

Day Trip #1—Northwest to Indiana

From **The Weller Haus**, take **I-471 South to I-275 West** and hook up to **I-74 West**...continue to the Greensburg exit. Greensburg is known for a quirky large-tooth Aspen Tree that grows out of the top of the Decatur County Courthouse. If nothing else, stop to take a photo—it's simply the thing to do. The tree has been in place for at least 50 years and made it to the "Ripley's Believe it or Not" column and is now a landmark on some state maps.

From Greensburg, pick up **Indiana 46 westbound**. This will be your main route for the remainder of the trip. You'll end up in **Columbus, Indiana** where primary attractions are concrete, glass and stainless steel buildings---over 70 of them—designed by famous architects. Places you don't want to miss while you're here include the Columbus Visitors Center, the First Christian Church, the Commons and Irwin Gardens. If you're hungry, stop at the Columbus Inn Tea Room and don't forget Zaharako's Confectionary for the ultimate ice-cream stop—check out the massive pipe organ.

As soon as you pass the junction of Interstate 65, 2 miles west of Columbus, the hills begin to rise on Indiana 46 and for the next 35 miles, there are very few paved roads that intersect it. Just don't drive on these gravel and dirt trails—especially when it's rainy—flash flooding is a regular occurrence. Just 12 miles west of I-65, you'll come upon Gnaw Bone—where there's virtually nothing to do. Watch for Sorghum Mill, just off I-46. You might want to stop and pick up some goodies at the roadside stand, along with some recipes—generally open from late summer through fall.

The 6 miles between Gnaw Bone and **Nashville** take you past the entrance to Brown County State Park. It's not called Log Cabin Country for nothing—with over 500 log cabins found in the area, it is truly a beautiful place. The fall is incredible with the spreading of glorious color over the hills and it's also when crowds are extreme and Nashville is overwhelmed. This town of 900 souls, with over 250 specialty shops, is very sensitive to the visitors needs and constantly reviews what it can do for tourists. . Plan to spend time here shopping--we highly recommend late summer through September for a visit. Filled with artists that have settled here, you can see many of the artisans working in their shops. There are too many good places to visit, so just bring your sneakers, your money and your appetite.

Head 17 miles down 46 to Bloomington, home of Indiana University and massive quarries that produce limestone slab for architectural facings. Be sure to stop in The Lilly Library (yes, the pharmaceutical family endowed it) with over 400,000 rare books and seven million manuscripts. We recommend Mother Bear's pizza for something light—the IU students swear by it. A little fancier fare is found at Scholars Inn—a hot spot.