

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024 – GARDEN & TEA SPLENDOR AT
WASHINGTON'S HIDDEN GEMS

- 8:30 AM - leave Kohl's, Westminster (Rt. 140 & Market Street –
- 8:45 AM - leave Vanessa's Corner Pub (VCP), Taylorsville (Rts. 26 & 27)
- 9:00 AM - leave Mt. Airy Park 'n Ride (Rt. 27)
- 10:00-11:15 - **Buffet Tea at Manor Country Club (Rockville, MD)** – Founded in 1922, Manor Country Club was laid out originally by famed architect William Flynn and hosted the Maryland Open in 2010. Enjoy fine hospitality and a buffet-style tea consisting of five types of savory tea sandwiches, freshly baked scones, artesian cheeses, fresh fruit, desserts, specialty teas, coffee, iced tea & lemonade.
- 11:35-12:30 - **Self-guided visit at Brookside Gardens (Wheaton, MD)** – With its colorful plantings, shimmering ponds, and breathtaking landscapes, Brookside Gardens is often described as the jewel of Montgomery Parks. Have time on your own to explore the award-winning 50-acre property featuring intricately designed gardens with exquisite combinations of color, texture, scent, and scale that merge together to delight the senses – all easily viewed from tranquil walking trails, comfortable benches, and shady gazebos. Brookside Gardens' two conservatories house an intriguing tropical plant collection and seasonal plant displays. The Gardens were founded in 1969 and named for the winding brooks and streams that surround this extraordinary public display garden.
- 1:00-4:30 - **Guided Tour & Afternoon Tea at Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens** – Founded by American collector and heiress to the Post cereal empire Marjorie Merriweather Post, Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens is one of the premier art collector's museums in the United States. The museum features the most comprehensive collection of Russian imperial art outside of Russia, a distinguished eighteenth-century French decorative art collection, and twenty-five acres of serene, landscaped gardens and natural woodlands providing a tranquil oasis of luscious formal gardens. Post bought the Georgian-style mansion in 1955 filling it with the most modern conveniences that money could buy. Journey through her final home to experience the elegant French drawing room, the efficient and “high-tech” kitchen and pantry, and the many personal touches that made Hillwood one of Washington's most memorable homes.



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- Afterwards, enjoy **afternoon tea** including an assortment of finger sandwiches, seasonal miniature scones, assorted sweets, & tea selection.

- Spend time on your own exploring the thirteen acres of exquisite formal gardens which extend from the house's terraces and porches in a progression of "outdoor rooms." Each of these rooms, meant to complement the mansion's interior spaces, is decidedly private yet connected to adjacent gardens through subtle transitional features, encouraging an intuitive flow from the French parterre to the rose garden and onto the Friendship Walk.

- 6:15 PM - return to Mt. Airy
- 6:30 PM - return to Taylorsville
- 6:45 PM - return to Westminster



Courtesy Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens
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PRICE PER PERSON: \$189.00

(PRICE INCLUDES: motorcoach transportation, admissions, & 2 tea luncheons with tax & gratuity)

Full payment is due by April 9th. Payment can be made by cash, check or money order and mailed to our office at below address. Final trip confirmation with itinerary & pertinent information will be sent 2 weeks prior to trip. Bus driver & tour director gratuities are not included in tour cost.

Rills can guarantee full refund only if the cancelled reservations can be resold to another customer. We strongly recommend purchasing trip cancellation insurance which is available through Travel Insured International. For information and to obtain a quote, visit our agency specific link:

<http://www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=61986> For specific questions regarding trip cancellation insurance, call Travel Insured's customer care at (800)243-3174 and refer to Agency #61986 (Rill's Bus Service as agent).

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