

DAY TOUR- THE “WORLD’S LARGEST” TOUR TO CASEY ILLINOIS

Monday- September 13th

Casey takes its motto, “Big Things in a Small Town,” seriously. Consider: a 30-foot golf tee weighing in at 6,659 pounds, a pencil that’s 32 feet long, and a 32-foot-tall mailbox where you can actually send mail.

The southeast Illinois town of 2,744 boasts eight objects recognized by Guinness World Records and a bunch of other oversize items—all of them interactive. You can take a selfie swinging in the birdcage, posing on the pitchfork or peeking in the wooden clogs.

This trip into Alice in Wonderland meets Land of the Giants rose from the imagination of lifelong resident, businessman and philanthropist Jim Bolin.

A decade ago during a vacation, Jim and his family brainstormed the idea of opening a tea shop. But Jim wanted to do more to bolster his community. He chose instead to create something that would draw attention to the community and perhaps make it famous!

Jim set out to make “the world’s largest” items with his first project, a windchime! Since then, he has created over 12 of “the world’s largest” items, ranging from rocking chairs and pencils to knitting needles and a pitchfork.

This trip includes a bus ride to Casey, which is 45 minutes away from Effingham. The bus will drive you to all of the “large things” where you can get out to take photos. There will be a stop at Richards Farm Restaurant where you can grab lunch on your own. A visit to a local candy store and shopping are also planned, if time allows.



GUEST TOUR- EFFINGHAM COURTHOUSE

Tuesday- September 14th 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

The Effingham County Courthouse Museum features displays on the military, Effingham County railroads and Effingham County history. It is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The courthouse was built in 1871 after Effingham was named the county seat at a cost of around \$30,000. The courthouse retains a pristine exterior and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It also features a museum inside. The museum displays two rooms devoted to the military, which gets changed throughout the year. It also has a room dedicated to the railroads in Effingham County. The Effingham County Courthouse is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March through October. The Courthouse Museum hosts several events throughout the year, including the annual Old Settler's Reunion.



Delaine Donaldson, a historian, will give you a tour of the Effingham County Cultural Center & Museum.

The cost of this tour provides transportation to and from the courthouse as well as admission to the building. Lunch will be on your own. There are multiple restaurants nearby for your convenience.

GUEST TOUR- EFFINGHAM SHOOTING RANGE AND LARGE CROSS

Wednesday- September 15th 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.



The Cross at the Crossroads known as The Cross to locals is a 198-foot-tall cross which is located near the interstate of 57 & 70 for all the travelers to see coming into town. This huge cross is made of over 180 tons of steel and stands tall at 198 feet high and 113 feet wide. It truly is “the cross at the crossroads.” Built at this major road it’s estimated that 50,000 travelers see the cross in Effingham each and every day. You will walk around the base of the cross, visit the Welcome Center, and

watch a video of how the cross was constructed.

After you visit the cross, you will have the opportunity to visit Accuracy Firearms Shooting Range. It is a family oriented, premier retail and shooting facility. It contains a 2,600 sq ft. retail showroom with new and used firearms. You will tour the retail store, the gun range, and visit the classroom for a short presentation.

The cost of this tour includes transportation to each location. Lunch will be on your own.