

# Garden Delights, Sights & Smells



Soothe your senses in the many beautiful gardens of the Thousand Islands region!

Visit **Heart Island** in Alexandria Bay where more than 10,000 annual flowers are planted each year around Boldt Castle. Built by George Boldt for his

wife Louise, this historic property is a reminder of the magnificence of a bygone era and a monument of his love. The gardens and grounds surrounding the castle are awash with spectacular colors and beauty throughout each season.

The next stop is a must-see for gardeners – the **Jefferson County Historical Society** in Watertown. The beautifully-restored Victorian garden provides an idyllic setting for strolling and dreaming. It showcases the original plantings from the era of Edwin and Olive Paddock and the peonies, Persian lilacs, horse chestnut, black walnut, locust and apple trees complement the formal design. Spring, summer and fall, the diamond pattern upper garden and lower croquet garden are enjoyed for bridal showers, garden parties and company outings.

Enjoy lunch and old-world charm at **Michelle's Bistro** in the **Best Western Carriage House Inn and Conference Center** in Watertown.

Continue on to the **Rhodes Greenhouses** in Belleville where you'll find that this eight-acre site is not only rich in nutrients, but also in history. It was once the farm of Revolutionary War soldier Oliver Bates, who settled here in 1807. Beautiful display gardens are located between the greenhouse operation and the Alexander Corners General Store. Relax amid the smells and colors of well-run greenhouses kept by gardening experts.

Then stop at **Enchantment Acres** in Hannibal and take in the serenity of this unique four-acre garden. Meander throughout the property and enjoy a G-scale train that runs among beautiful hostas, irises, daylilies, shrubs, herbs and perennials. Relax and unwind in the many whimsical garden displays maintained by the James family.

