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- COVID-19: I need a place where I can easily social distance and can safely not wear a mask. I decided to go later in the day so that there will be less people. The leaves are changing so there are a lot of people outside enjoying that. Which is why I decided not to go to the state park that is thirty minutes away because I knew from previous experience that it would be absolutely packed.
- Travel arrangements: I knew that I was going to drive because there is no place that is a reasonable walking distance to my house. However, I wanted to keep it local and hopefully find a place that I can easily go to. I want a place that can totally immerse me in nature, with no cars or roads in sight that is close enough to my house that I feel like it is a viable option to go every day.
- Snacks: I want to pack snacks that are organic and zero waste. The only quick way that I could think of was making my own snacks.
- Waste: I always bring a reusable water bottle, but like I mentioned above, I am making my own snacks so that I can put them in a container and not generate any waste.
- Attire and gear: All my gear is from Columbia. I wasn't sure if it was sustainably sourced so I looked it up on good on you [Columbia - Sustainability Rating](#). I was disappointed but not really surprised to learn that the rating was neutral. The majority of its range uses non eco-friendly materials but it is starting to use more recycled polyester. The reason why I use Columbia is the price of their items when they are on sale.
- Accessibility: The area is pretty accessible, there is limited parking, but that just means less people in that area.

Place to go: Griffy lake IU side

I chose Griffy Lake because I wanted a place where I could feel removed from the world yet was still local to my area and not remote. Griffy is perfect because it is close to my house and the IU side does not get as many visitors as the dam side. There are no extra regulations for Griffy Lake, except all gatherings are limited to 15 people per the county rules. Which is fine because I want a place where I can go to be alone. It is open to everyone even though IU owns the land.

Planning your Adventure

All the things that you should consider when planning your next adventure

1 Health and Safety Procedures

Make sure to follow all health and safety protocols, by wearing masks if necessary and using hand sanitizer. Find a place where I can social distance easily.



2 Travel Arrangements

How am I getting there? Which way would leave the smallest carbon footprint? Since I live in town I need to drive.

3 Snacks

What snacks can you bring that will have the least amount of impact? Which snacks are the most sustainable? Snacks like fruit and energy bars are a good choice.



4 Waste

How can I reduce my waste? Using reusable water bottles and packing snacks that are sustainably packaged, or making your own.

5 Attire and Gear

What attire would be best? Should I wear pants or shorts? What will the terrain be like? Was the attire and gear sustainably sourced?



6 Accessibility

How easy is it to get there? Is there plenty of parking? Enough room to safely social distance? What amenities do they offer? How many miles of trail?

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