

# Welcome to County Lines Country



2026-27  
Guidebook

# Day Trips & Outings

## Start with the Big 3

### LONGWOOD GARDENS

This summer will deliver another spectacular experience at Longwood Gardens' 1,100 acres, with 2026 shaping up to be one of its biggest seasons yet. As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, Longwood is joining in with an expanded Festival of Fountains, more special performances and some of the most ambitious events to let you make your own history. Hope you made reservations for America's 250th Weekend festivities, July 3-5!

From May through September 27, the Festival of Fountains transforms the gardens into a crowd-pleasing showcase of water, music and color. Daytime performances send 1,719 jets soaring above the Main Fountain Garden, while evening Illuminated Fountain Performances add dramatic lighting and music after dark.

Highlights include six Fireworks & Fountains shows, combining choreographed fountain displays with fireworks over the gardens. New for 2026 is The Four Seasons: A Drones & Strings Spectacular, August 26 and 27, pairing live music by Vivaldi, candlelight and drone technology for two unforgettable evenings (special tickets required).

Visitors can also enjoy concerts, theater, dance performances, live music in the Beer Garden, carillon concerts and themed Fountain Fest weekends throughout the summer. Concert themes range from "Great American Composers" on July 2, to "Blue Tango" on August 22 to "Electric 80s" on September 26. Check the website for dates and details.

Of course, the gardens themselves remain the star attraction, as families can take nature walks and enjoy seasonal programs. Meanwhile, the West Conservatory, Waterlily Court, Flower Garden Walk and Meadow Garden are all in peak form for summer visits. And for those who want to turn up the creativity, there are hundreds of classes and hands-on workshops to explore. Maybe this is the year to get your Floral Design Certification, classes July 13-24.

Add world-class dining at the 1906 Seasonal Table, extended evening hours and ever-changing displays, and you'll want to plan return visits to one of the Brandywine Valley's most celebrated destinations. *Routes 1 & 52, Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org*

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### BRANDYWINE MUSEUM OF ART

For a summer outing blending art, scenery and culture, the Brandywine Museum of Art is a best bet. Set along the Brandywine Creek, the museum pairs renowned collections by generations of the Wyeth family — N.C., Andrew, Jamie — with rotating special exhibitions.

This year's highlights include "Treasures from the Family: The Gift of Betsy James Wyeth," showcasing works of art and archival materials offering a fresh look at one of the Brandywine Valley's most influential artistic families. Also on view are exhibits examining the American landscape tradition and contemporary art, including "Abundance/Excess: A Contemporary Eye on Still Life." The N.C. Wyeth Mural Experience — viewing "Apotheosis of the Family," housed in a round barn on Point Lookout Farm — continues through the summer.

Or join July 15's Plein Air Evening at Kuerner Farm. Bring a sketchbook, easel or camera to capture scenes that captivated Andrew Wyeth. The Museum Explorers programs offer weekly fun for families, and Concerts in the Courtyard will lift all souls. ParLOUR Noir performs on July 31 and Wicked Sycamore on August 7.

After touring the galleries, be sure to visit the museum grounds, trails and former studios of the Wyeths. *Route 1, Chadds Ford. BrandywineMuseum.org*

Katie Butler, "Kitchen Table Issues," 2024 ▶



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND ABARTTOIR GALLERY



PHOTO CREDIT: DANIEL JACKSON

### WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY

Of the many reasons to visit Winterthur, 2026 offers an extra one — the 75th anniversary of its opening to the public. Join the yearlong programs, exhibitions and special events highlighting Winterthur's legacy as one of America's premier museum and garden destinations. May's Field & Fête garden party was an elegant launch honoring the vision of founder Henry Francis du Pont.

Summer visitors are especially lucky since the estate is at its most colorful, from sweeping meadows and colorful hydrangeas to shaded woodland paths. Tram tours offer an easy way to explore the 1,000-acre property, while house tours showcase some of the country's finest American decorative arts.

Also in 2026, celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Enchanted Woods with special first Thursdays each month. The kiddos will also enjoy story time at the Story Stones — on July 23 hear "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle — plus more family fun on Terrific Tuesdays.

Another annual highlight, the Artisan Market, July 17-19, brings 150 artisans selling handmade crafts, antiques, home décor, artwork, garden goods, jewelry and gourmet foods.

Whether its gardens, history, design or simply a beautiful day outdoors, Winterthur offers a unique experience — both timeless and new in its anniversary year. *5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Winterthur.org*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY

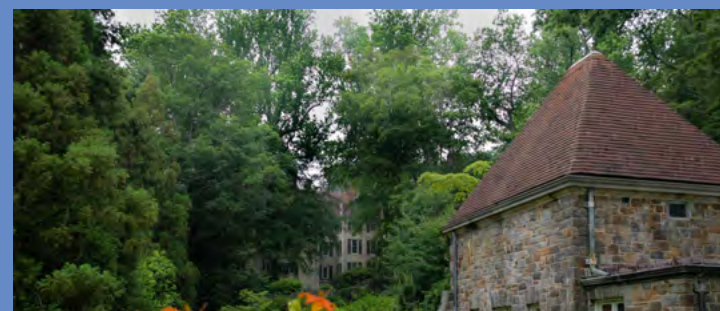


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# Step into History in Chester and Delaware Counties

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, it's the perfect time to explore the places where our nation's story began. From Revolutionary War battlefields and military hospitals to colonial farms and historic villages, Chester and Delaware Counties are rich with connections to America's past. Walk in the footsteps of soldiers, farmers, merchants and patriots who helped shape the nation. Plus, we've included a special detour to nearby Valley Forge — a must-see landmark of the Revolution.



## BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD PARK

On September 11, 1777, George Washington's Continental Army faced off against the British Army in the Battle of Brandywine, the largest single-day battle of the American Revolution. Nearly 30,000 troops clashed in a 10-square-mile area. Though the Continental Army was defeated, their resilience proved they could take on the redcoats and live to fight another day.

At the epicenter of Washington's encampment lies Brandywine Battlefield Park. Admission to the grounds is free, but a ticket (available Fri. & Sat., 10 to 4, Sun., 12 to 4) gets you access to the orientation film, museum and guided tour of the Gideon Gilpin Home, which served as British General Howe's headquarters. Note: Washington's headquarters is closed for construction. Check the website and social media for updates.

On August 1, Brandywine Battlefield Park celebrates America's 250th with "Voices of Brandywine." A collaboration with the Delaware Theatre Company and Historic Philadelphia, this dramatic retelling of the battle highlights the stories of those who lived through it. Events continue through 2027, the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Brandywine. *1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. BrandywineBattlefield.org*

## COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA FARMSTEAD

While the Continental Army fought for our nation's independence, the steady drum of everyday life beat on. Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead invites you to step back in time and discover the lives of colonial farmers, who made up nearly 90% of Pennsylvania's early population.

Located in Ridley Creek State Park, this 112-acre working farm and living history site features five restored historic buildings, crop fields, a kitchen garden, orchard and apiary. Costumed interpreters run the farmstead just as it was in the 18th century — horses and oxen plow fields, woodworkers and blacksmiths make essential items, hearth cooks use heirloom veggies and heritage grains grown onsite. Come ready to help with the daily chores!

Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead holds events and workshops throughout the year. This month, play colonial toys and games (July 5), learn how food was preserved (July 18) and churn your own ice cream (July 19). Don't miss their Fourth of July event — details on our America 250 page. *4300 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. ColonialFarmstead.org*



## HISTORIC SUGARTOWN

After the American Revolution was fought and won, the residents of Sugartown established a school, general store, businesses and meeting places, creating a vibrant crossroads town for the surrounding farming community. The village became known as Shugart's Town, after tavernkeeper Eli Shugart, and was a vital stop for weary travelers hauling their goods to the markets of Philadelphia and beyond.

Today, Historic Sugartown is a restored 19th-century village, offering a window into early American life. From May to November, take a 90-minute guided tour of the village (Sat., 11 to 4, Sun., 1 to 4) and visit the general store and school room exhibit, Carriage Museum, c. 1805 Garrett House, book bindery and bank barn.

The village also hosts workshops and special events. This month, take a bookbinding (July 11) or book restoration (July 18) workshop. Then return on August 20 for the Pop-Up Biergarten, featuring Locust Lane brews, food truck bites and a paper marbling workshop. *273 Boot Rd., Malvern. HistoricSugartown.org*



## HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS

Founded as a spa village in the 18th century, Yellow Springs was the site of Washington Hall, the Continental Army's first military hospital. George Washington ordered its construction during the brutal winter of 1777–1778, when more soldiers were killed by disease than battle. The hospital laid the early groundwork for modern American medical care, introducing practices we now take for granted — cleanliness, patient isolation, nutritious meals and the use of medicinal herbs.

After the war, the village once again became a spa town. Later, it was home to a school for Civil War orphans, a fine arts campus and sci-fi movie studio (think "The Blob"). Today, Yellow Springs is a place to study art, history and the environment. Pick up a map in the lobby and explore the village, including the hospital ruins and 18th-century medicinal herb garden. On third Tuesdays, take a guided tour for a "behind-the-scenes" experience.

Of course, Yellow Springs is perhaps best known today as an art studio — register online for classes and workshops. *1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. YellowSprings.org*



## PAOLI BATTLEFIELD HISTORICAL PARK

On the night of September 20, 1777, British forces led a surprise attack against General Anthony Wayne's troops in present-day Malvern. Since the battle took place near the Paoli Tavern, it became known as the Battle of Paoli — or, to the Americans, who decried the redcoats' use of bayonets and falsely claimed they gave no quarter, the Paoli Massacre. Wayne's troops swore revenge for this bloody battle, and "Remember Paoli!" became their battle cry.

The 44-acre grounds have remained as farm fields and woods since the battle — making it one of the most pristine Revolutionary War battlefields. A shaded, ¾-mile trail leads you on a self-guided tour, with interpretive panels telling the story of the battle and its legacy. Next to the park, the Paoli Memorial Grounds contain the gravesite of 53 American soldiers and a stone monument erected in their honor — the second-oldest war memorial in the country.

Mark your calendar for Heritage Day, September 26, for reenactors, food trucks and other vendors, and a memorial ceremony. *Monument & Wayne Aves., Malvern. PBPFInc.org*



## VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

After the British captured Philadelphia in September 1777, George Washington and his army fled to Valley Forge and made camp for the winter. In December 1777, 12,000 patriots, including soldiers, craftsmen, women and children, marched into Valley Forge. Faced with supply challenges and disease, around 2,000 died by June 1778. That said, the winter at Valley Forge transformed the Continental Army from a ragtag group of rebels into a professional fighting force.

Today, Valley Forge National Historic Park attracts nearly 2 million visitors each year. The park protects 3,500 acres of meadows, woodlands, historic landscapes and monuments. The 10-mile Encampment Tour Route takes you to nine major sites, including Washington's headquarters, reconstructed soldiers' huts and the National Memorial Arch. Explore by car, bike or trolley — call for reservations. Plus, listen to the audio tour (purchase online) or dial in to the cell phone guide at each stop.

From July 3 to 5, Valley Forge Park is celebrating its 50th birthday — and the nation's 250th — with special events and programming. Details online. *1400 N. Outer Line Dr., King of Prussia. NPS.gov/VAFO*



# Go on a Main Line Shopping Spree

It's time to treat yourself! Spend a day exploring the Main Line's charming downtowns, where you'll find stylish boutiques, unique gifts, artisan goods and specialty shops you won't find anywhere else. From Malvern to Wayne to Ardmore, each town offers its own distinctive mix of retailers worth a visit.

## MALVERN

Stroll Malvern's King Street — coffee and pastry from **The Buttery** in hand — and discover an eclectic mix of shops. Browse equestrian apparel at **Malvern Saddlery**, hand-knotted rugs at **Knots and Weaves**, trading cards and collectibles at **King Street Cards** and sweet treats at **Rockin' Cotton Candy Co.**

For gifts and home décor, **Terra Culture Gifts** offers handcrafted jewelry, pottery and accessories, while **Moss & Meadow** stocks flowers, garden-inspired goods and whimsical finds. Sustainable shoppers will love **A Step Above Malvern**, a retail co-op featuring clothing, jewelry, art and home goods from local makers.

Looking to refresh your wardrobe? Find boho-chic styles at **12 West**, contemporary fashion at **Posh Collections**, designer consignment at **Vida Beale** and special-occasion attire at **Occasions**. In the Malvern Shopping Center, **Englund's Apparel** specializes in fine menswear and custom clothing, while **Silver Linings Boutique** offers fashionable women's apparel and accessories. [MalvernBusiness.com](http://MalvernBusiness.com)



Moss & Meadow



Gingy's

## WAYNE

For a day of boutique shopping, few Main Line towns can rival Wayne. Find unique women's fashion at **Gingy's**, men's styles at **The Tiger Shop** and high-end consignment pieces at **Main Line Revival**. Shopping for little ones? **The Blue Béret** offers clothing, toys and gifts.

Accessorize with contemporary jewelry from **Exceptional Finds** or visit **Farnan Jewelers**, celebrating 110 years in business. Browse for your next beach read at **Main Point Books**, then pick out something special for your home at **Nest**.

Before heading home, stop by **Eagle Village Shops**, where you'll find home décor and gifts at **The Little House Shop**, flowers and furnishings at **Valley Forge Flowers**, British imports at **A Taste of Britain**, several independent boutiques and even treats for your furry friend at **Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming**. [WayneBusiness.com](http://WayneBusiness.com)

## ARDMORE

Look beyond the national brands of Suburban Square and explore downtown Ardmore, where independent shops line Lancaster Avenue. Find curated women's fashions at **Styche Boutique** and American-made menswear at **American Trench**. Treasure hunters can browse Penny Wise Thrift Shop, which has raised over \$3 million for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and the Junior League Thrift Shop, supporting the Junior League of Philadelphia.

For the home, **HOST** offers furniture and décor, while **rikumo** specializes in Japanese lifestyle goods. Bibliophiles will enjoy **Mavis Books**, and **pucci-Manuli** is a favorite for thoughtfully chosen toys and gifts. Family-owned **Giannini Jewelers** has served the Main Line for 60 years, while **Main Line Coin & Stamp** has been a trusted resource for collectors for nearly five decades.

And don't miss one last visit to **Past\*Present\*Future**. After 50 years in business, owner Sherry Tillman is retiring, making this beloved gift and craft shop a must-stop before it closes its doors. [DowntownArdmore.com](http://DowntownArdmore.com)



Past\*Present\*Future

# Eat Your Way Through Lancaster County



From bustling farmers markets and legendary Pennsylvania Dutch buffets to award-winning restaurants and farm-fresh ice cream, Lancaster County is a destination for every kind of food lover. Follow this delicious trail through the county to sample local traditions, international flavors and some of the region's most memorable dining experiences.

## BIRD-IN-HAND FARMERS MARKET

Family owned and operated for over 30 years, Bird-in-Hand Farmers Market is packed with local flavor. Open Wednesday through Saturday in summer, the market offers fresh produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods and Pennsylvania Dutch specialties. Stop by for a ready-made lunch, stock up on local treats or gather ingredients for a picnic — it's a delicious introduction to the region's agricultural heritage. *2710 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand. [BirdInHandFarmersMarket.com](http://BirdInHandFarmersMarket.com)*

## SHADY MAPLE SMORGASBORD

Bring your appetite to Shady Maple, where Lancaster County's Pennsylvania Dutch traditions are served on a grand scale. The sprawling smorgasbord features everything from fried chicken, roast beef and mashed potatoes to fresh-baked breads and homemade desserts. Named the #1 buffet in America by *USA Today* readers in 2024, it's a beloved stop for visitors and locals alike. *1324 Main St., East Earl. [Shady-Maple.com/Smorgasbord](http://Shady-Maple.com/Smorgasbord)*



LUCA

## THE LOG CABIN RESTAURANT

A Lancaster County dining landmark since 1933, The Log Cabin combines rustic charm with an elevated dining experience. Nestled among the rolling farmland east of Lancaster City, the restaurant serves local farm-to-table cuisine in a cozy setting with stone fireplaces, outdoor patios and wooded surroundings. Live music and craft cocktails add to the atmosphere, making it a favorite destination for celebrations and special nights out. *11 Leboy Forest Dr., Leola. [LogCabin1933.com](http://LogCabin1933.com)*

## FOX MEADOWS CREAMERY

At Fox Meadows, ice cream starts with milk from the family's own dairy farm. Choose from the original location on a working farm in Ephrata, where outdoor seating overlooks grazing cows and rolling fields, or stop by the charming Leola location in the heart of Lancaster County. Both serve rich scoops, sundaes and milkshakes featuring seasonal flavors and farm-fresh ingredients. *2475 W. Main St., Ephrata & 193 E. Main St., Leola. [FoxMeadowsCreamery.com](http://FoxMeadowsCreamery.com)*



Chellas Arepas Kitchen

## CHELLAS AREPA KITCHEN

Ranked 5th on Yelp's Top 100 Places to Eat in the U.S. in 2025, Chellas brings vibrant Venezuelan and Peruvian flavors to Lancaster County. Visit the original Hempstead Road food truck or the downtown Lancaster restaurant for stuffed arepas, rice bowls and house-made sauces bursting with flavor. Plus, the entire menu is gluten-free, with plenty of vegetarian and vegan options. *1830 Hempstead Rd. & 325 N. Queen St., Lancaster. [EatChellas.com](http://EatChellas.com)*

## LUCA

Warm wood-fired ovens, handmade pasta and seasonal ingredients set the tone at LUCA. A multiple-time James Beard Award semifinalist, the restaurant draws inspiration from Italy while making the most of Lancaster County's abundant local produce, meats and cheeses. Whether you're sharing a pizza, lingering over a pasta dinner or enjoying a glass of wine, the atmosphere is lively, welcoming and distinctly Lancaster. *436 W. James St., Lancaster. [LucaLancaster.com](http://LucaLancaster.com)*



Fox Meadows Creamery

# Town Tours and Village Walks “13 Tours for 13 Colonies”



Celebrating its 32nd year, this series of free, guided summer strolls through historic neighborhoods, hamlets and villages welcomes you to join in celebrating America 250 with an expanded season. Tours focus on places, people and events in Chester County that defined the tapestry of history that shaped our nation. Tours are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



## July 16 – Radley Run Mansion House: A Journey Through Time

The 250-year-old Mansion House was in the path of soldiers marching to the Battle of Brandywine during the Revolutionary War. The Mansion House has served many purposes over the years, from farmhouse, to Underground Railroad Station, to foxhunting base. Today it remains a

landmark for the Radley Run community for its beauty and educational value. *Park: 1100 Country Club Rd., West Chester. Parking available in front of the mansion or in the lot across the street.*



## August 6 – Primitive Hall, Ancestral Home of the Pennock Family

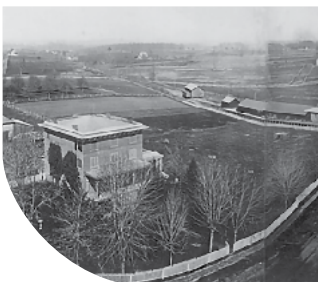
Primitive Hall, built by Irish immigrant Joseph Pennock in 1738, is a house museum that showcases 18th-century architecture and provides insights into the lives of early Chester County residents. Visitors will learn about the history of this prominent Quaker family and the

hall's 20th-century restoration. *Park: Primitive Hall, 830 N. Chatham Rd., West Grove.*



## August 20 – Historic Yellow Springs

Celebrate America 250 and discover the story of the American Revolution from a whole new perspective — literally! This tour invites visitors to experience the American Revolution from an often-overlooked vantage point: the critical medical infrastructure that sustained the Continental Army. *Park: 1709 Art School Rd., Chester Springs.*



## September 17 – Oxford Area Historical Association

The Oxford Area Historical Association invites you on a road journey of Dickey Family history in Oxford and the surrounding townships. For more than two centuries, the Dickey family made major contributions to the growth of southwestern Chester

County. They pioneered the use of improved farming methods, developed manufacturing centers, promoted modern transportation facilities, founded schools, a university and led a host of social reform movements. *This self-driving tour will guide you by Dickey homes and farms, mills, schools, Lincoln University and enterprises.*

## September 24 – The Mill at Anselma

Step inside the Mill at Anselma, a historic water-powered grist mill built around 1747 that once served local farmers in Chester County, known as the “breadbasket” of colonial America. Visitors will explore the history of the mill and its owners, see how early milling technology worked, and learn how mills supported local communities and the Revolutionary-era food supply. *1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs.*



## October 1 – Kennett Square – A Hotbed of Social Reform

Kennett Square earned a lasting reputation as a center of social reform. Since the founding of the Anti-Slavery Movement in 1833, citizens of Kennett have been among its supporters. Many redirected their energies toward women's suffrage and the temperance movement, continuing the town's legacy as a hub of progressive change. *Park: Municipal parking garage, 120 E. Linden St., Kennett Square. The tour will start on the walkway outside the parking garage.*



## October 8 – Adaptive Reuse – Where the Past Meets the Future in the Heart of Chester County!

Come walk in the footsteps of the Thomas Vickers Family, who were renowned Quaker potters, abolitionists and farmers. Learn how the historic c. 1770 house and bank barn are being preserved, see examples of the Vickers' 18th-century pottery created on site and enjoy a display of vintage clay pipes like those once made there. Then, take a hayride to explore the neighboring farm where the original part of the c. 1750 house was built by early Quaker settlers — the Mendenhall family. *Park: 215 Reeseville Rd., Coatesville.*



*More at ChesCo.org/TownTours.*