

Registration is now open for the BRA sponsored a trip to Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA on December 12<sup>th.</sup> The highlight of the trip is the famous <u>A Longwood Christmas</u> light display and view the just finished project, <u>Longwood</u> <u>Reimagined</u>. The trip, by coach, will leave Broadmead shortly after noon in time to arrive at Longwood to see the newly opened facilities, and will return after dark with time to see the magnificent Christmas lights. The \$70 cost of the trip is underwritten by the BRA Trip Committee and includes the transportation and admission to the Gardens. The bus will deliver

us to the Visitor Center at Longwood where we will pick up the entrance tickets. It will pick us up at the same location at the end of the day. The attachment has the detailed schedule and the link to register. Registration is also available on Broadmead Connect (CareMerge), on the BRA website, or you can click on the button below to go directly to the registration site. People who had expressed interest earlier still need to register to reserve a place and pay. Please register soon so we can watch the how many are going. The coach has seating for forty people. We don't anticipate selling out, but, if we do, there will be a wait list. Registration will be open until November 17.

This is a charter bus with a bathroom. There is no lift to enter or exit the bus. There are stairs to enter and exit the bus. There is small storage area under the bus for rollators and scooters. If the scooter cannot fold, it may not fit. If you wish to disassemble it to allow it to fit, you would need to be able to do that yourself and reassemble on arrival. The charter bus company driver will not take it apart to fit.

## **CLICK HERE REGISTER**

Experience the magic of a <u>Longwood Christmas</u>, made even more spectacular with the opening of <u>Longwood Reimagined</u>. Brand new spaces—from the sprawling new West Conservatory to imaginative new outdoor landscapes—decked out for the holidays give way to wondrous new ways to experience the season ... and incredible new memories to make. Revel in hundreds of thousands of lights ... marvel at astonishing feats of horticulture, ingenuity, and creativity ... and delight in beauty at every turn, all as we welcome you to the Garden's biggest—and most magical—<u>A Longwood Christmas</u> yet.

Some interesting links:

About Longwood Reimagined:

<u>https://longwoodgardens.org/longwood-reimagined</u> <u>https://longwoodgardens.org/beauty-making</u> <u>More: https://longwoodgardens.org/new-garden-experience</u> <u>Christmas Lights (video):</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1xDh8fV\_wc&t=9s&ab\_channel=LongwoodGardens

If there are any questions, contact Bill Hardy at <u>billhardy@comcast.net</u> or 443-578-8541 or Lisa Berres at 443-578-8023

## FOLLOW UP INFORMATION

There have been several questions about the trip that this email, I hope, addresses. There is also some additional information to pass long.

First, the \$70 charge, covers the bus transportation and the admission to the gardens. We will purchase the entrance tickets, pick them up, and hand them out when the bus arrives there. The \$70 per person fee is fixed and is not dependent on how many participants we have. The BRA Trip Committee will cover any shortfall that occurs. The trip is firm. The trip fee will be billed to the resident's December Broadmead bill.

The large fountain displays at Longwood get turned off for the winter at the end of October so they will not be functioning. However, the smaller fountains will be operational and part of the Christmas light show. We were told that they will be turned on at 10:15 am and show for five minutes every fifteen minutes until closing at 11:00 pm. The water display will also be operational in the outdoor theater on a less frequent schedule. Really neat! (See the <u>video link</u> of past shows)

The light display will be on all day but cannot be really appreciated until sunset at 4:38pm. There will be lights on the exhibits in the Conservatory and the new Longwood Reimagined buildings.

Not really advertised but equally fun to see is the **Garden Railway** installation which our train enthusiast (and not) should especially appreciate. It is part of the Gardens and operates from August through Christmas displays. (Read more)

Take your wallet or credit card! As with every tourist site, Longwood has a store in the Visitor Center as you enter and leave. I call it 'The Inevitable'. So you can load up with Christmas gifts and carry them just a short distance to the departing bus. (Store info)

<u>Accessibility:</u> There is no lift to enter or exit the bus which is a full sized coach. There are only stairs to enter and exit the bus. There is small storage area under the bus for rollators and scooters. If the scooter cannot fold, it may not fit. If you wish to disassemble it to allow it to fit, you would need to be able to do that yourself and reassemble on arrival or have arranged with fellow passengers to assist you. The charter bus company driver will not take it apart to fit. Longwood accessibility rules.

Registration is going well. We hope those interested will sign up soon. If there are any questions, contact Bill Hardy at <u>billhardy@comcast.net</u> or 443-578-8541 or Lisa Berres at 443-578-8023

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