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Lancaster County

Lancaster County is many things. Of course, it's the home of the Amish, a place where you can see horse-drawn buggies rolling through bucolic farmland.

But the county also contains a bustling city, with quirky shops, galleries, nightclubs and nationally renowned restaurants.

Lancaster was once known as the "Munich of America," and has recently seen that brewing heritage revived in the thriving craft beer scene.

And shoppers have plenty to do here, whether they're interested in outlet malls or antiques dealers.

For families or foodies; craft beer fans or history buffs; shoppers or music lovers, Lancaster County is a great place to visit.

Thanks for joining us!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because this magazine went to press during the COVID-19 pandemic, be sure to check with all businesses or event organizers before planning your visit. Schedule changes, closures and cancellations may have occurred.

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20 LIVE THEATER OR LIVE STREAMING Sight & Sound, purveyor of lavish Biblical stage productions, has offered its latest show, "Queen Esther," in two different ways.

29 QUICK PICKS There are too many things to eat, see and do in Lancaster County to fit them all into this magazine. We've compiled a few of our favorites into this section.

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CONNECT

VisitLancaster.com

If you enjoy this magazine and would like even more information about things to see and do in Lancaster County, visit our website for event calendars, interactive maps, hotel and restaurant directories and more.

LancLife

We believe Lancaster County isn't just a great place to visit, it's a great place to live. With our sister site, LancLife, we've built a place where we can share our love of Lancaster County with you. Whether you've recently moved here, or have lived here for decades, LancLife is ready to help you dig deeper into this patchwork-quilt county we call home. LancasterOnline.com/LancLife

Email: contact@VisitLancaster.com

POWERED BY

LNP LancasterOnline

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We work hard to make sure all information in this magazine is accurate as of press time. However, we recommend checking with venues as hours and prices might have changed.

For feature story ideas, call Jed Reinert at 717-481-6195 or email contact@VisitLancaster.com. For advertising opportunities, call 717-291-8711.

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TURKEY HILL EXPERIENCE

Amish buggies are a frequent sight along Old Philadelphia Pike in eastern Lancaster County.

Amish Country

MORNING

FARM AND PONY SHOW: Combine tiny horses and homemade Amish wares, and you've got a perfect afternoon at the Li'l Country Store and Miniature Horse Farm.

▶ Li'l Country Store and Miniature Horse Farm, 264 Paradise Lane, Ronks; 717-687-8237; lancasterminihorses.com.

AFTERNOON

SADDLE UP: See the sights of Amish country on a genuine buggy ride around scenic Lancaster with one of the themed tours provided by Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides.

▶ Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides, 3121 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand; 717-768-8828; amishbuggyrides.com.

EVENING

POUR ONE: While it might not be as exciting as an Amish teenager's own Rumspringa experience, Rumspringa Brewing Co. offers a dozen beer types to imbibe.

▶ Rumspringa Brewing Co., 3174 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand; 717-768-7194; Lancaster-gallery.com.

DINNER

DINNER THEATER: Take in a show and a meal at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, featuring twice-daily shows and various dinner options.

▶ Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, 510 Centerville Road, Lancaster; 717-898-1900; dutchapple.com

Antiques

MORNING

START WITH SHOPPING: What better way to start a day searching for treasures than at Burning Bridge Antiques Market? The venerable shop has been voted one of LNP readers' favorite antiques stores multiple years in a row.

▶ Burning Bridge Antiques Market; 304 Walnut St., Columbia; 717-684-7900; burningbridgeantiques.com.

LUNCH

RAILFAN: Take in the Susquehanna River from the newly renovated – and heated – outdoor dining area at the historic Railroad House Inn in Marietta.

▶ Railroad House Inn; 280 W. Front St., Marietta; 717-426-4141; railroadhouseinn.com.

AFTERNOON

MAD LADS: Covering nearly 15,000 square feet, Mad Hatter Antique Mall excels in everything from vintage clothing to eclectic collectibles and beyond.

▶ Mad Hatter Antique Mall; 61 Willow Street, Adamstown; 717-484-4159

DINNER

CRAFTY: Since the 1980s, Stoudts Black Angus has provided the Adamstown area with fine dining and was a leader of Pennsylvania's ever-evolving craft brewing scene. Now offering takeout beer and food as well as outdoor dining and entertainment in the bier garden.

▶ Stoudts Brewing Co.; 2800 N. Reading Road, Adamstown; 717-484-4386

SEE THIS SYMBOL?

Look for this passport stamp throughout Visit Lancaster to find more itineraries.

Fun with family

MORNING

GRAB SOME BREAKFAST: Max's Eatery features breakfast exactly when you want it — all day, every day. Kids will love the variety of waffles and the sweet potato hash.

▶ Max's Eatery, 38 W. King St., Lancaster; 717-984-6286; maxseatery.com.

TICKET TO RIDE: Start a day with the kids off right with a ride on the historic Strasburg Rail Road, one of the oldest continually operating railroads in the country.

▶ Strasburg Rail Road, 301 Gap Road, Ronks; 1-866-725-9666; strasburgrailroad.com.

AFTERNOON

JUMP AROUND: After a day of learning and adventure, all a kid really wants to do is jump around and blow off steam. Go 'N Bananas features an indoor playground, laser tag and a whole lot more.

▶ Go 'N Bananas Family Fun Center, 1170 Garfield Ave., Lancaster; 717-287-5000; gonbananas.com.

EVENING

GRAB DINNER: If you're trying to avoid that 100th trip to Chick-fil-A for dinner, try Loxley's, which boasts not only a robust kid's menu, but enough space for parents to stretch and take a load off.

▶ Loxley's Restaurant, 500 Centerville Road, Lancaster; 717-898-2431; heritagelancaster.com.

More family fun

BOWLED OVER: Whether you're in the mood for bowling or laser tag, Rocky Springs Entertainment Center has you covered. On Friday through Monday evenings, don't miss the glow bowling. (Also, don't miss the Red Pin Bar & Grill, providing snacks and drinks for Mom and Dad!)

▶ Rocky Springs Entertainment Center, 1495 Millport Road, Lancaster; 717-394-6162; rockysprings.net.

Strasburg Rail Road is a must-see for train fans.

Get into history

LUNCH

AGED BREW: Dating to the 1700s, the Conestoga Restaurant is the oldest bar in Lancaster County. While it might not have the same veneer as it did 300 years ago, it's easy to imagine Lancaster County residents through the years sharing a brew or two.

▶ Conestoga Restaurant, 1501 E. King St., Lancaster; 717-208-3265; conestogarestaurant.com.

AFTERNOON

ART HISTORY: Check out the Demuth Museum, which once served as a Colonial-era tavern. The space is home to works by the renowned watercolorist and Lancaster native Charles Demuth.

▶ Demuth Museum, 120 E. King St., Lancaster; 717-299-9940; demuth.org.

DINNER

FEASTING: If you'd like to add a little intrigue to your dining experience — enter the vast catacombs of Bube's Brewery. Built in the mid-1800s, the restaurant and bar hosts a variety of themed dinners, murder mystery parties and seasonal entertainment year-round.

▶ Bube's Brewery, 102 N. Market St., Mount Joy; 717-653-2056; bubesbrewery.com.

Enjoy Autumn

MORNING

APPLES TO APPLES: Nothing tastes better than fresh apples, especially when you've picked them yourself at Cherry Hill Orchards.

▶ Cherry Hill Orchards, 400 Long Lane, Lancaster, 717-872-9311; cherryhillorchards.com.

AFTERNOON

FALLING WITH YOU: One of Lancaster County's most underrated aspects is its wealth of covered bridges. With nearly 30 still in operation, spend an afternoon on a self-guided tour.

▶ Eshleman's Mill Covered Bridge, N. Belmont Road, Gordonville.

EVENING

WAY UP HERE: One of the best ways to see Lancaster County in the fall is hundreds of feet in the air with a tour from Smoketown Helicopters.

The inside of one of Lancaster County's many covered bridges.

▶ Smoketown Helicopter Tours, 311 Airport Dr., Smoketown; 717-344-4871; smoketownhelicopters.com.

DINNER

OUTDOOR EATERY: Containing one of the better brewery menus in Lancaster city, catch a meal at Lancaster Brewing Co. for the outdoor seating on a fall evening.

▶ Lancaster Brewing Co., 302 N. Plum St., Lancaster; 717-391-6258; lancasterbrewing.com.

Deck the Halls

MORNING

KITCHEN KETTLE CHRISTMAS: There's holiday cheer aplenty at Kitchen Kettle Village, where you can enjoy a tasty meal at The Harvest Cafe, the kids can enjoy a scavenger hunt and color cards for Santa, and everyone can take advantage of contactless photo opportunities with Old St. Nick and his friends.

▶ Kitchen Kettle Village, 3529 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse; 1-800-732-3538 ; kitchenkettle.com.

AFTERNOON

SCOOTIN' WITH SANTA: What's better than a "scoot coupe" tour through the scenic countryside of Lancaster County? That same tour led by Santa Claus himself, of course. Search for the elusive "Amish Christmas lights!"

▶ Strasburg Scooters, 246 N. Decatur St., Strasburg; 717-344-2488; strasburgscooters.com.

EVENING

CANDLELIT CHRISTMAS: Check out the Lititz Historical Foundation's annual candlelight Christmas tour to hear a few more reasons for the season.

▶ Lititz Historical Foundation, 145 E. Main St., Lititz; 717-627-4636; lititzhistoricalfoundation.com

DINNER

PEACEFUL EATS: End your day with a cozy dinner at the General Sutter Inn. And if you get snowed in, you're in luck - there are rooms available for rent directly above the restaurant.

▶ General Sutter Inn, 14 E. Main St., Lititz; 717-626-2115; atthesutter.com

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Foodies

BREAKFAST

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: Since 1730, Lancaster Central Market has been the one-stop shop for a variety of fresh meals, ingredients and foods from all around the world.

▶ Lancaster Central Market, 23 N. Market St., Lancaster; centralmarketlancaster.com

LUNCH

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY: Zest Cooking School teaches the people of Lititz and beyond all about preparing various dishes, from artisanal breads to a full-on Italian meal.

▶ Zest Cooking School, 1180 Erbs Quarry Road, Lititz; 717-626-6002; zestchef.com

DINNER

GO EXOTIC: With offerings featuring Trinidadian fare such as fish & curried shrimp and char siu pork belly, there's not a chance you're leaving Callaloo hungry.

▶ Callaloo Trinidadian Kitchen, 351 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster; 717-824-3964; callalootrinidadiankitchen.com

DESSERT

SOMETHING SWEET: After being prominently featured on an episode of "Cupcake Wars," Lancaster Cupcake has been feeding quality dessert to Lancaster city since 2012.

▶ Lancaster Cupcake, 24 W. Orange St., Lancaster; 717-553-5287; Lancastercupcake.com

Beer lovers

BRUNCH

'BEST BAR': Start your Lancaster beer journey in Lititz, where Bulls Head Public House boasts not only England-certified cask brews, but multiple designations as the best bar in the entire country.

▶ Bulls Head Public House, 14 E. Main St., Lititz; 717-626-2115; bullsheadpublichouse.com

AFTERNOON

WINE TIME: The family-owned Grandview Vineyard, set among the rolling hills of northwest Lancaster County, has been producing cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot and chardonnay since 2009. With indoor and outdoor seating and a menu of snacks, pizza and charcuterie options, it's the perfect place to while away an afternoon on a crisp fall weekend.

▶ Grandview Vineyard, 1489 Grandview Road, Mount Joy; 717-653-4825; grandviewwines.com.

[SPONSORED]

DINNER

CALLING ALL CROWDS: Cap off your evening at one of Lancaster city's biggest bars in terms of square footage, Federal Taphouse. With a revolving list of 100 beers to choose from, a group of any size will be able to stretch out and find something to their liking.

▶ Federal Taphouse, 201 N. Queen St., Lancaster; 717-490-6932; federaltaphouselanc.com

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A smaller than normal crowd was on hand for opening day of the PA Renaissance Faire at Mount Hope Estate & Winery.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS?

What you can and can't expect to do when visiting Lancaster County during the COVID era

Lancaster County and tourism have gone hand-in-hand for generations — at least since the 1950s, when a group of local business owners first decided to join forces and begin marketing the county as an educational tourist destination focused around the Amish.

Over time, Lancaster County tourism came to mean more than just the Amish, though the history of that Anabaptist sect remains a subject of fascination for visitors.

Outlet malls, railroad attractions, amusement parks, museums, restaurants, wineries, brewpubs — all were added to the palette of tourist experiences.

Visitors flocked to Lancaster County by the millions.

Until March 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic caused virtually every tourist attraction in the county to suddenly shut down.

Over the course of the spring and summer, steps were taken toward safely reopening.

As the fall begins and this issue of Visit Lancaster goes to press, most tourist attractions are open for business. But there are, of course, changes to how they operate in order to maximize safety for employees and guests.

Some attractions, however, still remain closed.

Family amusement park Dutch Wonderland opted to close for the season after Labor Day, instead of staying open on weekends and hosting Halloween and Christmas-themed events.

Similarly, American Music Theatre, whose lavish annual Christmas show is a perennial draw for out-of-town visitors, has chosen to stay dark until next year.

So, as a tourist, what can you expect from a visit to Lancaster County in the fall or holiday season of 2020?

In short, it's difficult to say. However, we can provide some general information:

Hotels are open for business, and restaurants are, too — with limited seating inside. (So a reservation or call-ahead

seating might be more advisable than usual.)

Shops are open, with mask requirements, but their hours may be shorter.

Many museums are closed, including LancasterHistory and the Pennsylvania Railroad Museum.

Other tourist attractions vary from "completely closed" to "business as usual, except with a mask."

Given that the COVID-19 situation is fluid — we can't predict what the virus will do, how state regulations might change or how business owners will respond — our best advice is to decide what you'd like to do on your visit to Lancaster County, then call ahead to each stop on your trip to get the details.

In the meantime, here's a look at how several area attractions are navigating tourism in the age of COVID.

Kerry Zawistowski, of Danville, and Jackie Hughes, of State College, walk in costume on the opening day of the PA Renaissance Faire at Mount Hope Estate & Winery.

***

Strasburg Rail Road is adapting to the times, following state regulations that limit its passenger cars to 50% occupancy and attendance at special activities to 250 people.

For instance, the railroad replaced its Day Out With Thomas event, which drew 4,000 to 6,000 people on a Saturday, with the smaller Thomas & Friends Train Rides, which were scheduled in August, September and October.

The August event was a success.

"We were really pleased because it seemed like it was what people were interested in doing. We emphasized that this was a safe way for people to come out, enjoy the ride, and have an opportunity for kids to see and experience the characters, but not be in an overcrowded environment or have to be there all day," said Steve Barrall, vice president.

"We want to provide something our guests are pleased with, so they can go away and say, 'Hey, even in the middle of 2020, of all years, we had a great time on the Strasburg Rail Road.' "

The railroad also offers the opportunity to charter cars for small, special events such as weddings and parties, and is organizing activities such as photo shoots of its historic inventory for the first time.

As to what might happen this fall, when weekend travelers make up the vast majority of visitors, Barrall said, "We continue to be optimistic. We feel that we've proven over the last several weeks that we have what people are interested in, and we can provide an experience that's safe but yet still rewarding."

***

The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire at Mount Hope Estate and Winery is another staple of fall in Lancaster County.

The Faire is open for business through Nov. 1, with occupancy limited to 50% of capacity and masks required for guests and many performers.

Managing partner Scott Bowser said this year's Faire will be relying on "more stage shows and less street interaction."

And while he admits that the 2020 season for the Faire will be far from a normal one, he also thought it was important to have the event so the public doesn't forget about either Mount Hope or the Faire.

But there was another goal in mind, too, Bowser said — a psychological goal:

"One of the most important things we need to do is to entertain people. People need to laugh and smile and have a good time. That's what we provide."

***

The county's biggest tourist attraction, Sight & Sound, has undertaken a strategy of live theater combined with live-streaming to deal with the pandemic.

Challenges for the theater, which presents original stage productions of Bible stories, began when it had to delay the March 14 debut of its new show, "Queen Esther." The show finally premiered July 30, but with limited seating to create state-mandated social distancing.

Dean Sell, Sight & Sound's director of brand development, explained the decision to launch the show knowing it would be unprofitable. The root of the rationale, he said, is that "first and foremost, we're a ministry." He added:

Continued on page 13

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James and Bonnie Andrews, of Bristol, Virginia, are in costume while attending opening day of the PA Renaissance Faire at Mount Hope Estate & Winery.

Continued from 11

"We believe in the mission that we're called to do. We believe the show is meant to be seen right now. We believe in providing employment for as many people as we can. We're hopeful that restrictions will change, consumer confidence will change and, by having been open, we can easily start to accommodate more people in our theater. But they're big unknowns."

Meanwhile, Sight & Sound — which expected to draw 900,000 visitors to see "Queen Esther" this year — rolled out two initiatives to generate revenue in fresh ways, knowing that the company can't keep operating at a loss forever.

It's launched Sight & Sound TV, an online streaming service for videos of its past shows, and it unveiled a pay-per-view version of "Queen Esther."

(For more on Sight & Sound's "Queen Esther," see Page 20.)

"Even though life isn't the way it was doesn't mean that our attitudes or our approach to life have to be reflective of the challenges around us," Sell said. "We can choose to be optimistic and to be full of hope for what's coming in the future."

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Amish country

Since the 1720s, Lancaster County has been home to a large Amish population. And since the 1950s, Lancaster's Amish have been a draw for tourists. Amish farms are generally found in the eastern half of the county, and over the years that region has given rise to Amish-related attractions, as well as numerous unrelated destinations, ranging from theaters to outlet malls.

1 AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE: 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. 717-397-7700

2 BIRD-IN-HAND FAMILY RESTAURANT & SMORGASBORD: 2760 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand. 717-768-1500

3 CARTOON NETWORK HOTEL: 2285 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. 833-866-6485

4 DUTCH HAVEN SHOO-FLY PIE BAKERY: 2857 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks. 717-687-0111

5 DUTCH WONDERLAND: 2249 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. 717-291-1888

6 FIRESIDE TAVERN: 1500 Historic Drive, Strasburg. 717-687-7979

7 FISHER'S HAND MADE QUILTS: 2713 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-In-Hand. 717-392-5440

8 FULTON STEAMBOAT INN: 1 Hartman Bridge Road, Lancaster. 717-299-9999

9 HERSHEY FARM RESTAURANT AND INN: 240 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks. 717-687-8635

10 KITCHEN KETTLE VILLAGE: 3529 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse. 800-732-3538

11 LANCASTER BREWING TAP ROOM: 2323 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. 717-826-9555

12 LOST TREASURE MINI-GOLF: 2521 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks. 717-391-8234

13 MILLER'S SMORGASBORD & BAKERY: 2811 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks. 717-687-6621

14 NATIONAL TOY TRAIN MUSEUM: 300 Paradise Lane, Ronks. 717-687-8623

15 RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA: 300 Gap Road, Strasburg. 717-687-8628

16 REVERE TAVERN: 3063 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise. 717-687-8601

17 THE SHOPS AT ROCKVALE: 35 S. Willowdale Drive, Lancaster. 717-293-9292

18 SIGHT & SOUND THEATRES: 300 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks. 717-687-4220

19 SILVERSTONE INN & SUITES: 62 Bowman Road, Lancaster. 717-290-6987

20 STRASBURG RAIL ROAD: 301 Gap Rd, Ronks. 717-687-6193

21 TANGER OUTLET CENTERS: 311 Stanley K Tanger Blvd., Lancaster. 717-392-7260

22 THE AMISH FARM AND HOUSE: 2395 Covered Bridge Drive, Lancaster. 717-394-6185

23 THE CHOO CHOO BARN: 226 Gap Road, Strasburg. 717-687-7911

24 THE STRASBURG CREAMERY: 1 W. Main St., Strasburg. 717-687-0766

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27 WHITE HORSE ANTIQUES AT PARADISE VILLAGE: 3040 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise. 717-999-4403

28 VILLAGE GREENS MINIATURE GOLF & SNACK SHOPPE: 1444 Village Road, Strasburg. 717-687-6933

29 YOUR PLACE RESTAURANT & PUB: 2133 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. 717-394-9019

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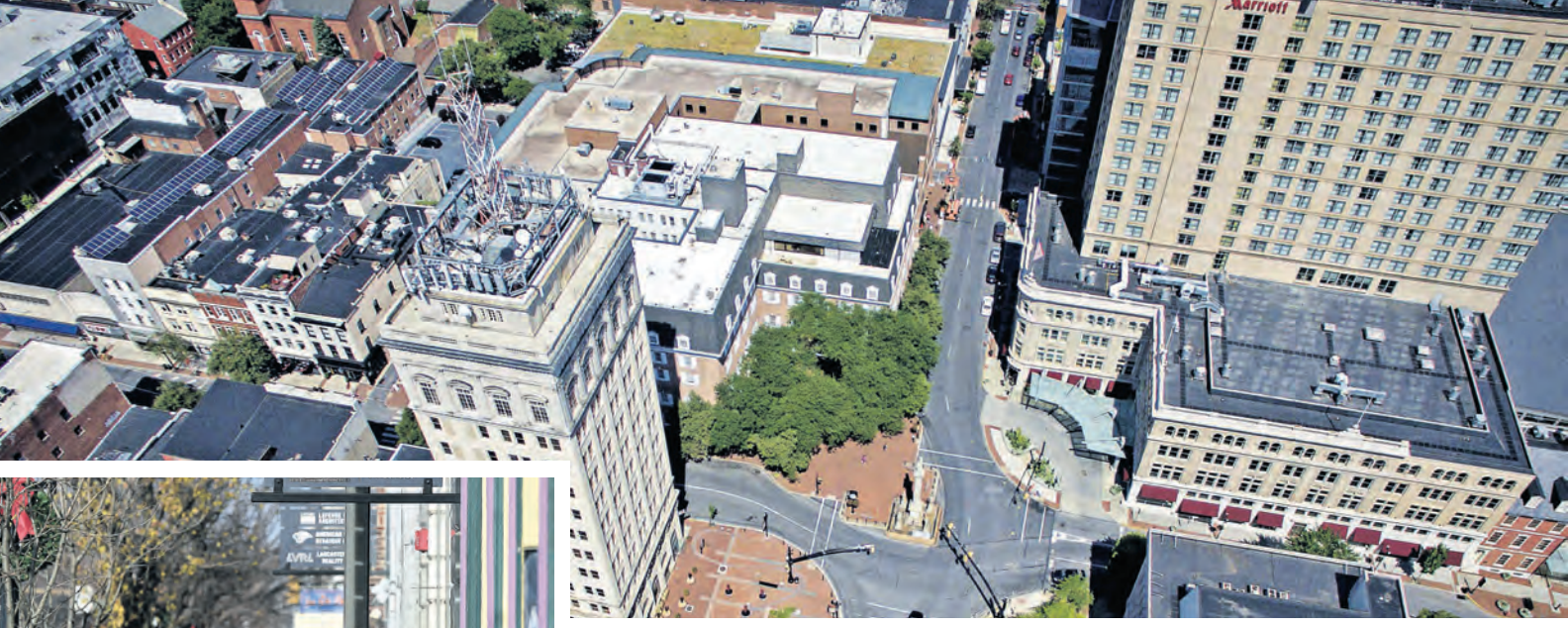
- Outdoors
- Museums/galleries



Over the last decade, this small but vibrant city has undergone something of a cultural rebirth. From traditional art galleries to quirky shops, nightclubs to fine dining, rooftop bars to historic tours — Lancaster is a city of contrasts. A centrally located convention center and a growing craft beer scene both draw visitors to downtown Lancaster.

1 **300 BLOCK OF NORTH QUEEN:** Containing quirky art shops.

2 **ANNIE BAILEY'S IRISH PUBLIC HOUSE:** 28-30 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-393-4000

3 **BAKEHOUSE ON KING:** 16-18 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-481-7300

4 **THE BELVEDERE INN:** 402 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-394-2422

5 **BISTRO BARBARET:** 26 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-690-2354

6 **BUILDING CHARACTER:** 342 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-394-7201

7 **CALLALOO TRINADADIAN KITCHEN:** 351 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster. 717-824-3964

8 **CENTRAL MARKET:** 23 N. Market St., Lancaster. 717-735-6890

9 **CHARLOTTE SHOPPE:** 32 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-569-2060.

10 **CHESTNUT HILL CAFE:** 532 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. 717-509-2008.

11 **COCINA MEXICANA:** 112 N. Water St., Lancaster. 717-393-9193

12 **DECADES:** 438 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-282-1421

13 **DOGSTAR BOOKS:** 401 W. Lemon St., Lancaster. 717-823-6605

14 **ESCAPE ROOM LANCASTER:** 18 E. McGovern Ave., Lancaster. 717-208-6288

15 **FEDERAL TAPHOUSE:** 201 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-490-6932

16 **FULTON THEATRE:** 12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. 717-397-7425

17 **GALLERY ROW:** 100 block of North Prince Street, Lancaster.

18 **GHOST TOUR OF LANCASTER:** 25 S. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-687-6687

19 **HUNGER N THIRST:** 920 Landis Ave., Lancaster. 717-208-3808

20 **ISAAC'S DOWNTOWN BAR & GRILL:** 25 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-394-5544

21 **ISSEI NOODLE:** 44 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-449-6800

22 **LANCASTER ARTS HOTEL:** 300 Harrisburg Ave., Lancaster. 717-299-3000

23 **LANCASTER MARRIOTT / LANCASTER COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER:** 25 S. Queen St., Lancaster. 866-503-3786

24 **LANCASTER CUPCAKE:** 24 W. Orange St., Lancaster. 717-553-5287

25 **LANCASTER DISPENSING CO.:** 33 N. Market St., Lancaster. 717-299-4602

26 **LANCASTERHISTORY:** 230 N. President Ave., Lancaster. 717-392-4633

27 **LANCASTER VIRTUAL REALITY LOUNGE:** 325 N. Queen St., Suite G04, Lancaster. 717-208-7244

28 **LUCA:** 436 W. James St., Lancaster. 717-533-5770

29 **MAX'S EATERY:** 38 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-984-6286

30 **MEDUSELD MEADERY:** 252 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster. 717-208-6144

31 **MIESSE CANDIES & ICE CREAM:** 118 N. Water St, Lancaster. 717-392-6011

32 **MR. SUIT RECORDS:** 118 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. 717-341-5269

33 **NORTH MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE:** 400 College Ave., Lancaster. 717-358-3941

34 **OKA ASIAN FUSION:** 721 Harrisburg Ave., Lancaster. 717-396-8998

35 **PA GUILD OF CRAFTSMEN:** 335 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-431-8706.

36 **POP'D SHOP:** 348 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-461-3767

37 **PRINCE STREET CAFÉ:** 15 N. Prince St., Lancaster. 717-397-1505

38 **ROOT:** 223 W. Walnut St., Lancaster. 717-826-9130

39 **SAKURA ASIAN FUSION:** 33. N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-509-2838

40 **SILANTRA ASIAN STREET KITCHEN:** 101 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-399-1988

41 **SOUVLAKI BOYS:** 1 W. James St., Lancaster. 717-208-6243

42 **THE SPICE & TEA EXCHANGE:** 20 W. Orange St., Lancaster. 717-394-4328

43 **STOCKYARD INN:** 1147 Lititz Pike, Lancaster. 717-394-7975

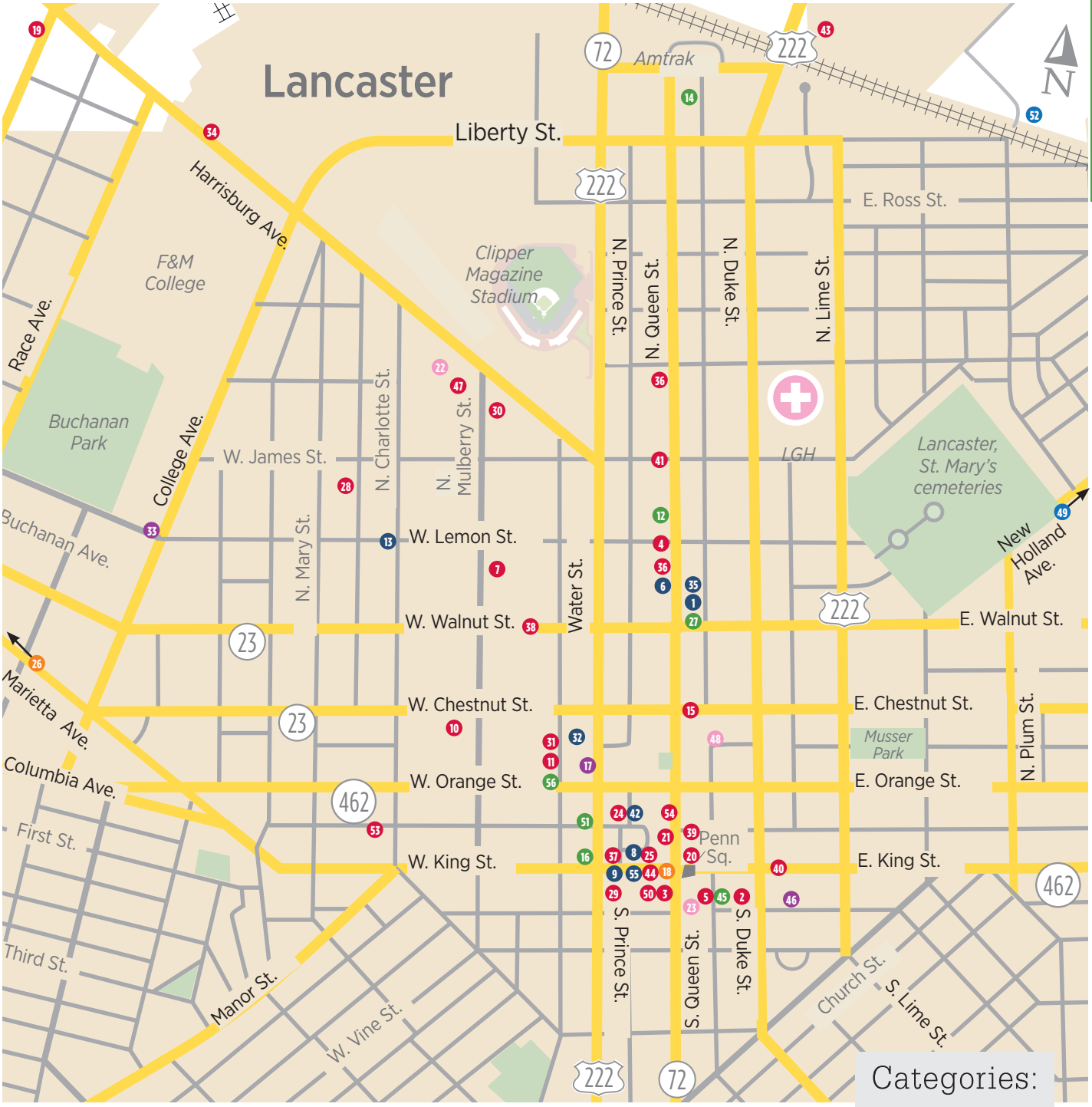
44 **TAPROOM BY SPRING HOUSE BREWING CO.:** 25 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-399-4009

45 **TELLUS360:** 24 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-393-1660

46 **THE DEMUTH MUSEUM:** 120 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-299-9940

47 **THE FRIDGE:** 534 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster. 717-490-6825

Downtown Lancaster



48 THE IMPERIAL / HOLIDAY INN LANCASTER: 26 E. Chestnut St., Lancaster. 717-394-0900

49 THE LANCASTER SCIENCE FACTORY: 454 New Holland Ave., Lancaster. 717-509-6363

50 THE PRESSROOM RESTAURANT + BAR: 26 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-399-5400

51 THE WARE CENTER: 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster. 717-871-7018

52 THISTLE FINCH DISTILLERY: 417 W. Grant St., Lancaster. 717-478-847

53 TINY TOWN: 533 Janet Ave., Lancaster. 717-947-7350

54 YORGOS: 66 N. Queen St., Lancaster. 717-394-6977

55 ZANZIBAR: 21 W. King St., Lancaster. 717-390-2868

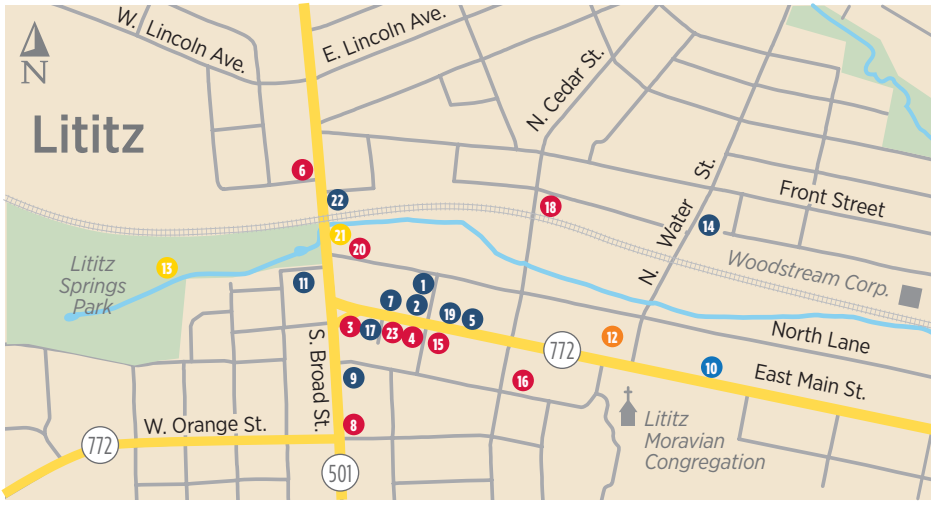
56 ZOETROPOLIS CINEMA STILLHOUSE: 112 N. Water St., Lancaster. 717-208 3787

Categories:

- Food & drink
- Lodging
- Family
- Entertainment
- History
- Shopping
- Outdoors
- Museums/galleries

Lititz

Voted the coolest small town in America in 2013, Lititz boasts an array of restaurants, shops and craft breweries in an attractive, historic downtown neighborhood. In a nod to its traditional side, Lititz is home to a truly massive Fourth of July celebration, hosted every year since 1818. And in a nod to the future, it's the perhaps unlikely home of Rock Lititz, one of the world's leading producers of large-scale concerts and similar events.



1 A TEA AFFAIR: 8 Sturgis Lane, Lititz. 717-627-1776

2 AARON'S BOOKS: 35 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-627-1990

3 BULL'S HEAD/ GENERAL SUTTER INN: 14 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-2115

4 CAFE CHOCOLATE: 40 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-0123

5 CANDYOLOGY: 69 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-9949

6 CHILANGOS AUTHENTIC MEXICAN RESTAURANTE: 56 N. Broad St., Lititz. 717-626-0105

7 CLEMINTINE'S: 25 E. Main St, Lititz, PA 17543 (717) 626-6688

8 DOSIE DOUGH: 45 S. Broad St., Lititz. 717-626-2266

9 EWEBIQUITOUS: 15 S. Broad St., Lititz. 717-568-8890

10 JULIUS STURGIS PRETZEL BAKERY: 219 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-4354

11 LITITZ FARMERS MARKET: 22 N. Broad St., Lititz. 717-626-6332

12 LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION: 137-145 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-627-4636

13 LITITZ SPRINGS PARK: 24 N. Broad St., Lititz. 717-626-8981

14 OLIO OLIVE OILS & BALSAMICS: 55 N. Water St., Lititz. 717-627-0088

15 ROMA PIZZA: 54 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-6325

16 ROOSTER STREET BUTCHER: 11 S. Cedar St., Lititz. 717-625-0405

17 SONNIE'S SECRET: 22 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-627-7663

18 STOLL & WOLFE DISTILLERY: 35 N. Cedar St., Lititz. 717-799-4499

19 THE TIGER'S EYE: 49 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-627-2244

20 TOMATO PIE CAFE: 23 N. Broad St., Lititz. 717-627-1762

21 WARWICK TO EPHRATA RAIL TRAIL — LITITZ TRAIL HEAD: North Broad Street, Lititz.

22 WILBUR CHOCOLATE RETAIL STORE: 45 N. Broad St., Lititz. 888-294-5287

23 ZEST!: 30 E. Main St., Lititz. 717-626-6002

Categories:

- Food & drink
- Family
- Entertainment
- History
- Shopping
- Outdoors
- Museums/galleries

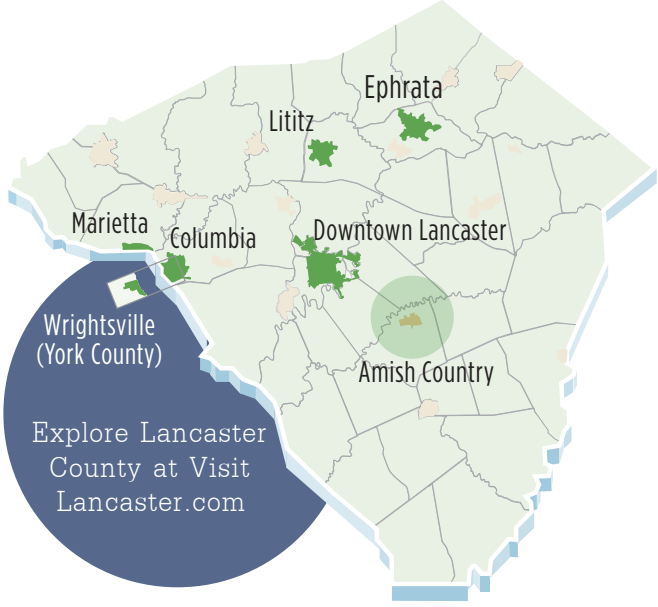
Off the beaten path

In these maps, we've highlighted the regions of Lancaster County most commonly visited by tourists. But there are plenty of smaller towns with more out-of-the-way things to do. Check out the maps page at VisitLancaster.com for more places to visit, including the following:

LANCASTER COUNTY'S NORTHWEST REGION: The area is home to small towns such as Elizabethtown, Mount Joy and Manheim, each with its own appeal. It's also home to Spooky Nook Sports, a massive complex dedicated to hosting sporting and other events. Visitors to "The Nook" might enjoy visiting historic sites, craft breweries and wineries in the neighboring towns.

EPHRATA: In northeast Lancaster County, this borough is home to the Ephrata Cloister, a historic site that once housed a monastic settlement known for its art, music and calligraphy. Neighboring Adamstown is known as the antiques capital of the country, with shops, dealers and auction houses drawing visitors from near and far.

RIVER TOWNS: The Susquehanna River forms the western border of Lancaster County, and towns like Columbia, Wrightsville and Marietta are great spots to enjoy this waterway, which is the longest river on the East Coast. Hiking, boating and kayaking are all available. When you're looking to relax after a day on the river, the river towns provide ample bars and restaurants.



balance

life, community, style.

WINTER ISSUE 2020

JANUARY 7

BRING UP THE LIGHTS

Between live shows and live-streaming, Sight & Sound navigates the tricky world of theater during a pandemic

STORY BY
VISIT LANCASTER STAFF

PHOTOS FROM
SIGHT & SOUND

What does a theater do in response to a pandemic?

For many stages all over the country, the answer has been "go dark."

In New York City, all 41 Broadway theaters closed their doors in March, when COVID-19 began sweeping through the city. They aren't planning to reopen until sometime in 2021.

Here in Lancaster County, the venerable Fulton Theatre and the newer American Music Theatre are both dark until next year as well.

But there's at least one place in Lancaster

County where the show is in fact going on: Sight & Sound.

The massive theatrical company, which has a stage in Branson, Missouri, as well as its Lancaster County location near Strasburg, is nationally renowned for its colossal productions based on biblical stories and themes.

Sight & Sound is taking a two-pronged approach to the COVID-19 issue with its new show, "Queen Esther," an opulent retelling of an Old Testament story set in the Persian Empire, which runs through the end of 2020.

The theater is presenting the show live, with health precautions in place, and has also tried out the new concept of live-streaming the production to viewers all over the world.

Sight & Sound's first live broadcast of "Queen Esther," on Sept. 4, was followed by a video recording of the live show being re-broadcast several times over the following weekend. Sight & Sound asked viewers to pay what they want, recommending at least $25.

Sight & Sound said the show was watched by 37,000 households in 100 countries and all 50 states.

The initiative was launched in an effort to partially offset the operating losses Sight & Sound incurs by presenting "Queen Esther" to a 2,000-seat house that averages at most 25% full, to comply with state social-distancing requirements.

Dean Sell, director of brand development, said the number of viewers and the stories they shared has employee morale soaring.

"The spirit of the company was high going into this event. It's now perhaps flying even higher than ever before. We are just so humbled and amazed at the stories coming in from around the world," he said.

Sight & Sound said it's received stories and photos from people hosting "watch parties" around the globe, including a drive-in gathering of 65 people watching in their church parking lot in Minnesota and soldiers and their families in South Korea getting together in their chapel to watch.

The response to the live broadcast also has led to ideas for tweaking another new venture launched in 2020, Sight & Sound TV, where viewers can access videos of past performances.

But what if the live-stream option doesn't appeal to you, and you really want to see that Sight & Sound spectacle in person?

Well, you can do that.

And, on a morning in early September, we did.

If you're familiar with Sight & Sound shows, you'll know what to expect. If you're not, here's a short list: Broadway-quality lighting and effects. Lavish sets and costumes. A brigade of live animals ranging in size up to and including elephants. Biblical stories and messages.

And, at the moment, health and safety precautions.

The theater had been set to premiere "Queen Esther" in March, making it as far as a few dry runs of the show for friends and family before closing down as the pandemic hit.

Upon reopening at the end of July, the theater stressed new health guidelines for shows, including wiping down shared surfaces, a new ionized air filtration system and cutting available seating to a fraction of its capacity.

In front of the main doors to the theater, near a statue of a lion and lamb,

were several prominent signs that read "Thank you for practicing social distancing. Please maintain a safe distance between parties. The wearing of a mask is required."

A woman at the front desk explained that the theater is attempting to leave a full empty row between each set of patrons, hypothetically reaching the 6-foot separation in front and behind.

The resulting sparseness, with families and couples dotting the cavernous space, was especially striking given the fact that this is a theater which usually runs with every seat filled.

Just before the show began, a voice came on the loudspeaker. After the customary reminders about concessions and staying out of the aisles so as to not be run over by galloping horses, the staff member reiterated wearing a mask and keeping a distance. "We each play a part in keeping people safe," she reminded us.

The lights went down as the show began, and dozens of people immediately pulled their masks right off.

Audience mask protocol notwithstanding, the Sight & Sound staff did an admirable job trying to keep things clean and safe.

We saw employees wipe down the handrails several times throughout the show and refill the hand sanitizer stations throughout the lobby when they got low.

And how was "Queen Esther," all things considered? As with all Sight & Sound productions, it's truly a spectacle, on such a scale as to warrant the license plates in the parking lot from New York, Delaware and beyond. The cast, crew and animal performers brought to life a show that under normal circumstances would already have provided an escape to patrons, but in the current moment, means just a little more.

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Field of Screams

While many of Lancaster County's popular events have been canceled this year due to COVID-19, there are still opportunities to enjoy the late fall and holiday seasons.

HALLOWEEN

FIELD OF SCREAMS

191 College Ave., Mountville, through Nov. 7: Haunted houses, haunted hayride, a haunted trail, live bands and much more. Due to limited capacity, tickets must be purchased online. The attraction has instituted numerous safety measures, including mask wearing, sanitation and social distancing.

▶ fieldofscreams.com

JASON'S WOODS

99 Stehman Road, Lancaster, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 31: Haunted hayride, chamber of horrors, zombie apocalypse and more. The attraction has instated safety precautions, including increased cleaning, social distancing, mask wearing and temperature screening.

▶ jasonswoods.com

HOLIDAY

At the time this guide went to press, downtown Lancaster was still solidifying the details of its holiday event schedule. For updates on these and other events, go to VisitLancasterCity.com.

WEEKEND WINTER WONDERLAND

Dec. 4 and 5: Featuring Santa's arrival to Lancaster city, roaming live holiday music, a drive-through light show and more.

LANCASTER SHOPS LATE

Dec. 10: The Lancaster Office of Promotion and Lancaster City Alliance invite shoppers for a once-a-year retail experience as Lancaster city's shops, boutiques, art spaces and more stay open late into the night.

N.Y.E. IN LANCASTER CITY

Dec. 31: Ring in the new year with fireworks and the red rose countdown at midnight.

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Christmas in the Park in Lititz Springs Park.

The following holiday events are still on the schedule for downtown Lititz:

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Dec. 4: Carol singing and lighting of the community Christmas tree.

▶ LititzSpringsPark.org

ANNUAL CAROL SING

7 to 8 p.m., Dec. 11: Annual Carol Sing at the Moravian Church Square.

▶ LititzHistoricalFoundation.com

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR

5 to 9 p.m., Dec. 12: Tour the 1792 Johannes Mueller House by candlelight and learn how Christmas was celebrated centuries ago.

▶ LititzHistoricalFoundation.com

WINTER FUN

FIRE AND ICE FESTIVAL

Feb. 12-13: Friday night block party with music, live ice carvings, food trucks and downtown shops open late. Music, food trucks and the chili cook-off on Saturday.

▶ LititzFireandIce.com

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The corn maze at Cherry Crest Adventure Farm can be completed multiple ways, depending how long you'd like to spend working on it - from 20 minutes up to two hours.

No matter your age, tastes or interests, there's a lot to see, eat and do in Lancaster County. So much, in fact, that it's simply impossible to list everything in this magazine. We've picked some of our favorite spots — for food, drink, shopping and sightseeing — in Lancaster County. For a complete list of food and drink options, outdoor attractions, places to shop and more, go to VisitLancaster.com.

Entertainment

FALL AND WINTER FUN

▶ **Cherry Crest Adventure Farm:** With a 5-acre corn maze featuring 2.5 miles of paths plus a full slate of other activities, games and rides, this is a harvest-season spot with enough fun to fill an entire day. Open through Nov. 7. 150 Cherry Hill Road, Ronks. 717-687-6843. cherrycrestfarm.com.

▶ **Strasburg Rail Road:** The oldest continuously operating railroad in the Western Hemisphere offers lots to see for serious train fans and the merely train-curious. Special events, such as visits from Thomas the Tank Engine and Santa Claus, make for extra fun for kids of all ages. 301 Gap Road, Ronks. 866-725-9666. strasburgrailroad.com.

▶ **Elizabeth Farms:** Known as a spot to cut your own Christmas tree, this rural spot provides plenty of holiday cheer even if you're not interested in driving home with a tree strapped to your roof. Shop for handmade decorations, visit with Santa, and enjoy locally made beer, wine and spirits in a rustic bar. 262 Hopeland Road, Lititz. 717-626-8733. elizabethfarms.com.

PLACES TO MEET ANIMALS

▶ **Amish Farm & House:** Offering more than just guided tours through Amish life, this spot also features opportunities to get up close and personal with a variety of farm animals. 2395 Covered Bridge Drive, Lancaster. 717-394-6185. amishfarmandhouse.com.

▶ **Good & Plenty Restaurant:** The restaurant features authentic Pennsylvania Dutch cooking and baked goods, but the real attraction for kids might be the petting zoo out back, where you can meet goats, sheep, ducks and chickens. 150 Eastbrook Road, Smoketown. 717-394-7111. goodnplenty.com.

▶ **Wolf Sanctuary of Pa.:** It certainly isn't a petting zoo, but this organization has spent the last four decades providing homes for rescued wolves and wolf-dogs and providing fascinating education opportunities for interested visitors. During the pandemic, tours are by reservation only. 465 Speedwell Forge Road, Lititz. 717-626-4617. wolfsanctuarypa.org.

Shopping

ANTIQUES

▶ **Mad Hatter Antiques:** Spread out over 15,000 square feet, this former hat factory houses specialties including classic toys and nostalgic Americana pieces. 61 Willow St., Adamstown. 717-484-4159. madhatterantiquemall.com

STROLL AND SHOP

▶ **300 Block of N. Queen St.:** Tired of the mall scene? Get started on your holiday shopping while enjoying the outdoors with this stretch of quirky, eclectic shops. 300 block, North Queen Street, Lancaster. the300blockshops.com.

▶ **Downtown Lititz:** Voted the coolest small town in America, Lititz offers plenty of history as well as a surprising amount of quality food and drink. There's also an array of unique shops scattered around the center of town. Main and Broad streets, Lititz. lititzpa.com.

▶ **Tanger Outlets:** If you still need those big, big brands, look no further than Tanger, the recently expanded outlet center that's in the heart of the Route 30 tourist corridor. 311 Stanley K. Tanger Blvd., Lancaster. 717-293-3313. tangeroutlet.com/lancaster.

Continued on page 30

Continued from 29

Food

DELECTABLE DESSERTS

▶ **Dough & Co.:** Yes, it's the cookie dough shop of your childhood dreams. Flavors such as Monsterbash and Birthday Cake will stick in your mind — and stomach — for a long while. 46 N. Prince St., Lancaster. 717-283- 0800. doughandco.co.

▶ **Wilbur Chocolate Store:** The beloved chocolate Wilbur Bud is among Lancaster County's iconic desserts. 45 N. Broad St., Lititz. 888-294-5287. wilburbuds.com.

▶ **Bistro Barberet & Bakery:** For those looking for a European twist on desserts, sample an array of colorful macarons or tiramisu. 26 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-690-2354. 26eastlancaster.com/barberet.

WORLDLY CUISINE

▶ **Luca:** For when you want to be both fancy and laid-back at the same time, plan a dinner date and share a delectable picante or cavalo pizza at Luca. 436 W. James St., Lancaster. 717-553-5770. lucalancaster.com.

▶ **Souvlaki Boys:** Originating as a food truck, the Boys have mastered the art of delicious pitas and meats on a stick. 1 W. James St., Lancaster. 717-208-6243. souvlakiboys.com.

▶ **Himalayan Curry and Grill:** Not only does Himalayan Curry and Grill have great Indian food, they also have great prices. 22 E. Orange St., Lancaster. 717-393-2330. himalayanlancaster.com.

Drinks

BARS WITH A TWIST

▶ **An Sibin (in Tellus360):** No need to ask for a password — Tellus360's basement speakeasy space is the perfect whiskey- and vinyl record-filled space for a quiet Saturday night. 24 E. King St., Lancaster. 717-393- 1660. tellus360.com.

▶ **Horse Inn:** Initially converted from a hayloft in the early 1920s, the Horse Inn remains one of Lancaster city's best spots for a good conversation paired with a one-of-a-kind cocktail. 540 E. Fulton St., Lancaster. 717-392-5528. horseinnlancaster.com.

▶ **Bube's Brewery:** Descend 43 feet underground for a truly unique dining (or drinking) experience in the historic Catacombs of Bube's Brewery. 102 N. Market St., Mount Joy. 717-653-2056. bubesbrewery.com.

Bube's Brewery in Mount Joy.

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