

Are you looking for something a little out of the ordinary for your next family adventure?

Indiana County and the surrounding area features some unique recreation you can only find in our neck of the woods.

The **Double Diamond Deer** Ranch is a white-tailed deer sanctuary home to more than 20 deer in their natural habitat. Just off Rt. 36 three miles south of Cook Forest State Park, Double Diamond features 17 buck, five doe and 2 fawns including white, albino, piebald and brown deer. The largest buck is a white deer named Blitzen with more than 28 points.

Visitors to the deer ranch can pet the deer through the fence, participate in treat times and bottle feeding times during the summer months. The facility is handicap accessible, is open year round and features covered walkways and a wildlife museum featuring more than 90 taxidermy displays - everything from a mouse to a moose! For more information visit www.doublediamonddeerranch. com.



For a four-legged adventure of a different sort, the 97.5 acre **Crooked Creek Horse Park** offers everything for the horse lover including **competition shows, fun shows, trail** and **endurance riding, clinics** and a **full-scale rodeo**. Full hook-up and primitive camping sites are available to guests, as are three barns with 198 stalls.

Approximately 40 miles of permanently marked trails challenge riders with short hills, stream crossings, wooded trails, rocky areas and a little mud, just for fun. The park features two long loops of 18 and 35 miles, and many smaller loops perfect for a day-long ride. After a long day in the saddle, nearby Crooked Creek Lake offers a large beach with swimming, boating and fishing. For more information visit www.crookedcreekhorsepark-faha.com.

Looking for something a little more exotic?

The Thunder Mountain Lenapé
Nation's Annual Native American
Festival offers a truly unique cultural
heritage experience. Traditional
Native American drumming,
dancing and singing are just part of
the festivities that introduce festival
goers to the Native American
culture. A native village includes a
hands-on living history area,

complete with wigwams, tipi, reproduction artifacts and a garden. Game foods including buffalo, elk, bear and more tempt the taste buds with a native flair. The event is held each year in August and serves as a fundraiser for the Thunder Mountain educational programs and to assist the group in purchasing land for future cultural celebration. For more information, visit www.thundermtlenape.org.

Is your idea of adventure an afternoon spent on the links, practicing your swing? Maybe you'd like to try something just a little different while visiting Indiana. Check out a game of disc golf – played much like regular golf, only instead of a ball and clubs, players use a flying disc or Frisbee®. Like golf, the objective is to complete each "hole" in the fewest number of strokes – or throws in this case – only the "hole" is a raised metal basket.

Disc golf shares the same thrills and spills as traditional golf – like sinking a "hole" in one or hitting a tree on the fairway – but without the greens fee, cart rental and expensive equipment. A professional quality disc costs less than \$10 and it only takes one for basic play. Like golf, the game is

great exercise and is an excellent way to enjoy the great outdoors. The Indiana County Disc Links
Association's home course is
Getty Heights Park. For more information, visit
http://www.yourinter.net/kale_ppp/p age12.htm.

