

# GREAT OUTDOORS



There are hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails in the Bloomington area, from paved city trails to rugged wooded trails in the Hoosier National Forest.

**ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING THINGS** about Bloomington and the surrounding area is the profound natural beauty. Even within the city limits there are plenty of opportunities to commune with nature, like Wapehani bike park or the Rail Trail. The efforts of the community to keep Bloomington covered in a lush green canopy of trees ensure that all areas of the city remain beautiful.

A little further outside of the city are even more opportunities to enjoy the natural landscape. Three lakes,

including the state's largest, Lake Monroe, offer a variety of activities from fishing and hiking to boating and swimming. The Hoosier National Forest that borders Lake Monroe is a fantastic place to go on an adventure, with miles of trails, camping, and one of the best views in the area atop the fire tower. See some of this beauty first hand, get outside!

## LAKES

Three distinct lakes provide a variety of ways to explore the waters and shorelines of the area. Calm canoe rides, water skiing, fishing, swimming beaches and hiking trails are all part of the lake experience. Contact the Bloomington Visitors Center at 800-800-0037 or go to [visitbloomington.com](http://visitbloomington.com) to request a Lake Guide.

### GRIFFY LAKE

3300 N. Headley Rd. • 812-349-3700

### LAKE LEMON

10 miles east of Bloomington on State Rd. 45 North  
812-334-0233 • [www.lakelemon.org](http://www.lakelemon.org)

### LAKE MONROE

Paynetown SRA is accessible by Highway 446  
Fairfax SRA is accessible by Highway 37 or Fairfax Rd.  
Office: 812-837-9546 • Interpretive Center: 812-837-9967

## FORESTS AND WILDERNESS AREAS

Bloomington is centrally located among some of Indiana's most beautiful forest lands, with in-town nature parks and remote wilderness areas and everything in between.

### BEAN BLOSSOM BOTTOMS

Accessible from Bottom Rd. and Woodall Rd.  
[www.nature.org/indiana](http://www.nature.org/indiana)

### CEDAR BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE

Just off Ketcham Rd. • 317-951-8818  
[www.nature.org/indiana](http://www.nature.org/indiana)

### CHARLES C. DEAM WILDERNESS AREA

Accessible from State Rd. 446 • 812-275-5987  
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier)

### HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST

Access from State Rd. 446 • 812-275-5987  
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier)

### LEONARD SPRINGS NATURE PARK

3884 S. Leonard Springs Rd. • 812-349-3700

### LOWER CASCADES PARK

2851 N. Old State Rd. 37 • 317-349-3700

### MORGAN-MONROE STATE FOREST

North of Bloomington, just off Highway 37  
765-342-4026 • [www.state.in.us/dnr/forestry/4816.htm](http://www.state.in.us/dnr/forestry/4816.htm)

### YELLOWWOOD STATE FOREST

East of Bloomington, just off Highway 46  
812-988-7945 • [www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/4817.htm](http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/4817.htm)

## MARINAS & BOAT RENTALS

There are several options available for boat rentals and private boat launching at each of the three area lakes.

### GRIFFY LAKE BOATHOUSE

Privately owned boats are prohibited at Griffy Lake.  
3300 N. Headley Rd. • 812-379-3732

**TOOTING OUR OWN HORN** > Bloomington has a National Gold-Medal Award Winning Parks and Recreation Department, and National Geographic voted Bloomington as a "Top 50 Adventure Town" in the country!

**PARADISE BOAT RENTAL**

At Fourwinds Resort & Marina  
800-824-BOAT (2628) • [www.fourwindsresort.com](http://www.fourwindsresort.com)

**LAKE MONROE BOAT RENTAL**

Paynetown State Recreation Area  
812-837-9909 • [www.lakemonroeboatrental.com](http://www.lakemonroeboatrental.com)

**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENTS**

Between the area's city and county parks departments, visitors and residents alike have access to an incredible variety of recreational facilities featuring softball and soccer fields, water parks, tennis and basketball courts and much more.

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**

Offering a wide variety of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs. Call for a complete schedule.  
812-349-3700 • [bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://bloomington.in.gov/parks)

**MONROE COUNTY**

Providing several parks, trails and unique recreation facilities.  
812-349-2800 • [www.co.monroe.in.us/parksandrecreation](http://www.co.monroe.in.us/parksandrecreation)

**BIRDING**

The Bloomington area is home to nearly 300 species of birds and Lake Monroe is well known as one of the state's premier birding locations. Contact the Visitors Center at 800-800-0037 for a list of popular birding spots.

**BIRD COUNTRY US**

Dedicated to the conservation of North American birds and affordable education in aviation ecology, BirdCountry. US presents a variety of workshops and special events in the Bloomington area throughout the year, including Eagle Watch Weekend in February. [www.birdcountry.us](http://www.birdcountry.us)

**OUTFITTERS & GUIDES**

Looking for some outdoor adventure, but don't know where to start? Check in with the local experts & outfitters.

**IU OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

1900 E. Tenth St., Eigenmann Hall, Room 020  
812-855-2231 • [www.imu.indiana.edu/iuoa](http://www.imu.indiana.edu/iuoa)

**JL WATERS**

109 N. College Ave. • 812-334-1845 • [www.jlwaters.com](http://www.jlwaters.com)

**BIKING & WALKING TRAILS**

Bloomington offers a variety of paved and natural trails for cyclists, hikers and those who simply want to take a relaxing stroll. Hiking trails are also available at the major lakes and forest areas previously listed. There are also biking and hiking clubs that welcome visitors; contact the Bloomington Visitors Center for more information.

**B-LINE TRAIL**

Downtown Bloomington • 812-349-3700

**BLOOMINGTON RAIL TRAIL**

Trailheads at W. Country Club Rd. and Church Ln.  
812-349-3700

**CLEAR CREEK TRAIL**

Trailheads at W. Tapp Rd., That Rd. and Church Ln.  
812-349-3700

**WAPEHANI MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK**

2800 W. Wapehani Rd. • 812-349-3700

**SPECIALTY RECREATION**

From fitness training to ice skating to underground tours, this section's got all the information you'll need to have a uniquely Bloomington recreational experience!

**BLUESPRING CAVERNS PARK**

US Highway 50, 5 minutes southwest of Bedford  
812-279-9471 • [www.bluespringcaverns.com](http://www.bluespringcaverns.com)

**eXplore BROWN COUNTY AT VALLEY BRANCH RETREAT**

2620 Valley Branch Rd., Nashville  
812-988-7750 • [www.explorebrowncounty.com](http://www.explorebrowncounty.com)

**FRANK SOUTHERN ICE ARENA**

1965 S. Henderson St. • 812-349-3741

**HOLLER HOPPIN' ZIP LINES  
POWERED BY TEAM EFFECT INC.**

Team Effect also offers: Specialized, professional programs that promote Relationship Development, Leadership and Team Building. Effective, Engaging, FUN! Portable. Your site or ours. Find us at the popular Rawhide Ranch in Brown County. Family friendly zip lines, low ropes challenge course.

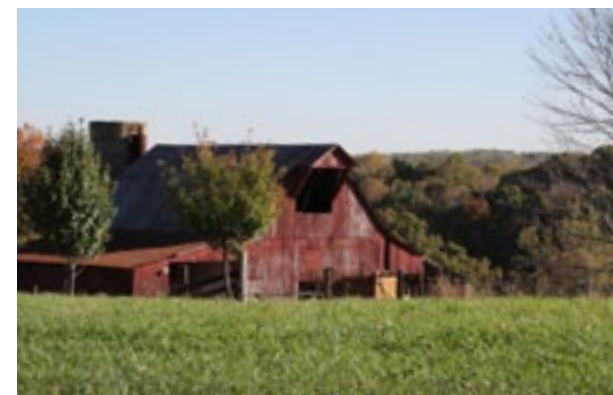
1292 State Rd. 135 S., Nashville  
812-935-6399 • [www.teameffectinc.com](http://www.teameffectinc.com)

**TWIN LAKES RECREATION CENTER**

1700 W. Bloomfield Rd. • 812-349-3720  
[Bloomington.in.gov/TLRC](http://Bloomington.in.gov/TLRC)

**UPPER CASCADES SKATE PARK**

N. Kinser Pike, south of Cascades Golf Course • 812-349-3700

**ORCHARDS & FARMS**

Get back in touch with nature at one of the Bloomington area's growing attractions! Pick a pumpkin, sample some apple butter or taste "Indiana's first-place Cider." There are several orchards and farms that welcome visitors; contact the Bloomington Visitors Center for more information.

**GOLF**

A variety of high quality golfing experiences are available in the Bloomington area. Players at all levels can find a challenging and enjoyable course.

**CASCADES GOLF COURSE**

3550 N. Kinser Pike • 812-349-3764  
[www.bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/parks)

**EAGLE POINTE GOLF RESORT**

2250 E. Pointe Rd. • 812-824-4040 • [www.eaglepointe.com](http://www.eaglepointe.com)

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY GOLF COURSE**

State Road 45/46 Bypass between Fee Ln. and 10th St.  
812-855-7543 • [www.iuhoosiers.com/golfcourse](http://www.iuhoosiers.com/golfcourse)

**TAYLORS' PAR 3**

4975 N. State Rd. 37 Business  
812-330-8611 • [www.taylorspar3.com](http://www.taylorspar3.com)

**SWIMMING FACILITIES**

If you're lucky enough to be visiting during the summer season, you won't want to miss these swimming hot spots. Also see the Indiana University section of this guide for information on the IU Outdoor Pool.

**BRYAN PARK POOL**

1100 S. Woodlawn Ave. • 812-349-3780  
[www.bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/parks)

**MILLS POOL**

1100 W. 14th St. • 812-349-3781  
[www.bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/parks)

**SWIMMING BEACHES**

Lake Monroe: Paynetown SRA, Fairfax SRA and Hardin Ridge Recreation Area • Lake Lemon: Riddle Point Park

**HUNTING & FISHING**

For specific information on areas that are available to the public for hunting and fishing in the Bloomington area, please contact the Bloomington Visitors Center at 800-800-0037. For current state regulations on hunting and fishing, see the Indiana Department of Natural Resources website at [www.in.gov/dnr](http://www.in.gov/dnr).



Play Dine Stay



Championship Golf Course

Casual Dining

Pool & Cabana Bar

Luxury Suites

Perfect for Homecoming, Parents Weekend, Graduation, and Religious Holidays.

Eagle Pointe Golf Resort offers a unique Bloomington experience. Located on beautiful wooded bluffs overlooking Monroe Reservoir, Eagle Pointe is perfect for anyone who is looking to make an experience out of their stay in Bloomington.



**EAGLE POINTE**  
—GOLF RESORT—

www.eaglepointe.com 812-824-4040

Beautiful Lake Views

Impeccable Service

Recreational Fun

Public Welcome

**CAMPGROUNDS**

A variety of camping facilities are located near Lake Monroe and the Hoosier National Forest. From big-rig friendly RV resorts with all the amenities to primitive tent camping, Bloomington's got it all!

**JELLYSTONE PARK LAKE MONROE**

9392 S. Strain Ridge Rd.  
812-824-3322 • www.lakemonrojellystone.com

**HARDIN RIDGE RECREATION AREA**

Off State Rd. 446 • 812-837-9453 • www.recreation.gov

**HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST**

Accessible from State Rd. 446 • 812-275-5987  
www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier

**LAKE MONROE VILLAGE**

8107 S. Fairfax Rd. • 812-824-2267  
www.lakemonroevillage.com

**PAYNETOWN STATE RECREATION AREA**

4850 State Rd. 446 • 812-837-9490 or 812-837-9546  
www.indiana.reserveworld.com

**eXplore Brown County**  
at Valley Branch Retreat

*The Longest, Fastest, Tallest Zips in Indiana!*

**zip on!**

zip line canopy tours  
paintball • atv tours  
mountain biking  
party rental hall  
cabins • camping  
discount adventure group passes

**eXploreBrownCounty.com 812.988.7750**

**RV • CAMPING • RESORT**

**Lake Monroe Village**  
Recreational Park  
www.lakemonroevillage.com

Lake Monroe Village offers a wide variety of experiences for your vacation. We offer primitive tent camping areas, RV Camping with full hookups and Log Cabins nestled in the woods. We also offer the A-Frame, our Cozy Cabins, the Villa or the "Love Shack" for those who prefer all the comforts of home in a rustic outdoor setting. Lake Monroe Village has 130 acres and over 6000' feet of Lake frontage.

- FIVE HIKING TRAILS
- RECREATION HALL OPEN 24 HOURS
- AIR CONDITIONED & HEATED RESTROOMS & SHOWERS
- FREE WI-FI
- BIG RIG FRIENDLY
- LARGE PLAYGROUND
- CONCRETE PADS

**8107 South Fairfax Road**

**www.lakemonroevillage.com • 812-824-2267**



**INDIANA'S LARGEST boat rental FLEET**



**Lakeside HOTEL**

Recreational opportunities on and off the **WATER**



**Lakeside restaurant with outdoor and indoor BANQUET VENUES**



**Open Year Round**

**LARGEST marina in the MIDWEST**




**Fourwinds RESORT & MARINA**

800 824-BOAT (2628)  
Fax: 812 824-9816  
[www.fourwindsresort.com](http://www.fourwindsresort.com)

Few adventures involve staying at home.



**JL Waters** 109 North College Ave.  
[jlwaters.com](http://jlwaters.com) | 812-334-1845

**Taylor's' Par 3 Golf Course**  
2.5 miles north of the bypass



**Taylor's'** logo  
Best Prices in Bloomington! 9 hole course  
**Unlimited Golf!**  
4975 MSR 37 Business Bloomington  
NO TEE TIME REQUIRED  
[taylorpar3.com](http://taylorpar3.com)  
812.330.8611

**Lake Monroe Village**  
Recreational Park



See page 40 for more information  
**CALL NOW FOR RESERVATIONS!** 812-824-2267

# Lake Monroe Boat Rental

LET US PLAN YOUR GROUP PARTY OR SUMMER VACATION

- Double-Decker Pontoons (w/Slides)
- Fishing Boats
- Rowboats
- Canoes
- Kayaks
- Paddleboats
- Water Sport Accessories
- Ski Boats
- Jetskis

**OPEN THREE SEASONS: APRIL-NOV**

Open: 7am - 7pm  
Times may vary with the Season



**CALL: 812-837-9909 for Directions and Information • [www.lakemonroeboatrental.com](http://www.lakemonroeboatrental.com)**



## Bluespring Caverns Park

Explore America's longest navigable underground river aboard our custom electric tour boats, enjoy our 1/2 mile nature trail surrounding Indiana's largest sinkhole, prospect for gemstones at the "Myst'ry River Gemstone Mine, shop our unique gift shop in the Colglazier Visitor Center.....enjoy the day.

- Open Every Day March 16 thru October 31
- America's Greatest Voyage Under Earth

U.S. 50, 5 miles SW of Bedford, IN • [www.bluespringcaverns.com](http://www.bluespringcaverns.com) • (812) 279-9471