



## POST TOUR: HENDRICKS & MORGAN COUNTIES, IN

**\*Return travel arrangements must be made from the Indianapolis International Airport.**

**\*Itinerary is subject to change. All times are Eastern Standard Time.**

Twitter hashtags for the tour:

- In Morgan County: #ThisisMorganCo
- Rural Routes to Main Street Cultural Trail: #RR2MS

Twitter handles:

- Visit Morgan County is @VisitMorganCo
- Visit Hendricks County is @HendricksCounty

Ever wonder what small town, Hoosier life is like? Not in the capital city or a big college town, but where the faces are so friendly you feel like you've lived there your whole life, and the unexpected seems to await you around every corner along the scenic back roads of rural Indiana. In these two counties that have become known for their rich heritage, historic downtown squares and cultural offerings along the Rural Routes to Main Street Cultural Trail, handmade supplants wholesale; everyone and everything seems to have a story all their own; and the journey provides an escape from the fast-paced, real world.

### Friday, August 14, 2015 (Morgan County)

- **8:30 a.m.** - Depart from Bloomington
- **Leave the City Behind:** As the group departs from Bloomington, we'll take the scenic route meandering through rolling hills and forests to help set the stage for this relaxing getaway.
- **9-10:30 a.m. – Step Back in Time:** Less than 30 minutes from downtown Bloomington, the group will arrive in Martinsville. Centered around a pre-Civil War red brick courthouse complete with clock tower, this charming downtown unfolds around you with historic architecture, an old-fashioned soda fountain and candy store, antiques shops and more. Rediscover Downtown Martinsville representatives will be on hand to answer any questions, provide recommendations of what to explore then send you on your way to wander back in time.
- **10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – Adaptive Reuse:** The group will meet back at the nearby Art Sanctuary of Indiana to discover how historic buildings can be kept alive and vibrant through new uses. A former Methodist church building, the Art Sanctuary (@art\_sanctuary) is now home to affordable studio space for up to 20 local artists, many of whom will be on hand to mingle and demonstrate their work as you enjoy lunch prepared by a locally owned downtown restaurant.



- **1:30-3 p.m. – Sweet Farm Life:** A short drive through beautiful rural scenery will bring the group to one of the sweetest destinations in Morgan County. Hunter’s Honey Farm sprouted from the work of four generations of beekeepers managing bees and harvesting nature’s liquid gold for more than a century. Enjoy a guided tour of the honey farm’s operations and create something special to take home.
- **3:30-4:30 p.m. – Hotel Break:** The group will arrive at their hotel to check in, freshen up and relax before an evening out.
- **5-6:30 p.m. – Cajun Sensation:** You will insist you stepped out of Indiana and into New Orleans as you walk through the doors of Zydeco’s 5 (@zydecos) for a taste of the bayou in Mooresville, Ind. A native of New Orleans, Chef Carter Hutchinson met his future wife while she was there on spring break and (thankfully) followed her back to the Hoosier state. You’ll be reminded of Bourbon Street as you indulge in a dinner filled with the authentic flavors and atmosphere from the south.
- **7 p.m. – Lavender Luck:** Lavender is one of the most beloved flowers in the world, and is said to be planted for luck. One visit to Willowfield Lavender Farm will leave visitors in awe and feeling lucky to have experienced this breathtaking location that has become a popular locale for photographers and wedding planners. Owners Kieran and Elizabeth O’Connor will eagerly share their love of lavender and educate visitors about this amazing plant they cultivate.
- **8-9 p.m. – Play in the Mud:** Learn about pottery techniques with artisan Jolee Chartrand and discover some amazing finds at Monrovia Mudworks. This small studio and gallery is equipped with classroom space, so be prepared to get your hands dirty as you create a small souvenir during your visit.
- **9:30 p.m. – Gaze at the Stars:** Our day in Morgan County will come to a close with an evening event at Link Observatory and Space Science Center (@linkobservatory). A local amateur astronomer constructed this NASA-affiliated facility in the 1930s. While stargazing, enjoy a wine and dessert tasting including renowned pies from a regional favorite, Gray Brothers Cafeteria, and wine from Cedar Creek Winery.
- **11 p.m. – Sleep Sweet:** The group will return to their hotel to rest up before another exciting day including more stops along the Rural Routes to Main Street Cultural Trail in Hendricks County.



## Saturday, August 15, 2015 (Hendricks County)

- **8:15 a.m. – Leave Hotel**
- **8:30-9:30 a.m. – Historic Breakfast:** Begin your morning by experiencing breakfast at a true Indiana landmark, the Oasis Diner. Learn how this authentic 1954 diner located along the Historic National Road in Plainfield, Ind., was saved from impending destruction and moved and incorporated into a revitalization of a historic downtown Main Street.
- **9:45-11:15 a.m. – Glass Act:** The group will then head to Hot Blown Glass, where regionally renowned Indiana Artisan Lisa Pelo will provide a 90-minute demonstration of the amazing art of glass blowing in her private workshop. Rarely do people get to see the intricate discipline and meticulous skill this close up. Feel the heat of the furnace, smell the molten glass and see the transformation of these incredible works of art. You'll even get to take home a memento from this visit.
- **11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. – Savor the Flavor:** After a short drive, the group will arrive at Savor Thyme Cafe and enjoy a nostalgic, relaxing lunch on the beautiful open-air, wrap-around patio or inside the historic former parish home originally built in 1900 and magnificently restored. The made-from-scratch dishes, inspired by fusions of American, French and Italian cuisine, use locally grown and produced ingredients and prove as delicious as the atmosphere that surrounds every diner.
- **1:30-2:30 p.m. – Farm to Market:** Beasley's Orchard, which has become a must-see autumn attraction in Hendricks County, will provide a tour of their expansive apple orchards and pumpkin patch by wagon while sharing how a decades-old family farm has become one of Central Indiana's most visited fall attractions even being named recently by *Indianapolis Monthly* magazine as one of "50 Things Every Hoosier Must Do!" After the wagon tour, participants will have the opportunity to sip on Beasley's award-winning cider or enjoy a hand-dipped caramel apple while exploring a Civil War-era barn turned rustic market filled with local produce and other hidden gems.
- **2:45-3:15 p.m. – History Comes to Life:** Arrive in Downtown Danville where the adventure starts at a preserved former Sheriff's residence and county jail that seems to have a touch of Mayberry with a dash of medieval times sprinkled in. The Hendricks County Historical Museum serves as a time capsule showing what life was like for a sheriff and his family in the late 1800s and early 1900s. As you explore the residence, which was built in 1866, you will be amazed with how rooms have been preserved including two vintage kitchens, a sheriff's office, sitting room, bedrooms and even the jail, which has a dungeon-like feel and still boasts graffiti-scrawled jail cells.





Rockwell painting in the shadows of the beautiful limestone Courthouse. The perfect end to a perfect day might make you wish you didn't have to leave.

- **9 p.m.** – The group will get back on the motorcoach to head back to the hotel.

### **Sunday, August 16, 2015**

Depart Hendricks County – Hotel shuttles will be provided to the Indianapolis International Airport.