

Amish Country

NORTHERN INDIANA

ELKHART GOSHEN MIDDLEBURY NAPPANEE BRISTOL WAKARUSA & SHIPSHEWANA



#INAmishCountry & #INElkhartCo

AmishCountry.org



Quilters Paradise

Heritage Trail is an ABA Best of the Best winner for multiple years!

- *The only experience of its kind in the world located throughout six cities and towns in Elkhart County with 18 super-sized Quilt Gardens and 21 hand-painted Quilt Murals located at group friendly attractions, shops, and gardens along the Heritage Trail.*
- *Quilt Gardens feature NEW pattern designs and plants each year offering over ONE MILLION blooms.*
- *Viewable annually from May 30 - September 15 with special events and interactive fun that can be added.*
- *Master Gardener step-on guides available to fully customize and enhance your experience.*

Quilters Escapades

- *View historic quilts, one even made of Cigar silks from the Civil War era.*
- *Enjoy an Amish Quilt Trunk show presented by noted Amish quilt historian Rebecca Haarer*
- *Experience the beauty of live harp music surrounded by a backdrop of hand-stitched quilts as the story of music and fabric are woven together.*
- *Shop 'til you drop on the Pieces, Pies & Posies quilt shop hop tour.*
- *Located just two hours from the annual AQS Grand Rapids QuiltFest each August and home of the annual Shipshewana Quilt Festival each June.*

Hands-On Memories for Creatives by Creatives

- *Watch, learn and make your own wooden quilt block at Teaberry Wood Products.*
- *Create "quilty" notecards inside the Quilt Shop at Das Dutchman Essenhaus.*
- *Sit down at an Amish quilting bee and thread a needle with your new Amish friends.*
- *Paint an acrylic "barn quilt" scene to take home or give away.*



Authentic Amish

Enjoy the **picturesque backroads** of Northern Indiana as you meet the Amish people who live here featuring **authentic experiences** and products.

- *Amish Country of Northern Indiana is home to the **third largest Amish population** in the nation and the largest in the Midwest.*
- *Learn about the Amish religion and history at the Amish Mennonite Interpretive Center.*
- *Watch young Amish of today building RV's on a modern manufacturing plant tour.*
- *Experience a one-of-a-kind One-Room Schoolhouse plus watch Amish craftsmen at work making coffins, buggies, leather handbags, rag rugs, wooden baskets, toys and windchimes.*
- *Enjoy in-home Amish meals, baking and cooking demos, quilting bees and buggy rides.*

Tours by Local Step-On Guides

- *Your local expert step-on guide will help you wander scenic backroads while learning about the fascinating lifestyle of the Amish and get up-close-and personal with the Amish as you see their inventions and creativity.*
- *Bag some fun on the most popular Grab Bag Tour.*
- *Learn about the Day in the Life of Amish Women on the Real Housewives Tour.*
- *Engage with Amish cooks as they demo tips, tricks and how to's as they make cinnamon rolls, pies, cookies and baked chicken.*
- *Tour dairy farms and animal parks for a rural farm exploration and immerse in the culture with a program on an Amish wedding, church service, lifestyle or horse raising.*

Hands-On Amish Country Adventures

- *Weave your own basket or build your own wooden quilt block inside Amish artisan workshops. You will custom design, watch, learn and take home an Amish Country original.*
- *Roll your own soft pretzel inspired by an old Amish recipe then delight in your tasty masterpiece.*
- *Paint an acrylic Amish buggy piece of art to take home as a fun memento.*



Creative Experiences

Catch the excitement of all things **creative and artistic** in Amish Country. From rousing theatrical performances to historic mansions and museum tours, we're serving up a great time for groups with "non Amish" fun.

- Explore Goshen's vibrant downtown art & entrepreneur scene featuring 3 blocks filled with eclectic and fun boutique shops owned by local artisans, many women.
- Downtown Elkhart's Gateway Mile features four museums, a botanic garden and a restored historic Vaudeville Theatre all within a one mile stretch on Main Street.
- See Mae West and Charles Lindbergh's historic trailers at the shrine to the RV in the "RV Capital."
- Tour the house that Alka Seltzer built in Elkhart at Ruthmere, a 1920's Beaux-Art Mansion filled with Tiffany lamps and Rodin sculptures.
- See Indiana's largest Norman Rockwell collection of prints at the Midwest Museum of American Art.
- Immerse in the beauty of waterfalls, sculpture and plants galore at Wellfield Botanic Gardens.

Entertainment Encounters

- Das Dutchman Essenhaus Heritage Hall presents the finest in family friendly entertainment, Blue Gate Theatre features outstanding concert headliners and super shows and The Lerner Theatre guarantees goosebumps when a 1924 pipe organ thunders its accompaniment to classic silent films.
- NEW FOR 2020: Shipshewana Majestic Frontier, a western adventure, featuring dinner/equestrian entertainment in a 3000+ seat horse arena including trapeze artists, singing, dancing, comedy, plus trick riding and roping.

Hands-On Memories for Creatives by Creatives

- Learn the art of glass blowing, paint your own acrylic art masterpiece, make your own Mandala ornament and decorate your own cookies with local artisans and craftsman for fun!
- Get your group competing with popcorn olympics then continue the games with a Hell's Kitchen Interactive evening.
- Sip and learn during "Coffee with the Curator" and enjoy a delightful Afternoon Tea at a mansion.



Regional Adventures

Where else can you start in **Amish Country** then visit the newest **National Park**, test your luck at a **Vegas-style casino** and see the **Golden Dome** - all in the same day? In Indiana's Cool North, of course.

- *Indiana's Cool North group stops are located off of I-80/90, the Indiana Toll Road, the major east-west corridor in the Midwest.*
- *Bundle regional stops enroute to Amish Country or while passing thru to your destination to provide breaks that are educational and inspirational.*
- *Tour the beautiful and historic University of Notre Dame and see some of the world's most recognized campus landmarks – the Golden Dome, Touchdown Jesus, the Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.*
- *The Indiana Dunes National Park hugs 15 miles of the southern shore of Lake Michigan and is home to the nation's newest National Park managed by the National Park Service.*

“Cool North” Places You Must Visit

- *Enjoy the Ballpark Buffet during a South Bend Cubs baseball game, a Class A Affiliate of the World Champion Chicago Cubs.*
- *Dine in the 1889 historic Studebaker Mansion, Tippecanoe Place, surrounded by legend and folklore.*
- *Admire one-of-a-kind vehicles and timeless classics at the Studebaker National Museum.*
- *Take the Inside Scoop Tour, enjoy the historical chocolate museum and shop for chocolates at the South Bend Chocolate Company factory.*
- *Take the student led Notre Dame Stadium Tour for football legendary tales and experience the peaceful serenity of the art, relics and beauty of the Basilica of Sacred Heart.*
- *Have a Q&A session with a National Lakeshore Ranger complete with an introductory film and time to explore the Dunes visitors center collection.*
- *Try your luck at the South Bend Four Winds Casino.*



Fun-Filled Themes

We **love to customize group tours** with an art, history, holiday, girlfriends getaway or any other theme you would like to focus on - just ask!

Amish Country Christmas

- *Stuff your Christmas Stocking with treats and trinkets on the off-the-beaten-path Stocking Stuffer Tour.*
- *Enjoy Holiday cookie decorating and sampling on an Amish farmstead.*
- *Hunt and find at the Tour of Trees inside Linton's Enchanted Gardens or Das Dutchman Essenhaus Village Shops.*
- *Enjoy the Shippshewana Light Parade, Shippshewana Flea Market or Wellfield Botanic Garden Winter Wonderland.*

Girls, Giggles and Gifts

- *Shop 'til you drop in the downtowns of Shippshewana and Goshen inside boutique, craft and gift shops galore.*
- *Take the Grab Bag Tour and fill your bags with local goodies, fun finds and locally made items.*
- *Dine inside Amish homes, enjoy "out of this world" ice cream, and collect recipes at Amish cooking demonstrations and cinnamon roll classes.*
- *Roll your own pretzel, paint a piece of art, make an ornament, and watch rug weaving and quilting come to life.*
- *Delight in family friendly evening entertainment and the famous Das Dutchman Essenhaus buffet dinner.*

Fall Food & Fun

- *Feast on locally made foods, candies, goodies and more in this culinary adventure filled with fall colors and fun.*
- *Dine in a restored diner featured on the Food Network "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives."*
- *Meet Willow the Witch at the Witches Brew Tea, Mrs. Apple on the orchard tour and our local church ladies serving their potluck basement lunch.*
- *Take a Fall Edibles Tour and feel the floor shake as giant millstones rumble on the stone ground flour tour.*
- *Pet & feed bison on the farm wagon ride then enjoy a Chuckwagon BBQ lunch.*

Amish Country Top Group Events

Elkhart Jazz Festival
June 18-20, 2021

Shipshewana Quilt Fest
June 23-26, 2021

Midwest Quilt Fest Week
August 24-27, 2022

Just passing thru on the Indiana Toll Road, I-80/90?

The Indiana Toll Road, I-80/90, is the Midwest's major east / west artery and it skirts the northern edge of Amish Country. Whatever your destination, the convenience and concentration of popular lodging and dining brands, plus the Elkhart County Visitor Center with public restrooms, at Exit 92 offers an ideal break for group tours.

For more detailed information including local and chain restaurant options, lodging properties and shopping options, visit Exit92.org.



Group-friendly Lodging

Elkhart at I-80/90 Exit 92

Comfort Suites North - 574.206.1555
Country Inn & Suites - 574.206.8488
Fairfield Inn - 574.903.1688
Four Points by Sheraton - 574.333.3707
Hampton Inn - 574.264.2525
Hilton Garden Inn - 574.970.4444
Holiday Inn Express & Suites - 574.327.6494
La Quinta Inns & Suites - 574.262.0014
Staybridge Suites - 574.970.8488
TRU by Hilton - 574.338.3300

Opening soon at Exit 92:

Courtyard by Marriott
Hotel Elkhart
Home 2 Suites by Hilton

Elkhart South

Comfort Suites South - 574.293.9390
Holiday Inn Express & Suites - 574.296.1110

Goshen

Holiday Inn Express - 574.535.9200

Middlebury

Essenhaus Inn - 800.455.9471
Hampton Inn & Suites - 574.822.0288

Nappanee

Countryside Inn - 800.800.4942

Mileage to Elkhart County, Indiana

Indianapolis 165m / 266km / 3hr
Detroit 165m / 266km / 3hr
Chicago 116m / 187km / 2hr

Milwaukee 200m / 322km / 4hr
Louisville 270m / 436km / 4hr
Cleveland 425m / 388km / 4hr

St. Louis 390m / 628km / 7hr
Des Moines 425m / 692km / 7hr
Minneapolis 530m / 853km / 9hr