

# Shipshewana

AT THE  OF AMISH COUNTRY, INDIANA



Amish Experience  
Entertainment  
Fun Family Options  
Outdoor Adventures  
Meet & Interview Artists





# What Sets Us Apart... *Unique Experiences.*

## A place of natural purity.

From the crystal waters of our 70 lakes and rivers to the wooded wonderlands of our parks and preserves, LaGrange County is a nature lover's paradise! You'll never tire of the pure beauty of Northern Indiana, and you'll love exploring the area and enjoying the various species of animals and vegetation that thrive here.

## A slower pace.

A slower pace. Many of our visitors choose Shipshewana as their vacation destination because we offer an opportunity to shift gears, slow down and spend some time reconnecting with the people they love. There's no reason to hurry here; there's plenty of time for our great food, exciting attractions and fun places to shop. So if you see a rocking chair, feel free to sit a spell and take it all in.

## A Truly unique experience.

A truly unique experience. Although we may seem to be a little stuck in time, we're definitely not your 'same old same old' destination here in Shipshewana! We offer our visitors a variety of experiences you can only have in Amish Country - from buggy rides to dairy farm tours to Amish in-home dining (you'll definitely want to try the pie). It will be the vacation everyone remembers!

## A family tradition.

A family tradition. Shipshewana and LaGrange County have adventures waiting for every generation! Whether you're looking for family-friendly attractions and pools for the kids, pubs and golf courses for the guys, unique shopping for the girls, or great food and shows for the grandparents, it's easy to understand why so many families make Shipshewana their vacation destination every year.

## Artisans, Arts, & Antiques

### A Cultural Glimpse

Sure, you can buy almost anything from Amazon these days, but in Shipshewana shopping is an EXPERIENCE! Around every corner you're sure to find something you didn't know you needed in your life at quaint little boutiques, Amish roadside businesses and more. From hand-made baskets and quilts, to paintings and pottery, you are sure to find a story that is one-of-a-kind!



- Unique Shopping
- Basket Making
- Meet Local Artisans
- Quilt Shops
- Auction & Flea Market



# Shipshewana Featured Story Ideas:

AT THE ❤️ OF **AMISH COUNTRY**, INDIANA

## Mel's Story

Meet Mel Riegsecker, a master craftsman from the Blue Gate, who created miniature wagons and six horse hitches with everything from manes to bridles authentically detailed. Mel's father displayed the handsome miniature in his shop for all to enjoy. To the surprise of father and son, the miniature was quickly purchased! As his reputation grew, Mel found that visitors enjoyed watching the crafters in his workshop, adjacent to his country home. However, due to a lack of space, in 1984, Mel and June purchased and renovated an old factory building conveniently located at the 4 way stop in Shipshewana. They called it the Shipshewana Craft Barn. That was the beginning of Riegsecker Marketplace. As the Riegsecker's vision has evolved to 3 retail stores, a restaurant, bakery, theatre, hotel, event center, catering, backroad Amish tours and a carriage business that have become a part of what is now called the Blue Gate Hospitality Co.

## Teaberry Wood Products

A small, family run business that started out as a sawmill and dry kiln operation has grown into a full time arts and craft business. Meet Lavern and Rachel as they craft animal puzzles, nativity sets, and Monroe Dutcher style baskets made with cherry, oak, walnut and purple heart.

## Victorian Candy Company

The Amish owned Victorian Candy Company, by Jr. and Martha Yoder, has been satisfying the strongest of sugar cravings for several years now. Located inside Yoder's Red Barn Shoppes, you will find them making candies of all kinds. They make their own Brittle Brackle. Each soft batch is cooked to perfection with either peanuts, pecans, cashews or pretzels. It comes plain or drizzled with chocolate.

## Flea Market Finds

Shipshewana Trading Place, Auctions and Flea Market boasts the Midwest's Largest Outdoor Flea Market with 700 open-air booths offering something for everyone - bargains, gifts, home decor, produce, plants, food, antiques, handmade, and wood crafts. In addition, weekly antique, livestock and horse auctions are also on the grounds. Interviews with artisans, crafters, and fleas are available.

## Cherry Pickers

It is not by accident that Mark and Stephanie Liechty grew from door-to-door scrap gathering to one of the Midwest's premier furniture builders. Like everyone else, they have modeled their business after what they know. They have seen and experienced that the rubble of past lives can be used to build anew. They take the rejected, discarded, and overlooked materials and salvage them to make fine cabinetry, flooring, and household furnishings. Reclamation is not just what they do professionally; it's who they are. The Liechty's are professional pickers and custom furniture builders. "If you can dream it, we can build it!"





## Family Fun Experiences

### Fun Around Every Corner

Grab the kids and head to Shipshewana and LaGrange County for fun around every corner. From Animal farms with exotic animals to a ride around the carousel at the Davis Mercantile, you and your family will make memories full of great stories. Families are sure to love our sweets & treats from ice cream to cheesecake, or how about cheesecake in the ice cream at Vanilla Bean Creamery! And return time and again for our one-of-a-kind seasonal festivals and events.



- Animal Farms
- 1906 Dentzel Carousel
- Home-made Ice Cream
- Kid-Friendly Shopping
- Seasonal Festivals & Events

## Amish Experiences

### A Cultural Glimpse

Welcome to the heart of Indiana Amish country, the third largest Amish area in the nation. Get a glimpse of Amish daily life by taking a buggy ride on the gravel backroads or around town. Dine family style or meet Amish Makers in their workshops as they craft rugs, jams, baskets, noodles, leather goods and more. Learn about the Anabaptist faith and culture at the Menno-Hof. Taste farm fresh whole milk on a working Amish dairy farm. All of this and more makes the Amish Cultural Experience in Shipshewana a highlight for many!



- Amish Tours
- Buggy Rides
- Hand-made Artisans
- Home-style Cooking
- Menno-Hof Amish-Mennonite Museum



## Outdoor Adventure

### Something For Everyone

With everything from a casual hike in a nature preserve to a 17-mile bike trail across 2 counties, we have something for everyone. And at the end of the day we have an amazing variety of places to lay your head like cabins, campgrounds & RV parks. Spend your days hiking, biking, at a public beach, canoing, or play a round of golf! Enjoy the Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife area featuring 11,994 acres of land, 529 acres of lakes, and 17 miles of a free flowing west-northwest river in Mongo.



- Kayaking & Canoeing
- 19 Lakes for Boating
- Disc Golf & Archery
- Hiking & Biking Trails
- Pumpkinvine Trailhead

## Entertainment

### World-Class Entertainment

Shipshewana offers year-round, world-class entertainment at 3 beautiful venues for live performances. From contemporary country music to rock legends to majestic horse shows, you'll find something to entertain and delight during your next trip to Amish Country. The state of the art Blue gate Performing Arts Center seats 1500 people and offers 200+ concerts annually. Check out our Events Page for upcoming concerts and download our event calendar!



- Performing Arts Center
- Blue Gate Theater
- Michiana Event Center
- Meet and Interview Talent
- Catch A Show!



# Christmas in Shipshewana! *Winter Wonderland!*



## Lighting of Shipshewana

There's no better way to kick off the holiday season than with the Lighting of Shipshewana! Taking place in the first part of November each year, this spectacular one-of-a-kind event brings locals and visitors together to celebrate the community and the Christmas season. Each year, thousands and thousands of guests line the streets of our quaint town to witness this joyous event.

## Lights of Joy

With the 2020 & 2021 expansions of Shipshewana's Lights of Joy the drive-through light display experience is now home to more than two million LED Christmas lights displayed in an almost mile and a half long symphony of colorful light scenes for this upcoming holiday season. When you arrive, tune your radio to our Christmas music broadcast and soak in the Christmas Spirit!

## NOEL A Celebration of Christmas

Two full hours of nonstop Christmas excitement returns to the Michiana Event Center in Shipshewana! This amazing and uplifting show is filled with nonstop equestrian adventures, featuring some of the most beautiful horses anywhere, along with incredibly talented riders from all around the world. See the Noel singers, dancers, aerialist, hogs, dogs and more!

## Local Lodging

### Shipshewana (EXIT 107)

- Blue Gate Garden Inn .....260.768.4725
- Farmstead Inn & Conference Center.....260.768.4595
- Shipshewana Super 8 .....260.768.4004
- Van Buren Hotel .....260.768.7780

### Howe (EXIT 121)

- Holiday Inn Express .....260.562.3660
- Super 8 .....260.562.2828
- Best Western Plus .....260.562.2880

## Trip Tips...

- Located in Eastern Time Zone
- Perfect for day trips
- Exit 107 & Exit 121 on 80/90
- Chicago – 134 miles
- Detroit – 175 miles
- Grand Rapids – 97 miles
- Indianapolis – 174 miles

### Shipshewana/LaGrange County Convention & Visitors Bureau

350 S Van Buren St  
Suite H  
Shipshewana, IN 46565

☎ 800.254.8090 | 260.768.4008  
✉ [marketing@lagrangecountycvb.org](mailto:marketing@lagrangecountycvb.org)  
🌐 [VisitShipshewana.org](http://VisitShipshewana.org)



*There's Always More To Explore!*