

BRANDYWINE VALLEY SPECTACULAR!

August 27-30, 2020

**New
Dates!**



Longwood Gardens

**COME TO AMERICA'S GARDENING
CAPITAL!**

- *Meadowbrook Farm
- *Longwood Garden
- *Scott Arboretum
- *Charles Cresson's Hedgeleigh Spring
- *Chanticleer
- *Winterthur
- *Brandywine Cottage
- *Hortulus Farm & Garden
- *3 Nights at the Inn at Mendenhall
- *3 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 3 Dinners
- *Plus 2 Wine Receptions!



The
Federated Garden Clubs
of Connecticut, Inc.

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BRANDYWINE VALLEY

We tour the best of Brandywine Valley---Private gardens, Longwood Gardens, Winterthur Museum & Gardens and much, much more. All three dinners are arranged for you! The area is known as America's Gardening Capital because this area claims the largest concentration of the finest public and private gardens in the world! It's truly America's Gateway to Gardens. Come travel with The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc. on a four-day trip to this beautiful area.

THURSDAY, August 27 Early Departure for Pennsylvania and our first garden, Meadowbrook Farm, the garden of Pennsylvania Horticulture Society since 2004. Originally the home of J. Liddon Pennock and Alice Herkness Pennock, it is a 25-acre property where visitors can come to enjoy formal and informal gardens, seasonal plantings and an extremely diverse plant palette. The Pennocks were known to say, "We didn't want to have an estate, we wanted a place that our friends could enjoy."

We continue to the Mendenhall Inn for an informal wine and cheese welcome reception to relax before an included dinner at the Inn.

FRIDAY, August 28 Our first visit today will be to the fabled Longwood Gardens, founded by Pierre S. DuPont. Beginning with a Guided History Tour, "The Longwood Story", followed by a private welcome from Jim Sutton, Senior Horticultural Display Designer, for a short walking tour with time for some questions from you! Following will be time on your own to enjoy one of the great gardens of the world from a 4-acre conservatory to the splendor of twenty outdoor gardens. See dazzling displays that elevate the art of horticulture, relax and reconnect with nature. There is a musical fountain display at 11:15 am. Lunch is on your own at one of the three Longwood restaurants.

We depart for Scott Arboretum for a guided Horticultural Highlight tour when the roses are at their peak. The idyllic 425-acre arboretum that makes up the Swarthmore College campus is often named one of the most beautiful in the country. Next is one of the highlights of this trip—the private garden of Charles Cresson, Hedgeleigh Spring. As a third-generation gardener, Charles lovingly tends the garden started by his grandfather. Mature trees shelter sweeps of perennials and bulbs in a rich pastiche of flowers and foliage. A chapter of Rosemary Verey's book *The American Man's Garden*, was dedicated to this garden. We will have our Happy Hour Amongst the Flowers with Charles at Hedgeleigh Spring after which we will depart for an included dinner at nearby Broad Table Tavern --The Inn at Swarthmore.

SATURDAY, August 29 The morning begins with a visit to Chanticleer Garden, the 35-acre estate of the affluent Rosengarten family. The Chanticleer estate dates from the early 20th-century, when land along the Main Line of the Pennsylvania Railroad was developed for summer homes to escape the heat of Philadelphia. Adolph Rosengarten, Sr. and his wife Christine chose the Wayne-St. David's area to build their country retreat and moved there permanently in 1924. Adolph, Jr. left the entire property for the enjoyment and education of the public following his death in 1990. The garden opened to the public in 1993.

After a delightful morning at Chanticleer Garden, we visit the stunning Winterthur Museum & Garden. Upon arrival we enjoy a box lunch before boarding the tram for a tour around the grounds. We will tour the house to see the exquisite spaces in which Henry DuPont entertained family and friends in grand style. The 175 rooms, many of them with historical architecture, are furnished with his outstanding collection of antiques and objects added since his death in 1969. The tour is a delight!

Next, we visit the gardens of Winterthur comprising 1,000 acres that encompass rolling hills, streams, meadows and forests. Founder Henry Francis DuPont developed an appreciation of nature as a boy that served as the basis for his life's work in the garden. He selected the choicest plants from around the world to enhance the natural setting, arranging them in lyrical color combinations and carefully orchestrating a succession of bloom from late January to November. We return to our hotel to freshen up before a delicious dinner at Antica Restaurant featuring Italian specialties.

SUNDAY, August 30 After checking out, we make our first stop at the private garden of David Culp. Brandywine Cottage is David Culp's beloved 2-acre garden where he mastered 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 at the onset of winter. To illustrate how layering works, Culp takes you on a personal tour through each part of his celebrated garden: the woodland garden, the perennial border, the kitchen garden, the shrubbery, and the walled garden. David is the author of "The Layered Garden."

There will be a lunch stop at Peddler's Village before our final stop. Jack Staub & Renny Reynolds will welcome us to Hortulus Farm and Garden. This 100-acre home and farm tries to respect the integrity of the farm's historical significance and natural landscape, with the occasional whimsical or formal statements thrown in. The gardens are composed of twenty separate formal gardens including pastoral walks, idyllic ponds and streams and dramatic vistas. There will be time to visit the specialty 'connoisseur's nursery' which offers the rare and unusual in every category, each chosen by Renny or Jack for its outstanding beauty and performance.

TOUR LIMITED TO 25 PASSENGERS

COST \$1305 PP TWIN

\$1525 PP SINGLE

Non Members plus \$50

INCLUDES: Deluxe Motor coach transportation, 3 nights hotel, tax, baggage handling, 3 breakfasts, 1 boxed lunch, 3 dinners, 2 wine receptions, sightseeing per itinerary, Friendship Tours escort, all gratuities and \$125 pp donation to The Federated Garden Clubs of CT.

PRACTICALITIES

More information: Kathy Lindroth, Tours Coordinator, Tours@ctgardenclubs.org or 860.677.4807

This is an active tour. If you have questions about the activity level and your ability to do this tour, before signing up please call Kathy Lindroth, Tours Coordinator, 860.677.4807.

TO MAKE A RESERVATION: CALL BARBARA at FRIENDSHIP TOURS: 860-243-1630

DEPOSIT; \$200 per person with reservation to secure your spot

THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF CT, Inc. MEMBERS HAVE PRIORITY SIGN UP - UNTIL 12/15/2019
PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME OF YOUR GARDEN CLUB WHEN REGISTERING

FINAL PAYMENT: APRIL 2, 2020

CANCELLATION POLICY: If a passenger cancels from deposit to April 2, 2020 fee of \$150.00pp; April 2, 2020 to May 2, 2020 fee of \$700.00 pp; no refunds if canceled on May 2, 2020 or later unless a substitute is provided.

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