



It Takes a Village 3-Day Tour

Representing Eastern Iowa

Day 1: Tour Time 9 hours – The Seven Villages of the Amana Colonies

- The [Amana Colonies Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) will help plan your tour of the Amana Colonies.
- Arrive in the Amana Colonies for lunch at one of their fine restaurants.
- Meet at the Amana Visitor Center for a short video before tour begins.
- Free time to browse in the many unique shops.
- Reload the motorcoach for the short trip to Cedar Rapids and your overnight destination.
- Dinner
- Arrive at either the [Best Western Longbranch Hotel and Convention Center](#) or the [Clarion Hotel and Convention Center](#) for your overnight stay. It is time to relax, swim, watch TV, read a book, or visit with friends before turning in for a good night sleep.

Day 2: Tour Time 10 hours – The Czech Village & National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library

- St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in the Czech Village, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The current structure was completed in 1904. Its beauty is manifested in the statues, stained glass windows and ceiling medallions. The congregation has a 300 family membership. Contact the [Cedar Rapids Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) for more information regarding attractions on this itinerary.
- Arrive at the Czech museum. Demonstration of kolache-making by local Czech bakers. Fresh baked kolache and coffee for mid-morning break.
- [National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library](#). The permanent exhibit, "Homelands" is the Story of the Czech & Slovak People, a multi media exploration of their lives, celebrations and travails. Music and theatre, religion,

political history, language, and immigrant experiences are just some of the topics you will learn about. At the center of the exhibition is “Costume Square,” where the Museum’s nationally known “kroje” (national costumes) are displayed. The tour will also include the Immigrant Home, which reveals a story of life when the Czech Immigrants arrived here. A visit to the gift shop will conclude your tour.

- Enjoy an Authentic Czech meal for lunch.
- Free time to browse in Czech Village. Experience a variety of shops...ranging from the old Feather & Down shop, meat market, antique shops, Czech Cottage gift shop and the Saddle & Leather shop. Sykora Bakery is one you won't want to miss. An aroma of fresh made-from-scratch bakery items will greet you as you shop, finding a century of traditional pastry favorites and ethnic specialties.
- Gather in the Museum’s WFLA Heritage Hall for a program of ethnic entertainment. Choices would be musical – vocal, instrumental, dance, art or craft demonstration, or cultural presentation.
- Then head to [Ushers Ferry Historic Village](#). Share the experiences of European immigrants and early American settlers by stepping back in time at the recreated Ushers Ferry Historic Village. You’ll be greeted by a guide in period costume and hear about a quieter lifestyle...before electricity or indoor plumbing. Take advantage of their wide variety of meal and entertainment options.
- Enjoy dinner at Ushers Ferry Historic Village.
- Return to your lodging property.

Day 3: Tour Time 5 hours – Kalona Historical Village

- Depart for [Kalona Historical Tours](#) where they will help you plan your tour of Kalona. Guided tours of the area features demonstrations at local shops, an “insiders” view of Amish life and travel the scenic back roads with our guides and discover the world of the Amish who continue to flow with the seasons and live the simple, wholesome lives of our great grandparents. You’ll see their homes, schools, farms and beautifully manicured gardens as you pass by. The tour may include a visit to: Amish Farmers Markets, a local Cheese Factory, and Amish Country Stores.
- Lunch served as a traditional Home-cooked meal in an Amish-Mennonite home.
- Depart for Home.