

2019 FROG International Rally Optional Tours

Buses will load on the front parking lot and will depart at the times indicated. Please arrive at the lot about 10-15 minutes ahead of departure so that we can load the buses and depart on schedule.

Return times are estimated.

Tour #1

Das Essenhaus Dinner and Theater, “*The Old Faith, Hope & Charity*”

Friday, August 9, 2019, 4:30 - 10:15

\$55 per person

Dine on traditional family recipes passed down through generations in Indiana’s largest restaurant. Tonight enjoy the delicious all-you-can-eat Essenhaus Dinner Buffet complete with 2 soups, salad bar, 4 entrees, multiple sides, puddings, cookies & cobbler. Beverages and slices of homemade pie are included.

Tonight’s theater presentation is “*The Old Faith, Hope & Charity.*” When country doctor Peter Farraday is faced with retirement, he begins a search for his replacement. The only interested candidate is Dr. Lorraine Marcus, a young physician fresh out of medical school and eager to be needed. When Farraday takes her on, there is a warmhearted grand collision of old ways and new ways. Witness the hilarious misunderstandings, odd assortment of small-town patients, and the comedic struggle for Lorraine's affections when two suitors come to call.

Tour #2

Amish Wedding Feast at The Carriage House

Saturday, August 10, 2019, 4:45 – 7:45

\$45 per person

It’s a rare experience feasting on a traditional Amish wedding dinner in the charming setting of “The Carriage House”. Elaine and her son Seth explain what an Amish wedding day is like complete with this special meal that would be traditionally served by the Amish to their wedding guests. Groups see an Amish bride’s wedding dress up close and hear the customary German Wedding song sung at an Amish wedding.

Following dinner, enjoy a brief presentation on Amish customs and traditions, including home-based church services, the religious and social portions of the event, the bench wagons, and more.

NOTE: This is the same Amish Wedding Feast included in Tuesday and Thursday’s Brown Bag Tour, but the stops at Amish businesses ARE NOT included in this event.

Tour #3**Take Me Out to the Ballgame****Saturday, August 10, 2019, 4:45 – 10:45****\$55 per person**

Join FROG for an evening at the South Bend Cubs vs. Fort Wayne Tin Caps Baseball Game. Start your evening with an all you can eat Ballpark Buffet in the left-field "Home Run" section. The Buffet includes grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, pasta salad, potato chips, chocolate chip cookies, soda, water and lemonade. (Alcohol options available for purchase). The Buffet is served for two hours, starting an hour before the game.

Your South Bend Cubs ballgame package includes a game ticket in theater-style padded seating with a drink rail located in left field, a South Bend Cubs hat, and the two-hour all you can eat Ballpark Buffet.

Tour #4**Brown Bag Tour of Amish Country****Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 9:00 – 5:15****\$70 per person**

This event has become the most popular tour among FROG Rally attendees. We'll give each tour group member a "Brown Bag." As you visit select, unique, locally owned shops, you'll get special treats to fill your "Brown Bag." Sit back, relax and observe the Amish lifestyle as you travel picturesque backroads of Northern Indiana. Step back in time and learn of the fascinating lifestyle of these "plain people" with a knowledgeable guide telling about the area and the history, traditions, and customs of the Amish.

You'll stop at four Amish shops – a Basket Maker, a Bulk Food Store, a Cheese Shop, and a Wind Chime Maker.

For lunch you'll enjoy feasting on a traditional Amish wedding dinner in the charming setting of "The Carriage House". Elaine and her son Seth explain what an Amish wedding day is like complete with this special meal that would be traditionally served by the Amish to their wedding guests. You'll see an Amish bride's wedding dress up close and hear the customary German Wedding song sung at an Amish wedding.

Following lunch, you'll meet and get to know two local Amish entrepreneurs –a Buggy Maker and a Coffin Maker -- and see first-hand how they operate their unique enterprises. You'll hear the stories of friendly, hardworking people who use their special talents to create products and build businesses that serve the local community and beyond.

NOTE: This is exactly the same tour as the Thursday Brown Bag Tour.

Tour #5**Blue Gate Restaurant & “A Simple Sanctuary” Theater****Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 10:45 – 4:00****\$70 per person**

Welcome to the Blue Gate, located in downtown Shipshewana, where a warm inviting atmosphere awaits you during your meal of great home-style cooking and friendly service. Your lunch today will be buffet style featuring soups, salad bar, multiple meats, fresh side dishes, and plenty of sweet dessert options along with your beverage all included.

Following your meal, enjoy the Blue Gate Theater’s original production of “*A Simple Sanctuary*.” Melissa James prayed the day would never come, but when her past comes calling, she has no choice but to flee. Pursued and living on the run, she finds desperate sanctuary in Amish country. Part suspense, part romance, *Sanctuary* is a compelling story of revenge, the price of freedom, and the solace found in the sanctuary of true community.

Tour #6**Elkhart River Queen Cruise & Dinner****Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 3:00 – 8:00****\$65 per person**

The third generation of the DeShone family continues the "Heinnie's Tradition!" For over 56 years, folks have been enjoying the great food, voting it the best in several local and national categories.

You’ll enjoy one of four early dinner choices - Pork Chop with baked potato and applesauce; Fried Haddock with French fries and cole slaw; Smothered Chicken with wild rice and salad; or Strip Steak with baked potato and salad. Non-alcoholic drinks are included with dinner, and alcohol is available at your cost.

You’ll depart Heinnie’s for the Elkhart River Queen. Enjoy a leisurely ride catching summer breezes aboard a 65-foot riverboat cruising along the Saint Joseph River. Hear a bit of area history and learn how the river influenced Elkhart’s development while gliding past beautiful riverside homes. The boat has two decks, one enclosed and air-conditioned, and one outdoors with a covered canopy--perfect for catching summer breezes. You’ll enjoy tasty desserts with coffee during your evening cruise. A snack bar is also available for alcoholic or non-alcoholic soft drinks. **NOTE:** The snack bar is cash only.

Tour #7**“Life on the Lillypad” Dinner Cruise****Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 4:15 – 8:00****\$65 per person**

Sit back and relax during a leisurely cruise on Lake Wawasee, the largest natural lake completely within Indiana. (We have to share Lake Michigan with other states.) Enjoy a buffet dinner including prime rib or roasted pork loin served with salad, baby baker potatoes, green beans almandine, dinner rolls, assorted cheesecakes iced tea, lemonade, and soft drinks.

Following dinner, relax in air-conditioned comfort, or go up top to catch the breeze during a sunset cruise on the lake. Light snacks and soft drinks are provided, and a cash bar is available.

Tour #8

Brown Bag Tour of Amish Country

Thursday, August 15, 2019, 9:00 – 5:15

\$70 per person

This event has become the most popular tour among FROG Rally attendees. We'll give each tour group member a "Brown Bag." As you visit select, unique, locally owned shops, you'll get special treats to fill your "Brown Bag." Sit back, relax and observe the Amish lifestyle as you travel picturesque backroads of Northern Indiana. Step back in time and learn of the fascinating lifestyle of these "plain people" with a knowledgeable guide telling about the area and the history, traditions, and customs of the Amish.

You'll stop at four Amish shops – a Basket Maker, a Bulk Food Store, a Cheese Shop, and a Wind Chime Maker.

For lunch you'll enjoy feasting on a traditional Amish wedding dinner in the charming setting of "The Carriage House". Elaine and her son Seth explain what an Amish wedding day is like complete with this special meal that would be traditionally served by the Amish to their wedding guests. You'll see an Amish bride's wedding dress up close and hear the customary German Wedding song sung at an Amish wedding.

Following lunch, you'll meet and get to know two local Amish entrepreneurs – a Buggy Maker and a Coffin Maker -- and see first-hand how they operate their unique enterprises. You'll hear the stories of friendly, hardworking people who use their special talents to create products and build businesses that serve the local community and beyond.

NOTE: This is exactly the same tour as the Tuesday Brown Bag Tour.

Tour #9

Amish Threshers Lunch & "Big River" Theater at Amish Acres

Thursday, August 15, 2019, 11:30 – 6:00

\$65 per person

On arrival, you'll have a short time to shop in the Meat and Cheese Cabin or the Soda Fountain / Fudgery. For lunch, sit down amidst the hand-hewn beams of the restored Restaurant Barn and enjoy the traditional family-style Threshers Lunch. Served at the table, featuring broasted chicken, baked ham, and large bowls and heaping platters of tasty Amish sides, this lunch won't let you walk away hungry or disappointed.

After lunch, walk across the courtyard to enjoy the Broadway musical "*Big River*" in the majestic 1911 Round Barn Theater. As you marvel at the architecture, realize that it was moved here from another location. "Look out for me, oh, muddy water" is the cry we hear as Huckleberry Finn and the slave, Jim begin their life-altering journey down the mighty Mississippi River. Whether the threat is real or imagined, Huck and Jim battle against the odds and handle everything Mark Twain's imagination puts in their path.

With music by the award-winning Roger Miller, the unforgettable score includes “Free at Last,” “Waitin’ for the Light to Shine,” “(We are) The Boys,” and “How Blest We Are.” Return with Amish Acres to one of their most popular shows as you cheer on Huck and laugh at their foes.

Your final stop is at Rocket Science Ice Cream. Experience an “out of this world” taste treat at Rocket Science Ice Cream located inside Coppes Commons. Each individual serving is crafted from a premium ice cream mix and real fruits, nuts, candies, and sauces, using their own special recipes. It is then quick frozen right before your eyes with liquid nitrogen. It’s the creamiest and the most amazing treat you’ll find anywhere in the US. Flavors will be offered closer in summer time once we know the choices.

Tour #10

Wine & Wheels Tour

Thursday, August 15, 2019, 2:30 – 8:00

\$55 per person

David & Michelle Muir invite you to join their family in their brand new wine tasting room in the scenic fruit hills of Bristol, featuring several varieties such as Riesling, Cabernet and Traminette (Indiana’s signature wine). You’ll be seated under the new open air pavilion sampling 18 different wines (1/2 ounce each) while hearing directly from David, the Vintner, as he shares the history, tones, and notes of each wine. Assorted Cheese, cracker and meat trays from Old Hoosier Meats will be offered to complete the experience. After your tasting, shop for a bottle to take home, buy a glass of your favorite, or simply enjoy the view and the conversation

From the winery, you’re off to Das Dutchman Essenhaus. Dine tonight inside Indiana’s largest restaurant on the popular Essenhaus buffet, featuring two soups, salad bar, four entrees, multiple sides, puddings, cookies and cobbler. Beverages and homemade pie are also included.

Following dinner, stroll out to the lawn for a “blast from the past” as you enjoy the Classic Car Cruise In (weather permitting) on the Essenhaus grounds. Compare makes, models, motors and memories as you explore on your own the numerous vehicles. Most Thursday evenings over 200 and sometimes 300 classic cars are found on the grounds.

Not interested in cars? Take time to browse the various shops on the grounds. From the home-style bakery to the ladies apparel shop to the Vera Bradley and the home décor, the Village Shops at Essenhaus offer something for everyone.

Tour #11

Boat, Bison & BBQ

Thursday, August 15, 2019, 3:30 – 9:45

\$55 per person

Travel to Cook’s Buffalo Ranch Tour & Dinner Buffet. You’ll take a hay-wagon ride with your local expert guide into the pasture to hand feed the great American Bison in its own habitat. Learn the intricacies of raising, feeding and managing this wild animal, a unique experience for all ages.

Dinner tonight is an old fashioned chuck-wagon bar-b-que that groups love, featuring bison roast and pulled pork, baked potato, coleslaw, applesauce, corn muffin, dessert, and beverage. You’ll be

entertained by the Jug Huffers, a local jug band band playing favorite mountain music hits – bluegrass, old time, traditional, and original music.

Following dinner you're off to Lake Wawasee, the largest lake completely inside of Indiana. (We have to share Lake Michigan with other states.) There you'll relax on a leisurely sunset cruise on the SS Lillypad. Stay below in air-conditioned comfort, or go topside to catch the breeze as you enjoy the view. Snacks and soft drinks are provided, and a cash bar is available.