

# 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  
Lancaster County History  
Red Hot Lancaster  
Museum Tour**

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

**Visions of Sugarplums: Early Christmas Tree Decorations  
Wrapped Up in Quilts  
Family-Friendly Fun  
Christmas in July**

*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 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!
- **Festival of Lights** – Elizabeth Farms – 717.626.8733  
The new Gift of Lights at Elizabeth Farms is your second must-see holiday attraction. The Christmas tree farm (which has been the area's largest tree farm since 1758) becomes home to more than one million LED lights, with hundreds of sparkling light displays creating a 1.2- mile drive-through course.
- **Longwood Gardens** – 610.388.1000  
A premier horticultural display offering exquisite gardens, conservatories, concerts. Educational opportunities, illuminated fountains, holiday displays.

*Wrapped up in Quilts* – suggested properties\*\*

- **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 2012 (info at: <http://www.qhconline.com/>)

*National Christmas Center Presents “A Lancaster Christmas”*

- **National Christmas Center**, 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

*Christmas in July* – suggested properties:

- **National Christmas Center** (717) 442-7950- discover the magic, memories, history & 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
- **Flower & Craft Warehouse** (717) 355-9975- the Christmas shoppe offers a full line of artificial trees, wreaths, and garlands for your holiday decorating needs
- **Rockvale Square Outlet Mall** (717) 293-9595 - shop till you drop, then hop on the Red and Green trolley

(See our website for details of all our suggested itineraries – [www.NationalChristmasCenter.com](http://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-documented 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15 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
- **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

**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... 2012 Special Events**  
**Red Hat Christmas Magic and Memories\*\*\***

**Sunday and Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

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