

Glorious Gardens of the Genesee

Playfully Produced by The Strong

Day 1

The Strong National Museum of Play

11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Arrive in Rochester, New York, at **The Strong National Museum of Play**. Tour this expansive, one-of-a-kind museum that holds the largest collection of toys, dolls, and games in the world, and discover the stories behind some of America's most iconic artifacts of play. Then explore *Dancing Wings Butterfly Garden*, upstate New York's only year-round, indoor butterfly garden and the outdoor *Discovery Garden*—abundant with trees, shrubs, flowering plants, and ground cover selected specifically to attract butterflies, birds, and other wildlife. This experience includes a private 20-minute tour with the museum's Manager of Grounds and Live Collections. After, tour the museum on your own and use a museum food voucher to enjoy lunch at your choice of food court restaurants: Subway, Pizza Hut Express, or Taco Bell Express. Depart at 2 p.m. for Highland Park.



Highland Park

2:10–4 p.m.

Step off at **Highland Park**, home to Rochester's largest and most famous festival, the **Lilac Festival**. Explore the grounds of this amazing 150-acre park that has the largest collection of lilacs in the world. More than 1,200 lilac shrubs bloom in a variety of colors, including yellow! While in the park, experience the Japanese maple collection, 35 varieties of sweet-smelling magnolias, a barberry collection, a rock garden with dwarf evergreens, 700 varieties of rhododendron, azaleas, mountain laurel and Andromeda, horse chestnuts, spring bulbs and wildflowers, and a large number of exotic trees. Be sure to stop by the park's pansy bed—its 10,000 plants are designed into an oval floral "carpet" with a new pattern each year. An iris garden, given as a gift from sister city Hamamatsu, Japan, adds to the impressive landscape. Your tour includes a visit to the **Lamberton Conservatory**. Built in 1911, the 1,800 square-foot structure is home to a year-round plant and floral display. It includes a changing seasonal room, rain forest room, economic plants room, and desert and houseplant rooms. There is also a lily pond and stream with goldfish. Depart at 4 p.m. for Casa Larga Vineyards.



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Casa Larga Vineyards

4:30-5:45 p.m.

Arrive at **Casa Larga Vineyards**. Your outing begins in the vineyard where you will discover the history of Casa Larga, the grapes grown here, and why the Finger Lakes region of New York State is a prime grape growing location. Learn about harvesting, fermentation, and the aging process in the Cellar. Then visit the Barrel Room and the bottling line to learn the fascinating process of champagne making. After the tour, head upstairs to the Tasting Room and learn the five S's of wine tasting—wine offerings change according to the season and by release date. Casa Larga Vineyards has been producing wine for 45 years and is highly regarded for its production of award-winning, world-class ice wines. Its Vidal Ice Wine is recognized as the most-awarded ice wine in the United States, securing more than 100 awards including the “Best Dessert Wine Trophy” and “Best in Class” at the International Wine & Spirits Competition in London, England. Depart at 5:45 p.m. for your hotel.



Hampton Inn Victor

5:50-6:45 p.m.

Check-in at the **Hampton Inn Victor** and relax and unwind in this upscale lodge-style hotel that features a fireplace and leather seating, a garden courtyard, indoor pool, fitness center, a business center, and free motor coach parking. Guests can take the hotel's complimentary shuttle to Eastview Mall. Depart at 6:45 p.m. for dinner.



Biaggi's Italian Restaurant

7-9 p.m.

Arrive at **Biaggi's Italian Restaurant** at Eastview Mall for dinner. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere and a casual setting as you select from a menu featuring an extensive selection of house-made and imported pastas, soups, salads, pizzas, seafood, steaks, and desserts—all made with fresh ingredients. Exceptional service and fine food are the key ingredients for your wonderful dining experience. Depart at 9 p.m. and return to the hotel.

Day 2

Breakfast

7-9 a.m.

Enjoy a relaxing breakfast at the **Hampton Inn** before departing at 9:15 a.m. for the George Eastman Museum.

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George Eastman Museum

9:40–11:50 a.m.

Disembark at the **George Eastman Museum**. This international treasure encompasses one of the world's foremost collections of photography and cinema, including the preeminent collection of photographic and cinematographic technology. A historic landscape tour begins on the front porch of the mansion on the National Historic Landmark estate built and owned by entrepreneur George Eastman. Journey about the 12.8-acre estate and marvel at the designs by landscape architects Alling Deforest and Claude Bragdon. Learn about the trees, ornamental shrubs, and vines, as well as the five restored garden areas planted with perennials, bulbs, and annuals typically grown during Eastman's residency (1905–1932). Historic buildings, structures, and architectural elements such as the Loggia, Grape Arbor, Pergola, sunken oval lily pool, and 17th-century Venetian wellheads are also part of this tour. Depart at 11:50 a.m. for lunch.



West Edge Restaurant

Noon–1:15 p.m.

Enjoy lunch at the **West Edge Restaurant** along the banks of the mighty Genesee River. Depart at 1:15 p.m. for Ganondagon.



Ganondagon and the Seneca Art and Interpretive Cultural Center

2–4 p.m.

Arrive in **Ganondagon** and the **Seneca Art and Interpretive Cultural Center**. Explore a Native American community and historic site where thousands of Seneca lived 300 years ago. Tour a full-size replica of a 17th-century Seneca bark longhouse, walk miles of self-guided trails, climb the mesa where a huge palisaded granary stored hundreds-of-thousands of bushels of corn, and learn about the destruction of Ganondagon, Town of Peace, in 1687.

As one of the six nations comprising the Iroquois Confederacy, discover how democratic ideals served as an inspiration for the U.S. Constitution and how the Seneca's matriarchal society helped inspired the 1848 declaration of sentiments that eventually lead to a woman's right to vote. Learn how the Seneca developed one of the world's most healthy cuisines using natural foods still popular today, and the natural medicines they used to treat illnesses. Depart at 4 p.m. for home.



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