

**SHIPSHEWANA: The Heart of Amish Country**  
**May 4<sup>th</sup> – May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



**Tour Level – Moderate** – lots of walking while visiting and stair climbing at theatres and while exploring town venues.

***Shipshewana is known as a one-of-a-kind destination for visitors to experience the simplicity of Amish & Mennonite culture as well as the delicious foods and quality products they produce.***

**Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** – The group will depart from the Walmart parking lot at 8:00 am and travel through Michigan to Indiana. There will be breaks during the journey before arriving at the **Blue Gate Garden Inn & Conference Center**. This is where small-town charm blends with modern comfort, creating a welcoming and relaxing retreat for the next 4 nights. After we settle in, we will have an early buffet dinner at the **Blue Gate Restaurant** with time after dinner to shop and explore on your own.

**Meals:** Dinner

**Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>** – Today you have most of the day to explore the Midwest's largest outdoor market the **Shipshewana Flea Market**. Unique crafts, bargains on home décor, clothing and many other items can be found. We will run our bus as a shuttle to allow as much time as possible for shopping or resting. This afternoon we have a horse drawn **Buggy Tour** through the Amish farmland. Dinner tonight is a **Thresher's Family Style Dinner** - A large, hearty meal traditionally served to a community of farmers and workers who gathered to help a neighbor with threshing grain. These gatherings were social events, featuring homemade hearty delicious dishes. The rest of the evening to explore or relax on your own.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Dinner

**Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>** – Today we will explore the Shipshewana community with a half day **step on Guide Tour of**, including an **in-home Amish lunch experience**. This afternoon we head to the **Music Hall for the musical theatre production – “Simple Sanctuary”**, a compelling story of love tested, the cost of freedom and the solace found in an Amish Community. The rest of the evening is on your own.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

**Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** – Today we will start our day with a visit to the **Meno-Hof Amish & Mennonite Visitors Center**. **Multimedia presentations, historical environments and colorful displays** take you on a fascinating journey inside the unique world of the Amish and Mennonites. Then a short country drive will take us to the **Elkhart's Linton Enchanted Garden** for a unique garden shopping experience, Indiana's largest facility, boasting over 50,000 square feet of indoor

shopping filled with creative displays which will spark your imagination, as well as over 9 acres of outdoor displays, including plants and animals. The Garden Cafe at Linton's features fresh and healthy meals, where you may want to enjoy a light lunch. We wrap up our day with the entertainment of **Dick Fox's "The Golden Boys Show"** – Frankie Avalon & Fabian and Tommy Cono performing their most popular teen idol hits of the 50s & 60s.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Friday, May 8th** – Today the group will depart for home after breakfast, with scheduled stops enroute. Arrival in Sault Ste Marie is expected in the early evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Tour includes: Deluxe motor coach transportation with Wi-Fi service where available, fully escorted with a Sunshine Travel Club Tour Director, 4 nights accommodation, 7 meals included as stated, 8 attractions as listed above**

**Cancellation and Trip Interruption insurance protection is recommended but not included. Coverage can be purchased separately through an insurance provider of your choice.**

**Director: Linda Seabrook**

**Tour Cost per person:**

**Occupancy:**

**Double \$1,675**

**Single \$2,200**

**Triple \$1,555**

***\$300 Deposit per person due at time of booking, balance due February 05<sup>th</sup>, 2026***

# Amish Adventure: Shipshewana Tour

May 4th – May 8th, 2026

## Tour Overview

This moderately challenging tour features plenty of walking and stair climbing, especially at the theatres and town venues. Shipshewana offers visitors a glimpse into the simple lifestyles of the Amish and Mennonite communities, as well as the opportunity to enjoy their renowned culinary delights and artisan products.

## Itinerary

### Monday, May 4th

The group departs at 8:00 am from the Walmart parking lot, traveling through Michigan en route to Indiana. Comfort stops are planned along the way. Upon arrival, guests will check in at the Blue Gate Garden Inn and Conference Center for a four-night stay, where small-town hospitality blends with modern amenities, creating a welcoming retreat. After settling in, participants can explore downtown and dine independently.

Meals: None

### Tuesday, May 5th

Participants have the day to explore the Shipshewana Flea Market—the largest outdoor market in the Midwest. Unique crafts, home décor, apparel, and more await discovery. A shuttle bus will run frequently, providing flexibility for shopping or relaxation. The day concludes with a horse-drawn

Buggyland Tour, including a buggy ride to a dairy farm for a brief visit, followed by a Thrasher's Family Style Dinner in an Amish home.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

### Wednesday, May 6th

Today features an all-day exploration of the Shipshewana community, accompanied by a knowledgeable guide and including an immersive in-home Amish lunch experience. In the evening, the group will attend the musical "Simple Sanctuary" at the nearby Bluegate Theatre.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

### Thursday, May 7th

The morning begins with a tour of the Meno-Hof Amish & Mennonite Visitors Center, where multimedia presentations and vibrant displays offer insights into Amish and Mennonite life. Afterwards, a short drive leads to Linton's Enchanted Garden in Elkhart—Indiana's largest garden shopping venue, offering 50,000 square feet of indoor displays and 9 acres outdoors filled with plants and animals. Guests may opt for a light lunch at the Garden Cafe. The day concludes with a group buffet dinner and entertainment by Dick Fox's The Golden Boys Show, featuring tributes to Frankie Avalon, Fabian, and Tommy Cono.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

### Friday, May 8th

After breakfast, the group departs for home, with scheduled stops en route. Arrival in Sault Ste Marie is anticipated in the evening.

Meals: Breakfast

## Tour Inclusions

- Deluxe motorcoach transportation with Wi-Fi (where available)
- Fully escorted by a Sunshine Travel Club Tour Director
- Four nights of accommodation
- Seven meals, as described
- Seven attractions, as listed above

## Additional Information

Cancellation and trip interruption insurance is not included but is recommended. Coverage may be purchased through your preferred insurance provider.

Director: Linda Seabrook

Tour Cost Per Person:

- Double Occupancy: \$1,635
- Single Occupancy: \$2,230
- Triple Occupancy: \$1,515 (estimates)

Deposit: \$300 per person due upon booking. Balance is due by February 5th, 2026.