



SANTA CLAUS, IN and [HOLIDAY WORLD](#) and [SPLASHIN SAFARI](#)

Destination Drive, approximately 100 miles round trip.



Evansville, Ind., industrialist Louis J. Koch created the world's first theme park as a retirement project. He was troubled that the tiny hamlet of Santa Claus, Ind., was visited by children who were disappointed when they discovered Santa was not there. With nine children of his own, Koch loved children, holidays and celebrations.

Santa Claus Land opened August 3, 1946; the theme park included a toy shop, toy displays, a restaurant, themed children's rides, and, of course, Santa. Over the decades, Santa Claus Land flourished. Children from across the country came to sit on the real Santa's knee and whisper their Christmas wishes. Guests included Ronald Reagan, who stopped by in 1955.

As the park grew, the Koch family knew Christmas was not the only theming possibility for the park. In 1984, Santa Claus Land expanded to also include Halloween and 4th of July sections, and the park's name was changed to Holiday World.

In 1993, Splashin' Safari Water Park was added; it now covers nearly 40 acres and features two water coasters and wave pools, a river, family raft rides and water slides, plus several interactive family-water play complexes. The park, which was named the nation's #1 Water Park by USA Today, also offers free sunscreen.



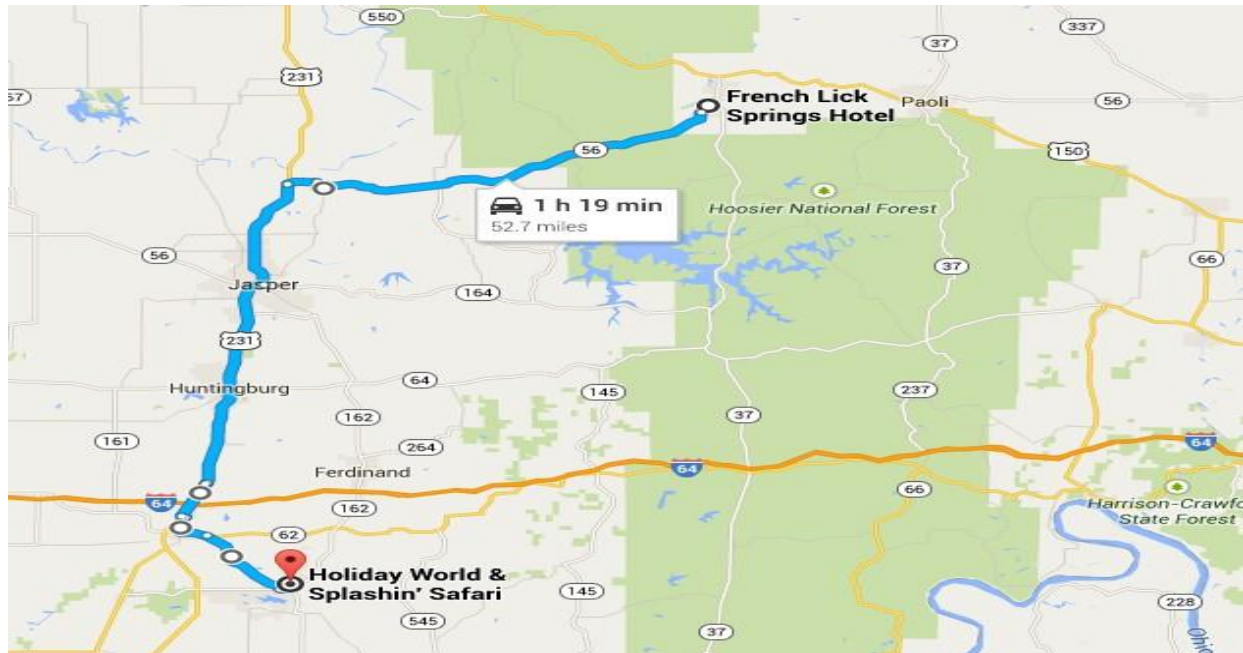
Holiday World introduced The Raven wooden roller coaster in 1995; it has been voted one of the world's top wooden coasters each year since, as has The Legend wooden roller coaster, added in 2000. That year, Holiday World became the first park in the world to provide free unlimited soft drinks.



In 2006, the park introduced a new holiday. The Thanksgiving section included a recording-breaking new wooden coaster, The Voyage, which helped catapult the park's seasonal attendance past the one-million mark for the first time. In 2013, TIME magazine named The Voyage the nation's best wooden roller coaster; the parks, which now cover 125 acres, have been repeatedly

named the World's Friendliest and Cleanest. In 2007 and again in 2012, Consumers Digest named Holiday World the nation's "Top Value Park."

DESTINATION DRIVE to HOLIDAY WORLD/SPLASHIN SAFARI



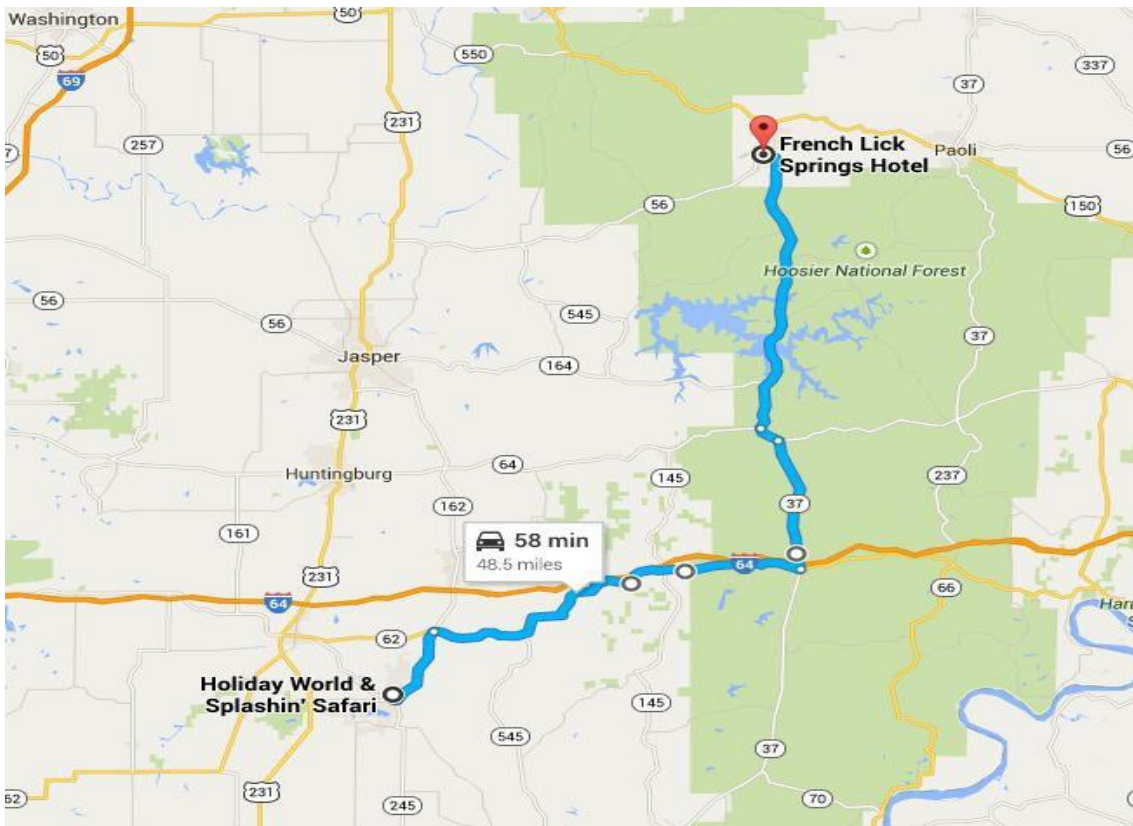
Depart the French Lick Resort and turn right onto **IN-56 W**.

1. Proceed west on **IN-56 W**.
2. Drive approximately 19 miles to Hayesville, IN.
3. Just after the Marathon Gas Station **IN-56W** joins **US-231 South**.
4. Continue South on **US-231/IN-56W** approximately 3 miles to Jasper, IN.
 - 4A. Continue through Jasper to the traffic light on **W 6th St**.
 - 4B. Turn right onto **W 6th St./US-231-S/IN-56W**.
 - 4C. Continue on **W 6th St** and bear left at the light to stay on **US-231 S**. (CVS Pharmacy on left.)
5. Continue south on **US-231 S**, you will eventually pass over **I-64**.
6. In Dale, IN start looking for **IN-62 E**.
7. Turn left onto **IN-62E**.
8. Drive a short distance through Dale, IN and just after the railroad tracks turn right onto **IN- 245**.
(There is a sign right before the tracks for Holiday World.)
9. Go about 5 miles to **Holiday World** on left. (Hard to miss.) Enter huge parking lot.

Holiday World and Splashin Safari
452 East Christmas Boulevard
Santa Claus, IN 47579

HOLIDAY WORLD & SPLASHIN SAFARI

RETURN TO FRENCH LICK RESORT



1. Leave the park and proceed north on **IN-245**.
2. Turn right onto **IN-62 E**.
3. Turn left onto **IN-37 N**.
- 3A. In Eckerty, IN **IN-37N** becomes **IN-64 N** and then **IN-145 N**.
4. Stay straight onto **IN- 145 North**.
5. Follow **IN-145 North** back to French Lick Resort.

French Lick Springs Hotel
8670 West State Road 56
French Lick, IN 47432