weekend escapes in northern indiana

city/country weekend

Notre Dame...Broadway shows... Museums with flashy roadsters and chocolates... World-class art... Golf... Swimming... Fishing... Boating... Huge quilt designs on barns... Lodgings in historic homes and waterside resorts... Upscale dining and quirky food finds. Discover a city vibe and outdoor adventures in St. Joseph and Marshall Counties.















Day 1: Notre Dame Campus/South Bend

THINGS TO DO:

- **Tour the Notre Dame campus** (*Photo 1*): Start your visit is at the Eck Visitors Center, which is also home to the Hammes Bookstore, loaded with Notre Dame paraphernalia. On a walking tour, you'll see the campus's incredible architecture (don't miss the Snite Museum of Art with more than 23,000 works). You can attend Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and tour this famous church.
- **Discover the Past (and Present!):** Pioneer roots run deep in South Bend and the city's Center of History traces them. The complex includes Copshaholm, a 38-room mansion, and the Worker's Home, which reflects a 1930s immigrant family. The Kids-first Children's Museum gives youngster a chance to find out what it was like to attend a one-room schoolhouse and live in a cabin. Right next door, visit the stunning Stude-baker National Museum, which showcases shiny vintage cars, as well as the carriage that took Abraham Lincoln to his fatal night at Ford's Theatre. On the south side of town, tour the South Bend Chocolate Factory and load up on their delicious creations.
- See a Show (*Photo 2*): The Morris Performing Arts Center, the largest historic theater in the region, presents Broadway touring shows, concerts, symphony, comedians and other entertainment. Dinner packages are available for most shows.

LODGING:

- **The Oliver Inn, South Bend:** Nine antique-filled guest rooms in an 1886 mansion; includes candlelight breakfast.
- **The Morris Inn, South Bend:** Elegant lodging on the Notre Dame campus with the upscale Sorin's restaurant and relaxed Rohr's Irish Pub.

DINING:

- LaSalle Grill, South Bend: An upscale bistro featuring refined dining and entertainment.
- Rocco's Restaurant, South Bend: A local institution for pizza and Italian specialties.
- Artisan, Elkhart (Photo 3): Stylish and contemporary new restaurant with inventive menu.

Day 2: South Bend, Elkhart, Plymouth and Culver

THINGS TO DO:

- **Go on a Nature Walk** (*Photo 4*): Two locations along the St. Joseph River provide many outdoor attractions: Battell Park, in South Bend's sister community of Mishawaka on the city's Riverwalk features a terraced rock garden and playground equipment. A few miles east across the county line, the city of Elkhart's RiverWalk passes parks, trendy shops and restaurants. You also can stroll through the nearby Wellfield Botanic Gardens.
- **Tee Off:** Head south to Marshall County, where golfers flock to Swan Lake, home to the United States Golf Academy and Indiana National Golf Club, northwest of Plymouth, for both experts and beginners. Mystic Hills Golf Club in nearby Culver is part of the Pete Dye Golf Trail.
- **Pedal the Countryside (and Lakeside!)** (*Photo 5*): Bicycle routes, ranging from 10 to 63 miles feature great scenery, including a trip around giant Lake Maxinkuckee, along lesser-traveled roads. All start at Webster School in Plymouth.
- **Drive the Marshall County Barn Quilt Trail:** Local residents bent on celebrating the region's quilt heritage and saving vintage barns created this unique 150-mile driving trail, where more than 70 barns display brilliantly painted quilt patterns. Download a map at visitmarshallcounty.org/things-to-do/barn-quilt-trail.

LODGING and DINING: See below

Day 3: Culver

THINGS TO DO:

- **Beach it:** Known as "The Cape Cod of the Midwest," the small community of Culver stretches along the glistening waters of Lake Maxinkuckee, the second largest lake in Indiana. Sun on the well-maintained community beach and take a dip. Sailing, boating and fishing are all popular on "Lake Max." Marinas rent watercraft.
- **Visit Culver Academies** (*Photo 6*): Roam the manicured grounds of this worldrenowned private co-ed boarding school, known best for its legendary Black Horse Troop, which has ridden in Presidential Inaugural parades since 1913. See them in action during Sunday afternoon parades.

LODGING:

- **Swan Lake Resort, Plymouth** (*Photo 7*): Upscale lodge rooms, villas overlooking the golf course and luxurious cottages; pool, a full-service spa, and restaurants.
- **Ev and Jayne's Irish Inn, Plymouth:** 14 elegant rooms with fireplaces, whirlpools and breakfast included.
- The Culver Cove Resort and Conference Center, Culver: Condo lodging along the shore of Lake Maxinkuckee.

DINING:

- **Original Root Beer Stand, Culver:** Terrific root beer, burgers, hot dogs and all the fixings served by carhops.
- **Lakehouse Grille, Culver:** Quirky and fun with a sailboat hanging from the ceiling for steaks and burgers in a family-friendly atmosphere

Extend your Northern Indiana stay by traveling to other stops on the Art and Earth Trail,