

Brandywine Valley Garden Tour

September 15-17, 2017

Pi Alpha Xi, the national Honor Society for Horticulture and Plant Sciences at Cornell University, has organized a weekend trip to Longwood Gardens, Winterthur Garden Museum, and Chanticleer Gardens in southeast Pennsylvania for the weekend of September 15-17. This guided excursion is an educational and entertaining way to visit these premier gardens with others who enjoy horticulture. For only \$50/person, this is a very affordable package trip that includes bus transportation to/from Ithaca, breakfasts, guided tours, and admission to the gardens. Lunch and dinners are on-your-own, and hotel accommodations for two nights are available at a discounted rate (see registration form below).

The bus will leave Cornell University on Friday, September 15, at 3:00 p.m. at the B Parking Lot across from the Veterinary College. Participants will stay at the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott in Kennett Square, PA. A free breakfast is included and all rooms have TV, free high-speed internet access and are in close walking distance to a variety of restaurants. The hotel has an indoor pool and a fitness center.

Saturday, September 16, will focus entirely on the premier display garden, Longwood Gardens, located in Kennett Square, PA (www.longwoodgardens.org). These gardens offer spectacular greenhouses filled with unique plants, intricate fountain systems, meticulous outdoor gardens, and architectural grandeur. In the morning, the group will receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the production greenhouses and facilities led by the staff. There will be ample free time to walk the gardens, watch the fountain show, and visit the conservatories after lunch. That evening, you will enjoy dinner on your own at one of several local restaurants.

Sunday, September 17, will begin with a trip to Winterthur Gardens (www.winterthur.org). Winterthur is set amidst a 1,000-acre preserve of rolling meadows and woodlands designed by collector and horticulturist Henry Francis du Pont. A guided tour will be given by the garden director. At this time of year, the Reflecting Pool is lovely with white blossoms of hydrangeas and crepe myrtles combined with pink abelias and hardy begonias. The Quarry Garden woodlands are filled with aster, hosta, and *Heuchera* species in full flower. And down in the bog, there are bright yellow ligularias, blue and scarlet lobelias, and light blue clematis in bloom.

Later on Sunday, after our tour of Winterthur Gardens, we will visit Chanticleer Gardens (www.chanticleergarden.org). A tour will be given by Cornell graduate, Erin McKeon, who received her M.S. from the Professional Gardeners Program at Cornell Plantations in 2013. The Chanticleer Foundation owns 47 acres, but the main path is just under a mile in length. The garden is a study of textures and forms, where foliage trumps flowers. It is a garden of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home. The bus will return to Ithaca in late afternoon.

This package trip includes the cost of roundtrip coach bus transportation from Ithaca to Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, breakfasts, experienced tour guides, and admission to the gardens. In addition, participants must make their own reservations for the first class hotel accommodations for two nights – see explanation on next page.

Space is limited

Register by Wednesday, September 13
to reserve a seat on this trip.

Please note: Hotel reservations need to be made by Friday, September 09

RESERVATION FORM
Brandywine Valley Garden Tour
September 15-17, 2017

Pre-registration and pre-payment is required because space is limited.
Registrations should be received by the end of Wednesday, September 13
HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY Friday, September 8!!

PART A: Registration for the Garden Tour \$50/person

Name: _____
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

E-mail address: _____ Cell Phone _____

Name (s) of Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Contact Telephone number(s): _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Payment can be made by cash or check and given to Tami Payne at 136 Plant Science Building
Tel. 607-255-0881; email: th47@cornell.edu

Make checks payable to *Pi Alpha Xi*

PART B: Instructions for motel reservation – Reserve by Friday, 9/8/17

Call and make your motel reservations for the nights of Friday, 9/15 and Saturday, 9/16

Each room has 2 double beds and up to 4 people can stay per room. The cost per room is \$179/night plus taxes. A single room with one king-sized bed is also available at \$159/night plus taxes per room.

Call the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott in Kennett Square, PA at: 610-444-8995

To obtain our special room rate, refer to our block of rooms called:
“Cornell University Longwood Gardens”

A free breakfast is included and all rooms have TV, free high-speed internet access and are in close walking distance to a variety of restaurants. The hotel has an indoor pool and a fitness center.

****Space is limited****

Register by Wednesday, September 9
to reserve a motel room

If you have any questions about details of the trip, contact Dr. Mark Bridgen, Advisor to Pi Alpha Xi, at mpb27@cornell.edu or at 631-921-4941.