

Welcome to County Lines Country

It's our pleasure to take you on a guided armchair tour of our area. Each year, we select some of our favorite spots to share, curating a more manageable list from the bounty we have so near.

This year's Guidebook highlights the treasures, historic sites, great tastes and fabulous gardens that are well worth sampling on a leisurely weekend or summer afternoon. Whether you're a visitor, new neighbor or longtime resident, please keep this Guide handy for year-round use. Enjoy!



2022-2023
Guidebook

Day Trips & Outings

Start with the Big Three

MAYBE SOME YEAR WE'LL START OUR AREA GUIDE elsewhere, but not for 2023! We continue to believe any tour of our special part of the world must include stops at these three world-class attractions in our neighborhood. Not only do they amaze, but they continue to offer new reasons to visit every year.

LONGWOOD GARDENS

Where do we begin to describe the ever-changing seasonal beauty of legendary Longwood Gardens? From its humble beginnings as a Quaker farmstead and arboretum, to Pierre du Pont's stewardship, to its landmark status as a leading horticultural treasure with 10,000 species of plants, Longwood continues to evolve.

Yes, there are a thousand acres of gardens, with six distinct districts ranging from the Conservatory to the Meadows and more. The kids can enjoy the Children's Garden, roaming among the topiary, or exploring the treehouses. Others can stroll through the Italian Water Garden. Visitors can join 30-minute spotlight walks and 60-minute behind-the-scenes fountain tours or climb the Chimes Tower (select Sundays) and enjoy 62-bell Carillon concerts (check schedule).

But in summer, the main attractions are all about the performances — music, theater and the illuminated, dancing fountain shows, set to music ranging from country to Taylor Swift to Rachmaninov. New this year are two weekends of Drones and Fountains shows (early June and late September). Throughout the summer and into October, enjoy choreographed fountain shows — several

times during the day and colorfully illuminated demos at 9:15 p.m. (moved to 8:15 as fall approaches).

Take a break during your visit with a stop at the Café (mushroom soup, salads, sandwiches), the 1906 Restaurant (more formal dining) or the light-bedecked Beer Garden (pretzels, pizza, local brews).

Don't mind the construction west of the Conservatory. The steel and glass crystal palace is just part of the ongoing 2030 Strategic Plan (and doesn't interfere with the fountain shows). Check website for admission, reservations and event schedules. *Routes 1 & 52, Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org.*



BRANDYWINE RIVER MUSEUM OF ART

This gem of a museum is housed in a converted 19th-century mill with a stunning glass-and-steel addition set along the historic Brandywine River. The 15-acre campus, which is also fittingly home to the Brandywine Conservatory, is a showcase of native plants dotted with sculptures. To expand your tour and understanding of the Wyeth family of artists, whose art is the cornerstone of the museum's collection, also visit Andrew Wyeth's studio, N.C. Wyeth's home and studio, and the Kuerner Farm, a frequent inspiration and subject of artworks.

Visitors can get a perfect introduction to the Wyeths' art through "Andrew Wyeth: Home Places," which runs through July 30. This exhibit presents nearly 50 paintings and drawings of local buildings in the Chadds Ford area that inspired Wyeth over seven decades of his career. Many pieces have never been exhibited before, offering a first glimpse at a treasure trove that sheds new light on the artist's creative process.

For something very different, visit a unique exhibition dedicated to the nature-based works of pioneering American modernist painter Joseph Stella (1877–1946). On view through September 24, "Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature" features more

than 80 paintings and works on paper revealing the breadth of the artist's multi-faceted work and his complex response to nature.

Families will find many works in the museum that appeal to children, including paintings and sculptures of animals, illustrations of pirates and characters from classic adventure stories (N.C. Wyeth's book illustrations), plus colorful landscape and still life paintings. Artwork by students from local schools is on view in a rotating exhibition, "Imagine Brandywine." There are grassy spaces for picnics along the creek, and the Museum's café is child friendly. *Route 1, Chadds Ford. BrandywineMuseum.org.*



Joseph Stella, *Flowers, Italy*



WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDENS & LIBRARY

For more du Pont magic, head into Delaware to Winterthur Museum, Gardens & Library. See the world-class collections of American material culture, art, design and history, along with house and garden tours, and live performances on the estate.

There are several guided museum tours to explore the collections housed in the elegant former mansion. Perhaps you'll meet one of the many experts on staff, including curator Ann Wagner, who was quoted in the *New York Times* about sterling silver.

Consider attending the Garden to Vase Floral Design Workshops, including the Sensational Summer session on July 19. And because H. F. du Pont often used nontraditional containers for his flower arrangements, bring your own unusual container and learn to create arrangements using locally sourced flowers.

July 15 and 16 mark the return of the Artisan Market for a weekend of shopping for special crafts and gifts. Talented craftspeople present their wares, including antiques and collectibles, furniture and home décor, upcycled items and architectural salvage, vintage clothing and jewelry, original art and more. Admission includes access to the house and grounds. Add music and you'll understand why this event sells out!

Finally, you may be surprised by the many child-centered activities planned this summer at Winterthur. Terrific Tuesdays introduce history, art, conservation and storytelling to kids 3 to 10 (and their adults, \$5), with new activities and guests each week. And story time in the Enchanted Woods is always a favorite. Share the joy of reading while cultivating children's interest in and appreciation for nature (ages 3 to 6). July 6's story is *If I Were a Tree* by Dar Hosta.

Don't miss the tram tours. A great overview of the property and loved by visitors of all ages. *5105 Kennett Pike, Winterthur, DE. Winterthur.org.*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY



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PHOTO CREDIT: JAMES SCHNECK



Explore Chester and Delaware Counties

Our area has a long and storied past, giving us a very long list of places dedicated to preserving and educating others about that history. Here are a few of our favorite historical sites to visit this summer, where you can get a glimpse into our region's past — and maybe even take part in it.



BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD PARK

On September 17, 1777, George Washington's Continental Army fought the British Army in the Battle of Brandywine, the largest single-day land battle of the American Revolution. Although the Continental Army was defeated, their resilience helped convince France to aid in the war effort.

Brandywine Battlefield Park is a 52-acre park that was the epicenter of Washington's encampment. Admission to the grounds is free, but tickets (Visitors Center, Fri. & Sat., 10 to 4) give access to an 18-minute orientation film, museum admission and guided tours of the Benjamin Ring House (Washington's headquarters) and Gideon Gilpin Home and more.

Through July, the park hosts weekly summer camps for children entering grades 3 to 6. Campers will learn about the Continental Army and life in the 18th century through hands-on activities and visits from historical figures. *Open March–Dec., Tues.–Sat., 10 to 4. 1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. BrandywineBattlefield.org.*

COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA PLANTATION

At Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, you'll find yourself transported to the 18th century. Located in Ridley Creek State Park, this living history site educates visitors about the everyday life of colonial farmers, who composed nearly 90% of Pennsylvania's early population.

The 112-acre working farm consists of five restored historic buildings, crop fields, a kitchen garden, orchard and apiary. Costumed interpreters perform daily chores — tending to livestock, growing heirloom produce, cooking, woodworking, blacksmithing — and encourage visitors to participate. In July, you can help harvest heritage Red May wheat and Bere barley crops.

The Plantation hosts events and workshops throughout the year. Learn a new skill, like spinning, ox driving, soap making and even colonial beer brewing methods, and gain a better appreciation of those who came before us. *Open March–Dec., Sat. & Sun., 11 to 4. 3000 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. ColonialPlantation.org.*

CHADDS FORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For over 50 years, the Chadds Ford Historical Society has been educating, preserving history and serving the community. Three 18th-century houses are the focal point of their efforts, operating as museums and open for Saturday tours.

The John Chads House was built in 1725 for, not surprisingly, John Chads, a Quaker ferryman and Chadds Ford's namesake. The Springhouse is a one-room schoolhouse with a natural spring in the basement. The 1714 Barns-Brinton House, open between Memorial Day and Labor Day, was a tavern before becoming the Brinton family home for over a century.

The Barn Visitors Center is home to public exhibits, a museum store and research library. Plan to visit during Historic Chadds Ford Days, September 16 and 17, featuring Brandywine Battle reenactments, demonstrators and historians, live music, food and beverages. *Open Thurs.–Sat., 11 to 5. 1736 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. ChaddsFordHistory.org.*

HISTORIC SUGARTOWN

Visit the lovingly restored 19th-century village of Sugartown. Throughout the 1800s, Sugartown was a vibrant crossroads community, serving the surrounding farming community and weary travelers making their way to Philadelphia. Today, Historic Sugartown shows us how early Americans conducted business and lived as a community.

From May to November, the village offers guided tours on Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. You'll get to see the c. 1880 general store, school room exhibit, book bindery, c. 1805 William Garret House, c. 1835 Cheever Bank Barn and Carriage Museum.

The village also hosts workshops and special events. This month, there are bookbinding workshops on July 8 and 9, and marbling workshops on July 22 and 23. And don't miss the Pop-Up Biergarten on July 27 and August 24. *Open daily, 9 to 5. 273 Boot Rd., Malvern. HistoricSugartown.org.*

THE MILL AT ANSELMA

Discover Chester County's industrial heritage at the Mill at Anselma. A National Historic Landmark, the 18th-century mill and homestead showcase our region's cultural history. The main attraction is the c. 1741 grist mill, with original colonial-era power train, as well as multiple layers of industrial equipment from the late 1700s to early 1900s.

The mill is open for tours on weekends and hosts mill-grinding demonstrations on the second Saturday of each month, April to December. The 22-acre grounds and trails are open daily from dusk to dawn for hikes and picnics. On July 20, come for Music at the Mill. Check online for more details.

Before you leave, drop by the gift shop, which offers stone-ground flour from the mill as well as souvenirs. *Open April–Dec., Sat., 10 to 4, Sun., 1 to 4. 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. AnselmaMill.org.*

HOPEWELL FURNACE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

First, a caveat: though it has an Elverson address, Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site is technically in Berks County. That said, it's a must-see.

In operation from 1771 to 1883, Hopewell Furnace was one of the "iron plantations" that helped kickstart America's Industrial Revolution. Today, the 848-acre site offers a glimpse into the business, technology and lifestyle of our young nation. Next to French Creek State Park, the historic site is also a great place for a hike, picnic or birdwatching.

Start at the Visitor Center, with exhibits, audio-visual programs and bookstore, then tour the grounds and 14 historic structures. The kiddos can become Junior Rangers by answering questions and finding important items, and earn a special badge. Visit the farm and meet domesticated animals similar to those found at the furnace in its heyday. In September and October, pick historic apple varieties in the orchard. *Open daily, 9 to 5. Closed Mon. & Tues., Oct.–May. 2 Mark Bird Ln., Elverson. NPS.gov/HoFu.*





Drive to Delaware

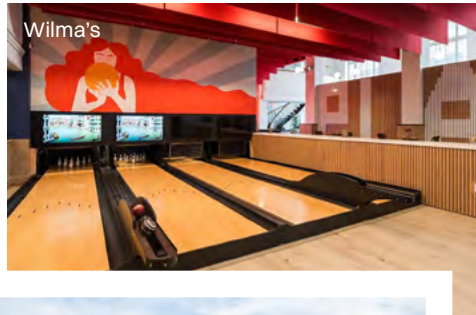
WILMINGTON

Wilmington is truly worth the drive — whether it's to visit world-class art collections in the Delaware Art Museum, be entertained at The Grand Opera House, or enjoy the Riverwalk by the Christina River.

In addition to the usual attractions, we noticed the city has experienced a dining resurgence beyond the fine dining offered at Le Cavalier in the Hotel Du Pont, Bardea Food & Drink (plus the newer Bardea Steak) and longtime fave, La Fia. More recently, innovative food courts and casual eateries have joined the dining scene.

For something fun and unexpected, try Wilma's, a refreshing combo of eats, drinks and ... 10-pin bowling (yes, those smaller bowling pins on a shorter lane). Serving a "feel-good menu of New Orleans-style" favorites for brunch, lunch, happy hour, cocktails and dinner (plus a kids menu), it's the place for your next po'boy or shrimp and grits, washed down with a Sazerac. 900 N. Market St. [GoodTimesWilmas.com](#).

DE.CO Wilmington, a contemporary food hall in the Hotel Du Pont building, satisfies your cravings all times of day with eight



Wilma's



Delaware Art Museum

restaurants. Grab your coffee and croissant, then chicken and waffles at Connie's, and fruit smoothies at Eat Clean. There's pizza, sushi and more for lunch. Chill with a drink in the sunny atrium bar. 111 W. 10th St. [DECOWilmington.com](#).

A few blocks away, stop into The Chancery Market, offering seven unique food concepts from a collection of diverse merchants. Sample this curated experience from Akhtar Nawab, Chef & Co-CEO and Founding Partner at Hospitality HQ. The market's offerings also span the day, from coffee and crepes in the morning to burgers and pizzas for lunch and a vibrant atmosphere for a night out. 1313 N. Market St. [TheChanceryMarket.com](#).

DELAWARE STATE FAIR

This annual, 10-day state fair is held on the 300-acre fairgrounds in Harrington, July 20th to 29th this year, with the theme "Farmlands to Fair Fans." Since starting in 1920, its mission has been to promote agricultural heritage and values, with exhibitors, livestock and all the makings of a classic state fair, including butter sculpture.

Visit competitive exhibits — think 4-H, FFA (Future Farmers of America), garden vegetables, farm, fruit and apiary classes. Check out contests, including some for kids (shoebox floats, Legos, duct tape), others with flowers and involving the culinary arts (Berry DELicious), and throw in horseshoe pitching. Livestock exhibits cover beef and dairy cows, sheep, goats, swine, plus horses and ponies, poultry and rabbits. And make sure to see the junior livestock auction.

For more entertainment, there's a concert series, which years ago had Taylor Swift as an opening act. For 2023, the shows range from rapper Nelly to '90s star Vanilla Ice to country's Tyler Hubbard (of Florida Georgia Line), plus a demolition derby and harness racing.

Like we said, a classic state fair! Admission: \$10, kids under 5, free. 18500 S. DuPont Hwy., Harrington. [DelawareStateFair.com](#).



HISTORIC TOWNS OF NEW CASTLE AND ODESSA

What's a visit to the First State without some history? Just 10 minutes south of Wilmington and set on the Delaware River is the charming historic town of New Castle, the oldest continuously occupied town in the Delaware Valley.

Thanks to local preservation efforts, this Colonial/Federalist town is second only to Williamsburg, VA in the number and quality of its historic buildings. Established in 1651 (William Penn landed in 1682), this

authentic, living town was named one of the most beautiful small towns in America (in 2015 by *Good Housekeeping*). In keeping with its history, the town continues to celebrate Separation Day (June 9 & 10 in 2023), marking the vote to leave England. Its modern side supports free summer concerts in Battery Park on Wednesdays.

Walking tours take you on tree-lined cobblestone streets to a village green, public and private gardens and period residences, now used as 21st-century homes. Be sure to visit the park along the river (known as The Battery) and stop in a historic restaurant, like Jessop's Tavern, serving colonial comfort food. Visit Immanuel Church and its churchyard dating back to 1703, and the George B. Read House, a grand Federal mansion surrounded by lovely gardens and open to the public.



Historic New Castle



Historic Odessa

Come back for the annual Belgian Beer Fest, Sept. 23, where you can sample saison DuPont. [HistoricNewCastle.com](#).

For another historic village, continue south to Odessa, boasting five distinctive preserved houses full of exceptional examples of decorative arts, plus tales of its role in the Underground Railroad. [HistoricOdessa.org](#).

MARSHALL STEAM MUSEUM

Now something for kids of all ages. Step back in time and visit the Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights Preserve, which houses the world's largest operating collection of Stanley steam cars, a one-eighth-sized live coal-fired steam railroad, and other treasures on the 250-acre grounds, part of the Delaware State Park system.

The best introduction to this attraction is at a monthly Steamin' Day (July 2, Aug. 6). Climb into an antique automobile, board a train and experience what it was like to travel at the turn of the 20th century. Then tour the 1897 Queen Anne mansion, home to three generations of the Marshall family. Time permitting, stop by the current exhibit, "Stylized: The Road to Elegance," which explores the crossroads of fashion and the automobile, 1900–1950, including the role women played.

Top off your visit with fresh popped popcorn from their vintage popper. And you might catch a visit by the Woodside Farm Creamery ice cream truck as the capper for a perfect day. 3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn. [AuburnHeights.org](#).





Sample Lancaster County

Lancaster County is known for its food. Not the gourmet kind that looks too pretty to eat, but the homestyle, lick-your-fingers kind. Whoopie pies, stroopies, pretzels, ice cream ... Question is, where can you find some of the best to sample as you tour the area?

STROOPIES OVER COFFEE

Pennsylvania Dutch country is the place to sample a stroopie, a Dutch stroopwafel, made with two thin, wafer-like cinnamon cookies with a layer of caramel inside. The caramel bonds the two halves, sticking the two sides of the waffle together to form a sort of cookie sandwich, which is meant to be placed over a steaming cup of coffee or tea to be re-warmed. As the caramel filling heats up the stroop-wafel, it becomes flexible, gooey and irresistible.

Stroopies can also be made in a variety of creative flavors: espresso, pecan, coconut, to name a few. Sometimes they're chocolate-dipped.

Look for stroopies at the Lancaster Sweet Shoppe (141 Duke St., Lancaster). It makes the original recipe as well as gluten-free.



Lancaster Sweet Shoppe

FESTIVAL OF WHOOPIE PIES

As you likely know, the classic whoopie pie consists of rich white cream filling between two soft chocolate cakes or cookies. But there are countless variations on this theme. For the cakes, there's chocolate chip, red velvet or pumpkin, some with icing. For fillings, savor chocolate, strawberry, raspberry, cream cheese, coconut cream, orange cream, Key lime or peanut butter options. Some bakers make truly unusual flavors like blueberry, banana, maple or shoofly pie.

You'll find whoopie pies at bakers, grocers, markets, even restaurants throughout Lancaster County. But in September, come back for a visit to the annual Whoopie Pie Festival at the Hershey Farm Restaurant in Ronks. Cinnamon, coffee, banana, pineapple, Heath bar, root beer, caramel apple, sangria and more. Over 350 flavors! 80,000 whoopie pies! Go early because it sells out.



Hershey Farm Restaurant

SHOOFLY PIE, WET OR DRY

Another traditional treat, shoofly pie is a molasses pie, generally enjoyed as a sweet dessert, though often served at breakfast in Lancaster County. It gets its name because the molasses attracts flies. As the pie is cooling on a counter or window sill, the vigilant baker is constantly shooing the flies away.

Shoofly pie is similar to a coffee cake, with a deep, caramel-like molasses flavor and a buttery, spiced brown sugar topping. In addition to molasses, the pie is made with brown sugar, flour, water, spices and sometimes egg. A crumb mixture topping complements a flaky pie crust.

Most people prefer the "wet bottom" version of shoofly pie, with a gooey bottom layer that forms when the pie bakes. "Dry bottom" is more a cake-like consistency. Why not try both?

Bird-in-Hand Bakery and Cafe (2715 Old Philadelphia Pk.) is known for its shoofly pie, although many roadside stands, smorgasbords and restaurants — Miller's Smorgasbord, Shady Maple — offer up tasty versions.



Miller's Smorgasbord

PRETZELS, HARD OR SOFT

What would a trip to Lancaster County be without a pretzel? And, at Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery (219 East Main St., Lititz), you can see pretzels being made. Take a 25-minute tour and get a hands-on lesson in pretzel twisting. Watch bakers twisting old-fashioned soft pretzels deftly with a flip of the wrist.

Or skip the presentation and snag a fresh soft pretzel to enjoy on site. Get chocolate-covered, caramel-topped or peanut butter pretzels topped in milk or dark chocolate. All are dipped in Wilbur chocolate, another Lititz favorite.

Sturgis isn't the only pretzel-maker in Lancaster County. The oldest, family-operated, hand-rolled, hard pretzel-maker is Hammond's Pretzels (716 West End Ave., Lancaster).

Another option for pretzels, hand-rolled and soft, in various flavors — cinnamon sugar, garlic herb, sour cream and onion — is Sara-Faye's in Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop (542 Gibbons Rd., Bird-in-Hand).



Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery



ICE CREAM ON THE TRAIL

If you're ready for a break during your tour of the county, feel lucky because you're in dairy — call it creamery — country. And many local farms specialize in making ice cream for cones, sundaes, milkshakes and more. A few years ago, about 25 stops became known as the Ice Cream Trail. Here are a few.

First, the two locations for the Fox Meadows Creamery (2475 W. Main St., Ephrata and 193 E. Main St., Leola) carry about 25 flavors, including Wilbur chocolate, Madagascar vanilla, honeyed lavender, mango and sticky rice, Nutella, Tandy Cake and passion fruit guava sorbet.

Rolled Cold Creamery (24 E. Orange St., Lancaster and 3526 Old Philadelphia Pk., Intercourse) carries about 20 flavors of ice cream (including gluten free) as well as 20 toppings and six flavors of syrup. Think of the thousands of varieties of sundaes possible!

Featuring freshly made waffle cones, the Lapp Valley Farm Creamery (244 Mentzer Rd., New Holland and a large, new facility at 4040 Old Philadelphia Pk., Gordonville) makes 16 flavors of small batch, very rich, higher fat ice cream only from Jersey cows. You can also get Lapp Valley's ice cream at Green Dragon Market (955 N. State St., Ephrata) or the Ice Cream Shop in Kettle Kitchen (3529 Old Philadelphia Pk., Intercourse).

And, at Down on the Farm Creamery (509 May Post Office Rd., Strasburg) choose from more than 20 flavors, all made in small batches of five to 10 gallons, with no cream removed. A special kind of richness!



Fox Meadows Creamery



Long's Park for Music and Art

Since 1962, on summer Sunday evenings, Long's Park (1441 Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster) has held free concerts at the Amphitheatre, spanning folk, rock, jazz, blues, bluegrass, Afro-funk, Cajun and more. This July's lineup features the U.S. Army Band, Runa, Steep Canyon Rangers, Sonny Landreth and Cindy Cashdollar, and the David Wax Museum. Bring a blanket, chair and picnic.

September 1st to the 3rd, Long's Park hosts its annual Arts Festival, recognized as one of the best fine arts festivals on the East Coast, featuring 200 exhibitors and attracting 13,000 visitors.

Enjoy Nature on the Main Line



The Main Line stretches from Bala Cynwyd in the east to, approximately, Malvern in the west. Realtors and others differ constantly, stretching the western boundaries to include their listings and businesses in this highly desirable designation.

The area, however, does indisputably include five fantastic gardens open to the public to enjoy — no matter where you're coming from. We suggest a drive to the

Main Line this summer to visit the Barnes Arboretum in Merion, Haverford College grounds in Haverford, Stoneleigh in Villanova, Chanticleer in Wayne and Jenkins Arboretum in Devon.

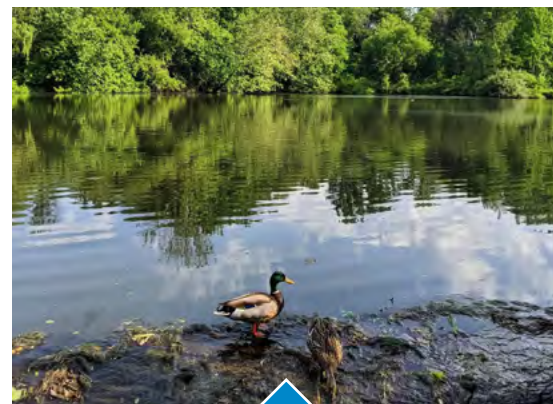
Valley Forge National Park, though technically not an arboretum or garden — nor on the Main Line by any stretch — is yet another spectacular nearby place to commune with nature.



BARNES ARBORETUM

The Barnes Arboretum is a 12-acre oasis near City Line Avenue (the border between Philadelphia and the western suburbs), located at 50 Lapsley Lane in Merion. It's home to more than 2,500 different types of trees and plants, including a fair number of rare specimens.

The arboretum has over 30 Pennsylvania champion trees, along with a collection of hardy ferns that's the largest in the mid-Atlantic region. Some of its peonies, lilacs and ferns are over a century old. The grounds also contain a formal rose and perennial garden, woodland, lawns, pond, stream and a greenhouse. In all, its herbarium encompasses over 10,000 specimens, used for teaching and research. Open to the public on weekdays from 8:30 to 5:30 and on weekends from 11 to 4. BarnesFoundation.org.



HAVERFORD COLLEGE ARBORETUM

The Haverford College Arboretum covers the college's entire campus, 216 acres located on the south side of Lancaster Avenue (Route 30.) A 2.2-mile Nature Trail — used by runners, joggers, dog-walkers and occasional students — borders the campus, showcasing its trees and shrubs. The trail takes you past sights such as the Duck Pond (but don't feed the ducks), a 108-year-old elm tree linked to early encounters between William Penn and the Lenape natives, and Haverfarm, which produces and distributes food for the community.

Also on campus is the Ryan Pinetum (pine trees and conifers), an 18-acre site which includes four state champions. Located by the dining hall, the Asian Gardens are part of the Arboretum but not visible from the Nature Trail. It's worth a detour. Haverford.edu/Arboretum.

STONELEIGH: A NATURAL GARDEN

Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden, a 42-acre property with an 0.8-mile walk, is located at 1829 East County Line Road, Villanova. The property was donated in 2016 to Natural Lands by the Haas family, which lived there.

The land has been shaped by a series of landscape gardeners, including Charles Miller, who tended Fairmount Park, Pentecost and Vitale, as well as the Olmsted Brothers, the most prestigious landscape architects in the country (sons of Fredrick Law Olmsted). Now a showcase for native plants and biodiversity, the grounds are open Tuesday–Sunday, 10 to 5, free of charge. Events are conducted throughout the summer. StoneleighGarden.org.



PHOTO CREDIT: MAE AXELROD

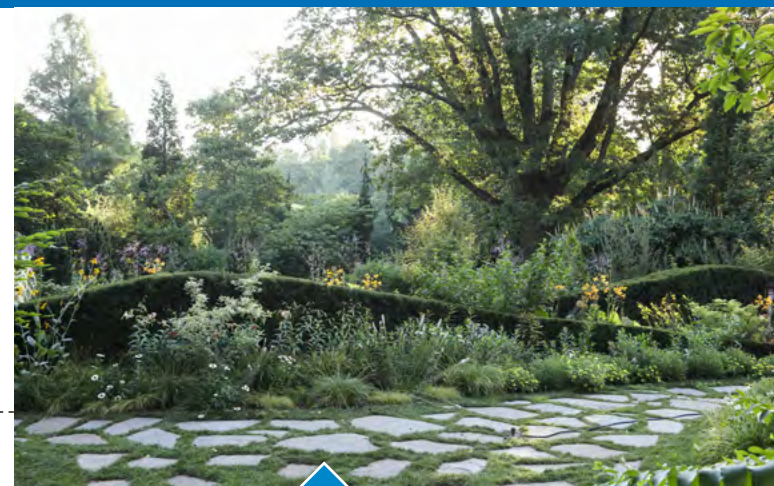
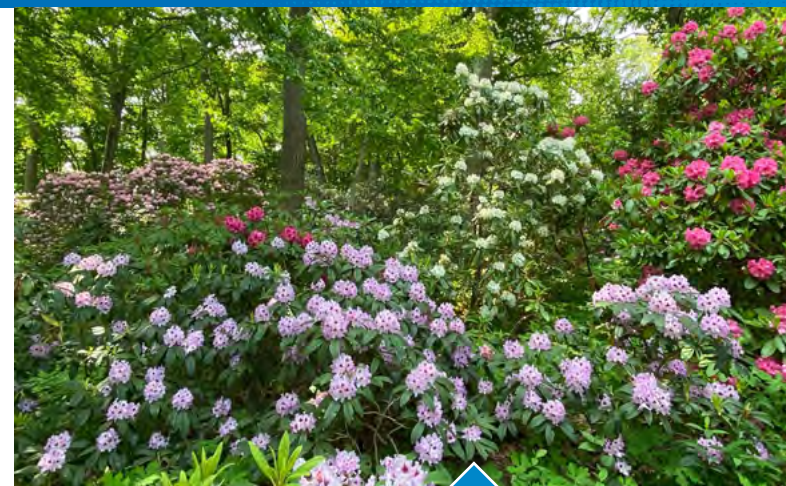


PHOTO CREDIT: LISA ROOPER, COURTESY OF CHANTICLEER



CHANTICLEER

Chanticleer, the former home of Adolph Rosengarten, Sr. and his wife Christine, was left to the public in 1990. The grounds encompass at least 14 individual gardens — the Teacup Garden, Serpentine, Bulb Meadow, Asian Woods, Pond Garden, Gravel Garden, Tennis Court, Ruin Garden, Minder Woods, Orchard, Creek Garden, Bell's Woodland, Vegetable Garden and Cutting Garden — as well as many plantings connecting the gardens and circling the mansion.

The gardens feature seasonal plants, tropical and subtropical plants, perennials and more. Classes are conducted throughout the summer. Chanticleer is open from 10 to 5 on Wednesday through Sunday, until 8 on Fridays through Labor Day, and opens at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month through October. ChanticleerGarden.org.

VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Valley Forge National Historic Park is 3,500 acres of hills, fields and forests with the Schuylkill River and Valley Creek running through it. Known primarily for its role in the Revolutionary War, the park is also a wonderland of plants, birds, insects, fish and mammals. There have been 225 species of birds and about 90 species of other animals identified there.

The higher and drier areas support forests of chestnut oak, black oak, white oak and scarlet oak. The river and creek areas of the park have silver maple, green ash, sycamore, box elder, tulip trees, black walnut, white ash, tree-of-heaven and black locust. Vines, including Oriental bittersweet, Japanese honeysuckle and summer grape, cover many trees.

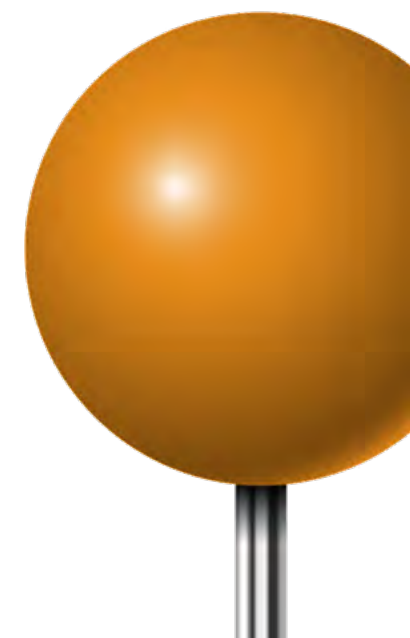
Along the river and creeks, you'll see skunk cabbage, purple top and little blue stem, as well as wildlife, such as foxes, deer, hawks, meadowlarks and an assortment of butterflies. In the water, smallmouth bass, walleye, carp, catfish, sunfish and an occasional brown trout can be found. NPS.gov/VaFo.

JENKINS ARBORETUM & GARDENS

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens, at 631 Berwyn Baptist Road in Devon, is known for its rhododendrons, azaleas, blueberries, mountain laurels and many selections and hybrids. Some of the rhododendrons and kalmias cannot be found elsewhere in North America.

Many rare plants are also on display, including buttonbush, Franklin tree, pawpaw, strawberry bush, striped maple, white oak. About 5,000 plants — 1,500 taxa — can be seen throughout the arboretum, where you can enjoy seven walks, each about a quarter-mile long.

Jenkins features free tours on weekdays. Join their Wednesday Walkabout and How-To Garden Shop Pop-Ups for free. Open every day from 9 to 8 through August, until 7 p.m. in September, until 5 p.m. in October. JenkinsArboretum.org.



2023 Town Tours & Village Walks – Our Agricultural Heritage

Take an evening (or two or three) and enjoy these summer strolls through historic neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and sites throughout the county. You'll be informed, entertained and have an increased awareness of Chester County's rich heritage and historic landscape. Tours are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



July 13 – Kennett Square's Agricultural Past: It's Not All About Mushrooms!

The tour begins on the main commercial street with the sites of three historic buildings in Kennett Square. Then the tour meanders through the residential district where our agricultural leaders lived or worked. *120 E. Linden St., exit garage to Genesis Walkway.*

July 20 – Spackman-Davis Farm, Caln Township

Tour one of the earliest working farms in Chester County that helped spawn the county's growth as a leader in agricultural production. Nearly all of Caln was once farmland that produced field crops, dairy and livestock, including the largest chicken farm in Pennsylvania. *3401 E. Kings Hwy. (Rt. 340), Downingtown.*

July 27 – Grove United Methodist Church, West Whiteland Township

Learn about the rich history of the congregation of Grove Church — once referred to as "the country church" — now in its 250th year of worship. *490 W. Boot Rd., West Chester.*

August 3 – Historic Farms, Upper Uwchlan Township

Three historic farms will be spotlighted, demonstrating Upper Uwchlan's agricultural heritage. All three farms include at least one intact historic building dating from the mid-1700s. *Tours start at Upland Farm Park, 301 Pottstown Pk., Chester Springs.*

August 10 – Yeager's Farm & Market, East Pikeland Township

At least seven generations of the Yeager family have farmed several parcels in the southwestern corner of the township, and several generations continue the tradition. The tour shows how some family farms have adapted to changes over the past few years as crops have changed. *1015 Pike Springs Rd. (Rt. 113), Phoenixville.*

August 17 – Historic Yellow Springs, West Pikeland Township — Historic Yellow Springs: Barns Repurposed

Author and barn historian Gregory D. Huber will present a history of Chester County barns and how they evolved. The village of Yellow Springs is home to two such barns, built to store grains and animals. They were adapted to become theaters, fine arts and movie production studios. *1701 Art School Rd., Chester Springs.*

More at ChesCoPlanning.org.



Kennett Square



Grove United Methodist Church, West Chester



Historic Yellow Springs