

## Shopping – Treasures to take home

Bellefonte offers such a variety of unique stores in beautifully restored Victorian buildings that many visitors make special trips just to shop. From antiques to arts and crafts, from collectibles to furniture, new treasures lie around every corner along tree-lined streets in this pedestrian-friendly town.

Antique lovers can spend an entire afternoon exploring the four floors of The Plaza Centre, each one full of antiques, collectibles, vintage items, crafts and home décor. Those seeking today's collectibles and gifts can browse rooms of Boyds Bears, Camille Beckman scented items, wall hangings and homemade crafts at Ruffles & Treasures. At Creekside Rock & Gems, children and adults alike delight in the Native American scenes, geode pendants, individual rocks and minerals, stained glass and fountains with taps suspended in midair.

Victorian Rose is the place to buy Christopher Radko ornaments, Red Hat Society millinery, and everything Victorian – prints, lamps, linens and more. Downstairs, the gourmet tearoom and seasonal garden feature birdbaths, statuary, teapots and culinary goodies such as breads, dips, brownie mix and Cooke Tavern soups. Plumb's Cards & Gifts offers Victorian and country gifts and old-style soda fountain treats.

The Black Cat boasts handmade arts and crafts in its cooperative gift shop where members present an ever-changing variety of specialties. Shoppers can find such treasures as dolls and dollhouses, glassware, jewelry, Ukrainian eggs, pottery, worked wood, train sets, antiques and collectibles. Across the street, the family-owned Woodring's Floral Gardens, one of Bellefonte's oldest retail shops, offers fresh, silk and dried floral arrangements and accessories.

The tables at Soaphie's are laden with handmade glycerin soaps in a rainbow of colors, along with natural body creams, lotions and supplies for making soap at home. At Right Angle Gallery & Framing, custom framing, etchings, lithographs, limited-edition prints and original local art are the specialties.

Quality antique-reproduction oak furniture as well as cedar and pine items perfect for log homes are the features at Sandy Ridge Furniture in the High Street Shops. Alden House specializes in the artistry of Stickley, now in its second century of producing furniture of the highest quality. Solid cherry, mahogany, mission oak and upholstered items fill the showrooms.

Pure Imagination's shelves of award-winning toys, educational playthings and silly gifts guarantee something for kids of all ages. For a truly special shopping experience, the family-owned Confer's Jeweler's offer unique gemstones and precious-metal temptations.

Last-minute fly-fishing supplies can be picked up at John's Bait & Tackle Shop. And finally, freshly dipped cones of mouth-watering Penn State Creamery ice cream, plus everything needed to make your visit more convenient are waiting at Jabco's Variety Store.