



University of Southern Indiana

Historic Southern Indiana Project
8600 University Boulevard
Evansville, Indiana 47712
(812) 465-7014

HISTORIC SOUTHERN INDIANA PROVIDING LOOP TOURS FOR SHORT VACATIONS

For Immediate Release
June 26, 1991

Loop tours featuring the seven hub communities of Historic Southern Indiana Project are being introduced to provide short, inexpensive vacations that give individuals or families opportunities to get away for a few days, change their routine, and see something interesting.

Both the economy and an HSI Visitor Research Center study indicate a current preference for this type of vacation. The center projects that most travelers will stay closer to home, taking two- to three-day trips.

A U.S. Travel Data Center summer-vacation survey also found respondents plan to spend time in small/rural towns, a destination that tied with the mountains for second place in the survey; the beach is in first place.

To accommodate the small-town preference, Historic Southern Indiana -- an alliance of historical and recreational resources in 26 southern Indiana counties, located south of Indiana 50 -- has seven loop tours that offer museums, state parks, recreational facilities, theaters, bed and breakfasts, cabins, unique inns or resorts, and distinctive restaurants.

Darrel E. Bigham, HSI director, notes travelers coming into southern Indiana are open to suggestions. "We want to provide some very interesting options for the spontaneous traveler," he said. "We also want to help those who live in this region to become more aware of the unique historical, cultural, and natural features that they can enjoy. And we hope the residents will share the loop excursions with visiting friends and relatives."

Historic Southern Indiana Project stretches from New Harmony, site of early nineteenth century communal settlements on the Wabash River, to the historic southeast Indiana river community of Madison, and includes Evansville, with the near-downtown preservation area and ancient Indian exhibits at Angel Mounds; Vincennes, with the George Rogers Clark Memorial and other historic attractions; various facilities now existing around Lincoln State Park; Corydon, the state's first capitol; and the New Albany/Jeffersonville area, developed from a river trading center.

Historic Southern Indiana was organized by the University of Southern Indiana to assist regional economic development and historic preservation. Maps have been printed of the new loop tours and are available at Interstate 64 visitor centers or high-traffic facilities in the area. Maps or information also may be obtained from HSI offices at the University, 812/465-7014.