



QUILT GARDENS TOUR & NORTHERN INDIANA'S AMISH COUNTRY

4 DAYS • Tour 12082
August 6-9, 2012

Tour Highlights...

Amish Home Dinner and Cooking Class
Quilt Gardens Guided Tour
"Brown Bag" Shopping
Round Barn Theatre: "Plain and Fancy"
Quilt Gardens Video
Ruthmere Mansion
Elkhart River Queen Lunch Cruise
Quilt Gardens Basic Class
Amish Acres House and Farm
Shoofly Pie-making Demonstration
6 Meals



Day 1, Monday

Join Nationwide Travelers as we travel to one of our favorite destinations, the Amish country of Northern Indiana, this time with a few **new and exciting twists**. We begin with our arrival in **Elkhart, IN**, to enjoy three nights' accommodations.

Tonight meet the **Yoder family** as they **show us how to make some of the best food** in the country. No more lumps in your mashed potatoes after this demonstration! Following class, sit down to a **family-style Amish dinner** that is traditional among these peaceful people. **D**

Day 2, Tuesday

Join a local **expert gardener** and get "all the dirt" on a **guided tour** of the **official Quilt Gardens and Murals**. This only experience of its kind in the world boasts over **100,000 glorious blooms** in **18 supersized, quilt-inspired gardens**. Eighteen hand-painted quilt-themed murals fea-

tured in seven nearby communities add to the enjoyment.

Sit back, relax and observe the Amish lifestyle as we **travel picturesque back roads**. As we learn about the area, history, traditions and customs of these "plain people," we stop at **several Amish shops** and fill our **brown bag with goodies**.

This evening we travel to Nappanee, IN, to the **Round Barn Theatre**. The clash of a couple of sophisticated New Yorkers and the Amish folk whose customs haven't changed for centuries is the basis for the story of **"Plain and Fancy,"** a quaint musical comedy. **B**

Day 3, Wednesday

Welcome to Amish Country by continuing your experience with a stop at the **Elkhart County Visitors Center**. A brief overview/DVD program provides information about the unique, one-of-a-kind Quilt Gardens Tour. Take the opportunity to explore beautiful handmade works of art by fiber artists.

A guided tour of the elaborate 1910 beaux-arts style house, **Ruthmere**, named after the founder of Alka Seltzer's deceased daughter, Ruth, is scheduled this morning. Fine art collections including Tiffany leaded glass, Rodin sculptures and velvet window coverings are featured along with a beautiful **Quilt Garden** on the manicured grounds.

Enjoy a leisurely afternoon aboard the **Elkhart River Queen**, a 65-foot riverboat **cruising the Saint Joseph River**. Hear a bit of history while gliding past some of the area's most beautiful riverside homes as you enjoy a catered **box lunch**. Later this afternoon we head to nearby Middlebury, IN, to **Das Dutchman Essenhaus** to take a **Quilt Gardens Basics class** to learn about the area's "freshest" attractions. We will be able to use our new found knowledge to create our own gardening masterpiece — a basic quilt garden pattern. There will be time to view the onsite **Quilt Garden and Mural** plus enjoy some **shopping** at the various unique shops. Dine on



your own in **Indiana's largest restaurant** on family-favorite recipes and tasty treats. **B, L**

Day 4, Thursday

Returning to Nappanee we tour the 80-acre restored Amish farmstead of **Amish Acres**. Our visit includes historic interpretations of 10 different buildings plus a leisurely wagon ride

over the property. A **traditional Haystack lunch** used in the past by the Amish for fundraisers to help families pay for unexpected expenses follows the tour. In Amish Acres' 8000 square foot kitchen, their old order Amish Bakery Manager will teach us first-hand the secrets to **baking "the best" shoofly pie**. Each participant gets their own **mini-molasses filled pie** and a **souvenir recipe card** to

take home.

Our fun-filled visit to fascinating Amish country comes to an end as we travel back home where we arrive early evening. **B, L**

Tour Cost Per Person:

\$579 Double • \$559 Triple

\$529 Quad • \$699 Single

