

Arts & Culture

Mount Horeb has a multitude of art carved trolls on public display and Scandinavian themed medallions and banners lining its Main Street to announce to visitors that the arts and our cultural heritage are bountiful in our Village. Take a walk down Main Street and you will also find art galleries, artist studios, antiques, historic homes and commercial buildings, and more. Ceramics, watercolors, fine wood crafts, collages—artworks in a variety of media—can be found on or near the “Trollway” in the quaint downtown district.

On the first or second weekend (Fri-Sun) in June the **Spring Art Tour** kicks off Mount Horeb’s celebration of the creative. Approximately two dozen artists from around the Mount Horeb area (including Blue Mounds, Verona, Black Earth, and Mazomanie) open their rarely seen studios to the public. One can enjoy the beautiful countryside of the Driftless Region in Southwest Dane County while traveling from one studio to the next (just 20 miles West of Madison, WI). These studios are as varied as the artists—one located in an old cheese warehouse, one on a farm with chickens and hogs, while another conjures visions of a Tuscan Villa. Each one is unique to the artist who works there. Art media include blown glass, fine wood crafts, jewelry, origami, collage, photography, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture (media vary from year to year).

The most highly attended of Mount Horeb’s cultural events is the **Art Fair**, on the third weekend in July. Artists come from around Wisconsin and the Midwest to participate in this event. As many as 150 artists have graced the Main Street in any given year. Fine painters, paper artists, photographers, printmakers, as well as sculptors, jewelers, wood-workers, glass artists, potters, and other fine crafters, draw up to 15,000 visitors over two days. In addition to the artists and crafters, there is live music, a fun Fire Muster and a Kids’ Chalk Drawing competition for families with children, a Silent Art Auction, and a Kaffe Stue (authentic Norwegian buffet) at the nearby Community Building. And if you are lucky you may spot Jorgen, the Village Troll, for a photo opportunity. Posting your photo on the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page is highly encouraged!

Mount Horeb is also proud of its heritage which is especially celebrated annually during the **Fall Heritage Festival** on the first weekend of October. Artists and crafters (on a slightly smaller scale than the Art Fair) once again line the “Trollway” while heritage demonstrations are going on all around them. There are glass blowers, rope makers, hay balers, wood carvers, painters, wool spinners and weavers demonstrating their crafts (demonstrations vary annually). There is also live music, a Silent Art Auction, and a Host Frokost (authentic Norwegian breakfast) at the nearby Community Building. Children will be amused by farm animals and wagon rides. And if you are lucky you may spot Jorgen, the Village Troll, for another photo opportunity. There is fun for the whole family.

Our year of cultural events concludes on the second Saturday in November with the Holiday Craft Bonanza. Visitors love to come and shop for their holiday gifts. There is so much more than just holiday crafts at this event; fiber arts, paper arts, baked goods, photography, jewelry, homemade candles and soaps (media vary annually). Visit the food court and be serenaded by Christmas carolers from the Mount Horeb Middle School and check out the bargains at the Silent Auction table.



MOUNT HOREB AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
300 E. Main Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572
1-88TROLLWAY | 608-437-5914 | 608-437-1427 FAX
trollway.com | info@trollway.com | facebook.com/mounthorebchamber