

Amish Country Highlights featuring Amish Communities in Indiana and Quilt gardens

June 24 – June 28, 2018

Day 1: Our wonderful tour of the Amish communities begins this morning with our coffee and roll break in western Wisconsin. Our travels take us across Wisconsin stopping in Madison for lunch on your own. This afternoon we'll enter Illinois and stop for an afternoon break prior to arriving in Champaign, Illinois for our overnight. We'll stop for a Welcome Dinner en-route to our hotel. (CS, D)

Day 2: Following included breakfast we'll start our Amish tour by visiting the Welcome to Amish Country by beginning your experience with a stop at the Amish Country Visitors Center. You'll begin with a brief overview/DVD about the unique, one-of-a-kind Quilt Gardens Tour to orientate you to the area. As we Depart on Tour with step-on guide traveling the Heritage Trail, you'll also enjoy the one-of-a-kind Quilt Gardens featuring over 1 million blooms of flowers planted in the shape of quilt patterns at 19 locations throughout the destination. Eye-popping color, artistry and the history of quilting is showcased thru plants and the stories of our businesses and communities. Next we will go to Wellfield Botanical Gardens Conceived in 2002, as a community service project, by the Rotary International. This site has been a source of hydraulic energy and drinking water for the City of Elkhart since the middle 1800s. The construction beginning in 2006 . The Gardens are situated on 36 acres including 18 acres of water. When completed there will be 24 smaller gardens and major pieces of art separately endowed to pay for the creation of the separate garden. You can wander through the various gardens or take an arranged guided tour. As we visit Linton's Enchanted Gardens and Explore this huge garden center with its many themed gardens including the Japanese Tea House, Southwestern garden with Mine Shaft, Victorian House, Dutch Gardens and Grist Mill and Shop in the 25,000 square foot gift emporium after our visit we are on our way to Visit the Quilt Garden in Wakarusa & Shopping at the Wakarusa Dime Store for old-fashioned candy treats. The Wakarusa Dime Store Jumbo Jellybean has become "World Famous" shipping over 35 tons per year throughout the world. samples of their most popular treats are offered. see the giant jumbo jelly bean quilt. We will travel next to the factory for Coppes Kitchen Cabinets that once produced the famous "Hoosier Cabinet," this renovated factory now houses a variety of small businesses perfect for shopping for locally made, and hand crafted items . Get a glimpse of the fascinating history into the Coppes Kitchens, once ordered by Frank Sinatra and President John F. Kennedy, while shopping this rustic and rambling brick structure. Our next adventure is at Rocket Science Ice Cream shop, and enjoy an ice cream treat as you watch creative ice-cream concoctions made using liquid nitrogen. Our dinner adventure is taking a hay-wagon ride with your local expert guide into the pasture to hand feed the great American Bison in its own habitat. Learn the intricacies of raising, feeding and managing this wild animal. A unique experience for all ages. Dinner tonight is an old fashioned chuck-wagon bar-b-que after Dinner Later we'll check into our hotel for the evening to relaxing evening and reminisce of our wonderful Day.

(B, D)

Day 3: This morning after our included breakfast we'll continue into Indiana arriving in Shipshewana, home to over 20,000 old order Amish. We'll visit the Menno-Hof Visitors Center featuring exhibits highlighting the beliefs, lifestyles and Old World Heritage of the Amish and Mennonite people. After we will have time at the Shipshewana Flea Market. After the Flea market we are on our way for the Brown Bag tour of Amish Country we will Travel scenic backroads, passing horse-drawn buggies, tidy farm homes and white-washed barns. Learn about the fascinating lifestyle of the Amish as your knowledgeable guide tells all about the area and the history, traditions, and customs of the Amish. You'll stop at a variety of welcoming country stores and quaint shops. A variety of country shops including :Dutch Country Market, Little Helper's Quilt Shop, Silver Star Leather, E and S Bulk Food Store, Sunshine Baskets, or Teaberry Wood Products. Next we will travel to a once in a lifetime experience. We will be feasting on a traditional Amish wedding dinner in the charming setting of "The Carriage House". Elaine and her son Seth explain what an Amish wedding day is like complete with this special meal that would be traditionally served by the Amish to their wedding guests. Groups see an Amish bride's wedding dress up close, and hear the customary German Wedding song sung at an Amish wedding. (B, D)

Day 4: This morning after our included breakfast we'll Travel to South Bend, IN home of Notre Dame University where we will tour the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady Of the Lourdes Grotto. Then we will stop for Lunch on own and visit the South Bend Chocolate Company for a tour. Later this afternoon we'll enter Illinois and head for the Chicago area for our overnight. This evening we'll enjoy our included Farewell Dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: We'll enjoy our included breakfast, then head west and north through the Chicago area and across northern Illinois into Wisconsin. We will take a morning break at the Mouse House , Then a lunch stop on your own to the Twin Cities. We should arrive home early this evening, our minds filled with wonderful memories of the Amish communities we have visited.(B)

Tour Includes:

- * **Deluxe Motorcoach**
- * **4 Nights accommodations**
- * **Luggage handling**
- * **Amish communities including 2 guided tours**
- * **one-of-a-kind Quilt Gardens**
- * **Amish General Store**
- * **Wakarusa Dime Store**
- * **Amish guided tour including an Amish farm and the Amish and Mennonite Heritage Center**
- * **wedding dinner**
- * **Shipshewana Flea Market**
- * **Wellfield Botanical Gardens**
- * **Menno-Hof Visitors Center**
- * **"Amish Backroads" tour**
- * **Plenty of shopping time**
- * **8 Meals (4 breakfasts and 4 dinners)**
- * **Across Country Tour Manager**

**Price Per Person:
\$899.00 Double
\$879.00 Triple/Quad
\$1149.00 Single**

**A \$200.00 deposit per person is required to hold your reservation.
Final payment is due 45 days prior to departure.**

