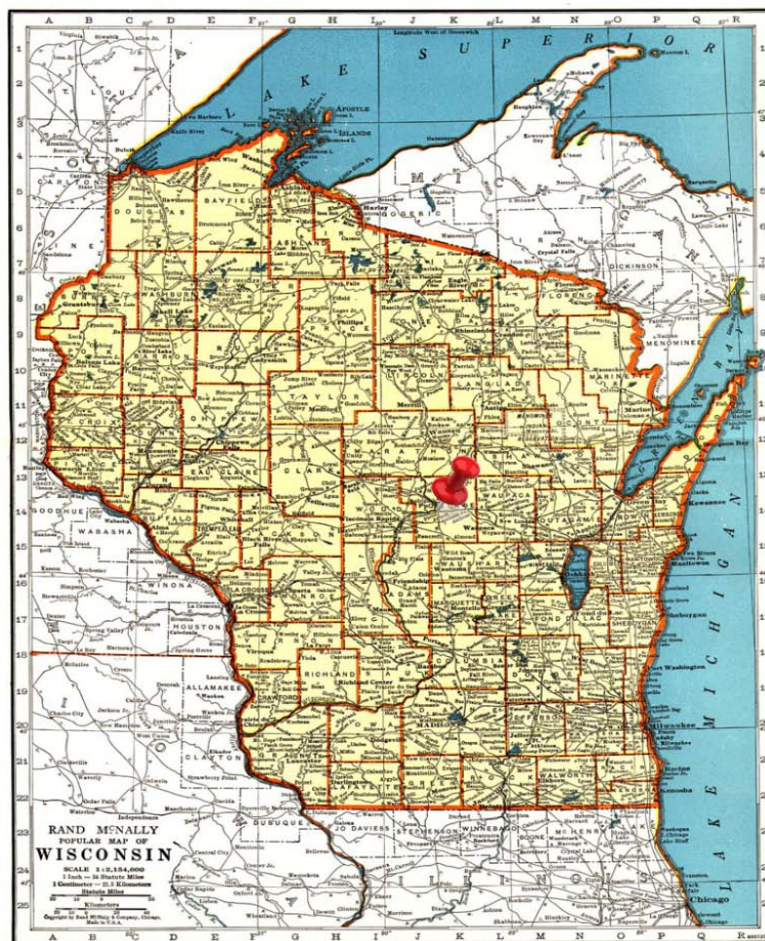


Photo credit: Rand McNally

### Stevens Point in a Nutshell

Population: 26,670 (2013)

Land area: 17.2 mi<sup>2</sup>

Walkability score: 69

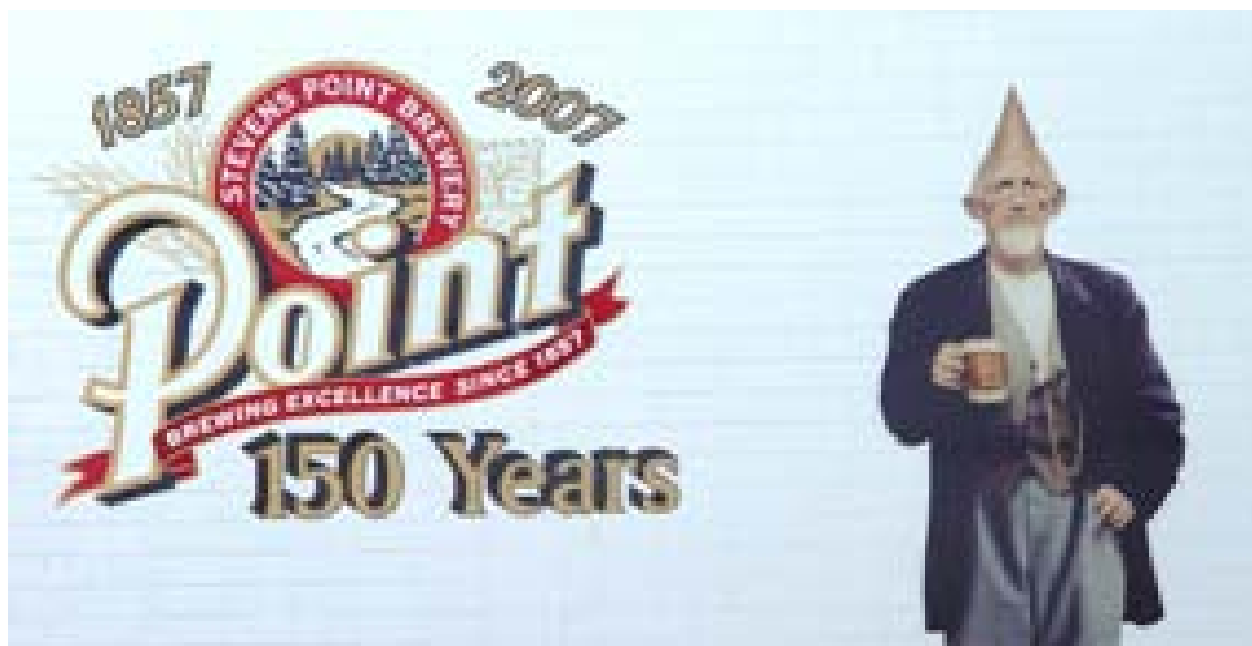
# Explore Stevens Point, Wisconsin!

## Stevens Point

**Founders Frank Wahle and George Ruder** began brewing beer in 1857 and continued to brew “near beer” and soft drinks during Prohibition. Throughout the 1960’s and 70’s the brewery continued to thrive and brew beers while other breweries in Wisconsin closed.



**Stevens Point Brewery offers tours** 6 days a week for beer lovers to learn about the different kinds of beer. Taste what the brewery has created over the years, and don't forget your free gift!



**Not sure if your area carries Stevens Point beer?** Go to [www.pointbeer.com](http://www.pointbeer.com) to type in your favorite Stevens Point beer, where you are (supermarket, restaurant, or even your favorite bar or tavern in your area), and zip code to see where you can try Stevens Point beer.



**Stevens Point's Fox Theater** has been around since the late 1800's. The original name of the theater was the Grand Opera House, where Harry Houdini has performed his illusion – filled shows. Unfortunately, the theater does not get used. The Portage County Arts Alliance owns the building and is working to restore it and bring it back to life!



**The shops around Stevens Point** give residents and visitors a hometown feeling. Small shops with gifts and trinkets give visitors a place to see authentic pieces of Stevens Point. Even the brewery has a shop with souvenirs and gifts for people to bring home and remember their time in Stevens Point.



**This July, come to Stevens Point** for Riverfront Rendezvous! This 3 day event has live music, food-tents, and lots of locally brewed beer by Stevens Point. The event ends in a bang with fireworks!

