

A top-down view of a dining table with various dishes, a vase of flowers, and people's hands. The table is set with a white tablecloth. In the top left, a hand holds a glass of amber-colored liquid with a cherry. In the top right, a plate features a piece of seared salmon with lemon and broccoli. In the center, a vase holds a bouquet of pink, orange, and yellow flowers. In the bottom center, a plate contains a creamy pasta dish with shrimp. In the bottom right, a cup of coffee with a spoon is visible. The text "NO PASSPORT REQUIRED" is overlaid in a large, white, outlined font across the center of the image.

NO
PASSPORT
REQUIRED

BY SHELLY WESTERHAUSEN



While cities nationally are turning their attention to building a food scene, Bloomington has been enjoying a thriving restaurant culture for decades. What makes Bloomington's food scene extra unique is our extraordinary selection of over 70 international restaurants. We've compiled a guide for a few of the more popular ones to help you figure out which is best for your next meal.



PHOTO BY SHELLY WESTERHAUSEN

TASTE OF INDIA

316 E. 4th St.

Cuisine: North and South Indian

This place is a must for anyone with a passion for international cuisine. The staff is always very friendly and they have a large outdoor seating area perfect for warmer months. If you have a vegetarian in your party, try out this place, as their vegetarian selection is extensive.

To order:

Meat-lover: The Butter Chicken features chunks of chicken cooked in a rich and creamy tomato sauce that is served with a helping of basmati rice. Make sure to get a side of naan (such as garlic) to dip into your meal.

Vegetarian: Enjoy the Chana Masala which has chickpeas and tomatoes cooked in a flavorful herb and spice sauce and served with a side of basmati rice. If you are feeling extra hungry, get the vegetable pakora (lentil flour battered vegetables) as an appetizer.

Pro tip: Plan to come in for lunch as their lunch buffet is a favorite among locals. It features a rotating menu of 2 appetizers, naan, 2 kinds of rice, 4 vegetarian (and often vegan) entrees, 2-3 meat entrees, a dessert, and an extensive salad bar.

Other Indian cuisine options: Amrit India and India Garden



PHOTO BY SHELLY WESTERHAUSEN

SIAM HOUSE

430 E. 4th St.

Cuisine: Thai

A staple on 4th street, this Thai spot has a large wine selection in addition to its addictively delicious dishes. Look for the big elephant statues guarding the sign to know you've arrived at the right place.

To order:

Meat-lover: The Pad Thai is a rice noodles dish cooked in an addicting tamarind sauce which comes sautéed with vegetables, peanuts, egg, and your choice of chicken, beef, pork, or tofu. Be warned - these noodles are so good that you may have to come back for seconds on your trip! Interested in a starter? The Tom Kha soup (try it spicy!) is a perfect winter warmer.

Vegetarian: The Yellow Curry with Tofu is a slightly sweet and spicy curry made with coconut milk, potatoes, carrots, and onions and served with a large helping of rice.

Pro tip: This place can fill up fast on the weekend and during big community events that attract a lot of people downtown, so make sure you head here with plenty of time or get take-out and enjoy it on one of the many tables scattered around the nearby Indiana University campus.

Other Thai cuisine options: My Thai Café, Bangkok Thai Cuisine, Esan Thai, and Anyetsang's Little Tibet



PHOTO BY SHELLY WESTERHAUSEN

IRISH LION

212 W. Kirkwood Ave.
Cuisine: Irish

This warmly lit 1882 restored pub has some of the best vintage charm in Bloomington. This is a must if you are looking for a place to enjoy a drink (such as a yard of Guinness or a scotch) and appetizer (get their legendary Blarney Puffballs which are deep-fried potato balls made with cheese and garlic). They also have a full food menu if you want to stay for a meal.

To order:

Meat-lover: You can't skip out on trying the Mutton Pies of Abbeyfeale which is a baked bread bowl filled with their famous Celtic Stew.

Vegetarian: For being an Irish restaurant, this place actually makes a pretty fantastic Fettuccine Alfredo. If you're looking for something on the lighter side, their seasonal vegetable medley can be a great option as well.

Pro tip: Stop by here on a rainy afternoon and enjoy a warming Irish coffee or dark beer and a few deep fried Blarney Puffballs.



LE PETIT CAFÉ

308 W. 6th St.
Cuisine: French

This small café is run by a quirky French couple that welcomes you into their restaurant in the same inviting way someone would welcome you into their home for a dinner party. The setting is intimate and the perfect option for a romantic date night.

To order:

Meat-lover / Vegetarian: Their menu changes daily so walk in with an appetite for anything. They usually have four main entrée options to choose from (one is vegetarian) and they build their menu around what is in season.

Pro tip: If you are in town on Saturday morning in the summer, stop by their take-out window around the side of their building for a selection of crepes, quiche, pâté, and French pastries.

Other French cuisine options: La Vie en Rose Café



TURKUAZ CAFÉ

301 E. 3rd St.

Cuisine: Turkish

Kick off your shoes and settle into a low table at this cozy Turkish café. Their food is delicious all year round but their hearty dishes and addicting lentil soup make this a favorite wintertime spot. All entrees are served with three small salads and a lentil soup so come hungry!

To order:

Meat-lover: Their specialty is lamb so you can't go wrong when ordering any of their lamb dishes, such as their Lamb Turkuaz Kabob, which is served like a thick stew with rice and the flakiest of bread.

Vegetarian: They are well known for their Pides (also known as bread boats) and for good reason – they are flaky and stuffed with a variety of vegetables and meats. Turkuaz has over 10 different vegetarian varieties so there is sure to be one to fit your appetite.

Pro tip: Make sure to enjoy a glass of steaming hot Turkish black tea with your meal and save room for baklava!

Other Turkish cuisine options: Anatolia and Sofra Café



KOREA RESTAURANT

409 E. 4th St.

Cuisine: Korean

Tucked into an old house on 4th Street, this is an adventurous spot worth checking out, whether you are new to Korean cuisine or an expert. Their menu is easy to read with both Korean and English translation for dishes along with photos and a separate vegetarian section.

To order:

Meat-lover: Get the Bibimbap (hot or cold) with spicy pork for a fun rice dish topped with an array of vegetables, kimchi, an egg, and herbs. It comes out in a big bowl for a stunning presentation and you'll just need to mix it all together before enjoying.

Vegetarian: The Rice Cake Soup is loaded with rice cakes (small rice discs that have the texture of dumplings), glass noodles, herbs, and spices. The serving portion is huge so come hungry!

Pro tip: Head there for lunch to enjoy many of their best dishes for a discounted price (most under \$9!).

Other Korean cuisine options: Mama's Restaurant, Sobon, Do Asian Fusion Cuisine, and Toto's Uncle Cafe



RESTAURANT AMI

1500 E. 3rd St.

Cuisine: Japanese and Sushi

Ami is known around town for their elaborate sushi rolls. If sushi is not your thing, they also have Japanese entrees that showcase both rice and noodle dishes.

To order:

Meat-lover: Their long list of chef special rolls can be overwhelming but you also can't go wrong with any of them. The ultimate rainbow features a variety of fish for a unique flavor with each bite.

Vegetarian: They have an array of maki (vegetarian) rolls that are fantastic. If looking for something outside of sushi, the curry rice is served in a thick sauce filled with vegetables.

Pro tip: Parking can be tricky since it's very close to campus so try to go in the summer when the students are gone or plan to walk a little distance to get to the restaurant.

Other Japanese and sushi options: Kiku Sushi, Red Chopsticks, Sake Bar, Sushi Bar, Sushi Haru, Z & C Teriyaki & Sushi, Asuka Japanese Restaurant, Domo Steak & Sushi, Japonee, and Mr. Hibachi



EL REY AZTECA

309 E. 3rd St.

Cuisine: Mexican

Located within walking distance of the square, this restaurant offers large portions and a wide selection of tacos, Chimichangas, burritos, salads, and other Mexican fare.

To order:

Meat-lover: Devour the Burrito Azteca which is a jumbo burrito stuffed with veggies and your choice of meat, covered in cheese sauce, and served with sour cream and guacamole.

Vegetarian: The vegetarian fajitas are not only served in a very generous portion, but come out of the kitchen steaming hot and deliciously seasoned.

Pro tip: Order a glass of Horchata (spiced rice milk) for dessert.

Other Mexican cuisine options: Juannita's Restaurant, The 3 Amigos Restaurant, and La Charreada

4th Street, or "restaurant row," is abundant with quaint international restaurants on both sides of the tree-lined street.



BLOOMINGTON ON TWO WHEELS

There are few things more iconic to Bloomington, IN than basketball hoops and Bobby Knight but one of them is most certainly its cycling scene. Tucked into the hills of southern Indiana, Bloomington's terrain can be compared more to that of the rolling hills of North Carolina or Georgia than to the flat, farm fields of the upper half of the state. Whether you're looking to go out for a leisurely ride around town, get a few laps in at Indiana's first mountain bike park, or are searching for your Breaking Away moment in the Little 500, the Bloomington cycling scene's got you covered.



BY TESSA YANNONE

ROAD CYCLING OR MOUNTAIN BIKING: FINDING WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU

First thing's first, do you prefer the intensity of the road and the confines of the city, or are you more of a kick-your-feet-up and get-a-little-muddy-out-in-the-woods type? Whichever style of riding suits your fancy, Bloomington has everything from beginner routes to more advance-style riding.

"You can get anywhere in Bloomington on a bike," Shannon Johnson, a local rider, said.

"I think Bloomington has done a great job of merging and mapping out routes for everyone from commuter cyclists to people who want a little more of a challenge."

Not only does the city of Bloomington make sure the routes and roads are up to par with what the riders want, the Bloomington Bicycle Club (BBC) and Hoosier Mountain Bike Association (HMBA) hold rides every week to help those who aren't familiar with the routes get acquainted.

"It's nice to have someone show you the ropes and the routes in Bloomington," Johnson said.



"It's fun to get lost out in Bloomington, it makes for many great adventures and you'll always make it back but I think it's good to have a mentor and the local clubs are perfect for that."

Ernie Baker, a mountain biker from Bloomington, said both clubs are great organizations to contact for more information. The BBC is more active in Bloomington and the HMBA is more statewide.

Where to road bike

Well on the road of course, right? Although that would be the simple solution, there's much to be said for the difference of simply hitting the road and hitting the good spots in Bloomington.

"Up towards Morgan-Monroe state forest the scenery is just beautiful and the riding is great,"

Johnson said. "It's a combination of hills, farm life, and this might sound weird but the smells are great. When you ride you're just so aware of things like that."

As far as staying more in town, the B-Line Trail is always perfect for an after-dinner bike ride or tour of the city as well as the Clear Creek Trail and Karst Farm Greenway.

Eryk Bennetti, General Manager of a local bike shop in town, Salt Creek Cycles, said his favorite place to ride in Monroe County is getting out of town and going southwest on Popcorn and Rockport Roads.

Where to mountain bike

Home to the first mountain bike park in the state, if you're heading to Bloomington to mountain bike, Wapehani Mountain Bike Park has to be a first stop on your list.

"Wapehani is a great place for tourists," Baker said. "The park department continually maintains it and will change up the trails to keep them from getting really eroded. There are some flat trails and some harder ones that you can put together to fit your level of difficulty and it's so close you can get to it from practically anywhere."

Baker also mentions Hoosier National Forest as a great place if you're looking for something a little bigger and more challenging.

"You can get some pretty rugged stuff out there," Baker said. "Lots of rock gardens that you have to carry your bike over, creeks, hills, quite a lot to offer. And you can also hit some flowy stuff and kick your feet up and have a good time."

In addition to all that Bloomington has to offer, just 20 minutes east is Brown County a well-known (possibly the best) mountain biking destination east of the Mississippi. It's easy to rent a bicycle in Bloomington and enjoy cycling anywhere in the area.

COMMUTING ON TWO WHEELS

Bloomington is recognized as a Gold-level "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists, for "long-standing commitments to providing safe accommodation and facilities for bicyclists, and for their efforts to encourage bicycle travel for transportation and recreation." According to the City of Bloomington website, Bloomington has "a total of almost 73 miles of bike lanes and trails, including 11 miles of dedicated bike lanes and 35 miles of designated bike routes" making it a perfect place to ditch the car and opt for transportation on two wheels.

"I feel like I'm doing my part by commuting," Kassie Jensen, Feast pastry chef and local bicycle commuter said. "It's fun and so much less stressful than being in a car stuck in traffic."

Around Indiana University's campus there are a ton of bike lanes and wide shoulders specifically for commuters, and the B-Line Trail can be used to get from virtually one side of the town to the other.

"I don't like to rely on a car," Jensen said. "We live on the outskirts of town on the south side and biking is still really accessible for us, which is nice."

Even her early morning start at 6am and the cold Indiana winters don't stop her from riding her bike everyday to work.

"It's all about the gear," Jensen said. "I have reflectors on my bag, shoes, and jacket for when it's dark and I layer up in the winter. Plus, being a pastry chef, commuting helps me to stay active and feel less guilty for eating that croissant for breakfast."

NO BIKE, NO PROBLEM

Visiting town and don't have a bike? Want to start biking and don't have a bike? No problem! Stop by one of the many bike shops and pick up a rental to try out for the day or to make your first purchase.

"All the shops in town do very similar things," Bennetti said. "They vary based on what they carry and what specific niche they serve. Some shops cater more towards racers and road riders and some cater more towards mountain biking and commuting but they'll all be able to service any type of bike."

He said Revolution Bike & Bean and Bicycle Garage cater more towards racers, while Bikesmiths has more road bikes and commuters, and Salt Creek Cycles is mainly mountain bikes and commuters but they cater to anyone on a bike. Baker chalks it up to, what do you see when you walk into the store?

“

You can get anywhere in Bloomington on a bike.

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Located right on the B-Line Trail, Bennetti said they get a lot of people right off the trail who are looking to rent a bike for an hour and just cruise. He said they even get people who are in town for a week or so and want to rent a bike to commute for the duration of their stay.

Although Baker is a firm believer that you need a bike for every day of the week, the local bike shops in Bloomington make it easy to rent for a day/week or make an informed purchase for a lifetime.

POPULAR RIDES IN MONROE COUNTY

Take your riding to the next level or meet people who share the same passion as you by taking advantage of the many great rides, scenery, and events southern Indiana has to offer.

Hilly Hundred

The Hilly is one of those rides that are about as synonymous with cycling in Bloomington as the Little 500. It's the last ride of the season and gives all riders of every level the opportunity to come out and enjoy each other's company and a variety of different events, activities, entertainment, food, and craft beer (of course).

"The Hilly is a variety of things to a variety of people," Brad Bolling, Assistant Director of the Hilly said. "But it's not to be confused with a race; it's a recreational ride. You've got more advanced racers who ride it and you've got people that will be lucky to ride up a hill without walking. It's one of those rides where you just want to go out and challenge yourself a little bit and have some fun."

The Hilly is a not-for-profit ride put on by the Central Indiana Bicycling Association Inc. (CIBA) benefitting three different charities and everyone who works it is a volunteer. There are two different routes offered on Saturday and Sunday (a 50-mile option and 35-mile option) and they offer free food, entertainment, a large vendor tent, and costume and photo contests. The Hilly truly is a ride for everyone.

"We're always open to suggestions from riders on how to make the ride better," Mark Bettinger, Managing Director, said. "If you're in the area please join us. The scenery is wonderful, the roads, music, company, and the vendor tent are awesome, and at the end of the day the surrounding Bloomington area has so much to offer."

This year the Hilly Hundred will be celebrating its 51st anniversary October 5-7.

Century Rides

From April until November, a century ride (100-mile ride) takes off from Bryan Park swimming pool every Wednesday. All the rides feature 40-80 feet of climbing in the hilly southern Indiana countryside. Rest stops and places to eat are provided. Plan on the entire day for these rides.





PHOTO BY YIQIAO WANG



THE WORLD'S GREATEST COLLEGE WEEKEND

Little 500 was not forgotten on our list of cycling to-dos. Talking about cycling in Indiana without at least mentioning the largest collegiate bike race in the United States would be a sin we're not willing to commit.

"There's just a lot of support for Little 500 and the riders because Bloomington is such a great cycling community," Beth Miller, Assistant Director of Operations for the Indiana University Student Foundation, said. "The roads here are great, the culture is great, and the competition has just exploded as a result of all that."

Little 500 is held every year in April through the Indiana University Student Foundation as a way to raise money for private support for Indiana University students. It is modeled after the infamous Indianapolis 500 and the riders compete in four-person teams around a quarter-mile cinder track at Bill Armstrong Stadium. The women's race is held on Friday and totals 100 laps (25 miles) and the men's race is held on Saturday and totals 200 laps (50 miles).

"Our philanthropic background is big," Tara Vickers, Director of the Indiana University Student Foundation, said. "All of the ticket proceeds from Little 500 go to helping undergraduate students which is unbelievable. I think it's really about being a part of something bigger than you whether you're a rider, worker, or spectator."

As a Little 500 rider in 2014, Shannon Johnson can attest to that. She said there's so much

energy on race day and everyone is so happy that it doesn't matter if you came in last or first. Everyone is hugging each other, high-fiving and congratulating one another because it's a group accomplishment. You work so hard for so long and it all culminates at this moment.

"Many of the riders weren't cyclists before they started training for Little 500," Andrea Balzano, Race Director at the Indiana University Student Foundation said. "When you're thinking about the Bloomington cycling community, Little 500 feeds that and really brings the sport, that some of these riders have never experienced before, and turns it into a life-long hobby."

Many of the Little 500 riders ride in the Hilly Hundred and many of the local shops help out with the race and maintenance of riders' bikes.

"If you like to cycle and you haven't been to Little 500, you're doing it wrong," Vickers said. "I would encourage anyone who is into the cycling scene to come with an open mind and forget any bad rumor that you may have heard because it's an amazing event."

This year marks the 68th running of the men's race and the 31st running of the women's race and will be held on April 20th-21st.

So whether you're new to cycling or a seasoned veteran, Bloomington has everything you need to take your cycling to the next level. Take to two wheels and we'll see you on the road.



HAVE EVENT,
WILL TRAVEL

BY ERIN ERDMANN WHITE

From garlic cuisine celebrations to 21st-century opera, from stand-up comedy to standing-room-only shows, events in Bloomington are diverse and energetic. Our top picks for Bloomington's most unique annual events showcase the range of experiences you can find throughout the year. Whatever you do, just get out there and make some memories.



LOTUS WORLD MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL

From its humble beginnings as a Sunday afternoon concert on the front porch of the Mathers Museum of World Cultures to the four-day music and arts festival that encompasses several blocks in the downtown area, the Lotus World Music and Arts Festival is the perfect opportunity to experience the world through a global lens.

As Indiana's only world music festival and one of the oldest festivals of its type in the US, in the last 24 years Lotus has hosted artists from over 125 countries – everything from Ethiopian jazz to Estonian violin and Polish pop to Algerian brass. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the 25th annual festival September 27-30.



HOOSIER HYSTERIA

For fans of Indiana University basketball, there's no better way to kick off the official start to Hoosiers basketball season than attending Hoosier Hysteria each October. Roars of applause fill Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall as players from the men's and women's teams are introduced, ooh's and aah's are heard during the slam-dunk and 3-point shooting contests, and fans catch a glimpse of what's to come during the two short scrimmage games. So put on a pair of the iconic candy stripe pants and a lucky jersey and join 17,000 of your closest friends for this storied Hoosier fans tradition on October 20.





LIMESTONE COMEDY FESTIVAL

Not only is it Indiana's first comedy festival, it's also one of the biggest in the Midwest and listed in the top 12 nationally-ranked comedy fests. If Limestone Comedy Festival isn't currently on your radar, it should be. LCF is quickly rising to the top of the list in terms of iconic Bloomington events. This 3-day, 5-venue, 30-show with 60+ comedians comedy fest will leave your face muscles sore from smiling and your sides hurting from laughing too much. Be sure to leave room in your schedule to enjoy the Bloom10, a showcase of ten local stand-ups that's been a cornerstone of the fest since its inception. Limestone Comedy Festival celebrates "the greatest weekend of your life, volume VI" May 31 - June 2.



EAGLES OVER MONROE

The Monroe Lake area is a well-known, thriving home to the national bird of the United States, thanks in large part to a successful bald eagle reintroduction program in the 1980s. Each winter Bloomington celebrates this majestic bird of prey with a two-day event known as Eagles over Monroe. In addition to public tours around the lake to see bald eagles in their natural habitat, attendees meet live raptors and bird enthusiasts expand their knowledge during presentations by well-known researchers and ornithologists. A perfect winter event for adults and children, beginners, and experienced birders, Eagles over Monroe takes place January 26-28 at the Fourwinds Lakeside Inn and Marina.



BLOOMINGTON COMMUNITY FARMERS' MARKET

In the summer of 1975, Bloomington hosted its very first official farmers' market with 23 vendors. Fast forward 44 years, the Bloomington Community Farmers' Market is well-known as a must-attend event each Saturday April-November. Enjoy the hum of live music, scents of freshly baked bread wafting in the air, and laughter of friends old and new. Over 100 vendors await residents and visitors alike with the season's freshest bounty. So grab a cup of coffee and a breakfast treat from a prepared vendor's booth and enjoy the experience. The positive energy and friendly vibe of the market is sure to set anyone's weekend off to a great start. Indiana's #1 farmers' market opens for the season on April 7.



TASTE OF BLOOMINGTON

Start summer off with a bang by sampling your way through 40 of Bloomington's best restaurants and sipping the latest creations from local breweries and wineries in one place. The Taste of Bloomington, one of Bloomington's most beloved events, is held each June at Showers Common in downtown Bloomington. In addition to food and drinks, attendees have the chance to listen to two dozen live music performances on two separate stages. The Taste also offers several kid-friendly activities like face-painting and bounce houses. Put on your dancing shoes and your favorite pair of stretch-waist shorts and electrify your senses at the 36th annual Taste of Bloomington on June 23.

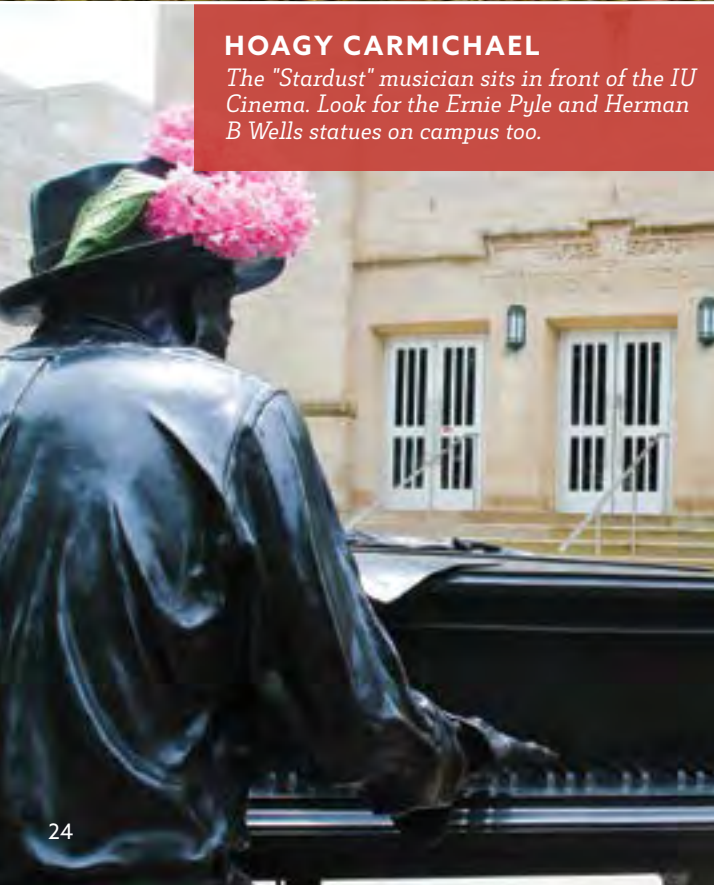
RED CLOCKS

There are four of these iconic clocks on campus. Find one at the top of the hour, and hear the fight song play.

ICONS OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY

HOAGY CARMICHAEL

The "Stardust" musician sits in front of the IU Cinema. Look for the Ernie Pyle and Herman B Wells statues on campus too.



JORDAN HALL GREENHOUSE

This picturesque spot is a thriving greenhouse of unusual, exotic plants from every corner of the world.





DUNN WOODS

This beautiful forest towers over the heart of campus, with walking paths for students and visitors to enjoy.



SHOWALTER FOUNTAIN

The landmark fountain depicting "The Birth of Venus" is located at the center of the Fine Arts Plaza.



EAST LOUNGE AT IMU

A roaring fireplace, comfortable armchairs, and abundant natural light greet you in the East Lounge.



LIGHT TOTEM AT ESKENAZI MUSEUM OF ART

Visiting this light sculpture at night and watching the colors change is a bucket list item for most Hoosiers.



WILDERMUTH INTRAMURAL CENTER

Built in 1928, this gymnasium is a long-standing ode to IU's storied basketball tradition.



TULIPS AT THE SAMPLE GATES

The Sample Gates are photogenic all year round, but the red & white tulips in the spring are a must-see.



*BREWED
IN
BLOOMINGTON*

BY EMILY HINES

The hunt for a memorable meal is paramount when traveling. The same can be said for finding the perfect watering hole after a busy day. Bloomington is known for being a foodie town but we have an impressive roster of brewers, winemakers, and distillers as well. Visiting their tasting rooms and pubs is a complete sensory experience. Headquarters like these are hubs for creativity and conversation; you never know what you'll get to try or who you might meet. From craft pre-prohibition pilsner to cyser and tiki rum to traminette wine, Bloomington has something pleasing for every palate.

OLIVER WINERY

When your wine-making hobby turns out to be a lot more fruitful than expected, the next logical step is to open a commercial winery, right? That's exactly what Professor William Oliver did back in the 1970s and Oliver Winery has since grown up to be the largest winery in the United States east of the Mississippi River. Tour their world class winery and taste your way through their delicious selection of wines.

Sustenance: Reserve a picnic package ahead of time and they'll do all of the packing for you, china plates and all.

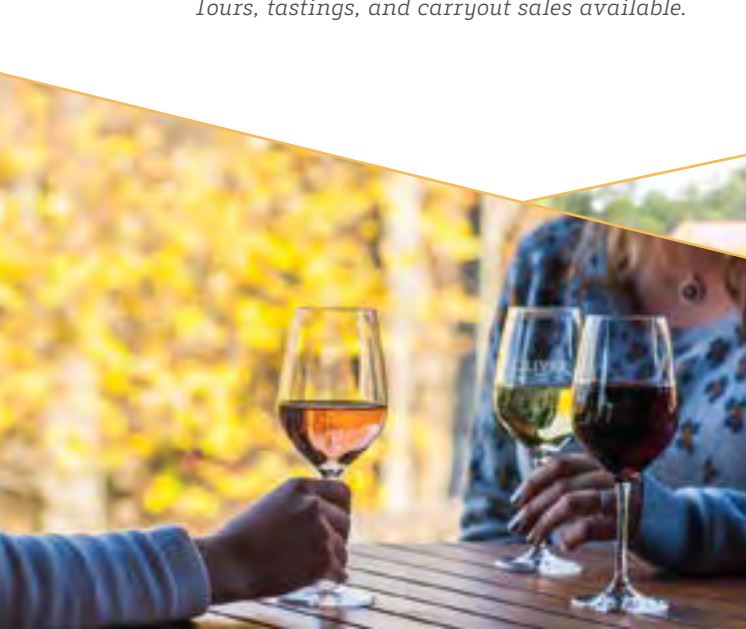
Tours, tastings, and carryout sales available.

BUTLER WINERY

Family owned and operated, Butler Winery has produced wine since the early 1980s. They're passionate about using locally-grown grapes in their wines and giving people a beautiful place to enjoy them. Sample twenty different wines at their downtown tasting room or at their vineyard just north of town.

Sustenance: Make your own cheese and charcuterie board and enjoy the sweeping views of their vineyard from their patio.

Tours, tastings, and carryout sales available.





UPLAND BREWING COMPANY

Upland was created in 1998 and has been on the forefront of craft beer in the Midwest ever since. Stop by their original brewpub downtown for a bite and a beer. The draft menu features their flagships, hoppy Dragonfly IPA and Upland Wheat, along with other unique seasonal ales and lagers like their Oktoberfest and Teddy Bear Kisses Russian Imperial Stout. If you want to try some extremely rare barrel-aged sours, walk next door for a tour and taste at the Wood Shop. This world-class sours facility features 10 barrel-aged sours on tap and tours that will intrigue and excite your mind and palate.

Sustenance: You can't go wrong with a burger. Try one with Bad Elmer's BBQ sauce, or their famous Blueflame spread.

Tours, tastings, and carryout available at Upland Brewing Company & Upland Wood Shop.

THE TAP

This craft beer bar and brewery is a favorite on the downtown square, offering 15 different beers made in-house. You can drink The Tap's creations in their tasting room off Kirkwood Ave. or in the brewpub while dining on creative pub fare. They also serve a huge variety of beers from around the United States and the world, 450 different ones to be exact.

Sustenance: Order the Tap fries. You're welcome.

Flights, crowslers, and growlers available.

BLOOMINGTON BREWING COMPANY

BBC is the oldest brewery in Bloomington and the oldest brewpub in southern Indiana, having opened its doors over 20 years ago. BBC is a favorite among Bloomington locals, emphasized by their mantra, "Think globally. Drink locally." Their pub, Lennie's, features delicious pub fare and gourmet pizza. Tours are available by appointment.

Sustenance: Go for brunch over the weekend for some killer chicken and waffles.

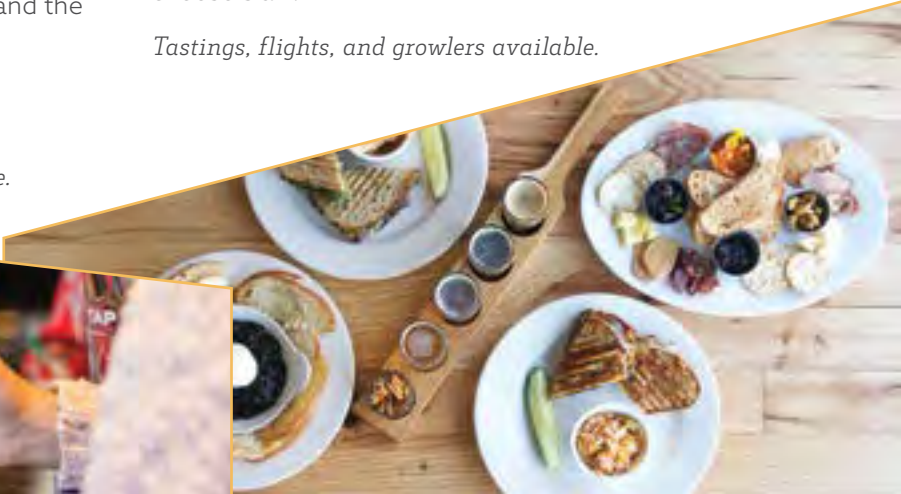
Tastings, flights, and growlers available at Lennie's Brewpub.

FUNCTION BREWING

Driven by experimentation, Function Brewing has brewed over 175 beers since opening in 2014. They don't adhere to trends and brew what they want to drink. In their downtown pub you'll find a few mainstays but you can always discover something unusual to try on their list; think Jalapeno IPA and Szechuan Peppercorn Pale. They also make some of the tastiest paninis in town.

Sustenance: Order the Southern Gentleman (pimento cheese, candied bacon, peppers, & arugula; OMG is right) with a side of blue cheese slaw.

Tastings, flights, and growlers available.





ODDBALL FERMENTABLES

Ever heard of cyser? We hadn't either until recently. Oddball Fermentables brews dry cysers which are a unique hybrid of mead and cider. They feature five signature cysers and use ingredients like hops, dates, and oranges so there's no way your taste buds will ever be bored. Cozy up to their fireplace or have a seat on the patio and taste away.

Sustenance: Follow them on social media for updates on visiting food trucks or BYO food.

Tastings, flights, and growlers available.

FRIENDLY BEASTS CIDER COMPANY

Named after their sweet but prickly rescue dog, Friendly Beasts is the latest addition to the B-Line Trail. They create small batches of hard cider infused with some really unique ingredients like local hops, cinnamon, and more. Sip on some samples on the patio with a view of Bloomington's B-Line Trail.

Sustenance: Friendly Beasts doesn't have a kitchen but sells snacks by the scoop, or you can BYO.

Tastings, flights, and growlers available.



CARDINAL SPIRITS

To round out our craft beverage adventure in Bloomington you have to pay a visit to our first and only craft distillery. Also on the B-Line Trail, this is the place to go for one of the best cocktails you'll ever have. The shrubs, bitters, syrups, and of course the spirits are all made by hand. Their menu changes seasonally but they can make the classics anytime. Enjoy delectable shareable plates for dinner at the distillery any night of the week or brunch on Saturdays and Sundays for a real treat.

Sustenance: Their menu changes with the season but whatever you do, make sure you try their bread and butter. Their sourdough is made in-house, making it a must-try.

Tours, tastings, and carryout sales available.

Other Boozy Locales in Bloomington

BIG WOODS BLOOMINGTON

Features craft beer from Quaff On in neighboring Nashville, Indiana as well as other regional breweries.

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From Carmel, Indiana, Danny Boy brings their unique brews to Bloomington with 18 taps and 8 guest taps.

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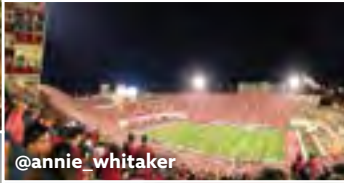
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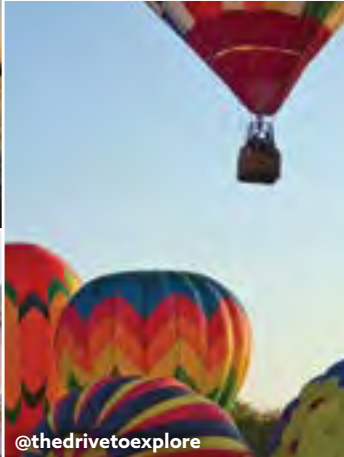
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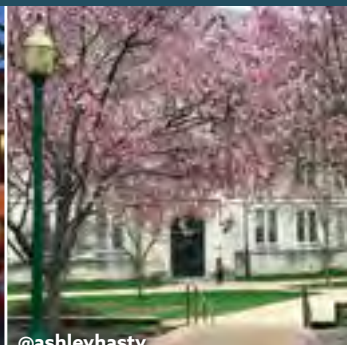
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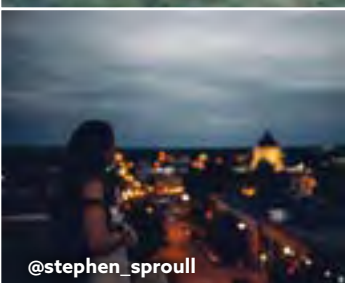
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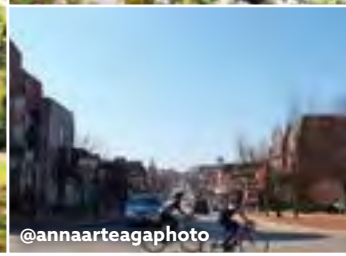
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