Education has always been a key component of life at Biltmore. My great-grandparents, George and Edith Vanderbilt, took a personal interest in helping their community become more self-sufficient. They believed that education provided a means for people to improve not only their own lives, but the lives of their children as well.

Through opportunities like adult literacy classes and practical internships, the Vanderbilts encouraged the people of Western North Carolina to succeed. Edith Vanderbilt founded Biltmore Estate Industries, an enterprise based around traditional wood carving, weaving, and furniture building skills associated with the Western North Carolina region. This initiative developed into a cottage industry that provided jobs and economic improvement for many in the community.

By 1914, Edith Vanderbilt became aware of a movement that focused on teaching illiterate adults how to read and write, with teachers volunteering their time to teach adults at night in the same schools where they instructed children during the day. Recognizing that many workers and their family members who lived on Biltmore were illiterate, she founded a Moonlight School on the estate, and also became an official spokesperson for the Moonlight Schools, appearing in public to gain support for the endeavor.

We are eager to share more of our family’s stories with you and your students during your visit to Biltmore this year. In addition to its natural beauty and grand architecture, Biltmore also reflects my great-grandparents’ interests in providing a warm welcome and gracious hospitality to their guests. They created a home that would last for generations, where guests still come to escape the pressures of everyday life and spend time with friends and family.

I believe that you and your students will find our educational programs enriching and enjoyable. We are honored to inspire students to develop a new love of learning.

Bill Cecil, Jr.
Biltmore Chief Executive Officer
Great-grandson of George Vanderbilt
THE BILTMORE EXPERIENCE

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For more information and reservations: 866-851-4661
BILTMORE HOUSE

Biltmore House and its treasures have inspired guests—including thousands of students—for more than 100 years. Through our educational programs, we are pleased to share what it was like to live, visit, and work at Biltmore during George Vanderbilt’s day. Our informative and engaging programs make use of storytelling, historic artifacts, and period materials.

All of our programs follow National Common Core Standards, are age and grade appropriate, and are designed to reinforce the classroom curriculum. We have enhanced our guided school visits with the Group Guide System. This system equips students with ear buds so they can clearly hear what guides are saying, regardless of whether they are in front or at the rear of their group.

 сравнивать!

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE THREE VISITS
We offer a customized combination program that includes Biltmore House and Antler Hill Farm.

ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL VISITS
This historical guided tour of America’s Largest Home® includes the main living areas of the house, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt’s bedrooms and private living area, and servant areas as well as the popular Bowling Alley, Swimming Pool, and Halloween Room.

Discover the state-of-the-art technologies that put Biltmore ahead of its time, why Mr. Vanderbilt chose to make Western North Carolina his home, how the construction of Biltmore House impacted the community, and the many contributions the Vanderbilts made to Western North Carolina.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL VISITS
These offer a closer look at the life of George Vanderbilt and his home. Learn more about the art, design, and architecture that inspired and influenced his enduring legacy.

GUIDED BEHIND-THE-SCENES STUDENT TOUR
We are pleased to offer a guided behind-the-scenes tour developed specifically for school groups. This tour takes the best parts of our Upstairs - Downstairs and Rooftop Tours, then adds special access to areas off limits to daytime guests. Students will get a great look into the life of servants on the estate, the amazing architecture, and advanced technology that made Biltmore House ahead of its time. Tour areas are seasonal and may include the Kitchen Courtyard, Balconies, Maid’s Bath, Servants’ Bedrooms and Servants’ Hall, linen closets, freight elevator, Gothic Arch Hallway, Architectural Model Room, the top of the Grand Staircase, and the slate roof.

IMPORTANT: All school tours are on strict time schedules. Groups arriving late for scheduled tours may not be accommodated.
SEASONAL PROGRAMS

CHRISTMAS AT BILTMORE®

November 4, 2016–January 8, 2017

The holiday spirit comes alive when Biltmore is decked out for the season. Learn about estate traditions that began with the opening of Biltmore House on Christmas Eve 1895 and customs that are still celebrated today. As this is a very popular time of year, please be aware that there may be more than the usual number of visitors in the house. Beginning and ending times for guided tours must be strictly kept. Please be on time.

PERFORMING AT BILTMORE

March through October

As loyal patrons of the arts, the Vanderbilts held many benefit concerts in Biltmore House along with providing entertainment for their guests. Student Choruses and Bands can be part of the hospitality for which the Vanderbilts were known. Performances are open to Choruses and Bands from Intermediate to High Schools. Daytime performances are Monday through Thursday only. All venues are outside and weather-dependent. Some restrictions apply. Call 828-225-1409 for details.
ANTLER HILL FARM PROGRAMS

A visit to Antler Hill Farm offers a look back to the time when Biltmore was a working dairy farm. As you explore life on a turn-of-the-century farm, you will discover not only Biltmore’s past, but also its future. All of our programs follow National Common Core standards and are designed to enhance STEM and STEAM curricula. All Farm programs are age and grade appropriate.

The majority of activities are outside without shelter, so please dress appropriately for the season and weather. Some programs are seasonal and/or weather-dependent.

PROGRAMS FOR K–3

Field-to-Table
A Field-to-Table program with farm-fresh fun! Learn about Mr. Vanderbilt’s groundbreaking farm. Discover the connection between gardens, animals, orchards, fields, and the food we eat. Play games to learn where our food comes from and how to be a good steward of the land.

The Farm + 5
Sharpen your senses. Loud hammer, pungent compost, zesty herbs, soft feathers, and colorful flowers are just some of the things to explore in a new way on Mr. Vanderbilt’s farm while focusing on the five senses.

Our Appalachian Culture
Have mountains of fun while learning about the people who worked Biltmore’s land. Try your hand at making traditional Appalachian crafts, toys, or music, and learn about the rich folklore and customs of this area.

PROGRAMS FOR GRADES 4–8

Interactive Science Fair
You be the scientist! Explore Mr. Vanderbilt’s scientific farm and then participate in an experiment to prove or disprove the group’s hypothesis.

Barn Tales—All in a Day’s Work
Roll up your sleeves and get to work shelling corn, scrubbing clothes, pitching hay, or churning butter. Experience firsthand the chores of farm and family life 100 years ago.

Our Appalachian Culture
Have mountains of fun while learning about the people who worked Biltmore’s land. Try your hand at making traditional Appalachian crafts, toys, or music, and learn about the rich folklore and customs of this area.
PROGRAMS FOR GRADES 9–12

The Forest—A Biltmore Legacy
George Vanderbilt established the nation’s first scientifically managed forest. What can we learn from his legacy and what surprising products can be produced from trees?

Going Green
Renew, sustain, recycle, and conserve: Biltmore was built on these principles. Learn how these buzz words connect to Biltmore’s history and how we can each contribute to our future.

Our Appalachian Culture
Have mountains of fun while learning about the people who worked Biltmore’s land. Try your hand at making traditional Appalachian crafts, toys, or music, and learn about the rich folklore and customs of this area.

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER PROGRAM FOR ALL GRADES

Holiday Celebration
Celebrate the holiday season with crafts or traditional games from the Vanderbilts’ era.
BILTMORE’S GARDENS

Acres of century-old gardens transform Biltmore’s landscape into an ever-changing wonderland of color, textures, and shapes, including flowering trees and shrubs along with thousands of blooms that appeal to all our senses. George Vanderbilt commissioned Frederick Law Olmsted, whose works included New York’s Central Park, to design both formal and natural settings for his estate.

CONSERVATORY

At the base of the Walled Garden is the Conservatory. Designed by Biltmore architect Richard Morris Hunt, this glass-roofed building nurtures exotic species and provides flowers and plants for Biltmore House year-round, just as it did in George Vanderbilt’s time.
ANTLER HILL VILLAGE

Our village stands in homage to an area of the estate where many farm, dairy, and forestry employees and their families lived and socialized in the early 1900s. Oral history records reveal fond memories of gatherings for the families including Christmas parties, dances, fall fairs, and classes in the evenings. Be part of the Vanderbilt tradition of hospitality as you enjoy this delightful area of the estate.

THE BILTMORE LEGACY

The Biltmore Legacy is hosting Fashionable Romance: 60 Years of Vanderbilt Wedding Fashion. The exhibit showcases stories and objects from 60 years of Vanderbilt family weddings, including the Lee family veil worn by Mary Lee Ryan at her 1957 wedding to William A.V. Cecil (grandson of George Vanderbilt) and by her cousin, Jacqueline Lee Bouvier at her wedding to John F. Kennedy.

Schools wishing to visit The Biltmore Legacy are asked to do so in small groups with a few minutes between entries. Chaperones are required to stay with groups at all times.

Fashionable Romance

60 YEARS OF VANDERBILT WEDDING FASHION

For more information and reservations: 866-851-4661
BILTMORE PORTRAITS

Capture an amazing memory

SPECIAL FOR THE 2016–2017 SCHOOL YEAR:
Students will receive a 4x6 group photo for only $2 each.*

BONUS!
Teachers will receive one free 8x10 group photo with entire class purchase.
Photos are taken prior to guided house visit and will be ready for pick up at the conclusion of your tour.
Biltmore Portraits can easily be added to your reservation.

Prices quoted for all tickets and activities are subject to applicable taxes and subject to change.
*Minimum $20 purchase

MULTI-DAY CLASS TRIPS

WE HAVE GREAT TWO-DAY (OR MORE) Biltmore Experience Class Trips
We can customize a package that will create lifelong memories.

Let us take care of the details:
• We partner with several student-friendly hotels in the area for the best prices
• We can make recommendations for other nearby “must-see” attractions
• Extra activities can be added
• Meals can be customized, from picnics to formal dinners
LET’S DO LUNCH!

We now offer several options for lunch—enjoy a buffet of choices.

*BILTMORE BAG LUNCH
Pick up at Deerpark Restaurant (Available through December 2016*)
$6 per person: includes choice of turkey, ham, or PB&J sandwich on white bread or veggie wrap; served with bag of chips, cookie, and bottle of water. *Beginning January 2017, Biltmore Bag Lunch pick up is at Diana. Bus access and parking is in Parking Lot A-6.

SMOKEHOUSE
Located in Antler Hill Barn (Open seasonally)
$12 per person: includes choice of chopped BBQ pork, pulled BBQ chicken sandwich, or ¼-lb. all-beef hot dog; served with chips and choice of tea, water, or soda. Outdoor seating only.

STABLE CAFÉ
Located adjacent to Biltmore House
K-3 Lunch $10 per student: includes choice of chicken tenders, junior burger or grilled cheese served with chips, fruit and cookie, tea or water.
4-8 Lunch $13 per student: includes choice of chicken tenders, cheese burger or grilled cheese served with chips, fruit and cookie, tea or water.
High School Lunch $20 per person: includes choice of roasted veggie, pulled pork or harvest turkey sandwich, served with chip and chef’s signature desserts, tea or water. Adult menu available.

DEERPARK RESTAURANT
Located in the center of the estate (Available through December 2016)
$17 per person Grades K–10, $25 per person for Grades 11–Adult: includes buffet with seasonal menu featuring Southern style and chef’s specialties.

BRING YOUR OWN
School groups may bring their own lunches but must plan on eating at Antler Hill Farm or Deerpark Pavilion (through December 2016*). ABSOLUTELY NO PICNICKING IS ALLOWED AROUND BILTMORE HOUSE, FRONT LAWN, OR COURTYARD.
*Beginning March 2017, picnicking at Diana will be available on a first come, first served basis. Bus access and parking is in Parking Lot A-6.

DON’T FORGET DESSERT!
Available at the Ice Cream Parlor in the Stable Courtyard or the Creamery in Antler Hill Village
We all scream for ICE CREAM! In a cup or a cone for $4.50.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Advance reservations are required for lunch options. A food & beverage contract will be sent with your field trip reservation. Please sign the contract and fax it back to us at 828-225-1396. All prices listed include tax. Final numbers are due 14 business days prior to scheduled visit and are a guarantee for payment 10 days prior to visit. Please alert us to any food allergies at the time of your final confirmation. *Picnic tables are available on a first come, first served basis at Antler Hill Farm and Deerpark Pavilion (through December 2016). Other picnicking options available. Indoor seating is not available for Biltmore Bag Lunches, Smokehouse, or Bring Your Own.
TICKETS

*BILTMORE HOUSE–GUIDED STUDENT VISIT
Students $18.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $20.55 (Thursday–Friday)
One complimentary chaperone admission is included with each group of ten paid students.
Parents/Extra Adults Self-Guided Visit $40.55
*Due to space and group guide system limitations, adults are asked to enjoy a self-guided Biltmore House visit while students participate in the guided student visit.

*BILTMORE HOUSE & STUDENT BEHIND-THE-SCENES COMBINATION TOUR
Students $25.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $27.55 (Thursday–Friday)
Chaperones $12

*BILTMORE HOUSE & ANTLER HILL FARM COMBINATION TOUR
Students $23.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $25.55 (Thursday–Friday)
K–3 Combo $18.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $20.55 (Thursday–Friday)
Adults $40.55 for Farm Combo
*Due to space limitation in some areas of the Farm, adults are asked to visit the Barn and Antler Hill Village while students participate in their farm program.

WINTER AT BILTMORE TICKETS
January 9–March 19, 2017

*BILTMORE HOUSE–GUIDED STUDENT VISIT
Students $15.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $17.55 (Thursday–Friday)
One complimentary chaperone admission is included with each group of ten paid students.
Parents/Extra Adults Self-Guided Visit $30.55
*Due to space and group guide system limitations, adults are asked to enjoy a self-guided Biltmore House visit while students participate in the guided student visit.

*BILTMORE HOUSE & STUDENT BEHIND-THE-SCENES COMBINATION TOUR
Students $22.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $24.55 (Thursday–Friday)
Chaperones $12

*BILTMORE HOUSE & ANTLER HILL FARM COMBINATION TOUR
Students $20.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $22.55 (Thursday–Friday)
K–3 Combo $15.55 (Monday–Wednesday) $17.55 (Thursday–Friday)
Adults $30.55 for Farm Combo
*Due to space limitation in some areas of the Farm, adults are asked to visit the Barn and Antler Hill Village while students participate in their farm program.

Prices quoted for all tickets and activities are subject to applicable taxes and subject to change. 7% N.C. tax will be added to all ticket prices.
HELPFUL GUIDELINES

☞ PLANNING
• For assistance planning your trip, please call 866-851-4661.
• Guided student tours are available Monday through Friday only.
• Reservations for the guided student tours must be made at least three weeks in advance. Reservations made inside that time may result in a self-guided visit.
• Plan your time carefully as tour times are not flexible.
• Allow extra time in your day for lunch and restroom breaks.
• If anyone in your group has special needs—i.e. hearing or visually impaired or needs wheelchair access—please let us know in advance.
• Peak seasons fill quickly; make your reservations as early as possible.

☞ MAKING YOUR RESERVATION
Call 866-851-4661 or fax 828-225-1396.
Reservation lines are open from 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Have the following information ready:
• 1st Choice of Visit Date/Alternate Date if necessary
• 1st Choice of House Tour Time/Alternate Time if necessary
• Number of Students: You will need to divide your students into groups of up to 20 maximum.
• Number of Chaperones: Schools are required to have two chaperones per group of 20. (Example: A group of 13-20 students will require two chaperones. A group of 21-40 students will require four chaperones. A group of 41-60 students will require six chaperones. Schools with three or more groups may also have a Roving Chaperone. Please inquire.)
• Number of Parents/Extra Adults: Parents/extra adults who are not assigned as required chaperones will enjoy a self-guided visit and be given an approximate time to meet their child’s class at the end of their guided tour.
• Tours and Activities: House, House/Behind-the-Scenes Tour, House/Farm, Lunch, Photo, Ice Cream
• Special Needs: Any students or classes needing extra assistance.

☞ FINAL NUMBERS AND PAYMENT
• Final numbers are due 14 days prior to your visit.
• Full payment is due 10 days prior to your visit and is non-refundable. One form of payment is requested for all planned activities.
• We accept school checks payable to The Biltmore Company and major credit cards.

☞ WELCOME PACKETS
Paid reservations will receive a welcome packet via Fed-Ex the week prior to your visit.
Your welcome packet will contain:
• Pre-visit check list
• Day-of-visit check list
• Scan sheet for driver
• Ear buds for students
• Instructions and Estate Maps
• Adult tickets and driving/parking instructions (if needed)
• Student tour vouchers
• Chaperone stickers
• Letter to the parents
You will not need to stop at the Group Sales Office unless you did not receive your welcome packet or if you have more students/adults than your original reservation.

For more information and reservations: 866-851-4661
ESTATE RULES AND REGULATIONS

LEAD TEACHER AND THE PRINCIPAL:
In keeping with George W. Vanderbilt’s vision and in Biltmore’s grand tradition to “Preserve the Enchantment,” it is the goal of our education program to provide an extraordinary student experience that also enhances your classroom curriculum. The Rules and Regulations set out by Biltmore help make that experience a good one for all our guests. As it is our pleasure to welcome your students as our guests, we ask that you please remind your students to respect the property and the legacy of Biltmore. We have made some changes this year that we hope will make the educational experience even better for you and your students. Please read all rules carefully. Please share Estate Rules and Regulations with all teachers, chaperones, students, and parents.

• Please be aware that any student who is asked to leave a visit due to disruptive or destructive behavior will be sent to our security offices until the rest of the class is finished OR may result in the entire class being asked to leave the estate. Additionally, the school may be asked not to return.

LEAD TEACHER:
• Reservations need to be made at least three weeks prior to visit.
• You will receive your welcome packet the week prior to your visit with full instructions.
• You are required to have two chaperones per group of 20 paid students.
• It is very important that you arrive on time and stay on schedule. We schedule our school hosts according to your booked reservation time. Groups arriving more than 15 minutes late may receive an abbreviated guided tour. Guides may be released completely if you are 30 minutes late and your group will then be self-guided.
• If you are running behind schedule on the day of your visit, please call 828-225-1401 and notify the Group Sales Check-in Desk.
• We will fax a reminder for your final group numbers 15–20 business days prior to your visit. Your final numbers are due 14 business days prior to your visit. You may call 866-851-4661 or fax them to 828-225-1396. Have numbers ready for students, chaperones, drivers, and parents/adults.
• Any self-guided parent or extra adult coming on the field trip must be included in the school’s reservation and final numbers at least 14 days in advance.
• Any additions to the final numbers are subject to availability. Extra adults may not call to be added to a reservation; only the lead teacher may adjust the reservation.
• Parents are cordially invited to visit Antler Hill Village or Barn while students are at the Farm.
• Final payment is due 10 days prior to your visit. We accept checks made out to The Biltmore Company and major credit cards.

CHAPERONES:
• Chaperones are required to stay with the students at all times and in all areas of the estate, including gift shops, gardens, and Antler Hill Village.
• Parents are cordially invited to visit Antler Hill Village or Barn while students are at the Farm.
• The role of the chaperones is to monitor student behavior to ensure that they are well behaved and respectful of all Biltmore property, including the house, gardens, farm, and animals. Please remind students if they are handling any of the animals to do so with tender loving care as many are babies and injure very easily.
• Chaperone tickets can be upgraded to a Biltmore Annual Pass. See a guest service agent on day of visit.

FOR STUDENTS
• Dress comfortably and appropriately for the season and weather. You will be outside.
• Comfortable shoes are highly recommended as you will be walking a lot. Shoes with wheels (such as Heelys®) are prohibited in any estate building.
• Be respectful of Biltmore property and of others. Silence all cell phones and turn off iPods, MP3 players, or other electronic devices before entering Biltmore House.
• Do not attempt to cross ropes or touch any objects while inside Biltmore House.
• Food, drinks, chewing gum, and tobacco products are not permitted inside Biltmore House.
• Photography is currently allowed inside Biltmore House on student tours during certain times. Your host will let you know where. This is subject to change.
• Any student asked to leave for disruptive or destructive behavior may result in the entire school leaving the estate.
• If you are handling any of the animals at Antler Hill Farm, we ask that you do so with tender loving care. Remember, they are babies and injure very easily.

FOR PARENTS
• Please enjoy a self-guided visit through Biltmore House while your child is experiencing the educational tour provided on this field trip.
• Check with your child’s teacher for a location and time to meet after their tour.
• Enjoy a great conversation!
• If you have questions regarding regulations, please email groupsales@biltmore.com.

For more information and reservations: 866-851-4661
TRAVEL DISTANCES
Reception & Ticketing Sales Center to Biltmore House: 3 miles
Biltmore House to Antler Hill Village: 5 miles
The Inn on Biltmore Estate® to Biltmore House: 4 miles
Biltmore House to Deerpark: 3 miles
Antler Hill Village to Deerpark: 2 miles
Reception & Ticketing Sales Center to The Inn on Biltmore Estate®: 2 miles
Map not to scale.