

Golden Age Air Museum: July 14 (Sunday)

After everyone becomes acquainted over an early breakfast we'll load up and head out. We take immediately to single lane roads, skirting the west side of Kennett Square and taking a meandering north and westward route. Crossing the Mercers Mill covered bridge, we find ourselves passing Amish farms which are identified by the lack of power lines and the abundance of colorful laundry hung out to dry. Nearing historic Strasburg, we may stop on Route 896 at Green Tree Hardware. On Saturday mornings, many Amish folk stop here for supplies, but today is the Sabbath and most businesses are closed. There are horse drawn buggies plying the route and parked at houses where religious services are being held.



Continuing through the lush countryside, we meander through Smoketown and cross the Conestoga River. Picking up Route 897 in Kleinfeltersville, we find our way to the Golden Age Air Museum. The grass airstrip is situated next to the Eastern Continental

Divide: an imposing ridge stretching to the horizon. We park up under a shady tree and check out the tiny museum, and large workshop, where antique airplanes are being pieced back together and made ready to take to the skies again. You may decide to go for a short test flight in one such restored, vintage, open cockpit bi-plane. It is a thrill you will not soon forget, replete with the required ridiculous leather helmet, which may not give much head protection, but at least helps to keep your glasses from flying off. Back on the ground, hunger is setting in, and we soon find a nearby, well airconditioned Italian restaurant for lunch.

The route back takes us through Oley, PA. After a refreshment in the Dunkin Donut shop we'll ride more tiny roads paralleling Route 100 heading south, then follow the Brandywine River back to Kennett Square for a home cooked meal par excellence.

