

Brandywine Valley

HOLIDAY ITINERARY



Day 1



- Arrive mid-afternoon at the **Brandywine Museum of Art** to experience childlike wonder at the **Brandywine Railroad miniature train display**. A holiday favorite since 1972, the display features trains running on 2,000 feet of track, with plenty of engaging details and interactive components to dazzle all ages. Festive holiday trees line the museum's atrium, decked with quirky "Critter" ornaments, handmade from natural materials and available for purchase in the museum shop.
- Check in to one of many group friendly hotels in the Brandywine Valley.
- Head to **Paradocx Vineyard** for a countryside wine tasting in The Stave. Warm your spirits over a variety of pours and pairings to please the palette. Bring a bottle (or can!) home for the perfect holiday hostess gift.
- This evening, enjoy an illuminated drive through the **Herr's Holiday Light Display**. Over 600,000 lights guide your way through the beloved snack factory campus, through towering trees and whimsical displays – enjoyed from the comfort of your vehicle.
- Continue your ride to dinner at the **Mendenhall Inn Restaurant**. Enjoy sophisticated fare in the cozy historic inn, established in 1777, for a taste of Chester County history.

Day 2



- Today, step back in time to the age of American aristocracy at du Pont family mansions decadently dressed in holiday style. Start at **Hagley Museum**, where the du Pont family first settled in America and began their legacy at Eluetherian Mills. View demonstrations in the du Pont Company's historic powder yard and tour the ancestral home to learn about the family's holiday traditions. This year's holiday display celebrates the little things, from pocket watches to poetry books.
- Break for lunch in the same era at **Buckley's Tavern**, formerly an 1817 private residence.
- Continue your afternoon with the aristocrats at Alfred I. du Pont's **Nemours Estate**. Tour the magnificent French-inspired mansion, with halls (and grand staircases!) decked in timeless holiday fashion. View antique decorations and ornaments dating back to 1910, including 19th-century German creche. The mansion's always-breathtaking architecture is even more beautiful adorned with trees, gifts, and garland.
- Return to your home base to rest up – and bundle up – for your visit to world-renowned **Longwood Gardens**.
- Arrive late-afternoon to best experience the breathtaking magic of **A Longwood Christmas**, indoors and out. Stroll cheerfully lit paths of over 500,000 outdoor lights to the cozy conservatory, where you'll be immersed in the season with 100 decorated trees, more than 6,000 poinsettias, and merry music to delight the senses.
- Enjoy dinner at **Longwood's Cafe** with your group dinner voucher. Wrap up the evening and recall your favorite moments of holiday cheer before your last day in the countryside.

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Day 3



- Complete your tour of cheery chateaus at **Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library**: H.F. du Pont's massive 175-room mansion. Experience holiday décor-grandeur in perfectly preserved rooms during **Yuletide**. This year's display features decorations inspired by the gowns on view in *Ann Lowe: American Couturier*, the largest exhibition of works to date by groundbreaking American designer Ann Lowe.
- Spend the afternoon on one of the region's Merry Main Streets, from historic **Kennett Square** to charming **West Chester**. Fresh pine garland and glowing lights line the cobblestoned downtowns, featuring unique **local restaurants, shops and galleries**. Enjoy cheery pop-up experiences, from roaming Carolers to ice sculpture demonstrations.
- Choose from delicious dinner options and shop for loved ones (including yourself) as you stroll; you'll be sure to return with a unique token of your trip.

More



- Enjoy a small-town celebration to stimulate the senses at the **West Chester Christmas Parade**, held the first Friday of December.
- Discover the fascinating history behind the natural ice trade with a tour of the **American Ice Tool Museum**.
- View antique aircrafts and immerse yourself in the history of rotary flight at the **American Helicopter Museum & Education Center**.
- Explore 200 years of Chester County Christmas traditions with a **Chester County History Center Walking Tour**.
- Enjoy special holiday shows and experiences at **People's Light Theater** and **Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center**.

Book

Contact Courtney for itinerary and accommodations assistance, and ask about complimentary welcome bags for your group. We look forward to your trip to Chester County's Brandywine Valley! For more inspiration, visit BrandywineValley.com/Groups

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