

Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway

Take an unforgettable journey through the rolling hills of the genteel Brandywine Valley landscape and discover the lasting influence of the du Pont family dynasty. This journey is a true Delaware original. The byway leads to an unparalleled concentration of historic sites, magnificent estates, glorious gardens and mesmerizing museums.



Length: 12.25 miles / 19.6 km

Time One hour without stopping
to or 2-3 days to visit places

Allow: along the byway.

Local Information

Delaware Tourism Office

302-739-4271

866-2-VISIT-DE

Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau

302-652-4088

800-489-6664

Send E-mail

Visitor Services



Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities

Bike and Hike at Hagley: Visitors are welcome to bike along the Brandywine River and hike around the museum's history. Bike Kennett Pike (Route 52): Wind your way on the first scenic byway in the first state from Greenville to Centreville to experience the historic landscape firsthand. Wide shoulders for 3.5 miles provide great biking. Brandywine Creek State Park: Experience the historic rolling landscape on hiking and biking trails.



Food

There are restaurants and eateries along this byway.



Gasoline

Gasoline is available.



Information

The Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau distributes brochures and maps at their Visitor Centers at the following locations: **Downtown Location:** _Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau_ _100 W.

10th Street, Suite 20__Wilmington, DE 19801__302-652-4088_ This center is staffed and open Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. **I-95 Service Plaza**_South of Wilmington__302-737-4059_ This center is staffed and open 7 days a week (except Christmas) from 8 am - 8 pm.

Lodging



There is lodging available along this byway.

Phone



Public phones are available along this byway.

Restrooms



There are restroom facilities available along this byway.

Retail



There are shopping centers and retail stores along this byway.

Seasons

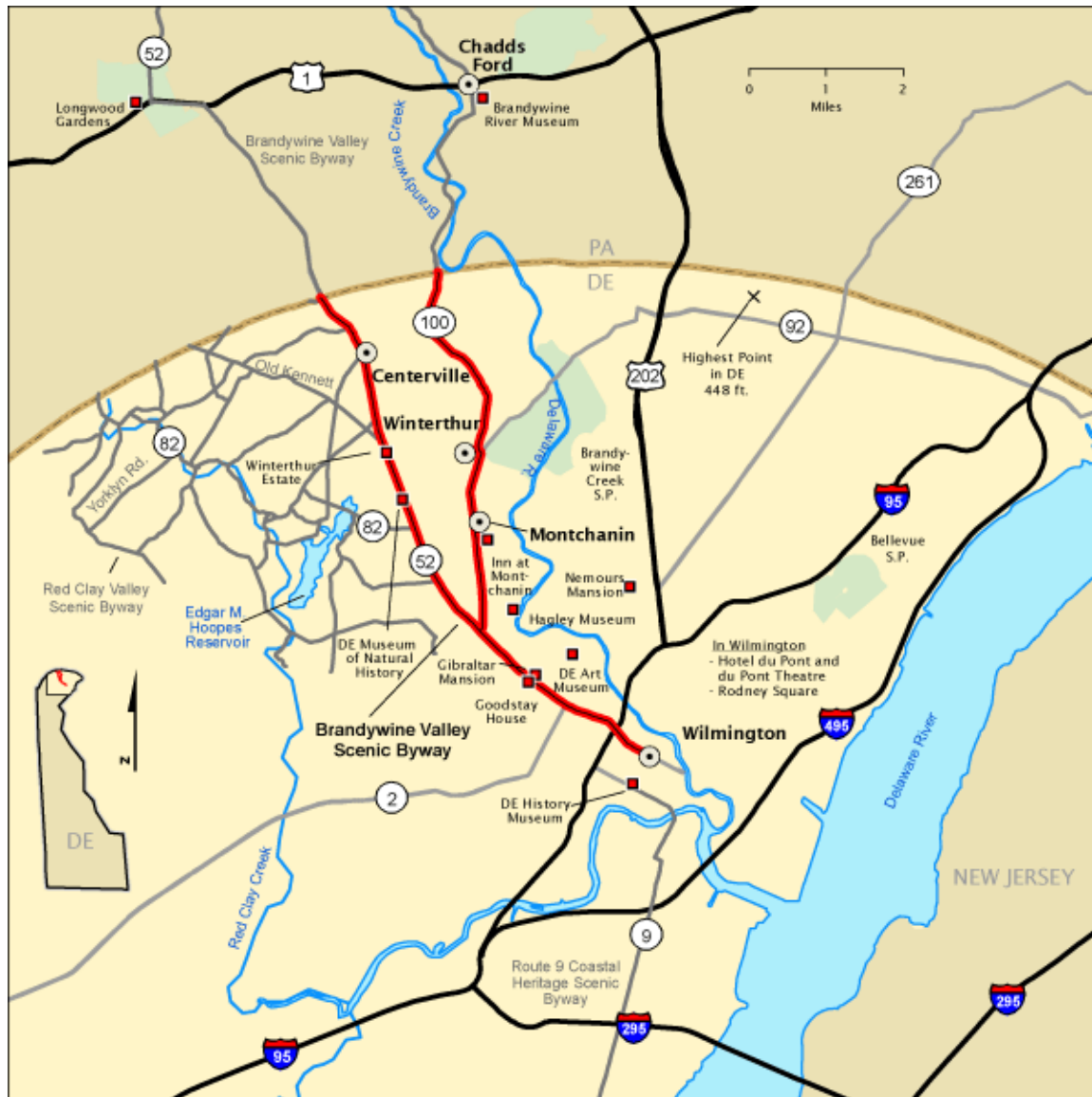
Best Time to Drive

Spring, summer, and fall are the optimal times to drive the byway and see the gardens and landscapes.

High Season

Byway visitors should avoid weekday rush hours and the first weekend in May when Point to Point steeplechase races at Winterthur draw large crowds.

Map and Directions



Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

Driving Directions

- The byway begins at the Pennsylvania State line at Delaware 52 (also known as Kennett Pike).

- Continue for 7.3 miles into the city of Wilmington.
- From Wilmington, take Delaware 52 (Pennsylvania Avenue) to Delaware 100 (Montchanin Road).
- Continue for 5.1 miles until the byway ends at the Pennsylvania State line.

Getting to the Byway



Nearby airports

Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI), MD
(79.7 miles / 128.26 km, 1 hour 26 minutes)



Start: ✈ Friendship Road, eastbound, Baltimore, MD
N 39.180° W 76.667° [?]

- Directions:**
- From Friendship Rd, take a slight left at I-195 W.
 - Take exit 2A to merge onto Baltimore Washington Pkwy N/MD-295 N.
 - Take the Harbor Tunnel Thruway/I-895 exit.
 - Merge onto I-895 N.
 - Continue on I-95 N.
 - Take exit 7 toward DE-52/Delaware Ave.
 - Merge onto N Adams St.
 - Turn right at W 11th St.
 - Continue straight through the right onto Pennsylvania Ave where you enter the byway.

Junction with byway: * Intersection of Delaware Ave. and DE-52, Wilmington, DE
N 39.743° W 75.538° [?]

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL), PA (21.4 miles / 34.44 km, 23 minutes)



Start: ✈ Philadelphia International Airport
Philadelphia, PA
N 39.875° W 75.250° [?]

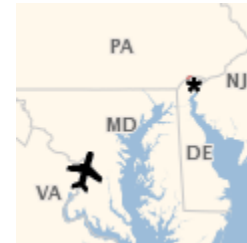
Directions: **From Philadelphia International Airport to Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway ***

Head east * Merge onto I-95 S * Take the DE-52 N/Delaware Ave Exit * Merge onto N Jackson St * Turn right onto Delaware Ave, where you enter the byway

Junction with byway: * Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway
Intersection of Delaware Ave and DE-52, Wilmington, DE
N 39.752° W 75.556° [?]

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), VA
(113 miles / 181.86 km, 2 hours 40 minutes)

Start: ✈ National Airport Access Road northbound, Arlington, VA
N 38.852° W 77.039° [?]



- Directions:**
- Turn left onto Smith Blvd.
 - Take ramp onto George Washington Memorial Pkwy.
 - Take exit onto SW Fwy/I-395 N.
 - Make a slight right on to Pennsylvania Ave.
 - Take the ramp on the left onto DC-295 N.
 - Continue on MD-295 N then take the Harbor Tunnel Thrwy/I-895 exit.
 - Merge onto I-895 N.
 - Continue on I-95 N.
 - Take exit 7 toward DE-52/Delaware Ave.
 - Merge onto N Adams St.
 - Turn right at W 11th St.
 - Continue straight through the light onto Pennsylvania Ave where you enter the byway.

In good conditions, the trip takes 2 hours and 10 minutes, but plan for 2 hours and 40 minutes in case of traffic.

Junction with byway: * Intersection of Delaware Ave. and DE-52, Wilmington, DE
N 39.753° W 75.556° [?]

Washington-Dulles International Airport (IAD), VA (131 miles / 210.82 km, 3 hours)

Start: ✈ Saarinen Circle, eastbound, Chantilly, VA
N 38.953° W 77.448° [?]



- Directions:**
- Make a slight left at Hirst Brault Expy.
 - Take the exit onto VA-267 E.
 - Take the exit onto I-495 N.
 - Take exit 27 for I-95 N.
 - Take exit 7 toward DE-52/Delaware Ave.
 - Merge onto N Adams St.
 - Turn left at W 10th St.
 - Turn right at N Van Buren St.
 - Turn left onto Pennsylvania Ave to enter the byway.

In good conditions, the trip will take 2 hours and 20 minutes, but plan for 3 hours in case of traffic.

Junction with byway: * Intersection of Delaware Ave. and DE-52, Wilmington, DE
N 39.743° W 75.553° [?]

Road Trip: Chateau Country: Explore the du Pont Legacy Trail

Departure: Hotel du Pont and du Pont Theatre, Delaware

Destination: Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania

Time to allow: 2 days

The du Pont Legacy Trail epitomizes two centuries of du Pont history and culture. Magnificent country estates, quaint historic villages, ornate gardens, the finest collection of American antiques, and the birthplace of America's industrial heritage can be seen along the rolling hills of the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway. Every season offers a wide variety of activities, tours and displays, but outdoor gardens are best in warmer seasons. A two-day visit covers five major attractions.

Day 1

- **Start: Hotel du Pont and du Pont Theatre**

The Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway begins here, at the Hotel du Pont and du Pont Theatre in downtown Wilmington. The hotel is famous for its luxurious accommodations. The du Pont Theatre presents the "Best of Broadway" shows September through May.



- **Stop 1: Hagley Museum and Library**



From previous stop: 11 minutes / 3 mi (4.8 km)

Directions: From the du Pont Hotel take Route 52 North. Turn right onto Route 100/141 at St. Joseph's on the Brandywine Church. Go to the first light and turn right on Route 141. Go a few hundred feet to the Hagley entrance on the left.

Suggested time at this stop: 4 hours

Hagley Museum and Library sits on 235 acres along the banks of the Brandywine River. It is the site of the du Pont gunpowder works and the ancestral home and gardens of the du Pont family.

- **Stop 2: Delaware Museum of Natural History**



From previous stop: 6 minutes / 2.7 mi (4.3 km)

Directions: Leaving Hagley Museum's main entrance, turn right on Route 141. Take a left at the light onto Route 100 at St. Joseph's on the Brandywine Church. Take a right at the light to get back on Route 52 North. (Route 100 dead ends at the light.) Continue north on Route 52. The museum is on the left just before Winterthur Museum and Gardens.

Suggested time at this stop: 2 hours

The Delaware Museum of Natural History was created by John du Pont. Museum highlights include an African watering hole, a Great Barrier Reef exhibit, and life-sized dinosaur skeletons. Children will enjoy the learning adventures in the Discovery Room.

- **End: Montchanin**

From previous stop: same location

Lodging is available in the city of Montchanin.

Totals for Day 1

Total Distance Traveled: 5.7 miles / 9.1 km

Total Travel Time: 17 minutes

Total Stopping Time: 6 hours

Day 2

- **Stop 1: Winterthur Museum and Country Estate**



From previous stop: 1 minute / 0.4 mi (0.6 km)

Directions: Winterthur is across the byway from the Delaware Museum of Natural History. Leaving the museum entrance, turn left onto Route 52 North. The entrance to Winterthur is just ahead on the right.

Suggested time at this stop: 4 hours

Henry Francis du Pont remodeled his boyhood home into this 175-room, 7-story mansion full of American furniture and decorative arts. The 979-acre estate has a naturalistic landscape, garden, and 'Enchanted Woods' children's garden. Here, visitors can discover the enormity of the du Pont wealth and legacy.

- **End: Longwood Gardens**



From previous stop: 10 minutes / 5.6 mi (9.0 km)

Directions: Longwood Gardens is in Pennsylvania, just beyond the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway. Leaving Winterthur's main entrance, turn right onto Route 52 and go north to the Pennsylvania state line for 3 miles. Continue on Route 52 in Pennsylvania for 1.75 miles to Route 1. Turn left on Route 1 and travel for 0.75 miles. Longwood Gardens is on the right.

Encompassing over 1,000 acres, Longwood Gardens is larger than Central Park and is world-renowned for its magnificent horticulture. Visitors can explore numerous gardens with fountains, ponds, and landscaped meadows. Longwood Gardens also features a massive conservatory filled with exhibits.

Totals for Day 2

Total Distance Traveled: 6 miles / 9.6 km



Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway

Total Travel Time: 11 minutes

Total Stopping Time: 4 hours