



Discover the Brandywine Valley

Wednesday February 5, 2025

Day one we will depart Philadelphia around 9am and head for a short drive, just under one hour, to the Brandywine Valley.

First stop will be [Hagley Museum & Library](#), where the du Pont story begins in the Brandywine Valley. Hagley features the original du Pont mills, estate, and gardens.

Lunch will be nearby at [Buckley's Tavern](#), an 1817 building in the heart of the Brandywine Valley featuring delicious American fare. This is a tour group favorite in the region.

After lunch you will head to [Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library](#), one of the few surviving great American country estates. Owner Henry Francis du Pont was an avid antiques collector and horticulturalist: his love of American craftsmanship led him to assemble one of the world's most complete collections of antiques and Americana. Winterthur's 60-acre naturalist garden is a wonder of breathtaking beauty.

Time to check in and relax at [Mendenhall Inn](#) a boutique hotel with a full-service restaurant and Alexander's pub onsite. Conveniently located central to several museums and gardens in the Brandywine Valley.

A special night of food, wine, and entertainment will be provided at [Farmhouse at People's Light](#).

Thursday February 6, 2025

Enjoy breakfast at Mendenhall Inn before we depart for a day of exploring.

You will spend your morning exploring the [Brandywine Museum of Art](#), an art treasure known internationally for its collections of works by the Wyeth family as well as a fine collection American illustration, still life and landscapes. The Museum showcases the work of three generations of the Wyeth family: N.C., Andrew and Jamie.

Next stop will be the heart of America's Garden Capitol, where you will have plenty of time to discover Brandywine's renowned [Longwood Gardens](#). Situated on 1,077 acres, Longwood

features lush indoor gardens as well as 20 outdoor gardens, a breathtaking conservatory and architectural grandeur. Built in 1919, the conservatory is one of the world's great greenhouse structures.

A new 32,000-square-foot West Conservatory is the centerpiece and largest component of [Longwood Reimagined](#) which will debut November 22, 2024, a crystal palace seemingly floating on water. The interior will be home to Mediterranean-inspired gardens set amid pools, canals, and fountains in an exquisite tapestry-like design. You won't want to miss this extraordinary new addition to Longwood.

In the afternoon we will stop by a group friendly winery for a wine tasting and visit [Historic Kennett Square](#), known as "The Mushroom Capital of the World", as over 60% of the nation's crop hails from this area. Learn how mushrooms are grown and shop for unique gifts.

Dinner will be at a group friendly restaurant in Kennett Square. Toast the day with a local wine, brew or spirit with a [Cheers to Chester County!](#)

Friday, February 7, 2025

After you enjoy breakfast at Mendenhall Inn we will send your way home including transportation to the Philadelphia Airport. Optional touring can be arranged for Friday, organized through Chester County Tourism.