

NATIONAL CHRISTMAS CENTER Presents:

Christmas All Year Long...What a Wonderful Idea!

LANCASTER COUNTY TOUR PACKAGE SUGGESTIONS

The following are some ideas to help you customize your group's tour to meet the needs, schedule and interests of your guests. If you like any of the suggestions presented here, **contact each individual property (contact phone numbers are given) to book a date and time that suits your group.**

A Potpourri of Gardens
The Miracle of Christmas
Red Hot Lancaster
Lancaster County History
Christmas in July

All Aboard: Loco for Locomotives
National Christmas Center Presents A Lancaster Christmas
An Old-Fashioned Country Christmas
Christmas Lights and Holiday Sights
Museum Tour

Visions of Sugarplums: Early Christmas Tree Decorations
Clues from the Bible: A Scripture Mystery Tour
Wrapped Up in Quilts
Family-Friendly Fun
Mystery Tour

Family Friendly Fun – suggested properties **

- **National Christmas Center** – ph. 717.442-7950 for children of all ages; see Christmas through the eyes of a child!
- **Dutch Wonderland Family Entertainment Complex** – 866.386.2839 voted one of the Top Five Best Children's Parks in the world!
- **Choo Choo Barn** – 800.450.2920 Lancaster County in miniature; 1700 sq. ft. train display features animated figures and 22 operating trains.
- **Village Greens Miniature Golf Course** – 717.687.6933 Lushly landscaped, this attraction offers two courses that wind through the shaded countryside.
- **Cherry Crest Farm's Amazing Maize** – 717.687.6843 call for dates 15+ acres, corn maze, petting zoo, wagon rides, play land and more.

Visions of Sugarplums: Early Christmas Decorations – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – 717.442.7950 See how the earliest Christmas trees in Pennsylvania were decorated using cookies, nuts, fruit, pretzels and popcorn, then follow our suggestions to find these goodies for your own old-fashioned tree!
- **Intercourse Pretzel Factory** – 717.768.3432 twist your own pretzel – call for dates/times.
- **Bird in Hand Farmers Market** – 717.393.9674 fresh produce includes yummy fruit and nuts
- **Kitchen Kettle Village** – 800.732.3538 kettle corn popcorn and gingerbread men found here!

Christmas in July – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – 717.442.7950 discover the magic, memories, history and traditions of Christmas.
- **Landis Valley Museum** – 717.569.0401 Visit with Belschnickle (the PA Dutch version of Santa Claus) and enjoy a traditional holiday meal (by prior arrangement).
- **Flower and Craft Warehouse** – 717.355.9975 one-stop shopping for all your holiday décor needs.
- **Rockvale Square Outlets** – 717.293.9595 Christmas shop till you drop, then hop on the Red and Green trolley.

Miracle of Christmas (tickets may be purchased online at www.bibleonstage.com)

- **National Christmas Center** – 717.442.7950 Take a realistic journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem and, at the end, Behold the Birth of Christ! Explore and celebrate the true meaning of the season!
- **Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre** – 800.377.1277 The nation's largest professional Christian theatrical company presents the Christmas story

Christmas Lights and Holiday Sights – suggested properties **

- **National Christmas Center** – 717.442.7950 20,000 square feet of indoor Christmas displays open year round for groups of 20 or more; 14 main galleries; life-sized scenes, antiques, toys, memories!
- **Longwood Gardens** – 610.388.1000 A premier horticultural display offering exquisite gardens, conservatories, concerts. Educational opportunities, illuminated fountains, holiday displays.
- **Hershey, PA** – 800.HERSHEY Christmas Candy Lane amusement park rides/entertainment; Hershey Sweet Lights: 600+ lighted drive-thru animated displays – call for dates/times

Wrapped up in Quilts – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – see our Santa quilt comprised of 16,000+ one-inch squares, and ornaments made from quilt patterns from the 1800's. Open year round (special Christmas exhibition at the Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum - call for dates/hours)
- **The Peoples Place Quilt Museum** – 800.828.8218 "A Showcase of Quilts: Dazzling Contemporary Creations"
- **Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum** – 717.299.6440 A rich and diverse collection that celebrates the role of textiles on the past, present and future
- **Quilters' Heritage Celebration** – a convention for quilt makers and quilt lovers – Spring 2009 (info at: <http://www.qhconline.com/>)

Clues from the Bible: A Scripture Mystery Tour – suggested properties**

- We provide Scripture clues that will have your group guessing where they will be going next! Find the answers to the clues and complete a tour of properties and attractions with a religious focus.
- **National Christmas Center** – Find the real meaning of Christmas as you journey through this museum dedicated to the world's most beloved holiday. Each guest may receive a recipe for Scripture cake, and, for an additional fee, a Bethlehem star ornament will be given to each guest. (**This tour must be requested by name at the time of booking in order to receive the recipes and/or star ornaments.**)
 - **Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre** – 800.377.1277 the nation's largest professional Christian theatrical company
 - **Biblical Tabernacle Reproduction** 717.299.0954 @ the Mennonite Information Center
 - **Bethlehem, Pennsylvania** – 610.258.7313 Home of the founders of the Moravian Church; contact for dates of the **Christmas Peace Pilgrimage** and **Christkindl Mart**
 - **Ephrata Cloisters** – 717.733.6600 Founded in 1732, formerly a monastic community of mainly German immigrants who sought spiritual goals rather than earthly rewards – 28 acres, 9 original buildings

(See our website for details of all our suggested itineraries – www.NationalChristmasCenter.com)

Lancaster County History Tour – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – discover how the seeds of America’s Christmas celebrations were planted in Lancaster County! View “A Pennsylvania Christmas”; learn of local Moravian influences on Christmas celebrations; see a recreation of PA’s first publicly-decorated Christmas tree; enjoy a life-sized replica of the original F.W. Woolworth’s 5&10 Cent Store storefront, Lancaster, PA, circa 1891; and walk into a 1940’s-1950’s Woolworth’s at Christmas time.
- **Landis Valley Museum** – 717.569.0401 Authentic Pennsylvania Dutch village and farm; historic buildings, heritage-breed farm animals and gardens. Diverse collection of early farm, trade and household objects
- **Wheatland** – 717.392.8721 Historic residence of the 15th president of the United States, James Buchanan – the only Pennsylvanian to occupy the White House
- **Cornwall Iron Furnace** – 717.272.9711 A once-thriving iron plantation where iron cannons were made for the Continental Army during America’s War for Independence; only cold-blast iron furnace to survive intact in the Western Hemisphere

A Potpourri of Gardens – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – not your typical garden! Come see the “Christmas garden”- a Moravian tradition that evolved into the practice of putting villages and electric trains under the Christmas tree – part of “A Pennsylvania Christmas”, one of 12 main galleries in this 20,000 sq. ft. exhibition of Christmas magic and memories; open year round for groups of 20 or more.
- **Longwood Gardens** – 610.388.1000 A premier horticultural display offering exquisite gardens, conservatories, concerts, educational opportunities, illuminated fountains, holiday displays – call for dates/times of special events
- **Flower and Craft Warehouse** – 717.355.9975 One-stop shopping for all your home décor needs; choose from familiar and exotic dried and silk florals and greens
- **Hershey Farm Restaurant and Inn** – 800.748.8042 Enjoy 23 acres of thousands of flowers, walking trails, shaded wooded areas, and fruit and vegetable gardens
- **Landis Valley Museum** – 717.569.0401 Spring Herb and Garden Faire, heirloom seed sales, Harvest Days, daily tours of grounds – call for event dates/times

All Aboard: Loco for Locomotives! – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** – See the 30’ diameter mountain of electric trains under a giant Christmas tree and treasured trains like those from your own childhood
- **Choo Choo Barn** – 717.687.7911 Lancaster County in miniature; 1700 sq. ft. train display features animated figures and 22 operating trains
- **Strasburg Railroad** – 717.687.7522 Ride America’s oldest short line railroad through PA Dutch Country
- **Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania** – 717.687.8628 More than 100 historic locomotives and railroad cars, changing exhibits, exciting special events
- **National Toy Train Museum** – 717.687.8976 See original examples of hundreds of toy locomotives and cars in five large operating layouts

www.NationalChristmasCenter.com

An Old-Fashioned Country Christmas – suggested properties**

- **National Christmas Center** - learn about Christmas customs, and discover how many of our holiday traditions had their roots in turn-of-the-century Pennsylvania observances; see baking and candy making utensils straight from Grandma’s kitchen and enjoy the life-sized scenes in “A Pennsylvania Christmas”; relive childhood memories under our giant Christmas tree
- **Kitchen Kettle Village** – reconnect with the true spirit of the season. Enjoy old-fashioned foods, traditions, festive decorations and live holiday music (Fri. eves in November and December – call 717 768-8261 for dates and times)
- **Landis Valley Museum** – Country Christmas Village; delight in PA German holiday traditions, decorations, and food – call for dates/times 717.569.0401

For the Ladies Who Dress in Purple and Red... 2009 Special Events

Red Hot Christmas in July* -**

Saturday July 18th, 2009

July at the seashore? Ordinary. July at the North Pole? Extraordinary! Come celebrate the holiday at National Christmas Center. Each Red Hat lady who attends in her red and purple finery will receive a special discounted rate. Why settle for ordinary?

Red Hot Christmas Magic and Memories***

Sunday and Monday, November 15th and 16th, 2009

Treat yourself, or your Queen Mum, to some holiday magic as you stroll through 20,000 square feet of indoor displays celebrating Christmas magic, memories, history and traditions. Each lady who attends in her red and purple finery will receive a special discounted rate.

*****To receive special rates you must request these Red Hot packages by name at the time you book the tour!** Please call with any questions. 717.442.7950

Museum Lovers’ Tour- suggested properties**

Consider combining any of the following to make a fascinating itinerary for museum lovers:

National Christmas Center 717.442.7950 – a Christmas museum par excellence!

National Watch and Clock Museum – 717.684.8261

Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum – 717.299.6440

American Helicopter Museum – 610.436.9600

Gettysburg Battlefield Museum - 717.334.1124

Landis Valley Farm Museum – 717.569.0401

Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania – 717.687.8628

Wheatland (home of President James Buchanan) – 717.392.8721

North Museum of Natural History and Science – 717.291.3941

National Christmas Center Presents “A Lancaster Christmas”

- **National Christmas Center**, on location at the Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum (call for dates and times – 717.299.6440)
- See how Christmas customs and traditions evolved through the decades from the 1850’s through the 1960’s, as you walk through historically-recreated room settings of each time period, accurately furnished and decorated to represent a precious piece of Pennsylvania Christmas history. Features a tribute to F.W. Woolworth’s first 5&10 Cent Store, established 125+ years ago in Lancaster, PA