



Stratford, Perth County and St. Jacobs Country Present our Culture and Diversity

OMCA Buyers' Post-Conference Tour: November 11–13, 2009

Savour new culinary experiences and abundant farm markets. Step into the rich history and character of Mennonite and Amish culture as we travel through the lush countryside of Perth County and St. Jacobs Country. Take some time for specialty shopping, music and theatre. Explore the world of theatre behind the scenes at the renowned Stratford Shakespeare Festival and enjoy an evening of entertainment at the intimate St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre. Plenty of innovative ideas for touring will provide a new twist to any Toronto / Niagara itinerary.

When:

Pack your bags and step aboard our Cherrey Bus Lines coach immediately following the OMCA conference at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 11. (Return departure time: 2 p.m. on Friday, November 13.)

Accommodation:

November 11: St. Jacobs

November 12: Stratford

Register today!

Contact: Cathy Rehberg, Stratford Tourism

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www.welcometostratford.com

www.visitperth.ca

www.stjacobs.com

www.stratfordshakespearefestival.com

Stratford / Perth County / St. Jacobs Itinerary

Wednesday, November 11

- 3:00 p.m. **Cherrey Bus Lines** pick-up at conference hotel. Travel to St. Jacobs. Check into hotel.
- 4:30 p.m. **Village of St. Jacobs:** Shops and historic Mill attractions, including soap-making and corn broom demos, Model Train Exhibit, Maple Syrup Museum, Quilt Gallery, Woldemar Neufeld Gallery – and more if you can find it!
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner at **The Stone Crock Restaurant:** A family-based business since 1975, ready to serve your group in style and comfort.
- 7:00 pm **The Mennonite Story Visitor Centre:** Guided tour. Learn about the origins and idiosyncrasies of this Christian group.
- 8:00 p.m. *2 Pianos 4 Hands* at **St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre**, presented by Drayton Entertainment.

A riotous tale of two Canadian boys who share the same unorthodox goal: concert pianist stardom. As time unfolds, our two heroes slowly mature and become aware of the gap between the good and the very good. Full of warmth, wit and wisdom that will tickle your ivories and leave you uplifted.
- 10:00 p.m. Transfer to hotel.

Thursday, November 12

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at hotel.
- 8:00 a.m. Explore **St. Jacobs Farmers' Market.** Canada's largest farmers' market, featuring over 500 vendors of produce, meats and everything else under the sun.

9:30 a.m. **St. Jacobs Outlets.** Brand-name retailers and savings from Jones New York, Liz Claibourne, Levi's, Saucony, LEGO, Royal Doulton and Paderno.

Market Road Antiques. Over 100 consignment vendors. New items arriving daily.

11:00 a.m. Leave St. Jacobs for **Castle Kilbride**, Baden. This lavish Victorian home of James Livingston boasts nationally-designated *trompe l'oeil* (fools the eye) ceiling and wall murals and is a national historic treasure.

12:15 p.m. **Perth County Visitors Association Welcome Centre and Artisan Market.** Enjoy a Perth County lunch at the new welcome centre in Shakespeare. See the work of local artisans before we tour through the heart of Amish country in Perth County including the village of Millbank and Anna Mae's for a taste of local Amish fare.

6:00 p.m. Arrive in Stratford and check into your accommodation.

7:00 p.m. Enjoy local Perth County products on your dinner menu. Meet our Stratford partners to learn about new options to add to your itineraries.

Friday, November 13

8:00 a.m. Check out of your accommodation, and we'll whisk you off for breakfast and a tour of Stratford including stops at:

Monforte Dairy, Southwestern Ontario's premier artisanal cheese company; **Cozyn's Garden Centre**, a Christmas Wonderland all decked out for the holiday season; **Stratford Perth Museum's** new location on the old Huron tract "Sleigh Road," where our local history comes to life; and **Stratford's Antique Warehouse**, with over 20,000 square feet of antiques and collectibles.

11:00 a.m. **Stratford Shakespeare Festival.** Each season, the Stratford Shakespeare Festival presents a variety of productions, including Shakespeare, classics, dramas, musicals and contemporary works, performed in repertory on four stages.

Running from April through October, the season also features a full program of Beyond the Stage activities, including concert recitals and

discussion sessions plus an extensive program of educational and enrichment activities for students, teachers and groups.

Take a closer look at the work of the Stratford Shakespeare Festival's world-class designers, wardrobe staff and prop-makers. Thousands of costumes and hundreds of props are catalogued and stored at one of the largest costume warehouses in North America.

Meet Canada's Tea Sommelier, Karen Hartwick from **Tea Leaves Tea Tasting Bar**. Educate your palate, quench your thirst, and learn more about this time-honoured beverage.

12:45 p.m. **Lunch.**

2:00 p.m. **Depart for home.**

Special thanks to **Cherrey Bus Lines** for sponsoring a great ride through St. Jacobs Country, Perth County and Stratford. Dedicated to providing personal service, Cherrey Bus Lines offers licensed pick-up in an expanded area for single- or multiple-day vacations.

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