

THE ART OF THE PRE-GAME CELEBRATION

Tailgate like a Hoosier

FOOTBALL FANS KNOW THAT HALF THE FUN OF ANY GAME HAPPENS BEFORE KICKOFF, AND TAILGATING IS HOOSIER TRADITION. HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS TO HELP KEEP YOUR GAME DAY CELEBRATION SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL.

By Carmen Siering

GAME DAY TIMELINE

- Parking lots open: Min. of 5 hours prior to kickoff
- Hoosier Village opens: 3 hours prior to kickoff
- The Walk to the Rock: 2 hours prior to kickoff
- Ticket Office opens: 2 hours prior to kickoff
- Stadium gates open: 90 minutes prior to kickoff
- Knothole Park opens: 90 minutes prior to kickoff
- Band pre-game show: 20 minutes prior to kickoff
- National Anthem: 15 minutes prior to kickoff
- Team entrance: 5 minutes prior to kickoff

THE TAILGATE EXPERIENCE BY LOCATION

Hoosier Village is the ultimate fan zone featuring live entertainment, food and beverages for purchase from local restaurants, Kids Zone, and a live pre-game radio show. According to Associate Athletic Director Jeremy Gray, Hoosier village offers fans a “festival atmosphere,” one where you might catch the marching band and the IU cheerleaders building up that Hoosier spirit before the game. Hoosier Village opens three hours prior to kickoff and is located behind the south end scoreboard.

The Green Lot, just off Fee Lane and located between Assembly Hall and the Tennis Center, is the most family friendly spot. It’s a great place to relax before the game.

The Purple Lot, north of Mellencamp Pavilion, provides parking for over 1,800 vehicles. It’s a great place for large groups, and offers up some lovely green space with grassy areas, trees and a stream.



GRASS LOT

The Grass Lot (known as the “student lot”) south of 17th Street is good for a real party. It’s a raucous area with student groups and organizations hosting tents, lots of loud music, and the kind of pre-game activities you might expect in a student area. Great fun for anyone daring enough to venture in.

Knothole Park, a replica turf field located in the south end zone, is a special area just for children ages 13 and under. Admission is free with a game ticket. Knothole Park features games, face tattoos and the ability to interact with other IU varsity sports teams. Kids can become members of the Knothole Club just by showing their game day ticket. Members receive prizes (such as IU water bottles and drawstring bags) at every game. Knothole Park opens 90 minutes prior to kickoff.

TIPS FOR TAILGATING

What’s a tailgate without food? Grilling is permitted (no grills on trailers), but you can always swing by Hoosier Village to sample some local favorites or pick up something from a local restaurant before you head over to the stadium. Grab something tailgate friendly from Nick’s, Opie Taylor’s, or BuffaLouie’s—burgers, wings and other grilled things all come to mind.

Alcohol is allowed at your IU tailgate. While you’re getting your food, pick up a growler from Upland Brewing or Bloomington Brewing Company. Just be sure to pour that craft beer into the recommended plastic cup. Safety first!



TAILGATING POOCH

The game before the game? It goes by many names, but around here it goes by Cornhole. If you don’t have your own setup, you can always toss a football, baseball, or frisbee—or try to get in on someone else’s game of beanbag toss.

Don’t forget to take part in The Walk, a Hoosier tradition. Two hours and fifteen minutes before kickoff, fans gather outside the stadium to show their support for the team as they make their pre-game walk to the stadium. The Marching Hundred and the IU cheerleaders will be there to help fans cheer on the team!

Buy your game tickets at IUHoosiers.com. Each season there are several games when IU offers a four-ticket deal—discounted tickets plus a hot dog and soft drink. ■



HOOSIER VILLAGE

PARKING

- Parking permits are required to enter all stadium lots.
- Some gates are for reserved, prepaid parking only. Reserved parking gates are: 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, and 14.
- Gates for game day parking are: 10, 11, 12, 14, and any of the grass lots south of 17th Street.
- RVs need to use gate 11.
- Buses use gate 13.
- Automobile permits are \$10 in advance, \$20 on game day.
- RV/Bus permits are \$50.
- For more on parking, game day traffic restrictions, and related information, check out IUHoosiers.com.



HOOSIER VILLAGE