



**Elizabeth Park**  
CONSERVANCY

**2019 TOUR**  
**WASHINGTON D.C.**  
**CHERRY BLOSSOMS AND GARDENS IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL**  
**APRIL 4 - 7, 2019**



Please join the Elizabeth Park Conservancy and explore the beauty of our Nation's Capital. We will travel to Washington D.C. and stay 3 nights in Georgetown at the stylish Avenue Suites Hotel.

Our visit will coincide with the 2019 Cherry Blossom Festival, as our country commemorates the 1912 gift from Japan of more than 3,000 cherry trees and the arrival of Spring with parades, fireworks and performances honoring the lasting friendship between the U.S. and Japan. A breathtaking spectacle of delicate pink blooms will surround our nation's capital during our visit.



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Kathy Lindroth, Tours Coordinator  
[Lindroth@aol.com](mailto:Lindroth@aol.com) or 860.677.4807

**Thursday, April 4:** We will start our adventure as we board a deluxe, WIFI-enabled coach bound for Washington D.C. We will have a planned stop for lunch or snacks on the way, and additional rest stops if necessary.

Once in Washington D.C. we will check in to the *Avenue Suites Hotel* at 2500 Pennsylvania Avenue, just a short walk from the unique historic charm of Georgetown, with its historic cobblestone streets, period architecture and the beautiful Potomac waterfront. The one-bedroom suites are spacious and include a kitchenette.



A Continental breakfast offering a variety of pastries, gourmet breakfast bars, fresh cut fruit, baked toast melts, and breakfast frittatas in addition to assorted coffees and fresh juices – will be available to us each morning. Relax and settle in before our welcome dinner tonight. Casual attire. D

**Friday, April 5:** Today we are off to *Mount Vernon* to see the beautiful riverside estate of George Washington. The Orientation Center has over 25 state-of-the-art galleries, interactive displays, movies and more than 700 artifacts. We will enjoy a private guided garden tour with the head gardener followed by a tour of the mansion, after which you are on your own for lunch and some free time to explore the estate; perhaps a visit to the blacksmith's shop, whiskey distillery or gristmill!



Our afternoon visit is to *River Farm*, the home of the American Horticultural Society. Situated on 25 acres of landscaped lawns and gardens, it is one of the Washington, D.C. area's premier gardens.

The Farm's Perennial Borders are a series of small gardens offering an ever-changing succession of color and interest throughout the year. Plants in each section of the garden are coordinated by color, season of bloom, size, and texture. Other highlights of River Farm include the White House Gates, Estate House, the Ha-Ha Wall and the Wildlife Garden. We will explore on our own for about ninety minutes; then we are headed back to Georgetown where you have a free evening. Be sure to make reservations if you are headed to a popular restaurant! CB



**Saturday, April 6:** After breakfast, we are invited to spend the morning at Hillwood Estate, the magnificent property of Marjorie Merriweather Post. Hillwood Estates encompasses twelve acres of formal gardens, each designed to flow from the house. In April over 4,000 azaleas bloom in profusion along with rhododendrons, spirea, lilacs, viburnum, redbuds, magnolias, tulips and daffodils---Mrs. Post's collection reveals

her fondness for the newest and most unusual varieties.

Cutting gardens and greenhouses produce an abundance of flowers that embellish every room of the mansion; we tour both the home and garden. A delicious buffet lunch at Hillwood Estate will be served. Hillwood Estate is a fabulous place to visit in every way!



From here we will visit the famed Dumbarton Oaks Gardens and have time to tour on our own. Here Beatrix Farrand found her greatest patrons in Mildred and Robert Bliss. For ten years together, they converted a steep hillside into a series of gardens with eternal beauty.

The Ellipse with its rare linden trees, the Orangery, Green Garden, Pebble Garden, English Walled Garden and Arbor Terrace are considered some of Farrand's finest creations.



After these delightful gardens, we return to our hotel to freshen up before our festive dinner and fireworks cruise along the Potomac River aboard the Odyssey. We will drift past iconic D.C. landmarks such as the Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial and the Georgetown waterfront. A three-course dinner and music will be additional highlights of our evening. (Business Casual/Cocktail Attire) CB, L, D

**Sunday, April 7:** After breakfast we will have a special opportunity to view the cherry blossoms while touring the Tidal Basin. Learn the history of the Japanese gift of these spectacular trees. The Floral Library, also known as the Tulip Library established in 1969 by Lady Bird Johnson, will also be visited.



We depart Washington D.C. with fond memories on our way to Ladew Topiary Gardens. Ladew has been named one of the top 5 gardens of North America. In 1929 huntsman and socialite, Harvey Ladew, bought a 250-acre farm. We will see what his wit and vision created with his garden rooms and over 100 topiaries on the property.



Upon arrival we will enjoy a box lunch. You will have your choice of strawberry salad, chicken salad sandwich, veggie wrap or classic turkey on a croissant.

There will be time on your own to explore this fabulous garden before heading home. CB, L



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# PRACTICALITIES

**TOUR LIMITED TO 30 PASSENGERS!**  
(based on minimum of 25)

**COST: \$1399 PP TWIN --- \$1809 PP SINGLE**

**INCLUDES: Deluxe Motorcoach transportation, 3 nights hotel, tax, baggage handling, 3 continental breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, sightseeing per itinerary, gratuities for included activities, \$115 pp donation to Elizabeth Park Conservancy, FRIENDSHIP TOURS escort, gratuities for the Tour Escort and Driver.**

**MORE INFORMATION: KATHY LINDROTH, TOURS COORDINATOR,**  
**LINDROTH@AOL.COM 860-677-4807**

**TO MAKE A RESERVATION: CALL BARBARA at FRIENDSHIP TOURS: 860-243-1630**

**DEPOSIT: \$200 per person with reservation to secure your spot.**

**Please note: Due to the shortage of hotel rooms during Cherry Blossom time, *we have an early commitment date.* This trip will sell out quickly, so please send in your deposits soon to avoid disappointment.**

**FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY: DECEMBER 10, 2018**

**CANCELLATION POLICY: If a passenger cancels after deposit is made and before Dec. 10, 2018 a fee of \$100 pp; Dec. 11, 2018 - Jan. 10, 2019 a fee of \$800 pp; no refunds after Jan 10, 2019**

**TRIP PROTECTION INSURANCE: Trip protection coverage is strongly recommended. Website <https://nta.aoltravelprotect.com> or 800-388-1470 for full information or call FRIENDSHIP TOURS at 860-243-1630. You may also check [insuremytrip.com](http://insuremytrip.com) for competitive rates on insurance.**

**RESPONSIBILITY: FRIENDSHIP TOURS arranges the components of the tours and does not own or operate the independent suppliers of services including motor coaches. Trips cancelled because of weather conditions are handled on a per trip basis. Refunds will depend on timing the cancellation and supplier policies. Tickets to theaters/events are non-refundable. FRIENDSHIP TOURS reserves the right to adjust cost based on fuel surcharges.**



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**FRIENDSHIP TOURS**  
**THE SHIP SHOP**

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