



Group Itineraries - Curated Experiences

Shipshewana Amish Country Christmas

The holiday season in Shipshewana is a joyous time filled with fun, food, family, and festive traditions! Step into a slower pace where you will breathe in the enticing aromas of fresh baked pies and cookies while listening to the sounds of your favorite carols. Feel the warmth from friendly Amish businesses as they invite you into their homes for a peak into the window of their unique world at this special time of year. Treasure memories of Christmas past and present as you delight in the magnificence of two million twinkling lights. Delight in the sounds of Christmas music and see the splendor of equestrian feats of excellent. We promise you will discover why the holiday season in Shipshewana Amish Country is truly something special, some would say, like the Hallmark Channel brought to life!



NOTE: All times below are EST - Please verify date, times, and shows prior to finalizing your tour.

Day 1 - Mid December 2024

1 p.m. - Arrive and Discover Shipshewana's Downtown Shopping District

1-4 p.m. - Christmas Shopping at the Davis Mercantile with Carousel Ride & Pretzel Break—\$6 pp incl for pretzel/soft drink/cheese PLUS \$2 pp incl for Carousel ride

Explore the downtown Shipshewana area for handmade pottery, reclaimed wood pieces, art, fashion, décor, quilts, puzzles and more. Start at the Davis Mercantile which is filled with 4 floors of a variety of boutique shops filled to the rafters. Take time to ride back in time on the hand-carved wooden full-size Carousel. Feast on the warm, fresh-out-of-the oven pretzel. Wander down the street to find more treats for everyone on Santa's list!

4:15 p.m. - Check-in at your host hotel

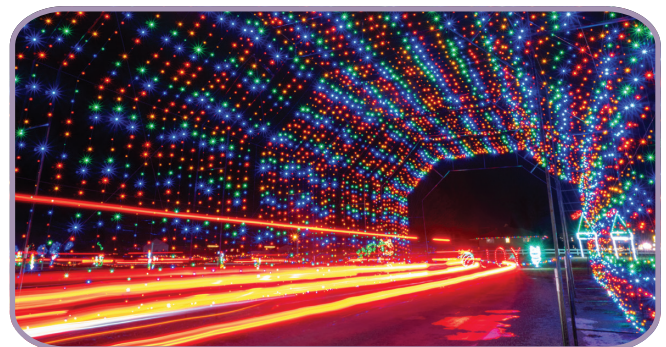
5:30-9 p.m. - Shipshewana Majestic presents "Noel" at the Michiana Event Center, Shipshewana--\$34.95 pp incl for groups of 20 or more for show only, \$54.95 pp for buffet/show, \$74.95 pp incl for buffet/show/VIP Experience

Come enjoy our Christmas feast and experience true warm winter comfort where Shipshewana Majestic presents "Noel" a fun filled, holiday evening that is both amazing and uplifting! Your dinner buffet features traditional warm winter comfort food and a 30-minute Comedy, Juggling and Magic Entertainment show. Then enjoy "Noel" which is two full hours of nonstop Christmas excitement! Complete with equestrian adventures of all kinds of lovely aerialists with high in the air routines, world class vocalists singing traditional favorite songs of the season, festive lights, Yuletide dancers, and even a cow who thinks she's a reindeer! "Noel" shares with you the real Reason we celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ and features one of the largest living nativities anywhere, complete with a re-creation of the stable and manger in Bethlehem where the savior was born. Glorious Angels herald the Lord's coming as wise men from the East with real life camels come to witness the blessed miracle, as well as the townspeople with their sheep, goats, donkeys, and cows. The powerful music and narration of the nativity scene, and the message of hope and everlasting life that it brings will change your life! Upgrade your group to the VIP Experience and get a close look at what goes on behind the scenes with a backstage tour, meet cast members, take pictures on the back of the horses, and get up close and personal with the animal stars including the camels!

After the show, enjoy 2 million twinkle light drive thru at: Shipshewana Lights of Joy-- \$250 per bus load for permit

Your group will drive through this light display occurring on the grounds of the famous Shipshewana Flea Market. More than 2 million LED lights and specialty displays will be viewed in a 45-minute period in an almost mile and a half long symphony of colorful light scenes.

Return to your host hotel after the Shipshewana Lights of Joy



Day 2 - Mid December 2024

6:30-8:30 a.m. - Breakfast at your host hotel - Meet your guide in the hotel lobby

8:45-4 p.m. - “Stocking Stuffer” Off the Beaten Path Tour-- \$250 total for guide (tip optional) PLUS \$25 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 off the beaten path on gravel roads and country lanes to Amish businesses. As part of this unique and customizable experience, choose stops from the suggested list below. We will supply the Christmas “Stocking” Bag 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.

OPTIONS: Guide to determine timing and routing for the following highlighted requested stops:

- *Choose 4 Stocking Stuffer Stops; additional stops can be included for no fee or extra gifts*

- Amish Bakery
- Amish noodle maker
- Popcorn Shop
- Amish sugar free jelly maker
- Amish wind chime maker
- E&S Bulk Food Store
- Amish leather shop
- Amish toy maker

- *Authentic Experiences on the Backroads Tour Options - \$125 minimum*

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.

- One room Amish School
- Amish buggy maker

- *Amish rug weaving demo & Whoopie Pie break - \$3 pp included*

Leo & Lorene Miller welcome you to their Old Order Amish home where Leo has been handweaving rag rugs for years. Taught by his family, Leo will demonstrate how he weaves and creates his beautiful and functional rugs. Meanwhile Lorene, his wife, will serve you her famous whoopie pies and cold lemonade as both the Miller's welcome your group and answer questions about their personal Amish lifestyle.

- *Hands-On-Make-and-Take Experiences Available with Step-On Guide. Costs vary per experience:*

- Tea Cup Succulent Garden
- Wooden Basket Weaving
- Roll your own pretzel
- Small Barn Quilt painting project
- Make an Amish Doll
- Make Amish peanut butter

Lunch on their own at a location determined by the guide

4 p.m. - Say goodbye to your guide

5-9 p.m - Option 1: Blue Gate Buffet Dinner & “When Calls the Heart” at the Blue Gate Theater.

Groups: \$59.95 pp (12+ pp) or Show Only: \$35.95

Calling All Hearties! Enjoy a brand new, live musical production, Janette Oke's “When Calls the Heart”, a theatrical celebration of truth, adventure, sacrifice, faith and – above all – love. “When Calls the Heart” The Musical is brimming with excitement, comedy and romance. Join Elizabeth Thatcher as she bids goodbye to family and everything she has ever known and sets off for an adventure of a lifetime. Be captivated and entertained by world class performers and singers as each new experience ensues as this enchanting musical takes you on a journey you will never forget!

- *Option 2: Blue Gate Buffet Dinner & a Performance at the Blue Gate Performing Arts Center Performers & pricing TBD). Pricing varies. Please verify exact schedules, pricing and availability prior to finalizing plans.*

Welcome to the state of the art 1,600 seat Blue Gate Performing Arts Center for a dazzling, magnificent and memorable holiday experience with a world-class performance of some renown artists. Watch for updated performances as they become available.

Return to your host hotel following your evening dinner experience



Day 3 - Mid December 2024

6:30-8:30 a.m. - Breakfast at your host hotel & Meet your guide in the hotel lobby

9-11 p.m. - An Amish Woodworking Christmas experience at Teaberry Woodproducts - \$12 pp incl

Lavern & Rachel Miller welcome you to their rural family workshop nestled in the heart of Amish Country to watch their handcrafted décor, puzzles, baskets and cutting boards come to life. Today you'll be treated to a personal authentic discussion sharing Christmas traditions, holiday experiences, and memories from the Miller family. You'll watch a wooden nativity come to life before your eyes and then take one home to treasure for years to come!

11:15-12:15 p.m. - Riverwood Pottery Demonstration - no admission fee

Welcome to Morton Street and the workshop of Jesse Woodworth. Jesse specializes in creating functional handcrafted nature-inspired pottery. You'll meet Jesse at his potter's wheel as he demonstrates his skill and craft watch the pottery come to life before it gets fired in the working kiln.

12:30-2 p.m. - Make-Take Christmas Cookie Fun inside the Amish home at "Taste of Shipshewana"—\$7.50 pp incl for Cookie Decorating PLUS \$28 pp incl for Two Meat Thresher's Meal

Welcome to Brenda's banquet room inside her Amish home. Enjoy Brenda's festive and fun Christmas Cookie Decorating demonstration as she rolls, cuts and shares her familie's favorite cookie recipe right before your eyes. You'll get your own hands into the fun as your group will ice and decorate your own cookie plates perfect to take home or munch on the bus. Finish your evening with the delicious Two Meat Thresher's Meal to round out your tasty time in Brenda's home.



Two Meat Thresher's Meal Includes:

Served with: Mashed potatoes and gravy, noodles, hot vegetable, homemade bread with peanut butter spread and jam, pickles, coffee, and water

- Choose TWO meats from: Meatloaf with sweet sauce on top, BBQ Meatballs in their own homemade BBQ sauce, Grilled Chicken Thighs, Baked Chicken Tenders rolled in crackers, Salisbury Steak in a mushroom sauce, Tender Baked Roast Beef, Traditional Baked Chicken
- Choose ONE salad from: Favorite Colorific Salad which includes Greens, peppers, onions, almonds, and raisins in a light sauce, Broccoli Cauliflower Salad complete with cheese, bacon and sauce, Traditional tossed salad with homemade French dressing
- Choose THREE pies from: Cherry, Pecan, Peanut Butter, Dutch Apple, Coconut Cream, Red Raspberry Cream, Black Raspberry, Butter Pecan Cream, Caramel Custard, Chocolate Cream or Homemade Cheesecake

Depart from home after lunch or consider various other Shipshewana hands-on or tour experieces to extend your stay.

OPTIONS: *Guide to determine timing and routing for the following highlighted requested stops:*

- *Jesus Donkey, Homespun Holiday Hands-On Experience & Meal at Meadow Brook Farm--\$30 pp incl meal complete with dessert and beverages, handsome 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 or the touch of a furry donkey nose? 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. The carefully restored barns are places of gathering and fellowship and are your host locations for a delicious lunch. 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 photo op which is just irresistible! You will create memorable experiences in this beautiful country setting! Enjoy a delicious catered dinner in the farmhouse chic barn to complete your evening.



Contact Judy McConnell - Group Sales Manager today to customize an itinerary in The Heart of Amish Country Indiana!
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