

The highlight of the trip is the famous <u>A</u> <u>Longwood Christmas</u> light display and view the just finished project, <u>Longwood 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 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.

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. Contact Lisa Berres or Bill Hardy with questions. 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.

This is not a guided tour. You will be on your own while you are there, but don't worry in all my years going to Longwood, I have never needed a guide.

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:

<u>About Longwood Reimagined:</u> <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> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1xDh8fV\_wc&t=9s&ab\_channel=LongwoodGardens</u>

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

## **MORE INFORMATION**

The trip is firm. It will go rain or shine. The trip fee will be billed to the resident's December Broadmead bill and is not refundable.

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 video link of past shows)

The light displays 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", every tourist site has one. This store is very good. So you can load up with Christmas gifts and carry them just a short distance to the departing bus. (Store info)

**Accessibility:** 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 will close November 12. As of that date, the entrance tickets will be purchased and are nonrefundable. 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

## Food and Refreshments

Food and drink will not be permitted on the bus. Longwood has several eating venues, from a formal dining room to a Café. The Café should be the one of choice if you cannot wait to eat until our arrival at Broadmead around 8 pm. The Café features a selection of ready-to-eat sandwiches & salads, hot entrée selections, freshly prepared desserts, and of course, its famous Longwood Gardens Mushroom Soup (info). Of course, taking time out to eat will shorten the time available to enjoy the Gardens.