Southeastern Pennsylvania is home to many state champion trees. Champion trees are determined by a point system based on three measurements: the trunk circumference, the height, and the average crown spread. The largest known measured specimen of its genus and species gets to wear the crown of State Champion. A current list of champion trees can be found at pabigtrees.com.

This day trip features state champion trees across the Tri-College Consortium, a collaboration among three private liberal arts colleges. Experience majesty of stately trees while strolling through historic campuses.

**Stop No. 1**

**Bryn Mawr College**
101 North Drexel Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania
*Open year round from dawn to dusk.*

Bryn Mawr’s campus is consistently ranked as one of the most scenic college campuses in the country. The 135-acre campus has an award-winning tree program and several gardens including a labyrinth, sunken garden, and community garden. The grounds feature a pleasant mixture of Collegiate Gothic architecture and more than 3,000 trees. Current and former state champion tree specimens include a copper beech, ginkgo, sourwood, amur corktree, Mazzard cherry, weeping hemlock, and scotch elm.
Stop 2

**Haverford College Arboretum**

370 Lancaster Avenue
Haverford, Pennsylvania

*Open year round from dawn to dusk. Visit [haverford.edu/arboretum](http://haverford.edu/arboretum) to plan your stay.*

- Haverford College Arboretum is the oldest planned college landscape in the country. The grounds are home to a historic tree collection (including the great-grandchild of the original Penn Treaty Elm) and 11 state champion trees. Drive through the stone entrance gates and down College Lane where you will pass the state champion thorn-elm. This 46ft. tall specimen took the title in 2008 and is situated next to the Duck Pond. Follow the tree lined roadways to visitor parking located off Woods Road on the southern end of campus. From there walk over to the Ryan Pinetum that showcases state champion pine, fir, hemlock, and spruce trees. Be on the lookout for gold plant labels as you stroll, these mark each of the state champion trees.

- Before you leave make sure to take a hike on the 2.2-mile nature trail that follows the perimeter of campus.

- Arboretum amenities are located in the Campus Center. Stop by [The Coop](http://coo) for lunch. Restrooms and a water fountain are also found inside.

Stop 3

**Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College**

500 College Avenue
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

*Scott Arboretum is open year-round from dawn to dusk. Visit [scottarboretum.org](http://scottarboretum.org) to plan your stay.*

- The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College is home to many champion trees including four state champions, 17 Champion of Exotic Trees in NJ and vicinity, and 23 Mitchells’ Big Tree List. Marvel at the towering *Davidia involucrata*, handkerchief tree, while embracing the arhing, twisting branches of a massive *Acer palmatum* ‘Dissectum’, Japanese maple. Come explore the “giants” scattered throughout campus.
Be sure to visit the Scott Outdoor Amphitheater to enjoy the peaceful view of the Crum Woods under dappled sunlight streaming through the towering tulip poplars, *Liriodendron tulipifera*.

The gardens extend to the edge of the village of Swarthmore, which features lovely eateries and shops to explore.

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**Additional recommendations for what to visit nearby**

- If you need a snack and a pick-me-up stop by Green Engine Cafe. Born of a love and knowledge of great coffee, food, and hospitality, it is the neighborhood coffee shop located in the heart of Haverford, PA.

- For a more substantial meal or simply cocktails and apps, there is the White Dog, known for award winning contemporary cuisine and friendly service in three neighborhood locations around Philadelphia and the Main Line.

- Visit the Broad Table Tavern at the Inn at Swarthmore for dinner. Their menu is inspired by the seasons, showcasing locally sourced ingredients and regional artisan products.

- Looking for something else to do? Visit Terrain where they take outdoor living to a new level. Whether it’s the plants, home goods, snacks or just a place to get inspired you are sure to come away with something!

Enjoy this self-driving itinerary that will help you discover new places to get outside, enjoy nature and learn about horticulture! The Philadelphia region has a rich tradition of public gardens, arboreta and historic landscapes. There are more than 30 gardens within 30 miles of Philadelphia. The gardens mentioned in this itinerary are just a sampling of the rich diversity in the Philadelphia region where there is so much to discover and explore. Learn more at www.americasgardencapital.org.