

THE AMISH EXPERIENCE IN NORTHERN INDIANA August 25-28, 2020

Boarding in Davenport & Dubuque, Iowa and Moline & Galena, Illinois
Partnering with Plus 55 Club

TO MAKE A RESERVATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 1-800-779-4869

Tour Highlights:

- ❖ 6 Meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch 2 dinners
- ❖ Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation with full-time Tour Director
- ❖ Cooke's Bison Ranch
- ❖ Local Amish Entrepreneurs:
 - Rug Weaving
 - Teaberry Wood Products
- ❖ Goshen, Indiana:
 - Courthouse Quilt Gardens
 - Elkhart County Courthouse
 - Goshen Historical Society
- ❖ Blue Gate Theater
- ❖ Yoder's Popcorn Shop
- ❖ Linton's Enchanted Gardens

Your Tour Includes: 3 Nights' Accommodations, Attractions Per the Itinerary, Luggage Handling for One Suitcase Not to Exceed 50 Lbs., Taxes and Gratuities for Included Accommodations, Attractions, Meals, and Step on Guide

Not Included: Travel Protection Plan, Gratuities to Tri-State Travel Tour Director and Motorcoach Driver, or Items of a Personal Nature



Your Tour Price:

\$759.00 per person – 4 to a room
\$789.00 per person – 3 to a room
\$859.00 per person – 2 to a room
\$1099.00 per person – single

TRI-STATE TRAVEL



DAY #1 - Tuesday, August 25, 2020

This morning we make our way to the Amish Country of Northern Indiana, arriving mid-afternoon. Our first stop is Wolcottville, Indiana, home to Cooke's Bison Ranch. Take a hay-wagon ride into the pasture to hand-feed the great American Bison, and learn about the raising, feeding, and managing of this wild animal from your expert guide. Afterwards, it is time to depart for Middlebury and check into our hotel, Essenhaus Inn and Conference Center for the next three nights. Tonight enjoy a buffet dinner at Das Dutchman Essenhaus. Here you will dine on traditional family recipes passed down through generations. Our evening entertainment is in Heritage Hall (show to be announced at a later date). **(D)**

Day #2 - Wednesday, August 26, 2020

After an included breakfast at the hotel, we meet our local guide in the lobby. It's time we begin our Grab Bag Backroads Tour and Quilt Gardens Tour. 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 as you load up your brown bag with goodies. As our day continues, we get to know local Amish entrepreneurs and see first-hand how they operate their unique enterprises. Hear the stories of friendly, hardworking people who use their special talents to create products and build businesses that serve the local community and beyond. These stops are fun, authentic, and appealing to every age and gender... sure to be a hit.

Leo & Lorene Miller welcome you to their Old Order Amish home where Leo has been hand-weaving rag rugs for years. Lorene, his wife, will serve you her fresh from the oven cookies and cold lemonade as both the Miller's welcome you and answer questions about their personal Amish lifestyle.

Meet LaVern and Rachel, the Amish-Mennonite dynamic duo that has made Teaberry Wood Products one of this area most requested stops. Here you will enjoy one-on-one time with this artisan team as they create a quilt block pieced entirely exotic and local hardwoods. All of us will leave with a work of art worthy of gifting or kept as a treasured memory of your visit.

A Haystack dinner on an Amish family farm with Amish buggy rides is our evening activity. The Amish often host fund-raisers to help families pay for unexpected hospital bills or other needs. The Haystack Meal originated for this type of event because families could donate vegetables grown in their gardens and beef raised on their farms without having to purchase many ingredients. The goal is to create a haystack shape by layering the ingredients into a hearty blend of flavors and textures. It may not sound like it goes together, but trust us, it's delicious.

Following your meal, you will have an opportunity to ride in the Yoder's personal buggies down the country gravel lanes for an enjoyable summer evening. **(BD)**

Day #3 - Thursday, August 27, 2020

Breakfast is included at the Essenhous Inn & Conference Center. Our touring begins with a visit to Goshen, Indiana. Upon arrival, we will be split into two or three groups as we visit the Courthouse Quilt Garden, view the Elkhart County Courthouse, visit the historical Police Booth located on the Square, and meet with the Courthouse clock caretaker. Afterwards, visit the Goshen Historical Society (for a donation) or do some shopping on your own. Departing Goshen for Shipshewana, lunch is included at the all-you-can-eat buffet at the Blue Gate Buffet, followed by the show, “Josiah for President” at the Blue Gate Theatre. This original musical follows an Amish farmer with old-fashioned common sense as he is encouraged to run as a write-in candidate for president. Following the show, we pop on over to Yoder’s Popcorn Shop to try Amish Popcorn. We return to our hotel and enjoy a free evening on the Essenhous campus. You may wish to view the classic car cruise which is held every Thursday evening. **(BL)**

Day #4 - Friday, August 28, 2020

One last breakfast at our hotel before departing for Elkhart. Our last Amish attraction is Linton’s Enchanted Gardens. Take time to explore this huge garden center with its many themed gardens, including the Japanese Tea House, Dutch Gardens, and Grist Mill. Don’t forget to visit the 25,000 square foot gift emporium. Our Amish tour comes to an end with our arrival home early evening. **(B)**

