

# ***Fabulous Flora, Falls & Fun***

## ***Featuring Sonnenberg Gardens, Niagara Falls, Canada***

### ***and Buffalo's famous Garden Walk***

#### ***July 21-25, 2010***

#### **ITINERARY**

##### **Wednesday July 21, 2010**

- 5:00 AM Depart Weis Markets, Simpson Ferry Rd., Mechanicsburg
- 5:30 AM Depart Colonial Park Mall Pole #27, by Boscov's, Harrisburg  
Fast food stop en route – on your own
- 12:00 PM Sonnenberg Gardens, escape to Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park where you'll find time to unwind, surrounded by the lush landscape, colorful vistas, and architectural treasures in our nine formal gardens, our 1887 Queen Anne-style mansion and in our Lord & Burnham greenhouse complex  
Lunch included at the High Noon Café
- 1:45 PM Enjoy a Guided Walking Tour
- 3:15 PM Wine Tasting - Sonnenberg's Finger Lakes Wine Center  
Featuring some of the best wines and gourmet food products from more than 40 partner wineries and farms, we are a virtual gateway to all the Finger Lakes Wine Trails, and a member of the Canandaigua Wine Trail
- 4:00 PM Depart for Niagara Falls, Ontario
- 6:30 PM Approximate Arrival at the Marriott Courtyard, Niagara Falls, ON, 1-800-771-1123  
The Courtyard by Marriott Hotel Niagara Falls is located in the heart of the tourist district just one block from the world famous Niagara Falls. At the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel you are only a short walk to the Fallsview Casino, Casino Niagara and Clifton Hill. Dinner – on your own

##### **Thursday July 22, 2010**

- Breakfast included at the hotel
- 9:00 AM Visit Oakes Garden Theatre  
This spectacular garden is the entranceway to Queen Victoria Park, the key central area of Niagara Parks that showcases the Falls. Located at the foot of Clifton Hill, this is the perfect spot for a superb panoramic view of the American and Horseshoe Falls. Constructed in 1936, designers capitalized on the contours of the landscape to create a curved pergola overlooking a central amphitheatre. Rock gardens, lily ponds and shrub borders have been created around formalized gardens, with attractive ornamental iron gates and Queenston limestone around the perimeter
- 11:00 AM Journey Behind the Falls ~ Take a journey deep below and behind the heart of Niagara and stand in the mist where the mighty Horseshoe Falls tumbles from 13 storeys above! At Journey Behind the Falls, you'll experience the awesome spectacle of one-fifth of the world's fresh water crashing down to the basin below.



## Thursday July 22, 2010 Continued

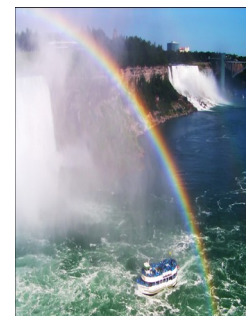
- 11:45 AM Lunch included at Elements On The Falls. Overlooking the brink of the thundering falls, delight your senses in the stylish atmosphere of Elements On The Falls. Open-flame grilling, stunning views of the falls and fiery glassworks make your dining experience come alive with all the elements of nature. After lunch enjoy some free time for shopping at the Table Rock shops
- 2:00 PM Visit Floral Showhouse. For over 60 years visitors have come to *Discover Paradise* at this lush oasis, just a short walk from the Falls. Collections of orchids, succulents and other tropical plant species are on display throughout the year, along with floral shows that reflect the changing seasons. Flying throughout the greenery are colorful tropical birds that may sing for your entertainment. During the summer months, don't miss the spectacular gardens surrounding the Floral Showhouse, including one of Niagara Parks' extensive rose gardens, ponds and a fragrance garden where plants are identified in Braille for persons who are visually impaired. Wander along the paths or rest on a bench in the peaceful *Artists Garden* - you won't believe you are in the centre of the city! Enjoy the afternoon at your leisure.
- 3:30 PM Return to the hotel to freshen-up.
- 5:00 PM Dinner included at the Skylon Tower in the revolving dining room overlooking the falls.



## Friday July 23, 2010,

Breakfast included at the hotel

- 9:00 AM Botanical Garden Guided Tour and Butterfly Conservatory. This beautiful Garden setting is home to the Butterfly Conservatory and serves as the unique outdoor classroom for students attending the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. Established in 1936, you'll enjoy 40 hectares (99 acres) of beautifully maintained gardens, including perennials, rhododendrons, azaleas, a formal parterre garden, shade, herb and vegetable plantings, an aviary as well as our world-famous rose garden featuring over 2,400 roses. Footpaths wind past the Butterfly Conservatory and butterfly garden, ponds and an arboretum featuring one of Canada's finest collections of ornamental trees and shrubs.
- Visit the Floral Clock. This unique attraction is a very popular stop on the Niagara Parkway and is photographed almost as often as the Falls! The planted face is maintained by Niagara Parks horticulture staff, while the mechanism is kept in working order by Ontario Hydro, the organization that originally built the clock. The intricate designs on the face of the timepiece are created with up to 16,000 annual flowers. The floral design is changed twice each year - it features viola in the Spring and four cultivars of *Alternanthera* along with green and grey forms of *Santolina Sage* during the Summer and Fall. California Golden Privet and Blue *Festuca Grass* may be used for contrast.
- 12:00 PM Lunch included at Queenston Heights Restaurant. It is located atop the edge of the Niagara Escarpment along the lovely Niagara Parkway. Take in the panoramic view of the Niagara River, the quaint village of Queenston and surrounding farmlands. Gaze over this historic battlefield that figured strategically in the War of 1812.
- 2:00 PM Tour of McFarland House. The garden is illustrative of a typical mid 19th century door yard garden. Gardens located in the door yard (typically defined as the area between the house and the nearby kitchen or barn) were usually used for both culinary and decorative purposes. McFarland House is a site billed as "Canada's Best Tea Garden."



**Friday July 23, 2010 continued**

4:30 PM Enjoy a ride on the famous "Maid of the Mist" Water rushes all around as you "soak" in the excitement and explore the roar of the Falls. A historical ride aboard the world-famous Maid of the Mist is a half hour thrill of a lifetime! North America's oldest tourist attraction, millions of visitors have enjoyed the boat tours since 1846.

Depart for return to the hotel. Enjoy dinner and evening on your own

**Saturday July 24, 2010**

Breakfast included at the hotel. Depart for Buffalo

9:30 AM Garden Walk – self guided (maps provided)

**Garden Walk Buffalo** is a self-guided tour of more than 340 Buffalo gardens, one of the largest garden tours in America. Garden Walk has become one of Western New York's most anticipated summer happenings. Tens of thousands of visitors join us each year, as we show off our city's beautiful homes and gardens. Receive a map and explore at your leisure today. Several places within walking distance that you might like to visit: Delaware Park Rose Garden, Erie Basin Marina University Test Gardens and Buffalo Japanese Gardens.

5:00 PM Hotel check in – Comfort Inn. Dinner included this evening

**Sunday July 25, 2010**

Breakfast included at the hotel

10:00 AM Enjoy a guided tour of the Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens is a national historic site, education center and tourist destination full of exotic horticulture treasures. Made up of three glass domes and nine greenhouses, this breathtaking conservatory is situated on 11.4 acres at the entrance to Buffalo's historic South Park. The plants inside are arranged in classic Victorian style and similar plants from throughout the world are grouped together. There are some plants native to our temperate region, most of the plants are native to the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world.

3:00 PM Tour the Corning Museum of Glass. Explore the riches of the Museum through the one-hour tours led by museum docents. Visit the special exhibition "Medieval Glass" for Popes, Princes and Peasants. This is the first exhibition in the United States devoted to glass made for the use of popes, princes, and peasants in the Middle Ages.

6:30 PM Dinner included at Fry Brothers Turkey Ranch, Trout Run PA

9:30 PM Approximate return to Harrisburg

10:00 PM Approximate return to Mechanicsburg



**To register please contact & mail payment to:  
Lowee's Group Tours, PO Box 6658, Harrisburg, PA 17112  
717-657-9658 or 1-888-345-6933  
\$899 per person Double Occupancy / Passports Required**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Rooming with \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests: \_\_\_\_\_ Pick-up: West Shore \_\_\_\_\_ or East Shore \_\_\_\_\_

Travel insurance must be taken at the time of reservation. Travel Insurance \$78pp yes / no

(Trip is non refundable without travel insurance) **Passports Required**

**If paying with credit card please fill out the bottom portion:**

**Credit Card Payment slip**

Payment Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type: MasterCard Visa Discover

Card Billing Address & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ (3 digit code on the back of the card)