



AMISH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

... along the Heritage Trail



*The holiday season in Northern Indiana Amish Country is a joyous time filled with **FUN, FOOD, FAMILY** and **FESTIVE TRADITIONS**.*

Escape the hectic schedule of the holiday season and step into a slower pace where you'll breathe in the enticing aromas of pine trees and fresh baked pies and cookies. Feel the warmth from friendly Amish businesses as they invite you into their homes for a peak into the window of their unique world. Treasure memories of Christmas past and present as you delight in the magnificence of a beautifully decorated Christmas tree while you shop for unique gifts.

WE PROMISE YOU'LL DISCOVER WHY THE HOLIDAY SEASON IN NORTHERN INDIANA AMISH COUNTRY IS TRULY SOMETHING SPECIAL!

NOTE: Prices subject to change without advance notice.

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AMISH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS ... 3 DAY / 2 NIGHT SAMPLE ITINERARY

Shipshewana Majestic proudly presents “Noel!” A celebration of Christmas, at the Michiana Event Center in Shipshewana, Indiana

December 10-18, 2021 | Show only - \$29.95 pp incl, Show + Dinner - \$49.95 pp incl

Two full hours of nonstop Christmas excitement returns to the Michiana Event Center in Shipshewana with one of the largest living nativities include a re-creation of the stable and manger in Bethlehem! This amazing and uplifting show is filled with nonstop equestrian adventures including a glorious Angel on horseback featuring some of the most beautiful horses anywhere, along with incredibly talented riders from all around the world. Featuring lovely and death-defying aerialists, performing jaw-dropping routines, high in the air, which will have you on the edge of your seat, gasping at their every move! A blend of beauty and grace combined with danger and bravery that will take you on a roller coaster ride of emotions! You'll witness all the festive lights, the timeless music, and the costumes that make the Christmas season so special while singing along with our world-class vocalists to all your favorite traditional songs of the season, as well as some new favorites! You will delight with the Yuletide Dancers, Christmas Magicians! Dinner before the show is a traditional Christmas Feast.

DAY ONE *(Arrive in Elkhart)*



1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Craft Elkhart Glass Blowing Demo [\$6 pp incl]

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. A featured glass blowing artist will share his passion for glass blowing while bringing art to life in front of your eyes.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Linton's Enchanted Gardens “Holiday Village” [no admission fee]

Walk through a winter wonderland at Linton's Enchanted Gardens Holiday Village where the scent of fresh pine and mulled cider fill the air. Linton's offers 50,000 square feet of spectacular seasonal displays including 100 themed trees that feature over 10,000 unique ornaments. There's something for everyone on your list including ladies apparel, jewelry, Vera Bradley handbags, garden tools, home décor, candies and various other holiday goodies make your holiday shopping easy at this one-stop-shop.

Check-in at your host hotel

(cont.)

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DAY ONE *(cont.)*



5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Wellfield Botanic Gardens Winter Wonderland Holiday

Lights [\$8 pp incl for 10+ people. Event Weekends Only Nov 26 - Dec 23, 2021.

NOTE: Walking, self-guided]

Wellfield Botanic Gardens' Winter Wonderland Holiday Lights will transport you to a magical setting of lights, sound and beauty, perfect for families to enjoy during the holiday season. Featuring professional light displays accentuating the natural beauty of Wellfield, the half-mile Promenade Pathway is aglow with color and texture, framing our Garden spaces as you've never seen them before! Experience this tradition as you sip on complimentary hot chocolate while enjoying the sounds of live music performed by local artists around the Promenade. Warm yourself around crackling fire pits stationed around the Garden trails and enjoy a boutique shopping experience in the Visitors Cottage, a great place to pick up that perfect gift. Ticket pricing includes parking, admission to the Gardens, and this very special opportunity to enjoy Wellfield after hours in a wintery paradise.

6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

The Barns at Nappanee Farm & Table Restaurant and the Round Barn Theatre at The Barns at Nappanee "A Musical Christmas Carol, A Charles Dickens Classic Tale"

[\$56.95 pp incl. Performance dates Nov 5, 2020 - Jan 2, 2021]

Begin in the festively decorated hand-hewn beam The Barns at Nappanee Farm & Table Restaurant dining on the traditional plated & served "Farm Feast". The proceed to the Historic Round Barn for the brand new original production of Charles Dickens classic. "A Musical Christmas Carol" brings to life the timeless characters of the miserly, bitter and selfish Ebenezer Scrooge, his nephew Fred who seeks to be a light to Scrooge, the ever optimistic and grateful Bob Cratchit, his joyful family and Tiny Tim with his faith and love for everyone, and many more! The streets of London come alive with singing and dancing, and families join together around the fire in the first epic song "When Christmas Eve Arrives." You will come away inspired, joyful, and full of hope with this exciting new musical that seeks to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and the light of truth and human kindness that is all around us!

Return to the hotel following your evening

DAY TWO

Breakfast at your host hotel & meet your guide in the lobby



10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Stocking Stuffer Tour of Amish Country Backroads

\$195 total for guide (tip optional) PLUS \$18 pp for items in bag]

Get ready to stuff your stocking with treats and trinkets from one-of-a-kind Amish businesses as your step-on guide takes you through the backroads to Amish business that are off-the-beaten-path. As part of this unique and customizable experience, choose stops from the suggested list below. We'll supply the Christmas Stocking before you set off on an adventure like no other, stuffing your stocking as you go from stop to stop with items perfect for gift giving or maybe just as a personal treat for yourself on the ride home.

(cont.)

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DAY TWO *(cont.)*

Suggested Stocking Stuffer Tour of Amish Country stops include:



Rise 'n Roll Amish Bakery [stocking stuffer gift included in above pricing]

Welcome to the “out-of-this-world” bakery famous in Amish Country for melt-in-your-mouth cinnamon/caramel donuts. These soft and tender donuts, covered with mounds of powdery cinnamon sugar, literally melt in your mouth. These donuts are so addictive their known to locals as “Amish crack”. You won’t be able to stop at just the free sample! Stroll through the maze of the famous cashew crunch, the cheesy sausage loaf, fresh baked breads, pies and cakes plus jars of jams, jellies and condiments.

Lambright Chimes [stocking stuffer gift included in above pricing]

Discover the tranquility of this Amish chime shop as you experience this family’s genuine warmth and knowledge while they demonstrate their chime making process. The sounds of the season come alive as you wander throughout their showroom and hear everything from deep mellow tones to light tinkling sounds from these striking melodic creations.



Great Life Tours Create a Wooden Quilt Block with a holiday theme - OR - Create a Cheerful Snowman Ornament

[\$28 pp incl for hands-on crafting class, woodshop tour & shopping time - or - \$3 pp incl for Sebastian the Snowman Ornament, woodshop tour & shopping time]

Meet LaVern and Rachel, the Amish-Mennonite dynamic duo that has made Teaberry Wood Products. 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. Highly collectible, a new pattern each season. This is endlessly customizable with two frames, optional holiday and decorative laser engraved tiles available to choose from.

If wooden quilt blocks aren’t appealing, join Rachel and your new friend “Sebastian” in a cheerful holiday make-take ornament program. You’ll gather with friends to make an adorable Snowman we call Sebastian made out of Birch wood. Cute as a button and customizable too! There will be a variety of embellishments provided to brighten and bring this little guy to life including things such as markers, buttons, bows, and ribbons so each person can get “crafty” and give THEIR Sebastian personality! During this crafting experience your group will be greeted on the coach and given a brief overview of the project. Half will begin their ornament while the other half enjoys a woodshop tour and shopping time and then they will switch, assuring ample time to complete all aspects of the experience. Participants leave with a jolly six inch snowman worthy of gifting or kept as a treasured memory of their travels.

Great Life Tours Authentic Visit at an Amish Toy Maker [\$4 pp with a \$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.)

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DAY TWO *(cont.)*

Included during your day is:

The Carriage House Christmas Card Upcycling [\$6pp incl]

Ever engaging Amish entrepreneur Elaine Jones demonstrates the simple task of gift giving, Amish style, with her Christmas Card Upcycling Project. After the holidays are over, most people simply discard their Christmas cards, but Elaine and her family will teach you how to get creative with their stylishly functional keepsake boxes, perfect for tree trims that hold little surprises when tied with colorful ribbons. You'll leave understanding and appreciating the simple way the Amish celebrate the holiday season.

4:00 p.m.

Say good-bye to your guide



5:00 p.m.

Das Dutchman Essenhaus Dinner & Theatre

[\$39 pp incl with family-style dinner, beverage, pie and theatre]

Dine on traditional family recipes passed down through generations in Indiana's largest restaurant now seating over 1,100 guests. Enjoy crispy chicken, creamy mashed potatoes, tender noodles and ending with generous slices of fresh baked pie for a delicious meal.



7:00 p.m.

Heritage Hall at the Essenhaus presents a "A Very Mary Christmas"

[performance dates Nov 26 - Dec 18, 2021; included in the price above]

Margaret Taylor wants one thing for Christmas: a relaxing holiday season. However, she soon finds herself in charge of organizing a blanket drive and baking no less than 30 dozen cookies. To top it all off her husband, Pastor Luke, volunteers Margaret to direct the annual Christmas Pageant! With diva sheep, a malfunctioning oven, and an ever growing to-do list, a peaceful holiday seems impossible. Can Margaret find joy this Christmas season while she tries to get everything done?

Return to the hotel following your evening

DAY THREE

Breakfast at your host hotel

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Tour of Trees & Christmas Shopping in the Essenhaus Village Shops [coupons provided]

Relive childhood memories of Christmas past as you roam the exquisitely decorated grounds of the Essenhaus and delight in the bounty of beautifully decorated Christmas Trees. Shop-till-you drop at The Village Shops where you find holiday decorations, candles, ornaments, linens or that perfect serving dish or Christmas sweater for you or a loved one.

Depart for home

ADD-ON OPTIONS AVAILABLE ON NEXT PAGE

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AMISH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS ... ITINERARY ADD-ON OPTIONS

Shipshewana Lights of Joy [Priced per bus: \$100 incl for a full coach, \$75 incl for a mini coach of 16+ seats]

Your group will board an open air trolley to experience the drive through light display occurring on the grounds of the famous Shipshewana Flea Market. Over 2 million lights and specialty displays will be viewed in a 25 minute period. *Advance Group Reservations required. Opens Friday, November 5, 2021, Last Day is January 2, 2022.*



Christmas Music by Harp [\$200 per group for a 1 hour performance with set up time included]

Experience the beauty Christmas music in a live harp concert. Local harpist Anna Hagen weaves together a variety of musical genres from favorite hymns to rock 'n' roll. Your group will be entranced by the combination of elegant music created by the world's oldest string instrument as they learn the intricacies of its workings while they laugh at Anna's home-spun anecdotes.

Homespun Holiday Hands-On Experience & Dinner at Meadow Brook Farm [\$45 pp incl lunch/dinner meal complete with meat, vegetable, fruit, dessert, soft drinks, coffee, apple cider, homemade donuts, hands-on felt donkey craft with Jesus Donkey origination story, live mini donkey photo op, local author and Christmas storytelling, self-guided tours of historic home, barns, farm and tractors]

Do you enjoy the sight of twinkling holiday lights on a snowy old tractor, the touch of a furry donkey nose, or the smell of warm spiced cider? These are all things that can be found at Meadow Brook Farm and Historic Home in Northern Indiana. Come take a tour of the 1860 vintage home that was constructed during the Civil War. Hear documented stories from the farm's Author and Storyteller from visitors that traveled the nearby Pumpkinvine Railway, while sipping on some cider and munching on a homemade donut. The carefully restored barns are places of gathering and fellowship and is your host location for a delicious lunch or dinner. Enjoy hands-on fun with a make-take homespun donkey craft followed by the story of the Jesus Donkey with opportunities to pet and take a fun fall photo op which is just irresistible! Your afternoon or evening experience at Meadow Brook will be filled with memorable experiences and one you won't forget!



A "Country Christmas Songbook" by Premier Arts [\$18 pp incl for entertainment]

Following your dinner, you'll delight to the toe-tapping traditional show tunes and senior favorite songs from yesteryear performed by the professional cast of Premier Arts, the resident theatre company of The Lerner theatre. Herald in the Holidays with a cozy array of your favorite Christmas Songs. A Country Christmas is the perfect mix of charm and nostalgia! Songs we all love, jokes, and maybe even a visit from the big guy himself.

Holiday Cookie Baking Demo/Tasting plus Haystack Lunch on an Amish family farm [\$26 pp incl]

Welcome to the Yoder's home, filled with Hoosier hospitality, Amish style. Spend the afternoon in the company of friends enjoying food, laughter, fun and authentic experiences. Begin with a unique and interactive lunch, the Haystack, a local Amish meal often used for fundraising for their community. Your pile garden fresh veggies atop seasoned meat, crunchy tastes and pour gooey cheese all on top for your own individual haystack to enjoy. To celebrate the holidays, Carolyn will show you her Christmas Cookie making skills complete with plenty of opportunities for decorating, tasting and enjoying.

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