

# Longwood

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ween Longwood Gardens and other nearby attractions should be able to do so, providing he can pull himself away from all the beauty which surrounds him. The area (southeastern Chester County) is within easy reach of other noteworthy attractions. They include: Brandywine Battlefield, Brandywine River Museum, Delaware Museum of Natural History, Hagley Museum, Hillendale Museum, Valley Forge State Park, Winterthur Museum, historical Philadelphia and New Castle, Delaware.

Located just off of U.S. Route 1, east of Kennett Square, Longwood Gardens is easy to reach by car. It attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors per year from all over the country and most other parts of the globe.

The huge organ, which has more than 10,000 pipes, is an attraction by itself. Concerts are given regularly on Sunday afternoons from 3 to 5 and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2. There's an elegant ballroom too, which is decorated as though it were designed for European royalty. All the visitor has to do is come to look and listen.

An information bulletin from the Gardens is quoted from directly for the remainder of this article:

"Longwood's conservatories are divided between permanent plant collections and floral displays that change with the seasons. The permanent collections include Palms,

ferns, roses, orchids, desert plants, pineapple family plants, insectivorous plants, plants of economic importance to man, and representatives of all the important tropical and subtropical plant families. The orchid display is one of the most popular of the indoor attractions at Longwood. Each week the finest blooms are chosen from the more than 8000 plants in Longwood's orchid collection to go on exhibit in the Orchid House.

"There is also a collection of bonsai trees (trees kept small by pruning and growing them in containers) which attracts a great deal of attention from visitors. Some specimens in the collection are more than 150 years old, yet are small enough to be held in a gardener's arms. An outstanding collection of tropical waterlilies and other aquatic plants is on view in outdoor pools located between the conservatories from June through October.

"In the two largest conservatories at Longwood, the Orangery or "Main Conservatory" and the Azalea House, the displays change constantly, marking the seasons with thousands of beautiful flowers. Plants are exhibited only at their peak; as soon as the flowers show any signs of aging, they are replaced with new plants from Longwood's extensive growing houses. Three spectacular displays each year concentrate on traditional holiday plants and attract thousands of visitors. At Easter the



The main conservatory at Longwood Gardens from the main fountain garden. Longwood Gardens Photo.

conservatories are filled with spring bulbs and Easter lilies; in the Fall, more than 5000 chrysanthemum plants welcome Thanksgiving visitors; and at Christmas

red, pink, and white poinsettias, together with cyclamen and paper white narcissus, create a festive holiday air. Between holiday

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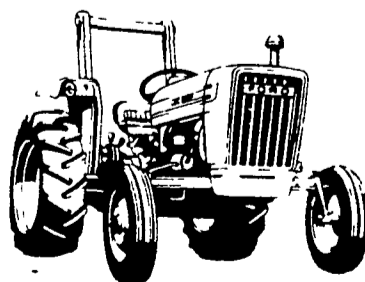
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