Sherborn COA & Best of Times Travel Proudly Present



Welcome to the 2025 Newport Flower Show: "A Floral Fair" - Friday June 20th, 2025

Welcome to Newport RI. Through the years Newport has made a name for itself in a variety of manners, first as a colony founded on religious freedom, later as the summer playground for the American socialite families with names like Astor and Vanderbilt, as a key location for the United States Navy, and then as the yachting capital of the world. Best of Times invites you to experience this "City by the Sea" through our specially customized Newport Flower Show program.

The 2025 Newport Flower Show, themed "A Floral Fair," will shine at Rosecliff Mansion, celebrating two enchanting and vibrant themes. With its celebrated heart-shaped grand staircase and the largest ballroom in Newport, this elegant mansion overlooking the Atlantic Ocean recalls lost Gilded Age summers filled with extravagant parties like the one featured in 1974's The Great Gatsby, which included several scenes filmed at Rosecliff. Inside the elegant rooms of Rosecliff, guests will be transported back to the Gilded Age, honoring the legacy of Theresa Fair Oelrichs, the mansion's original owner. Exhibitors in Floral Design and Botanical Arts will draw inspiration from her 1913 fairy tale-themed dinner, creating captivating displays of imagination and elegance. Adding a fun twist, the first floor will also bloom with playful arrangements reminiscent of a cheerful summer county fair. The festivities continue outdoors on Rosecliff's breathtaking rear terrace and oceanside lawn. Here, the Horticulture Division and Garden Displays will bring the themes to life with competitions of delightful plants, vibrant cut flowers and inspiring displays crafted by skilled amateur gardeners and local garden clubs.

As and added bonus to our day we will visit and tour The Marble House Mansion. The Gilded Age comes alive at Marble House through our included and engaging audio tour. Hear about how the Duke of Marlborough met his future Duchess, Consuelo Vanderbilt, one of America's dollar princesses. William Vanderbilt built Marble House in 1892 as a 39th birthday present for his wife Alva Vanderbilt. It was a summer house, or "cottage," as Newporters called them in remembrance of the modest houses of the early 19th century. But Marble House was much more; it was a social and architectural landmark that set the pace for Newport's subsequent transformation from a quiet summer colony of wooden houses to the legendary resort of opulent stone palaces.

Lunch today will be on our own at the famous Bowen's Wharf Area of Newport with some time for shoppping and exploring on our own. ***Please note this program requires a moderate degree of walking throughout the day***

Please Note: There are no refunds for cancelletions after May 19th, 2025 regardless of cancellation reason.

Price: \$127pp - Includes Motorcoach Transportation, Entry to Rosecliff & Marble House Mansions, Entry to the Flower Show Festival, Best of Times Travel Tour Manager (Grat. Incl.), Bus Driver Gratuity Not Included For Reservations Please Contact: Sherborn COA: (508) 651-7858 or EMail coa@sherbornma.org