Frequently Asked Questions

Do the house and garden tours sell out? Are tickets available on tour day?
Tours do not sell out. Advance tickets are available at numerous local outlets listed by tour, or online at vagardenweek.org. Online ticket sales close at 10:00 am on each individual tour date. Day of tickets are available at designated ticketing locations (usually tour headquarters) listed in the Historic Garden Week Guidebook, which is available in print or online.

Where can I pick up a Guidebook? Are they free?
Guidebooks are available at various locations around Virginia. See list on our website. The Guidebook is free at these locations. You may also purchase a Guidebook online or by sending a check by April 5th, 2019 to the Garden Club of Virginia, 12 East Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219 in the amount of $20. The cost of the Guidebook covers shipping and handling.

Where do we park? Are there shuttles?
Many neighborhoods cannot accommodate the additional traffic associated with tours. In these cases, use designated parking areas or provided shuttles, which are included in the admission price. Do not block residential driveways. Please check individual tour descriptions available on our website, vagardenweek.org, or in the Historic Garden Week Guidebook.

Are there restrooms available on the tours?
There are no public restroom facilities in the homes, but restrooms are often available at the tour headquarters or other designated locations in the tour area.

Can we visit all 31 tours over the 8 days of Historic Garden Week?
Sadly, it is not physically possible to attend all 31 tours over the course of garden week. We suggest visiting the “Suggested Itineraries” page of our website, located under the “Tour Schedule” tab, for travel ideas.

Is photography allowed?
No interior photography. Photography of any kind, including via cell phone, is prohibited inside the houses, and some tours prohibit exterior photography as well. Many of the host garden clubs post pictures of the flower arrangements on their Historic Garden Week Facebook and Instagram.

What is your refund policy?
All sales are final. Tours are held rain or shine, except for tours that are inaccessible due to weather conditions.

What flowers are in bloom during Historic Garden Week?
Virginia is often at its height of springtime blooming during Historic Garden Week. The tours cover three different hardiness zones and weather is always a factor. Rest assured, however, that Mother Nature never disappoints. Visitors can expect to see tulips, peonies, iris, azaleas, and dogwood. If it’s been cool leading up to tours, there might be daffodils, camellia, wisteria, and redbud too. If it’s been warm, you might enjoy roses and hydrangea.
Are the tours handicapped accessible?
These properties are private homes and therefore are not handicapped accessible; those with physical limitations should be advised.

May children attend Historic Garden Week tours?
Children 17 years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Tours are produced and hosted by 47 different member clubs of the Garden Club of Virginia. Generally, student tickets are half of the ticket cost and young children are free. While most tours are not geared toward young visitors, some are more conducive than others. If you are planning on bringing a young guest, please email the tour chairman for ticket pricing. Contact information for each tour is online or in the Guidebook.

Where do the proceeds go?
Tour proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia’s historic public gardens and landscapes, a research fellowship program and a new partnership with Virginia State Parks.

Learn more at vagardenweek.org and gcvirginia.org

Other helpful information:

- For your comfort and safety, please wear flat walking shoes, no spiked heels, and watch for steps and uneven surfaces as you visit the homes and gardens.
- Pets – except service animals – are not permitted.
- No smoking.
- No strollers, backpacks or large bags.
- The Garden Club of Virginia, its member clubs and owners of the properties are not responsible for accidents occurred on the tours.

Printable ticket example (sent by email after purchase)

With 31 tours to choose from this spring, there is something for everyone.