

Brown County, Indiana Newcomer's Guide

Welcome to
The Art Colony of the Midwest™



Brown County Chamber of Commerce

211 Van Buren Street
P.O. Box 164
Nashville, Indiana 47448
812.988.0234
www.browncounty.org
commerce@browncounty.org

General Information

Brown County, Indiana is a unique area with a personality all its own. The area's rugged beginnings, scenic beauty and historic art colony have all contributed to the distinctive atmosphere and charm of this Southern Indiana village. Today, Brown County is living out this history, firmly established as the *Art Colony of the Midwest™*.

Brown County's picturesque landscape was a gift of the Ice Age. A glacier that covered most of what would become the Northern United States flattened most of Indiana, but stopped just over the Brown County line. This created the contour of the hills and valleys and the atmospheric "blue haze" that has inspired artists throughout the years.

Brown County was officially allocated in 1836 and named after Major General Jacob Brown, a hero in the war of 1812. County officials were elected and the land was divided into five townships. The county seat, presently Nashville, consisted of a cluster of log cabins and 75 residents. In 1873, a log courthouse and jail were added, where the current courthouse and jail stand today. Nashville was incorporated in 1872.

Due to poor transportation routes, development was limited and most activity centered on the many small villages spread along the rough terrain. However, the pioneers found an abundance of wildlife and fertile ground for raising vegetables and livestock. They bartered with Native Americans and other settlers, producing quilts, ironwork, furniture, candles, pottery and baskets. Today, these crafts provide a livelihood for many residents of Brown County.

In 1905, a railroad station was built in Helmsburg, six miles northwest of Nashville. This made the area more accessible to travelers. Beginning in the early 1900's, author Kin Hubbard introduced his famous Abe Martin cartoon character. Abe Martin was featured in newspapers across the nation, where he immortalized the Brown County philosophy. Soon thereafter, Brown County welcomed its most famous resident, T.C. Steele. In 1907, Steele built his home and studio, *House of the Singing Winds*, in the hills of Brown County. The Village of Nashville played host to many artists from all over the country. These artists were highly trained and exhibited works in the Hoosier Salon, Chicago Arts Institute and other organizations nationwide.

Today, Brown County thrives as a tourist destination, but has been able to retain and cherish the spirit of its character. Artists and craftsmen continue to flock to Brown County and visitors continue to be awestruck by the artwork, scenic beauty and historic preservation of the early pioneer lifestyle.

For more information regarding Brown County contact the following organizations.

**Brown County
Chamber of Commerce**
211 Van Buren St.
P.O. Box 164
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.0234
www.browncounty.org

**Brown County Convention &
Visitors Bureau**
10 North Van Buren Street
P.O. Box 840
Nashville, IN 47448
800.753.3255
www.browncounty.com

Brown County Democrat
(local newspaper)
P.O. Box 277
812.988.2221
www.browncountyindiana.com

Location

Brown County, Indiana is located approximately 50 miles south of Indianapolis, Indiana.



Weather

Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low	Mean	Avg. Precip.	Record High	Record Low
Jan	35°F	18°F	26°F	2.56 in.	70°F (1960)	-35°F (1994)
Feb	41°F	21°F	31°F	2.44 in.	74°F (1999)	-20°F (1982)
Mar	51°F	30°F	41°F	3.50 in.	83°F (1986)	-15°F (1980)
Apr	63°F	40°F	51°F	4.24 in.	88°F (1960)	12°F (1982)
May	73°F	50°F	61°F	4.73 in.	94°F (1956)	26°F (1963)
Jun	81°F	59°F	70°F	3.96 in.	104°F (1954)	35°F (1992)
Jul	85°F	63°F	74°F	4.21 in.	105°F (1954)	42°F (1960)
Aug	84°F	61°F	72°F	4.21 in.	100°F (1988)	38°F (1986)
Sep	77°F	52°F	65°F	3.23 in.	103°F (1954)	28°F (1995)
Oct	66°F	40°F	53°F	3.03 in.	92°F (1953)	15°F (1952)
Nov	53°F	32°F	43°F	3.84 in.	81°F (1999)	-2°F (1958)
Dec	40°F	23°F	32°F	3.13 in.	75°F (1982)	-22°F (1989)

Airports

The Indianapolis International Airport is the closest major airport. Shuttle, limousine and car rental services are available from Indianapolis.

The Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport and The Louisville International Airport are also convenient. In addition, there are smaller airports in the area that may be appropriate for charter and private flights. The closest is the Monroe County Airport in Bloomington (812.825.5406).

Population/Income

Brown County:	15,071
Nashville:	804
Per Capita Income: (annual in 2005)	\$31,456

Population by Age

Preschool (0-4):	764
School Age (5-17):	2,518
College Age (18-24):	1,195
Young Adult (25-44):	3,794
Older Adult (45-64):	4,846
Older (65+):	2,037
Median Age:	42.1 Years

Employment/Workforce

- The total resident labor force, as of 2006, is 8,203.
- The average, annual earnings per job in Brown County is \$21,348.
- Per capita personal income is \$31,456 annually.
- Approximately 4,513 residents commute outside of Brown County; 1,317 commute to Marion County; 1,309 to Bartholomew County; 739 to Johnson County; 651 to Monroe County; 155 to Morgan County.
- Approximately 647 people commute to Brown County from outside the county; 194 commute from Monroe County; 109 from Bartholomew County; 67 from Johnson County; 44 from Morgan County; 36 from Marion County.
- 68% of Brown County residents have a Brown County Public Library card.
- As of 2005, 83.6% of residents 25 years or older have a high school diploma or higher. 18.5% residents have a Bachelors degree or higher.
- 81% of high school graduates go on to higher education.

Higher Education

Indiana University

Indiana University offers more than 130 undergraduate majors and more than 320 other degree programs. Almost every academic area available as a major can also be pursued as a minor, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Indiana University, Bloomington

300 North Jordan Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47405
812.855.0611
www.indiana.edu/~iuadmit

Indiana University/Purdue University, Columbus

4601 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812.348.7311
www.columbus.iupui.edu

Ivy Tech State College

Ivy Tech State College offers associate, certificate, and developmental degrees. A variety of areas of study are offered. Many programs can be completed in two years or less. There are multiple campuses located in the Brown County vicinity.

Career Resource Center

246 East Main Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.5880

Ivy Tech Community College

200 Daniels Way
Bloomington, IN 47404
866.447.0700

Ivy Tech Community College

4475 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
800.922.4838

Primary & Secondary Education

Brown County High School

235 South Schoolhouse Lane
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6606

Brown County Junior High School

95 South Schoolhouse Lane
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6605

Helmsburg Elementary School

5378 North Helmsburg School Rd
Morgantown, IN 46160
812.988.6651

Nashville Elementary School

260 South Schoolhouse Lane
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6607

Sprunica Elementary School

3611 East Sprunica Road
Nineveh, IN 46164
812.988.6625

Van Buren Elementary School

4045 South State Road 135
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6658

Government Offices Important Phone Numbers

Animal Control	812.988.5533
Assessor	812.988.5466 / 812.988.5520
Auditor	812.988.5485 / 812.988.5520
Building Department	812.988.5490 / 812.988.5488
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	812.988.2404
Child Care Resource & Ref	812.988.7686
Child Care Voucher Agent	812.988.7686
Child Protection	812.988.0972 / 812.988.1279
Child Support	812.988.5471 / 812.988.5521
Circuit Court	812.988.7557 / 812.988.5562
Clerk	812.988.5510 / 812.988.5562
County Attorney	812.988.8890
Emergency Management Agency	812.988.2063 / 812.988.1065
Extension Office/4-H Fairgrounds	812.988.5495 / 812.988.4310
Department of Family & Children	812.988.2239 / 812.988.1279
Health Department	812.988.2255 / 812.988.5601
Health Support Clinic	812.988.6678
Highway Department	812.988.4545 / 812.988.5619
Judge	812.988.7557 / 812.988.5562
Parks & Recreation	812.988.5522 / 812.988-7997
Soil & Water	812.988.2211
Solid Waste Management (Recycling)	812.988.0140
Surveyor	812.988.5500
Treasurer	812.988.5458
Veterans' Affairs	812.988.5600
Water Utility	812.988.6611

Law Enforcement Important Phone Numbers

Bailiff	812.988.5518 / 812.988.5562
Community Corrections	812.988.7343 / 812.988.8451
Medical Technicians & Ambulance	812.988.7737
Jail	812.988.5605 / 812.988.5618
Probation Dept.	812.988.5505 / 812.988.5562
Sheriff – Admin., Dispatch & Jail	812.988.6655

Emergency Phone Numbers

Medical Technicians & Ambulance	812.988.7737
Fire Departments	
Nashville 812.988.4242	Hamblen Township 812.988-4063
Cordry / Sweetwater 812.988.2224	Jackson Township 812.988-6201
Fruitdale 812.988-1696	Van Buren Township 812.988-4491

License Branch

Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday – 8:30am-5:00pm
106 Hawthorne Street	Thursday – 8:30am-6:30pm
Nashville, IN 47448	Saturday – 8:30am – Noon
812.988.2404	Closed – Sunday and Monday
www.bmvexpress.in.gov	

Post Offices

Helmsburg Post Office	Morgantown Post Office
Zip: 47435	Zip: 46160
2401 North Main Street	300 Washington Street
812.988.2262	812.597.4012
Nashville Post Office	Trafalgar Post Office
Zip: 47448	Zip: 46181
200 E. Gould Street	105 East Ohio Street
812.988.2268	812.878.4300

Assisted Living Center/Senior Citizens Center

Brown County Health & Living Community	Sycamore Valley Senior Citizens Center
55 Willow Street	746 Memorial Drive
Nashville, IN 47448	Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6666	812.988.0326

Health Care

Bloomington Hospital

601 West Second Street
PO Box 1149
Bloomington, IN 47402
812.353.6821

Central Indiana Primary Care

50 East Willow Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.8116

Nashville Family Medicine

104 Willow Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2223

Salt Creek Family Practice

103 Willow Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2231

Brown County Eye Care

50 Willow Street, Suite A
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.4937

Columbus Regional Hospital

2400 East 17th St
Columbus, IN 47201
812.379.4441

Prompt Care Urgent Care Clinic

326 South Woodcrest Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401
812.353.6888

Utilities

Brown County Water Utility

812.988.6611

Cinergy/PSI Energy

800.343.3525

Gaile's Propane

812.597.4451 / 800.257.8565

Indiana Natural Gas

812.723.2151

AT&T Internet Service Provider

866.662.4548

Refuse

Randy Woods

812.332.0118

Spicers

812.988.7206

Knight's Corner

812.988.7613

Jackson County REMC

812.358.4458 / 800.288.4458

Nashville Water and Sewage

812.988.7064

Hoosier Oil and Gas

812.988.4503

South Central REMC

765.342.3344 / 800.264.7362

Telephone Business Line Repair

800.727.2273

Telephone Home Line Repair

800.868.9696

Warford Silgas

812.988.4373

Contractors

Mike Nickels Log Homes

3497 North Clay Lick Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2689

Cobblestone Log Homes

7600 US 231 South
Freedom, IN 47431
812.829.1186
www.cobblestoneloghomes.com

Hearthstone of Indiana

3204 Helmsburg Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2127

Martin Enterprises

331 Locust Lane
P.O. Box 1085
Nashville, IN 47448
[www.browncounty.org/
martin.html](http://www.browncounty.org/martin.html)

SBC Construction

7311 Preamble Court
Indianapolis, IN 46259
317.862.7996
www.sbcconstruction.com

Sycamore Log Homes

27 Pinhook Road
Bedford, IN 47421
812.279.0399
www.sycamoreloghomes.com

Realtor Information

Abe Martin Realty Inc.

57 North Jefferson Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.1099

Bill Howard Real Estate

2573 Green Valley Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.4987

Century 21 Village Realty

496 North Jefferson St
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.7244

Glenwood Real Estate Brokers, Inc.

1013 South Harrison Ridge Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812.345.9000

Hills O'Brown Realty, Inc.

158 N. Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 206
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2227
www.browncountyhomes.com

Jane Gore Realty

91 W Gould Street
P.O. Box 9
Nashville, IN 47448
812-988-6512
www.janegorerealty.com

ReMax Team

25 Artist Dr
P.O. Box 1609
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.4485
877.988.4485
www.browncountyremax.com

South Central Appraisals Associates

153 E. Gould St.
P.O. Box 122
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6216

Tracy Bock Realty

146 East Main St
P.O. Box 1676
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.8710
www.tracybockrealty.com

Sweetwater Realty

8734 Nineveh Road
Nineveh, IN 46164
317.878.4100

Banks

Fifth Third Bank

100 Commercial Drive
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2241

Lincoln Bank

189 Commercial Drive
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.1200

National City**The Peoples State Bank**

37 West Main Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.5430

41 Hawthorne Drive
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6633

Insurance Agencies

Austin Insurance Agency, Inc.
138 South Jefferson Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6642

Bright & Williamson Insurance
24 N Jefferson Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.2275

Edward Jones Investments
147 East Main Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.8261

Farmers' Insurance Group
Christina McGinley
146 East Main Street
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.6399

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance
Salt Creek Plaza Shopping Center
P.O. Box 146
Nashville, IN 47448
812.988.4671

Area Churches

Apostolic

New Life Tabernacle 812.988.0861
Green Valley Apostolic Church
812.988.2884

Baptist

Bean Blossom Baptist Church
812.988.7679/988.4161
Country Gospel Music Church
812.988.0242
Fellowship Baptist Church
317.933.3400
Harmony Baptist Church 812.988.4750
Spurnica Baptist Church 812.988.6456
Unity Baptist Church 812.597.0962

Catholic

St. Agnes Church 812.988.2778

Christian

Becks Grove Church 812.988.7380
Nashville Christian Church
812.988.2889

Christian Science

Christian Science Society 812.988.6739

Church of Christ

Church of Christ 812.988.7694
Dowell Hill Church of Christ
812.342.4874

Church of God

**Neighborhood Church of
God/Anderson** 317.878.5134

Episcopal

St. David's Episcopal Church
812.988.1038

Holiness

Spearsville Holiness Church
812.988.9416

Inter-Denominational

Church of the Lakes 317.933.2595
New Life Community Church
812.988.6543
Westside Community Church
812.324.8464

Lutheran

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
Church** 812.988.8057/988.4720

Mennonite

Bean Blossom Mennonite Church
812.988.7359

Nazarene

Parkview Church of the Nazarene

812.988.7767

Non-Denominational

Brown County Community Church
812.988.7347

Duncan Christian Center 812.988.2571

Faith Full Gospel 812.597.5759

Area Churches (continued)

Goshen Community Church 812.597.0018

Grace Church 812.988.9902

Orthodox

Christ the Savior Bulgarian Orthodox Church 317.442.6762

Pentecostal

Belmont Chapel 812.988.2885

Way of Holiness Tabernacle, Independent Full Gospel 812.597.5451

Presbyterian

Brown County Presbyterian Fellowship 812.988.9764

Salvation Army

Salvation Army Brown County Church
812.988.7019

United Methodist

Christiansburg United Methodist Church 812.988.1870

Morgantown United Methodist Church 812.597.4522

Nashville United Methodist
812.988.2786

North Salem United Methodist
812.988.2786

Vineyard

Brown County Vineyard Church
812.988.0547

Wesleyan

Gnaw Bone Wesleyan Church
812.372.4728

Festivals & Events

Antique Tractor and Farm Machinery Show - First weekend in May
4-H Fairgrounds

Art Renaissance Weekend -
Second weekend in September
Various venues throughout Brown County

Bill Monroe Music Park and Campground
State Road 135 North

Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival
Mid-June

Bean Blossom Gospel Jubilee
Mid-August

Bean Blossom Blues Fest
September

Bill Monroe Bluegrass Hall of Fame & Uncle Pen Days Festival
September

Bean Blossom Biker Bash
September

Hillbilly Wagon Train Jam
October

Christmas in Brown County -
Day after Thanksgiving until Christmas

Clay Day at Spears Gallery - August
State Road 135 South

Festival of Flowers - May
T.C. Steele State Historic Site

Indiana Heritage Arts Exhibit - June
Brown County Gallery and Museum

Log Cabin Tour - First weekend in June
Various log cabins throughout Brown County

Old Settlers Festival -
First Friday and Saturday in September
Bean Blossom

Shelby Car Spring Fling - May
Brown County State Park

Spring Blossom Parade -
First weekend in May
Nashville

Studio and Garden Tour -
Various locations throughout Brown County
Last weekend in June

T.C. Steele State Historic Site

Winter Hike - Second Saturday in January
Brown County State Park

Wild Flower Foray - April

For more information on area events and activities, visit www.browncounty.com/calendar