

## SWEET DEALS Golf at French Lick Resort

(Above) Ready to shake off winter's grip and get out on the greens? An early-bird golf package available March 15–May 15 at French Lick and West Baden resorts offers guests a two-night stay, plus two hours of golf instruction and two days of unlimited golf with cart. The courses were designed by Tom Bendelow, Donald Ross and Pete Dye—so they take golf seriously. Packages from \$369 (888/936-9360; frenchlick.com).

**Smith's Row** From-scratch soups, sandwiches, and seafood flown in twice a week from Hawaii headline the eclectic menu at this affordable lunch and dinner spot (812/373-9382; smithsrow.com).

**Tre Bicchieri** Italian dishes shine here, including two house-made soups daily, fresh-baked bread and beautiful desserts. Plus, you can get locally roasted and French press coffee (812/372-1962; trebicchieri-columbus.com).

**Zaharakos** Though they serve some sandwiches and salads, the real draw is the atmosphere and wonderful homemade ice cream. The parlor has been meticulously restored to its 1900 elegance, right down to the 40-foot-long marble counter with a double soda fountain (812/378-1900; zaharakos.com).

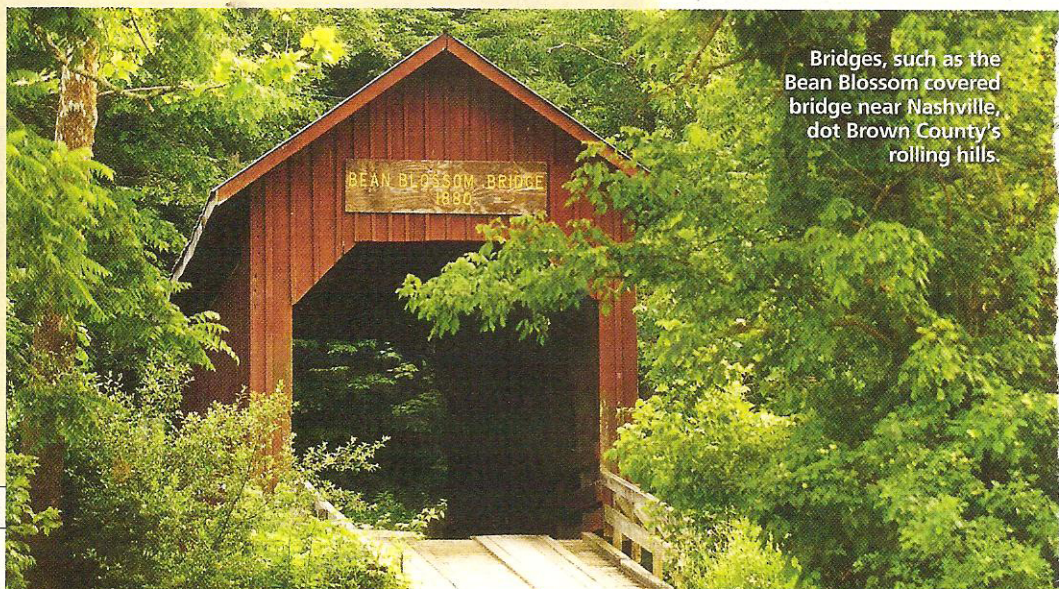
**Where to stay Hotel Indigo** Midcentury-modern touches show in the furniture, artwork and color scheme at this new 85-room hotel. Rooms are gorgeous, with hardwood floors. From \$119 (812/375-9100; hotelindigo.com).

**The Inn at Irwin Gardens** The Italianate-style inn was once home to one of Columbus' most prominent families. The original furnishings and sunken gardens, built to resemble the ruins of Pompeii, are reason enough to visit. Luxurious rooms and hearty breakfasts of freshly baked rolls, egg dishes and fruit-and-cream parfaits make it a real treat. From \$175 (812/376-3663; irwingardens.com).

## COVERED BRIDGE COUNTRY

Start your visit in Rockville (population: 2,765), which has shops and cafes. For information: **Parke County Inc.** (765/569-5226; coveredbridges.com).

**What to do Covered bridge tours** The self-guided, color-coded routes start from the 1883 depot-turned-visitors center in Rockville (765/569-5226; coveredbridges.com).



Bridges, such as the Bean Blossom covered bridge near Nashville, dot Brown County's rolling hills.