

VISITOR INFORMATION

VISITORS CENTERS

BLOOMINGTON VISITORS CENTER

The Visitors Center is your official travel information source for everything from personalized restaurant recommendations to day trip suggestions. The friendly, expert staff is on hand to provide driving directions, maps, and information on all the interesting things to see, do, and experience in and around the Bloomington area. Don't forget to browse through the Btown Store for unique Bloomington souvenirs and locally-made items.

2855 N. Walnut St.; 812-334-8900 or 800-800-0037; visitbloomington.com

DOWNTOWN VISITORS CENTER & BCT BOX OFFICE

The Downtown Visitors Center provides information on current events and activities, particularly those in the downtown area and the Bloomington Entertainment & Arts District. The BCT Box Office offers ticketing for many local events. Conveniently located just off the courthouse square, this is your one-stop shop for information in the downtown area. 114 E. Kirkwood Ave.; 812-323-3020; bctboxoffice.com

IU VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

This is the official front door of Indiana University, located just outside the Sample Gates. Pick up a campus map, arrange a tour, and get all your IU-related questions answered.

530 E. Kirkwood Ave., Suite 104; 812-856-GOIU (4648); indiana.edu/~iuvis

IU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The IU Alumni Association activates IU's powerful global network of nearly 600,000 IU graduates. If you're visiting IU, stop by IUAA headquarters at the Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center, located just across from Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall. Returning to Bloomington to celebrate a milestone? Reserve an event space in the DeVault Alumni Center. *Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center*; 1000 E. 17th St.; 812-855-4822; alumni.iu.edu

OTHER RESOURCES

BLOOMINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEDC is the catalyst for retention, development, and attraction of quality jobs in Bloomington/Monroe County. BEDC focuses on connecting talent, employers, organizations, and startups through strategic partnerships and economic development assistance programs, and by hosting the Bloomington Life Sciences Partnership, Bloomington Technology Partnership, and B-Start, initiatives that foster the growth of these industries.

1720 N. Kinser Pike, Suite 001; 812-335-7346; bloomingtonedc.com

GREATER BLOOMINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce is the voice of local business, dedicated to supporting member businesses grow and succeed. 401 W. 7th St., Suite 102; 812-336-6381; chamberbloomington.org

POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

(estimated)

POPULATION OF MONROE COUNTY:

145,000

6,500 residents of Ellettsville

41,000 City of Bloomington permanent residents

43,000 students at Indiana University

54,500 residents outside city limits

28.7

Median Age of Monroe County

44%

Have a Bachelor's Degree or higher



KEY SITES & DISTRICTS

BLOOMINGTON CITY HALL

Formerly the home of the Showers Brothers Furniture factory, this historic building now serves as Bloomington's City Hall. The lobby often showcases local artwork. The covered parking area, known as Showers Common, doubles as the home of numerous local festivals and events. 401 N. Morton St.; 812-349-3400; bloomington.in.gov

BLOOMINGTON ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS DISTRICT

BEAD is Bloomington's premier arts and entertainment destination located in the heart of downtown. Explore the work of artists indoors and out in the galleries and public art spaces. Take in a show at one of the theaters and live music venues. Choose from more than 90 downtown dining options and 100 shopping opportunities. Stroll walking trails or picnic at one of three parks. Make a weekend of it at a downtown hotel or a lifetime of it at one of the downtown residential neighborhoods. BEAD is a designated Indiana Cultural District by the State of Indiana and an economic development project of the City of Bloomington. 812-349-3534; visitbead.com

DOWNTOWN BLOOMINGTON, INC.

Downtown Bloomington, Inc. is dedicated to the promotion and support of Bloomington's vibrant downtown area, where shopping, restaurants, and history are the key ingredients. DBI is a certified Main Street Community, which is a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. 812-336-3681; downtownbloomington.com

MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Located in the center of the downtown square, this majestic 1907 limestone building is typical of early Monroe County architecture. This beautiful facility was renovated in 2012 to highlight and enhance many of the original design elements of the building. It serves as the home of Monroe County Government. Self-guided tours are available at the entrance. 100 W. Kirkwood Ave.; 812-349-2550; co.monroe.in.us

Stay Informed

Download the **IDS mobile app** to browse stories and receive notifications on breaking news, while visiting Bloomington.



Access content streams from:

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TRANSPORTATION



SAMPLE GATES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

PARKING

Several lots and garages are located throughout the city and spaces are available for a nominal fee. Metered parking is available throughout the downtown area. Visitor parking is available in select lots on the IU campus, and daily IU parking passes can be purchased at the Bloomington Visitors Center, which are valid in all lots. Look for signs to direct you or see the transportation page on visitbloomington.com for details.

Local Bus Services:

BLOOMINGTON TRANSIT

Bloomington's public transportation system provides several convenient bus routes to take you throughout the city of Bloomington. Cash fares are one dollar per person. The main bus terminal is located at the corner of Walnut and Third Streets. 812-336-7433; bloomingtontransit.com

IU CAMPUS BUS

Indiana University's Campus Bus Service provides free transportation around the IU campus. 812-855-8384; ibus.indiana.edu

Local Taxi Services:

E2 TAXI

812-961-TAXI (8294); e2taxi.com

RED TIRE TAXI

812-269-2690; redtiretaxi.com

YELLOW CAB CO.

812-339-9744

LYFT

lyft.com

UBER

uber.com

Regional Bus Service:

GO EXPRESS TRAVEL

Weekday service to downtown Indy for just \$10. Daily shuttle service to and from the Indianapolis International Airport and weekend service to the Chicago area, plus charter bus and sedan service. 3200 Venture Blvd.; 812-332-6004; goexpresstravel.com

Automotive:

QUALITY IMPORTS SERVICE

Independent specialized service for Mercedes-Benz and BMW since 1976. 702 ½ N. Fairview St.; 812-339-1776; qismercedes.com

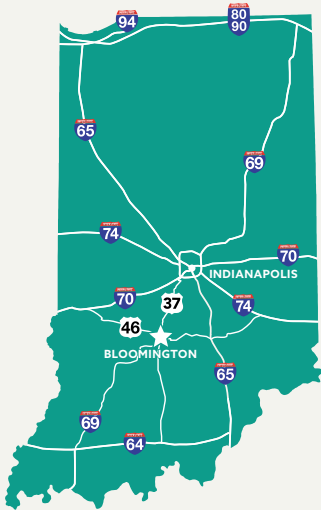
MONROE CONVENTION CENTER

The Monroe Convention Center in downtown Bloomington offers 24,000 square feet of meeting space with 10 spacious, private meeting rooms and banquet facilities. Centered in the heart of Bloomington's Historic District and Bloomington Entertainment and Arts District, the Convention Center is only steps away from all that downtown Bloomington has to offer. Conveniently connected to the Courtyard by Marriott hotel. Originally built in 1923, the building was referred to as Ford Corner. The Convention Center still has the charm of the past with many modern updates. 302 S. College Ave.; 812-336-3681; bloomingtonconvention.com

SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOURS

More than a dozen self-guided tours are available to help you explore the area. Discover the secrets of the county courthouse, explore Hoagy Carmichael's favorite hangouts, or stroll through the Vinegar Hill Limestone Historic District among homes that once belonged to limestone carvers and IU faculty. Available at the Monroe County History Center and the Bloomington Visitors Center.

LIMESTONE TOUR



GETTING HERE

Bloomington is located in the heart of the Midwest, in one of the region's most picturesque areas. Just 45 minutes south of Indianapolis, two hours from Louisville, and four hours from Chicago, Bloomington is conveniently located within a day's drive of over half of the U.S. population, making it a convenient place to visit.

Three major roads provide easy access: Indiana State Road 37 runs north-south providing a direct route to Indianapolis in the north, I-69 provides access from southwestern Indiana, and Indiana State Road 46 runs east-west across the entire state. No matter where you're coming from, you'll find Bloomington easily accessible.

MOVING TO BLOOMINGTON?

CHOOSING A HOME

Each neighborhood has its own distinct personality, friendly faces, and local flavor. Check out the local Board of Realtors website at homefinder.org for current home listings.

BLOOMINGTON NEWCOMERS CLUB

Giving new residents an opportunity to meet others who are also new to town, and encouraging members to learn more about the area. bloomingtonnewcomers.org

CFC PROPERTIES

Apartment communities for every lifestyle. 320 W. 8th St., Suite 117; 812-339-1584; cfcproperties.com

STERLING REAL ESTATE, INCORPORATED

Sterling RE offers experience, professionalism, and dedication to helping you find housing in Bloomington. 509 E. Hillside Dr., Suite 101; 812-333-1966; trishsterling.com

Few adventures involve staying at home.



 **JL Waters**
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monroe convention center

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

BloomingtonConvention.com

302 S. COLLEGE AVE. | BLOOMINGTON, IN 47403 | p 812.336.3681 | f 812.349.2981

EDUCATION

Bloomington and Monroe County boast many high-quality public education facilities as well as several private schools. For a complete list of schools, contact the school corporations or the Bloomington Visitors Center.

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

315 E. North Dr.; 812-330-7700; mccsc.edu

RICHLAND-BEAN BLOSSOM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORP.

600 S. Edgewood Dr., Ellettsville; 812-876-7100; rbbcs.k12.in.us

INDIANA UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS OFFICE

300 N. Jordan Ave.; 812-855-0661 or 812-855-4848; admissions.indiana.edu

IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

200 Daniels Way; 812-332-1559; ivytech.edu/bloomington

NEIGHBORING TOWNS IN MONROE COUNTY

Contact the Bloomington Visitors Center at 800-800-0037 for driving directions or more information on these and other nearby communities.

TOWN OF ELLETTSVILLE

Just seven miles west of Bloomington, Ellettsville is known for a hometown atmosphere and as a center of the local limestone industry. There you'll find unique restaurants and shopping, and special events including the Indiana Limestone Symposium each June, the Monroe County Fall Festival in September, and the Hilly Hundred Bicycle Tour in October. Chamber of Commerce: 812-876-6611; ellettsvillechamber.org

HARRODSBURG

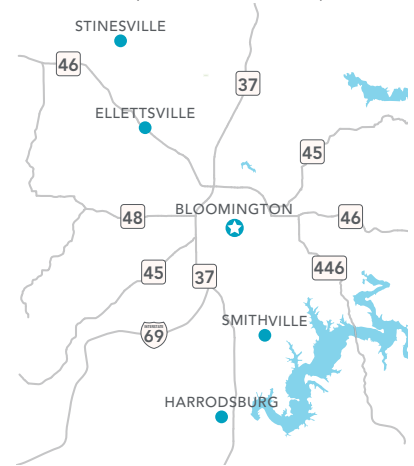
Just 12 miles south of Bloomington, near Monroe Lake, is the town of Harrodsburg. First established in 1837, this small town is host to the Heritage Days Festival in late October.

SMITHVILLE

Also in the southern part of the county is the town of Smithville. This little town is close to Monroe Lake, and a great stopping point on the way to Fairfax SRA, especially on Saturdays in warmer months when they have their weekly farmers' market.

STINESVILLE

Incorporated in 1855, this quaint small town is 11 miles northwest of Bloomington. It was once at the center of a thriving Indiana limestone industry, evidence of which can still be seen as you drive along the curvy country roads around town. Plan a visit during the Stone Quarry Festival in late September.





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