



Manchester, Vermont: Hildene

Thursday, November 2

7:30 am – Meet and board the bus at the State Street parking lot located across from the Springfield Main Library.

7:45 am – Depart from the Museums' State Street lot. We'll make one rest stop on the way.

10:30 am– Estimated arrival at **Hildene, Manchester, VT**. Enjoy a guided tour of Hildene, the summer home of Robert Todd Lincoln (1843-1926).

Robert Todd Lincoln and his wife Mary built Hildene at the turn of the 20th century. Robert was the eldest of four children of Mary Todd Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln and the only one to survive into adulthood. He first visited Manchester at the age of 20 in the summer of 1864 when he came to the Equinox Hotel to meet up with his mother and his brother Tad. Some forty years later he returned to purchase 392 acres of land to build what he would call his ancestral home. At the time, Robert was president of the Pullman Company—the largest manufacturing corporation in the country.

Now a 412-acre estate, Hildene includes a Georgian revival mansion, 14 historic buildings, a formal garden and observatory; a fully restored 1903 Pullman car, Sunbeam; and the working Hildene Farm.

Hildene is furnished almost entirely with Lincoln family furniture and contains artifacts belonging to Robert Todd Lincoln (1843-1926) and his parents. In 1908 an Æolian pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$11,500. In 1980 the Friends of Hildene restored the organ.

Our tour takes us through the home, gardens, farm, and the Pullman car. We'll enjoy a catered sit-down group lunch at Hildene.

Menu: Cider glazed chicken breast, mixed green salad with cider balsamic vinaigrette served with two hot sides. Vegetarian dish of the day; Cookies and brownies for dessert. Beverages include lemonade, unsweetened iced tea, and hot coffee service.

Following lunch, we'll board the bus and stop at the **Above All Vermont Store**, a unique store full of New England specialty foods, gifts, and Vermont stuff nearby in Manchester.

2:30 pm – Meet the bus and depart for Springfield with an estimated return at 6 pm. Bottled



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water is provided for the return home.

What to bring: Snacks, beverages for the bus. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers as temperatures on the bus, inside and outside on the grounds of Hildene may vary.

Cost: \$140, Members, \$165, nonmembers; includes tour, lunch, bus travel and driver tip.