



SOUTHERN INDIANA HILLS

Bloomington, IN Tuesday, October 25 – Orientation 8pm

**Bloomington - Nashville – Bedford – French Lick – Bedford – Bloomington
Small Group Tour with Cargo Van SAG, AM Stop, Lunch Stop, Hotels including
night in Bloomington after the ride**

**PRICE = \$1100-1250 for 10 rider minimum, \$950-1100 for 15 rider maximum
Non-Refundable Deposit of \$300**

Southern Indiana, what a great place to bicycle! I even moved here just for the cycling. First of all, Bloomington is the home of the movie, *Breaking Away*, influenced by the Indiana University students' Little 500. Then, there's all the short but steep hills of the Ohio Valley, and the very popular Hilly Hundred club invitational. Lastly, there's hardly any motor vehicle traffic. I've been riding down here since all my life and a lot more since I moved here in 2005. Due to global warming I'm purposely starting this ride in late October so the colors should be popping.



Tuesday, October 25

There are lots of activities always going on at this Big 10 college town. There's plenty of restaurants downtown and three bicycle shops within walking distance.

Orientation 8pm at the Bloomington Graduate "study hall".



Wednesday, October 26 (58mi, 3270ft climbing)

We'll be riding east thru the college campus and then take a meandering route to Little Nashville just to find the best hills and scenery for y'all. There's plenty of activity in this weekend town with lots of shopping, hiking, biking, and eating.



Thursday, October 27 (61mi, 2637ft climbing)

We have a loop east of Nashville as we ride by Brown County State Park and reach Columbus via one of my favorite roads, Bellesville Pike. Columbus is the world headquarters of Cummins Engines and the company has encouraged world famous architects to design government buildings, churches, and schools. The terrain flattens out, but not the first and last part of this loop.



Friday, October 28 (55mi, 3012ft climbing)

We ride by Brown County State Park and the ghost town of Story. We travel to Bedford and Lawrence County through limestone country that built Chicago after O'Leary's cow burnt down the wooden city. This stone also was used for the Empire State Building, the Washington Monument, and the Pentagon. Along with the quarries is more and more hills, of course!



Saturday, October 29 (53mi, 3125ft climbing)

We'll ride southeast to reach Tunnelton, pretty much a ghost town from the railroad era, but we will ride by an old Victorian mansion now a bed and breakfast and event venue. We eventually turn west to skirt around Spring Mill State Park and then through the pleasant town of Mitchell, home of the

Persimmon Festival. The fruit is ready to eat off the road while riding! Then an Amish area so watch for the road apples. We reach West Baden and French Lick where the two resorts competed with each other back in the roaring 20's. The Cook Company, a medical device company, has completely refurbished both. If health board restrictions are loosened we just might be able to stop in and look at the extravagance. Sorry, we won't be staying there!



Sunday, October 30 (61mi, 4079ft climbing)

We leave French Lick headed south through Hoosier National Forest, a Purdue farm, and into Dubois County and Cuzco. After lunch in another ghost town of Huron, we'll be stopping at one of the longest covered bridges of Indiana and the Williams Dam. We're back in Bedford for a good rest after our "queen stage".



Monday, October 31 (68mi, 4474ft climbing)

If Sunday's ride is a "queen stage", then Monday is the "king stage" We head northwest thru some hamlets of southern Indiana such as Springville, Popcorn, and Cincinnati. I added a section to include the Tulip Trestle. After lunch at the observation deck, stop at Yoho's General Store, another site saved by the Cook Company. We'll skirt around the west side of Bloomington on our greenways back to the Graduate for another overnight.