

*Historic Estates
& Gardens in the*
**BRANDYWINE
VALLEY**

May 5–9, 2024



National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours



Chanticleer Gardens (Photo by J. Fusco for Visit Philadelphia®) and (above) Longwood Gardens (Courtesy of Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau)



Historic Estates & Gardens in the **BRANDYWINE VALLEY**

May 5–9, 2024

Spend five days in the rolling hills of the Brandywine Valley, exploring its historic homes, exceptional gardens, and inspired art. Trace the du Pont family's legacy at Nemours Estate and the Hagley Museum. Wander through Winterthur and Longwood's expansive gardens, whose flowers will be in full bloom during our May visit. And uncover the region's art at local museums as well as the exceptional Barnes Collection in Philadelphia. Private visits into a number of historic homes and properties make this an unforgettable tour of the Brandywine Valley.

(left) Longwood Gardens Conservatory,
Photo by B. Krist for Visit Philadelphia™

See the collections,
furnishings, library, and
former studio of painter
Andrew Wyeth.

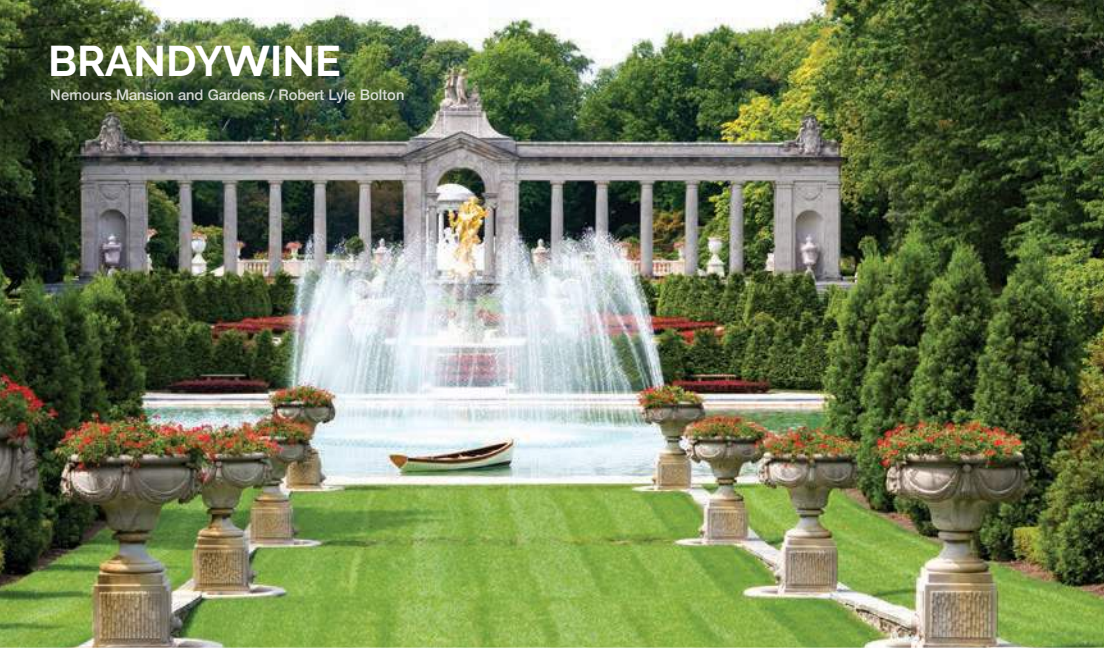
(right) Andrew Wyeth Studio, Brandywine River Museum of Art
(©2012 Carlos Alejandro) / (below) Winterthur Mansion (Chester
County Conference & Visitors Bureau)



Explore the Brandywine
Valley's verdant gardens
featuring the expansive
estates of Longwood,
Chanticleer, Winterthur,
and Nemours.

BRANDYWINE

Nemours Mansion and Gardens / Robert Lyle Bolton



SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

Welcome to the Brandywine Valley

Fly into Philadelphia, and take an early afternoon group transfer to Wilmington, Delaware, or transfer independently to the historic, five-star Hotel du Pont, an ornately decorated property with a distinctly European flair, centrally situated in the Brandywine Valley. Drive to nearby New Castle, and step back in time during a tour of the George Read II House and Gardens. Visit the 22-room estate, emblematic for its Philadelphia-style architecture, and learn about the family's role in shaping American history. This evening walk to a nearby restaurant and enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

Famed Families: du Ponts & Wyeths

Step into French American industrialist E.I. du Pont's shoes during a tour of the Hagley Museum. Visit this former residence, discover the surrounding landscapes, and delve into the history of the family's industrial productions. Following a casual lunch at the Brandywine River Museum of Art's café, enjoy a guided tour of the museum's extensive collection of works by the internationally acclaimed Wyeth family. Also visit the nearby Andrew Wyeth studio, a designated National Historic Landmark. Return to the Hotel du Pont and opt into a brief tour of the historic property led by an onsite expert. Learn about the building's financial and social functions for the Wilmington elite during

the early 20th century and admire the architecture, modeled in the Italian Renaissance style. The evening at leisure. (B, L)

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

Elegant Estates: Winterthur & Nemours

Spend a delightful morning at the renowned Winterthur Estate. The former residence of Henry Francis du Pont—today a museum—displays an immense collection of art and allows visitors to admire antiquities and decorative pieces throughout the 175-room mansion. Later, venture into the gardens to discover the meticulously kept grounds. Following lunch in a nearby historic tavern, explore the expansive grounds of the historic Nemours Estate on a private tour—the family home formerly owned by Alfred

I. du Pont, characterized by French influences and breathtaking grandiosity. Meet with the Executive Director of the Estate to discuss their preservation initiatives (pending her availability). The evening is free. (B, L)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024

Grand Gardens: Longwood & Chanticleer

Spend your morning at Longwood Gardens, whose collections have received numerous awards, including the prestigious title of Best Botanical Garden by *USA Today* in 2016. Revel in the colorful landscapes and extraordinary water fountains, and experience the seasonal varieties in bloom. Beyond maintaining an impressive collection of over 9,000 plant varieties,

Longwood today prides itself as a center dedicated to horticulture research and education. Enjoy free time to explore and have lunch at Longwood. Then spend your afternoon at the acclaimed Chanticleer Gardens, which house a variety of species within themed garden spaces. Return to the Hotel DuPont for a break before a farewell dinner together in one of the hotel's private dining rooms. (B, D)

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

Amazing Art at the Barnes

After checking out of the Hotel du Pont, venture into Philadelphia for a visit to the acclaimed Barnes Foundation. See its permanent collection, featuring works by masters such as van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso, and hear about

the extraordinary vision of Dr. Albert Barnes. Following lunch in the Barnes café, proceed to the Philadelphia airport for late afternoon flights home. (B, L)

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Hotel du Pont

A member of Historic Hotels of America, the Hotel du Pont first opened in 1913 as one of the most lavish hotels of America's Gilded Age. An extensive restoration returned the lobby to its original grandeur with opulent, old-world elegance. The top-rated Green Room offers dining in a setting of rich oak paneling and gold chandeliers.

(below) Nemours Estate / Courtesy of Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau



Brandywine Valley

May 5–9, 2024

Tour Information



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

BRANDYWINE

Dates: May 5–9, 2024

Tour Cost:

Land Package \$3,595

Single Supplement..... \$595

**Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants.*

Activity Level: Moderate, good overall mobility required.

Deposit & Final Payment: A deposit of \$1,000 per registrant is required to reserve space on the tour, of which \$500 is nonrefundable for ISDI's registration and planning fee unless the tour is cancelled due to low enrollment. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa or MasterCard. Final balance will be invoiced and is due on February 7, 2024 and must be paid by check to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations are accepted after this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.

Flights: Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their round-trip air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until operation of the tour is confirmed by ISDI.

Tour Inclusions: 4 nights at the Hotel du Pont; breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 2 dinners; coffee, tea, and soft drinks with meals and 2 glasses of wine or beer with dinners; land transportation by private motor coach as outlined; one group transfer from the airport to the hotel at the beginning of the tour and one group transfer from the hotel to the airport at the end of the tour after a visit to the Barnes Foundation; entrance fees to sites and private visits per itinerary; services of ISDI Tour Manager; expert local guides; gratuities to guides and drivers; bottled water daily; taxes, services, and portage fees.

Tour Exclusions: Airfare, airline taxes, and fuel surcharges; airport and hotel portage; airport transfers for those not taking the scheduled group transfers; activities, or meals during traveler's free time; personal items; personal services; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage, and tour cancellation; passport fees; visa fees; gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff.

Terms and Conditions: ISDI requires that all tour participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate on the tour. Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to ISDI and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by ISDI. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$500 per person regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before February 7, 2024: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between February 8 and April 1, 2024: full refund minus \$1,800 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI on or after April 2, 2024: no refund. Tour registration is non-transferable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not allowed. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour. If the tour is cancelled by ISDI or National Trust Tours due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

Travel Insurance: Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.

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TO REGISTER OR FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

National Trust Tours at

888.484.8785 or by email at info@nationaltrusttours.com