

Family Fun

Whether seeking roller coasters or miniature golf, pretzel-twisting or petting zoos, Pennsylvania Dutch Country has endless opportunities for fun for the entire family. From family train rides to hayrides, puppet shows or water play areas, the fun simply never ends amidst the rolling hillsides of Pennsylvania Dutch Country.

Families can receive the royal treatment at Dutch Wonderland Family Entertainment Complex. This Family Amusement Park houses pint-sized rides, games, children's shows and an interactive water park, and the accompanying museum and mini-golf complete the day. Guests can be sure to get a warm welcome from Duke the Dragon, the park's friendly mascot, as well as from the Princess and Knight of Dutch Wonderland, who teach kids about the importance of literacy and safety. For those families seeking a bigger thrill, nearby Hersheypark offers looping roller coasters, upside-down amusements and musical extravaganzas. If the adrenaline rush from the rides still isn't quite satisfying, a sugar rush from the interactive chocolate tour ride at Hershey's Chocolate World will be.

For families looking to have a more leisurely vacation of family fun, take advantage of Lancaster County's colorful agricultural heritage. Lancaster County is home to the oldest Amish population in the nation, and families can try this way of living firsthand with horse and buggy rides through the area. To learn more about agritourism, try a family farm stay, where guests stay in a country farmhouse and kids can milk cows, feed goats and collect chicken eggs before heading out on a family hayride through the countryside. Use family teamwork to maneuver through the Amazing Maize Maze, a giant cornfield maze and onsite petting zoo. After a long day filled with fun, a meal at one of the area's authentic Pennsylvania Dutch restaurants will not only provide a feast of Pennsylvania Dutch favorites, but also provide the perfect opportunity for families to share their exciting activities of the day.

Railroad enthusiasts won't want to miss the village of Strasburg. Museums and toy train extravaganzas are sure to impress wide-eyed children of all ages. Families can take a ride on the Strasburg Rail Road or marvel at the trains large and small at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania and the National Toy Train Museum.

For more information on family fun activities in Lancaster County, please contact the Pennsylvania Dutch Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-PA-DUTCH or go online to www.padutchcountry.com

