

2018 FROG International Rally Optional Tours

**NOTE THAT TOUR TIMES OVERLAP.
YOU CANNOT ATTEND TWO TOURS ON THE SAME DAY.**

Tour #1

Brown Bag Tour / Amish Wedding Feast (Tuesday)

Tuesday, August 14, 8:45 a.m.to 5:15 p.m.

\$70 per person

Our annual tour of Amish run businesses such as Rise 'n' Roll bakery, E & S Amish bulk food store, Heritage Ridge Creamery (formerly Guggisberg Cheese), and Silverstar leather maker is also our most popular every year. You'll learn about the Amish businesses, have a chance to do some shopping, and receive a gift from each of them.

For lunch you will have the traditional Amish Wedding Feast, hear the story of an Amish wedding, listen to the music and see an Amish wedding dress. In the afternoon you will visit a casket maker, and stop at the local buggy shop.

You'll return to the fairgrounds around 5:15.

This tour is the same as the Thursday Brown Bag Tour.

Tour #2

Studebaker Chrome, Golden Dome

Tuesday, August 14, 9:00 a.m.to 5:30 p.m.

\$60 per person

You'll journey to South Bend for a day of history and elegance.

First stop will be the campus of the University of Notre Dame, where you'll view and have photo opportunities at the historic football stadium, "The House that Rockne Built," and the famous mural, affectionately known as "Touchdown Jesus," on the side of the campus library overlooking the stadium. You'll also see the legendary Golden Dome atop the Administration Building, and tour the magnificent Basilica of the Sacred Heart next door. This neo-Gothic cathedral, with its 44 massive stained glass windows and magnificent murals, is topped by a bell tower and spire soaring over 200 feet into the sky.

For lunch you will visit Tippecanoe Place, the mansion home of the Studebaker family. With 40 rooms and 20 fireplaces, and encompassing over 26,000 square feet in four stories, Tippecanoe Place represents all of the splendor that massive wealth in the 19th century could suggest. Lunch consists of garden salad with dressing, dinner rolls with butter, charbroiled chicken breast in a tomato butter sauce, garlic mashed potatoes, hot vegetable of the day, house mousse, and coffee or tea. A children's menu is also available.

From lunch you're off to the Studebaker National Museum and The History Center with Copshaholm, the Oliver family mansion. You'll admire nearly 70 timeless vehicles, from an 1835 Conestoga Wagon to President Lincoln's carriage; from military trucks to sleek concept cars; and from a 1916 touring car to the forward-looking Avanti. The next-door History Museum is located in Copshaholm, home of the inventor of the Oliver tractor and Oliver plow. It tells the story of Northern Indiana and the Midwest while again affording a look at 19th century opulence.

You'll return to the fairgrounds around 5:30 with memories that you'll long remember and cherish.

Tour #3

Das Dutchman Essenhaus: Rollin' on the River, Rollin' in the Aisles

Tuesday, August 14, 1:45 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.

\$70 per person

Spend a part of your summer day cruising down the St. Joseph River on the Elkhart River Queen paddlewheel boat. Hear some of the history of the area, see beautiful riverfront homes, and learn how the river influenced Elkhart's development.

Reboard the bus for the drive to Middlebury, where you'll enjoy a buffet dinner at Das Dutchman Essenhaus, one of Elkhart County's most famous and premier Amish restaurants. Don't forget the pie!

After dinner you'll stroll across the street to the Heritage Hall to enjoy a presentation of the play "Don't Kick the Turkeys," a comedy with a message. Enjoy the antics as a new pastor joins a church where the secretary lays down the law; the janitor is "fixing" everything in sight; the most prestigious member is on the war path; and an eccentric member offers some far-out suggestions. What else could go wrong, except for the daycare moving in when the pipes in its building burst? Much of the audience will identify with striking similarities to their own congregations, and will be rolling with laughter as well as touched by the message behind the chaos.

Following the play, you'll return to the fairgrounds.

Tour #4

"Life on the Lillypad" Prime Rib Dinner Cruise

Tuesday, August 14, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

\$65 per person

Board the SS Lillypad in Syracuse for a leisurely two hour cruise on Lake Wawasee – the largest lake completely contained within the borders of Indiana (Lake Michigan borders Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan as well as Indiana).

You'll enjoy appetizers, followed by a prime rib dinner complete with salad, mashed potatoes, glazed baby carrots, dinner rolls, coffee, iced tea, or lemonade, and cheesecake for dessert.

Following dinner, visit the upper deck for a relaxing view of the lake and the approaching sunset as

you enjoy the rest of your time on board. Free snacks and soft drinks are provided, and a cash bar is available. You'll return to the fairgrounds around 8:00.

Tour #5

"Take Me Out to the Ball Game": Bear Cubs, Baseball & Buffet

Tuesday, August 14, 4:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

\$55 per person

Since the South Bend Cubs arrived as a franchise of some National League team from Chicago (my St. Louis Cardinals roots are showing), they have become a phenomenon in the region, regularly filling Four Winds Field. You have the opportunity to see the next generation of Chicago Cubs Class A Team hopefuls as you enjoy the game and a baseball buffet in the left field Homerun Porch.

There will be a two-hour all-you-can-eat buffet featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, pasta salad, potato chips, and chocolate chip cookies with non-alcoholic beverages. (Alcohol is available for purchase.)

You'll enjoy the game from padded seats and will be shaded from the sun by your own South Bend Cubs souvenir baseball cap.

Immediately following the game, the bus will return you to the fairgrounds.

Tour #6

"It's a Doozy! -- Auburn, Cord and Deussenburg Classic Cars

Wednesday, August 15, 8:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\$65 per person

The Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum is where the world's finest cars of yesterday live today. The museum offers over 120 cars on exhibit on three levels. Nine automotive themed galleries allow the visitor to experience everything from classic cars, to Indiana built cars, to racing and engineering themed exhibits. You'll spend time admiring stunning and historic vehicles, displayed with other automotive related exhibits in the original 1930s national headquarters of the legendary Auburn Automobile Company, now a National Historic Landmark.

Lunch will be served at the museum. You'll enjoy a tossed salad with dressing, choice of lasagna or grilled chicken breast, green beans, roasted red potatoes, assorted cookies, and beverage.

Following lunch you'll move on to one of the Auburn Automotive Company's factories, now home to the National Auto and Truck Museum. Focusing on post-World II cars and trucks, along with vehicles ranging from 1908 "high wheelers" to current production pickups, the collection just might include vehicles you drove and vehicles that made you drool. You'll top off the visit in the International Gallery of Trucks and Engines with its model car/truck and toy collection.

You'll return to the fairgrounds in time for dinner that evening.

Tour #7**"I Went to a Garden Party" and Ate the Flowers!****Wednesday, August 15, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.****\$65 per person**

Visit some of the glorious Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail on the way to Wellfield Botanic Gardens in Elkhart. Wellfield's Executive Director and staff will discuss the history of the quilt pattern on which their quilt garden is designed as they prepare sample foods based on the colors and flowers in the garden.

During the quilt presentation you'll enjoy a box lunch of a sandwich, side salad, chips, cookie, and beverage before touring the beauty of Wellfield Gardens. For those with walking issues, a golf cart is available for the tour.

Following your garden tour you'll move down the street to Ruthmere, home to several generations of Elkhart's founding family. You'll have a real-life "Downton Abbey" experience with a grand tour of the mansion, bringing the early 20th century to life, and finishing with tea and crumpets outdoors under the covered piazza, weather permitting, or inside the Game Room.

Your garden party ended, you'll return to the fairgrounds in time for dinner.

Tour #8**Brown Bag Tour / Amish Wedding Feast (Thursday)****Thursday, August 16, 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.****\$70 per person**

Our annual tour of Amish run businesses such as Rise 'n' Roll bakery, E & S Amish bulk food store, Heritage Ridge Creamery (formerly Guggisberg Cheese), and Silverstar leather maker is also our most popular every year. You'll learn about the Amish businesses, have a chance to do some shopping, and receive a gift from each of them.

For lunch you will have the traditional Amish Wedding Feast, hear the story of an Amish wedding, listen to the music and see an Amish wedding dress. In the afternoon you will visit a casket maker, and stop at the local buggy shop.

You'll return to the fairgrounds around 5:15.

This tour is the same as the Tuesday Brown Bag Tour.

Tour #9**Amish Acres Threshers Lunch at the Copacabana****Thursday, August 16, 11:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.****\$70 per person**

Begin your afternoon amid the hand-hewn beams of Amish Acres' restored Restaurant Barn. Your traditional Threshers meal will be served family-style, with large bowls and heaping platters of

traditional Amish fare.. Before making your way to the historic Round Barn Theater, shop at the Meat & Cheese Cabin or the Soda Fountain & Fudgery.

Once you've settled into the Round Barn Theater and begun to marvel at the architecture (look up and realize that it was moved here from another location), you'll enjoy a professional musical production of "Barry Manilow's Copacabana." Manilow's hit title song is brought to life in this entertaining nightclub spectacle. "Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl" ushers in the story of romance and stardom that has captivated audiences around the globe with splashy production numbers and an array of new Manilow music.

Still tapping your feet, you'll have one more stop to make at Rocket Science Ice Cream. Located inside historic Coppes Commons, this shop creates "out of this world" treats from a premium ice cream mix and real fruits, nuts, candies, and sauces, flash frozen before your eyes with liquid nitrogen. It's a creamy and delicious treat not quite like anything you'll find anywhere else.

You'll return to the fairgrounds around 6:00.

Tour #10
Blue Gate Restaurant Lunch & Theater: "Stolen"
Thursday, August 16, 10:30 a.m.to 4:00 p.m.
\$70 per person

Begin with a two-meat family-style lunch at the Blue Gate, Shipshewana's premier Amish restaurant. You'll enjoy all you care to eat from heaping platters and bowls filled with traditional Amish fare. You'll then move upstairs to the Blue Gate Theater to enjoy a matinee performance of "Stolen."

A small Pennsylvania community is shaken when the infant son of a prominent Amish family is kidnapped. As accusations fly and everyone is a suspect until a quirky, bumbling detective takes on the case. With no real leads and with frustrations mounting, the case goes cold.

Twenty years later the town is thrown into turmoil again when Naomi decides to re-open the case and finally discover who kidnapped her little brother. "Stolen," a unique mystery filled with intrigue, humor, and music will captivate you from the opening curtain to the final bow.

You'll be back at the fairgrounds around 4:00.

Tour #11
"On the Road Again" - Das Essenhaus Dinner, Historic RVs and Classic Cars
Thursday, August 16, 1:30 p.m.to 8:00 p.m. AND 2:00 to 8:30 p.m.
\$55 per person

NOTE: There are two buses for this trip, with staggered times to accommodate the group.
PLEASE be sure to stay with the same bus so that we can ensure that no one is left behind.

You're in the heart of RV Country, for goodness sake, so it's time to learn about the history of RVing. Your first stop will be at the RV and Motorhome Museum and Hall of Fame, where you'll find some amazing and historic vehicles that have played key roles in the creation and growth of the industry.

Classic and one-of-a kind vehicles, like Mae West's house car, have fascinating stories of their own.

Re-board the bus for the drive to Middlebury, where you'll enjoy a buffet dinner at Das Dutchman Essenhaus, one of Elkhart County's premier and most renowned Amish restaurants. Don't forget the pie!

After dinner stroll among the 200+ cars that show up for the weekly Cruise-In (weather permitting). For those that are not car buffs, the Shops at Essenhaus offer clothing, quilts, gifts and baked goods to suit every taste.

The buses will return you to the fairgrounds around 8:00 to 8:30.

Tour #12

Boat, Bison & Bar-B-Q

Thursday, August 16, 3:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

\$50 per person

This is one of the FROG Rally's most popular tours!

Take a hay wagon ride with your local guide to hand feed the American Bison. Learn about the intricacies of raising, feeding, and managing this wild animal.

Following the tour, enjoy a dinner of bison roast, pulled pork, baked potato, coleslaw, applesauce, corn muffin, beverages and dessert. You'll eat to the toe-tapping mountain music sounds of The Jug Huffers Band.

After dinner you'll board the buses for a trip to Syracuse, where you'll relax on a leisurely one hour cruise on Lake Wawasee aboard the SS Lillypad. Complimentary snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.

Departing the cruise, you'll be back at the fairgrounds around 9:45.