

Destinations Midwest:
Indianapolis



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The Indiana Convention Center and RCA Dome.



Indiana CC expansion.

If you're looking for a city with sophisticated style and small-town charm, look no further than Indianapolis.

Indianapolis is the third largest city in the heartland, as the Midwest is often called, right after Chicago and Detroit. Other cities in the Midwest region include: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Des Moines, Fort Wayne, Grand Rapids, Kansas City, Madison, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Omaha, St. Louis, Toledo and Wichita.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Indianapolis had an estimated population of 783,438 in 2003. It's known for such attractions as the Dillinger Museum, Forest Discovery Center, Paramount Theatre, Amish Acres, French Lick Springs Resort, Stream Cliff

Herb Farm, Hayes Arboretum and West Baden Springs. The city is also home to the famous Indianapolis Speedway and the beloved Indiana Hoosiers football team. .

The Indiana Convention Center and RCA Dome The Indiana Convention Center & RCA Dome (ICCRD) is located at 100 S. Convention Avenue. The ICCRD hosts some of the largest events in the country each year. According to its official Web site, the ICCRD is managed by the Capital Improvement Board of Managers (CIB), created in 1965 by the Indiana General Assembly and empowered to finance and manage capital improvements. .

Located in the heart of Indianapolis, the convention center complex, along with the stadium, houses more than 400,000 square feet of exhibit space and nearly 140,000 square feet of meeting space. It was finished in late 1983 along with the Hoosier Dome, which was later renamed as the RCA Dome. The RCA dome is connected to the center, making the facility one of only two

convention venues in the nation benefiting from such an arrangement.

Exclusive contracts at the ICCRD facilities are held by:

- Centerplate (food service and novelties management)
- Contemporary Services Corp. (stadium and traffic service) • Protection Plus, Inc. (armed security)
- Clarian Health Partners, Inc. (emergency medical services)
- Denison Parking (parking lot management)
- Smart City Networks (Internet services). .

Over 9,400 parking spaces in surface lots and parking garages immediately surround the facility, and an additional 40,000 parking spaces are within a 10-block radius. .

Since its opening in 1972, there have been three major expansions of the Indiana Convention Center, and another is under way. .

Upon completion in 2010, a \$275 million expansion will be combined with the new Lucas Oil Stadium. This addition will increase the amount of exhibition, meeting room, ballroom and pre-function space operated by the CIB from 725,000 square feet to more than 1.2 million square feet. .

Exhibition space in the convention center will expand by 254,000 square feet, and the combination of new and old convention center exhibit space will exceed 564,000 square feet. Combined with the 183,000 square feet of exhibit space to be offered at Lucas Oil Stadium, 747,000 total square feet of exhibit space will be available for events. .

The expansion will also include an additional 63,000 square feet of meeting rooms. The plan allows for an enclosed, street-level connection from the convention center expansion to South Street, and easy access to Lucas Oil Stadium. .

The Lucas Oil Stadium will be the new home of the NFL's Indianapolis Colts as well as future NCAA college basketball championships and major conventions. The \$500 million, retractable roof facility is scheduled to open this summer just south of the RCA Dome. Upon its completion, expansion of the center itself will begin. .

Accommodations and attractions You'll find something nearby for every budget. Between 1984 and 2005, 183 new hotels with 16,722 rooms opened in the Indianapolis metropolitan area. Citywide, Indianapolis has more than 28,800 rooms in 284 hotels. Nearly 6,000 are located downtown, most of which are within easy walking distance of the convention center, with more than 3,000 connected by skywalks. .

Before or after your event, enjoy Circle Centre, a \$319.5 million dining, shopping and entertainment complex connected by skywalks to the Indiana Convention Center & RCA Dome, or the newly expanded and renovated Indianapolis Museum of Art and Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians & Western Art. Other possibilities include ARTSPARK at the Indianapolis Art Center and the Indianapolis Zoo. .