



Travel Media Showcase Post Tour: Town Squares and Urban Flair

Dates: Friday, August 14 – Monday, August 17, 2015
Capacity: 15 Journalists

Friday, August 14

- 10:00 a.m. **Depart Bloomington, IN via Shuttle Bus**
- 11:30 a.m. **Arrive in Noblesville, explore Noblesville Square**
Experience Hamilton County's best historic downtown square. Noblesville is home to several local antique and boutique shops, restaurants and the Hamilton County Museum of History – featuring what was once the Hamilton County jail. Tour the galleries at Nickel Plate Arts ([@NickelPlateArts](#)), Hamilton County's arts initiative campus and participate in an art class led by one of the artists in-house.
- 2:00 p.m. **Lunch at Nickel Plate Bar and Grill ([@NickelPlateBar](#))**
- 3:30 p.m. **Check-in to the Renaissance Indianapolis North Hotel**
- 4:30 p.m. **"Behind the Scenes" with Walter Knabe ([@Walterknabe](#), [@IndianaDesign](#))**
Shake hands with celebrated artist Walter Knabe and get an insider's tour of his studio on the third floor of the Indiana Design Center in the Carmel Arts and Design District. Walter's long list of celebrity clients include names like Michael Jordan and Bill Cosby. The Indiana Design Center houses more than 20 showrooms, where interior design professionals and artists provide access to hundreds of national brands and special collections.
- 5:30 p.m. **Explore the Carmel Arts and Design District ([@carmelartdesign](#))**
See one of Indiana's official cultural districts that is home to public art installments, juried artist galleries, antique shops and local restaurants. Expect to find original works and limited edition prints, all forms of painting, art glass, sculpture, photography, portraiture and more.
- 6:30 p.m. **Dinner at Bub's Burgers ([@BubsBurgers](#))**

Option 1

8:00 p.m. **Attend a performance at the Palladium (@CarmelPalladium)**
Take in the European-style architecture of Carmel's premier performing arts venue while watching a live performance. The Palladium hosts musical legends and performing acts each season like Tony Bennett, the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra, Gladys Knight and Martina McBride.

After: **Drinks and dessert at Divvy (@divvycarmel)**

Option 2

8:00 p.m. **Attend a concert at Symphony on the Prairie (@ConnerPrairie)**
Enjoy the amphitheater-style venue that provides a laidback atmosphere for guests to sit on lawn chairs or lounge on blankets. Symphony on the Prairie hosts musical acts like Franki Valli and the Beach Boys under gorgeous prairie sunsets each concert season.

After: **Ice cream at Handel's**

Saturday, August 15

10:00 a.m. **Check out of Renaissance Indianapolis North**

10:30 a.m. **Arrive at Conner Prairie (@ConnerPrairie)**
Visit Indiana's only Smithsonian-affiliate museum for a morning throughout acres of interactive exhibits, programs and experiences. Begin your adventure in the **1859 Balloon Voyage** where guests will learn about John Wise and his August 17, 1859 flight with stamped mail – celebrated as the first airmail delivery in history. After exploring the ground portion of the balloon exhibit, soar 350 feet into the air in a tethered helium-filled balloon – one of only five in the United States.

12:30 p.m. **Lunch at Conner Prairie with menu museum foods**
Join a Prairie-inspired lunch, featuring farm-to-table food prepared from Conner Prairie's own gardens.

1:30 p.m. **Depart Conner Prairie**

2:15 p.m. **Arrive in Indianapolis**

2:15 p.m. **Check-in to Le Meridien Indianapolis (@LeMeridien)**
Le Meridien is Indy's newest hotel with 100 Indy-centric guestrooms set in a downtown historic building.

2:45 p.m. **International Orangutan Center Tour (@Indianapolis Zoo)**
Meet the world's leading ape doctor who oversees the research and conservation strategies of the International Orangutan Center that opened in Summer 2014. Eight orangutans call Indy home. You'll see a research session with the orangutans that

proves that these apes are 97 percent human. You'll also go 40' in the air in a gondola to hang alongside the apes that spend their days on the recreated Hutan Trail.

- 4:00 p.m. **White River State Park Segway Tour (@WhiteRiverStPrk)**
Hop on a Segway to see all 250-acres of White River State Park including the central canal packed with paddleboats and gondolas and the seven family-friendly attractions that line the park.
- 5:30 p.m. **Return to Hotel**
- 6:45 p.m. **Dinner at St. Elmo Steak House (@stelmo)**
Indy's most iconic restaurant lives in the heart of downtown. Since 1902, St. Elmo's has been known for their shrimp cocktail which has been deemed as the 'world's spiciest dish' by Travel Channel.
- Post Dinner **Optional: Explore the Circle**
The epicenter of downtown Indianapolis, is marked by Monument Circle and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. We'll step inside South Bend Chocolate Company for some dessert or Rocket Fizz for some classic candy favorites or odd soda pops.

Sunday, August 16

- 9:00 a.m. **Breakfast at Lino's (@LinosCoffeelndy)**
Lino's is located on Main Street adjacent to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and is attached to the Dallara IndyCar Factory where real IndyCars are being made by engineers.
- 10:30 a.m. **Pace Car Rides at Indianapolis Motor Speedway (@IMS)**
Indy is known as the racing capitol of the world. You'll see the iconic oval first hand when you get strapped into a Pace Car to speed around the track.
- 1:00 p.m. **Tour and Tastings: Tinker Flats (@TinkerFlats)**
April 2015 will mark the opening of the nation's first food and beverage incubator, Tinker Flats. We'll step inside this \$3.3 million workspace to mix and mingle (and taste!) with the vendors from chocolatiers to distillers to chefs.
- 3:30 p.m. **Indianapolis Museum of Art: 100 Acres Art & Nature Park (@imamuseum)**
The Indianapolis Museum of Art is also home to 100 Acres an Art and Nature Park with 9 large-scale art installments including 'Funky Bones' – a large fiberglass installation that's a family favorite and played a pivotal part in the local author and *New York Times* bestselling book, *The Fault in Our Stars*. We'll also be sure to check out the famous Robert Indiana LOVE sculpture.
- 6:30 pm **Dinner at Union 50 (@Union50_)**
Dine at one of Indy's newest restaurants nestled along Mass Ave, the popular arts and

theatre neighborhood of Indianapolis. Union 50 serves up a wide variety of innovative dishes from small plates to large entrees.

Monday, August 17

TBD **Check out of Le Meridien**

TBD **Airport Shuttles Provided**

TBD **Airport Departures out of IND (Indianapolis International Airport)**

*Based on departure times, Visit Indy is happy to coordinate additional Indy activities or provide attraction passes to any journalist.

**All activities and times are tentative and subject to change.