Dear Friends of the Huntsville Botanical Garden,

In the glory of spring, let’s gather for an inspirational journey celebrating America’s natural beauty and rich garden heritage. There’s no better place for us to experience this splendor than “America’s Garden Capital,” Philadelphia, and the rolling hills and picturesque scenery of the nearby Brandywine Valley. This four-night program will be a wonderful opportunity for Huntsville Botanical Garden members to go behind the scenes of world-famous historic gardens that have shaped horticulture and landscape design. These artful wonders continue to influence us at Huntsville Botanical Garden to this day.

Begin in Philadelphia with a special tour of Pennsylvania’s official arboretum, the spectacular Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. Named after sibling horticulturists John and Lydia Morris, this historic space holds thousands of plants that foster a deeper understanding between people and nature, playing a vital research role at one of America’s greatest universities. Then, we will discover Chanticleer Garden, former estate of a famed Main Line family, and its 48 acres of botanical gardens, open lawns, and woodlands. We will then make our way to the beautiful Delaware Piedmont, where we’ll attend a private gardening workshop with experts amid blooming wildflowers and marvelous woodlands at the Mt. Cuba Center.

From there, we’ll continue to Wilmington to enjoy the palatial homes and stunning gardens created by the du Pont family. Step back to the early 19th century, when French-born chemist and entrepreneur E.I. du Pont made his mark in the New World. We will visit the French-style château Nemours Estate, originally the home of Alfred I. du Pont, with its beautifully landscaped formal gardens on a sprawling 200-acre country estate. Another highlight will be a director-led, behind-the-scenes tour of the Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, formerly the home of celebrated antique collector Henry Francis du Pont, with access to areas not often seen by visitors. Our trip will end with a visit to the 1,100-acre Longwood Gardens, founded by Pierre S. du Pont and considered one of the most extraordinary public gardens in the country.

This program is truly a delight for all your senses, with accommodations at the elegant Bellevue Hotel in Philadelphia and the glamorous Hotel du Pont in Wilmington. I hope you join us on a spring journey honoring the natural and historical treasures of this splendid region.

Sincerely,

Sue Wagner
Chief Executive Officer, Huntsville Botanical Garden
TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

TAKE a special tour of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, recently named America’s “Most Stunning University Garden or Arboretum,” whose historic collection includes enchanting rose gardens, an eight-sided glass fernery holding 523 varieties of ferns, and more than 11,000 accessioned plants of over 2,500 taxa.

DELIGHT in an enriching behind-the-scenes tour of the renowned gardens and decorative arts museum at Winterthur, the 979-acre estate and former home of horticulturist Henry Francis du Pont, and view rooms not usually seen by the public.

ENJOY exclusive tours of spectacular gardens and venues in the Brandywine Valley, with special access to Chanticleer Garden and a private look at Longwood Gardens, with its 1,100 acres of gardens, meadows, and forests on a property founded by Pierre S. du Pont.

PARTICIPATE in a special gardening workshop with the experts at Mt. Cuba Center, the former Brandywine Valley estate of Lammot du Pont Copeland and now a beautiful botanical garden committed to the conservation of native plants and their habitats.

STAY in historic accommodations, including Philadelphia’s vibrant, cosmopolitan Bellevue Hotel and Wilmington’s legendary Hotel du Pont, both elegant monuments to Gilded Age glamour.

TRAVELING WITH YOU

Sue Wagner joined the Huntsville Botanical Garden as Chief Executive Officer in October 2019. She came to the Garden from the Morton Arboretum, a 1,700-acre botanical garden 25 miles west of Chicago in Lisle, Illinois, where she served as Vice President for Education and Information for 10 years. Her extensive experience includes leading public engagement initiatives that inspire people to connect with nature, providing vision and strategy for long-term mission-based impact, and supporting organizational growth and sustainability. Actively involved in the American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Sue is passionate about conservation, education, collaboration, and connecting people to plants.
MONDAY, APRIL 24: ARRIVAL IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
Arrive in Philadelphia and check into the hotel. After lunch, enjoy a special tour of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. The official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum boasts a living collection more than 11,000 accessioned plants of over 2,500 taxa. This historic collection originated as the summer home of John and Lydia Morris, who shared an interest in plants from around the world, and also includes plants collected in China by E.H. Wilson at the turn of the century. This evening, delight in a private cocktail party before dinner.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25: PHILADELPHIA / WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
Today, visit a private garden accompanied by the owner. Then, embark on a visit to Chanticleer Garden, a 48-acre botanical garden built on the grounds of the Rosengarten estate on Philadelphia’s historic Main Line. Arrive in Wilmington and this evening, enjoy dinner at an exclusive venue.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26: WILMINGTON
After lunch visit Mt. Cuba Center, a botanical garden in the gently rolling hills of the Delaware Piedmont. Its woodland gardens produce some of the most spectacular displays of wildflowers in the Mid-Atlantic region. Here, we will have a special, private gardening workshop with one of the center’s experts. This afternoon, visit the famous gardens at the Nemours Estate. The Nemours Estate is a 200-acre country estate with formal gardens and a French neoclassical mansion built to resemble a French château. This evening, dinner is at leisure in Wilmington. You may choose to visit the modern and trendy waterfront area on the Delaware River, with its numerous restaurants and shops.
THURSDAY, APRIL 27: WILMINGTON
Today we will visit Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, the premier museum of American decorative arts, which is nestled in the heart of the lovely Brandywine Valley. Almost 60 years ago, horticulturist and collector Francis du Pont opened the doors of Winterthur, which was his childhood home, to the public. We will be joined by one of the directors and will have behind-the-scenes access to areas of Winterthur that are generally not open to the public. This afternoon, enjoy a very special visit to Longwood Gardens, 1,100 acres of gardens, meadows, and forests on a property founded by Pierre S. du Pont. This evening, savor a private farewell dinner at a special venue. B,L,D

FRIDAY, APRIL 28: WILMINGTON / PHILADELPHIA / RETURN
After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the Philadelphia airport for flights home. B

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Huntsville Botanical Garden and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

BELLEVUE HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
The Bellevue Hotel is a living landmark that embodies the style and revelry of Philadelphia’s gilded days. Part history, part innovation, and always timeless, here guests enjoy spacious hotel rooms in a central location.

HOTEL DUPONT, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
The Hotel DuPont has many stories to tell. Inspired by the hotel’s stunning architecture, vibrant personality and tradition of impeccable service, this iconic hotel has been reimagined for a new generation of travelers.

PROGRAM RATE
$4,299 per person double rate
$4,999 Single rate
RATE INCLUDES
- Four nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Executive Tour Director from Arrangements Abroad
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE
Airfare; any passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

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**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hotel room preference  
- [ ] One bed  
- [ ] Two beds  
- [ ] Single  

I wish to share a room with ________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**FORM OF PAYMENT**

- [ ] Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad)  
- [ ] Debit card  
- [ ] Credit card

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I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment at the time of reservation. Each participant must sign below.

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