



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

*Historic Garden Week
in Virginia*

AND THE

VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

April 25 – 29, 2012

**Wednesday
April 25, 2012** Five beautiful homes and gardens in Newport News, Va., will be open to the public this day as part of the 78th Annual Historic Garden Week sponsored by the Garden Club of Virginia. Also open, in connection with the tour, is the Gardener's Workshop (commercial cut flower garden). Special luncheon sites available throughout the tour.

This evening enjoy dinner at the First Ladies Tea Parlor. Sing along with the "Piano Man" and enjoy a light dinner and wine tasting or perhaps your group would like to participate in a Murder Mystery while dining in this elegant atmosphere.

**Thursday
April 26, 2012** Visit the Virginia Living Museum and learn more about the plants and animals soldiers and civilians encountered as the war brought them to Virginia. More battles were fought in Virginia than any other state during the Civil War. The geographic regions that figured strategically in the war and many of the plants and animals mentioned by soldiers and civilians are featured in the Virginia Living Museum's indoor and outdoor exhibits.

Lunch on your own with a little shopping at any of the shopping areas located throughout Newport News: City Center at Oyster Point, Historic Hilton Village, Jefferson Commons, Patrick Henry Mall or Port Warwick. Then relax at your hotel and prepare for dinner.

Dinner this evening is at the historic Boxwood Inn, where you'll enjoy dinner and entertainment - Southern style! This evening you'll discover the taste of the South with your themed dinner at the Boxwood Inn. This historic 100+ year-old bed and breakfast was built in 1896 and served as the Warwick County (now Newport News) Hall of Records, a general store, a post office and a hotel for soldiers during both World Wars. Enjoy entertainment this evening by the Doorway Singers.

**FRIDAY
April 27, 2012** Depart for the **Norfolk Botanical Garden**. With more than 20 themed gardens, a 3.5-acre rose garden and a fragrance garden for the visually impaired, the Norfolk Botanical Garden is a true jewel preserving the region's horticultural heritage. The 155-acre park is the nation's only botanical garden that can be toured by both boat and tram. Lunch on your own with a little down time at MacArthur Center Mall.

**Friday
Continued**

Dinner this evening is in a beautifully restored 131 year-old renovated church, **Freemason Abbey**. This Victorian casual atmosphere restaurant provides a unique dining experience. Then take part in the Virginia Arts Festival's **16th Annual Virginia International Tattoo**. Each year, performers from many different countries present an unforgettable spectacle production of marching bands, precision drill teams, massed pipes and drums, gymnasts, Scottish dancers, choral groups and so much more! From the rousing show of patriotism to the moving sounds of the lone piper, emotions and energy run.

**Saturday
April 28, 2012**

Depart for home or stay another night to experience all the wonderful gardens and food **Colonial Williamsburg** offers! Historians and horticulturists have combined historically accurate native plants with exotics that tolerate the hot, humid summers to create gardens and green spaces that keep visitors coming back again and again to photograph and enjoy. Take part in one of many special garden events such as "Through the Garden Gate." This walking tour focuses on the historic documents and archaeological evidence used in creating the Historic Area gardens.

This evening enjoy dinner at one of three colonial taverns, King's Arms Tavern, Shield's Tavern and George Washington's favorite, Christina Campbell's Tavern. Any of these fine dining establishments will bring you right back to the 18th Century with their authentic atmosphere and their Southern comfort foods inspired by "colonial recipes."

**Sunday
April 29, 2012**

Depart for home and en route home, stop by the **Huntington Park Rose Garden** in Newport News. Newport News is the only city in Virginia to be named an *American Rose City* by the American Rose Society in 2002. Almost 1,000 rose bushes representing 45 varieties make up the Huntington Park Rose Garden, a site not to be missed.



**Cheryl Morales *Newport News Tourism
Development Office *757-926-1428 *
cmorales@nngov.com
www.newport-news.org**

