Make an EVENING OF IT!

Why not make these Free Town Tours & Village Walks your excuse for a summer getaway? Some of the Brandywine Valley’s most charming B&Bs and inns offer special package rates. Many are historic properties so you can extend your experience of times past as you enjoy our countryside for an overnight or even a long weekend. Many of our restaurants will feature “Early Bird” Specials for pre-tour suppers or other dining values after your Town Tour & Village Walk.

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

June 13 - Historic South Walnut Neighborhood, West Chester
June 20 - Proprietors Gaslight Era in Coatesville
June 27 - The Neighborhood of Uwchalan Meeting
July 11 - Site of Continental Powder Works on French Creek
July 18 - Breyden: The Other Side of the Tracks
July 25 - Unionville
August 1 - Main Street, Phoenixville
August 8 - Historic Yellow Springs
August 15 - West Grove
August 22 - Chatham
August 29 - Frick’s Lock Village
**Historic South Walnut Neighborhood, West Chester**

June 13, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-939-7070  
Sponsor: Historic South Walnut Neighborhood Association

West Chester belongs to the empire of the brick. Local clay was plentiful, local brick manufacturing booming, bricks prevented fire from spreading, and they were easier and more economical to use than stone. The Historic South Walnut Neighborhood tour will focus on the rich architectural, historical, and artistic flavor centered in the 100-300 blocks of South Walnut St, the neighborhood was built largely in the 2nd half of the 19th century during the reign of Queen Victoria in England. A variety of architectural styles will entice you including Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Second Empire, Stick Style and Queen Anne Revival.

**Proprietors Gaslight Era in Coatesville**

June 20, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-384-2582  
Sponsor: Graystone Society Inc., and Coatesville Historical Commission

Nineteenth century Lukens iron and steel expansion and city population growth spurred rapid construction for middle management and proprietors. Enjoy the various architectural styles on Chestnut and East Lincoln Highway, such as Jacob W. Heck's Carpenter Gothic house constructed in 1892. Close and the original Coatesville Senior High School, 1890, complete the streetscape display. View Coatesville heritage through a panoramic mural at the Senior Center and explore a city memorabilia collection.

**The Neighborhood of Uwchlan Meeting**

June 27, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-363-9450  
Sponsor: Uwchlan Township Historical Commission

Founded in 1712 by the Society of Friends, the Uwchlan Meeting House has served the community for nearly 300 years. The Continental Army took possession of the building in January 1778 for use as a hospital. The Revolutionary War's Philadelphia Campaign. Besides the Meeting House, guided tours include the Friends Burying Ground, the 1859 Edith P. Moore Lionville Schoolhouse and the newly-rehabilitated 18th and 19th century John Cedarwodder House.

**Site of Continental Powder Works on French Creek**

July 11, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-939-1770  
Sponsor: East Pikeland Township Historical Commission and Pikeland Historical Society

On February 16, 1776, the Continental Congress authorized the construction of a public powder mill. By summer, one end of the Powder Mill was near finished and capable of making 3000 - 4000 pounds a week. Today, 228 years later, steel beside French Creek past these industrial vestiges along with the milk lane and the picturesque Rapp's Dam Covered Bridge built in 1866. Hear the story of the powder mill, the gun factory, the militia, the workers and the "explosion and destruction" of 1777. The intrigue continues.

**Unionville**

July 25, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-347-2070  
Sponsor: Unionville Historic Architectural Review Board

In the 1770s British soldiers plundered the Jacksonville rural community, whose name changed to Unionville in 1821. The exquisite 19th century village of 67 significant historic structures portrays stories of a commercial center for a thriving agricultural community: tinsmith, tannery, cabinetmaker, cobbler, wheelwright, doctor and undertaker. Listen carefully and you can hear the latest debate, musical or lecture at the 1850 Unionville Hall or attend services in the house of worship.

**Main Street, Phoenixville**

August 1, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-935-7946  
Sponsor: Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area

Main Street in an iron and steel company town takes on a new life of interesting architecture, attractions and historical sites. Using the former foundry building, see the new Schuylkill Valley Visitors Center under construction, and the nearby community-owned worker houses. Stroll past beautiful restored homes and help celebrate Phoenixville Library's 100th birthday. An old-fashioned ice cream treat greets you at the Historical Society's elegant museum. Come join the fun.

**Historic Yellow Springs**

August 8, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-827-7414  
Sponsor: Historic Yellow Springs, Inc.

225 years ago, America's first military hospital was built on a hillside in the village known as Yellow Springs. The Yellow Springs Medical Department Headquarters, commissioned by the Continental Congress, became the principal medical facility for the Valley Forge encampment Tour 1777 - 1778, the hospital cared for more than 1,300 Revolutionary War soldiers. Walk in the footsteps of General Washington as you tour the village, view their recently unveiled wall mural and get a "snack peak" at the new orientation center.

**West Grove**

August 15, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-869-2792  
Sponsor: Borough of West Grove

West Grove's name dates back to 1797 when the Society of Friends constructed a meeting house on the western edge of London Grove Township. Located on the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railway, the town center started to develop with the coming of the railroad in 1860. For many years, it served as the central shipping point for the mail order rice businesses of nursery pioneers Dinger and Conrad and Conard-Pyle. Incorporated as a borough in 1893, today the town features elegant brick homes, early houses of worship and a commercial center with the small-town feel of yesterday.

**Chatham**

August 22, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-869-3837  
Sponsor: London Grove Township Historical Commission

The oldest settlement in London Grove Township, this village has a history deeply rooted in commerce and transportation. It began as a rest stop on the Gap-Newport Turnpike for the men and horse teams transporting wheat to the Wilmington Turnpike. In 1741 the "Half-Way House" was established. It still stands today, along with the recently restored 1760 "William Pitt Hotel." Flourishing between the 1830s and 1860s, it supported one of the county's first post offices along with hotels, train stations, several stores and businesses such as a tannery, creamery and carriage factory.

**Frick's Lock Village**

August 29, 2002  
Tour Reservation: 610-495-5443  
Sponsor: East Coventry Township Historical Commission

The Frick's Lock District contains approximately 38 acres, a large embayment with domestic and agricultural architecture spanning from 1757 to 1995. The tour includes the remains of locks 54 and 55 of the Schuylkill Navigation Co's Girard Canal which extended 22 miles from Lewis Dam, below Reading to Parker Ford, a short distance downstream from Frick's Lock. A lockkeeper's residence and locks, dated from the canal's initial construction, plus the area was the site of a 1030s WPA project. Currently, it is in a unrestored state within the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor.