

## Daily activities at the 2016 BDE National Tour

**Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> Callaway Gardens:** Although we will be able to come & go in our “free time” over the next five days, we have chosen Callaway Gardens as our early bird tour for Sunday. There is no specific departure time planned, but we strongly urge you to plan on arriving as early as you can & plan on spending a “few” hours touring the gardens & its amazing attractions at your leisure. There are over 2,500 acres to explore or simply drive through. The Virginia Hand Callaway Discovery Center is a great starting point for a tour of the Gardens. There you will find educational exhibits, (2) theaters, a lakeside café, a wildlife habitat garden & an amphitheater plus daily free-flight “Birds of Prey Shows”. For those who enjoy horticultural (& who doesn’t?) you will be amazed at the 40 acre Callaway Brother’s Azalea Bowl & the John Sibley Horticultural Center. Perhaps one of, if not “the” most interesting places for everyone is the Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center, one of North America’s largest butterfly conservatories. These are just a few of the many attractions you will be able to see. Please check out the website [www.callawaygarden.com](http://www.callawaygarden.com) for more info & to help plan your day or days. Admission?, As a registered BDE member @ the host hotel your room key card is your admission. Oh BTW, for those golfers, arrangements can be made for playing at either the Mountain View Course, which served as host to the PGA Tour’s “Buick Challenge” for over a decade or the original “Lake View Course”. If you are interested in playing, we suggest a (2) week notification. Yes, there is a “modest” discount as a BDE hotel guest.

**Monday, May 16, Warm Springs, Ga.** Warm Springs is home to the famous “Little White House”, Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “vacation home”, where he spent a great deal of his leisure time from 1932 until his death there in 1945 . The White House property features a new museum & many exhibits , including FDR’s 1938 Ford convertible sedan with the hand controls he personally designed. We will also be visiting the (restored) famous “Warm Springs” which was a comprehensive rehab center founded by FDR in 1927. These are located a short drive from the Little White House, but are included in the one admission price. Following our tour of the Springs, we will be “on our own” for lunch & to browse the unique shops & area around Warm Springs. For more info we suggest a visit to the web site [www.visitmeriwether.com](http://www.visitmeriwether.com) to help plan Monday afternoon.

**Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Infantry Museum, Columbus, Ga.** [WWW.NATIONALINFANTRYMUSEUM.COM](http://WWW.NATIONALINFANTRYMUSEUM.COM) Located outside the gates of Ft. Benning in Columbus, Ga. the National Infantry Museum is definitely “A Place To Remember”. You can spend a day or a few hours here & the main admission is free. There are individual fees for simulators, movies or special exhibits. Lunch will be served in one of the beautifully decorated banquet halls. Following lunch we will be “on our own” to continue visiting the museum, explore the historic area of Columbus, visit the Coca-Cola Space/Science center or perhaps the National Civil War Naval Museum. Information on any (or all) of these will be available upon request.

**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuskegee, Ala.** First stop will be the home of the famous Tuskegee Airman museum. From there we will go to the Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site for lunch. Following lunch you will be able to visit the George Washington Carver Museum as well as “the Oaks”, Booker T. Washington’s private residence. Additional info can be found by visiting [www.nps.gov/tuin](http://www.nps.gov/tuin) As with all events on this tour our afternoons are “free”. Group leaders will announce their times of departure for return to Callaway Gardens.

**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, LeGrange, Ga.** Today we will make the short drive (approximately. 27 miles) to LaGrange, Ga. where we will visit the Callaway Family Home, known as “*Hills & Dales Estate*”. The centerpiece of the 35 acre estate is a spectacular 1916 Italian villa, 31 room home surrounded by a splendid boxwood garden. Following our visit to “*Hills & Dales*” you are on your own for the rest of the day. Downtown LaGrange is located just a few blocks away & offers some great eateries & unique antique shops. Our farewell banquet (roasted chicken & pan roasted catfish) at the hotel will begin with cash bar @ 6:00 PM.