Journeys in America’s Garden Capital

Summer in the Brandywine Valley

Bask in the glory of the lazy days of summer in the Brandywine Valley. Experience bourgeoning outdoor Gardens, astounding fountains shows, great dining, and more.

Spend the day or stay overnight at the Bancroft Manor, just minutes from area attractions, www.bancroftmanor.com.

Stop No. 1
Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library
5105 Kennett Pike, Wilmington, Delaware
Visit the website to plan your visit, Winterthur.org.

➔ Experience summer in the cool of the Winterthur Garden. Founded by Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur’s preeminent collection of American antiques reflects both early America and the du Pont family’s life at this glorious estate. Enjoy tours of the house and spectacular 60-acre garden, special exhibitions, shopping, dining, and more.

➔ There are many “must see” seasonal plants, including the soft purple of Russian Sage and Hosta ventricosa. Day lilies add their touch of orange while Joe-Pye weed displays puffs of mauve. Near the Reflecting Pool, you’ll find Glossy abelia attracting butterflies, and water-loving plants sheltering happy frogs and flashy fish.

➔ The Enchanted Woods are ringed in white, pink and blue of hydrangea and hosta. Sink into the refreshing, lush green, fern valley along the lower March Bank walk. Along stream banks, bright yellow Indian cup flowers wave a greeting to summer visitors while attracting gold finches to their seed heads.

➔ Grab a bite to eat at the Visitor Center Garden Café. Here, you’ll enjoy views of the garden and the rolling hills while you dine. The Pavilion features a variety of enticing entrees, including the chef’s action stations, pressed panini, and an extensive salad bar.

➔ Fancy a picnic? Winterthur offers many beautiful places to set up your picnic in the shade of their historic trees.

Continued...
Stop No. 2

Longwood Gardens
1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania
Open 365 days a year. Visit longwoodgardens.org to plan your visit and purchase tickets in advance.

➔ One of the great gardens of the world, Longwood has all the elements that make summer so incredible. Make a splash with the fanciful fountain shows in the Main Fountain Garden, explore three miles of walking trails winding through the ever-changing Meadow Garden, and engage in fresh-air family time from atop life-size treehouses.

➔ When it’s time to relax, unwind in the starlit Beer Garden. Enjoy alfresco dining paired with signature brews on tap, developed in partnership with local favorite, Victory Brewing Company.

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.