

SPRING / SUMMER 2025

Ambassador

Your Biltmore story continues



Marvel at Biltmore House & Gardens aglow
under starlit skies with *Luminere™*, our
all-new evening light and sound experience!

Contents



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@biltmore #BiltmorePassholder

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LOG IN TO YOUR ACCOUNT:

biltmore.com/account-dashboard 
for more information.



LETTER TO OUR PASSHOLDERS

Ready, set, glow!

This spring, you'll have an opportunity to experience *Luminere*™, our extraordinary new evening event that encompasses the façade of Biltmore House, our historic gardens, and Conservatory.

We started planning this illuminating experience eight years ago after learning how much our guests enjoyed having an outdoor evening event to enhance the 2018 Chihuly art exhibition hosted in our gardens. Based on wonderful archival descriptions of 1920s-era garden parties at Biltmore, *Luminere* began to take shape as a way to share the magic of those long-ago shimmering celebrations with you.

The company that developed *Luminere* for us uses high-tech projection mapping, lighting, and sound design to create site-specific, immersive sensory experiences. We're also thrilled to have partnered with Asheville Symphony to record the signature music that is an integral element of each evening.

This extraordinary experience is like no other, and you can be the first to enjoy *Luminere* on select evenings beginning March 26, 2026.

Lauren Henry
Curator of Interpretation



Lauren Henry

CELEBRATE



Historic Rose Garden and Conservatory

Spring at Biltmore

March 26–May 21, 2026

Edith Vanderbilt's younger sister Pauline was both an avid letter writer and a frequent visitor to Biltmore. Pauline's letters to friends describe the time she spent here in glowing detail, giving us wonderful word pictures of the estate, especially during spring. In one March 1905 letter, Pauline describes Biltmore this way:

"I go out, either driving or walking or sauntering down with the children to feed the swans or settle on the library terrace with lots of books and read and read and read. The air is soft and warm, the hills change colour continually, there is no noise, no friction, no jar."

We agree with Pauline! There's no better time to enjoy Biltmore than spring, and we're more than ready to welcome all the vibrant blooms that appear across the estate.


"Shrubs including witch hazel, quince, and winter jasmine start budding first, letting you know the weather is changing," said Stacey Weir, Horticulture Manager. "Inside the Walled Garden where the surrounding stone walls keep the four-acre interior warmer, blooming bulbs like daffodils will be popping up ahead of our annual tulip displays."

As the season progresses, different varieties of azaleas line the Approach Road and blanket the Azalea Garden with brilliant color while the historic Rose Garden fills with bright petals and lush fragrances.

"Everything wakes up with a shout in spring," Stacey said, "and just as Pauline Merrell noted in her letter, Biltmore's glorious gardens and meadows and woodlands change color continually, giving you plenty of new reasons to visit throughout the season."

BOOKMARK OUR BLOOM REPORT

Find out what's blooming where across the estate with the help of our weekly Bloom Report. From the first burst of forsythia in the Spring Garden and peak tulip time in the Walled Garden to the vibrant Azalea Garden and beyond, there are 8,000 acres of seasonal color to explore.

biltmore.com/bloomreport 



Experience Biltmore in a whole new light

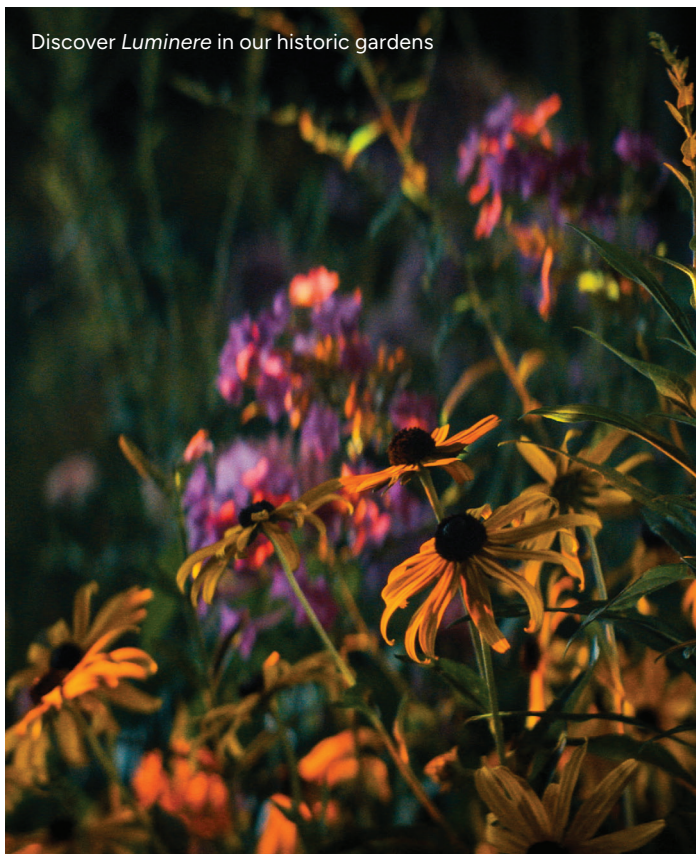


On select evenings beginning March 26, 2026, Biltmore's story comes to life during *Luminere*—our all-new evening light and sound experience. While day turns to dusk, the “golden hour” of sunset shimmers over the landscape, setting the stage for inspiring nightscapes and unforgettable memories.

Under starlit skies, Biltmore House becomes a canvas that illuminates its remarkable story, and our renowned gardens dance before you with breathtaking beauty. Every path invites you deeper into the dreamscape of *Luminere* to discover a landscape painted with dazzling lights, alive with a signature musical score, and ever-changing throughout the seasons.

“As night embraces this 130-year-old French chateau and its historic grounds, *Luminere* captivates your imagination with cutting-edge artistry that illuminates the visionary design, rich details, and family stories of those who called Biltmore

Discover *Luminere* in our historic gardens





Biltmore House comes alive during *Luminere* evenings

home,” said Travis Tatham, Director of Destination Entertainment and Events.

Tickets are on sale now for *Luminere*. Enhance your evening with handcrafted Biltmore wines paired with gourmet picnics or dinner reservations at Stable Café. Consider adding our new 60-minute Artistic Legacies

guided art tour of Biltmore House, or make it a true getaway with an overnight stay—both The Inn on Biltmore Estate® and Village Hotel on Biltmore Estate® offer packages that include *Luminere* admission and more.

biltmore.com/luminere ↗



Italian Garden at sunset

EXCLUSIVE EVENING ACCESS FOR LUMINERE GUESTS

On *Luminere* evenings, Biltmore House & Gardens will close at approximately 5 p.m. Without *Luminere* admission you must exit at that time or visit Guest Services to purchase a wristband that allows exclusive *Luminere* access.

Get outdoors this summer!

Make the most of Summer at Biltmore with a wide range of outdoor activities, including more than 22 miles of scenic walking, hiking, and biking trails. Here are some great options:

Historic Gardens (walking)

Our historic garden paths incorporate the Italian Garden (gravel), Shrub Garden (paved), Walled Garden (paved), and Spring Garden (mulch). Routes stretch approximately 1–2 miles, depending on which paths you choose. Enjoy seasonal blooms with benches nearby to take a break and soak up the sun.

Azalea Garden (walking)

This mostly paved walking path can be accessed from either the Spring Garden or the Walled Garden. It is a great opportunity to go even deeper into Biltmore's historic gardens, offering benches along the way, and leading to the Bass Pond Waterfall and the Boat House. Take in spectacular views across the Bass Pond at approximately 1 mile.

**DOWNLOAD
our Trail Map!**

biltmore.com/trailmap ↗



Lagoon Trail (walking, running, biking)

This mostly flat, paved trail leads to the Lagoon, which offers a striking view of the west side of Biltmore House. Start and end at Antler Hill Village for a pleasant 3-mile trip. The French Broad River and estate farmland provide great scenery as you explore the path.

Farm Trail (walking, running, biking)

This flat gravel and dirt road runs along the perimeter of Biltmore's grounds and the French Broad River in Antler Hill Village. Totalling 6 miles, this trail leads to the Arbor Trace Trail at one end and the Lagoon Trail at the other.

Deer Park Trail (walking, running, biking)

This challenging uphill trek is quite popular due to the stunning view of Biltmore House it offers. To extend the challenge, start at Antler Hill Village and take the Farm Trail to the Lagoon Trail, which leads to the Deer Park Trail. You can also access a trailhead through a decorative iron gate at the far end of the South Terrace



and Tennis Lawn steps, or by passing through gates from the Meadow Trail that leads to the Bass Pond.

In addition, summer is the perfect time to enjoy a leisurely horseback or carriage ride with sweeping views of the estate, try your hand at sporting clays, or "bird out" with our falconry program and relaxing guided bird walks.

biltmore.com/outdoors ↗



Trail and carriage rides offer great views of Biltmore House

PRESERVE

Our mission to preserve Biltmore as a privately owned, profitable, working estate is the central tenet that guides all our efforts. As a Biltmore Annual Passholder, you are part of our preservation story, and we appreciate your support of this National Historic Landmark.

Re-creating Flora

Flora, a statue near the Tea House, represents the Roman goddess of spring who signifies blooming flowers and renewal. In 2018, the statue underwent repairs to replace an arm, several fingers, and a garland that had been missing for decades. Six years later, Flora sustained more damage as a result of Tropical Storm Helene.

"The ceramic sculpture was copied after the French artist Antoine Coysevox's marble sculpture *Flore* ("Flora"). It was offered in a catalog dating back to 1886, along with three other sculptures installed on the South Terrace around 1900," said Nancy Rosebrock, Director of Conservation and Collections. "One of the only other known complete versions is in the collection of The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens in California. The curatorial team at the Huntington very generously allowed Biltmore to hire Direct Dimensions to scan their sculpture to help us with the re-creation process of ours."

Local artist Alex Irvine working on *Flora* in 2018.

Biltmore's Museum Services team has chosen to have *Flora* recreated in terracotta by Atelier Prométhée, Manufacture d'objets d'art, in France. The digital file is in their hands to facilitate the creation of a new sculpture. This file will also be kept as a permanent digital record for our archives. We hope to have the new sculpture in place next summer.

"*Flora* appears in the earliest known photos of the South Terrace after construction was completed. The statue acts as an anchor for the design intent of the South Terrace, drawing attention to the Tea House," Nancy said. "We believe George Vanderbilt was very active in selecting sculptures and their locations for the home grounds, so we knew it was important to bring the sculpture back to this space."



Pauline Dresser, Edith Vanderbilt's sister (far right), attending a summer picnic in Langrolay-sur-Rance, France, 1895.

Picnics past and present

As we look forward to the start of *Luminere* later this spring, our estate chefs are working on delicious new options such as gourmet picnics to further enhance your evening experience.

In honor of their culinary efforts, let's look at picnics of the past while dreaming of good things to come.

According to Lauren Henry, Curator of Interpretation, picnics during the Victorian era were often elaborate, and creating a suitably rustic ambiance might require more effort than a formal banquet.

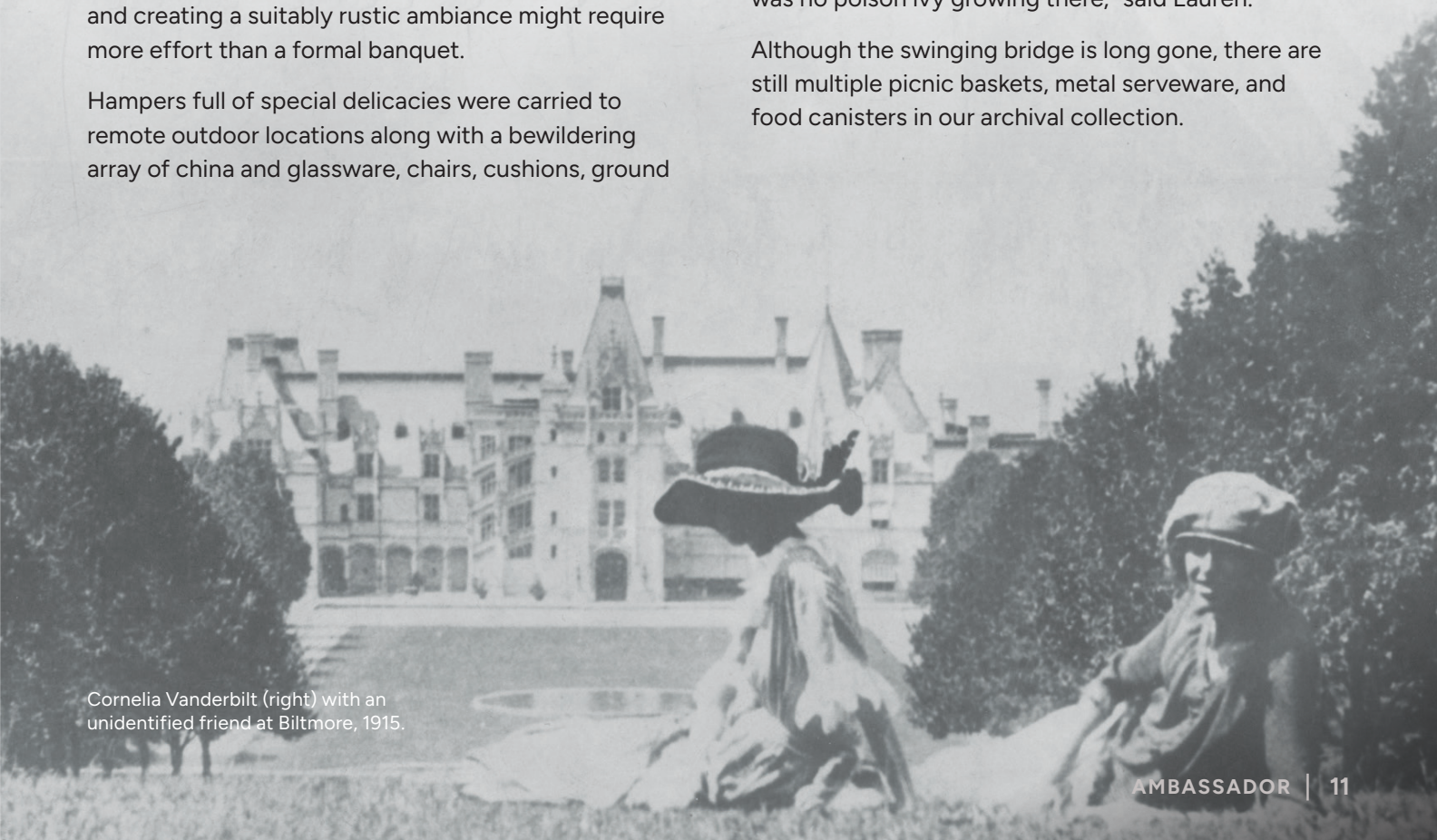
Hampers full of special delicacies were carried to remote outdoor locations along with a bewildering array of china and glassware, chairs, cushions, ground

covers, tents, sunshades, games, and amusements—plus all the children, pets, and any guests who happened to be visiting.

"The Vanderbilts enjoyed picnics at a special estate location known as 'Picnic Island', which you can still see situated in the Lagoon. At Edith Vanderbilt's request, a swinging bridge was added for easy access to Picnic Island and estate rangers even ensured there was no poison ivy growing there," said Lauren.

Although the swinging bridge is long gone, there are still multiple picnic baskets, metal serveware, and food canisters in our archival collection.

Cornelia Vanderbilt (right) with an unidentified friend at Biltmore, 1915.



The Waltz by Anders Zorn, 1893



New! Artistic Legacies Tour

Explore the first two floors of Biltmore House through an entirely new lens! Your expert guide will share untold family stories through the Vanderbilts' art collections, revealing the multi-generational love for art and beauty that inspired Biltmore's design and continues to define it today. Exclusive to this tour: a never-before-seen display of Cornelia Vanderbilt's original artwork.

Purchase tour with your *Luminere* admission:

biltmore.com/arttour ↗

Behind-the-scenes video

Discover fascinating details from our recent preservation project to return the Smoking Room and Gun Room in the Bachelor's Wing of Biltmore House to their original appearance.

Watch on YouTube:

biltmore.com/restoringthepast ↗



Smoking Room

ENTERTAIN

Savor Biltmore wines this season

We're delighted to share some exciting wine news, with several new releases planned for spring, plus the return of one of your favorites!

Biltmore® Masterpiece Collection White Wine

"For 2026, our Biltmore Masterpiece Collection White Wine is a smooth, slightly sweet blend with crisp notes of citrus and fresh fig that pairs well with prosciutto-wrapped melon, fish tacos, and berry-topped pound cake," said Sharon Fenchak, Executive Winemaker.

On each of two different labels, delicate porcelain bird plates from Biltmore's collection honor our legacy of entertaining with fine wines.

Luminere Wines

In addition to the Masterpiece release, Sharon has handcrafted two wines to complement our new *Luminere* evening experience beginning this spring.

"*Luminere* Red Wine is fruit-forward and approachable with notes of wild raspberry, plum, vanilla, and oak," said Sharon, "while *Luminere* White Wine is a crisp, refreshing blend that features notes of soft caramel, white peach, and tangerine."

Sharon created both blends to pair perfectly with sunset sipping and your favorite picnic fare before you enjoy the wonders of a *Luminere* evening outdoors under the stars.



VANDERBILT WINE CLUB®

Members receive first access to special releases, including Biltmore® Masterpiece Collection Wines, *Luminere* Wines, The Railcar, and our new Biltmore Estate® Sweet Red Wine. Discover all membership benefits online, or ask a Winery host for details.

biltmore.com/wineclub ➔

WELCOME BACK!

Just in time for spring sipping and outdoor entertaining, a new vintage of The Railcar Red Wine is scheduled to be released soon.

This powerful red blend was originally handcrafted to honor George Vanderbilt's personal ties to the American railroad industry, and it's just the ticket for savoring with your favorite foods like barbecue, smoked meats, and pasta with red sauce.

Learn more about the label featuring original artwork of a classic steam engine.

biltmore.com/railcarwine ➔



Tip:

Make salad up to two days in advance and allow flavors to develop.

Green Goddess Potato Salad

Smooth, creamy, and delicious, this tangy potato salad from Estate Executive Chef Mark DeMarco for Cedric's® Tavern is a tasty riff on the classic flavor of Green Goddess dressing. Serve it as a savory side at casual gatherings with family and friends or bring it along to perk up your next potluck or picnic outing.

Suggested Biltmore wine pairings:

Biltmore Estate® Dry Riesling, Biltmore Estate® Pinot Grigio, Biltmore Estate® Dry Rosé, or Biltmore Estate® Sauvignon Blanc

Serves: 4–6

Total time: 1 hour (active time)

Ingredients

2 pounds Yukon Gold potatoes
3 teaspoons Kosher salt, divided
1 bunch parsley (leaves only; remove stems)
1 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped
1 teaspoon fresh oregano, chopped
¼ teaspoon fresh tarragon, chopped
1 garlic clove, minced
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
1½ tablespoons apple cider vinegar
¾ cup mayonnaise
2 tablespoons sugar
1 red onion, diced small
1 bunch celery, diced small
½ teaspoon freshly ground pepper

Instructions

Place potatoes and 1 teaspoon salt in pot and cover with 2 inches of water. Bring potatoes to a boil, then reduce to a simmer. Cook until fork tender, approximately 20 minutes.

Drain cooked potatoes well and place in a single layer on a sheet pan and refrigerate. Cool 1–2 hours so they are easier to cut.

Combine herbs, garlic, olive oil, vinegar, mayonnaise, and sugar in a bowl and mix until well blended. Add chopped red onion and celery. Set aside.

When potatoes are cool, cut into quarters or eighths, depending on size, and place in a bowl. Add herb dressing and adjust seasoning with remaining salt and pepper.



2026

January

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DISCOVER

Passholder Appreciation

Now–March 19, 2026

ENJOY YOUR EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS!

To thank you for supporting the preservation of Biltmore as a National Historic Landmark, we offer a wide range of deep discounts and special offers during Passholder Appreciation.

There's still time to get great deals on shopping and dining, outdoor activities, select guided tours, overnight stays, and more, like \$25 off Biltmore House tickets for your guests.

biltmore.com/appreciation 

"We appreciate all you do to make our experiences so enjoyable, and we look forward to more of the inventive ways you have to keep us interested and coming back often! It's a great quick getaway for us."

—DAN C., PASSHOLDER



Get more from your Pass

Whether you're a brand-new member of our Passholder family or you've been enjoying your Pass for years, here are helpful tips to make the most of your experience:



Create your Passholder account so you can access all Pass-related information in one place, including reservations, discounted guest tickets, renewals, and more.

- Visit biltmore.com/account-dashboard to get started.
- Enter your email address and Pass ID—that's the 11-digit number in red located beneath your name on your Pass (older Passes may have a 5- or 6-digit number).
- Bookmark the site to return easily.



Be sure to opt-in to receive Passholder emails for the most up-to-date information, current offers, and behind-the-scenes details.



Sign up for Auto-Renewal and receive \$5 off each year at renewal. First-time enrollees receive a FREE Gardens & Grounds ticket to share with a friend.



Save 10% on estate dining, shopping, and activities with your Pass, including shop.biltmore.com (log in to your account for online savings).



Make required reservations for Biltmore House. You and your children 16 and younger enjoy unlimited daytime visits—no ticket purchase required—but you will need to show your reservation confirmation time to enter Biltmore House.



Stop by Guest Services locations to pick up your complimentary Passholder sticker.



Share your Biltmore images and experiences with us by tagging us in our social channels:
Facebook [@Biltmore](https://www.facebook.com/Biltmore)
Instagram [@BiltmoreEstate](https://www.instagram.com/BiltmoreEstate)

Need to change or cancel your Biltmore House reservations?



Change your reserved time
biltmore.com/reserve



Cancel your reserved time
biltmore.com/cancel

For assistance with reservations, call the Passholder Priority Line: 800-413-9787

Stay

Memories in the making at The Inn on Biltmore Estate®



Whether you've booked your getaway to experience all the beauty of spring here at Biltmore or you're planning ahead for long holiday weekends like Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, and Fourth of July, reserve accommodations now at either of our two distinctive hotels for your special occasions during spring and summer. Passholders always enjoy the lowest rates on overnight stays and packages.

The Inn on Biltmore Estate®

Be among the first to experience the beautifully renovated rooms at The Inn and enjoy four-star dining at The Dining Room—this is the perfect time to treat yourself to an inclusive package that features tickets to our new *Luminere* evenings with special savings just for Passholders.

Village Hotel on Biltmore Estate®

Choose the comfort and convenience of Village Hotel with attractive Passholder rates and you'll be steps away from the Winery

and our Farmyard, plus shopping, dining, and live music on weekends. There's no better place to appreciate spring and summer, especially when you've chosen one of our inclusive packages.

biltmore.com/stay ↗



Village Hotel courtyard

Dine



Village Social is a great spot for outdoor dining

DEERPARK DINNER SERIES

This exclusive Passholder dinner series continues with our Taste of Spring Dinner on April 10, 2026. Reserve your spot now for a special seasonal celebration featuring a sparkling reception, multi-course menu paired with Biltmore wines, and live music, plus an Avermore Trunk Show with special guest Aubrey Vanderbilt Cecil Baliles, Founder and Creator of Avermore Jewelry.

biltmore.com/passdinners ↗

SAVOR FIELD-TO-TABLE FLAVOR

Taste the freshest flavors of the season when you dine at Biltmore. As a Passholder, you can bring guests with you after 4 p.m. to enjoy some of your favorite spots, from full-service restaurants to quick-service locations featuring "grab-and-go" options, light bites, and sweet treats.

biltmore.com/restaurants ↗

NEW! BISTRO DINNER SERIES

Join us at Bistro for our new Dinner Series exclusively for Passholders. Dinners are scheduled each Thursday, now–March 19, and will focus on estate-grown food with special guests including our estate chefs and agricultural experts.

biltmore.com/events ↗



SHOP THE ESTATE

Explore Biltmore's curated collection of gifts, apparel, gourmet delights, and elegant touches to share with friends and family—or to make your home feel warm and inviting.

Courtyard Shops (next to Biltmore House)

- Carriage House (find exclusive Annual Pass merchandise here including hats, T-shirts, tote bag, mugs, and more!)
- Bookbinder's
- Confectionery
- Toymakers
- A Christmas Past

A Gardener's Place (below Conservatory)

Antler Hill Village & Winery Shops

- Traditions
- Antler Hill Outfitters
- The Barn Door (at Antler Hill Barn)
- Wine Shop (inside the Winery)

The Inn on Biltmore Estate® Shops

- Marble Lion
- Cottage Door

Gate House Shop (estate entrance/exit)

SHOP ONLINE biltmore.shop.com ↗

BILTMORE® GROWN MARKET

Save the dates for our next two Biltmore® Grown Markets hosted at Deerpark on May 8–9 and June 26–27, 2026.

BILTMORE BY BELK

Shop spring and summer collections, available exclusively in Belk stores and online.

biltmore.com/belk ↗

Shop



Biltmore® Grown Market,
September 2025



DID YOU KNOW?

You can now find high-end leather goods including wallets, coasters, luggage tags, commuter bags, backpacks, and weekender bags created from estate-raised cattle at our Traditions and Marble Lion shops.



Community Impact Report

Our Community Impact Report, produced every three years, highlights our preservation focus, environmental stewardship, and philanthropic efforts. Delayed one year by Helene's September 2024 arrival, this report also showcases the ways our teams came together to support, fund, and drive the recovery of our local community and Western North Carolina region.

biltmore.com/communityreport ↗

Upcoming Events

Tutankhamun: His Tomb and His Treasures*

Now–March 1, 2026

Passholder Appreciation

Now–March 19, 2026

NEW! Bistro Dinner Series*

Now–March 19, 2026 (Thursday evenings)

Spring at Biltmore

March 19–May 21, 2026

NEW! Luminere™*

March 26–October 18, 2026 (select evenings)

Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

April 4–5, 2026

Deerpark Dinner Series*

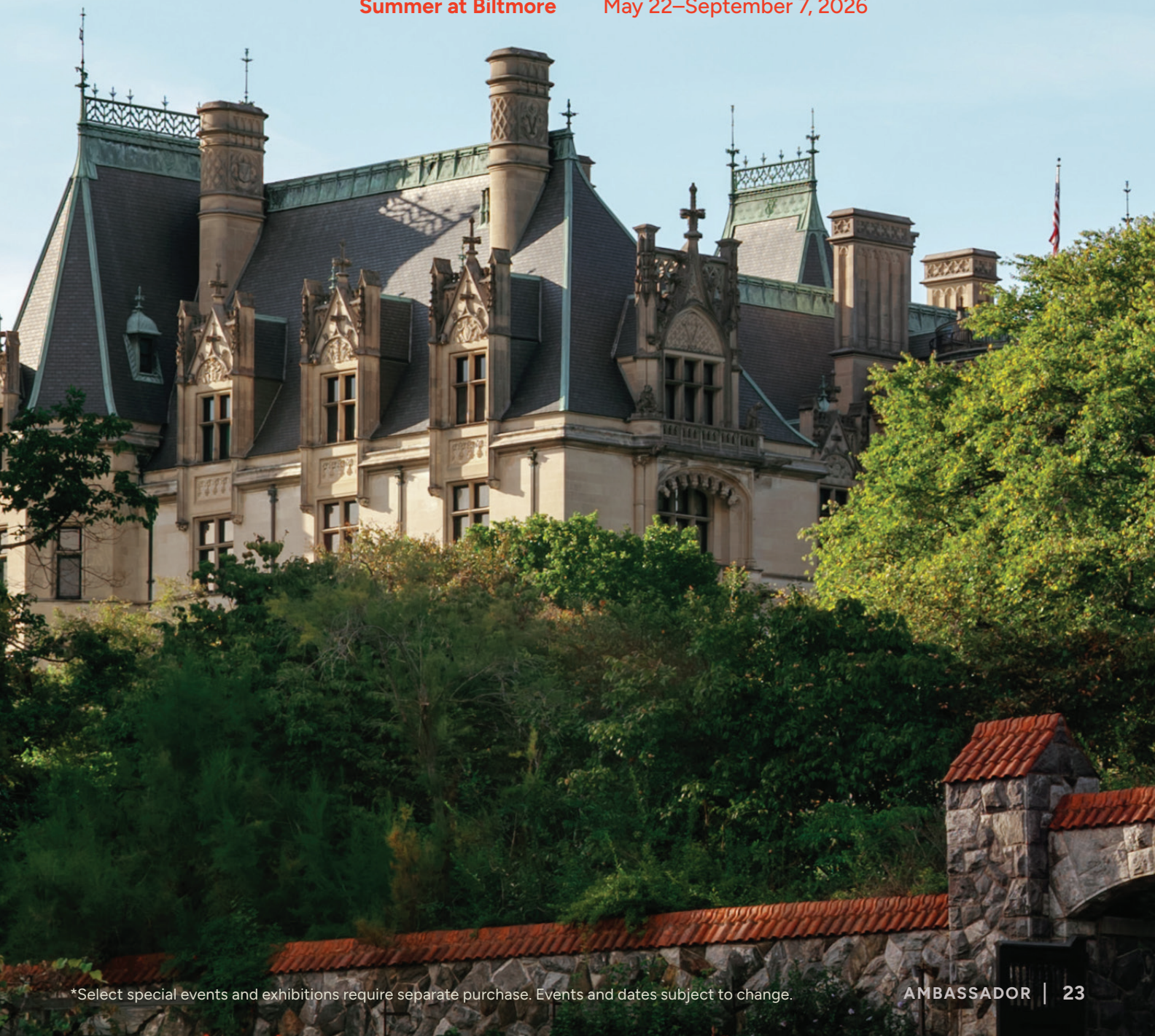
April 10, July 17, and September 18

Biltmore® Grown Market

May 8–9 and June 26–27, 2026

Summer at Biltmore

May 22–September 7, 2026



*Select special events and exhibitions require separate purchase. Events and dates subject to change.


BILTMORE®

One Lodge Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

Prsrt Std
US Postage
PAID
Asheville, NC
Permit No. 45

Renewals & Updates

RENEW YOUR PASS NOW

Current Passholders receive our lowest renewal rate of only \$140! Enroll in Auto-Renewal to receive a FREE Biltmore Grounds Ticket and save \$5 at your next renewal. See biltmore.com/renew  for details.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Do we have your current email and mailing address? Update your contact information by calling the Passholder Priority Line at 800-413-9787.



    #BiltmorePassholder