DAY 1 – WELCOME TO PHILADELPHIA
Welcome to the cradle of Liberty and America’s “Garden Capital”—with more than 30 public gardens, arboreta and historic landscapes, and a tradition of horticulture going back 300 years. From the moment you arrive at the airport, you’ll see the city’s vibrant, 30-year-old public arts program that has earned Philly the nickname, City of Murals. Meet our Discovery Director and fellow travelers for a warm Welcome Reception.

DAY 2 – PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW - HABITAT: NATURE’S MASTERPIECE
After breakfast, you’ll beat the public crowds with a private early morning tour of the Flower Show grounds led by expert docents. Hear fascinating stories about the Show exhibits, design inspiration and challenges, and history. Enjoy unimpeded photo ops, and see exhibitors carefully preparing their displays and competition entries for the day. Then, when the doors open, feel the excitement swirl as the public exhibits, workshops, expert presentations, hands-on crafts activities, and marketplace get underway. Your in-and-out privileges give you freedom to pace yourself and do the show your way. When you’re ready for a break, opt for a massage treatment at the garden spa, chill out at the tearoom, thrill to a display of live butterflies, or try the free wine tasting. Lunch on your own among scores of fresh Amish, seafood, ethnic and artisanal food vendors at Reading Terminal Market, or in nearby Chinatown.

DAY 3 – LONGWOOD GARDENS/AFTERNOON AT PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW
We start today with an easy-going exploration of Pierre du Pont’s expansive Longwood Gardens. Freely roam its massive Conservatory domes, exploring highlights including its seasonal collection of Orchids and Sky-Blue Poppies, tree-filled atriums, elegant music hall and pipe organ, and...be sure not to miss the “award-winning,” individualized and artfully landscaped restrooms(!). Weather permitting, meander through forested walking paths, massive ornamental fountains, ornamental lily ponds, and other areas of the 1,077-acre estate. We will then return to hotel and you will have the opportunity to spend the afternoon exploring more of the 2021 Flower Show. B, L
DAY 4—OLDE CITY TOUR/CITY TAVERN FAREWELL LUNCH
We start our morning in Philadelphia with a guided tour of key landmarks from the nation’s beginnings, riding cobblestone streets past Independence Hall, the 18th Century Garden, Headhouse Square, Christ Church Burial Ground, the Betsy Ross House, and more. The driving tour also showcases Center City’s Avenue of the Arts, stately Rittenhouse Square, and the flag-strewn Boulevard of Nations. Also pass Rodin’s “The Thinker” and “Rocky”, on the Philadelphia Art Museum Steps. Enjoy an authentic, Colonial-style lunch at City Tavern, a favorite meeting spot of the Founding Fathers - established in 1773; keep an eye out for staff in period costume and a visit from Owner/Chef Walter Staib. Finally, we return home with some amazing memories of our time exploring the garden Capital of the America. B, L

Meet Erin Presley, Olbrich Botanical Gardens Horticulturist
Erin Presley has been a Horticulturist in the Herb and Wildflower Gardens at Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin, since 2014. Her varied gardening interests have grown to include native and woodland plantings, sedges, salvias, American ginseng, and all things related to herbs, vegetables, and cooking. In addition to putting together articles, workshops and lectures at Olbrich, you may have seen her work in Fine Gardening or The Wisconsin Gardener, or heard her on Wisconsin Public Radio’s Garden Talk.

About The Notary Marriott Autograph Downtown Philadelphia Hotel
Unpack and stay for three nights at Marriott’s beautifully renovated Autograph Downtown Philadelphia Hotel...all new for 2020! Located at 21 North Juniper Street, the 15-story hotel offers 416 guestrooms and 83 suites. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Better yet, it’s within walking distance of the Philadelphia Flower Show. Your “all day pass” means you can enjoy exploring the Flower Show during the morning, slip back to your hotel room for a little rest, and return to the show at your leisure. The list of hotel amenities includes free Wi-Fi, an on-site market, a business center, the NINETEEN 26 restaurant, a Starbucks and a fitness center. By the time our tour arrives in March 2020, a $23 million dollar renovation will be complete.

Discoveries Experience
4 Days • 5 Meals
Mar 11-14, 2021
Price Per Person:
Double: $1,297; Single: $1,625
Pre/Post Hotel: $238/night
Depart/Return: Philadelphia, PA

Highlights & Inclusions
• Shuttle Transportation from Philadelphia Airport to The Notary Hotel
• Full day at Philadelphia Flower Show, with private pre-opening privilege
• Additional half day to explore the colorful Flower Show
• Visit the du Ponts’ Longwood Gardens Estate
• Experience historical Independence highlights
• Bag handling (1 per person) at hotels
• Fees/tips for included attractions/meals
• Welcome reception, 24-hour emergency call service, free bottled water on coach

Quality Accommodations
Nights 1-3: The Notary Marriott Autograph Philadelphia

Note: Moderate to extensive walking required to fully enjoy the Flower Show’s several acres of exhibits.

Questions or to Reserve Call: Country Travel DISCOVERIES
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