



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

The Philadelphia Flower Show + Brandywine Valley Estates

March 16–20, 2027



Delve into our nation's past while exploring the graceful rolling hills and magnificent country estates of the Brandywine Valley, which spans the Pennsylvania-Delaware border and served as one of the premier Gilded Age playgrounds for America's most prominent families.

From the comfort of a charming historic village hotel, discover a region where history, art, and natural beauty come together through visits to lavish gardens, world-class decorative arts collections, and elegant 19th-century estates. Experience the magic of the Philadelphia Flower Show, the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural exhibition. For nearly two centuries, this extraordinary celebration of flowers, landscape design, and artistic innovation has delighted millions of visitors. Wander through breathtaking floral displays that transform gardens into living works of art and celebrate the beauty and promise of spring. Continue your journey in Philadelphia, the birthplace of American democracy and the nation's first capital. Explore the landmarks where the Continental Congress met and the ideals of the American Revolution took shape while discovering the city's remarkable artistic and cultural treasures.

Major highlights including the du Pont family estates of Hagley and Winterthur, Longwood Gardens, Wyeth Family Studios, Philadelphia's historic Assembly Rooms, and other significant colonial landmarks complete this unforgettable exploration of American history, horticulture, and American art.



(above) Independence Hall; (below) Philadelphia Flower Show, "Holland-Flowering the World" (2017) / Laura Blanchard





Dining Room in the House of Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur / Jim the Photographer

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Welcome to the Brandywine Valley

Arrive independently at the historic Hotel du Pont in Wilmington, Delaware, located approximately 35 minutes from Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). This evening, meet your fellow travelers before visiting the beautifully restored Read House & Gardens, the magnificent Federal-style residence of George Read II overlooking the Delaware River. The house features 22 elegantly furnished rooms complemented by formal 19th-century gardens that evoke the grandeur of the early republic. Conclude the day with a welcome dinner at an excellent nearby restaurant, offering the perfect opportunity to get acquainted and begin your journey together. (D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

du Pont Family Legacy

Set out for Winterthur Estate and Garden in neighboring Delaware. Henry Francis du Pont opened his childhood home in 1951 as a premier museum of American decorative arts with an unparalleled collection of nearly 90,000 objects made or used in America between 1640 and 1860. The collection is displayed in the magnificent 175-room house, much as it was when the du Pont family lived there. Enjoy lunch in a restored historical home converted into a local tavern. Continue to Hagley Museum, located on 235 acres along the banks of Brandywine Creek. It is here that the du Pont family first settled in America, built their first home,

and began the black powder manufacturing business that became the foundation for all du Pont enterprises worldwide. Visit the former residence and surrounding landscape, and learn about the du Pont family legacy and the role they played in establishing many of the spectacular homes and gardens we will see on our itinerary. (B, L)

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Philadelphia's Flower Show

Immerse yourself in the wonder of the Philadelphia Flower Show, where magnificent display gardens designed by internationally acclaimed landscape architects and floral artists transform the convention center into a breathtaking celebration of nature. Admire thousands of vibrant blooms,



Andrew Wyeth Studio (© 2012 Carlos Alejandro, Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau)

many original furnishings and personal objects remain, offering an intimate glimpse into the lives and creative process of these iconic American artists. Enjoy lunch at the Millstone Café, where floor-to-ceiling windows overlook the tranquil Brandywine Creek, providing a picturesque setting to relax and reflect on the morning's discoveries.

This afternoon, experience the splendor of Longwood Gardens, one of the world's great horticultural masterpieces. Home to one of America's largest conservatories and more than 1,100 acres of spectacular gardens, Longwood is celebrated for its extraordinary displays of plants, fountains, and seasonal beauty. Accompanied by a member of Longwood's expert horticultural staff, enjoy a guided exploration of the conservatory's twelve dazzling galleries, each filled with lush tropical foliage, rare specimens, and vibrant floral displays that showcase the artistry and science of world-class gardening. (B, L, D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 20
Barnes Foundation

After breakfast, check out of the Hotel du Pont. We will return to downtown Philadelphia

discover the latest innovations in horticulture and sustainable garden design, and marvel at towering floral installations, exquisite arrangements, and interactive exhibits that inspire gardeners and art lovers alike. After a casual lunch, join study leader Ashley Cloud for a walking exploration of Philadelphia's historic heart. Discover the city's layered past as you visit some of its most significant and enigmatic landmarks, culminating at the historic Assembly Room in Independence Hall. It was here that the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and signed the United States Constitution in 1787. Carefully restored to its 18th-century

appearance, this iconic chamber offers a powerful connection to the ideals and events that gave birth to a new nation. (B, L,)

FRIDAY, MARCH 19
Brandywine Museum of Art and Longwood Gardens

Begin the day at one of the Brandywine Valley's premier cultural institutions, the Brandywine Museum of Art, renowned for its outstanding collection of American art and its unparalleled holdings by three generations of the celebrated Wyeth family. Explore the museum's galleries before enjoying the rare opportunity to visit the preserved studios and homes of the Wyeth Family, where

for a final memorable cultural highlight. Spend the morning visiting the Barnes Foundation, home to one of the world's most extraordinary collections of Post-Impressionist, Impressionist, and early Modern art. Accompanied by an art expert, explore the Foundation's remarkable galleries while learning about Dr. Albert C. Barnes's distinctive vision for displaying his collection. Discover

masterpieces by Renoir, Cézanne, Matisse, Picasso, and many others, thoughtfully arranged alongside decorative arts to create compelling visual relationships. Following the visit, continue to Philadelphia International Airport arriving in time for afternoon flights home. (B)

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: **Hotel du Pont**

Opened in 1913, the Hotel du Pont in downtown Wilmington, Delaware, is a lavish Gilded Age landmark. Commissioned by Pierre S. du Pont, the 12-story, Italian Renaissance building spans a city block. It features handcrafted wood, imported marble, and a French Neoclassic ballroom.



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Tour Cost:

Land Package	\$4,295
Single Supplement	\$750

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, MasterCard, or American Express. Final balance will be invoiced and is due on December 7, 2026, and must be paid by check or wire/ACH transfer to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations are accepted after this date on a space-available basis.

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

Terms and Conditions: 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.

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.

Tour Inclusions: 4 nights at Hotel du Pont; 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners; water, soft drinks, coffee, tea included with all meals; 2 glasses of wine or beer included with dinners; ground transportation by private motor coach as outlined in the itinerary, including a transfer to Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) on 3/20/27; entrance fees to sites per itinerary; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; expert local guides; personal listening devices for duration of the tour; gratuities for guides, drivers, and restaurant staff at included group meals; bottled water on motor coach; service charges and taxes.

Tour Exclusions: Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport portage; airport transfer upon arrival; individual airport transfers upon departure for those not using the scheduled group transfer; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

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 December 7, 2026: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between December 8, 2026 and January 29, 2027: full refund minus \$1,950 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI on or after January 30, 2027: 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 The Royal Oak Foundation due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

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TO REGISTER BY PHONE, CALL:

International Seminar Design, Inc. at 202-244-1448 ext. 1

or

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:

info@isditravel.com

or by post to:

International Seminar Design, Inc., 10770 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Silver Spring, MD 20901-4439

Name - Participant 1

Name - Participant 2

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

E-mail Address - Participant 1

E-mail Address - Participant 2

ROOMING OPTIONS: (please select)

- ☐ Double Occupancy
- ☐ I have a roommate who is registering separately. I plan to share a room with _____.
 - ☐ We prefer separate beds.
- ☐ Single Occupancy (\$750 single supplement)
- ☐ I would like a roommate but will pay the single supplement if one cannot be found.

DEPOSIT (\$1,000 per person):

_____ # of persons _____ Amount Enclosed

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Check (make check payable to International Seminar Design, Inc.)

Card Number

Exp. (mm/yy)

Name as it appears on card

CVV Security Code

By registering and paying the deposit for this tour, registrant acknowledges that he/she has carefully read and understands all information contained in the tour brochure, recognizes and accepts any risks therein, and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions outlined above.