



Handcrafted and Historic



Celebrate the creativity and ingenuity of today and yesterday throughout Amish Country! See and learn how Mae West and an RV impacted the 1930's movie industry. See the works of some of the Midwest's greatest artists including Indiana's largest Norman Rockwell collection. Revel in the majesty of a Beaux-Arts mansion that "Alka-Seltzer built" while admiring Tiffany's and Rodin's. Take a walk in a vibrant downtown hearing about the legendary creations of Hoosier Cabinets. Meet Amish handcrafters in their workshops on the scenic Heritage Trail. Watch, learn, and make amazing creations from glass blowing to wooden quilts and fresh baked scones.

You'll be amazed at the stories, admire the beauty, and learn how Elkhart County's history has impacted our nation on this multi-dimensional tour.

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

4 DAY / 3 NIGHT ITINERARY OPTIONS ON NEXT PAGE

Sonya Nash, CTIS, CTP | sonya@amishcountry.org
 Amish Country of Northern Indiana | Elkhart County, IN CVB
 p: 574.262.8161 | c: 574.903.1148 | AmishCountryTours.org

AmishCountry.org
 NORTHERN INDIANA

HANDCRAFTED AND HISTORIC - 4 DAY / 3 NIGHT SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY ONE (Arrival Amish Country, Elkhart)

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. RV/MH Hall of Fame Museum, Elkhart [\$8 pp incl]

This shrine to the RV in the "RV Capital" traces the history of RVing from early 1913 travel-trailers to today's state-of-the-art motor homes. The 80,000 sq. ft. museum showcase a fascinating collection of one-of-a-kind camping cars, house trailers, and house cars including a gem custom built for Hollywood screen siren Mae West and the touring RV for Charles Lindbergh. Follow the time trail of vintage RVs arrayed among murals of scenic America. A knowledgeable guide shares RV folklore and the industry's remarkable stories with groups.

4:00 p.m. Check-in at your host hotel in Elkhart, Indiana

5:45 p.m. Depart hotel for evening dinner experience

6:00 - 9:30 p.m. Hell's Kitchen Inspired Interactive Hors D'oeuvre and Wine Pairing Evening at LEX530 [\$90 pp including tax & tip. Minimum group size is 25; maximum group size is 60. 2 comps for bus driver & escort.]

Get your hands messy and dirty, don a chef's hat, plan to laugh and learn, while having fun with your fellow group members!!! Vintner and businessman Carl Tiedemann took his passion for discovering exceptional wines and his love of sharing those wines with others and combined it with more than 30 years of business experience to launch a successful wine distribution company, Tiedemann Wines, in Elkhart Indiana. In addition to bringing several boutique wines from all over the world which are distributed exclusively in Indiana, Carl also produces and blends seven of his own wines which are made one-on-one with his favorite Napa Valley winemakers. Tonight, your group will enjoy the "Hell's Kitchen inspired Interactive event". Participants will be welcomed and then split into groups for a friendly competition! Each group will be led by a chef and encouraged to learn about and participate in preparing and executing the task their group has been assigned. They will then serve the rest of the group the course they prepared and explain why it pairs well with the wine chosen. Your evening includes an Amuse Bouche, along with 3 individual courses then completed with a dessert course, each paired with an appropriate full glass of delicious wine. Water, coffee and iced tea will also be available. Tiedemann Wines and Glenwood Cellars Wines will be available for purchase. It will be an evening you won't soon forget!

DAY TWO

6:30 - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast at your host hotel



9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Ruthmere Mansion Tour [\$7 pp incl, 2 comps per groups over 25]
Who remembers the famous Alka Seltzer advertisement, "Plop, plop, fizz, fizz, Oh, what a relief it is"? Elkhart, Indiana was the home to entrepreneur Mr. Albert Beardsley who helped found the company that created Alka Seltzer. His elaborate 1910 Beaux-Arts style house, Ruthmere, named after his deceased daughter Ruth, is available for your groups guided tour. You'll see a fine art collection including Tiffany leaded glass, Rodin sculptures, velvet window coverings, hand painted walls, and walnut woodwork.

(cont)

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

AmishCountry.org
NORTHERN INDIANA

DAY TWO (cont)



10:45 - 11:45 a.m. The Fiber Nest 6" Mandela Ornament Making Class [\$20 pp incl]

Using brightly colored yarn your group will learn how to make a Gods Eye Mandala ornament. Each one will be festive and fun to make, keep or give as gifts during the next Holiday season. You'll leave after an hour learning all about this technique, art form and having had a fun experience with your local art expert, Carrie Beachey.

Noon - 1:00 p.m.

St. John's Catholic Church Potluck Basement Lunch [\$12 pp incl as a donation to their food bank]

Established in 1895, St. John's Episcopal Church in Elkhart, Indiana, has been a classic example of Gothic architecture for over one hundred years. The church's floor plan is in the shape of a cross. Its many features include; a square bell tower, beautiful stained glass windows illustrating parables, a Victorian brass filigree pulpit, a bracketed vaulted ceiling with suspended finial acorns and carved grape clusters. A focal point is the beautifully paneled and carved altar which is framed by reredos. Be sure to look behind the reredos to discover the magnificent world class Casavant pipe organ. A work of art itself, St. John's houses many fine examples of superior wood craft as well as twentieth century art. Special for groups, have a potluck lunch catered by the Welcoming Committee of the church for some homemade yummy treats before or after your tour.

- OR -

Noon - 1:00 p.m.

"Pick Two Lunch" at The Bakers Nook Café [\$15 pp incl dessert & fountain beverage OR Large Salad Lunch \$16.75 pp incl pie & fountain beverage]

This locally owned café serves up homemade goodness handed down through generations past. With so many delicious choices, it's sometimes hard to settle on just one, so why not pick two. Select 2 options for your group from: cup of soup, half sandwich, side salad or side of baked macaroni & cheese. Groups can pre-select the 2 options for the entire group OR groups can make individual selections and call in the order the morning of arrival. The Large Salad Lunch option offers a choice of a Cobb Salad, Mandarin Spinach Salad, or Chef Salad. Also available as individual orders.



1:15 - 2:15 p.m.

Indiana's Largest Norman Rockwell Collection exhibit at the Midwest Museum of American Art [\$8 pp incl]

This neo-classical style bank building, in the heart of downtown Elkhart, houses 19th and 20th century art from American Primitives to Pop art and includes original works by Grandma Moses and Norman Rockwell. The Main Gallery provides a unique setting for corporate/private parties, weddings and receptions. Groups can choose from two excellent presentations. "Learning to Look" is a presentation that highlights stories, places and people that bring art to life for the visitor. "Norman Rockwell: The Making of an American Legend" gives the visitor a chance to explore both the myth and the reality of this American icon while viewing the largest Rockwell print collection in Indiana.

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Craft Elkhart Glass Blowing Demo only with time to shop [\$6 pp incl OR Hands-on Glass blowing for guests with demo and shopping \$20 pp incl. NOTE: group will be rotated thru hands-on portion due to limited number of blow torches]

Get ready to be amazed! From pottery, to jewelry, to paintings, to furniture, Craft Elkhart is the place to find unique handmade pieces of art from local and global craftsmen along with fine art pieces from a well-established dealer. This unique retail shop offers one-of-a-kind gifts you can't find anywhere else – all while supporting the art community! Craft Elkhart also offers an opportunity to expand your horizons, step out into the unknown, learn something new, and explore new passions. Featured glass blowing artist Beau Kyle will share his passion for glass blowing while bringing art to life in front of your eyes. An additional option is available to participate and make your own blown glass piece of art to take home under Beau's careful instruction and supervision.

(cont)

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

DAY TWO (cont)

Refresh at your host hotel after your glass blowing



6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Amish Acres Threshers Dinner & Broadway Theatre Production in the Round Barn Theatre

[\$43.90 pp incl NOTE: optional wine & beer can be purchased individually at the table from your server during dinner]

Enjoy Amish Acres famous family style Threshers Dinner served in the century old barn restaurant seated around antique tables and chairs overlooking the picturesque farm's pond. Top off the evening in the majestic 1911 Round Barn Theatre with one of several Broadway Musical productions during the season. Specific show time and performance varies by date. Dinner at 6:30p.m.; theatre at 8p.m. Choose two meats from Broasted Chicken, Cider Baked Ham, Roasted Turkey or Tender Beef Roast.

- OR -

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Americana Musical Review Show & Buffet [\$27 pp incl]

Southgate Crossing offers a stunning Amish built wooden peg and beam barn venue with a unique shopping and dinner show experience. Begin your evening by exploring the vendor stalls filled with unique and one-of-a-kind artisan goods such as hand-woven rugs, Amish crafted wooden toys, crocheted hand towels, local honey and maple syrup, antiques and more! Dine on a buffet featuring traditional American staples such as roast beef, sliced ham, fried chicken, braised cabbage with bacon, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed broccoli, soup, and bread along with a full salad bar with traditional fixings. Cobblers, fresh baked chocolate chip cookies, and cake along with coffee, tea, lemonade and fountain sodas complete the meal. Following your buffet, embrace the new Americana roots movement with musical highlights featuring rotating live bands playing country, folk, bluegrass, and early American music.

DAY THREE

6:30 - 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast at your host hotel

8:15 a.m.

Meet your guide in the hotel lobby



8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Great Life Tours Heritage Trail Handcrafted Backroads Tour [\$195 for guide (tip optional) PLUS components listed below]

Travel the nationally recognized by *Time LIFE* Magazine on the scenic Heritage Trail thru the nation's third largest Amish area. Your local step-on guide will share the stories, history and details of the hardworking local Amish craftsmen. You'll meet them in their shops, in their homes and enjoy the opportunity to get to know them too.

Suggested stops include:

Authentic Visit at an Amish Toy Maker [\$4 pp (\$100 min)]

Step inside an Amish toymaker's workshop where an internet connection is not required to keep the kids entertained. Meet Owen a self-taught toy maker who crafts fine wooden toys and games for children of all ages. This experience includes a workshop tour, Q&A discussion and shopping time.

(cont)

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

DAY THREE (cont)

Create a Wooden Quilt Block [\$28 pp incl for hands-on crafting class, woodshop tour & shopping time]

Meet LaVern and Rachel, the Amish-Mennonite dynamic duo that has made Teaberry Wood Products one of Great Life Tour's most requested stops. This experience appeals to men and women with a something-for-everyone flair! Groups enjoy one-on-one time with this artisan team creating a wall quilt pieced entirely with beautiful exotic hardwoods. The experience will include a woodshop tour, "weaving" demo, hands-on wood quilt kit with choice of materials and shopping time. Participants leave with an 8"x8" quilt block complete with engraved center tile and hanger. It is a work of art worthy of gifting or kept as a treasured memory of their travels. Highly collectible, a new pattern each season—keeping it fresh and new year after year. This is endlessly customizable with two frames, optional holiday and decorative laser engraved tiles available to choose from.

Meet & Make Scone tasting & demo at an Amish home with Victorian Tea Party Luncheon

[\$21 pp incl for tasting, demo and lunch]

Get to know the Amish where they live and work. Meet Linda Miller and her Amish friends and watch as Linda shares her scone making techniques and tips. Enjoy a coffee break and scone as you learn everything you need to know to ensure perfectly baked scones time and time again. This experience includes tasting, recipe and scones to take home. For lunch enjoy an Amish version of an elegant Victorian style tea party featuring elegant place settings served with fine china, two flavors of teas and or coffee.

Authentic Meet an Amish Harness Maker [\$4 pp (\$100 min)]

Horses and buggies are part of the Old Order Amish identity requiring specialized equipment and craftsmanship to provide their transportation needs. A skilled saddle and harness maker could earn an excellent living in colonial America but how does this work for a 21st century Amishman? Meet Owen and see how he makes harnesses and horseshoes to meet the needs of his community without power from the grid. This experience includes a workshop tour and ample time for Q&A.

Flower Power Petal Pin / Pin Cushion at The Quilt Shop at Das Dutchman Essenhaus [\$10 pp incl]

Groups will love the fun and fast "Make and Take" fabric flower project. Each person makes a fabric flower pin or pin cushion with no sewing machine or prior sewing knowledge required. Materials are provided. Best yet it takes just 30 minutes to complete and everyone takes home their flower creation! Discover how fast fabric flowers bloom at The Quilt Shop!

Amish rug weaving demo & Cookie break [\$3 pp incl]

Leo & Lorene Miller welcome you to their Old Order Amish home where Leo has been handweaving rag rugs for years. Taught by his family, Leo will demonstrate how he weaves and creates his beautiful and functional rugs. Meanwhile Lorene, his wife, will serve you her fresh from the oven cookies and cold lemonade as both the Miller's welcome your group and answer questions about their personal Amish lifestyle.



6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner at Heinne's BackBarn, Elkhart

[\$22 pp incl tax & tip for 1/3 lb. cheeseburger or grilled chicken or pork tenderloin with fries, coleslaw, dessert and soft drink included. Other beverages on their own. NOTE: Pricing subject to change. Add'l menu options avail.]

Bill and Troy DeShone, are the 3rd generation of the DeShone family to continue the "Heinnie's Tradition!" For over 56 years, folks have been enjoying the great steaks, Heinnie's hamburgers and more at Heinnie's Back Barn. "Heinnie's" has won the "Best Steak" and "Best Prime Rib" category in the Elkhart voting area. Their "Heinnie Cheeseburger" was just recently added to the top cheeseburger stops in the United States by hamburger author and film writer George Motz! Groups enjoy sitting in rustic barn stalls in small table settings. A full bar is available for individual selection. Homemade soups, fresh salads, and a variety of sandwiches & entrees are offered. An Elkhart tradition!

(cont)

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

DAY FOUR

6:30 - 8:00 a.m.

**Breakfast at your host hotel
Check-out**



9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

**A morning shopping with a Hoosier Cabinet
Exhibit Guided Tour at Coppes Commons**
[\$2 pp incl]

Nappanee's colorful history comes alive when touring Coppes Commons. Originally the factory for Coppes Cabinets that once produced the famous "Hoosier Cabinet," the 100,000 square foot renovated factory now houses a variety of small businesses perfect for shopping for locally made, hand crafted and fresh baked. Visit the historic Hoosier Cabinet "museum/exhibit" and enjoy a guided tour. Groups are given a fascinating historical glimpse into the Coppes Kitchens, once ordered by Frank Sinatra and President John F. Kennedy, while touring this rustic and rambling brick structure.

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Homes of the Kitchen Industry Guided Walking Tour [\$5 pp incl]

Tour homes built for and by the men of the Kitchen Industry! Homes of the Kitchen Industry takes you through the historic area of Nappanee on a short walking guided tour where you'll learn about the Mutschler, Coppes and Zook family homes, the history behind them and the men who built them. Learn what home in Nappanee was designed by well-known architect E. Hill Turnock and find out what home used to be three floors but now only has two. Discover how one home was relocated to make way for Nappanee's post office and find out which house in Nappanee was the "house the depression" built. You will also learn about how Nappanee was once the "kitchen capital of the world." This informative and educational tour has hidden surprises, secrets and tales for all to enjoy!

Lunch on your own at Coppes Commons prior to departure for home

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.