

Leisure Guide

Martin County Museum - Welcome to Scenic and Historical Martin County. Martin County has the honor of having the most county seats, our courthouse has been moved 10 times and is now located on main street in Shoals Indiana. The eastern part of Martin County is well known for its beautiful rolling hills and valleys. The western part is flat and resembled the prairie lands of the west. Many fisherman and hunters come to the county each year to catch large catfish, hunt deer, turkeys and explore our caves and streams.

Our Historical Society and Museum is located on Capital Ave in Shoals. We are also the caretakers of many old records and assessments. Many other old books and records starting in 1820 are shelved in our beautiful old courthouse building that was erected in 1876. This beautiful building was granted the honor of being accepted by the National Register of Historical places in the United States.

Shoals is home to the famous Jug Rock, A self standing sandstone rock that stands 60 feet high. Please plan to visit us in the near future.

We are open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

We are closed in the winter months.

Our phone number is: 812-247-1133

and our email address is- mchsoc@rtccom.net

Our volunteers are always glad to give you a tour of the building and answer your questions. We are also available for research and genealogy.

"Discover Martin County's Best Kept Secret"

Tranquil Inn & Spa, located in the scenic hills of Martin County, is the perfect setting for a relaxing getaway retreat. We are committed to making your stay the best it can be. For the ultimate in relaxation, massage and spa services are available on-site in the spa overlooking the waterfall and flower garden. No smoking & no pets please. Gift certificates & special packages available.

Call 812-333-7071 or 812-247-2053 for rates, reservations or brochure.

French Lick Casino Just 30 miles East of Fox Road Cabins is the French Lick Casino which brings gaming back to the area for the first time in over 50 years, and is the grandest casino in Indiana.

The 84,000 square-foot features 42,000 square feet of Vegas-style gaming, all on one floor, with soaring 27-foot ceilings. The overall design, complementing the resort's historic lobby, is of the Beaux Arts architectural style, an eclectic Neoclassical style known for its use of ornate masonry work and grandiosity. Guests will enjoy premier gaming, entertainment and dining options.

- 1,200 Slot Machines
- 32 Table Games
- Blackjack, Roulette & Craps
- 12-table Poker Room
- High-Limit Gaming Area
- VIP Services including Dedicated Cashiers' Cage & Lounge Area
- Dining Options including:
 - Entertainment lounge
 - **Diamond Jim's Trattoria** - open 24 hours
 - **Nosh** - our casual deli

French Lick Scenic Railroad - Come take a ride with us and journey back to the days when the railroad was considered the most luxurious way to travel. You will ride aboard historic pieces of rail equipment on a 2 hour, 20 mile round trip, which will take you through portions of the scenic Hoosier National Forest, the 2200 foot Burton Tunnel, and past impressive limestone cuts.

TRAIN TIMES Trains depart the historic 1907 Monon depot located on Highway 56 in French Lick, Indiana

APRIL - OCTOBER	TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS	NOVEMBER	HOLIDAYS
Saturday & Sunday	June - October	Saturday & Sunday	Easter Memorial Day 4th of July Labor Day
10 am, 1 & 4 pm	1 pm ONLY	1 pm ONLY	

French Lick Winery - Our award-winning wines are produced on site. Visitors can observe our production facility via observation windows in our tasting room. Owner and vintner, John Doty, takes great pride in the wines made with the expert assistance of Kim Doty, owner and cellar master. French Lick wines have received over 250 medals in state, national and international competitions.

Customers can sample our wines in our wine tasting room. Enjoy a glass of wine on our patio or take a cold bottle with you for a picnic or party. Wines may be purchased by the glass, bottle or case. Browse our tasting room for unique gift items including souvenir wine glasses, apparel, wine gadgets, gift baskets, and gourmet food items. Local artist, Harold Brown's photographs are available for sale in our tasting room too. Enjoy sampling our gourmet coffees of the day. More than a dozen varieties of Panache gourmet coffees are available and can be custom ground to your specifications. Tea lovers will enjoy our selection of Republic of Tea. Teas are available in loose leaf or tea bag. The Vintage Café is our newest addition. Our café menu features Italian cuisine fresh-made in our kitchen. Enjoy dining in the relaxed atmosphere of our tasting.

Outdoor Activities

White River Outfitters - whiteriveroutfittersonline.com- owned and operated by Cody and Michelle Roush is a store that caters to all of your boating, hunting, fishing and outdoor adventure needs. We offer canoe, kayak, and tube float rentals for one and two day trips on the White River. New G3 brand jon boats as well as a used inventory of various motors and boats are available for purchase through White River Outfitters. White River Outfitters also carries a wide range of supplies and merchandise for camping, hunting, fishing, and every day work gear.

Canoe/Kayak Trips on the White River

314 Main Street Shoals, IN
(812) 787-0921 or (812) 444-9366

White River Guided Fishing Tours – Call for info. and scheduling

Shoals, IN
(812) 444-9366 Cody Roush

Lark Farms Corn Maze

Loogootee, IN
(812) 295-9555

Overlook Hunting Guided Tours - Call for info. and scheduling

Shoals, IN
(812) 247-3003

Paoli Peaks, Paoli, IN - Skiing, Snowboarding, Snow Tubing, 5 Chairlifts, 2 Surface Lifts, 1 Wonder Carpet, 17 Trails, Onsite Ski and Snowboard Rentals, 100% Snowmaking, Night Skiing

Suggestions for the first visit and Expectations...

Don't worry, you are not the only one! Believe it or not, we have designed our facilities and programs for people just like you. Everyone learns at different paces. It is important to keep your expectations reasonable. This way both you and your children will have a successful and rewarding on the snow experience. Factors that can affect learning to ski or snowboard include your temperament (how open you are to new things), age, and physical ability. Both skiing and snowboarding take specialized skills that improve with time over practice. Ultimately, your expectation for you or your kids should focus on the fun and excitement of the overall experience.

Holiday World, SANTA CLAUS, IND -The popular website Oprah.com just released its list of "Wacky Family Attractions" in a feature designed to encourage families to vacation closer to home this year "when time and money are in short supply." Holiday World & Splashin' Safari is one of the eight family attractions recommended in the list.

"If Oprah wants to call us 'wacky,' we don't mind a bit," says the parks' president, Will Koch. "Come to think of it, it is a little wacky for a theme park to play Jingle Bells in the middle of July!"

Oprah.com is one of the 2,000 most-visited websites on the Internet.

Holiday World opens its 63rd season on May 2 with the premiere of Pilgrims Plunge, the world's tallest water ride; Splashin' Safari opens May 15. For more information, visit the parks' website at www.HolidayWorld.com or call 1-877-463-2645.

Spring Mill State Park abounds in endless opportunities for recreation! The restored pioneer village is a delight as you travel through time to the early 1800s.

Twin Caves is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 children under 11 years of age. Tours run on the half-hour; no advance registrations are accepted (sign up on day of tour only). No children under 3 years of age are allowed on the tour.

The Grissom Memorial honors Hoosier astronaut Virgil "Gus" Grissom, one of the seven Mercury astronauts and America's second man in space. The Memorial is currently closed for a complete rehabilitation of the exhibits that will allow us to better tell the story of Gus Grissom's life and contributions to the space program. The Memorial will reopen in the spring of 2009. Check back on this page for details.

The operating hours for Pioneer Village are:

May through October: Open Daily

Mondays-Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fridays: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturdays: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sundays: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Spring Mill's "On-The-Road" Rally Adventure

May 17-19, 2009: Spend time with us exploring the beauty that is uniquely Southern Indiana. Please click on the Indiana State Parks Road Rallies Logo to the left to see our Specials & Events page for more detail and links to important information.

Blue Spring Caverns - Tour guides - pilot custom tour boats along the course of a subterranean river for over a mile, pointing out native rare blind fish and crayfish in their natural setting and explaining the natural forces that are yet at work creating great chambers below the rolling hills. New access to the cave opened the way for young explorers to discover and perhaps understand the great forces of water and ice whose works were preserved in the slowly-changing world below.

These evidences of the works of nature can yet be seen by the observant visitor. Our knowledgeable guides will help you experience the past in the present.

Park / Tour Schedule

April & May:

Open Saturdays and Sundays only, 9AM to 5PM, last tour at 5:00PM. Tours leave hourly or more often.

Memorial Day thru Labor Day:

Open 7 days a week, 9AM to 5 PM, last tour at 5:00 PM. Tours leave every 40 minutes or more often.

Labor Day thru October 31:

Open 7 days a week, 9AM to 5 PM, last tour at 5:00 PM on Saturdays & Sundays, 4:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Tours hourly or more often on Saturdays & Sundays, at 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00 or more often Monday thru Friday.

November 1 thru March 31:

Closed for the season except for our Overnight Adventure tours for scheduled youth groups.

We are in the Eastern Time Zone.

Golf Courses

Lakeview at West Boggs Park - Come enjoy an outing that is both a challenge and a reward in a setting that is restful and pleasing to the senses. Located on beautiful West Boggs Lake, our staff ensures a helpful and open relationship with our customers and all publics associated with the operation of the golf course.

Highway 231 North
Loogootee, Indiana 47553
(812) 295-5678

Eagle View Crane - The 18-hole "Eagle View" course at the Eagle View Golf Club facility in Loogootee, Indiana features 5,907 yards of [golf](#) from the longest tees for a par of 72. The course rating is 70 and it has a slope rating of 122. Designed by Don Laughlin/Bill Kendall, the Eagle View golf course opened in 1966. Navy Golf Program manages this facility, with Bill Kendall as the Golf Professional.

21750 Golf Club Ln
Loogootee, IN 47553-4678
(812) 854-0100

Fishing

White River – Martin County The East Fork can be traveled in power boats almost from the beginning during good water levels but it also has dams that will prevent any continued travel by watercraft that cannot be carried by hand. The East Fork is very natural and has had little change. Except for the occasional man-made obstruction or structure, boating down much of the East Fork probably looks like it did to the early explorers. Wildlife is abundant and fishing is great. There are miles and miles of remote beauty that one could only experience in Indiana by river. The East Fork is an impressive waterway that is a pleasure and an adventure to explore.

Williams Dam to Shoals

White River Outfitters reports the section between Williams Dam and Shoals is now 22.8 miles. It is an approximate 8 hour float. Camping is available at the Martin State Forest 2 miles east of Shoals on US 50 and at Williams Dam, the put-in site.

A local business noted that this section of the river passes by LaSalle Spring, a sulfur water spring. In addition, a large eagle's nest (approx. 6 feet in diameter) can be seen near the islands.

The put-in is located at the Williams Dam State Fishing Area on State Road 450. Put-in facilities include a concrete ramp, campgrounds and parking lots. The riffles below may necessitate a portage on the left in lower water. The car shuttle from the Williams Dam access point should proceed west on State Road 450 to Huron-Williams Road. Take Huron-Williams Road south to US 50 then go west on US 50 to Shoals. Turn right at the third street (1 1/2 blocks before the river) and bear left at the Y intersection on River Road as you leave town. Heading north on River Road, proceed about 1 1/2 miles to the river. The road runs adjacent to the river providing several steep but passable access sites. Permission must be gained before trespassing on private property and there is limited parking along the road. Doctor assistance may be obtained in Bedford and Shoals. Hospital services are available in Bedford and Loogootee.

Shoals to Hindostan Falls

White River Outfitters reports the section between Shoals and Hindostan Falls is now 13.5 miles, and it takes most groups about 6 hours to paddle. They also note that there is a new eagle's nest about 12 miles from Shoals (2 adults and 1 young eagle were seen there on 7-12-2008). The river meanders between heavily vegetated banks lined with maples, willows, sycamores and cottonwood trees. Camping is available at Martin State Forest east of Shoals two miles on US 50. Hunting and fishing are permitted at Martin State Forest with fishing at Boggs Creek Recreation Area.

A local business notes that this section of the river passes along Beaver Bluffs, south of Shoals. Beaver Bluffs is a public area (owned by the Indiana Heritage Foundation) that is open to hiking.

From the put-in site as described in the previous section the car shuttle travels south on US 150 to State Road 550 and continue to Hindostan Road, then turn left and proceed to the river. Take-out is located at the ramp at the public access site at Hindostan Falls on Hindostan Road. If canoeing on through, the falls are quite dangerous and should be portaged between launching ramps.

Doctor and hospital services may be obtained in Shoals and Loogootee.

West Boggs Park a property of the Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department. We are a 1,500 acre multi-use outdoor recreation area, providing camping, boating, fishing picnicking and a wide range of activity related venues. Visitors will find a swimming beach, playgrounds, a miniature golf course, horseshoe pits, shelter houses, and acres of open play space.

In addition the park contains a full service Amish style restaurant, an exceptional 9 hole golf course and 622 acres of open water for boating, water skiing and fishing. The park operates year around and has winter camping facilities and heated shower houses.

Hoosier National Forest is in the hills of south central Indiana, provides a wide mix of opportunities and resources for people to enjoy. Rolling hills, back-country trails, and rural crossroad communities make this small but beautiful Forest a favorite! Forest managers work with the public to develop a shared vision of how this 200,000 acre Forest should be managed. The challenge is to provide a Forest with the values and benefits people want while protecting the unique ecosystems on the Hoosier National Forest.

The Forest has some of the best fishing locations in the state. The warm climate of Southern Indiana provides anglers with several more quality fishing days relative to the northern parts of the state. Numerous lakes, ponds, and streams on the forest provide anglers with the opportunity to pursue largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, redear sunfish and other sport fish. Plan a day of hiking, the forest offers Approximately 266 miles of trails are available for your hiking, biking, or horse riding pleasure.

Patoka Lake State Park, the area is abutted by Hoosier National Forest and several State Recreation Areas. There are miles of hiking trails, biking trails, and loads of shopping opportunities.

Scenic Drives with Public Access

Scenic Drives – White River Outfitters or the Martin County Museum have maps for all of the below locations.

Shoals to French Lick (Hwy. 150)

Shoals to Williams (Hwy. 450 Thru Dover Hill and Trinity Springs)

Shoals to Dover Hill (Along county roads West River Road and McBride's Bluff Road)

County Museum - Public

Bluffs of Beaver Bend - Public

Spout Spring - Public

Pinnacle Rock - Public

Mustering Elm - Public

Hindostan Falls - Public

Martin State Forest - Public

West Boggs Lake - Public

Overlook Park - Public

Jug Rock - Public

Local Festival Events

Shoals Catfish Festival (1st week of July)

Loogootee SummerFest (1st week-end of June)

Lark Corn Maze (Mid-Sept. thru end of October)

Martin County Historical Society (1st week in October) Been Dinner on Old Courthouse lawn

Area Restaurants

The Gasthof Amish Restaurant & Bakery serving the best Amish homemade foods in Southern Indiana. Enjoy dining in a magnificent building of native Indiana oak and poplar which was framed by Amish carpenters using mortise and tendon joints and oak pegs. The spacious Gasthof Amish Restaurant and Bakery is known for its Amish recipes and quality food. A large buffet includes a salad bar, hot food bar and an Amish dessert bar. Out bakery makes fresh homemade pies, bread, noodles, cookies and cakes daily. Make sure to purchase homemade apple butter and peanut butter spread.

The Black Buggy Restaurant Washington, Indiana is a family owned and operated Amish style buffet established in 1996, seating 275, and employing over 100 people. The Black Buggy has built its reputation on delicious food and a friendly atmosphere!

Located on the grounds of the Black Buggy Restaurant, the General Store offers a truly unique old time shopping experience. We offer a full selection of deli meats & cheeses, bulk food, homemade candies & baked goods, fresh fruits & vegetables, jams & jellies. We also have a line of gifts, souvenirs and handmade crafts that is sure to suit anyone's taste.

Bo-Mac's - Governor Mitch Daniels discovered Bo-Mac's breaded pork tenderloin sandwiches on the campaign trail...A regional favorite!
501 Hwy 50 E. Shoals, IN
812-247-3241
Open 7 days a week, 9:00 am to 10 pm

Sandy's Dinner – Great Homemade meals or just sandwiches!
Main Street Shoals, IN

Stoll's Lakeview Restaurant - Old fashioned **Amish** recipes, serving Breakfast, lunch and dinner Buffets, great food with a great view of **West Boggs Lake**
Hwy. 231 N. Loogootee,
(812) 295-3299

Velma's Diner
Main Street Shoals, IN
(812)-247-2041
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Faytastic Pizza
214 S. Main St. Shoals, IN
(812) 247-2115
Open 10:00 am to 10:00 pm Monday through Saturday,
closed on Sunday.

Break Time Bar & Grill – Loogootee

China Wok – Loogootee

Dairy Master – Loogootee

Dairy Queen – Loogootee

Hunt's Steamer – Loogootee

Los Bravos (Mexican) – Loogootee

McDonald's – Loogootee

Pizza Junction – Loogootee

Subway – Loogootee

The Cabin – Loogootee

Loogootee Family Rest. – Loogootee

Wendy's – Loogootee