

# 20 Must Experience Group Activities

## Shipshewana, Indiana



### 1. *Shipshewana Flea Market*

Each year from the first of May through the end of October, you can find over a thousand vendors selling everything from fresh fruit to handcrafted furniture at the Shipshewana Flea Market. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays the small community of 565 comes alive with traffic lining the streets to see this “do not miss” Hoosier tradition.

**Admission:** No admission fee - free motorcoach parking!

**Hours:** Every Tuesday & Wednesday (8am-5pm). May 6 - Oct 29, 2008.

**Contact:** 260.768.4129, [info@tradingplaceamerica.com](mailto:info@tradingplaceamerica.com)



### 2. *Shipshewana Misc. & Antique Auction*

Eight to ten auctioneers sell simultaneously from 8:00am until approximately 2:00 in the afternoon. The auction is held in an enclosed facility, heated in the winter for your comfort and made to open in the summer, letting in the fresh, cool, country summer breezes. A snack bar as well as restrooms are located in the auction building for your convenience.

**Hours:** Every Wednesday 8am, year-round

**Contact:** 260.768.4129, [info@tradingplaceamerica.com](mailto:info@tradingplaceamerica.com)



### 3. *Trading Place Antique Gallery*

Over 100 quality antique dealers in our 31,000-sq.ft. facility. Offering a wide variety from easy to hard to find quality antiques. Thousands of people have enjoyed shopping the clean, well-lit facility. Stop in for a browse when visiting Shipshewana. Our fine staff of people will be glad to assist you. The coffee is always on!

**Hours:** Monday - Saturday, 9am -6pm (*open until 5pm Oct - April*)

**Contact:** 260.768.7090, [info@tradingplaceamerica.com](mailto:info@tradingplaceamerica.com)



### 4. *Menno-Hof - Amish/Mennonite Interpretive Center*

A must stop before you take in the rich landscape and gentle charm of the Mennonite and Amish Community in and around Shipshewana. The Center interprets the rich history, the family-oriented lifestyle, and deep faith of the Anabaptists in a variety of multi-visual ways that will truly enrich your experience in Amish Country.

**Admission:** \$6 adults, \$3 children under 14, \$1 off for groups 25 or more

**Hours:** Monday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm (*can be open other times for groups over 25*)

**Contact:** 260.768.4117, [tours@mennohof.com](mailto:tours@mennohof.com)



### 5. *Shopping in Downtown Shipshewana*

Shipshewana is truly one of the Midwest's hidden surprises. This quaint little village boasts more than 90 specialty shops with a variety of wealth of unique goods that is nothing short of surprising. Handcrafted items, handmade furniture, Amish-inspired baked goods, heirloom quality antiques...and more...fill the quaint storefronts that line this village in the heart of Amish Country.

**Hours:** Most stores are open Monday - Saturday, 9am - 5pm

**Contact:** 800.254.8090, [info@backroads.org](mailto:info@backroads.org)



### 6. *Blue Gate Restaurant & Theater*

Outstanding Southern Gospel, comedy and other family friendly entertainment. Bring your grandma or your grandchildren; you'll be comfortable with show content. The shows will be Monday, Friday and Saturday evening with matinee performances on Tuesday & Wednesday. In addition to the shows listed you can check our web site for updates on upcoming special events and performances such as the very popular Breakfast Club, our festivals, and much more. **Tickets:** Starting at \$16 per person **Contact:** 888.447.4725, [toursales@riegsecker.com](mailto:toursales@riegsecker.com)



### 7. *Lambright Woodworking, LLC*

Where your dreams are handcrafted into reality. From a single piece to an entire household of furniture, Lambright promises the utmost beauty and quality at reasonable prices. Two convenient locations: 160 Morton St in downtown Shipshewana and 7785W 300S, just north of Topeka. Tour groups welcome. Observe as rough lumber is turned into beautiful handcrafted furniture and cabinetry, without electricity or modern technology.

**Admission:** Tour: \$3 per person **Hours:** Monday-Saturday

**Contact:** Shipshewana 260.768.7401, Topeka 260.593.2997

### **8. Little Helpers Quilt Shop**

Visit the family farm and see a large selection of handmade quilts. Find crafts, woven rugs, candles, baskets, and gift items. Shop is located on the corner of US 20 and County Road 1000W. **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9-5 **Contact:** Voicemail 260.768.4278

### **9. Millers Buggy Line Tours**

Enjoy the sights from a different point of view. Buggy rides, backroads country tours, step-on guides, and Amish farm tours on Tuesday and Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; also enjoy a thresher meal at an Amish home Tuesday and Wednesday. Located across the street from the Flea Market, SR 5.

**Admission:** Buggy rides from \$5-\$20 per person, Tours from \$35-\$25 Adult and \$25-Free for children. Group rates available.

**Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday **Contact:** 260.768.4494 or 1.888.44BUGGY (28449)

### **10. E & S Bulk Food Store**

Where the Amish shop, bulk food, all kinds of flours and cheese, baking supplies, snacks, dried fruit, jellies, candies, and spices. Also visit Eash sales, right next to door, where you'll see lots of the non-electric appliances and tools the Amish use today.

**Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8am -5pm; Saturday 8am - 3:30pm **Contact:** 260.768.7511

### **11. Yoder's Popcorn**

The reputation for excellent quality popcorn has continued since 1936 when Rufus Yoder started growing popcorn on his family farm. Yoder's Popcorn is best known for their "Tiny Tender". Groups enjoy munching a free sample while looking through the cozy country shop filled with a variety of gifts for popcorn lovers.

**Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm; Saturday, 9am - 4pm **Contact:** 800.892.2170, [www.yoderpopcorn.com](http://www.yoderpopcorn.com)

### **12. Deutsch Kase Haus Cheese Factory**

Watch skilled Amish cheese makers practice their traditional art producing award-winning cheese. All of the cheese produced here is made with milk from local Amish farms. It is suggested to phone ahead to assure your group can observe cheese making.

**Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8am -5pm; Saturday, 8am - 3pm **Contact:** 574.825.9511

### **13. Mousetrap Puppet Theater**

Take an entertaining break in Shippshewana on the third floor of the Davis Mercantile, and visit the Mousetrap Puppet Theater.

**Admission:** \$5 per person **Hours:** Call for schedule **Contact:** 260.768.4968 or visit [www.mousetraptheater.org](http://www.mousetraptheater.org)

### **14. Yoders Department Store**

An old-fashioned shopping experience with a variety of contemporary goods. 12,000 bolts of fabric, 2,800 pairs of jeans, overalls in all sizes, and 10,000 pairs of footwear. Hardware, tools, housewares, home accessories, groceries, and hard to find items.

**Hours:** Monday - Saturday 8am - 5:30pm **Contact:** 260.768.4887, [fabrics@shippshewana.com](mailto:fabrics@shippshewana.com)

### **15. Cook's Bison Ranch**

Take a wagon ride into the pasture to see the Great American Buffalo in its own habitat. A variety of tour options are available including scenic ride to Cook's Ranch, feeding the bison, hay wagon rides, and a full course buffalo dinner. Tours are conducted regularly, call for schedules or appointments. Groups of ten or more are preferred.

**Admission:** Adults \$7, Children and Seniors (55+) \$5

**Hours:** Tours run from Memorial Day to Labor Day, call for reservations

**Contact:** For reservations or tour schedules call 866.382.2356 or visit [www.cooksbisonranch.com](http://www.cooksbisonranch.com)

### **16. Riegsecker Hardwoods Furniture**

Take a 45-minute guided walking tour of their own furniture factory. Watch handcrafted oak and cherry furniture being built step-by-step at Riegsecker Hardwoods. See how they put the quality into their furniture from unfinished boards to a beautiful piece you'll want in your home. **Admission:** \$5 per person **Contact:** 888.447.4725, [toursales@riegsecker.com](mailto:toursales@riegsecker.com)

### **17. Hoosier Buggy Shop**

Take a tour through this buggy shop and learn the history behind the black carriage.

**Admission:** \$1 per person **Hours:** Tours at 9am-11am and 2pm-4pm **Contact:** 260.593.2192

### **18. Greenfield Mills**

Visit Indiana's oldest commercial water-powered mill. Tour the family owned business that still makes flour the old fashioned way.

**Admission:** \$5 per person, Children 6 and under free **Hours:** Monday-Friday 8-5, closed 12-1 daily **Contact:** 260.367.2394

### **19. Plyley's Candies**

Plyley's candies are made the old fashioned way, one batch at a time. Visit their factory store, where sweet aroma fills the air and watch them make their fine confections by hand.

**Hours:** Mon-Thurs 8-4, Fri 8-3, and Sat 9-noon **Contact:** 1.877.665.2778 or visit [www.plyleyscandies.com](http://www.plyleyscandies.com)

### **20. B & L Woodcraft - Personalized Birdhouse**

Visit B&L Woodcraft Amish furniture shop and custom make your own souvenir birdhouse. Members of group will get boxes to put their names on, and then proceed through lines to select colors, decorations and make customized sayings. The Amish family will physically put the birdhouse together; place it back in the box, ready for you to load onto the coach. After selecting their birdhouse design, guests can explore the numerous furniture and gift parts found on the farm.

**Cost:** \$12 per person **Hours:** Monday - Saturday, 8am - 5pm **Contact:** 888.642.6016