

## **Philadelphia's Special Places of Horticultural Interest**

The Greater Philadelphia area is rich in public gardens, arboreta & historic houses with gardens. For details, check <http://www.greaterphiladelphiagardens.org/> or the websites of individual gardens.

### **Arboretum at the Barnes Foundation**

Lower Merion, PA (20 min by auto or Express bus)

A collection of rare and unusual mature trees and woody plants, perennial gardens, rose garden, lilacs, woodland, and ornamental ferns created by Mrs. Barnes who cultivated an environment for horticulture education. The Barnes program carries on today and has trained some of the area's finest horticulturists since 1950. This is the site of the Barnes home and original location of the art collection.

<http://barnesfoundation.org/>

### **Awbury Arboretum**

Germantown, PA (20 min by auto or use Chestnut Hill East Regional Rail)

An historic 19th-century Quaker Estate with 55-acre English-style landscape, gardens, ponds and woodland trails. Awbury hosts educational and service learning programs with focus areas in watershed protection, urban agriculture, horticulture, and food systems. It is also the home of the Awbury Agricultural Village with 60 community garden plots, a two-acre organic farm operated by the Weaver's Way Cooperative; a Children's Vegetable Garden operated by Weavers Way Community Programs, and shared greenhouses.

<http://www.awbury.org/>

### **Bartram's Garden**

45th & Lindberg Ave Philadelphia (20 min by cab from Center City)

America's oldest living botanic garden (1728) and National Historic Landmark Bartram House on 45 acres fronting the Schuylkill River, home to John Bartram. <http://www.bartramsgarden.org/>

### **Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve**

Bucks County (1 .25 hour by auto)

134-acre site features native plants in naturalistic setting in the woods with meadows, pond and creek. Self-guided walks all year; guided wildflower walks April through October at 2 pm. Open Tuesday through Sunday. The Preserve has been supported and tended by GCA clubs since it was created in early 1930's.

<http://www.bhwp.org/>

### **Brandywine River Museum**

Chadds Ford, PA (1 hour by auto)

Wildflower and native plant gardens along the scenic Brandywine River. The Museum features American art, including works by three generations of Wyeths inspired by this landscape.

<http://www.brandywinemuseum.org/>

### **Camden Children's Garden**

3 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ

4.5-acre interactive garden features themed educational exhibits for children of all ages to explore the natural world. The garden is open FRIDAY through SUNDAYS from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April – November.

<http://www.camdenchildrensgarden.org/>

## **Centennial Arboretum Horticultural Center**

Philadelphia

The Centennial Arboretum grounds are open 7 days a week—8am to 5pm Nov. 1 to March 31; 8am to 6pm April 1 to October 31. The Display House is open daily 9am to 3pm except holidays. Visit the Friends of the Horticultural Center in the Centennial Arboretum located at 100 N. Horticultural Drive Philadelphia, PA 19131 or call them at(215) 477-1482 for details. Home to The Friends of the Horticultural Center and to neighboring Shofuso, Japanese House and Garden, The Centennial Arboretum contains 27 majestic acres of landscape in the heart of West Philadelphia's Fairmount Park. The Arboretum boasts one of the most diverse and unique tree collections in the region with trees and shrubs from Asia, Europe, and North America including a Magnolia Grove and a Japanese maple collection. The landscape is dotted with art and sculpture (old and new) from artists such as Alexander Stirling Calder, Robert David Lasus, Martin Puryear, and Beatrice Fenton. Inside the display house are graceful mature tropical gardens which gently cradle statuary, some of which dates from the late 19th Century. Visit the circular Sundial garden to view the two hundred Cherry Blossoms that line the fairway through Belmont Avenue each spring! <http://www.fairmountpark.org/hortcenter.asp>

## **Chanticleer**

Wayne, PA (by auto, 40 minutes from Philadelphia)

35-acre private pleasure garden that displays the beauty of the art of horticulture. Highlights include water and ruin gardens and more color and beauty than can be easily described. <http://www.chanticleergarden.org/>

## **Concourse Lake of Fairmount Park**

Belmont & 50th from West River Drive in Philadelphia

The GCA Centennial Project of The Philadelphia Committee of The Garden Club of America. Thirteen area clubs pooled resources of time, money, back-breaking labor and sheer gritty determination to restore an eyesore to beauty. First designed and installed as part of the Centennial World Fair in 1876, The PCGCA women have made the area a lovely environment for walking among native trees, bushes and grasses. Dredged and repaired the man-made basin, join the community in regular clean ups and hosted all clubs in planting thousands of daffodils. By auto or cab, 15 minutes from Center City.

<http://www.concourselake.org/home.html>

## **Hagley Museum and Library**

Wilmington, DE (by auto 45 min from Philadelphia)

Located on 235 acres along the banks of the Brandywine River in Wilmington, Delaware, Hagley is the site of the gunpowder works founded by E. I. du Pont in 1802. <http://www.hagley.org/>

## **The Highlands Mansion & Gardens**

Fort Washington, PA (By auto, 25 minutes from Philadelphia)

44 acres historic site including 18th century Mansion, 2-acre formal garden and nine outbuildings, including bank barn, spring house, and cottage. <http://www.highlandshistorical.org/>

### **Hortulus Farm Garden & Nursery,**

Wrightstown, Bucks County, PA (by auto 1 hour from Philadelphia)

A 100 acre 18th Century private farmstead and nursery operation with 30 acres of formal gardens including lavish perennial and summer borders, pool and lake gardens, woodland walks, pine and birch allees, and splendid herb and kitchen gardens. (needs at least one hour for visit) <http://www.hortulusfarm.com/>

### **Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens**

Devon, PA (by auto 45 min from Philadelphia)

Naturalistic landscape offers a tranquil escape from an otherwise bustling, densely populated area on the Main Line. Over a mile of paved walkways lead through native wildflowers and woodland gardens, including a diverse collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, to a pond, a stream, and stunning vistas overlooking Valley Forge National Historical Park. <http://www.jenkinsarboretum.org/>

### **Landscape Arboretum of Temple University**

Ambler Campus, Ambler, PA (by auto 30 min from Center City Philadelphia. Use Doylestown Regional Rail with prior arrangement for pickup)

A living horticultural laboratory which began as The Pennsylvania School of Horticulture for Women, supported by Mrs. Louisa King. See where women's history and environmental sustainability have come together in the many teaching gardens, including the Ernesta Ballard healing labyrinth. Jenny Rose Carey of Garden Club of Philadelphia is the Director. Contact JRCarey@temple.edu  
<http://www.temple.edu/ambler/arboretum/>

### **Longwood Gardens**

Kennett Square, PA (by auto 45 min from Philadelphia)

A world premier horticultural display garden with 11,000 varieties of plants and 1,050 acres of gardens, fountains, meadows and woodlands inspired by trips to Europe. Allow 2 to 3 hours for a visit of the entire property including the country house of Pierre S. DuPont who cultivated the property.  
<http://www.longwoodgardens.org/>

### **Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania**

Philadelphia

A 92-acre horticulture display garden features a spectacular collection of mature trees in a Victorian landscape. The Arboretum features numerous picturesque spots such as a formal rose garden, Japanese gardens, a swan pond, English gardens, and an elegant Fernery. The Morris Arboretum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. May be reached by regional rail with prior arrangements for pickup. Allow 1.5 hours for a visit. Contact Susan Yeager for assistance yeagerrisue@yahoo.com. <http://www.business-services.upenn.edu/arboretum/index.shtml>

### **Mt. Cuba Center**

Hockessin, DE (by auto 1 hour from Philadelphia. Allow 1.5 hour for visit)

Experience naturalistic garden design and native plants at their best at Mt. Cuba Center, the former estate of Mr. and Mrs. Lammot DuPont Copeland. Springtime is especially magnificent. <http://www.mtcubacenter.org/>

### **Nemours Mansion & Gardens**

Wilmington, DE (by auto 45 min from Philadelphia)

French gardens on 300-acre estate recall the splendors of Versailles in its fountains and sculptures with acres of forest. Two hours allows time to see this former DuPont home and gardens, recently renovated.

<http://www.nemoursmansion.org/>

### **Pennsylvania Horticultural Society**

20th & Arch St in Philadelphia

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) offers a wide variety of exciting events for its members and the public throughout the year. From the world-renowned Philadelphia International Flower Show, to the joyous Kids Grow Expo, to the new Fall Gardening Festival, PHS offers something for the gardener in everyone.

Meadowbrook Farm, a 25-acre grand estate featuring a retail nursery of exceptional plants, public gardens and more, is part of the PHS family. Meadowbrook forces plants for the Flower Show, in addition to running the nursery and gift shop. Meadow Farm is conveniently located just north of Philadelphia at 1633

Washington Lane, Meadowbrook (Abington Township), PA 19046. Visit the PHS library including rare books. <http://www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/home/index.php>

### **Powel House**

244 South Third Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 - 215-627-0364

Built in 1765 by merchant and businessman Charles Stedman, this elegant Georgian brick mansion has a reputation as perhaps America's finest existing Georgian Colonial Townhouse. Today, the rich history of the Powel House may be seen in its decorative arts collection, its portraits of Powels and Willings, and its formal, walled garden so typical of Colonial Philadelphia.

[powelhouse@philalandmarks.org](mailto:powelhouse@philalandmarks.org)

### **Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College**

Swarthmore, PA (Regional Rail, 25 minutes from Philadelphia Center City)

110 acres on college campus featuring 4,000 kinds of plants, including seasonal crocus, roses, and hollies. This beautifully cultivated arboretum is a short walk from the Swarthmore Station of the Media

<http://www.scottarboretum.org/>

### **Shofuso Japanese House & Garden**

Fairmount Park off West River Drive, Philadelphia (15 min by cab or auto from Center City)

Shofuso Japanese House and Garden is a traditional-style Japanese house and nationally-ranked garden in West Fairmount Park that reflects the history of Japanese culture in Philadelphia, from the 1876 Centennial Exposition to the installation of its contemporary paintings in 2007. Shofuso was built in Japan in 1953 using traditional techniques and materials and exhibited in the courtyard at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. It was moved to Philadelphia in 1958, to the site of several previous Japanese structures dating to the 1876 Centennial Exposition. In 2007, internationally renowned artist Hiroshi Senju, inspired by our waterfall, donated 20 murals to Shofuso. A viewing garden with koi pond and island, a tea garden, and a courtyard

garden comprise the 17th century-style Japanese walled and fenced garden of this historic site and museum.  
<http://www.shofuso.com/>

## **The Philadelphia Zoo**

Girard Avenue in Philadelphia (accessible by taxi or bus)

America's first zoo includes diverse horticultural collections of trees, shrubs, and plants.  
<http://www.philadelphiazoo.org/>

## **Tyler Arboretum**

Media, PA (by auto 45 min from Philadelphia)

Tranquil 650-acre historic arboretum with unique plant collections, state champion trees, meadow maze, adult and children's education programs, historic buildings, and 20+ miles of hiking trails.  
<http://www.tylerarboretum.org/>

## **Tyler Formal Gardens at Bucks Country Community College**

Newtown, PA (1 hour by auto from Philadelphia; 45 min by Doylestown Regional Rail)

The former George F. and Stella Elkins Tyler estate, now site of the Bucks County Community College's Newtown campus, includes a restored 1930s four-tier formal garden featuring pear tree espalier, Stella Tyler's bronze sculptures, marble fountains, varied plantings, and parterres. The historic mansion, now known as Tyler Hall, is also open to public. Nearby Doylestown center is a charming historic county seat for Bucks County. <http://www.bucks.edu/about/history/gardens/>

## **Welkinweir**

Pughtown, PA (1 hour by auto with 1 hour for touring)

Welkinweir is a 197-acres oasis of natural beauty surrounding an arboretum, gardens and historic home at the edge of a private valley overlooking ecologically diverse riparian, wetland and meadow, and forest habitats.  
<http://welkinweir.org/>

## **Winterthur**

Greenville, DE (by auto 1 hour from Philadelphia Center City)

The historic 18th century du Pont family country place with garden inspired by the Brandywine Valley landscape. Admission includes garden tram ride, garden access, museum tour, self-guided tour of garden and galleries. Allow 2 to 3 hours to visit gardens and American furniture collection in the mansion.  
<http://www.winterthur.org/>

## **Wyck**

Germantown, PA (20 min by car or cab or prior arrangements to be met at Regional rail station)

Historic house that was home to nine generations of a Quaker family deeply involved in horticulture. Features the oldest rose garden in America and an heirloom vegetable garden with tours of the house.  
<http://www.wyck.org/>