



America's Castles, Mansions, Homes & Gardens

June 1 – 9, 2026

9 Days / 8 Nights

Day #1 – Monday, June 1st:

- 6:00 AM** Depart Peoria from Peoria Charter, 2600 NE Adams Street
6:25 AM Depart Morton from Wal Mart, 155 E Courtland Street, behind Culvers
7:00 AM Depart Normal from Schnuck's off Raab Road, 1750 Bradford Lane
8:00 AM Depart Urbana from Peoria Charter, 1910 N Federal Drive traveling east towards Ohio for our overnight stop. We'll make rest and meal stops along the way as needed. *Note: Don't forget to set your watches ahead an hour as we enter the Eastern Time Zone.*
- 4:30 PM** We arrive in St. Clairsville, Ohio at the **Hampton Inn*** where we'll get checked in and have time to freshen up before dinner.
- 6:00 PM** **Dinner*** is included this evening at Cracker Barrel.
8:00 PM Approximate return time to the hotel for the evening.

Day #2 – Tuesday, June 2nd:

- Breakfast*** is included this morning at the hotel.
- 7:30 AM** It's time to depart for our first stop on this tour. We'll make rest and meal stops along the way to our first stop.
- 2:30 PM** We arrive at **Nemours Estate***, which is the opulent home of Alfred I du Pont. Nemours Estate is a masterpiece of Gilded Age design with a 77-room mansion, the largest formal French gardens in North America, and a Chauffeur's garage housing vintage automobiles. See how Mr. du Pont lived and learn about some of the innovations he used in his home.
- 5:00 PM** Next, we depart for **Dinner*** at Buckley's Tavern. American comfort food is served in a Colonial dining room in an 1800's home.



Rose Jordan-Pauli
6015 Knoxville Avenue
Suite 105
Peoria, IL 61614
(309) 266-8000

Peoria Charter Travel
Amanda Schott
6015 Knoxville Avenue
Suite 105
Peoria, IL 61614
(309) 266-8000

Marci McCarrey
1503 E. College Avenue
Unit D
Normal, IL 61761
(309)662-6951

- 6:45 PM** We depart for our hotel.
7:00 PM We check into the **Doubletree by Hilton*** for the evening.

Day #3 – Wednesday, June 3rd:

Breakfast* is included this morning.

- 8:00 AM** It's time to check out and depart for our next stop.

- 9:00 AM** We arrive at beautiful **Longwood Gardens for a tour***. One of the world's great gardens, Longwood's story is one of legacy, innovation, and stewardship. The gardens are a living expression of all that the founder, Pierre S. du Pont, found inspiring, meaningful, and beautiful. From the intricate fountain systems to the meticulous gardens to the architectural grandeur, awe-inspiring discoveries await at every turn. Enjoy lunch on your own while at the gardens.



- 1:30 PM** We depart for our next stop.

- 2:00 PM** We arrive at **Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library***. Winterthur was the home of Henry Francis du Pont, great grandson of E.I. du Pont. Embark on a **guided tram ride*** through the gardens. After experiencing the outdoors, you'll move inside for a **self-guided tour*** of the mansion of Henry Francis to view one of the richest collections of Americana in the U.S. You'll see his beautifully designed and decorated spaces where he lived and entertained his guests.

- 5:00 PM** It's time to depart for dinner.

- 5:15 PM** **Dinner*** is included at **Brandywine Prime**. Located in the beautifully restored 1703 stone cottage, Brandywine Prime is an elegant and upscale restaurant very tastefully decorated with original details that give it a special charm.

- 7:15 PM** We depart dinner and return to the hotel for the evening.

Day #4 – Thursday, June 4th:

Breakfast* is included.

- 9:00 AM** We depart for the Hagley Museum.

- 10:00 AM** We arrive at the **Hagley Museum for a tour***. Here is where the du Pont story begins. Learn about Du Pont Company founder E.I. du Pont at the site where the company produced gunpowder and where his family made their first home in America. E.I. considered himself a botanist and planted the first du Pont family garden. Today you'll see the reproduction of this French-style garden along with the family home. He also instilled the love of gardening in his family, and you will see the results of this as you visit other du Pont family gardens this week. While at Hagley, enjoy a **2-Hour**



Guided Tour*, complete with **demonstrations of water-powered machinery** in

- the historic DuPont Company powder yard and a **cannon demonstration**.
- 1:00 PM** We depart for a stop for lunch on your own at Reading Terminal Market. This is a famous indoor farmer's market offering diverse fare, housewares and area specialties since 1893.
- 2:45 PM** We depart for our next attraction.
- 3:00 PM** We arrive at the **Museum of American Revolution*** where we'll take a deep dive into history where you'll explore the dramatic story of The American Revolution with a **guided tour***.
- 5:00 PM** It's time to depart for dinner.
- 6:00 PM** **Dinner*** is included at the **Continental Tavern**. The tavern was recently restored to it's exact look and configuration from when it was rebuilt in 1875.
- 7:30 PM** Depart for our hotel for the night.
- 7:45 PM** We check into our home for the night – the **Hampton Inn & Suites***. The remainder of the evening is free to relax.

Day #5 – Friday, June 5th:

Breakfast* is included.

9:30 AM We depart for our first attraction this morning.

10:00 AM We arrive at **George Washington's Crossing Park***. In the winter of 1776, General George Washington and his ragged army experienced only defeat and despair. The War for Independence was going badly, with failure following



failure. General Washington hatched a daring plan to cross the Delaware River under the cover of darkness, march to Trenton and attack the Hessian outposts in and around Trenton. Against all odds, Washington and his men successfully completed the crossing and marched into Trenton on the morning of December 26th, achieving a resounding victory over the Hessians. By moving ahead with his bold and daring plan, Washington re-ignited the cause of freedom and gave new life to the American Revolution. You'll take a **guided Crossing the Delaware**

Tour* that explores and educates about the 10 Crucial Days.

1:00 PM We depart for Lunch.

1:15 PM **Lunch*** is included at Washington Crossing Inn.

2:30 PM We depart for our afternoon tour.

3:00 PM We arrive at **Fonthill Castle***. The castle serves as an early example of reinforced concrete and features forty-four rooms, over two hundred windows, and eighteen fireplaces. Fonthill Castle's interior features Henry Mercer's renowned, hand-crafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts & Crafts movement.

4:30 PM We depart for dinner on our own.

5:00 PM We've got some "Free Time" for Dinner on your own at Peddler's Village. For more than 60 years, visitors have followed the winding brick pathways to experience exceptional dining, explore the best of Bucks County shopping, and enjoy family fun.

8:00 PM Return to the hotel for the evening.

Day #6 – Saturday, June 6th:

Breakfast* is included today.

9:30 AM We depart for our first attraction this morning.

10:00 AM This morning we'll **visit Andalusia Historic House, Gardens & Arboretum*.**



You'll enjoy a **Guided House Tour and self-guided Garden*** exploration. The mansion at Andalusia – called the Big House – is one of the finest, most distinctive examples of Greek Revival architecture in the U.S. Inhabited from the 1790's until the 1970's, the story of Andalusia parallels and reflects that of the nation itself. Visiting this National Historic Landmark is a journey back in time, an invitation to see firsthand the traditions and tastes of the generations of Biddle family members who called it home.

11:30 AM We depart for our next attraction

Noon Next, we'll **visit Glen Foerd with a guided tour***. Many of Philadelphia's first families built their country estates on the banks of the Delaware River. They came by ferry, carriage, and later train, to escape the heat of summer in the city. It was at these grand estates they entertained some of the most prominent figures in the history of our nation. But, Glen Foerd is much more than a story of the lives of some of Philadelphia's elite families. Both servants and factory workers were essential to the operation of the estate. Leather works, estate employees, and the wealthy estate residents comprised a complex, interdependent system that is the essence of the Glen Foerd story.

1:00 PM We depart for lunch

1:30 PM Today you'll enjoy an **included lunch at Historic King George II Inn*.**

Founded in 1681, the King George II Inn has achieved milestones that few restaurants will ever see. From Colonial times – before there even was a United States – to the present, there has been a longstanding tradition here of providing exceptional food and drink, paired with unmatched hospitality, to all who pass through their doors.

3:00 PM Following lunch we depart for our afternoon attraction.

3:30 PM Our final stop today will be a **visit to Pennsbury Manor with a guided tour*.**

Pennsbury Manor is a reconstruction of William Penn's country estate set on 43-picturesque acres along the Delaware River in Morrisville, PA. As the only site in the nation dedicated to preserving the historical significance of William Penn, Pennsbury Manor is here to bring the past into the present by telling the stories of the colonists, servants, enslaved people and Native Americans who lived on this land.

5:00 PM We depart for the hotel to freshen up for dinner.



- 6:45 PM** Depart for dinner.
7:00 PM **Dinner* is included at the Amore Restaurant.**
8:30 PM Approximate return time to the hotel for the evening.

Day #7 – Sunday, June 7th:

Breakfast* is included.

8:00 AM We depart to meet our guide.

9:00 AM We meet our **Guide for a tour to see America's Most Historic Mile***! We'll make stops at **The Liberty Bell, Christ Church & Burial Grounds, The Betsy Ross House and Independence Hall***. The Liberty Bell bears a timeless message: "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof". Go beyond the iconic crack to learn how this State House fell was transformed into an extraordinary symbol. Founded in 1695, Christ Church hosted members of the Continental Congress during the American Revolution and Presidents George Washington and John Adams. Stitching America's first flag is just a small part of the Betsy Ross story. Throughout the historic Betsy Ross House, you'll discover artifacts, documents and historic interpreters that reveal the extraordinary life of an ordinary 18th-century woman. Independence Hall is a historic Civic building in Philadelphia, where both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were debated and adopted by the Founding Fathers of the United States.



Noon Lunch is on your own (a stop will be at the guide's discretion)

1:30 PM Depart for our afternoon attraction.

2:30 PM We meet our **guide at the Visitor's Center at Valley Forge*** and embark on an adventure with a **Ranger-led Tour of Valley Forge National Park***. Valley Forge is the encampment site of the Continental Army during the winter of 1777-1778. The park features 3,500 acres of meadows, woodlands, and monuments commemorating the sacrifices and perseverance of the Revolutionary War generation and honoring the power of people to pull together and overcome.

4:30 PM Depart for the hotel.

5:00 PM Check into the **Embassy Suites by Hilton***

5:30 PM A **Cocktail Reception*** is included at the hotel.

7:00 PM Depart for dinner.

7:15 PM Enjoy a **Revolutionary Farewell Dinner at Black Powder Tavern***. Legend holds that the Black Powder Tavern served as a site for George Washington's covert Meetings and that it was designated as a secret black powder munitions stash. Today, Black Powder Tavern is still a gathering place with great food and fine spirits more than 200 years after the encampment.

8:45 PM Return to the hotel.

Day #8 – Monday, June 8th:

Breakfast* is included.

8:30 AM We check out, board our coach and depart for our overnight stay in Columbus, Ohio. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed.

4:45 PM We check into the **Drury Inn & Suites***.

5:00 PM Tonight you can enjoy Drury's **Kickback Program*** for dinner.

Day #9 – Tuesday, June 9th:

Breakfast* is included.

8:00 AM It's time to depart for home making rest & meal stops along the way as needed.

Note: Don't forget to set your watches back an hour as we enter the Central Time Zone.

3:30 PM Approximate arrival time back in Urbana.

4:30 PM Approximate arrival time back in Normal.

5:15 PM Approximate arrival time back in Morton.

5:45 PM Approximate arrival time back in Peoria.

Cost Per Person:

Single: \$3220.00 Double: \$2645.00 Triple: \$2415.00 Quad: \$2300.00

Tour Includes: Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Driver & Tour Hosts, Hotel Accommodations, All Attractions & Meals in bold print and marked with an asterik*.

Hotels:

Day #1:

**Hampton Inn
67806 Mall Ring Road
St. Clairsville, OH 43950**

Days #2 & #3:

**Doubletree by Hilton
4727 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE 19803**

Days #4, #5 & #6:

**Hampton Inn & Suites
1000 Stony Hill Road
Yardley, PA 19067**

Day #7:

**Embassy Suites by Hilton
888 Chesterbrook Blvd
Wayne, PA 19087**

Day #8:

**Drury Inn & Suites
4109 Parkway Centre Drive
Grove City, OH 43123**