

## Sunday in Historic downtown Ephrata...

The lawn is mowed; the chores were all taken care of yesterday. What to do...what to do...

Try a visit to **downtown Ephrata**. Think there is nothing to do on a beautiful (or not so beautiful) day? Wrong! We have some great ideas for you:

**First things First:** You can get to Ephrata very easily from anywhere in the county ("Rt 222 to Rt 322" or "Rt 771 to Rt 272 to Rt 322", for example. Simple, right?)

Once you get to **Ephrata**, go to the top of "the mountain" (Main Street and Spring Garden) and enter the **Hampton Inn**. At the front desk, ask for a Volksmarch map. Volksmarch is German for "people's walk". There are scores of official Volksmarch sites across the country, and 5 are in Lancaster County. This one in **Ephrata** will guide you through the town's loveliest places for a pre-measured distance of 5 or 11 kilometers (your choice – both are clearly mapped for you). Most of the shops are closed on this "day of rest", but the walk will give you a very good sense of the beauty and opportunities of **downtown Ephrata** and its environs. Don't forget to check out the gorgeous view of the Cocalico Valley before you begin your walk. (Time: 1.5-2 hrs)

**You must be starving:** Feel good after that walk? You now have the lay of the land...and you are *hungry*. After that walk, you are now aware of several options, but why not keep it local AND unique. Another, brief, 5 minute walk you can dine at **Lily's on Main**...superb American fare with an art deco ambiance. It's right on the main drag, on the second floor of our tallest building, known as the Brossman Business Center. (Time: 1-1.5 hrs)

**Did someone say "entertainment"?** If you are lucky, the **Ephrata Main Theater** has a concert scheduled. Located in this same business center, you are only a flight of stairs away from entertainment. (Time: 2.5 hrs)

OR

No concert? No worries! Take in a matinee at the **Ephrata Main Theater**. Be sure to take a minute or two to admire the lobby, refurbished in art deco style. (Time: 2 hrs)

OR

You walked along the boundaries of this very historic museum site, now see why the **Ephrata Cloister** is one of the most-visited German heritage sites in the country (yes, the country!). It's just a mile or so down the road (going west) on Main Street. Affectionately known as "Home of the Wooden Pillow", you will experience first hand how, and why, these new Americans lived their lives as they did. (Time 1.5-2 hrs)

**You can't leave without dessert?** Not time to go home yet. On your way out of town, you need to stop by **Greco's Italian Ice and Homemade Ice Cream**. Yep, Greco's is back into town, just across the street from the Brossman Center. Why go there? Great service, competitive prices, and the best homemade ice cream in the county! (Time: 30 min)

Time to get back home and mentally prepare yourself for a new week. Had a good time? We thought you would!