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Illinois Office of Tourism Releases Newest Maker video, Eshelman Pottery, part of Illinois Made program

Illinois-based potter, Paul Eshelman, features functional red stoneware pottery in his Elizabeth shop

Chicago – The Illinois Department of Commerce’s Office of Tourism released today the newest local business highlighted as part of Illinois Made video series: Eshelman Pottery in Elizabeth, Illinois.

Launched in July 2016, Illinois Made is an ongoing program that recognizes the artisans, products and experiences that are unique to the state. It offers Illinois Made-inspired travel ideas to encourage people to extend their travel beyond a day trip by exploring the local businesses and great attractions nearby.

Eshelman Pottery, just a short drive from Galena in the town of Elizabeth, creates functional art with bold, European-inspired designs. Rather than a traditional potter’s wheel, Paul Eshelman uses plaster casts to yield hard, geometric shapes in his designs. Recently, renowned Chicago Chef Grant Achatz began using Eshelman pottery in his new restaurant, Roister.

“I love going to Eshelman Pottery and finding one-of-a-kind pieces to use and display in my home,” says Cory Jobe, Director of the Illinois Office of Tourism. “Paul Eshelman’s simple and elegant designs are worth the quick jaunt for anyone visiting Galena, and we’re proud to have his shop represented as part of our Illinois Made program.”

The Eshelman Pottery Gallery is open Monday through Saturday each week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To learn more about Eshelman Pottery and view the new Maker video, visit www.enjoyillinois.com/.

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The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality-of-life benefits for Illinois residents.