

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW: GARDENS OF TOMORROW

Sunday, March 2 - Monday, March 3, 2025

Tour Bulletin

The following information has been compiled to help you prepare for your trip and to serve as reconfirmation of your registration. You will receive a final tour reminder email the week leading up to your trip. If you still have questions or concerns after reading this information, please email the Study Tours department at associates-studytours@si.edu.

As you read on, you will see that there are a few items that we will need from you prior to the start of the tour. Please complete these items ASAP. They are as follows:

- [Link to Participant Information Form \(PIF\) & Electronic Responsibility Statement \(completed via Microsoft Forms\)](#)

Please be sure to complete this information promptly. Our ability to facilitate your enjoyment of the tour, and to assure your comfort and well-being during the tour, depends on your accurate representation of your needs and preferences and our receipt of that information in a timely manner. The Electronically Acknowledged Signed Responsibility statement is required before you can be admitted to the tour. *It is particularly important that you advise us of the extent of any physical limitations that affect your ability to walk, stand, climb stairs, or otherwise participate in tour activities and to provide precise information on serious food allergies.*

General Information

Departure Locations and Times

Although we do everything we can to notify you in the event of a change, we always recommend you check your email for notification of any last minute changes.

The tour bus departs at **8:00 a.m.** from the DeSales Street entrance of the **Mayflower Hotel**. DeSales is a one-block street, one-way going east from Connecticut to 17th Street and is between L St. (also one-way going east) and M St. (one-way going west). A PMI 24-hour parking garage is available on DeSales St. across from the Mayflower. The cost of parking is approximately \$35/day. Email PMI customer service at monthlycontracts@pmi-parking.com for further information or to confirm rates. The bus will return to the DeSales St. side of the Mayflower Hotel at **6:00 p.m.** on Monday evening. There is a taxi stand at the Mayflower Hotel's Connecticut Ave. entrance and Metro entrance at L Street and Connecticut.

A fringe pickup stop is made at **approximately 8:30 a.m.** at the **DoubleTree Hilton Laurel** (15101 Sweitzer Ln, Laurel, MD 20707). The drop-off stop here will be about 5:30 p.m. on Monday, for those picked up on the way out or upon request.

Please remember tours are not delayed for missing participants or anyone not ready to board at the scheduled time, so please be kind to others, and be prompt!

Bus & Seating

The bus is provided by Eyre Bus Service and is equipped with a restroom. Please advise the Smithsonian Representative or Driver if something on the bus needs attention or the temperature is not comfortable. The tour staff normally occupies the front seats on both sides of the aisle. Seat selection is otherwise open when the bus is first boarded each day. Once everyone has selected his/her seat, please continue throughout the day to use that same seat or any seat that was not selected after all had boarded.

Please note that if participants with certain disabilities or conditions need special seating, *tour staff may reserve seats or request participants to move who boarded prior to the tour staff*. If the disabilities requiring special seating are not apparent, participants requesting such seating are asked to provide a statement from their physician confirming the situation and what is needed. This must be done prior to the tour by contacting our office at associates-studytours@si.edu.

Smoking

Is not permitted on the bus, including in the restroom, or at any time when the group is gathered together in a limited space for a tour activity. If you are a smoker, and have requested to share a room, please be sure to note this on your participant information form. PLEASE NOTE: All rooms at the Kimpton Hotel Monaco are non-smoking.

Tour Staff

Study Leader – **Chelsea Mahaffey**, is on a mission to visit every public garden in North America. Ever since her first job as a gardener at a zoo, Chelsea has obsessed over plants and their role in the community. As a plant enthusiast and garden advocate, she delivers keen horticulture insights during her Smithsonian tours. She brings over a decade of experience in the green industry as a front line horticulturist to behind the scenes administrator. Some of the great gardens she has worked at includes Missouri Botanical Garden, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and currently, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. Chelsea graduated from Temple University with a degree in Science, concentrating in Horticulture. She obtained a certificate in Management Development from University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. She completed the Fellows program from Longwood Gardens.

Smithsonian Representative – **David Young** will be handling all logistics and assisting you with any problems or question that you may have concerning the tour schedule or operation. David is a Smithsonian tour representative who has traveled with Associates on numerous tours, most recently *Alexandria at War*, *New Deal Projects*, *A Day with DC-area Theater Makers*, *The 1814 British Invasion of the Chesapeake*, and *A Natural History of the Mid-Atlantic*. Please feel free to approach him at any time.

Clothing

Casual clothing is appropriate for all group activities. Please bring layers and wear comfortable, sturdy shoes for walking and standing at sites.

Departure Times & Schedules

You will be given a final version of the Itinerary and Participant List when the tour departs. This will be on colored paper, different from the tentative itinerary enclosed here. We recommend that you keep it with you at all times as it can help you follow the activities more closely. Itineraries are always subject to change, however, so it is important to stay alert to announcements concerning changes throughout the tour. Also, you will notice a cell phone number on your final itinerary. Please feel free to use this for any urgent matters.

Adhering to the schedule is essential to completing all tour components and fulfilling our obligations to those who arrive on time. Tours may depart without latecomers. In such circumstances, latecomers are responsible for

arrangements and expenses associated with their rejoining the tour or returning to their home. Don't let this happen to you!

Accommodations

You will be staying at the **Kimpton Hotel Monaco located at 433 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106**. The telephone number is 215-925-2111. We recommend that you leave this number with anyone who would need to reach you in an emergency.

You may be required upon check-in to provide a credit card to the hotel for any incidentals charged to your room outside of group activities.

Check-out Procedures

No special check out procedures are necessary, however, please remember to pay any incidental charges you may have made to your room prior to departure time.

Meals

The following meals are included in your tour package. *Be sure to indicate dietary restrictions on your Personal Information Form.* Contact us at associates-studytours@si.edu if you have any questions.

Sunday lunch*	<i>Boxed Lunch – Choice of: Roasted Turkey with Applewood Smoked Bacon, Tomato, & Lettuce With Garlic Aioli on a Brioche Bun, or Smashed-Chickpea & Avocado with Feta Cheese, Tomato, Red Onion, Watercress, & Green Goddess Dressing on Seven-Grain Bread. Served With Bag of Chips, Fresh Fruit, House Baked Cookie, & Bottled Water. (Winterthur)</i>
Sunday dinner	<i>Victor Salad, Choice of Entrée: Chicken Piccata, Seared Salmon, Cannelloni, Eggplant Parmigiana, Vegetable Risotto, Dessert Sampler, Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea. (Victor Café)</i>
Monday breakfast	<i>Sliced Seasonal Fruits, Assorted Croissants, Danishes, Bagels, Individual Greek Yogurt, House Made Granola, Scrambled Cage-Free Eggs, Roasted Breakfast Potatoes, Chicken Apple Sausage, Natalie's Orange Juice Freshly Brewed Organic Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee & Organic Teas (Kimpton Hotel Monaco)</i>

(*) = Please indicate your meal choice on the Participant Information Form

You are welcome to bring whatever snacks and/or beverages (such as a thermos of coffee, bottled water, etc.) you normally need or desire between mealtimes. Please review the itinerary with any personal needs or preferences of this nature in mind. If you have special concerns about your food needs or preferences, please contact our staff at associates-studytours@si.edu as soon as possible. Note that alcoholic beverages are not included with meals and would be at your own expense.

What is Included

Participants purchase their own snacks and beverages other than those included with meals. Your tour fee includes bus transportation, tuition, accommodations, admissions, and meals listed above.

Gratuities

Gratuities have been included for all group meals and for the bus driver. Where appropriate, donations have been made on behalf of the Smithsonian. Although a housekeeping surcharge is included, additional gratuities for the

chambermaid are not included, and are at your own discretion. Your Smithsonian Representative and Study Leader are professionals who do not receive tips.

Cancellation & Trip Insurance

Please review the cancellation policy located on the back page of your Associate Magazine or on the web at smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/help/refund-policy. This information is important, as we are not able to make exceptions regardless of the reasons for cancellation. This tour is 100% non-refundable after **February 15, 2025**. Up until that time, cancellation fees apply. If you have chosen to purchase trip cancellation insurance, you would need to consult your individual policy for cancellation details, in addition to contacting us.

Some Additional Items to Bring Along

- Reusable Water Bottle
- Face masks if you would like to wear one
- Umbrella and/or fold-up lightweight rain poncho and good walking shoes
- Camera, lenses, batteries, chargers
- Regional area map if desired
- Wet wipes or hand sanitizer for freshening up
- Whatever snacks and/or beverages (such as a thermos for coffee, bottled water, etc.) you normally need between mealtimes. Please review the itinerary with these needs in mind.
- Layered clothing including jacket for variable weather

Post-Tour Questionnaire

Your opinion is important in our continuing effort to provide you the best in value and educational travel. At the end of your tour, you will receive an evaluation form on which you can express your satisfaction with, or concerns about, each aspect of the tour. Each evaluation is carefully reviewed, so candid comments are appreciated. We appreciate your time completing this evaluation. Only you can tell us we have met our goal in providing a quality educational travel experience.

*We appreciate your participation in this program and
hope it meets your highest expectations!*



PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

Gardens of Tomorrow

Sun., Mar. 2 – Mon., Mar. 3, 2025

Study Leader: Chelsea Mahaffey

Smithsonian Rep: David Young

Tour Cell Phone: TBD

Sunday, March 2

8:00 a.m. Departure from the Mayflower Hotel

8:30 a.m. Pick up at DoubleTree Hilton, Laurel MD

10:30 a.m. Arrival at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library

Visit includes a guided mansion tour, guided garden walk, narrated tram tour, and boxed lunch

Menu: Choice of: Roasted Turkey with Applewood Smoked Bacon, Tomato, & Lettuce with Garlic Aioli on a Brioche Bun, or Smashed-Chickpea & Avocado with Feta Cheese, Tomato, Red Onion, Watercress, & Green Goddess Dressing on Seven-Grain Bread. Served With Bag of Chips, Fresh Fruit, House Baked Cookie, & Bottled Water

2:30 p.m. Depart

3:30 p.m. Check into the Kimpton Hotel Monaco for your overnight stay

4:15 p.m. Depart for dinner

4:30 p.m. Victor Café – Music Lover’s Rendezvous a 3-course dinner & entertainment (approx. 2.5 hours)

Menu: Victor Salad, Choice of Entrée: Chicken Piccata, Seared Salmon, Cannelloni, Eggplant Parmigiana, Vegetable Risotto, Dessert Sampler, Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea.

Monday, March 3

6:30 a.m. Breakfast served at the hotel

Menu: Sliced Seasonal Fruits, Assorted Croissants, Danishes, Bagels, Individual Greek Yogurt, House Made Granola, Scrambled Cage-Free Eggs, Roasted Breakfast Potatoes, Chicken Apple Sausage, Natalie’s Orange Juice Freshly Brewed Organic Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee & Organic Teas

7:30 a.m. Prompt departure from the hotel

7:45 a.m. Philadelphia Flower Show

Enjoy a 2-hour guided tour of the show before it opens to the public

Show Information: You have free time to explore the show on your own. A ticket for Butterflies Live! Is included with your admission, plus 1-hour “Know and Grow” lectures scheduled for 12pm (“Don’t Go with the Flow of Climate Change”) and 2pm (“There’s Beauty in Backyard Brambles”).

Lunch is on your own. Please note that you may leave the show (and return) to visit nearby Reading Terminal Market or elsewhere in the city if you wish.

3:00 p.m. Depart for Washington

Rest Stop to Purchase a Meal

5:30 p.m. Approximate drop-off at the DoubleTree Hilton, Laurel MD

6:00 p.m. Return to the Mayflower Hotel

If you enjoyed today’s program, we hope you’ll consider making a donation to the Smithsonian Associates. Your contribution will help ensure that we are able to continue offering the outstanding programming you’ve come to expect from the Smithsonian Associates. For more information go online to SmithsonianAssociates.org/levels or call 202.633.3030.

NOTE: If you have Special Requirements (e.g. dietary or mobility), please notify Customer Service when registering for a future tour.

MAYFLOWER HOTEL

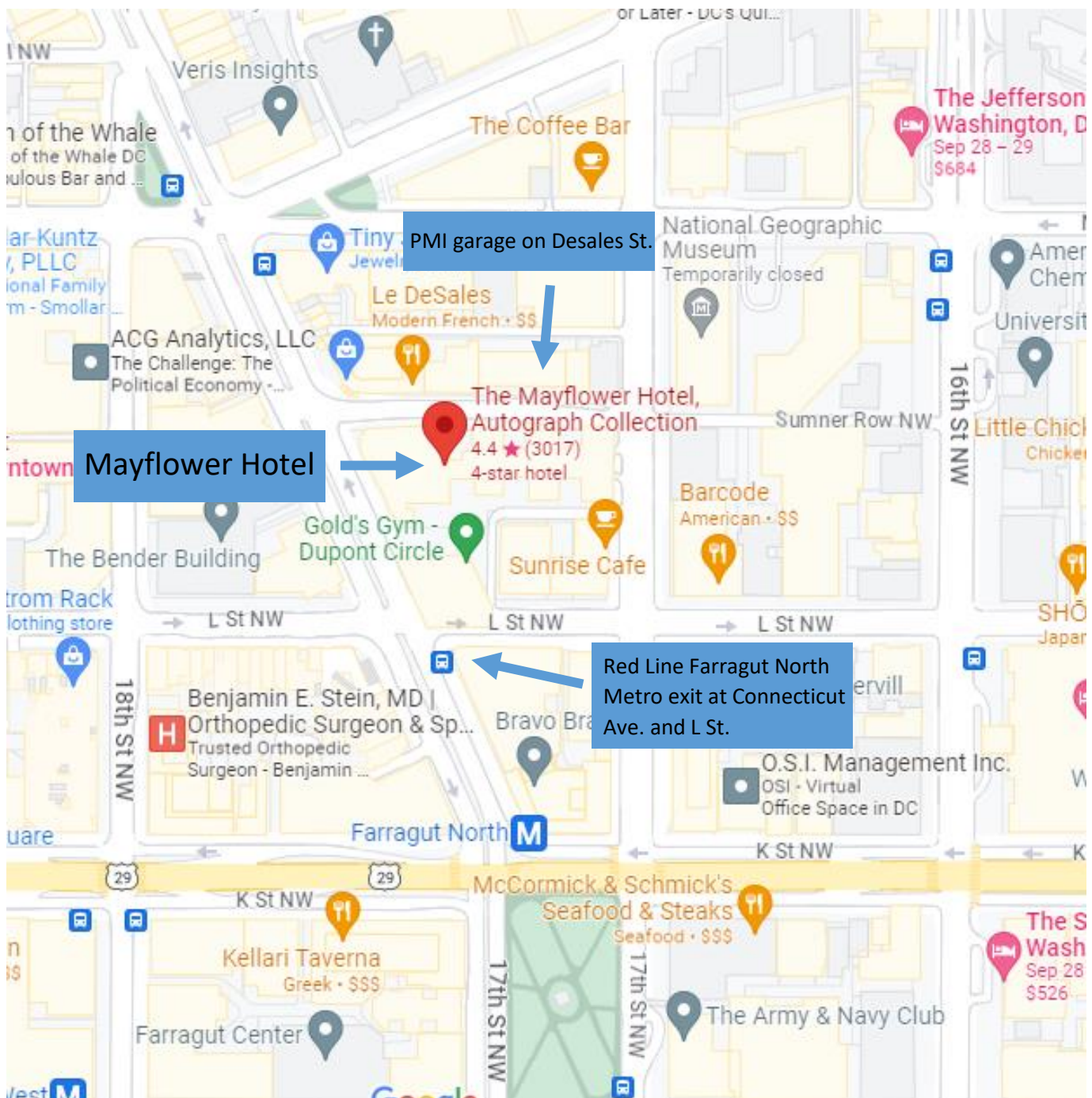
1127 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington DC

The **Eyre bus** normally departs and returns from DSales Street NW, just east of Connecticut Avenue (on the north side of the Mayflower Hotel). The bus does NOT normally wait on Connecticut Avenue.

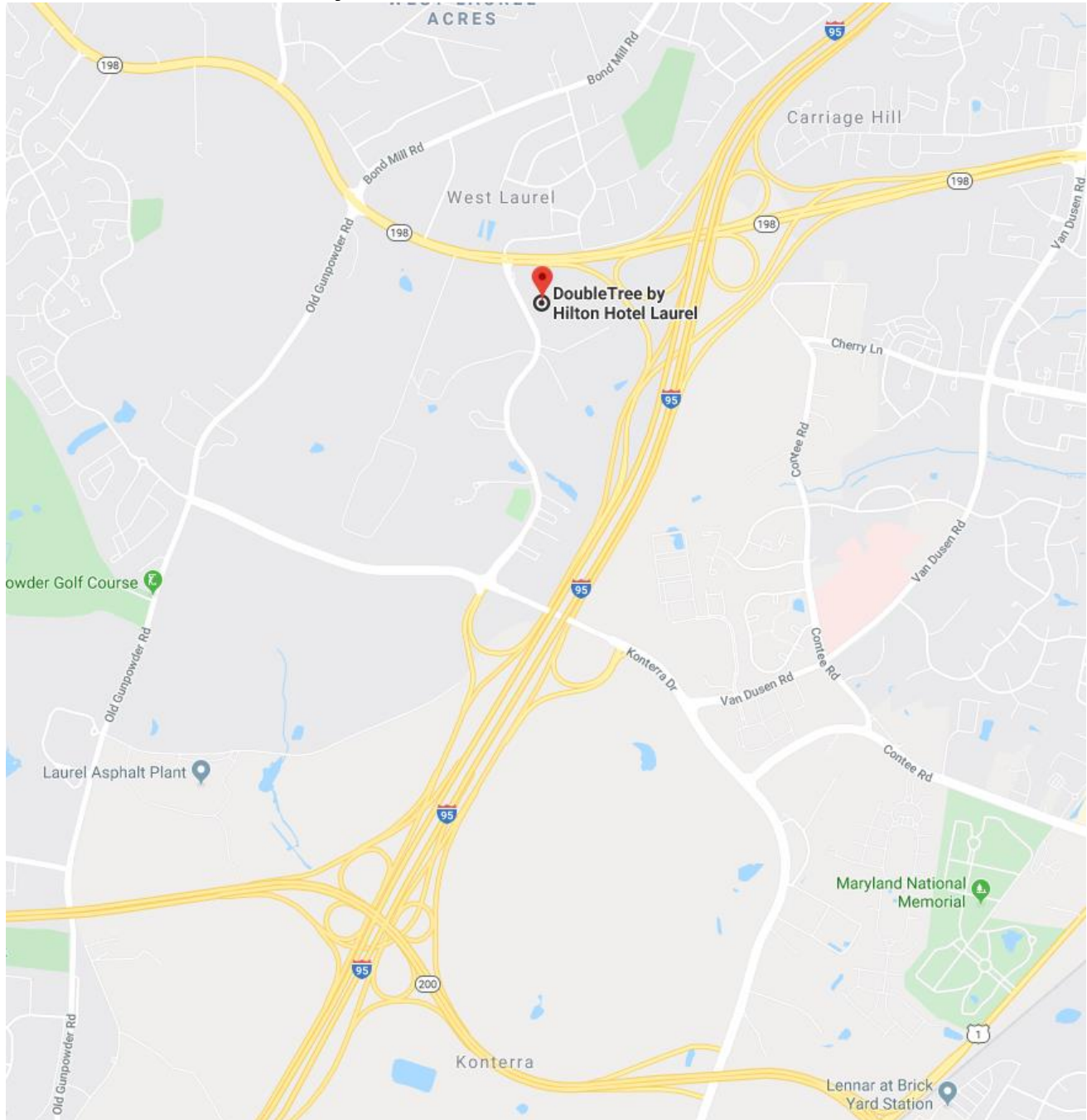
Metro: Take the Red Line to the FARRAGUT NORTH station. Exit onto Connecticut Avenue and L Street. Walk a block north on Connecticut Avenue, passing the main entrance to the Mayflower Hotel, and turn right onto DeSales Street.

Car: DeSales Street is one way eastbound between Connecticut Avenue and 17th Street.

Parking: Use the 24-PMI parking garage at 1725 DeSales Street. PMI information: 202-785-9191.



DoubleTree by Hilton – 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD



From I-95 NORTHBOUND

Use the right two lanes to take Exit 33 A-B to merge onto Sandy Spring Road towards Burtonsville. Turn left on Sweitzer Lane. Turn left into the Doubletree Hilton.

From I-95 SOUTHBOUND

Use the right two lanes to take Exit 31 for MD-200 toward US-29/I-270. Keep left at the fork to continue toward Konterra Drive. Keep left at the fork to continue on Exit 32, follow signs for Konterra Drive. Turn left on Konterra Drive. Turn right on Sweitzer Lane. The Doubletree Hilton is on your right.

The bus will pick up under the portico of the main hotel entrance