

WELCOME TO PHILADELPHIA!



Philadelphia city skyline
Photo courtesy [creativecommons.org](#)

Philadelphia represents an exciting mix of early American history and bustling modern metropolis. In the space of a single day, you can walk the same streets that Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson walked and enjoy a world-class contemporary orchestra or science museum. The fifth largest city in the United States, Philadelphia is home to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, icons of the American Revolution, and to an electrifying dining and nightlife scene.

In the following pages, we will describe three Philly neighborhoods in detail, in hopes that you'll find time to explore at least some portion of the City of Brotherly Love. Of course, this is just a taste of the attractions to be found here. Visit www.gophila.com to explore all that Philadelphia has to offer.

Parkway Museums District

The Benjamin Franklin Parkway runs from **Love Park**, in the center of downtown Philadelphia, to the **Philadelphia Museum of Art**, a mile away in Fairmount Park. Many of Philly's cultural attractions—including the **Rodin Museum**, the **Academy of Natural Sciences**, and, of course, **The Franklin Institute**—are located along the Parkway. Much has been done in recent years to turn this thoroughfare into a recreational area, with new parks, statues, and fountains lining the way.

Located at the very heart of the Parkway Museums District is **The Franklin Institute**, itself home to a famous heart—the iconic, walk-through exhibit that anchors the museum's recently expanded *Giant Heart* exhibition. Here you will find an authentic operating suite and many health- and wellness-related interactive exhibits. Other galleries include *The Franklin Air Show*, *Space Command*, and *Sir Isaac's Loft: Where Art and Physics Collide*. Step inside The Franklin's most recent continuing exhibition, *Amazing Machine*, for an up-close look at the inner workings of machines. Another must-see is the majestic marble Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, built to honor the museum's namesake and celebrate his discoveries, inventions, and creative genius.

If your trip to Philadelphia would be incomplete without a run up the steps of the **Philadelphia Museum of Art**, à la Rocky Balboa, you'll now find a statue honoring the movie hero at the base of the famous stairs. (There's also a ground-level entrance.) Once inside, you'll discover extensive collections of European, Asian, and American fine and decorative arts.

Another landmark building in this neighborhood is the imposing, medieval-looking **Eastern State Penitentiary**, once home to Al Capone and other arch-criminals and now a historic site and venue for art installations. With Halloween right around the corner, don't miss the penitentiary's annual "Terror Behind the Walls" haunted prison tour, offered nightly (except Mondays) from mid-October through November 2.

Beyond the Museum of Art lies **Fairmount Park**, the largest landscaped park in the United States and a perfect place for a jog or bike ride. Fairmount Park runs along the Schuylkill River, with Boathouse Row and the **Philadelphia Zoo** along its shores. **Schuylkill River Park** is another great place for a walk or a jog; enter at 25th and Locust streets and follow the river to the Museum of Art.

Local restaurants of note in the district include the **Belgian Café**, with food to match its name, and the **Rose Tattoo Café**, featuring American Continental food and seasonal floral arrangements.



Robert Indiana's famous LOVE sculpture was placed in Love Park in 1976 as part of the United States' Bicentennial celebration. Photo courtesy [creativecommons.org](#)

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The Franklin Institute, founded in the spirit of inquiry and discovery embodied by Benjamin Franklin, opened to the public on January 1, 1934. *Photo courtesy The Franklin Institute*



The Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, located in the rotunda of The Franklin Institute, features an imposing statue of the writer, inventor, and American statesman sculpted by James Earle Fraser between 1906 and 1911. *Photo courtesy The Franklin Institute*

The Franklin Institute

222 North 20th Street
www.fi.edu

Philadelphia Museum of Art

25th Street & Ben Franklin Parkway
www.philamuseum.org

Rodin Museum

2151 Ben Franklin Parkway
www.rodinmuseum.org

Academy of Natural Sciences

19th Street & Ben Franklin Parkway
www.ansp.org

Eastern State Penitentiary

22nd Street & Fairmount Avenue
www.easternstate.org

Fairmount Park

4231 North Concourse Drive
www.fairmountpark.org

Philadelphia Zoo

3400 West Girard Avenue
www2.philadelphiazoo.org

Schuylkill River Park

www.schuylkillbanks.org

Belgian Café

21st & Green Streets
www.thebelgiancafe.com

Rose Tattoo Café

19th & Callowhill streets
www.rosetattoocafe.com

Rittenhouse Square District

Surrounded by upscale stores and turn-of-the-century apartment buildings, **Rittenhouse Square**—the park that gives this neighborhood its name—is the best place in town to people-watch. The leafy commons on Walnut Street, between 18th and 20th, comprises a city block of statues and trees where dog lovers and coffee drinkers cluster on the benches and grassy patches in sunny weather.

The area around the Square is a shopper's paradise, boasting such stores as Lacoste, J.Crew, Urban Outfitters, BCBG, Kenneth Cole, and more. Some of Philly's most fashionable and inventive restaurants are here as well. The **Continental Midtown** is an upscale lounge with a retro twist—be sure to try their Buzz Aldrin Martini (featuring Tang around the rim). Philly is known for its cost-saving BYOB (bring your own bottle) scene, and the Rittenhouse's **Audrey Claire**, a Mediterranean café, and **Matyson**, with its contemporary American menu, are some of the finest.



Late 19th-century townhomes and apartment buildings line the streets near Rittenhouse Square. *Photo courtesy creativecommons.org*

Continental Midtown

1801 Chestnut Street
www.continentalmidtown.com

Matyson

37 South 19th Street
www.matyson.com

Audrey Claire

276 South 20th Street
www.twentymanning.com

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Historic District

No visitor to Philadelphia should leave without seeing our Historic District, including the area known as Old City. Strolling down cobblestone roads like Chestnut Street, you'll pass **Independence Hall**, where both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were adopted, and the legendary **Liberty Bell**, and come upon such famous landmarks as **Christ Church** and **Elfreth's Alley**, the oldest continually inhabited street in the country.

Filled with boutiques, souvenir stores, and funky small shops, this district is perfect for finding something special—but it can be hard on the wallet. Check out **Lost + Found** for classy clothing you can actually afford.

Taverns and restaurants are also plentiful here. Have a drink at **National Mechanics**, a bank-turned-church-turned-bar that has preserved pieces of its past since its founding in 1837. For a unique dining experience, try **Cuba Libre**, a restaurant reminiscent of Havana in the 1940s, with delicious fare and exotic mojitos.



Elfreth's Alley, located in Old City Philadelphia, is the oldest continually inhabited street in the United States. *Photo courtesy creativecommons.org*



Philadelphia's Independence Hall is, by every estimate, the birthplace of the United States. *Photo courtesy creativecommons.org*

Liberty Bell and Independence Hall

6th & Chestnut streets
www.nps.gov/inde

Christ Church

20 North American Street
www.christchurchphila.org

Elfreth's Alley

126 Elfreth's Alley
www.elfrethsalley.org

Lost + Found

133 North 3rd Street
215/928-1311

National Mechanics

22 South 3rd Street
www.nationalmechanics.com

Cuba Libre

10 South 2nd Street
www.cubalibrerestaurant.com

ASTC MEMBER MUSEUMS IN THE PHILADELPHIA AREA

The following institutions are located within a 50-mile radius of the city.

The Academy of Natural Sciences

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103
www.ansp.org

Delaware Museum of Natural History

4840 Kennett Pike
Wilmington, DE 19807
www.delmnh.org

The Franklin Institute

222 North 20th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
www.fi.edu

Great Valley Nature Center

4251 State Road
Devault, PA 19432
www.gvnc.org

Hagley Museum and Library

200 Hagley Road
Wilmington, DE 19807
www.hagley.lib.de.us

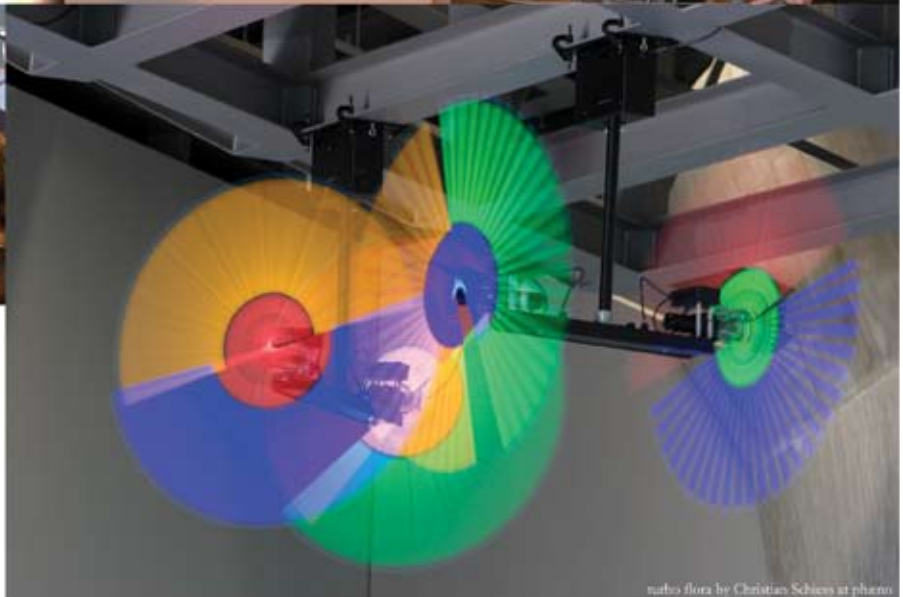
Iron Hill Museum (Delaware Academy of Science)

1355 Old Baltimore Pike
Newark, DE 19702
www.ironhillmuseum.org

Museum of Contemporary Science

675 South Clinton Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08611

master planning
design
project management
turnkey exhibition delivery



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Point Richmond California 94801
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