

ROAD TRIP | 'Witness' History

WHERE: Lancaster, Pa.

WHY: Buy a pair of cowboy boots, brake for buggies and "Witness" a movie set.

HOW FAR: About 95 miles, or 2 hours from BWI.

It seems like only yesterday that good cop Harrison Ford went undercover on an Amish farm and fell in love with widow Kelly McGillis. But it's been 20 years since the Oscar-winning "Witness" put the Amish in the limelight and turned Pennsylvania Dutch Country into a tourism hot spot. To celebrate this anniversary, guided bus tours recapture a bit of the film's lure by taking fans to locations including the Witness Farm, where most of the flick was shot. Quick recap: The son of McGillis is the only witness to the murder of a cop; Ford is the officer assigned to the case and moves to Lancaster County to protect them.

The farm is still as beautiful as it was in 1985. An Amish family lives there, so you can't see in the farmhouse, but the inside of the separate summer kitchen is part of the tour; it was the setting for numerous scenes with McGillis and Ford trying to hide their smoldering passions. The tour also includes the barn where McGillis and Ford danced to Sam Cooke's classic ode to a lousy education, "Wonderful World" (the one that goes, "Don't know much about history, don't know much biology"). The three-hour trip also stops at the Lancaster Cultural History Museum, which

features costumes, photos and movie memorabilia, and ends with a ride through scenic Amish countryside.

The drive to this rural land begins in the jet age. Get an early start with a stroll, run or bike on the 12.5-mile BWI loop trail as airplanes glide low in the sky. Heading north, it's not a proper drive through the Baltimore area without a stop at a diner. ("Diner" . . . another great movie!) The Double T has it all, from Mexican to Greek to Italian. And the display case filled with desserts will tempt even the most carbo-phobic.

While driving along Route 40 — historically known as Pulaski Highway — stop at the Aberdeen Room and Museum. The curators love to show relics from bygone days, including antique cans from when the town was a leader in the canning industry. Crossing into Pennsylvania, a visit to the Hans Herr House will continue your history lesson: It's the oldest surviving dwelling of European settlers in Lancaster County and the oldest Mennonite meeting house in the Western Hemisphere. And at the end of this trip, you'll be singing about how much you know about history. — **Matthew Graham**

Witness Movie Experience Tour leaves from the Lancaster County Visitors Center, 501 Greenfield Rd., Lancaster, Pa., 800-723-8824, www.padutchcountry.com. Monday, Friday and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. through Nov. 21. \$29.95, younger than 12 \$19.95.

Road Trip maps are available online at www.washingtonpost.com/roadtrip, as are addresses and hours of operation (be sure to check before you go).

