

THE VIRGINIA VIORNA

IN PURSUIT OF ENDEMIC SHRUBBY CLEMATIS

May 16 - 20, 2027



AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR ESCORTED BY
C. COLSTON BURRELL



This spring join **Garden and Nature Tours**, **Friendship Tours** and the **Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Garden** for an unforgettable adventure in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Our journey takes us to the wild haunts of 8 clematis species. Four of these shrubby species are endemic to Virginia and are globally rare. This bucket-list trip offers exciting opportunities for exploration, discovery and camaraderie.



Meet Your Escort and Guide



C. Colston Burrell is a lifelong naturalist, plantsman, and gardener. He is principal of Native Landscape Design and Restoration, which specializes in blending nature and culture through artistic design. When Cole is not traveling, he is designing gardens for his clients, or tending his own 10-acre property designed to display the plants he loves while letting natural succession serve as head gardener. He shares his garden with birds, butterflies, and a wealth of amphibians.

Cole escorts garden and natural history tours throughout the United States and abroad. The New World tropics are a favorite destination. He has traveled in Costa Rica, Panama, Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Argentina, as well as Canada, Europe, New Zealand, Vietnam, Africa, and Japan.

Rogerson Clematis Garden contains the most comprehensive collection of clematis within a public garden in North America. Started by Brewster Rogerson in 1971, the collection contains unique and exceptionally rare plants, as well as historic clematis and the newest hybrids. In 2018 the Rogerson Clematis Collection was awarded full accreditation in the Plant Collections Network.

The Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Collection (FRCC) was formed in 2004 to ensure that Brewster Rogerson's amazing collection of clematis would be maintained and nurtured over time. Since 2005, the collection has grown from a group of beautiful plants in pots to an assemblage of beautiful plants in a delightful garden.



WELCOME TO VIRGINIA

Join **Garden and Nature Tours with C. Colston Burrell, Friendship Tours**, and **Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Garden** in Charlottesville, Virginia to visit sites of at least six endemic clematis species, mainly the shrubby forms. This tour offers an in depth view of their habitat, soil, and native companions. Many of these species share similar soils and habitats, while others favor conditions quite different. All are found in areas with herbaceous and woody companions equally adapted to these unique conditions.

We have time to enjoy the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains in spring, where the diversity of the local flora will astound those coming from western regions. Discover trilliums, lady slipper orchids, crested iris, azaleas, myriad violets, and other wildflowers along the journey.

We also have some amazing local gardens to share, and a few nurseries that are sure to intrigue and delight you.

Welcome to Virginia!



Clematis coactilis

Tour Itinerary Highlights

- Partake of a welcome dinner at Orzo, a beloved restaurant featuring Mediterranean fare
- Search shale barrens and limestone outcroppings for rare and endangered shrubby clematis species
- Enjoy the rich and varied spring flora of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains
- Visit Shenandoah National Park, the Jewel of the Virginia Blue Ridge
- Enjoy a lakeside dinner at Peaks of Otter Lodge along the Blue Ridge Parkway, the famous byway that stretches from Virginia to the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee
- Shop two local nurseries for interesting gifts and rare carnivorous plants
- Visit three private gardens: Waterperry Farm, Southfield, and Bird Hill



Shale Barren

Tour Details

TOUR DURATION 4 Nights / 5 Days

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- † Four nights hotel accommodations
- † Breakfast daily, three lunches and three dinners
- † Transportation by 22 passenger coach
- † Tour native sites and natural areas
- † Tour private gardens and nurseries
- † Host throughout tour — C. Colston Burrell
- † Reception in Cole's private garden
- † Dinner at Peaks of Otter Lodge on the Blue Ridge Parkway
- † Visit Shenandoah National Park with picnic lunch
- † Admission to Waterperry Gardens
- † Water and snacks in the coach
- † Hotel taxes and service charges

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- † Round-trip airfare from home cities
- † Airport transfers to our hotel
- † Travel insurance
- † Airport fees, taxes and baggage charges
- † Optional sightseeing or recreational activities
- † Gratuities to your driver and host
- † Gratuities to servers, luggage handlers or housekeeping
- † Alcoholic beverages during the trip
- † Any other items not specifically mentioned as included in the itinerary



Clematis albicoma

Tour Pricing and Registration

TOUR DURATION

4 Nights / 5 Days

PRICING

\$2,195.00 Land Price — Double Occupancy

\$400.00 Single Supplement

- ~ Tour price is based on 18 - 21 travelers
- ~ Fewer than 18 travelers may result in a small surcharge
- ~ Itinerary subject to change without notice

DEPOSIT

\$900.00 per person with reservation to secure your spot

TO REGISTER AND VIEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS VISIT:

<https://www.friendshiptours.net/group-travel>

Select "Group Sign In". Enter the Tour Code **27MAY16GARDEN** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation." Make sure there are no spaces in front or behind the code!



FRIENDSHIP TOURS
THE SHIP SHOP

Clematis addisonii

Registration Details

The Endemic Shrubby Clematis of Virginia

Escorted by C. Colston Burrell

May 16 - 20, 2027 4 Nights/5 Days

ARRIVAL: Sunday, May 16, 2027 - Home2Suites by Hilton Charlottesville Downtown, 201 Monticello Avenue, Charlottesville, VA. Check in is 4pm and we will have a Welcome Dinner at 7:30pm

DEPART: Thursday, May 20, 2027. Check out time is 11:00am

COST (with 18-21 paying guests):
\$2195. per person based on double occupancy
+\$400. per person single supplement
Fewer than 18 travelers may result in a small surcharge.

AIR TRAVEL: Do not purchase air until you have been advised that the minimum number of travelers for this tour has been reached. This trip is based on 18 passengers. Flight arrangements are not included in this tour package. Closest Airports are: Charlottesville Albermarle Airport (CHO), Virginia or Richmond International Airport (RIC), Virginia

RESERVATIONS VIA FRIENDSHIP TOURS:

CALL: 800-243-1630 and ask for **Charlottesville tour with C. Colston Burrell**

ON LINE : www.friendshiptours.net/group-travel and select "Group Sign In". Enter the Tour Code **27MAY16GARDEN** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation."

DEPOSIT: \$900 per person with reservation to secure your spot.

FINAL PAYMENT: balance due January 11, 2027

CANCELLATION POLICY: If a passenger cancels after deposit to January 10, 2027 the fee is \$700 pp; January 11, 2027 to February 10, 2027 fee of \$1,000 pp; no refunds if cancelled after February 10, 2027. If Friendship Tours needs to cancel due to lack of participation, a full refund will be processed.

PRICES & ITINERARY: Prices are valid at time of publication. Friendship Tours shall not be liable for any fluctuation in price or change in schedule or equipment or accommodations for any travel booking or travel service to be provided by a Travel Supplier. Changes to itineraries may become necessary. These changes will not be considered a material change and will not be cause for cancellation or refund.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

You can walk and stand for longer periods of time (1-2 hours). You can navigate hills and uneven ground. In some cases, the terrain can be a little strenuous. Passengers should consult their physician should they have any concerns regarding their physical condition.

TRIP PROTECTION COVERAGE is strongly recommended.

Friendship Tours can assist with the purchase of trip protection coverage through Travel Insured International's Worldwide Trip Protector Plans.

Travel Insured International offers the Worldwide Trip Protection plans with the option to add upgrade benefits (available for additional cost) including CANCEL FOR ANY REASON coverage (CFAR) when purchased within 14 days of your initial deposit. Insurance Premiums are non-refundable. Ask Friendship Tours for more information and a quote: 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630.

<https://www.friendshiptours.net/assets/documents/Travel-Insured-International-Platinum-vs-Deluxe.pdf>

Or request a quote online referring to: **Agency #18649**
<https://www.friendshiptours.net/protection-plan>

RESPONSIBILITY: This package is subject to our full terms and conditions which can be found on our website at <https://www.friendshiptours.net/tour-policies>. Paper copies are available upon request. **By signing up for the tour, making a payment and continuing to use our services, you are agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions.**



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THE SHIP SHOP

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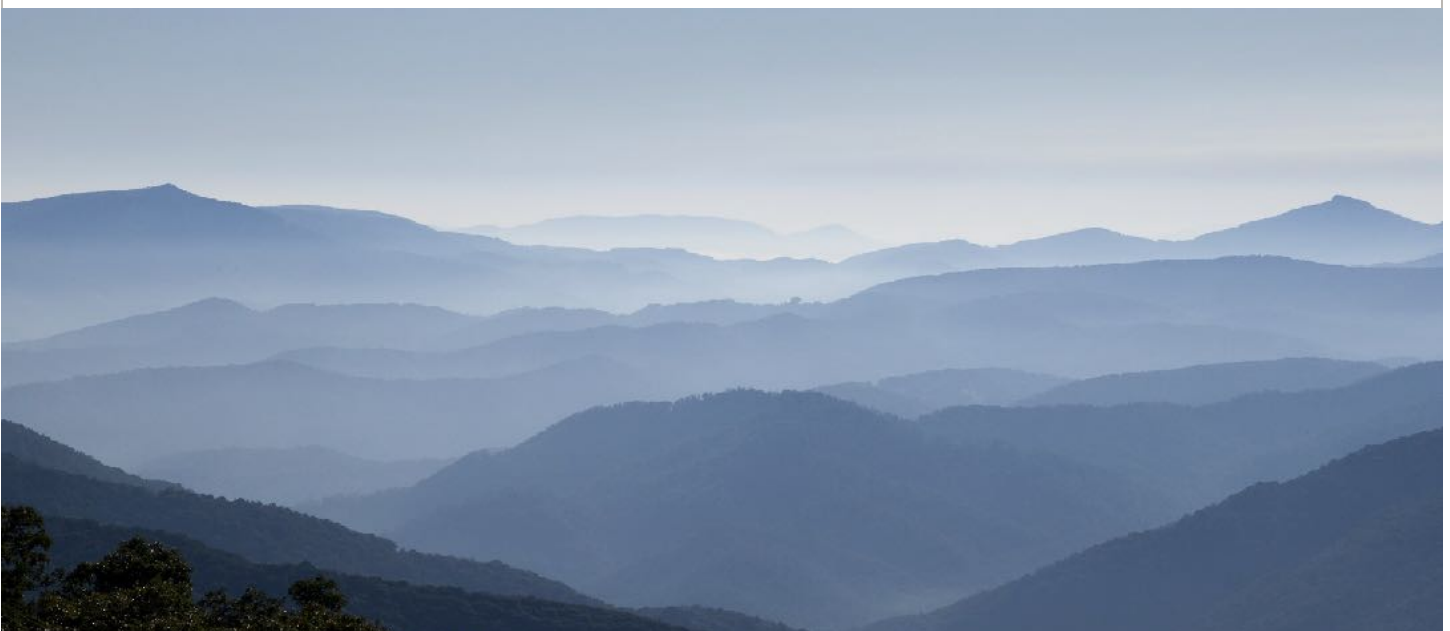
Itinerary

DAY 1 Sunday, May 16 Arrival and Welcome to Charlottesville

Arrive at Charlottesville Regional Airport or Richmond International Airport by 5:00 and transfer on your own to our Charlottesville hotel to register and settle in. Home2 Suites by Hilton Charlottesville Downtown (<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/chodnht-home2-suites-charlottesville-downtown/>). Address: 201 Monticello Ave, Charlottesville, Virginia, 22902. Those driving can check into the hotel any time after 4 pm.

Meet in the hotel lobby at 7:30 to walk to Orzo, a local restaurant featuring Mediterranean fare, for orientation and a three course welcome dinner.

Night at Home2 Suites by Hilton. D



Itinerary

DAY 2

Monday, May 17

Clematis ochroleuca and Clematis occidentalis

After our included breakfast, depart the hotel for a day of touring. Our first stop is located near Culpeper, VA to see **Clematis ochroleuca**. This widespread species is the most common shrubby clematis and is found from Virginia to eastern Georgia, where it is rare.

Next Stop South River Falls Picnic Area for a Catered Picnic lunch. South River Falls is one of favored trails in the park. At the base of the mountain, a braided stream leads to a beautiful 83-foot waterfall. The picnic area has a canopy of diverse oak species. A visit to the falls is 3 miles round trip.

Next Stop is Baldface Overlook in Shenandoah National Park to see **Clematis occidentalis**. The Shenandoah Valley stretches through central Virginia, sandwiched between the Blue Ridge Mountains to the east and Allegheny Mountains to the west. The Valley lends its name to Shenandoah National Park, a 106-mile mix of recreational and wilderness areas along the Skyline Drive which follows the crest of the mountains. Clematis occidentalis grows in the highest altitudes of the park, in rocky woods and clearings. The species ranges from at higher altitudes in the eastern mountains, and was originally classified as an eastern population of C. occidentalis.

After touring we head back to our hotel for dinner on your own. Charlottesville has a vibrant restaurant scene. Cole will provide a list of recommended local restaurants, many within walking distance of your hotel.

Night at Home2 Suites by Hilton. B, L



Clematis occidentalis



Clematis ochroleuca

Itinerary

DAY 3

Tuesday, May 18

The Endemic Virginians

After our included breakfast, we travel west through the Shenandoah Valley to West August for **Clematis albicoma**, which is growing on an exposed shale barren in the company of other xeric plants such as **Silene caroliniana**, **Eriogonum allenii** and **Scutellaria ovata**. This species is endemic to several counties on the Virginia/West Virginia border. Our next stop is Millboro Springs for **Clematis viticaulis**, another shale barren endemic similar in appearance to **C. albicoma**, found in just two Virginia counties. We then head south through woods dominated by oaks and pines to Bessemer for **Clematis coactilis**, another Virginia endemic found in seven Southwest counties. Enjoy a box lunch on the bus en route.

We leave the shale and sandstone behind and enter the Roanoke Valley where the dominant substrate is limestone. Our next stop is near Shawsville for **Clematis addisonii**. This showy plant grows in 4 counties in a narrow range. After exploring this area, we head towards the iconic Blue Ridge Parkway, which winds on the crest of the mountains for 469 miles from central Virginia, through North Carolina to the Smoky Mountains National Park.

Our final stop is **Peaks of Otter Lodge** for a group dinner. The lodge sits at the base of two peaks, sharp top and flat top. The dining room overlooks a small lake and the mountains beyond. After dinner we travel up the parkway for a late return to our hotel.

Night at Home2 Suites by Hilton.

B, L, D



C. viticaulis



C. coactilis



C. addisonii

Itinerary

DAY 4

Wednesday, May 19

Gardens and Nurseries

After our included breakfast, we head to **Ivy Nursery** is a unique garden center located on seven acres. Established in 1975 and staffed by landscape architects, horticulturalists and gardeners, Ivy Nursery is both a retail garden business and a contracting business. Products include trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, herbs, greenhouse, indoor plants, and orchids. The nursery also offers gifts and home accents, pots, planters, and garden accessories.

Our first garden is one of those special places - a verdant retreat nestled in meticulously tidy woods with pastoral and mountain views. At **Southfield**, Cathy Kramer has created a relaxing romp through meticulously crafted plant combinations. The journey draws visitors through a series of engaging spaces, each with a distinct personality. The paths lead you to a tropical wonderland embracing the lovely infinity edge pool with the mountains as borrowed scenery. Beyond the pool, expansive woodland gardens are adorned with colorful shrubs and perennials beneath a forest canopy. Enjoy a box lunch in the garden.

Next we visit **Botanique**, a nursery specializing in carnivorous plants, such as the Venus' Fly Trap, Pitcher Plants, Sundews and more. Pitcher Plants are the main focus. The nursery is home to the greatest variety of Pitcher Plants in the U.S.A.

Our next destination is the gardens of **Waterperry Farm**, where extensive gardens surround an elegant 1810-style farmhouse. Awaiting your visit is a private botanical garden with ponds, parterres and borders, water features, and a small arboretum's worth of trees. There are the pleated hills and mountain views one loves and expects of Piedmont Virginia, but many intimate spaces as well. From the reflecting pool to the grove of pines by the pond, from the meandering stream to the rose and butterfly gardens, there's a place that speaks to everyone. You will find a bog garden; a tranquil, custom-designed fountain; a cutting garden and English greenhouse; a kitchen garden; and arbors galore. Each passageway is an open invitation to explore a living work of art.

Day 4 itinerary continues on the next page



Itinerary - Continued

DAY 4 Wednesday, May 19 Gardens and Nurseries - Continued

We end the day with a Picnic dinner in Cole's Garden. **Bird Hill** is a 12-acre pastiche of woodland, meadow and garden inspired by the beauty of the regional landscape. This collector's paradise is designed to be viewed from the house, as well as to be viewed with the house as the garden's centerpiece. Though natives make up the heart of the palette, plants from around the world blend together within the natural framework. Circular spaces are repeated throughout, inspired by landscape architect Jens Jensen who used them to "add order to the randomness of nature". Shaded beds surround the house are filled to overflowing with sedges, ferns, bulbs, wildflowers, shrubs and flowering trees. In sunnier areas, temperate and tropical plants blend for a season long feast of foliage and flowers. Architectural salvage and re-purposed items are placed throughout the garden and potted plants abound.

After dinner we return to the hotel for our final night in Charlottesville.

Night at Home2 Suites by Hilton. B, L, D



Itinerary

DAY 5

Thursday, May 20

Homeward Bound

After our included breakfast, head to the Charlottesville Albemarle Regional Airport or Richmond International Airport for flights home. Transfers are on your own.

Welcome Home!



Clematis albicoma



C. viticaulis



C. viticaulis



C. occidentalis



C. viticoulis