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Hermann Hill

Vineyard & Inn

Hermann, Missouri

*Wine Country Accommodations For Those
With Discriminating Tastes*

Day Trips from Hermann Hill

Day-tripping north of Hermann

The following trip will take you north of Hermann on scenic country roads, with a few miles on Interstate 70. You will travel along the Missouri River bluffs, wind through farmland and wooded terrain, and end up on the Interstate for a few miles. The points of interest on this trip include The Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows at Starkenburg, Crane's Country Store and Crane's Museum and the Shoppes of Williamsburg at Williamsburg, and Apple Wagon Antique Mall near Williamsburg.

Please note that the mileage between destinations is approximate. Total round-trip mileage, depending on which return route you take, is about 80 miles.

The Shrine at Starkenburg and Apple Wagon are open daily. The businesses associated with Crane's Country Store and Museum maintain different hours. They are listed in the article. However, it is always a good idea to check hours before you leave Hermann.

(From the south end of the Missouri River Bridge, travel north on Hwy. 19 for 1½ miles to the junction of Hwy. 94. Turn left (west) onto Hwy. 94. Travel on Hwy. 94 five miles to Hwy. P. Turn right (north) onto Hwy. P. (Watch for the sign for the Shrine.) The Shrine is two miles on the left.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows at Starkenburg

Placed on the National Register of Historic Sites in September of 1982, the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows has been attracting visitors of all denominations for many years. Its history dates to 1847 when the first German settlers arrived on the north side of the Missouri River. They named their new town Rhineland because it reminded them of the homeland they left behind.

St. Martin's Parish was chartered in 1848. A year later, 40 acres were acquired on which St. Martin's Church and museum, the Shrine Chapel, the Log Chapel, the Holy Sepulcher, Stations of the Cross, Lourdes Grotto, Holy Family Shrine, and Agony in the Garden stand today.

The story of the shrine is fascinating. Visitors learn about "Weisse Dame" or "White Lady", an image that has been at the Shrine since 1852, find out how Starkenburg got its name, and read about the history of the shrine, which is well documented throughout the grounds.



St. Martin's Church and cemetery
at Starkenburg

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Interior of the Shrine Chapel at Starkenburg

In 1979, the parishes of St. Martin's at Starkenburg and St. Joseph's at Rhineland were combined to form the Church of the Risen Savior, which is visible from Hwy. 94 at Rhineland. The congregation is made up of about 150 families. Father William Debo is pastor of the parish and the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows. He also serves [St. George Catholic Church](#) in Hermann and resides in the [rectory](#) there.

Many events are held at both the Shrine and the Church of the Risen Savior. Two pilgrimages are held at the Shrine annually, on the third Sunday in May and the second Sunday in September beginning at 10 a.m. Second Tuesday masses are celebrated at the Shrine April through November at noon. Mass is celebrated at the Rhineland church on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.



The Log Chapel at Starkenburg



The sign at the intersection of Hwy. 94 and Hwy. P directs visitors to the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows

The Shrine grounds open at 8 a.m. daily and close at dusk. Tours of the shrine are self-guided, but guided tours can be arranged by calling Shirley Koenig at 573-236-4377 (days) or 573-252-4551 (evenings). Restrooms are available at the site. An extensive history of the Shrine with photographs and a listing of special events can be found on its web site at www.historicshrine.org.

(From the Shrine, continue north on Hwy. P for about 4 miles to Hwy K. Turn left (west) onto K and travel about 10 1/2 miles to Hwy. D near Readsville. Turn right (north) on D and continue about 10 miles to Interstate 70. Highway D crosses over Interstate 70 and then turns east. Head east on D for 2 miles to Crane's Country Store and Museum and the Shoppes of Williamsburg.)

Crane's Country Store

Crane has been a familiar name in Williamsburg and the surrounding area for more than 100 years. Now it is more commonly known for the family's country store located at exit 161 on Interstate 70. Today, Crane's Country Store is a must-see if you're traveling through central Missouri. It is a true old-fashioned general store, one of the top-rated general stores in the state.

The Crane family opened its first store in 1898 at Mineola, MO, just east of Williamsburg. There have been several name changes through the years from Harrison and Crane to Crane & Son to the current store, Crane's Country Store, which was built in 1926. It is operated by a fourth generation Crane, David. David's dad, Joe, also is involved, but he spends most of his time at Crane's Museum.

Through hard work and word of mouth, Crane's Country Store has grown by leaps and bounds. They are the number one Carhartt Dealer in the nation, selling mostly work clothes and outdoor gear in all sizes. Other merchandise includes groceries and produce, nuts and bolts, gadgets, shoes and boots, gas and ice, and just about anything else you'd expect to find in a general store of yore. While at the store, take time to look at the unique items the family has collected through the years that are stashed in every nook and cranny. They're not for sale, however.



Crane's Museum and the Shoppes at Williamsburg

Always popular are the renowned deli-sliced sandwiches: one-meat, one-cheese, one dollar. Diners sit anywhere they can find a spot, on old chairs, a crate, or a barrel, preferably near the pot-bellied stove in colder months.

Crane's Country Store is open Monday through Saturday from 8-6. It is closed on Sunday. Additional information about the store is available on the web site at www.cranesmuseum.com, or call toll free 866-254-3311.

Crane's Museum

A couple hundred feet west of the store is Crane's Museum. Opened in July of 2004, the museum is filled with items the Crane family has collected for more than 100 years. According to the museum's curator, Joe Crane, the family never decided what to collect, so they collected a lot of things.

Joe, the third generation of Cranes, says, "It's a work in progress, and I'm doing all the work." He keeps busy creating displays. He has several works in progress at the moment. He's making frames for old calendars from the '20s and '30s from local businesses and is building a display case for a large collection of cap pistols. His workbench is filled with projects in various stages of completion.



Joe Crane is the curator of Crane's Museum

Joe will put down whatever he is working on to give tours of the museum. He brings local history to life, and his enthusiasm is worth the price of admission, which is nominal. Visitors are shown original signed presidential land grants for Montgomery County from 1820 to 1850. There an interesting display of top hats and bowlers and a section devoted to hand tools and veterinary-related items. Ever heard of a hog oiler? Joe has a couple. A collection of string holders and buggy whip holders is unique, along with lightning rods, weather vanes, arrowheads, girls' toys, boys' toys, and a collection of Buddy Lee dolls from the 1930s and '40s used to advertise the clothing the company made. And, the list goes on.

The center of the museum houses full-size displays of a kitchen, bedroom, and parlor decorated with turn-of-the-century furnishings, and there is a complete barbershop and one-room country school.

And, you can't help but notice the two beautifully restored cars situated in the remake of a White Eagle Gas Station at the rear of the museum. The 1927 Chevrolet touring car and 1930 Model "A" Ford may be the favorite items in the museum of Joe's two young grandsons, whom he allows to climb on the cars. "What other children have a playground in a museum?" asks Joe.

The museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 10-6, Friday 10-8, and Sunday noon-5. It is closed on Mondays. For information, visit the web site www.cranesmuseum.com or call toll free 877-254-3356.

Marlene's Restaurant

Marlene's Restaurant, named for Joe Crane's wife, opened in July of 2004. Originally it was designed to be an ice cream shop, but within two months of opening it became a full-service restaurant.

The restaurant is centrally located in the building that houses Crane's Museum and The Shoppes of Williamsburg. It is a great place to relax after shopping and touring the museum. The ambiance of the dining room is enhanced by a fireplace and tables covered in red and white checkered tablecloths. The menu includes hand-dipped ice cream and cold drinks, homemade soups and sandwiches, and daily entrée specials. Steaks are served by reservation.



Crane's Museum & Country Store

Private parties and catering can be arranged by calling Janice Gray at 1-877-254-3356. The museum often can be reserved for private functions.

The restaurant is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 10-6, Friday 10-8, and Sunday noon-5. It is closed on Mondays. Visit www.cranesmuseum.com for more information and for a listing of special events that are held at the facility.

The Shoppes at Williamsburg

Several interesting shops surround Marlene's Restaurant that offer an unusual mix of items for shoppers.

BanBar Western Wear

This shop sells outfits for both horse and rider. BanBar has clothing for the entire family including Wrangler jeans, Stetson Hats, Justin Boots, country dresses, silver jewelry, and belt-buckles. For their four-legged friends, BanBar sells tack, bridles, bits, and saddles.

The shop is open 10-6 Tuesday through Saturday. It is closed Sunday and Monday. The phone number is 573-254-3030.

The shop owners also have a boarding stable nearby. They offer trail ride packages and pony rides and lessons. For more information about the shop and stables, visit the web site www.banbarenterprisesllc.com.

Boone's Lick Harvest

This unique shop sells Missouri specialty meats, homemade gourmet edibles from the Best of Missouri Markets, handcrafted gifts showcasing Missouri artists, jewelry, handspun natural wool yarns, and more.

Karla Uthlaut is the owner of the shop, and together with her husband, Mark, they own the M&K Ranch nearby where they raise lamb and pork. Their meat is processed at Swiss Meat and Sausage Company and an interesting selection of lamb sausage, lamb brats, and assorted cuts of lamb and other meats are available at the shop.

Shop hours are Tuesday 12-6, Wednesday through Friday 10-6, and Saturday 9-6. It is closed on Sunday and Monday. Hours may vary, however, so it may be worth a phone call to 573-254-3303. Additional information is available on their web site www.booneslickharvest.com.

Windsor Place Antiques

Stepping into Windsor Place Antiques is like going through Grandma's attic.

There are beds, chests of drawers, quilts, children's toys, vintage clothing, and knickknacks all reminiscent of the "good old days". The shop also is a gathering place where locals can catch up on area goings on. Whether you're a buyer, or just want to browse, you are welcome at Windsor Place Antiques.

Shop hours are the same as for Marlene's Restaurant, or by chance. The shop does not have its own phone, however information is available by calling the museum phone number at 1-877-254-3356.

(From Crane's Country Store, travel south on Highway D ½ mile to the westbound ramp onto Interstate 70. Travel west for 6 miles to Exit 155. Turn right (north) onto the North Outer Road going east. The Apple Wagon Antique Mall entrance will be on your left.)

Apple Wagon Antique Mall

From the outside, it is difficult to imagine that there are 25,000 square feet of showroom at Apple Wagon. Actually, it is three shops in one-an antique mall, flea market, and a home décor outlet.

It is a family-owned and operated store that has been in business since 1994. There are about 50 dealers who sell a wide variety of old items including furniture, tools, dishes, toys, quilts, and just about anything you can imagine. Vendors are mostly from central Missouri, and many of their items are from estate auctions. Kelly Hague, daughter of owners Steve and Susan Koprivica, says prices range from inexpensive to upper-end, but most of the inventory is very affordable.



Apple Wagon Antique Mall is located on I-70 at exit 155

The home décor outlet features new home furnishings and accessories. Inventory is acquired from liquidations, closeouts, and overstocks from national catalogs. Most is from the Home Decorators Collection, which is headquartered in St. Louis and has a warehouse in Mexico, Mo.

Apple Wagon offers free storage for 90 days if visitors cannot take items with them. They also have a 30-day layaway plan. Snacks and restrooms are available.

The store is open from 9-5 daily, except for major holidays. For information, call 573-642-4888, or e-mail awam@ktis.net. The address is 8506 Old Hwy. 40, Williamsburg, MO 63388.

From this point, there are two options for your return trip to Hermann.

(Option 1: Get back on Interstate 70 and travel east 6 miles to Exit 161. Turn left (north) on Hwy. D, and drive ½ mile to Crane's Country Store. Turn left in front of the store and continue to follow Hwy. D. In about 2 miles it will cross the Interstate. Continue driving south for approximately 16 1/2 miles to Hwy. 94. Turn left (east) on 94 and continue for approximately 15 miles to Highway 19. Turn right (south) onto Hwy. 19 and drive 1½ miles to Hermann.)

(Option 2: Return to Interstate 70 heading east and drive about 15 miles to exit 170 at Danville. Turn right (south). Follow Hwy. J for approximately 13 miles to Hwy. 19 at Big Spring. Turn right (south) onto 19 and continue for approximately 8 ½ miles to Hermann.) Note: Because Hwy. J goes through the Loutre River Valley, during high water it can be impassable in several places. If in doubt, check road conditions before taking this route.

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