

DESTINATIONS

Two Lakes Loop

Key Skill

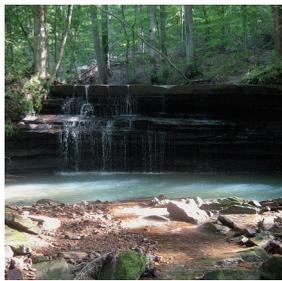
Hike in hunting season

The Hoosier State goes orange in late fall—with changing leaves and hunters' vests. In southern Indiana, the game-hunting season runs from the end of September through December. Here's how to stay safe.

- 1. Know the schedule.** Wild turkey: October 19–30. White-tailed deer: October through December. Hunting is prohibited in the areas of the forest designated for recreation (as this one is), but private land abuts the forest in many places. The longest stretch runs from Indian Lake's south shore to Celina's.
- 2. Dress right.** Wear no white, lest you're mistaken for the backside of a deer, and leave the camo and muted colors at home. Instead opt for bright colors or blaze orange. Best bet: Wear a cap and attach a vest or neon surveying tape to your backpack. Check cabelas.com.
- 3. Avoid dawn and dusk.** Animals are most active early in the morning and as the sun is setting—hunters too.
- 4. Be safe, not stressed.** Accidents are rare. Fewer hunting fatalities are recorded than from other sports such as boating.

Locals Know

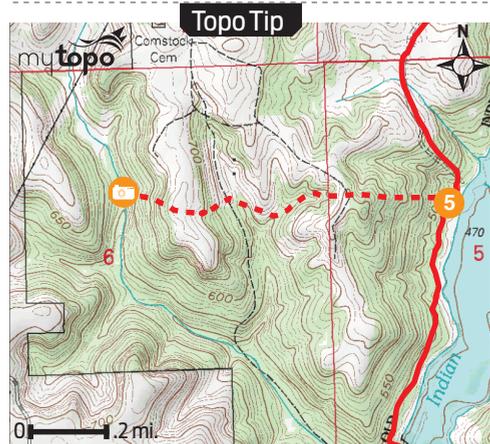
Indiana's Native American population used what is now Hoosier National Forest as a hunting ground until Europeans settled the land in the 1700s. Despite the long history of human exploration, discoveries are still being made around the Two Lakes Loop—one as recently as this year. While out scouting a potential reroute of the trail, Forest Service engineers found Jason Falls, an undocumented 10-foot waterfall due west of Indian Lake. Bushwhack one mile from your camp to a stream where the falls drape over a rock shelf into a shallow pool just downstream (see "Topo Top," right). The feature was given its name in honor of the ranger who discovered it.



See This

BOX TURTLE

This forest—especially around Celina and Indian Lakes—is crawling with them (our trail scout spotted seven turtles in four miles). Just larger than your fist, these reptiles are most active in the summer and early in fall as they look for noshable insects and earthworms. Be on the lookout where there is an abundance of marshy areas and undergrowth. As nighttime temps drop into the 40s and below, this dark-green and tan turtle will build a few-inch-deep burrow in the fallen leaves and sticks and hibernate until warmer weather arrives.



From your camp on Indian Lake (5), hike west cross-country one mile to Jason Falls, then explore downstream.

On the Menu

THE GROCERY LIST

(AISLE #)
IN NEAREST STORE BELOW

Breakfast 1

On the road
Lunches 1 & 2
Bagels with peanut butter

Dinner 1

Two Lakes
Tuna

Breakfast 2

Cheesy Eggs Burrito
Snacks Trail mix, nuts, jerky, energy bars

Two Lakes Tuna

Pasta, red sauce, fish

1 cup egg noodles
1 6-oz. tuna pouch
1 cup marinara sauce (pre-packed in a zip-top bag)
2 ounces Cheddar cheese

Bring a pot of water to boil and add noodles. Once the pasta is soft (approximately seven minutes), drain water and add the tuna and marinara sauce. Stir and add cheese. Serves two.

Cheesy Eggs Burrito

A an easy, filling breakfast

2 eggs
1/3 cup shredded Cheddar
1/4 cup milk from powder
Flour tortilla

Break and freeze your eggs in a zip-top bag before hitting the trail. Ready to cook? Thaw the eggs in your pot over low heat. Then add milk, stir to mix, and scramble. Sprinkle cheese. Salt and pepper to taste. Roll in tortilla. Serves one.

[] peanut butter (1)
[] powdered milk (1)
[] egg noodles (2)
[] marinara sauce (2)
[] tuna pouch (2)
[] bagels (6)
[] energy bars (6)
[] flour tortillas (6)
[] jerky (6)
[] mixed nuts (6)
[] trail mix (6)

[] eggs (back of store)
[] Cheddar cheese (back of store)

Pack Salt, pepper

NEAREST GROCERY STORE
CASH SAVER FOOD
1416 20th St., Tell City, IN
(812) 547-6885

* **PIT STOP** Fill up cafeteria style at **Schwartz Family Restaurant**. Whether you go for cheeseburgers, meat-loaf, or pot pie, our scout says to top it off with a piece of homemade apple pie à la mode. 6738 West Governors Trace, Eckerty, IN; (812) 338-9000; schwartzrestaurant.com