

# Shipshewana

Group Itineraries

AT THE  OF AMISH COUNTRY, INDIANA

XX VISIT XX



*Give your group the experience of immersing them into in the quiet, simple, picturesque splendor and quiet tranquility of the Amish countryside as you take them Off the Beaten Path where they can unplug, unwind, and embrace a slower pace. Here, they can meet the Amish people who live here and offer authentic experiences and products.*

## Curated Experiences

### The Shipse Mystery Tour

Looking for a new mystery tour idea? Or perhaps want to have some interactive fun in your group favorite town? Then this tour is for you!

This new tour bundles frequently missed stories of the people and places found in this popular Midwest group tour destination. Hear the story behind Shipshewana, and the uniqueness of this growing village. Where was Sumney Town and Davis Town? What was the first building in town? What brought the Amish to the area that now are 47 % of the local population? How did the Flea Market start which today is one of the largest in the Midwest? These questions will be answered on this NEW Interactive Tour.

**8:30 am** Meet your guide at Shipshewana host hotel

**8:45 am** Depart for Menno Hof Interpretive Center

**9-10:30 am** Special one-on-one “insights into the Anabaptist Faith” presentation and interactive experience admission to Menno Hof Amish Mennonite Interpretive Center

Welcome to the official Amish and Mennonite Interpretive Center which celebrates the history, faith and cultures of the Anabaptists throughout the world. Your group will have a special, one-on-one conversation with the Center’s staff who will give you a behind the scenes look into this lifestyle bound by faith and tradition. You’ll learn such things as what route did the Anabaptist take to get to the United States to begin with? What attracted them to this area in Northern Indiana? What is the difference between the Amish and Mennonite religion? What is a Hutterite? Is this population growing in this modern era? These and many more interesting questions, details and insights will be shared not only thru personal conversations but in the interactive experiences found throughout the collection including a replica of a wooden ship, a tornado room and a church setting. Time will be available to shop for locally made products in their shop by local Anabaptist artisans plus for puzzles, games and educational books for further information.

**10:45 am** As you drive by the Shipshewana Flea Market learn how this event started in the 1930s which today has grown to the largest flea market in the Midwest.

**11-2:30 pm** Arrive Morton Street, downtown Shipshewana Scavenger Hunt, Carousel Ride and Pottery Demonstration

Welcome to downtown Shipshewana which was the original entrance to the popular Flea Market that first brought visitors to this small town. Today, your group will have an opportunity to shop and meet a variety of artisans in their businesses, many still in the town’s original founders home now converted to boutique shops. Start a fun scavenger hunt as you hunt and find the larger-than-life Walldog hand painted historical murals throughout the town. “Pop in” to the Riverwood Pottery for an up close demonstration around a working kiln. Step inside the multi-level Davis Mercantile and take a “ride back in time” on the large interior working Carousel complete with hand carved and painted farm animals guaranteed for fun for all ages.

**12:45-1:45 pm** Haystack Lunch inside an Amish home

Step inside an Amish home for a treat! What is a Haystack? Hear the story about the little country school in Honeyville, south of Shipshewana and how they won a National Contest with this recipe. Today it is popular as a fundraiser for medical bills and new Amish schools. Your lunch will be topsy-turvy, tasty and something unique and different.

As the coach travels through the countryside, hear about the Amish lifestyle. This includes their working in factories, schools, church, weddings, family gardens, travel, and entertainment especially for the teenagers going through rumspringa.

**2:15-3:00 pm** Visit with an Amish family and walk through their home

**3:00 pm** Say goodbye to your guide



### EVENING OPTIONS:

- Extend your stay and enjoy one of these wonderful evening experiences filled with food and fun.
- Cook’s Bison Chuckwagon BBQ dinner & ranch tour.
- Blue Gate Dinner & Show
- In-home Amish cooking class & meal

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