The Amish chose the Tomah area for the rich and fertile farmland, low real estate prices, and the lay of land. They also chose this area because it was far from a city of any size, which might influence their youth to the worldly ways – and yet close enough to a small town that has exactly what they need. A bank, post office, grocery store, hardware store and a feed mill.

The Amish in this area have rapidly increase in population in the past years, now growing to over 200 families. The average family will have as many as 10-14 children.

The Amish community is divided into several church districts. Each church district is led by a Bishop, two Ministers, and a Deacon. Most Amish are farmers, but many have taken up a craft or trade to make their living.

The Amish way of life revolves around the family and their church community. Quilting bees, barn raisings, and Sunday services in the home are just a few of the ways the Amish keep the family unit strong.

The Amish school their children in their own one room schoolhouse where all eight grades are taught. The children start school at age 6 and will usually complete all of their schooling by the time they are 13 or 14. No higher education is allowed as this might lead to losing them to the English culture. The three basics: reading, writing, and arithmetic are all that are required in the Amish schools.

Next, you will find a self-guided driving tour through our Amish community south of Tomah!
To begin your tour, travel south down Superior Ave/Hwy 12. Leaving Tomah, this road not only speeds up, but changes to Hwy 131. You will know when you are entering the Amish community by the yellow caution sign with an Amish buggy on it. At the top of the hill you will need to turn left onto County Hwy A.

Travel 2.3 miles down County Hwy A before taking a right on to King Road. King Road is where you will find the majority of the Amish families’ homes in our area. Your trek on King Road is only about 8 miles, so be sure to drive slow and take it all in. Be aware of the sharp turns and pedestrians.

At the end of King Road you will be taking a right onto Hwy 71. Since this is a Highway you will need to increase your speed here. You can travel about 3 miles before turning right, back on to Hwy 131 north to Tomah or you can continue on the trip to Down a Country Road Amish Gift Shops & Tours.

If you choose to go further, continue on Hwy 131 (which turns into Hwy 71/131) through the communities of Wilton and Ontario. After about 11 miles (in the village of Ontario) turn right onto Hwy 33. Follow Hwy 33 for around 8 miles, this will lead you to Down a Country Road Amish Gift Shops & Tours (on your left hand side).

On the next page you will find a map to guide you on your way. It’s an Amish Area Woodworking, Craft and Greenhouse Map (last updated in 2012)!