

# EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES

~ a garden theme tour ~



Begin at Doris Duke's **ROUGH POINT ESTATE** surrounded by a stunning landscape with a distinguished history. Frederick Law Olmsted, the renowned landscape architect and designer of Central Park, created the grounds for Frederick W. Vanderbilt. Completed in 1890, the site still reflects Olmsted's original vision of a landscape that enhances the natural beauty of Newport's breathtaking rocky shoreline. More than 35 different varieties of dahlias are grown here and the rose arbor, with its spectacular American Pillar Rose display, is not to be missed.

**NEWPORT VINEYARDS** is the largest grower of wine grapes in New England and has undergone a multi-million dollar renovation. Your time at the vineyard will begin with a close-up view of the robust and diverse vines. Learn how they're grown, and then discover the step-by-step winemaking process including how many of their wines are aged in oak barrels. Following the tour, guests enjoy a select tasting of Newport Vineyard's award-winning wines and can enjoy lunch overlooking their beautiful rolling acres.

After a relaxing lunch, the group will have time to browse or shop at **CHAVES' GARDEN**, a garden center that has been a part of the fabric of Aquickneck Island's green-thumb community for more than 25 years with exquisite florals, plants, gifts and more. Chaves' plantings are spread across more than three acres of land, the plants and products are easy to locate and beautifully displayed.

Visit renowned **GREEN ANIMALS TOPIARY GARDEN**, the oldest and most northern topiary garden in the United States. Dating back to the late 1800s, this property once consisted of seven acres of land, a white clapboard summer residence, farm outbuildings, a pasture and a vegetable garden. Today, it's stunning landscaped grounds feature more than 80 pieces of topiary throughout the gardens, including animals and birds, geometric figures and ornamental designs, sculpted from California privet, yew, and English boxwood (hence the name, Green Animals). The property is now part of the impressive portfolio of The Preservation Society of Newport County, which also oversees the famed Newport Mansions.

Next, head to charming and historic Bristol to experience **BLITHEWOLD MANSION, GARDEN & ARBORETUM**, considered to be one of the finest garden estates in New England. This stunning, turn-of-the-century, 45-room English-style manor mansion on 33 acres overlooks Narragansett Bay, but the gardens are what set the Blithewold apart. The Head Gardener will show the group the rare gardens and talk about the collection and special exhibits in the home. A floral arrangement class is offered after the tour and participants are able to take home their creations.

## *optional add-ons*

- The Newport Mansions Annual Flower Show
- Newport Secret Garden Tours (Spring & Fall)
- Daffodil Days at Blithewold

## *for more information*

Contact:  
Christopher Siravo  
Sales Manager  
CSiravo@discovernewport.org  
401.845.9119



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