

The Garden Tourist's SPRING IN BRANDYWINE VALLEY

Tuesday May 7–Saturday May 11, 2024



Enjoy Longwood Gardens, Chanticleer, Winterthur, Mt. Cuba, Andalusia, Brandywine Cottage, and private gardens!
with garden travel author Jana Milbocker



The Brandywine Valley is home to beautiful historic mansions and world-class botanic gardens. This tour is timed for gorgeous spring bulb displays and flowering azaleas, rhododendrons and trees.

Includes:

- 5 days, 4 nights
- 13 destinations including 4 private gardens and historic mansions
- Small group tour of 30 travelers
- Deluxe motorcoach from Framingham, MA
- 4 nights at Home 2 Suites, Glen Mills, PA
- 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners
- Sightseeing, admissions, and expert guides



DAY 1

Departure: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 am from the Sheraton Framingham Hotel, Framingham, MA

Greenwood Gardens

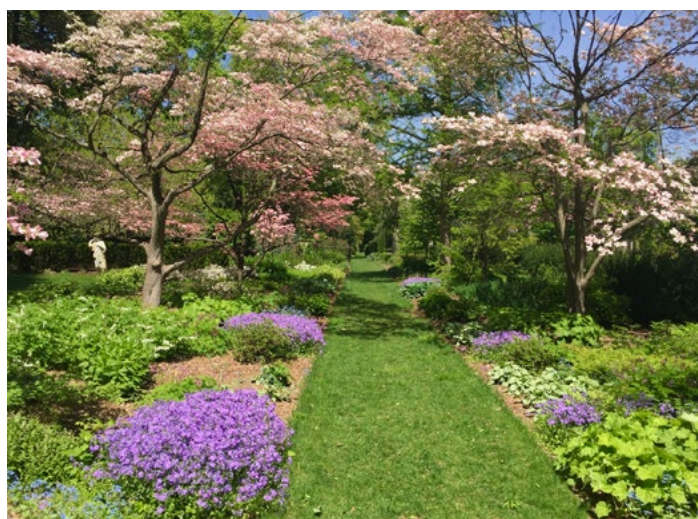
Greenwood Gardens is a contemporary garden and historic site rooted in the Arts and Crafts and classical approaches to garden design. Italianate garden terraces, grottoes, meandering moss-covered paths, allées of London plane and spruce trees, flowering trees and shrubs, wildflower meadows, tea houses and statuary create a one-of-a-kind garden. Removed from the sights and sounds of modernity, you will be transported back in time. greenwoodgardens.org

Lunch: Box lunch at Greenwood Gardens (included)

Andalusia

With its soaring white columns and superbly crafted interiors, the mansion at Andalusia is one of the finest examples of Greek Revival architecture in the United States. Period furnishings and portraits depict two centuries of Andalusia residents. Located on the banks of the Delaware River, the historic grounds include large specimen trees, a walled garden, rose garden, peony walk and perennial borders. Guided tour of mansion included. andalusiapa.org

Dinner: Welcome Dinner at Columbus Inn, Wilmington (included)





DAY 2

Winterthur

Winterthur is the premier museum of American decorative arts, with an unparalleled collection of nearly 90,000 objects made or used in America since 1640. The collection is displayed in the magnificent 175-room house, much as it was when the family of founder Henry Francis du Pont called it home. Winterthur's grounds feature 1,000 acres of protected meadows, woodlands, ponds, and waterways. The magnificent 60-acre garden with its incredible azalea collection is among America's best. House tour and garden tram tour included. winterthur.org

Lunch: Winterthur Cafe (on your own)

Mt. Cuba

Mt. Cuba Center is a beautiful botanic garden committed to the conservation of native plants and their habitats. Formerly a du Pont family estate, this garden features naturalistic plantings of spring ephemerals, woodlands and meadows, and formal gardens surrounding the mansion. Guided garden tour included. mtcubacenter.org

Dinner: Big Fish, Wilmington (included)

Wilmington Riverfront

After dinner, take a walk along the newly created riverfront park. Drifts of perennials and blooming shrubs frame beautiful views of the river.





DAY 3

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

Spread over 46 acres, Jenkins Arboretum displays an accredited collection of rhododendrons, azaleas, mountain laurels and heaths growing in the dappled shade of old canopy trees and dogwoods. Swaths of shade perennials complement the blooming shrubs. jenkinsarboretum.org

Chanticleer

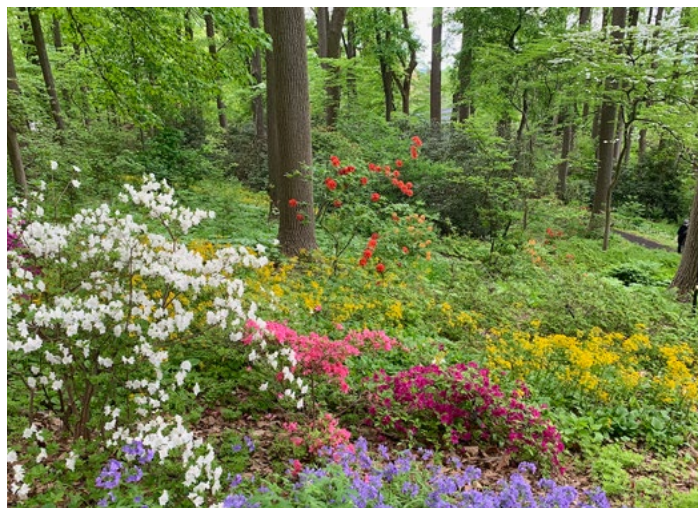
This 48-acre pleasure garden has been called “the most romantic garden in America” and illustrates the beauty and art of horticulture. Located on Philadelphia’s historic Main Line, Chanticleer is many things simultaneously: a lush display of verdant intensity and variety, an irreverent and informal setting for inventive plant combinations, an homage to the native trees and flowers of the mid-Atlantic, a testament to one man’s devotion to his family’s estate and legacy, and a great spot for a stroll and picnic amid the blooms. chanticleergarden.org

Lunch: Box lunch at Chanticleer (included)

Valley Forge Flowers

Enjoy shopping at this famous Main Line destination! Three buildings include a flower shop, nursery, and a curated collection of garden furnishings and home accessories. valleyforgeflowers.com

Dinner: Black Powder Tavern (included)





DAY 4

Brandywine Cottage

David Culp's beloved 2-acre garden features the design technique of layering—interplanting many different species in the same area so that as one plant passes its peak, another takes over. The result is a nonstop parade of color that begins with a tapestry of heirloom daffodils and hellebores in spring and ends with a jewel-like blend of Asian wildflowers in autumn. David is a plant hybridizer and author of *A Year at Brandywine Cottage: Six Seasons of Beauty, Bounty, and Blooms* and *The Layered Garden*. davidculp.com

Lunch: Box lunch at Brandywine Cottage (included)

Wyn Eden

Wyn Eden is the private garden of horticulturist Wayne Guymon. The 9.5 acre garden features over 4,000 different plants and cultivars, 15,000 hostas, 7,000 rhododendrons and azaleas, all displayed in a naturalistic setting of ponds, streams and 5 acres of edited woodland. Hepaticas, terrestrial orchids, Jeffersonias, primroses, phlox, and other spring ephemerals bloom in the shade of flowering dogwoods scattered throughout the property. wyneden.com

Longwood Gardens

We will enjoy a late afternoon/evening tour of the world-renowned Longwood Gardens. With its amazing fountains, incredible 4-acre conservatory, Flower Walk, woodlands, carillon, meadows and perennial displays, Longwood has something for every gardener to enjoy.



Early May features gorgeous displays of tulips and other bulbs, with the spring blooms of ornamental trees and woodland wildflowers. The conservatory is decked out with a sensational spring display. longwood-gardens.org

Dinner: Dining dollars at Longwood Gardens (included)



DAY 5

Northview Gardens

Jenny Rose Carey is a horticulturist, author, and former director of several public gardens. The grounds around her historic home feature 4.5 acres of themed pocket gardens with enchanting garden sheds, a moss garden, stumpery, whimsical teacup fountains, a pond with waterfall, cutting gardens, vegetables, herbs, and much more. jennyrosecarey.com

Lunch: Box lunch at Northview Gardens

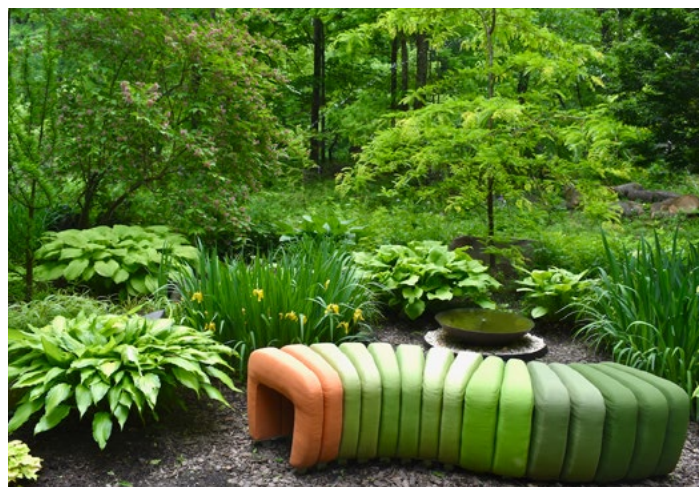
The Gardens at Mill Fleurs

The Gardens at Mill Fleurs is the private oasis of Barbara Tiffany. Set on the banks of Tohickon Creek with a 1742 grist mill and sawmill, the sloped property features 30 years of plant collecting. Variegated plants and those with colorful foliage are artfully arranged in themed garden areas. Rare trees, dramatic tropicals, and hundreds of cultivars of hostas, ferns, Solomon seal and other shade perennials amaze seasoned gardeners. The on-site Tiffany's Perennials offers unusual perennials and shrubs propagated from the garden. thegardensatmillfleurs.com

Dinner: Rest stop on route (on your own)

Return: Saturday, 5/11/24 at 9:30 pm

This tour is an immersive experience in learning, sharing, and discovering the secrets of each beautiful property. Each garden has a story to tell, and each plant a lesson to impart. Join fellow gardeners on this horticultural adventure!



Recommended Reading

The Art of Gardening: Design Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer by William Thomas

The Layered Garden: Design Lessons for Year-Round Beauty from Brandywine Cottage by David Culp

A Year at Brandywine Cottage: Six Seasons of Beauty, Bounty, and Blooms by David Culp

Du Pont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley by Larry Lederman

Glorious Shade: Dazzling Plants, Design Ideas, and Proven Techniques for Your Shady Garden by Jenny Rose Carey

The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Guide: How to Combine Shape, Color, and Texture to Create the Garden of Your Dreams by Jenny Rose Carey

The Garden Tourist's

SPRING IN BRANDYWINE VALLEY TOUR



Jana Milbocker is a garden designer, speaker, and author of the Garden Tourist travel guides. She combines horticulture, design, and travel tips to educate, inspire and delight both new and seasoned gardeners. EnchantedGardensDesign.com

Friendship Tours has been operating group tours for more than 40 years, including custom trips for the Connecticut Horticultural Society, Federated Garden Clubs of CT Inc., and New England Botanic Garden. FriendshipTours.net

Reservations

Cost: \$1,869 pp double, \$2,199 pp single, based on 30

To register:

Call: 800-243-1630 and ask for The Garden Tourist's Spring in Brandywine Valley Trip

On line: www.friendshiptours.net/group-travel and select "Group Sign In." Enter the Tour Code **24MAY07GARDEN** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation."

Deposit: \$500 per person with reservation to secure your spot. Please book early! Space is limited!

Final payment: March 15, 2024

Checks payable to: Friendship Tours

Mail to: Friendship Tours, 705 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Cancellation Policy: If a passenger cancels from deposit to March 15, 2024 fee of \$100.00 pp; March 16, 2024 to April 3, 2024 fee of \$800.00 pp; no refunds if canceled after April 4, 2024 unless a substitute is provided.

TRIP PROTECTION COVERAGE: Trip Protection Coverage is strongly recommended. Friendship Tours offers Travel Protection insurance through 2 insurance providers: NTA Travel Protection Plan and Travel Insured International. Trip Protection offers coverage for Cancellation for covered medical reasons, Interruption, Emergency Medical, Travel Delay, & more. The AON/NTA Travel Protection Plan offers 3 levels of insurance: Basic or Enhanced or Enhanced with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR). The Pre-existing medical condition exclusion can be waived by purchasing the Enhanced Plan within 14 days of your deposit or initial payment. The Enhanced Plan with the add-on of CFAR must be purchased within 14 days of initial deposit. CFAR allows you to cancel for any reason up to 48 days prior to departure and reimburses up to 75% of your nonrefundable trip cost. To enroll: <https://nta.aontravelprotect.com> Tour Operator Location #076068 OR call AON 1-800-388-1470.

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