





On Your Next Group Tour. Take the Road less Traveled

to Historic Corydon & Harrison County, IN History, wineries,

underground adventures, glassblowing demonstrations and more.

For a sample itinerary, contact Stacy at 888-738-2137 or stacyp@thisisindiana.org.









Our unique destination marks the ideal spot for your next Group Experience.

Custom itinerary planning and reservation assistance made simple!

Contact JoDee Hooley jodee@lagrangecountycvb.org 800.254.8090 ShipshewanaTours.org

SHIPSHEWANA

LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA

more than a days worth

HONEST- GOODNESS INDIANA

Contents FEATURES

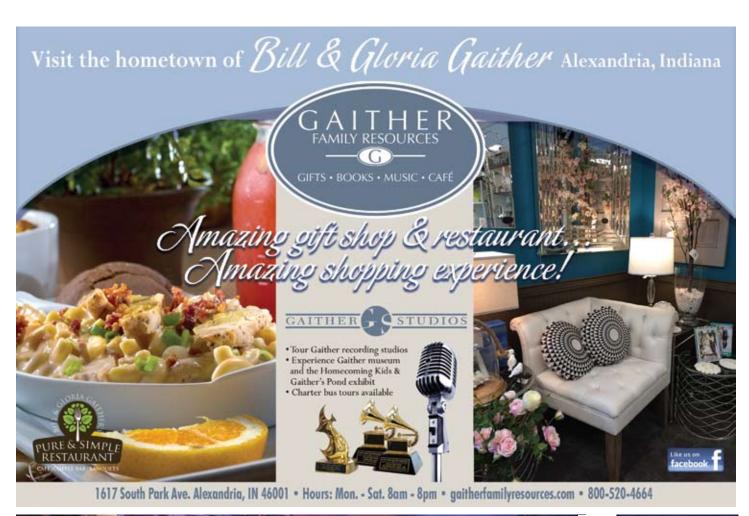
- 8 Magnificent Mansions
 Stunning Gilded Age homes open for tours
- 16 Hoosier Holidays
 Celebrate the season at these
 festivals and museums
- 28 Hands-On Indiana
 Create your own masterpiece in these artist studios
- 36 Indiana Dinner Theaters
 Top-flight entertainment and delicious
 meals await
- 44 Indiana's Casinos Hit the Jackpot
 Experience thrilling action and gourmet dining

SAMPLE ITINERARIES

- **22** Eastern, Central and Western Indiana
- 34 Southern and South Central Indiana
- **42** Northern and Western Indiana

All itineraries are samples and can be customized to fit your group's needs. .









GENUINE EXPERIENCES

are found during a visit to the Hoosier State, in a way that is uniquely Indiana. Our diverse geography, eclectic foods, natural attractions and unique 200year history are just some of what makes Indiana so memorable to visit.

Indiana's communities offer travelers a refreshing sense of renewal. Relax on the beaches of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Hike scenic trails to discover wooded gorges, rock cliffs and plunging waterfalls at one of the many Indiana state parks. Enjoy rolling hills on the Ohio River Scenic Byway or return to simpler times in Amish country. Stop at one of Indiana's wineries, farmers markets or creameries to experience the fantastic tastes of small-town Indiana. Our cities offer world-class museums, performing arts and sporting events.

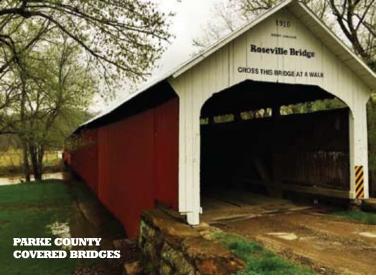
There are many resources Indiana offers group tours. Whether it is vineyards, breweries and distilleries, shopping, hiking, heritage or historical sites that you seek, start your planning at VisitIndiana.com.

I hope you will consider Indiana as the place for your next trip so we can share a little Hoosier Hospitality with you.

Suzanne Crouch

Suzanne Crouch LT. GOVERNOR INDIANA







ON THE COVER: Indiana State Museum; Photo courtesy of the Indiana State Museum





INDIANA FACTS

Population:

Statewide: 6.7 million

Indianapolis: 860,902 (also the state capital)

Fort Wayne: 267,852 Evansville: 118,930 South Bend: 101,735 Carmel: 92.198 Hammond: 76,618

Getting Here by Air

Indianapolis International Airport (IND): Served by Air Canada, Alaska, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest, United, Vacation Express

South Bend Regional Airport (SBN): Served by Allegiant, American, Delta, United **Evansville Regional Airport (EVV):**

Served by Allegiant, American, Delta, United Fort Wayne International Airport: (FWA): Served by Allegiant, American, Delta, United

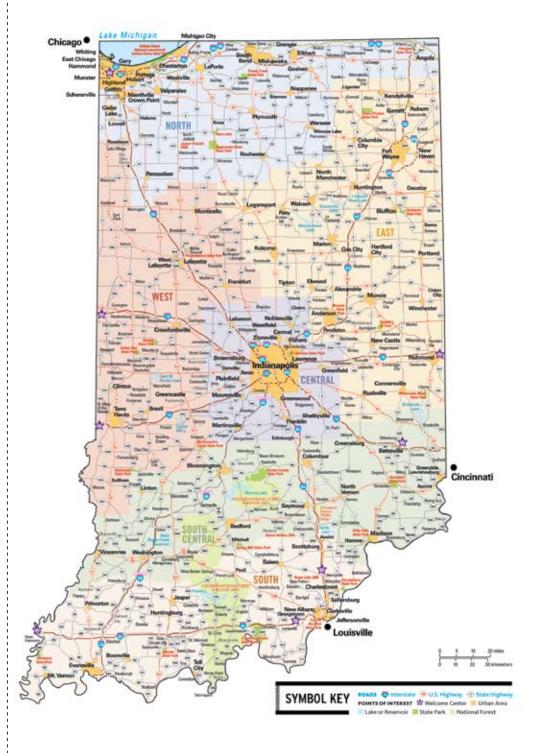
Getting Here by Rail

Amtrak stations in Connersville (COI), Crawfordsville (CRF), Dyer (DYE), Elkhart (EKH), Evansville-Bus Station (EVN), Hammond-Whiting (HMI), Indianapolis (IND), Lafayette (LAF), Michigan City (MCI), Rensselaer (REN), South Bend (SOB), Waterloo (WTI)

Average Temperatures by Season:

North - Spring 71, Summer 81, Fall 63, Winter 31 Central - Spring 73 Summer 84, Fall 65, Winter 36 South - Spring 77, Summer 88, Fall 70, Winter 41 Schwabenblitz/Bigstock.com







Magnificent MAN



SIONS

From Elkhart to Evansville, historic houses paint a picture of how the other half lived

During the boom days of the

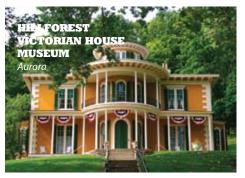
19th century, America's economy grew by leaps and bounds, and barons of industry massed unfathomable amounts of wealth. They poured their riches into showplace homes, furnishing these opulent nests with the best that money could buy.

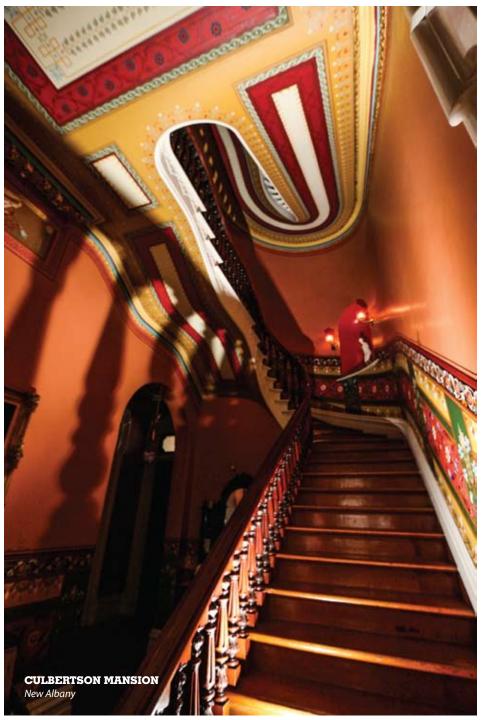
Staffed by servants, the "palaces" boasted grand staircases, exquisitely carved woodwork, valuable art and sumptuously appointed parlors. Many of the finest specimens of overthe-top residential architecture were built during the Gilded Age, the years between the Civil War and early 20th century, a period generally known as the Victorian era.

Indiana's historic house museums provide peeks into the lives of the rich and famous. They not only offer private tours featuring docents with stories to tell and antiques to show off, but some can arrange group teas and luncheons amidst the elegant trappings. Most mansions get all decked out for the Christmas season, one of the prime times to visit.

Several of Indiana's stately homes of yesteryear can be found in towns along the Ohio River, whose shores were thriving with industry and shipping activity in the 1800s. Thomas Gaff, the son of Scottish immigrants, came from Pennsylvania in 1855 and made his fortune in distilling, brewing, steamboats and other businesses launched with his brother. Hillforest Victorian House Museum, built into a wooded hillside over the historyrich town of Aurora, reflects the Gaffs' genteel lifestyle. Motorcoaches cannot negotiate the steep drive, so the Dearborn County Convention, Visitor and Tourism Bureau provides van transportation for those who cannot walk up to the flamboyantly designed Italianate house. Its steamboat-inspired architecture features curved central colonnades, a magnificent suspended staircase and a circular belvedere set







in a pilot house-style cupola offering panoramic river vistas (accessible to visitors via a steep set of stairs).

Before or after touring Hillforest with a costumed guide, groups can gather amid the Victorian finery in the double parlors for a "Linens & Luxury" luncheon or a three-course afternoon tea with finger sandwiches, scones and sweets. Another option is the "Twilight Tour Progressive Mansions Dinner" with a catered dinner at Hillforest followed by a dessert buffet in the formal dining room at Veraestau Historic Site, a bluff-top estate dating back to 1810 with sweeping views of the river valley.

Madison, another Ohio River town that enthralls admirers of lovely old buildings, boasts the largest contiguous National Historic Landmark District in the nation. A living museum that prizes historic preservation, it was once the largest and wealthiest town in Indiana, made prosperous by industries like pork packing. Madison's crown jewel is Lanier Mansion State Historic Site, one of the best examples of Greek Revival architecture in the Midwest. Its immense Corinthian columns support a two-story porch that overlooks gardens and the riverfront. The mansion was built in 1844 by financier and railroad magnet James Lanier, who in 1849 moved to New York and made a name for himself in financial circles but maintained his Hoosier State ties, lending the state more than \$1 million during the Civil War. A desk and bookcases are among the few furnishings original to the house, but all pieces are authentic to the period. The oldest artifact is the 1790 harp from France. Also of note is the spiral staircase leading to the skylit cupola.

Culbertson Mansion, another designated State Historic Site, is a Gilded Age gem in the Mansion Row Historic District of New Albany. The French Second Empire home, an imposing vision in deep yellow, was built for \$120,000 from 1867-1869 by William Culbertson, who at the time of his death in 1892, was considered the wealthiest man in Indiana. A masterpiece of Victorian artistry, the three-story mansion dazzles visitors with

its intricate stenciling, hand-painted ceilings, marble fireplaces, elaborate plasterwork and carved staircase of mahogany and rosewood—all beautifully restored. Upstairs ceilings soar to 17 feet, while those on the main level rise 141/2.

The Reitz House Museum, another home in the Second Empire style, draws history, architecture and decorative arts buffs to the Riverside Historic District of downtown Evansville. The Victorian showplace was built in 1871 by John Augustus Reitz, a Prussian immigrant known as the "Lumber Baron." By the 1880s his sawmill was producing more hardwood lumber than any other in the country. Guests are impressed with the

residence of the first President Harrison, is a major tourist attraction in Vincennes, the state's oldest city. Built from 1802-1804 on a knoll above the Wabash River, the Federalstyle mansion was rather sophisticated for the frontier and borrowed elements from plantation homes in Virginia, the home state of the well-to-do Harrisons. At age 27, William Henry was appointed governor of the Indiana Territory, a wilderness that stretched across what is today Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and parts of Minnesota. It also served as a seat of government, social center and place of refuge for the community in times of hostility.

In 1811 Harrison became a military



grand entry hall in Moorish design, 14foot ceilings, chandeliers, stained glass, plasterwork, parquet floors and walnut wainscoting. The drawing room, graced with a harp and piano, gives off a frilly French feel; a white onyx fireplace is from the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Many furnishings are original. After the last Reitz family member died there in 1931, the home was left to a Roman Catholic women's organization and later became the residence of the bishop of the Evansville Diocese.

Indiana lays claims to two homes once occupied by U.S. presidents—William Henry Harrison and his grandson, Benjamin Harrison. Grouseland, the

hero, earning the nickname "Old Tippecanoe" after defeating Shawnee Indians in the Battle of Tippecanoe, which took place near Lafayette. On a tour of Grouseland, visitors see memorabilia from the 1840 "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" presidential campaign and items that memorialized Harrison after his untimely death, just one month after taking office as the nation's ninth president. Most of the antiques date prior to 1812, even to the late 1700s, and include some Harrison family pieces. In the dining room, the Harrisons hosted Indian chiefs and luminaries like explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The mansion's name comes from Harrison's enjoyment of shooting and eating grouse.

In the Old Northside neighborhood of Indianapolis, the **Benjamin Harrison** Presidential Site preserves the 16-room Italianate Victorian residence of the 23rd president, the only one elected from Indiana. He occupied the red-brick home, built in 1874-1875, until his death in 1901, except for his U.S. Senate and presidential years. The study is filled with personal items from the White House and displays his Oval Office desk, while the dining room has presidential china. There is a collection of gowns belonging to Mrs. Harrison and her daughter.

Another example of Italianate Victorian architecture in Indianapolis is the James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home. The "Hoosier Poet" lived there (with other families) the last 23 years of his life, from 1893-1916, but he never owned it. Visitors can see ceilings painted by Italian artisans, the desk where Riley penned poems such as Little Orphant Annie and personal possessions like his top hat and cane. A visitor center has documentary videos and displays on Riley and Victorian America. The home is located in the Historic Lockerbie Square neighborhood, just a short walk from the galleries, restaurants and retail shops that make up the Mass Ave Cultural District.

South Bend has two stone-walled, fortress-like mansions influenced by the Richardsonian Romanesque style popular in the late 19th century. The four-story abode of the Studebakers, who founded an automobile dynasty, is now a fine dining restaurant called **Tippecanoe** Place. Providing a window into the Gilded Age, the mansion is open for self-guided exploration during normal business hours, and guided tours are offered as well. Guests marvel at its ornately carved woodwork and 20 fireplaces. Said a local newspaper report soon after the 40-room home was built in 1889: "The house, in its proportions and appointments, probably surpasses anything in Indiana. It is an embodiment of all that wealth and taste can suggest, and modern skill and invention devise."

Nearby is the **Studebaker National**

Museum, which shares a campus with The History Museum, a repository of artifacts from the St. Joseph River Valley region. The Oliver Mansion, with 38 rooms and 14 fireplaces, is part of the latter. Besides getting a look at the leaded-glass windows, parquet floors and original furnishings inside, visitors can stroll the 2.5-acre grounds, which feature gardens, a teahouse, fountain and carriage house. The 1897 home belonged to James Oliver, who invented an economical and efficient plow manufactured in town.

Fronting the St. Joseph River in Elkhart, **Ruthmere** was the 1908 Beaux Arts-style home of Albert R. Beardsley, general manager of a company that later became Miles Laboratories, makers of such over-the-counter products as Alka-Seltzer and One-A-Day Vitamins. Impressive features of the brick and limestone mansion include ceiling and wall murals, Cuban mahogany paneling, silk wall coverings, Italian marble fireplaces and gilded

woodwork, plus a game room decorated in leather and red velvet. One novelty: music from a combination player piano/organ in the front parlor that is piped into the library. Ruthmere, named after a daughter who died in infancy, also maintains a fine arts collection that includes Tiffany glass and Auguste Rodin sculptures. Groups can arrange an afternoon period tea (tea sandwiches, mini scones, macaroons, mini tarts) in the game room or outdoors on the piazza.

The Haan Mansion Museum of **Indiana Art** was the State of Connecticut building at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Immediately after the fair, it was moved to Lafayette to become the residence of Mr. and Mrs. William Potter. Of chief interest are paintings, ceramics and sculpture by Indiana artists, plus American-made furniture from the Renaissance Revival period of 1860-1890. On display are three vases from the fair, one of them a prize winner that stands seven feet tall.

A survey of Indiana's magnificent mansions would not be complete without a mention of the Seiberling Mansion in Kokomo. Built in 1891 by Monroe Seiberling, who made his fortune in the Indiana natural gas boom of the late 19th century, it's a combination of the Oueen Anne and Romanesque Revival styles. The ballroom on the third floor has an entrance to the rotunda outside, and the grand porch overlooks the grounds. The elegant Victorian house was originally heated and illuminated by natural gas. Its ornate interior woodwork and parquetry uses a variety of native woods, including walnut, oak, maple, cherry, mahogany and butternut. The mansion serves as the museum of the Howard County Historical Society.

For lovers of antiques, decorative arts and American history—and anyone who entertains dreams of lavish lifestyles from a bygone era—the historic house museums of Indiana have much to offer.

RESOURCES

BENJAMIN HARRISON PRESIDENTIAL SITE 317-631-1888, PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org

CULBERTSON MANSION STATE HISTORIC SITE 812-944-9600, Indiana Museum.org/Culbertson

GROUSELAND

812-882-2096, Grouseland.org

HAAN MANSION MUSEUM OF INDIANA ART 765-742-6449, HaanMuseum.org

HILLFOREST VICTORIAN HOUSE MUSEUM 812-926-0087, Hillforest.org

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY MUSEUM HOME 317-808-8565, RileyMuseumHome.org

LANIER MANSION STATE HISTORIC SITE 812-265-3526, IndianaMuseum.org/Lanier

OLIVER MANSION

574-235-9664, HistoryMuseumSB.org

REITZ HOUSE MUSEUM

812-426-1871, ReitzHome.com

RUTHMERE

888-287-7696, Ruthmere.org

SEIBERLING MANSION/HOWARD COUNTY MUSEUM 765-452-4314, HowardCountyMuseum.org

TIPPECANOE PLACE

574-234-9077, Tippe.com







Group Tours from Waves to Shores in Northern Indiana

Kosciusko offers unique waves to shores moments for authentic group experiences. Groups will enjoy itineraries with lake country flair and land excursions tailor made. Allow us to assist you in planning that perfect multiple stop road trip for your group.



VisitKosciuskoCounty.org/Profile 800-800-6090

COME VISIT THE BEND

WHETHER YOU'RE PLANNING A FIRST VISIT OR RETURN TRIP, WE WANT YOU TO SEE THE BEST WE HAVE TO OFFER.

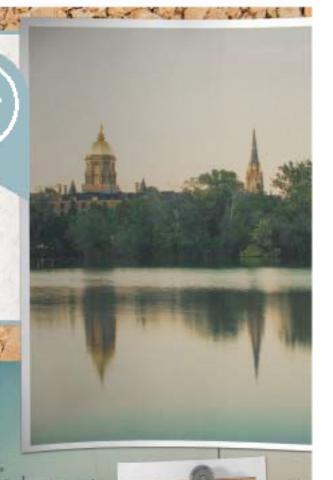
Hosting groups is a chance to show everyone what we're all about simple pleasures like touring one of the country's most iconic college campuses or dazzling public art along the St. Joseph River. Let our best restaurants tantalize your taste buds. Immerse yourself in local history. Catch a show. Every attraction tells our story in its own way. We hope you'll want to visit several of them.

Life can be lived simply here, even if only for a while. Let us show you how.

0

Mondays Can Wait

Contact Susan O'Connor to plan your next group tour. soconnor@visitsouthbend.com









in





Explore





MASCOT HALL OF FAME

VERY CORNER of the globe is filled with museums that honor great athletes, but where are the institutions that honor their greatest cheerleaders—the mascots? These felt and plastic icons will soon have their very own place of honor at the Mascot Hall of Fame, set to open December 2018 in the South Shore community of Whiting. Here, famous figures like Brutus Buckeye and Mr. Met are honored in a state-of-theart, 25,000-square-foot facility that will welcome school groups, coach tours and mascot fans of all ages.

Founded by David
Raymond, the original Phillie
Phanatic from 1978 to 1993,
the Hall honors mascot
performers and performances

that have shined positive light on professional and collegiate sports teams. Like any hall of fame, there is a stringent nomination and selection process before the annual induction ceremony. While inductees have been welcomed since 2005, they will now be forever enshrined in the new Whiting museum.

Designed by Jack Rouse Associates, the same award-winning firm that created the World of Coca-Cola and Crayola Experience, the building's exterior will greet groups with the enormous head of Reggy: the hall's official mascot. Once inside, groups can explore exhibits such as "Department of the Furry Arts," "Science of Silliness Lab" and "Phuzzical Education Department." Visitors can also engage with their

imaginations to design and physically build a mascot and audition as it through exciting stunts like firing t-shirt and confetti cannons.

The Hall also looks to appeal to students by emphasizing STEM disciplines in its interactive exhibits and is developing a curriculum with nearby Calumet College that incorporates science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics components into the displays. Whether your group is populated with sports junkies or simply wants a zany stop in the itinerary, consider a few hours spent with legends like **Bucky Badger and the Nittany** Lion.

For more information, visit MascotHallOfFame.com



SOUTH SHORE ALONG LAKE MICHIGAN



Albanese Candy Factory See the world's tallest chocolate fountain while you taste-test delicious gummies and chocolates



Chicago Land Popcorn 250+ flavors now with two locations: one across from Albanese Candy Factory and one near Shrine of Christ's Passion.



Experience as never before the Passion of Christ. Also see the Mt. Sinai replica with Moses and the Ten Commandments.



Shrine of Christ's Passion



Fair Oaks Farms Dairy & pig adventures, crop adventure center, farm-to-table restaurant and new hotel.



Bison Viewing Area Visit the viewing area at Kankakee Sands or see a herd of bison up close at Broken Wagon Bison.



Sandhill Grane Migration Experience the breathtaking spectacle as thousands of sandhill cranes visit during their fall migration.



To learn more about these attractions... call Heather Becerra at 219-554-2224 or visit

ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE.COM



Christmas festivals and holiday light displays abound throughout Indiana

Long winter nights are no match

for Hoosier Hospitality—even during frigid December, cities across Indiana welcome groups to showcase their architecture, history and local traditions. From firsthand encounters with Santa Claus to recreations of a Victorian Christmas, you'll be sure to discover an Indiana experience that spreads some holiday cheer.

Home to fewer than 3,000 permanent residents, the town of Santa Claus nonetheless hosts tens of thousands of visitors every summer at its Holiday World & Splashin' Safari theme park and thousands more every December when it becomes "America's Christmas Hometown." Originally called Santa Fe, the city eventually changed its name after the competing city in New Mexico grew larger, and today the post office receives thousands of letters from children all over the world with their Christmas wish lists. Since 1914, a group of local volunteers called Santa's Elves has ensured these children get custom replies from the Big Man himself, and your group can stop by the post office itself to see the "elves" hard at work.

Groups can spend an entire day exploring the town's Christmas-themed attractions, including Santa's Candy **Castle** (which has a delicious selection of toffee, taffy and chocolate), Santa Claus Christmas Store (where group members can buy commemorative ornaments and nutcrackers) and Santa Claus Museum & Village (which houses galleries that explain the town's holiday history). The town is especially festive during the three-weekend Santa Claus **Christmas Celebration** each December. Special events include the Festival of





Lights, where groups can drive through nine miles of residential light displays, and Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire, which invites guests to try the traditional roasted European nut preparation.

More Old World holiday traditions are found in the nearby town of Ferdinand, which hosts the annual Christkindlmarkt Heritage Markets. Voted as one of the Top 100 Events in

villagers staved off the harsh winters with bonfires and dancing. That tradition continues annually with the Sounds of the Season concert, where a 60-member chorus performs carols and spirituals in St. Ferdinand Church. Conclude your evening with a visit to the Monastery of the Immaculate Conception, which presents a nativity and holiday lights display on Grotto Hill.

Christmas experience recalls Brown County winters of yore with cookies, cider and live music. For another culinary adventure into the past, register your group for a Victorian Candlelight Holiday Dinner, where guests dine in the light of oil lamps and are waited on by staff in authentic Victorian garb.

Each holiday season, the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis



North America by the American Bus Association, the markets are spread across seven locations in town and are easily accessible from a free shuttle. Over 200 Bavarian shopping stalls showcase the work of traveling toymakers, wood carvers and bakers, while food stands serve apple strudel, schnitzel and cinnamon rolls. The kindlmarkt tradition began in 14th century Germany, when

Charming any time of year, the welcoming antique alleyways and historic homes of Brown County are especially welcoming in December when adorned with wreaths and brimming with holiday shoppers. The Christmas Log Cabin Tour welcomes groups into the area's 19th century log homes when they are festooned with period-accurate decorations, while the Steele's Country

becomes a 284-foot-tall Christmas tree composed of nearly 5,000 lights and 52 strands of garland. Numerous Indy attractions offer holiday light shows throughout the season, including Newfields Winterlights. This dazzling outdoor display invites guests to sip on a hot cider and admire millions of musiccoordinated LED lights on the Lilly House lawn. Combining holiday cheer with the

city's rich racing history, Lights at the Brickyard allows vehicles to drive the Indianapolis Motor Speedway's two-mile loop and pass through an LED tunnel and admire the famous five-story pagoda illuminated by thousands of bulbs. For indoor Indianapolis holiday happenings, consider the Indiana Historical Society's Festival of Trees, which showcases over 80 Christmas trees of various styles,

into a Christkindlmarkt. Dozens of stalls selling seasonal confections and hot chocolate surround a temporary ice skating rink; holiday concerts are offered at the adjacent Palladium Center for the Performing Arts; and group seating is offered at many restaurants in the nearby Carmel City Center. Visitors can also climb aboard the Holiday Trolley to explore the Carmel Arts & Design District. A driver

of Lights Drive-Thru, a partnership between Shipshewana Trading Place and Blue Gate Hospitality that transforms Shipshewana RV Park into a mile-long burst of LED color that depicts biblical scenes and Santa's workshop. Other Shipshewana holiday highlights include the Ship-Chic Craft & Vintage Show, where over 80 vendors sell Christmasthemed crafts, and the Shipshewana Ice





and the Eiteljorg Museum's Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure. Nine model trains wind through miniature Indianapolis landmarks like Lucas Oil Stadium before venturing west past Mt. Rushmore, the Grand Canyon and the Las Vegas Strip.

Groups can also venture north to Hamilton County, where Carmel's Center Green is annually transformed wearing a Santa hat will transport your party through Main Street and stop and admire the work of local artists.

Shipshewana, the heart of Indiana Amish Country, draws groups every year for its Indoor Flea Market. Hosted in the Farmstead Expo Barn until mid-December, the market is 15,000 square feet of one-stop holiday shopping. Groups can then complete the Gift

Festival, which pits chainsaw-wielding teams against each to create the most elaborate ice sculptures.

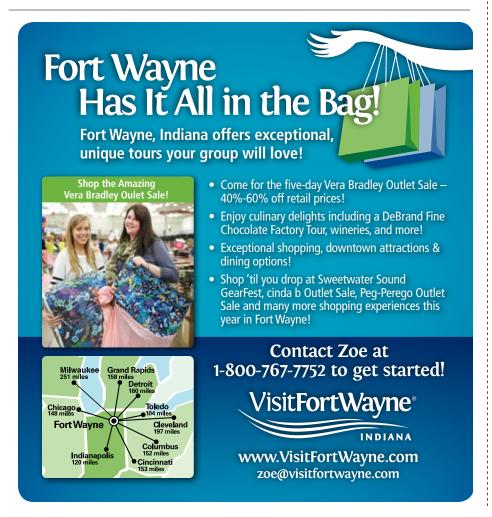
The stunning Greek Revival mansions and Federal-style buildings in the Madison Historic District are open year-round for group tours, but they become especially welcoming during the holiday season for the Nights Before **Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes.**

Homeowners welcome visitors to their decorated historic homes to admire the preserved styles of past eras, and local historians will lead groups through festively decorated landmarks such as the Masonic Schofield House and Lanier Mansion. Various hospitality sites offer hot drinks and cookies, and visitors are invited to join the caroling when tours pass through local churches.

Old Fort Wayne, a recreation of a stockade that played a pivotal role in the War of 1812, hosts the annual **Joyeux Noel** and **Bonne Annee** (Christmas and New Year's) celebration in a city flush with history. Groups can hop on the Holiday Trolley that departs from downtown Fort Wayne and explore a fort populated by historic reenactors glad to explain holiday traditions of French-American Hoosiers. Crackling fires heat fresh *tarte aux pommes* (apple pie) and "habitants" will explain the tradition of *buche de noel*, a frosted

yule log cake still prepared in modern France. Return downtown to the Fort Wayne History Center, host of the annual **Festival of Gingerbread**. Schoolchildren and professional chefs alike present over 100 edible creations that take the shape of traditional gingerbread houses, cars and musical instruments.

While Parke County receives most of its group traffic in the autumn due to its famous covered bridge festival, wintertime in western Indiana is equally beautiful. Enjoy the splendor of the county's 31 covered bridges on a crisp December day and stop by the Covered Bridge Christmas Market, which sells the work of local artists. Rockville, the county seat, also hosts the Holiday Home Tour. This local architecture showcase welcomes groups into sumptuously decorated houses and enlightens visitors on the county's pioneer history.



RESOURCES

CHRISTMAS IN BROWN COUNTY

812-988-7303 BrownCounty.com/Holidays

CHRISTMAS IN SHIPSHEWANA

260-768-7589

Shipshewana.com/Christmas-In-Shipshewana

FERDINAND CHRISTKINDLMARKT

812-367-2908 FerdinandChristkindlmarkt.com

FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD

260-426-2882 FWHistoryCenter.com

FESTIVAL OF TREES

317-232-1882

IndianaHistory.org/Events/Festival-Of-Trees

HOLIDAYS IN CARMEL

317-848-3181 VisitHamiltonCounty.com

JINGLE RAILS: THE GREAT WESTERN ADVENTURE

317-636-9378

Eiteljorg.org/Explore/Exhibitions/ Jingle-Rails-The-Great-Western-Adventure

JOYEUX NOEL OLD FORT WAYNE

260-427-6000

OldFortWayne.org/Event/Joyeux-Noel-a-Festive-French-Christmas-3/

LIGHTS AT THE BRICKYARD

317-492-8500

IndianapolisMotorSpeedway.com/Events/Lights

NEWFIELDS WINTERLIGHTS

317-923-1331

DiscoverNewfields.org

NIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS 812-265-2956 NightsBeforeChristmas.com

PARKE COUNTY COVERED BRIDGE CHRISTMAS

765-569-5226

CoveredBridges.com/Events/Parke-County-Covered-Bridge-Christmas

SANTA'S CANDY CASTLE

800-356-1935 SantasCandyCastle.com

SANTA CLAUS CHRISTMAS STORE

877-224-1772 SantaClausChristmasStore.com

SANTA CLAUS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

888-444-9252

SantaClausInd.org/Santa-Claus-Christmas-Celebration

INDIANA MILITARY MUSEUM

ALUTING THE brave men and women who have served in America's wars, the Indiana Military Museum in Vincennes boasts one of the most comprehensive collections of military memorabilia in the country. There is so much to see that the best strategy is to pick a few exhibit areas and give them a good study. The main display area occupies a single level in one long building, an old glass manufacturing plant.

Some members in your group may gravitate to the Civil War, while others will want to focus on World War I or II. Among the oldest artifacts are muskets dating back to the period between the American Revolution and War of 1812. The succession of glassed-in exhibits progresses chronologically, ending up with the Korean, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

The museum's collection contains some rare items, and many relics have local connections. Besides glass cases crammed with memorabilia—from weapons, helmets and gas masks to medals, newspaper clippings and magazine covers—there are tanks, jeeps, bicycles, motorcycles and other vehicles in the middle of the room. Vintage patriotic,

recruiting and War Bonds posters, along with flags foreign and domestic, festoon the walls. The museum is the pride and joy of founder and curator Judge Jim Osborne, who began collecting WWII artifacts as a child.

World War II buffs are impressed with the uniforms belonging to Generals Patton

and Eisenhower.
Ike's uniform,
tailor-made in
London, was
worn during
the week of
the D-Day
invasion of
Normandy.
Other reminders
of D-Day include
a paratrooper's jacket
and bits and pieces found in
the sands of Omaha Beach,
including shrapnel, spent

ammunition and a fighting knife. Another heroic stand, the Battle of lwo Jima, is remembered with a captured Japanese rifle and tray of sand from the island. Also see goggles used by pilots who dropped atomic bombs on Nagasaki and items from Nazi Germany such as a formal napkin and bit of the fireplace from Hitler's Berchtesgaden retreat.

The "Women at War" exhibit recognizes

pilots, nurses and those employed in factories on the home front during World War II. Displayed are the coveralls, goggles, shoes, drill, lunch box and clip-on ID badge of one of the many female workers who helped build the Navy's LSTs (Landing Ship Tanks) at the Evansville (Indiana) Shipyard. Inside the case is a "Rosie the Riveter" poster. The

domestic scene is also highlighted in a display of WWII-era toys—tanks, boats, planes—that had to be made of wood or cardboard because metal was needed for found in the war effort.

The WWII service of comedian Red Skelton,

a native of Vincennes, is enshrined in an exhibit showing his Army jacket, honorable discharge papers and a picture of him surrounded by Italian children. One photo shows Skelton entertaining troops on a ship bound for Europe in 1945. Outdoors, visitors can get a taste of trench warfare, often used as a symbol of World War I, by walking through a set of replica trenches from the period. Also displayed outdoors are military aircraft. A series of dioramas, ranging from World War I to the present day, are being installed in an existing warehouse building on the property and will be unveiled in January 2019.

For more information, visit IndyMilitary.com

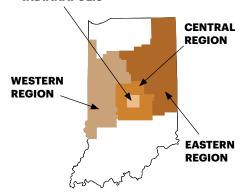


From 1-69 to I-70, There's Plenty to See



DAY ONE

genealogy.



Start your tour in Fort Wayne at the

four outdoor gardens in addition to the Tropical Garden with orchids and

Conservatory, a downtown oasis with

palms and the Sonoran Desert Garden. Afterwards, walk over to the Genealogy

Center at Allen County Public Library.

Centered in downtown Fort Wayne, this

impressive structure contains one of the

world's largest research collections on

Foellinger-Freimann Botanical

mances. For another side of sweet, visit the **DeBrand Fine Chocolates** for a tour and tasting.

MORNING: Start the day in Alexandria at Gaither Family Resources. Gospel singers Bill and Gloria Gaither have dozens of top Christian music hits. A guided tour includes their studio, the house where Bill grew up and the school where Bill and Gloria met.

Continue to Indianapolis and the **NCAA Hall of Champions**, which boasts two levels of interactive exhibits that explain what it takes to make the grade. All 24 NCAA sports are represented. The museum offers a trivia challenge, current team rankings, video highlights and

artifacts donated by colleges around the nation.

INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

AND MUSEUM



EVENING: Travel south to the Muncie area and enjoy live gaming action and dinner at Hoosier Park Racing & Casino, where your group can try their luck at the slots or watch harness racing.



AFTERNOON: Visit Sweetwater, considered the Amazon.com of the live music industry. This massive campus features recording studios, extensive collections of musical instruments for sale, and expansive fulfillment center. And, if

your group is lucky, live musical perfor-





AFTERNOON: Enjoy lunch and a visit to the **Indianapolis Zoo**. Home to over 2,000 animals and Indiana's largest aquarium, this 64-acre zoo has wild animals roaming through natural settings. Don't miss the world's largest enclosed dolphin show.

EVENING: Before dinner, take in an Italian gondola ride under Venetianstyle bridges on the Indianapolis Canal Walk. Dinner is at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre where amphitheater seating gives everyone a terrific seat for tonight's performance.

DAY THREE

MORNING: Begin the day at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Mu**seum**. Its amazing car collection includes more than 30 racecars that won the Indianapolis 500. Explore the Speedway's grounds on a narrated bus ride around the track and stop for a quick photo at the famous Yard of Bricks. The tour also visits the media center, Pagoda, victory platform, garage area and a Gasoline Alley suite.

More car history awaits at the **Dallara** IndyCar Factory. On a factory tour you'll see the technology engineering used in manufacturing today's IndyCars.

AFTERNOON: Grab lunch at City Market. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the market features a wide variety of local eateries, retailers, coffee and a craft beer bar.

Next, visit the Indiana Medical History Museum, the oldest freestanding pathology facility in the nation, which intrigues visitors with its anatomical displays.

EVENING: After a short drive to Terre Haute, take an evening **Outdoor Sculp**ture Tour. Terre Haute is proud of its public art and 18 unique public sculptures, including one of NBA legend and Indiana State University graduate Larry Bird. Stop for photos beneath The Chorus of Trumpets, The Flame of the Millennium or The Spirit of Space.

DAY FOUR

MORNING: Visit CANDLES Holocaust Museum. Founded by Eva Kor in 1984 to locate twins who survived the experiments of Nazi doctor Joseph Mengele, here you'll learn the story of this Holocaust survivor from before the war and through the rise of Nazism to her time in the Auschwitz concentration camp and journey of forgiveness.

Later, visit the **Swope Art Museum**.

The museum is known for its collection of nearly 2,500 works of American art. Your tour offers insight into the rise of American artists and the artistic process.

AFTERNOON: Enjoy lunch at M. Mogger's Restaurant & Pub, located in the historic E. Bleemel Building, circa 1837. Housed in this same building are a brewery museum and Civil War museum. After lunch, depart for home along I-70 with fond memories of your journey.







aguarium



Open year-round with hotel packages and memorable behind-the-scenes opportunities available, including Dolphin In-Water Adventures and Animal Art Adventures.

Begin planning your trip visit today! tours@indyzoo.com • 317-630-2051 • IndianapolisZoo.com

UNIQUELY

TOYOTA PLANT

TOUR

tour isn't on the top of many travel bucket lists, but the drive to Princeton, Indiana is worth a side trip. Here you'll find Toyota Motor Company's manufacturing plant, which is exclusively responsible for producing the popular Highlander and Sequoia SUVs and Sienna minivan models.

Opened in 1999, this massive plant stretches over 70 football fields (under roof) and across 1,160 acres. Toyota Indiana employs over 5,400 workers, and on any given day, up to 5,000 outside contractors are on-site providing various services at the facility. The plant even has its own medical staff and child daycare center.

Each year over 400,000 SUVs and minivans roll off the assembly line. Visitors to the plant can learn about the history of Toyota and see the entire manufacturing process. The tour begins in the modern, expansive visitors center that features interactive multimedia exhibits that illustrate the





Toyota manufacturing process. A timeframe exhibit traces Toyota's history and its entry into the U.S. auto market in the late 1950s with displays of an early model on the floor.

Toyota is proud of its commitment to the environment and the local community, as displayed by a variety of stewardship and community care projects and awards. The highlight of the visitors center is a deconstructed Toyota Tundra pickup truck suspended from the ceiling.

The tour moves into the theater, where a film portrays the construction of the plant, the use of technology in daily operations and insider views of plant operations not accessible

to the public. You'll literally see how steel coils arrive at the plant one day and become SUVs and minivans the next.

After the film, the tour continues inside the plant, where you'll see the entire production process of a Toyota vehicle. Armed with safety goggles and long sleeves, visitors board a tram and travel first to one of thousands of spot welds, often signaled by a burst of flashing sparks. Here, robot arms adeptly guide parts as they proceed through the assembly line. Next is the Customer Satisfaction Line, where doors, fenders, hoods and the back hatch are installed to complete a body

ready for paint. After Body Weld, you'll ride through one of two Assembly shops. You'll see engines and axles, wire harnesses, instrument panels, headliners, seats, carpets and a wide range of other parts and trim added to the body to create the final product.

Throughout Body Weld, Assembly and other production shops, you'll be side-by-side with Toyota team members as they perform a variety of checks to ensure the quality of vehicles.

The estimated total time to see both the visitors center and the plant tour is 75-90 minutes.

The Toyota Indiana Visitors Center is an excellent way to explore the history of Toyota and discover southwest Indiana's industrial heritage. You'll see Toyota's manufacturing facility and production system up close and in-depth and discover why Toyota has built such a solid reputation with their reliable vehicles. For group reservations call 888-696-8211 or visit TourToyotalndiana.com/Plant-Tours

THE SHRINE OF CHRIST'S PASSION

ST. JOHN, INDIANA









he Shrine of Christ's Passion sits on 36 boustifully landscaped serve made to look and filed like the Holy Land. As you pourney this unditimotic, interactive Proper Trail you experience the life of Jean Christ from the Last Supper through His gierious Auczanien.

People of all faiths marvel at the 40 expetials lift-size broase scaletones, the original marie and the thoughtful meditations they hear at each score. Come and experience this incredible journey.

- · Free Admission.
- · Class field trips welcome.
- · Tour bus friendly.
- · Handicap Accessible.
- Club cars available, reservations required.

"COME TAKE THE JOURNEY"

The Shrine is an interactive, multimedia, non-denominational destination set on 30 acres. Forty life-sized bronze sculptures artfully placed in dramatically landscaped gardens. 200 semi loads of boulders from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin were used to construct the look and feel of the Holy Land. The Shrine was featured on CBS News and two worldwide Christian TV networks. There is no charge

The Shrine is solely supported by donations and sales from The Gift Shoppe.

ou don't have to go to the Holy Land

to experience The Shrine of Christ's Passion.

Spend an afternoon at The Strine of Christ's Punion Here you can:

- T Sit with Our Lord at the Last Supper.
- + Pray with Him in the Garden of Gathamane.
- † Stand beside Him as Pilate washes his heads condomning Years to Mis brotalizing journey and death.
- * Walk alanguide Him on the rocky road to Calvary.

"Where lives are changed one soul at a time."

We are happy to host large groups or tour buses, please call to schedule your tour. Contact:

THE SHRINE OF CHRIST'S PASSION

10630 Wicker Avenue St. John, IN 46373 219.365.6010 Toll free: 855.277.SHRINE (7474) www.shrineofthristspassion.org

Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) Organization

VISIT OUR MAGNIFICENT GIFT SHOPPE!

ONE OF THE LABGRET IN THE NATION!



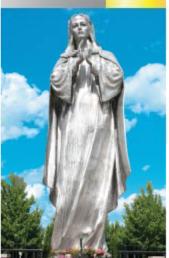
Moses at Mt. Sinai

New 2017

OUR LADY OF THE

NEW 2013





INDIANAPOLIS

MEMORIAL TOUR

NDIANAPOLIS dedicates more acreage to honor the nation's fallen than any other American city and is second only to Washington, D.C. for total number of war memorials. Clustered around the downtown area, these humbling structures are free to admire at your group's convenience. Tour planners can also consider the free guided tours offered through Indiana Landmarks or the Indiana War Memorial Museum.

If your memorial tour is self-guided, begin along the Indianapolis Canal Walk at the 9/11 Memorial. Dedicated in 2010, the memorial consists of two 11,000-pound beams taken from the Twin Towers. Atop one sits a life-sized bald eagle, its wings outstretched and its head gazing east towards New York. Behind the beams stand a pair of granite walls inscribed with remembrances of the horrible attacks in New York, Washington, D.C. and Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Next, head west to
Memorial Circle, which gives
Indianapolis its nickname of
"The Circle City," and admire
the 284-foot-tall **Soldiers and Sailors Monument**.
Completed in 1902 and
costing over \$500 million in
modern dollars, this imposing
limestone obelisk tower
honors the Indiana veterans



of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Civil War, Frontier Wars and Spanish-American War. Four heroic figures sculpted by noted German artist Rudolf Schwarz at each corner represent the infantry, cavalry, artillery and navy, while the 30-foot-tall bronze Victory statue that adorns the monument is depicted as a female warrior holding a flame. For a stunning UNIQUELY Indiana view of the Indianapolis skyline, climb 331 stairs (or take the elevator) to the

Park.
Originally land designated for a state university (hence its name), the park is visually dominated by the Indiana War Memorial. Honoring Indiana soldiers killed in World War I, the structure is a limestone shrine that features an exterior of Roman

Observation Level

to spot the next stop

on your tour: University

columns and stone figures that represent American ideals such as liberty and patriotism. Inside is the Shrine Room, a grand space that includes 24 pillars made from Vermont marble, alcoves with paintings of important Allied Forces generals and the Altar to the Flag: a marble box flanked by torch standards. As you exit the memorial, be sure

to see the Pro Patria sculpture, which depicts a young man draped in an American flag and was the largest bronze casting ever made in America to date.

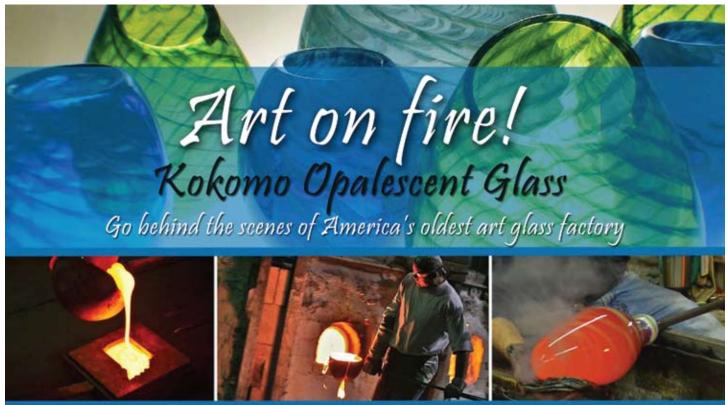
Continue

north through **Veteran's Memorial Plaza**, which is dedicated space for all 50 state flags. The plaza's centerpiece is the 100-foot-tall obelisk, its four-sided base decorated with bas-relief panels that represent the four core American values: law, science, religion and education. Proceed through

American Legion Mall and past the Cenotaph, a sculpture that honors Corporal James Gresham—Evansville native and the first American casualty of World War I. American Legion Mall also contains the World War II Memorial (a concave half circle imprinted with letters from war and Hoosier Medal of Honor recipients), and the Vietnam and Korean War Memorials (which soberly list Indiana soldiers who died or went missing in action).

Conclude your tour and return back to the canal walk to see the **USS Indianapolis** Memorial, which honors the single greatest loss of life in U.S. Navy history. The vessel was returning sailors to training duty in the Philippines when it was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine in 1945 and resulted in nearly 900 deaths. These brave men are honored in a stone memorial shaped like the cruiser itself with etchings of the vessel on its side. For more information, visit In.Gov/ **IWM**





For more tour ideas in Kokomo, Indiana, go to VisitKokomo.org

Indiana boasts enough mansions,

museums and casinos to fill weeks of itineraries, but some groups prefer a less passive trip. If your members are unafraid to get their hands dirty, paint their own canvas or make their own pottery, the state is filled with studios and workshops that encourage groups to create works of art and get firsthand assistance from talented artists.

Dearborn County in southeast Indiana welcomes groups to partake in DIY opportunities in several galleries, including the **Framery** in the Ohio River city of Lawrenceburg. While this 35-yearold store carries over 1,500 designs, it's notable to visitors for its numerous Arty Parties. The session begins with a small reception of appetizers before instructors assist group members as they cut fused glass jewelry, paint wine glasses or create an Eric Carle-inspired butterfly canvas. Pieces that require kiln-firing are shipped to participants as a memento. Seasonal crafts like pumpkin painting in autumn are also offered. Groups can also unearth a green thumb with a visit to McCabe's **Greenhouse & Floral**. Harvest and create a sunflower arrangement, plant an herb garden to take home or create a Christmas wreath with help from McCabe's staff.

Nearby Aurora is home to the **Southeastern Indiana Art Guild** (SIAG) Gallery & Studios, where groups can create customized pieces with instructions from community artists. Popular sessions offered include gourd birdhouses, mixed media notecards and finger paint "gardens" that encourage group members to return to childhood and slather their canvas in color. Your group members will feel even better when they realize proceeds from these classes go to Dearborn County's Tour for the Cure Program, which raises money for breast cancer research.

Also popular with groups along the Ohio River is the Funky Farmhouse, a "Pinterest inspired" studio in Newburgh. This renovated barn has transformed into a spacious studio that provides group members with bare wall hangings in the shapes of letters, flowers and animals that



HANDS-ON



Indiana

Paint your own masterpiece, pour your own candle and sculpt your own pottery with these Hoosier DIY experiences



www.TOURSoutheastIndiana.com 800-322-8198 can be colored in as creatively as you wish. Want to achieve inner serenity or welcome new scents to your house when you return home? Indiana offers several opportunities to see the candle-making process up close and even create your own unique scent. Warm Glow Candle Company in Centerville is an immense outlet store and shopping mecca that sells regional wines, handcrafted jewelry and gourmet chocolates in addition to its signature lumpy candles, which come in over 60 scents and can be used for an illuminating ambience or aromatherapy. The store will soon open its new candlepouring studio where guests can personalize their own color, fragrance and label while witnessing the process up close.

Indiana's other premier pour-it-yourself experience is at **Penn & Beech Candle Co.**, located in Indianapolis' hip

Massachusetts Avenue neighborhood.

Groups can create a candle, body spray or

diffuser from the store's nearly 100 scents

and explore the area's boutiques during
the 90-minute candle-curing process.

Group members select a container before
consulting with fragrance bar professionals
to create a one-of-a-kind scent from oils
that range from citrus and lavender to
bacon and bubblegum. Stir this mixture
in with molten wax, and the result is a
soothing souvenir to bring home.

While in Indianapolis, consider the area's numerous immersive art opportunities. Located in the Broad Ripple neighborhood and the city's premier art community, the Indianapolis Art Center offers numerous Pop-Up Art Adventures throughout the year. These experiences last around two hours and guarantee a finished piece for every guest. Potential creations for your group members include glass paperweights, tailgate cupholders and printed table runners. Resident artists can introduce visitors to lesserknown techniques such as Japanese raku ceramics, metal clay jewelry and encaustic painting (which melds colorful melted wax). For another group opportunity, head south to the nearby city of Greenwood and the Craft + Cork studio.





This trendy space can be rented out for parties and groups seeking a relaxing evening of painting and creativity. Group members pre-select their painting subject before receiving basic instructions from a resident artist and working on their canvas or decorating other objects such as welcome signs or glassware. Participants are encouraged to socialize, create their own decorative patterns and enjoy wine and craft beer offered by the studio.

Scattered across the state are eight **Board & Brush** franchises—studios that allow groups to select and paint their own wood signs. Group members will learn how to stress, stain and paint wood from local DIY experts and create beautiful signs to bring back home. Groups should

and encouraging employees who can assist group members select their stain and subject matter. Fiber artists of all levels will enjoy **Nomad Yarns**, which offers a large supply of yarn, fibers and notions for knitting, crochet, spinning and felting. Nomad Yarns offers regular classes, special workshops and private lessons for all ability levels in knitting, crocheting and spinning as well as occasional guest teachers in other crafts. Also in the area is **uPaint**, a paint-your-own pottery and glassfusing studio that allows groups to create keepsake dinnerware and home décor with its in-house kilns.

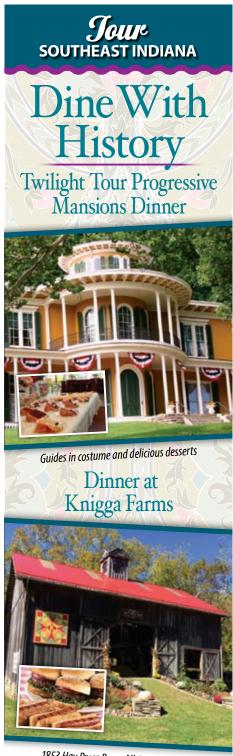
Dubbed the "Beautiful Valley" for its stunning natural landscapes ideal for outdoor painting, Brown County is home



also consider **Here's Your Sign** in Goshen, which hosts regular "Wine and Sign" private events where participants paint outdoor welcome displays or decorate recycled road signs for a vintage art piece.

Discover your inner artist on the **Main Street Cultural Trail**, a self-guided tour that showcases over 30 galleries, studios, confectioners and restaurants in Hendricks, Morgan and Putnam counties. Visitors looking for a DIY experience in this area should stop at **Bisque Barn Pottery Paint Studio** in Avon. New crafters will feel comfortable painting their sign with vinyl stencils (no free drawing required)

to one of the nation's largest art colonies. Groups can walk in the footsteps of American master T.C. Steele and leisurely explore studio space still used today by painters and artisans. Be sure to stop by Lawrence Family Glass Blowers, which carries a 40-year tradition of glassblowing excellence and allows visitors to see the process up-close in two village studios, and Homestead Weaving Studio, which repurposes more than one ton of industry excess fiber annually to produce handwoven rugs and scarves. The studio offers "day weaving" classes for groups who wish to learn loom basics and the



1853 Hay Press Barn; All American Meal



South of I-74 & west of I-275, 20 minutes west of Cincinnati

www.TOURSoutheastIndiana.com 800-322-8198 environmental impact of fiber recycling.

The charming Tippecanoe Arts and **Cultural District** in Lafayette and West Lafayette offers DIY art opportunities, including Inspired Fire Glass Studio & Gallery. Over 20 local glassblowers and artists display their work in this fully functioning glassblowing studio that offers a variety of classes for those interested in the process. Curious about creating your own magnet? Stop by

creating their own painting with assistance from expert instructors. Reservations can be made up to six months in advance, and promotional deals are sometimes offered to groups of 10 or more.

Operating out of a repurposed vacation home along the shores of Winona Lake, **Pottery Bayou** hosts crafting parties for groups in a clean and encouraging environment. The entrance hall and dining room are populated with crafting tables,

in the facility, which ships all over the world. You can also see a glass-blowing demonstration and pick up a colorful souvenir in the gift shop.



317-426-4319, BisqueBarn.biz

BoardAndBrush.com

765-420-7232, ClayCritters.com

CRAFT + CORK

317-300-1277, CraftAndCork.com

812-537-4319, FrameryInc.com

FUNKY FARMHOUSE

812-459-4774, FunkyFarmhousePaintParties.com

HERE'S YOUR SIGN DIY

574-238-6369, HeresYourSignDIYWorkshop.com

812-988-8622, HomesteadWeaver.com

INDIANAPOLIS ART CENTER

317-255-2464, IndplsArtCenter.org

765-474-1981, InspiredFire.com

KOKOMO OPALESCENT GLASS

765-457-1829, KOG.com

812-988-2600, LawrenceFamilyGlassBlowers.com

MCCABE'S GREENHOUSE & FLORAL

812-537-4525, McCabesGreenhouseAndFloral.com

NOMAD YARNS

317-742-7456, NomadYarnShop.com

PAINTING WITH A TWIST

765-269-7221

PaintingWithATwist.com/Studio/Lafayette-IN

317-721-6885, PennAndBeech.com

574-267-2655, PotteryBayou.com

317-406-3072, uPaintPotteryStudio.com

812-537-0814, VisitSoutheastIndiana.com

WARM GLOW CANDLE COMPANY

765-855-2000, WarmGlow.com



Clay Critters factory and warehouse. This 16,000-square-foot manufacturing space produces whimsical ceramic refrigerator magnets and offers group tours to demonstrate how each magnet must pass a "slam door" test to ensure it won't slide. Unlock your creative side at Painting with a Twist, which offers two- or three-hour group classes accompanied by a selection of beverages. Each group member is provided with an easel, canvas and example to follow before they begin

and the kitchen now contains the kiln. Craft your own creation on a potter's wheel or, if your group is pressed for time, sign up for the shorter class and paint a variety of bowls, mugs and vases.

In Kokomo, tour America's oldest art glass company, Kokomo Opalescent Glass, which dates back to 1888. Skilled ladlers quickly scoop molten glass from the furnace and carefully mix the glass to the exact color and texture. Over 22,000 variations of sheet glass are produced



ANNIE OAKLEY

NATURAL PERFUMERY

to treat your group to an opportunity that's available in just one place in the whole country, consider a tour of America's only perfumery. Its unlikely location: the Amish Country of northeastern Indiana, about 14 miles south of Shipshewana.

Annie Oakley
Natural Perfumery in
Ligonier started in 1980
in the kitchen of Renee
Gabet, who, with her
daughters, created and
hand-blended fragrances
and essential oils. Over
time, the products
gained popularity and
the little company
expanded into an off-site
factory. Today it produces

a full line of products, many of them natural and organic, for men and women; they are available at more than 1,000 retail locations. More than two million bottles have been sold.

On 45-minute tours of the factory, visitors learn the story of the company's beginnings and see how fragrances are created, blended and bottled. There's a chance to sample products, from the original Annie fragrance to not-yetreleased products in development. After the tour, guests can sample more fragrances and essences and then browse the gift shop.

Fragrances for women include Indian Musk, Citrus & Honey, Evening Lavender, Cherry Blossom, Honeysuckle and White Lily, to name just a few. Sagebrush, Stampede and Wild West are for men.

The company is named after Annie

Oakley, a sharpshooter in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. Born in Ohio in the mid-1800s, she was the first female to gain any notoriety in that previously male-dominated field. Gabet says what Oakley represented – the spirit of America, simplicity,

UNIQUELY Indiana

freshness – represented her brand perfectly.

Private tours
can be scheduled
Monday through Friday
between 8 a.m. and 3
p.m. Saturday tours are
available on request. For
more information, visit
AnnieOakley.com



Down 1-69 to I-64, You'll Find Lots to **Explore**

INDIANAPOLIS



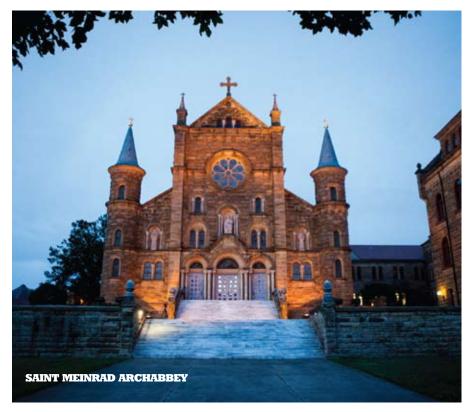
SOUTHERN REGION

DAY ONE

MORNING: Begin the day by visiting southwest Indiana's most respected cultural institution: the Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science. It's a permanent collection of over 50,000 objects, including decorative and fine art, rare photographs and historical documents.

Stop by the **Reitz House** in the city's downtown historic district. John Augustus Reitz was a 19th century lumber baron. His family home is a fine example of French Empire-style architecture. Before departing, include lunch at Walton's International Comfort Food in downtown Evansville.

AFTERNOON: Next stop, Santa Claus! Discover the magic of Christmas at the



Santa Claus Christmas Store, take a trip down memory lane at Santa's Candy Castle, and in nearby Dale see an impressive collection of mechanical musical instruments at Dr. Ted's Musical Marvels.

Celebrate another bearded man as you visit Lincoln's Boyhood National **Memorial**, just west of Santa Claus. Abraham Lincoln spent 14 years at this site, from youth to manhood. See his recreated 1820's homestead where interpreters in period costume show you what his early life was like.

Departing Santa Claus late this afternoon, pay a visit to a Benedictine monastery. Set against the backdrop of rolling countryside, Saint Meinrad **Archabbey** features the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln, distinguished by twin bell towers. The church displays a replica of the Black Madonna statue in Switzerland's Einsiedeln Abbey.

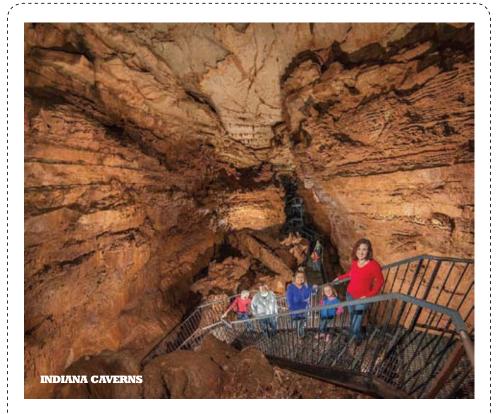
EVENING: Arrive in Corydon.

DAY TWO

MORNING: Rich with history, the Corydon State Capitol Historic Site commemorates Indiana's first state capitol. Begin your day with a walking tour where the group will visit the Federalstyle limestone building (circa 1814), which served as the state capitol from 1816 to 1825, and Governor Hendricks' Headquarters, a two-story brick house which was occupied by the governor from 1822 to 1825.

Next, Corydon's Zimmerman Art Glass Factory features hands-on demonstrations of fine glass pieces being molded right before your eyes. In the gift shop, you may find the perfect gift for a special person.

AFTERNOON: After lunch, it's time for a little wine tasting at **Turtle Run Winery**. Southern Indiana is a popular wine region known as the Upland, with nine wineries spread across the region. Turtle Run is one of its most-visited. Here, the



proprietors serve up samples in their cozy tasting room.

On to Jeffersonville and the **Howard Steamboat Museum**, site of what was once the largest inland shipyard in America. Among the artifacts on display are items from the legendary Robert E. Lee, the Natchez and the shaft of the Delta Queen's original paddlewheel.

Before dinner, grab a quick snack at **Schimpff's Confectionery**. Watch candy being made on century-old equipment, and pick up take-home treats and see thousands of pieces of American candy memorabilia on display.

EVENING: Attend a Broadway musical and buffet dinner at the **Derby Dinner Playhouse** in Clarksville. This theater has produced every one of the top 50 Broadway musicals of all time.

DAY THREE

MORNING: Start the day by visiting Indiana Caverns, where your group descends over 100 feet into one of the world's longest caves. The major portion of the underground tour is a pontoon cruise.

AFTERNOON: The lunch stop today is well above ground at the **Overlook Restaurant**. This establishment is uniquely positioned on a bluff in Leavenworth with a 20-mile panoramic view of the Ohio River. Watch area wildlife and river traffic while you dine.

This afternoon your group heads home with fond memories of their I-69 – I-64 adventure.

SCHIMPFF'S CONFECTIONERY





Indiana dinner theaters set the stage for a successful group tour

Any itinerary planner will tell

you that treating your travelers to a restaurant-quality meal and professional entertainment in one place makes his or her job a breeze. No need to worry about pulling your group away from an early dinner, piling them onto the bus and rushing over to the theater before the curtain rises. Dinner theaters seem custom-made for group tour organizers.

The emphasis at these happy venues is on lighthearted entertainment, with comedies, variety shows and time-tested Broadway musicals comprising most of the offerings. Holiday shows take over in November and December. Planners can expect middle-of-the-road theater fare—rarely any worries about material that's too racy.

The intimacy of a dinner theater also has group appeal. Instead of being lost in a sea of seats far from the stage, theater-goers easily connect with the performers as they belt out their tunes, sometimes just feet away. Expect good sightlines and tiered seating.

Ticket prices, moreover, are much lower than the big-time houses—and a fraction of Broadway shows in New York. For less than what you might pay for a show alone, you get both the show and a multi-course meal. Groups receive attractive discounts as well.

Amish Acres Historic Farm & Heritage Resort in Nappanee, the bestknown tourist attraction in Northern Indiana Amish Country, is home to the 400-seat Round Barn Theatre. Housed in a 1911 round barn moved to the site, the resident repertory musical theater company has its own costume shop, scenic design shop and warehouse, and props department. It produces seven









shows during a nine-month season. In 2019 the theater presents the 33rd annual production of *Plain and Fancy*, the 1955 Broadway musical comedy about Amish life and love. Other shows include *Anne of Green Gables*, *The Sunshine Boys* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

Before or after the performance, groups can feast on Amish favorites under the hand-hewn timbers of the adjacent Restaurant Barn, a cavernous space that dates to 1876. The family-style Threshers Dinner features fried chicken, ham and roast beef, plus thick ham and bean soup, hearth-baked bread with apple butter, mashed potatoes, giblet gravy, sage dressing, beef and noodles, and sweet and sour cabbage salad. Save room for shoofly, chocolate, pecan, peanut butter or coconut cream pie, to name just a few of the possible choices on a given day.

Amish Acres, created from an 80-acre Old Order Amish farm, offers tours of the 140-year-old house and other buildings. Guests will see antique farm equipment, an apple orchard, horses, chickens and



geese. Craft demonstrations might include Amish specialties like broom making and quilting or seasonal activities like cider or sorghum molasses making. Buggy and wagon rides are available.

Another theater/dining opportunity in Amish Country awaits groups at **Blue Gate Restaurant & Theatre** in Shipshewana. In a rambling white farmhouse setting all under one roof, the complex includes 1,200 seats in seven dining rooms, a bakery and an upper-level theater that seats 320.

Theatrical fare at the Blue Gate, with morning, afternoon and evening performances, ranges from plays and musicals with Amish and Mennonite themes to concerts featuring country and Christian gospel artists. Groups can expect stick-to-your-ribs fare like slow-roasted beef and ham, fried chicken, turkey,



meatloaf, mashed potatoes and noodles with beef. Among the 20-some pie varieties: German chocolate, sugar cream, banana cream, butterscotch, lemon meringue, peanut butter and custard. Meals are family- or buffet-style.

Groups can spend hours exploring Shipshewana's shop-lined streets, which are alive with Amish buggies as well as cars. The famous Shipshewana Flea Market, the largest in the Midwest, is held every Tuesday and Wednesday from May through October.

Indianapolis group itineraries often include juicy slices of Broadway entertainment and hand-carved meat at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. Established in 1973, the venue got its name from the beef served before the performance, and "boards" refers to the stage of a theater. The dinner buffet

always features the signature beef, plus other meats, a selection of hot vegetables, fruit and salad bar, mouthwatering desserts, and unlimited coffee, tea or lemonade. A full-service bar is available. Views of the stage are excellent from all six rows of tables.

The 2019 playbill has musicals like Grease, 42nd Street, Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story and Hairspray. Evening performances typically take place Tuesday through Sunday, with matinees Wednesday and Sunday. Beef & Boards entertains about 155,000 folks annually.

In Southern Indiana, Derby Dinner **Playhouse** in Clarksville has been the place to go for Broadway musicals, lighthearted comedy and good food for the last 45 years. It accommodates about 500 guests in tables grouped around a central stage, welcoming 200,000 patrons a year.

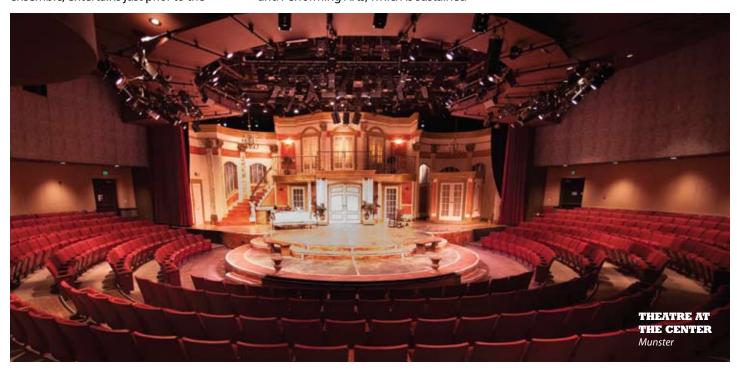


Derby Dinner has produced every single one of the top 50 Broadway musicals of all time, including Oklahoma!, The Sound of Music and Annie. There are eight mainstage shows running Tuesday through Sunday year-round. Top picks in 2019 include Newsies, the dance-filled musical adapted from the Disney film based on the true story about New York City newsboys striking against unfair working conditions. Elf The Musical arrives in time for the Christmas season. The Footnotes, the theater's own vocal ensemble, entertains just prior to the

the songs of Buddy Holly, Elvis Presley, the Everly Brothers, Patsy Cline and others. Producing the shows is Rhett Thomas' Silver Night Entertainment. Rhett and his brother Ross have performed in their own shows and with the Osmond Brothers in Branson. Groups can combine the show with a buffet dinner.

In Northwest Indiana, within easy reach of Chicago and suburbs, is a gem called **Theatre at the Center**. The non-profit resident theater is located in Munster at the Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, which is sustained in one of the center's dining rooms before the 2 p.m. show. Or groups can enjoy the Sunday Champagne Brunch prior to showtime. The Thursday dinner option, held before the 7:30 p.m. performance, is more of an event and includes activities themed around the show.

Smart tour planners find that scheduling an evening or afternoon of food and fun is a no-brainer. In fact, a dinner theater visit could be your itinerary's star attraction.



stage production. The buffet offers carved pork or turkey, fried fish, fried chicken, a variety of vegetables, hot rolls, a salad bar and desserts. Coffee and tea are included, and there's a full bar.

If your groups love the entertainment scene in Branson, Missouri, they will love the wholesome variety shows at Abbeydell Hall, located at the Legend of French Lick, a 20-acre estate one mile east of the twin towns of French Lick and West Baden Springs. The property is the former home of Larry Bird, a basketball legend who grew up in French Lick.

Typical of fare at Abbeydell was the recent Twist the Night Away, a look back at the music of the 1950s and '60s, featuring

by grants (including the Indiana Arts Commission), individual donations and support from the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana.

Theatre at the Center presents evening and matinee performances of five mainstage productions a year. Offerings in 2019 are Million Dollar Quartet, Dames at Sea, Over the Tavern, The Pajama Game and Irving Berlin's White Christmas. In this intimate theater seating 410, no one in your group will sit more than seven rows from the stage.

Lunch-and-show packages are available for groups booking a Wednesday or Thursday matinee; a set menu with choice of two entrees is served

RESOURCES

ABBEYDELL HALL AT THE LEGEND OF FRENCH LICK 812-936-5300, LegendOfFrenchLick.com

> BEEF & BOARDS DINNER THEATRE 800-743-0503, BeefandBoards.com

BLUE GATE RESTAURANT AND THEATRE 888-447-4725, Riegsecker.com

DERBY DINNER PLAYHOUSE 812-288-8281, DerbyDinner.com

THE ROUND BARN THEATRE AT AMISH ACRES 800-800-4942, AmishAcres.com

THEATRE AT THE CENTER 219-836-3258, TheatreAtTheCenter.com

PARKE COUNTY COVERED BRINGES

HE "COVERED

BRIDGE Capital of the World," Parke County is home to 31 preserved rustic bridges that dot the countryside. Located in western Indiana, 55 miles west of Indianapolis, the county offers five color-coded touring loops that range from 24 to 33 miles. The bridges along these routes will UNIQUELY Indiana explain the story of Parke County, an area originally occupied by the Miami Nation before European settlers moved into the county in the 1800s. The many fertile creeks that flow across the landscape led to flourishing trade and the need to pass over them, resulting in the exemplary bridges that stand today.

A tour guide can explain that 19th century covered bridges were wooden due to the abundance of virgin timber in the area. Most of the bridges in Parke County are made of yellow poplar or white pine, whose hardy qualities have assisted in the bridges' preservation. Historians can also explain the advancement in bridge-building throughout the decades by showing



differences in foundations, roofing and paint at different sites. Each route features four to six covered bridges, some dating back to 1856, and all hub-and-spoke through the county seat of Rockville, so multiple-day touring is convenient.

The Black Trail, which passes through the county's southeast corner, features one of the most-photographed structures in the area: the **Bridgeton Bridge**. A reproduction after the original was destroyed in a fire, this bridge is an excellent example of the Burr Arch design, which combines a wooden arch and multiple trusses. Constructed alongside a still-operating mill, the bridge is great for group photographs and is accompanied by a short

paved walkway along Big Raccoon Creek. The gristmill still operates and offers freshly made flour and cornmeal for sale.

Continue clockwise to the Red Trail, which passes through the Roseville Covered **Bridge**. Constructed by the Van Fossen brothers, whose work is associated with at least four more bridges in the county, the structure is notable for its concrete abutments and cut sandstone base that has helped preserve it since 1910. Meanwhile, the West Union Covered Bridge on the Yellow Route was used for stagecoach traffic to Lafayette and was part of the longer "Indiana State Highway," which was established by the state in 1827 and was to extend from Richmond to Terre Haute. Fans of haunted history should stop by the **Sim** Smith Covered Bridge on the Brown Route. Locals have reported hearing the noise of a phantom horse and buggy

and seeing a Native American ghost, so come prepared with a hearty constitution if your group visits at night. **Narrows Covered Bridge** in Turkey
Run State Park is one of the most-photographed bridges in the state with a compelling backdrop of sugar maple trees and river rocks.

Every October, thousands of visitors converge upon Parke County to experience the **Covered Bridge Festival**, the state's largest festival and one of the Midwest's top autumn events. The annual celebration is centered on the Rockville Courthouse Square, which turns into a marketplace of arts, crafts and food vendors. Throughout the festival, nearby towns like Bridgeton, Mansfield and Montezuma beckon travelers with vendors, community-wide yard sales and history tours.

For more information, visit CoveredBridges.com

NORTH AND WEST INDIANA ITINERARY

1-80/94 to I-65, North and West Indiana Really Come Alive

INDIANAPOLIS



DAY ONE

MORNING: Start the day at the Shipshewana Flea Market. With over 1,000 vendors, it's the largest outdoor market in the Midwest. Visit the nearby Menno-**Hof Amish-Mennonite Information Center** and learn about the history behind the Amish faith and settlements.

AFTERNOON: Enjoy lunch and a matinee show at the Das Dutchman Essenhaus. This complex features scrumptious family-style dining and original musicals and plays, created by its very own production company.

EVENING: Travel south to **Amish Acres**, where accommodations and a threshers-style dinner await.



MORNING: After a hearty breakfast, start



the morning at Amish Acres Historic Farm and Heritage Resort, which offers craft demonstrations, extensive shopping, wagon rides, and a music theater.

Later this morning, travel the scenic backroads of Amish Country, passing horse-drawn buggies, tidy farmhouses and whitewashed barns on the way to Elkhart where a tour awaits of the impressive Recreational Vehicle Motorhome Hall of Fame. The expansive facility features a walking tour of the history of recreational vehicles as well as vintage models.

AFTERNOON: After lunch in Elkhart, travel to South Bend's Studebaker National Museum. The museum is dedicated to preserving the legend of this iconic 20th century automobile, which was both headquartered and manufactured in South Bend. The museum displays the first and last cars the Studebaker corporation ever made and boasts the largest presidential carriage collection in the world.

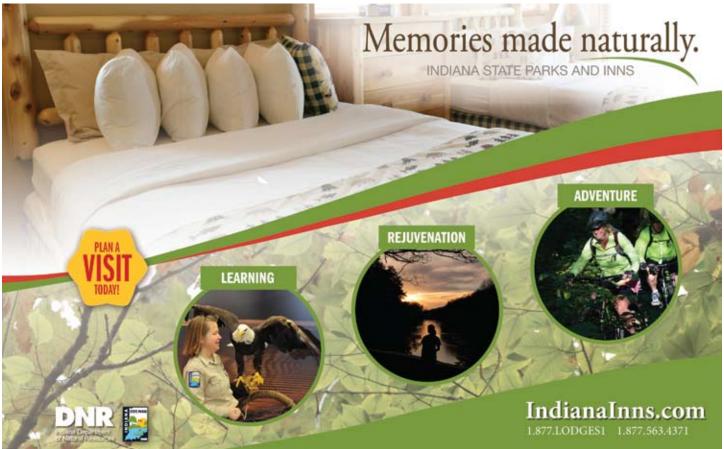
EVENING: Explore downtown South Bend, a vibrant place for dining and

shopping. In season, catch a game at the South Bend Cubs stadium, located right downtown with a hint of Chicago's Wrigley Field, or visit the new **Four** Winds Casino South Bend. Alternatively, catch a Broadway-caliber performance at the Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts in Warsaw. This 800-seat theater amazes visitors with musicals and concerts at appealing group rates

DAY THREE

MORNING: Before departing the area, visit the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the University of Notre Dame campus.





Built in the late 1800s, the church features one of the largest collections of 19th century French stained glass in the world.

AFTERNOON: Traveling west on I-80/94, make a stop for the men at one of two iconic outdoor retailers, Bass Pro Shops or Cabela.

EVENING: After checking into your Hammond-area hotel, enjoy a Broadway-style performance at the **Theatre at the Center**. This is a Northwest Indiana institution with five mainstage productions each year in a theatre-in-the-round setting.

DAY FOUR

MORNING: Visit the Shrine of Christ's Pas**sion**, an outdoor spiritual journey through the Stations of the Cross, plus experience the 10 Commandments in one of the most realistic depictions of Mount Sinai in the world.

AFTERNOON: Turning south onto I-65, stop for lunch at the Farmhouse Restaurant at Fair Oaks Farms and an afternoon tour of their facilities. Take in the Dairy, Pig or

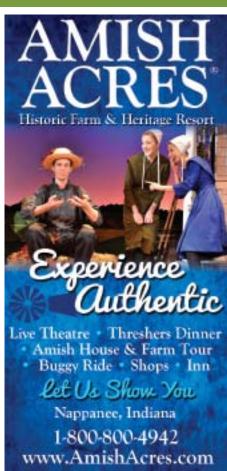
Crop adventure or pick apples from the 6,000-tree orchard (seasonal).

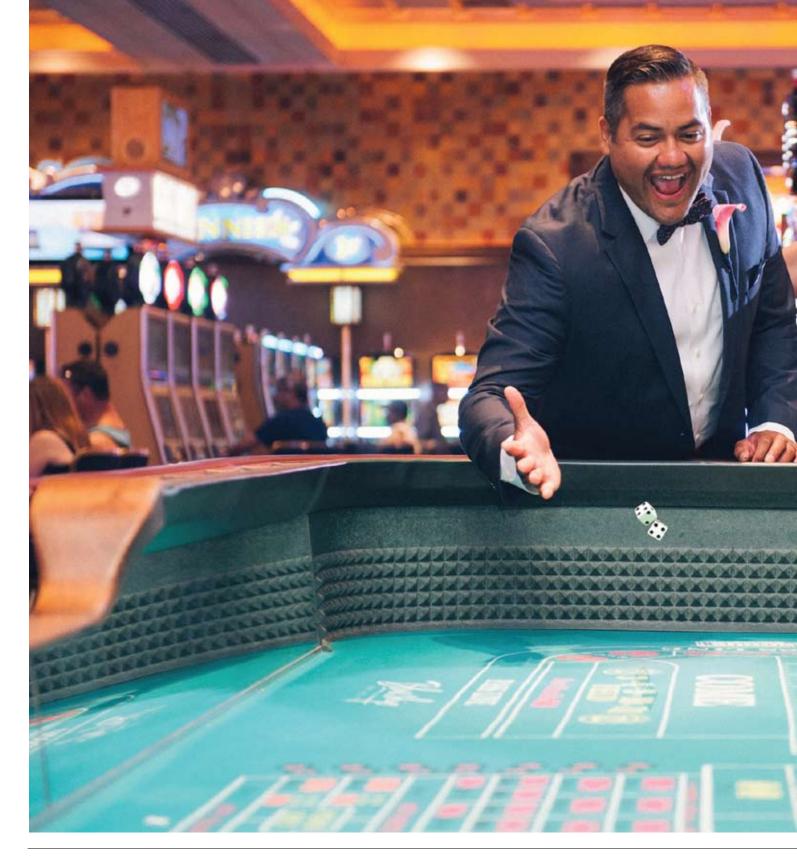
EVENING: Arrive in the Lafayette area. Enjoy food and spirts at O'Bryan's Nine **Irish Brothers**, which serves premium Irish food and spirits with Irish favorites such as Guinness stew, shepherd's pie and fish & chips. Live entertainment is featured on most weekend nights.

DAY FIVE

MORNING: Visit Wolf Park, an educational facility dedicated to improving public understanding of wolves. Tour members have the opportunity to see wolves, foxes, coyotes and bison as well as hear a lecture on the animals. Then stop by **Tippecanoe** Battlefield & Museum and learn about the famous 1811 battle between William Henry Harrison's U.S. forces and Chief Tecumseh's Native American confederation.

AFTERNOON: After lunch, take some Hoosier goodies home with you from the Inspired Fire Glass Studio and Gallery in Lafayette. One-of-a kind Friendship Balls are created by area artists.





Indiana's CASINOS



Groups are flocking to Indiana's casino resorts for their group-friendly rates, thrilling action and gourmet dining

Often offering attractive rates and a multitude of dining, golfing and entertainment options, casinos make an excellent addition to a tour itinerary. With themes that range from Victorian to contemporary, Indiana's gaming destinations offer high-stakes action and spacious accommodations to satisfy groups on any budget.

Harrah's Hoosier Park Racing

& Casino, located in the city of Anderson and less than one hour from Indianapolis, is one of the Midwest's premier harness racing facilities, providing hours of thrills both on the racetrack and casino floor. Host of the annual \$300,000 Dan Patch Stakes and ranked Standardbreds from across the continent, the complex includes a 7/8mile oval track, stables for groups to visit and stadium seating with excellent views of the action. The accompanying Trackside complex features betting windows, luxury suites and prime views from the Pegasus Lounge. Dining options include the Prime Harvest Buffet, Caballo Loco Grill & Cantina and Dan Patch Brewhouse, which serves some of Indiana's best craft beers.

After the races, head down the escalators for an evening of action on the easy-to-navigate casino floor. Awaiting guests are 2,000 slot machines and e-table games such as baccarat, craps and roulette plus video poker stations. Group members seeking a craft cocktail can try the creative creations at the Double R Bar. Harrah's Hoosier Park is accommodating to large groups and can

Hit the JACKPOT

offer dining packages, visits to the Winners Circle and complimentary 24-hour shuttle service to nearby Noblesville and Anderson hotels.

Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, a 233,000-square-foot complex outside of Shelbyville, features a Las Vegas-style casino floor that boasts 2,200 high-paying slots and table games. Group members can enjoy the largest poker room in the Indianapolis area and electronic roulette, which uses realistic drag-the-chip capabilities and player-friendly onscreen help. Surrounding the casino floor is a variety of tempting dining options, including Center Cut (which showcases farm-fresh beef and an extensive wine list), Winner's Circle Brewpub (where patrons can sample craft beer and enjoy simulcast racing) and the Grand Buffet (where guests can enjoy prime rib and fresh seafood). For nail-biting Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing, head to the race course clubhouse to enjoy expansive stadium seating and a simulcast center to place bets of all sizes. Looking to package your group gaming experience with accommodations? Indiana Grand partners with local Indianapolis and Shelbyville hotels to provide an all-inclusive experience.

Evoking 19th century spa retreats, French Lick Resort in West Baden has enough activities to fill an entire itinerary. Located in the towns of French Lick and West Baden, the campus includes two AAA Four-Diamond historic hotels in the Mediterranean Revival style, three golf courses, two spas and dining options that range from elegant steakhouses to casual delis. One of the resort's centerpieces is French Lick Casino, a 24-hour gaming complex that boasts 1,000 new and classic slots, progressive jackpots and video keno of multiple denominations and themes. In addition, 37 live-dealer tables host blackjack, craps and Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em, while groups can enjoy refreshments at the baseball-themed Casino Park Grill. The resort is proud to welcome groups and offers a variety of accommodation packages and meeting spaces to fit your needs.

Thirty minutes from downtown Chicago and offering stunning views of the Lake Michigan shoreline, Horseshoe **Hammond** is the gaming hub of Northwest Indiana. The complex notably houses the largest poker room in the Midwest (featuring 34 all-limit tables) and Benny's Back Room, which hosts weekly games. Horseshoe's other gaming highlight is the gorgeous Le Chang Asian Room, which evokes the glamorous casinos of China with dark wood and etched glasswork. Featuring games such as Pai Gow Tiles and Mini Baccarat Dragon Bonus, the room also offers authentic Chinese cuisine at the Foo Noodle Bar. The **Spa** in Michigan City. The elegant casino floor includes 42 table games such as mini baccarat and Caribbean stud, while eight live poker tables offer some of the hottest action in Indiana. Group members seeking rejuvenation will find their inner zen at Spa Blu, a 10,000-square-foot spa, salon and fitness center. The complex includes steam rooms, whirlpools and manicure services that are available at a group rate. Groups will also appreciate Blue Chip's variety of dining options, such as the exquisite cuts at William B's Steakhouse, hearty pub food at The Game and indulgent deserts at It's Vegas Baby!

Four Winds Casino in nearby South

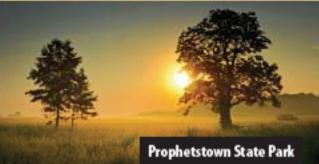


vessel's two main public floors include over 1500 slot machines, 300 video poker machines and two bars. Hungry group members can dine at the Eatery, John Binion's Steak and the Village Square Buffet, which features Latin, Italian and Asian stations at an all-inclusive price. Other areas to explore include The Venue, multipurpose performance and meeting space designed for group travelers, Sixth Street Bar, which serves local craft beer and cocktails, and Push, a nightclub featuring a 360 bar.

Rising above the Lake Michigan shoreline farther east is the striking Spa Blu Tower, a 22-story hotel and crown jewel of the **Blue Chip Casino**, **Hotel and** Bend, newly opened in 2018 and designed as a grand lodge with tribal touches, entices visitors with some of the state's largest jackpots. Over 1,600 games include Wheel of Fortune Big Money, Penn & Teller and a million-dollar jackpot with a Monopoly theme. Poker lovers can enjoy the property's 10 live tables and relax in the beautifully appointed Players Lounge, while a variety of penny slots will intrigue other group members. Famished after an evening on the floor? Copper Rock Steakhouse serves gourmet dry-aged meats and succulent lobster, Kankakee Grille specializes in wood-fired pizza and White Birch Market brews aromatic coffee. Four Winds is welcoming to motorcoach







LAFAYETTE - WEST LAFAYETTE

Make the Home of Purdue University your next destination!

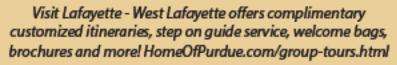
Located one hour north of Indianapolis and two hours south of Chicago off Interstate 65.

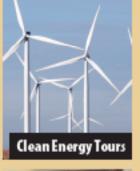






Enjoy a wide variety of attractions and events to suit your group's Needs; eduCatioNal, historiCal, agritourisM, Clean energy, artistic, factory tours and more! Purdue University also provides endless options for special interest groups.

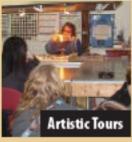


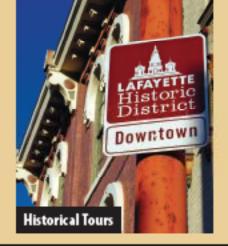






Contact Ashley Gregory and start planning today, agregory@HomeOfPurdue.com









groups and also runs scheduled bus runs to Elkhart, Mishawaka, South Bend, Fort Wayne and Goshen.

Sporting a Victorian-inspired hotel and a riverboat complete with a pilot house and smokestacks, Hollywood **Casino Lawrenceburg** offers an exciting gaming experience 30 minutes from downtown Cincinnati. Hollywood's 136,000-square-foot, two-story layout can

denominations. Table games include traditional standbys such as roulette and craps in addition to innovative new additions such as Spanish 21 (a blackjack variation that discards some 10s from the deck) and Mississippi Stud Progressive Poker. Delicious dining options include River View Buffet, which serves carved meats and a salad station; Wellington's, a high-end steakhouse serving fresh seafood



entertain nearly 9,000 guests with a variety of slots and table games such as blackjack, roulette and High Card Flush, while the Hollywood Poker Room features 19 tables welcoming to newcomers and serious players alike. Group members can unlock their inner movie star at the complex's five restaurants as they enjoy classic martinis at H-BAR, prime beef selections at Final Cut Steakhouse and gourmet coffee blends at Hollywood & Grind. Cap off your evening at Boogie Nights, a '70s- and '80s-themed dance club, and be sure to take advantage of Hollywood's free shuttle service to local hotels. If your party wishes to stay onsite, Hollywood's dedicated group sales department that can package the casino's numerous lodging, dining and gaming options.

Farther downstream on the Ohio River are the quaint town of Rising Sun and Rising Star Casino, a Full House Resorts property that boasts nearly 1.000 of the newest vivid video slots that range from one-cent to one-dollar

and pork chops; and Queen City Market, which caters to guests looking for a quick bite before returning to the casino floor. Also on property is the Links at Rising Star Casino, a Tim Liddy-designed gem and the only Scottish Links-style course in Southern Indiana. The resort's entertainment venues include the Windsor Lounge, which showcases national stand-up comics, and the Grand Theatre, which hosts everything from rock concerts to Broadway-quality musicals.

Minutes from the Indiana Wine Trail, Belterra Casino is one of the largest casino resorts in the state. Over 38,000 square feet of gaming spaces is complemented by a full-service spa, conference space and a Tom Fazio-designed golf course. Floating alongside the Ohio River, the Miss Belterra riverboat casino offers two levels of highstakes table games such as craps and blackjack and slot areas on the entrance level, while the non-smoking Live Poker rooms features Texas Hold Em and live tournaments for your group's enjoyment.

Dining options include 19 Steak & Seafood (where you can indulge in dry-aged beef and a diverse raw bar), Stadium Sports Bar & Grill (the ultimate sports bar with 30 high-definition TVs to follow every game) and the expansive Buffet at Belterra. The site also offers flexible menu and lodging packages for visiting groups, with meeting rooms and professional planning services to ensure a thrilling Switzerland County getaway.

A property that includes over 1,000 slots, 350 hotel rooms and five restaurants on the banks of the Ohio River, **Tropicana** Evansville is one of Indiana's premier gaming destinations. Texas Hold'em, roulette and craps all offer high-energy action on a casino floor dripping with Las Vegas glamor. The elegance continues at the Piano Bar at Cavanaugh's, an upscale nightclub with signature martinis and nightly live entertainment. More nightlife can be found at 421, a high-energy lounge with a dance floor. Dining options include the Cajun-themed Chef Subra's Recipes and diverse selections at the Kitchen Buffet.

RESOURCES

BELTERRA CASINO RESORT 812-427-7777, BelterraCasino.com

BLUE CHIP CASINO HOTEL 219-879-7711, BlueChipCasino.com

FOUR WINDS CASINO SOUTH BEND 866-494-6371, FourWindsCasino.com/SouthBend

> FRENCH LICK CASINO 812-936-9300, FrenchLick.com/Gaming

HOLLYWOOD CASINO LAWRENCEBURG 888-274-6797, HollywoodIndiana.com

HARRAH'S HOOSIER PARK RACING & CASINO 765-642-7223, HoosierPark.com

HORSESHOE HAMMOND 219-473-7000, Caesars.com/Horseshoe-Hammond

> INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO 877-386-4463, IndianaGrand.com

RISING STAR CASINO RESORT 812-438-1234, RisingStarCasino.com

TROPICANA EVANSVILLE RESORT 812-433-4000, TropEvansville.com





Thank you to our Advertising



Amish Acres, Nappanee	43
Amish Country of Northern Indiana	51
Anderson/Madison County Visitors Bureau	5
Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, Indianapolis	39
Dearborn County Convention, Visitor & Tourism Bureau	29, 31, 33, 35
Gaither Family Resources, Alexandria	5
Go SoIN Tourism	49
Greater Kokomo Visitors Bureau	27
Harrison County/Historic Corydon CVB	2
Indiana State Parks and Inns	43
Indianapolis Zoo	23
Kosciusko County CVB	12
Shipshewana/LaGrange County CVB	3
The Shrine of Christ's Passion, St. John	25
South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority	15
Vincennes/ Knox County CVB	21
Visit Bloomington	27
Visit Fort Wayne	20
Visit French Lick West Baden	52
Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette	47
Visit Madison	49
Visit South Bend Mishawaka	13
Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts	38

Indiana 2019 Group Tour Planner

Editorial & Advertising Office

Premier Travel Media 621 Plainfield Road, Suite 406 Willowbrook, IL 60527 P 630.794.0696 • F 630.794.0652 advertising@ptmgroups.com

Publisher – Jeffrey Gayduk jeff@ptmgroups.com

Managing Editor - Randy Mink randy@ptmgroups.com

Associate Editor - Miles Dobis miles@ptmgroups.com

Editorial Coordinator - Danielle Golab danielle@ptmgroups.com

Director, Design & Production -Martha Gazella-Taylor

Vice President - Theresa O'Rourke theresa@ptmgroups.com

Published in Partnership with The Indiana Office of Tourism Development

One North Capitol, Suite 600 Indianapolis, IN 46204 P 317.234.8860 VisitIn@VisitIndiana.com

The publisher accepts unsolicited editorial matter, as well as advertising, but assumes no responsibility for statements made by advertisers or contributors. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information published, but the publisher makes no warranty that listings are free of error. The publisher is not responsible for the return of unsolicited photos, slides or manuscripts.

Indiana Group Tour Planner is published by Premier Travel Media, 621 Plainfield Road, Suite 406, Willowbrook, IL 60527. The magazine is distributed free of charge to qualified tour operators, travel agents, group leaders, bank travel clubs and other travel organizations.

Send Address Change to:

Premier Travel Media 621 Plainfield Road, Suite 406 Willowbrook, IL 60527



All rights reserved. Materials may not be reproduced in any form without written permission of the publisher.







Amish Country XVELLACES IN NORTHERN INDIANA



Das Dutchman Essenhaus \$98, 2-Day, 1-Night package combines a peaceful night's stay at the Essenhaus Inn complete with luggage handling, generously-sized guest rooms with Amish-crafted furniture, in-room coffee, indoor pool, fitness center, all taxes and a deluxe hot breakfast. Take in a live theatre production at Heritage Hall and dine at the world-famous Restaurant with a family-style dinner.

Shipshewana Flea Market, the Midwest's Largest, invites you to experience shopping like you've never seen. Vendors offer everything from fresh fruit to handcrafted furniture! Open for groups to enjoy Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 8am - 5pm, May thru September. Free bus parking & admission. Groups will also delight in weekly auctions and special events while taking retreat at the beautiful Farmstead Inn across the street.

Amish Acres in Nappanee beckons the curious traveler with authentic experiences on the 1874 National Register farmstead with guided tours and horse drawn buggy rides as well as the famous family-style Threshers Dinner complete with shoo-fly pie. Hands-on experiences, wine tasting, and quaint shopping extend visits and professional Broadway musical theatre in the majestic Round Barn completes the experience. The neighboring Inn offers inviting lodging with a continental breakfast featuring Starbucks coffee, free Wi-Fi, and rocking chairs on the front porch.

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail ... an ABA Top 100 Event! Experience 19 eye-popping, super-sized quilt patterned gardens (with over 1 MILLION blooms!) and 21 gigantic hand-painted quilt art murals that blanket seven Amish Country communities. Perfect for groups and viewable free of charge ANNUALLY May 30 thru October 1!

Visit **AmishCountryTours.org** for more information on these group friendly attractions or call Sonya at 800.262.8161

Indiana's Unforgettable Group Experience!



French Lick
WEST BADEN
#MyFrenchLick

Visit French Lick West Baden is a favorite destination for groups large and small. Nestled in the heart of Southern Indiana and surrounded by the Hoosier National Forest, this resort community has welcomed guests who have enjoyed awe inspiring getaways for over 100 years. We invite you to relive the fabulous history and vibrant lifestyles of this breathtaking destination that offers gracious hospitality, ultimate luxury, and a multitude of opportunities at any pace.

