



American Horticultural Society
2016 President's Council Trip



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

May 17–21, 2016

An exclusive benefit for AHS President's Council members, our 2016 tour takes us to the Midwest and Chicago, Illinois. It is only fitting that our travels take us to the city of Chicago, whose motto is “*Urbs in Horto*,” or “City in a Garden.” The area is rich in horticultural interest, and world renowned for its exceptional architecture and extraordinary gardens and parks. We will be staying at the Drake Hotel, a grand Chicago landmark and member of the Historic Hotels of America. Located in the Gold Coast district nestled along the shoreline of Lake Michigan at the start of Chicago's Magnificent Mile, you will find the neighborhood around the hotel to be walkable and full of interesting shops and restaurants.



Itinerary Highlights

Tuesday, May 17 (D)

- Individual arrivals
- Reception and dinner at the Drake Hotel; Julia Bachrach, noted Chicago garden historian and author, will be our special guest speaker

Wednesday, May 18 (B, L, D)

A Day of Horticultural Treasures – Private and Public

- Breakfast at the Drake Hotel
- Begin the day with a visit to Camp Rosemary, an exquisite private garden in the North Shore city of Lake Forest
- Lunch with Kris Jarantoski, Executive Vice President and Director of the Chicago Botanic Garden
- Board a private tram tour that will provide an overview and special insights into the work of the Chicago Botanic Garden, one of America's great public gardens
- Take advantage of some free time to follow your interests at the Chicago Botanic Garden
- Return to the hotel to freshen up, then take a short walk to dinner at one of the Gold Coast's exceptional restaurants



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Thursday, May 19 (B, L) *A Day of Architecture and Gardens*

- Breakfast at the Drake Hotel
- Spend the morning touring and visiting private gardens in the verdant and historic near-west suburbs of Chicago with landscape architect Scott Mehaffey, former Landscape Coordinator for the City of Chicago
- Visit Oak Park with its Prairie Style homes and gardens, with stops along Forest Avenue where Frank Lloyd Wright lived and worked
- See River Forest's charming neighborhoods filled with tree-lined streets and Prairie and Arts & Crafts architecture
- Stop for lunch at Caffe De Luca in Forest Park, a neighborhood favorite
- Tour historic Riverside, designed in 1869 by Frederick Law Olmsted, and considered America's first comprehensively-planned suburb
- Enjoy a narrated river cruise aboard "Chicago's First Lady," seeing more world-famous Chicago architecture and urban landscaping—including recently-completed sections of the Chicago Riverwalk
- Visit Millennium Park and tour the award-winning Lurie Garden with Director Scott Stewart
- Dinner this evening is on your own with free time to explore the city



Friday, May 20 (B, L, D) *A Day of Gardens for Research, Education, and Enjoyment*

- Breakfast at the Drake Hotel
- Gain insight into the workings of the Ball Horticultural Company, an international leader in our field with headquarters in West Chicago
- Learn about plant trials and the technology of seed production on a tour of The Gardens at Ball and the Ball Seed Lab with Garden Manager Jim Nau
- Enjoy a casual lunch in the cafe at the Morton Arboretum
- See the expansive living collections at the Morton Arboretum, one of the nation's premier institutions dedicated to tree science, including an introduction to the four-acre Children's Garden
- Visit Garfield Park Conservatory, built in 1908 and one of the largest conservatories in the nation
- Hear the story behind renowned landscape architect Jens Jensen's innovative "landscape under glass" from Mary Eysenbach, Director of Conservatories for the Chicago Park District
- Relax and enjoy the company of old and new friends, and take in the breathtaking views with a special farewell dinner at the venerable Cliff Dwellers Club in downtown Chicago



Saturday, May 21 (B)

- Breakfast at the Drake Hotel
- Individual departures

Special Note: Frank Lloyd Wright fans may wish to consider a stay over for the Wright Plus 2016 Housewalk, which takes place on May 21. This internationally-renowned architectural house tour includes admission to a collection of privately-owned homes designed by Wright and his contemporaries in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park, in addition to the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio (details and tickets available from the Frank Lloyd Wright Trust at www.flwright.org).