

2023 FROG International Rally Tours

Note that there are four tours scheduled on Tuesday and four scheduled on Thursday. Because tour times overlap, *you cannot take two tours on the same day*. Times shown are when the buses will arrive and begin to load on the front parking where you were greeted when you arrived. Return times are approximate, and might be affected by traffic, weather, or other considerations. Golf cart shuttles will meet returning buses, or you may leave your car on the front lot.

Tour # 1

The Quilt Tour

Tuesday, August 15

8:45 – 5:00

\$70 per person

Wherever you find the Amish, you will also find beautiful handmade quilts. On this tour you'll stop for photos at two of the area quilt gardens where flowers are used to create a traditional quilt pattern. Visit the Quilt Shop in a restored chicken barn at Das Essenhaus to see their quilts and make a "quilty" note card to take with you. (This is a beginner craft and uses only a glue pen.)

Enjoy lunch at the Carriage House and hear Elaine Jones explain the traditional way of Amish quilt making. She will discuss choosing patterns, colors, marking, cutting, and sewing quilts all in the traditional way. Be the winner of the drawing and take home one of Elaine's designed and quilted wall hangings as a very special souvenir of your day. There will be fabric and quilt-related items for sale at Elaine's as well as at two other well-known shops on this tour, Yoder's and Lolly's.

Tour #2

Fleas and Faith

Tuesday, August 15

8:45 – 3:45

\$55 per person

Who doesn't like a Scavenger Hunt? Shop one of the country's top flea markets, the Shipshewana Flea Market, while you hunt for "the fleas". You will receive a handy map and a list of booth numbers to find. The hunt, which is not a race, is confined to a small area of the market. You can choose to participate in the hunt, completing 4 of 6 finds for a special gift, or just shop some of the 700 booths on 40 acres.

Select from among luncheon salads, sandwiches, and wraps for your lunch at Shawna Rae's. Each lunch will include fresh fruit or tossed salad, a cookie or cupcake, and a beverage of your choice. Following lunch explore Mennohof, the Amish and Mennonite Interpretive Center. Have you ever wondered whether the Amish pay taxes? Do the Amish vote? Why do Amish children leave school after the eighth grade? Why do the Amish not have their photos taken? Learn the answers to these and many more questions as you explore the Anabaptist journey to America and what attracted the Amish and Mennonites to northern Indiana. Docents are available to answer questions as you explore this interesting interactive experience.

Tour #3
RVs, Flippin' Cow, Rollin' on the River
Tuesday, August 15
10:30 – 5:30
\$80 per person

See how RVing has evolved from 1913 travel trailers to today's state of the art motorhomes. See the house car built for Mae West, a 1932 Gilkie tent trailer, a 1931 Tennessee Traveler Motorhome and many others on display in the RV Founders Hall.

Then relax on the shores of Lake Simonton at the Flippin' Cow, home of the Stella Moo burger! It's a favorite spot for locals, and we think it will become a "go to" spot for you as well. Choose from three great lunch entrees – the Stella Moo burger, the All American burger, or the Cluckin' Chicken Wrap. All lunches served with house chips, a lemon bar for dessert, and a non-alcoholic beverage. Craft beers and other alcoholic beverages can be purchased for an additional charge.

The lake view at lunch will put you in the mood for your next stop – a cruise on the historic Elkhart River Queen, a 65-foot riverboat that cruises the St Joseph River. Enjoy tales of the area's history and see some of Elkhart's beautiful riverfront homes as you move along the river.

Tour #4
Flour, Wine, and Fried Chicken
Tuesday, August 15
1:30 – 7:45
\$75 per person

Step back in time as you enter Bonneyville Mill. Feel the floor shake as giant millstones rumble into action. A friendly miller will explain the milling process and the types of grain used. There will be time to explore the mill plus enjoy the surrounding grounds.

Next stop is Fruit Hills winery where David and Michelle Muir invite you to taste 5 of their signature wines as you relax on their outdoor patio enjoying wine and snacking on crackers, meat and cheese. Then it is off for an evening at Das Dutchman Essenhaus for a sumptuous Amish buffet dinner. Your evening ends with a photo op at the Essenhaus Quilt Garden.

Tour #5
Amish Brown Bag
Thursday, August 17
8:45 – 5:15
\$85 per person

Enjoy a day visiting Amish businesses where you will receive gifts to fill your brown bag. Learn about Amish noodle making, basket weaving, and wind chime construction. Stop at an Amish bulk food store and admire the pedal car collection as you walk among fresh produce, candy, meat, cheese, and every baking ingredient you can imagine.

Enjoy a lunch stop at the Carriage House, where Elaine Jones and her son Seth will prepare an Amish Wedding Feast for you – the food just keeps coming. Hear what an Amish wedding day is like. See the bride's dress and hear the German Wedding song that is sung at Amish weddings.

Finish your day with stops at a one room school to see and hear how Amish children are educated. Find out what it looks like inside those Amish buggies and how they are crafted, and experience sticker shock at some of the prices as you tour the Hoosier Buggy Shop.

Tour #6
Always Patsy
Thursday, August 17
10:45 – 5:15
\$85 per person

Enjoy the scenery along the drive to the Villages of Winona at Winona Lake. Your afternoon begins with lunch at the Boathouse, a premier restaurant with views of Winona Lake from seating inside as well as outside, weather permitting. Lunch is a choice of burgers, wraps, or salads topped off with dessert, vanilla ice cream topped with whipped cream and almonds.

Then you're off to the Wagon Wheel Theater. With beginnings in a canvas tent on the parking lot, the Wagon Wheel has shaped the careers of many budding thespians. Moving into a more stable structure in 1961 the theater has continued to evolve in its offerings as well as its structure. On this afternoon you will enjoy a performance of *Always Patsy*. More than a tribute to the legendary singer, this show is based on the friendship between Patsy Cline and Louise Seger, a fan from Houston. Enjoy performances of many of Patsy's hit songs interwoven with down home country humor and emotion.

Tour #7
Amish Home Visit & Evening at Essenhaus
Thursday, August 17
2:45 – 8:00
\$60 per person

Spend part of the afternoon with Doretta Bontrager as she welcomes you to the family room of her home. Enjoy a one-of-a-kind presentation about Amish life with time for questions and answers before touring other parts of the Bontrager home.

They you'll head off to Das Dutchman Essenhaus for a sumptuous Amish buffet complete with pie. Walk off your meal exploring the weekly Classic Car show on the grounds (weather permitting) or checking out the various quaint shops on the campus. Your evening ends with a photo op at the Essenhaus Quilt Garden.

Tour #8
Boat, Bison, & BBQ
Thursday, August 17
3:15 – 9:45
\$70 per person

Arrive at Cook's Buffalo Ranch in Wolcottville, IN and take a hay-wagon ride out to the pastures to hand feed the great American bison. Learn about raising, feeding, and managing the herds living at the ranch. After your tour, enjoy a barbeque dinner complete with all the "fixins." While you eat, local musicians are on hand to share their talents.

Following dinner you'll re-board the bus for a short ride to Lake Wawasee and the Frog Tavern. Board the SS Lillypad for a quiet evening cruise on the lake. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages are included. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased for an additional charge.