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The first World Heritage City in the U.S., Philadelphia is home to American history, chef-driven cuisine, abundant outdoor space, and an unparalleled arts and culture community. These qualities have elevated Philadelphia as a destination worthy of the world’s attention, recently receiving recognition from National Geographic, Condé Nast Traveler, and TIME.

Let this guide aid in your exploration of Philadelphia, highlighting can’t miss holiday activities plus essential attractions, restaurants and shops in each neighborhood, as well as exciting new experiences throughout the city.

To view a digital version, visit discoverPHL.com/OVG.

GET SOCIAL
To get the most up-to-date news on Philadelphia events, exhibits, and more, follow:
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@discoverPHL
/discoverPHL
@discoverPHL

Use the hashtag #discoverPHL to share photos and videos of your Philadelphia experience for a chance to be featured on our official accounts.

LOCAL RESOURCES
Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau
DiscoverPHL.com
215-636-3300
Philadelphia Visit Philadelphia
visitphiladelphia.com
215-418-4700

Philly Fun Guide
phillyphunguide.com

Pennsylvania Convention Center
pacconvention.com
215-418-4700

Get ready TO sparkle
TRANSPORTATION

You’ll find that it is easy to get to – and get around – Philadelphia!

FROM THE AIRPORT: SEPTA’s Airport Line leaves every 30 minutes, and a one-way fare is $6.75. Or, take a 25-minute taxi ride, with a flat rate of $25 to Center City, or a ride-sharing service. For maps and more information, visit discoverPHL.com/plan-your-trip.

PARKING: There are more than 40 parking lots and garages plus metered street parking (read signs carefully for parking hours) in Center City. To pay for metered parking, you can use a variety of payment methods (including credit cards) at one of the green kiosks. Some parking zones are supported by the ParkMobile app (available for Android and iOS), which allows you to pay for and extend your parking time via your mobile device. For a parking locator, visit philapark.org.

SEPTA: Hop on a SEPTA bus, subway, trolley or train for easy access to Philadelphia! For maps and more information, visit discoverPHL.com/plan-your-trip.

PHILLY PHLASH®
The Philly PHLASH® Downtown Loop is a visitor-friendly public transit service that provides convenient and affordable service to stops located near popular tourist destinations and top holiday attractions throughout the city. With seasonal service, the PHLASH® makes it easy for visitors to navigate the city, for only $2 per ride or $5 per day.

RidePhillyPHLASH.com | 800-537-7676

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

For themed itineraries and essential information for international travelers, view the Philadelphia Official International Guide™ – available in Spanish, German, Portuguese, Italian, French, Japanese and Chinese – at discoverPHL.com/international. Helpful resources for international travelers include:

CURRENCY EXCHANGE
Currency may be exchanged at the following locations, as well as several hotels and restaurants and the Philadelphia International Airport. Look for signs at participating establishments.

CITIZENS BANK 1234 Market Street | 215-561-5800
PNC BANK 1600 Market Street | 215-585-1166

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION
The following language services are available for business travelers:

MTM Linguasoft 215-729-6765

VISITOR CENTERS

Start at one of Philadelphia’s official Visitor Centers to discover all there is to see and do throughout the region.

Independence Visitor Center Corporation
The Independence Visitor Center Corporation manages the official visitor centers of Greater Philadelphia and the visitor-friendly public transit service, Philly PHLASH®. Follow Independence Visitor Center Corporation on Instagram for insider updates on Philadelphia happenings.

Independence Visitor Center 599 Market Street | Located in Independence National Historical Park
At the official visitor center of Greater Philadelphia, visitors can speak with friendly, multilingual staff for free trip-planning advice, purchase tickets to more than 100 tours and attractions, or pick up the perfect souvenir to remember their trip at the official gift shop of Philadelphia. FREE amenities and services available include two immersive theater experiences with films about Philadelphia, regional maps and brochures, fully accessible public restrooms and WiFi access.

PHLvisitorcenter.com | 800-537-7676

LOVE Park Visitor Center 1569 JFK Boulevard Located in LOVE Park
The LOVE Park Visitor Center is located in a stand-alone kiosk adjacent to the historic Welcome Center building. Services offered include visitor information, tickets for local attractions and museums, and gift shop merchandise. City Hall Interior and Exterior Tours temporarily meet and depart from the LOVE Park Visitor Center.

PHLvisitorcenter.com/loveyork
215-344-8544

City Hall Visitor Center 1 South Penn Square, Room 121 Located in Philadelphia City Hall
Please note: This location has been temporarily closed due to COVID-19. Please check the website for updated operations.

PHLvisitorcenter.com/cityhall

For more transportation tips and tricks, visit discoverPHL.com/plan-your-trip.
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

**NOV. 25**
**AABC Thanksgiving Day Parade**
The nation’s oldest Thanksgiving Day parade returns to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in 2021, complete with floats, dancers, bands, balloons, and some very special guests (including an appearance from Mr. and Mrs. Claus).

**DEC. 4**
**Visit Philadelphia Holiday Parade**
philadelphiaholidayexperience.com
New for 2021, the Visit Philadelphia Holiday Parade will march along Market Street, from Old City to City Hall, featuring local marching bands, cold air balloons, and floats representing Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Chinese New Year and Christmas.

**DEC. 10-31**
**George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker**
philadelphiaballet.org
The Philadelphia Ballet performs the classic holiday story of George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker at the Academy of Music, featuring the Philadelphia Ballet Orchestra.

**DEC. 31**
**New Year’s Eve Fireworks**
delawareriverwaterfront.com
Philadelphia continues the tradition of two fireworks shows on New Year’s Eve, at 6 p.m. and midnight, over the Delaware River. Launched from barges in the river, the fireworks are choreographed to unique soundtracks that can be heard from Penn’s Landing.

#### JANUARY

**JAN. 1**
**Mummers Parade**
phillyphiladelphia.org
Watch this annual Philadelphia tradition as the charismatic Mummers strut along Broad Street, celebrating the new year. The colorful and extravagant costumes and performances are judged at the Fancy Brigade Finale at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

**JAN. 31- FEB. 1**
**Chinese New Year**
chinatown-pcdc.org
Celebrate Chinese New Year and welcome in the Year of the Tiger with an authentic dragon parade and enjoy traditional food and festivities in Philadelphia’s Chinatown.

**FEBRUARY/MARCH**

**MAR. 5-13**
**Philadelphia Auto Show**
phillyphiladelphia.org
Hundreds of vehicles, showcasing the latest models and trends, are on display at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

**APRIL**

**APRIL 10**
**A Philly POPS Christmas: Spectacular Sounds of the Season**
phillyphiladelphia.org
The largest standalone pops orchestra in the nation presents their annual holiday showcase at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus, featuring cheerful renditions of holiday classics alongside Broadway stars, a guest pianist, local choir, and a singing Santa Claus.

**APRIL 17**
**George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker**
philadelphiaballet.org
The Philadelphia Ballet performs the classic holiday story of George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker at the Academy of Music, featuring the Philadelphia Ballet Orchestra.

#### NOVEMBER

**NOV. 19-21**
**Philadelphia Marathon Race Weekend**
philadelphiamarathon.com
The Philadelphia Marathon is one of the fastest courses in the country and a great way to see America’s Historic Mile while making some history of your own.

**NOV. 20**
**Made in Philadelphia Holiday Market**
madeinphila.com
Shop for holiday gifts from a collection of over 40 local artisans and small businesses at this pop-up market on the west side of Historic City Hall.

**NOV. 25-DEC. 24**
**Christmas Village**
philachristmas.com
Visit Christmas Village in LOVE Park to enjoy traditional European foods as you shop for gifts and crafts perfect for the holiday season. Don’t miss additional vendors and amusements at City Hall’s Courtyard and North Apron.

**NOV. 26**
**Macy’s Holiday Light Show**
maladays.com
Located inside the Wanamaker Building, a National Historic Landmark, this holiday tradition features Christmas favorites like Frosty, Rudolph, and The Nutcracker in more than 100,000 dancing LED lights.

**NOV. 30**
**Orchestra Hall’s Courtyard and North Apron**
City and West Philadelphia (independent storefronts can be found along Baltimore Avenue in the historical South Philadelphia). Find quirky Philadelphia-themed gifts at Manayunk.com, home to flagship, full-price, off-price and outlet retail stores, including Philadelphia fashion landmarks Nicole Miller (nicolemiller.com) and Tax Free Philadelphia outlets (taxfreephiladelphia.com). For more neighborhood tips, turn to page 10.
ESSENTIAL PHILADELPHIA EXPERIENCES

These tried-and-true Philadelphia activities are a must-add to any itinerary, whether visiting for the first time or first time in a while. (For more itineraries, turn to page 26)

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Immerse yourself in American history by exploring the historic sites and landmarks spread throughout the nation’s most historic square mile, many of which are free to visit. See where the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution were both debated and signed at Independence Hall, then journey across the street to view the iconic symbol of freedom, the Liberty Bell. Not far away is The President’s House, footprint of the nation’s first White House from 1790 to 1800, and Carpenter’s Hall, site of the First Continental Congress in 1774.

HISTORIC MARKETS

Satisfy your cravings for local delicacies by visiting the 128-year-old Reading Terminal Market (readingterminalmarket.org), one of our nation’s largest and oldest indoor farmers’ markets, named the best in America in 2021 by USA Today 10Best. Here, sample food from over 80 independent vendors, such as oat pork sandwhiches, pretzels, donuts, and cheesesteaks, as well as an assortment of global cuisine from Africa, Japan, Central America and other nations. In South Philadelphia, retrace Rocky’s famous jog through the centuries-old 9th Street Italian Market (italianmarketphilly.org), where you can find fresh produce and a mix of global cuisines from the storefronts that line one of America’s oldest open-air marketplaces.

OUTDOORS

There’s plenty of room to spread out in Philadelphia, with more than 10,000 acres of park and recreation space to explore. Take part in riverside recreation along the scenic Schuylkill River Trail (schuylkillriver.org/schuylkill-river-trail), which winds its way through downtown Philadelphia and into the 2,000+ acre Fairmount Park (myphillyphark.org), where historic houses, scenic vistas, and miles of rustic trails await. In Center City, visit one of Philadelphia’s five original squares, such as the family-friendly Franklin Square, lush Rittenhouse Square, or historic Washington Square, site of the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.

PUBLIC ART

With more public art than any other U.S. city, Philadelphia is an art-lover’s paradise. Take a guided tour to discover some of the over 4,000 breathtaking murals from Mural Arts Philadelphia (muralarts.org) that establish our city as the “Mural Capital of the World” or study an impressive array of sculptures with an audio tour from the Association of Public Art (associationforpublicart.org). Stroll through South Philadelphia to be amazed by the marvelous mosaics crafted by local artist Isaiah Zagar, whose Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens (phillyphimagardens.org) is one of our city’s most Insta-worthy attractions.

JASPER JOHNS: MIND/MIRROR AT THE PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

Through Sep. 22, 2021 | philamuseum.org

This unprecedented, collaborative retrospective of iconic American artist Jasper Johns is hosted simultaneously with the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, showcasing nearly 350 pieces spanning 70 years.

LIBERTY: DON TROIANO’S PAINTINGS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AT THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Through Sep. 25, 2022 | armrevac.org

This exhibition brings together – for the first time publicly – over 45 paintings by renowned historical painter Don Troiano, whose career has been dedicated to recreating scenes from the Revolutionary War. The works are paired with artifacts that either inspired or are featured in Troiano’s paintings, including weapons, textiles and more.

SUZANNE VALADON: MODEL, PAINTER, REBEL AT THE BARNES FOUNDATION

Through Jan. 9, 2022 | jarvisfoundation.org

The first major U.S. exhibition dedicated to groundbreaking French artist and model, Suzanne Valadon features approximately 55 paintings, drawings, and prints spanning her career, all structured around themes such as the artist’s representation of her family, conflicts of marriage and motherhood, and her exploration of the female body.

STORIES WE WEAR AT THE PENN MUSEUM

Through Apr. 17 | penn.museum

Explore 2,500 years of style from civilizations around the globe via a collection of approximately 250 objects including attire, jewelry, uniforms, regalia, and tattoos. The exhibition examines the role clothing and accessories play as expressions of identity in different societies, while inviting visitors to discover common themes from throughout history that span multiple languages and cultures.

INVISIBLE WORLD OF WATER AT THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Through Apr. 17 | ansp.org

This special exhibition explores the hidden beauty of one of life’s most precious resources—water. Specifically, the exhibition will educate visitors about two mesmerizing, microscopic natural occurrences—snow crystals and diatoms—utilizing artwork, animations, holographic light field displays, sculptures, rare books, images, videos and more.

HARRY POTTER: THE EXHIBITION AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Opening February 18, 2022 | fio.org

Be transported to the Wizarding World at the world premiere of this spellbinding exhibition, featuring movie props, costumes, and immersive, interactive experiences inspired by the popular book and film series.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

JAZPERJOHNSPHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

LIBERTY: DON TROIANO’S PAINTINGS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AT THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

SUZANNE VALADON: MODEL, PAINTER, REBEL AT THE BARNES FOUNDATION

STORIES WE WEAR AT THE PENN MUSEUM

INVISIBLE WORLD OF WATER AT THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

HARRY POTTER: THE EXHIBITION AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

DISCOVERPHIL.COM

PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
NEW MUSEUMS...

A number of exciting new museum experiences await visitors in Philadelphia.

NEON MUSEUM OF PHILADELPHIA

A collection of over 120 neon signs and artworks trace the history of Philadelphia and some of the city’s most iconic businesses at this museum in Kensington. Look for rotating special exhibitions from local artists, as well as games and literature to round out your museum experience.

1800 N. American St | neonmuseumofphiladelphia.com

FAITH AND LIBERTY DISCOVERY CENTER

The latest museum to line Independence Mall examines how faith helped foster some of the nation’s core values. Visitors from all backgrounds can explore the museum’s six immersive, high-tech galleries on a personalized, self-guided tour. A handheld lamp allows guests to interact with exhibits and collect inspirational content along the way.

101 N Independence Mall | faithandliberty.org

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART CORE PROJECT

Guided by the renowned eye of architect Frank Gehry, the Philadelphia Museum of Art has revealed 90,000 square feet of new public space, including 20,000 square feet of new gallery space dedicated to Early American Art and Modern and Contemporary Art. Other updates include a stunning subterranean Vaulted Walkway that spans the width of the building, an updated West Entrance, and a central Forum.

2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy | philamuseum.org

For the latest updates and other new experiences, visit discoverPHL.com/new.

...NEW MENUS

Philadelphia’s award-winning food scene is flourishing with new dining options.

VICTORY BREWING TAPROOM

“Cheers!” along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway at this new 14,000 square foot taproom from locally-based Victory Brewing Company. Equipped with an on-site brewing system and a full scratch kitchen, imbibers can sip local ales at one of two indoor bars, an outdoor bar, at outdoor seating at street level or stop at the spacious rooftop patio with sweeping views of Philadelphia’s Museum Mile.

1176 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy | taprooms.victorybeer.com

LMNO

With a vibrant dining space centered around a live fire grill, this Baja-Mexican restaurant – the latest Philadelphia venture from acclaimed restaurateur Stephen Starr – is also part bookstore, part music venue and part art gallery. On the menu, look for ceviche, aguachiles, a variety of taco preparations – including a chile-marinated pork with pineapple – fresh seafood and house specials for the table, plus a creative and colorful cocktail lineup.

1149 N. Front St | lmnophilly.com

SUYA-SUYA WEST AFRICAN GRILL

Located in Northern Liberties, this fast-casual BYOB is on a mission to bring West African fare to a larger American audience. Diners build a bowl with a protein (suya), like Nigerian yaji-marinated steak, and choose from a variety of bases including traditional jollof rice.

400 Fairmount Ave | suyasuya.co

REX AT THE ROYAL

Traditional Lowcountry Southern cuisine is now being served inside the historic Royal Theater, once a central piece of Black culture in Philadelphia in the early 20th century. Signature dishes include shrimp and grits, chicken and dumplings, and barbecued beef and beans, alongside an expansive raw bar and favorites from the original REX 1516 concept. The rejuvenated interior features an expansive dining room, a large turquoise bar, and upper mezzanine, as well as a café, bottle shop and a raised stage for live music – a nod to the building’s rich history.

1524 South St | rexphl.com

For more new restaurants, visit discoverPHL.com/food-drink.
WHAT TO SEE AND DO AND WHERE TO DINE

IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

CONVENTION CENTER DISTRICT/CHINATOWN

Anchored by the Pennsylvania Convention Center, this bustling district also offers great shopping, dining and cultural institutions, and is the entry point to the city’s Rail Park, a former railroad viaduct converted into a scenic trail.

SEE & DO: Admire the Friendship Gate, a gift from Philadelphia’s sister city of Tianjin, which welcomes visitors to Philadelphia’s Chinatown (chinatown-pcdc.org) – the second largest Chinatown on the East Coast. Tour the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (pafa.org), the oldest art museum and art school in the nation, showcasing a vast collection of 19th- and 20th-century American paintings and sculptures. Snap a selfie in front of Robert Indiana’s iconic LOVE sculpture in Love Park, then take an interior or exterior tour of the iconic City Hall (phlvisitorcenter.com/CityHallInteriorExterior), home to over 200 sculptures by Alexander Milne Calder, including the largest statue atop any building in the world.

DINE: Satisfy just about any craving you could have at the historic Reading Terminal Market (readingterminalmarket.org), home to over 80 independent vendors under one roof. At the base of the Canopy by Hilton hotel, enjoy fresh seafood and cocktails at The Wayward (thewayward.com) American brasserie. For elevated American dining (think dry-aged cowboy steak and potatoes), Wayward (Canopy by Hilton hotel) offers fresh seafood and cocktails at its rooftop bar. For a family-friendly approach to dining, visit Elfreth’s Alley (elfrethsalley.com), a former cobblestone street such as Effret’s Alley or explore trendy boutiques and art galleries.

OLD CITY/SOCIETY HILL/WATERFRONT

Discover America’s spirit in the city where it all began at Independence National Historical Park with iconic sites like the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. Then, stroll along quaint cobblestone streets such as Elfreth’s Alley or explore trendy boutiques and art galleries.

SEE & DO: Visit the African American Museum in Philadelphia (aamuseum.org) for groundbreaking exhibits exploring the history of African Americans in the United States. Delve into themes of diversity, equity, inclusion, civic engagement and leadership at the National Liberty Museum (libertymuseum.org). At the Museum of the American Revolution (amrevmuseum.org), discover the history of the American Revolution with interactive, all-ages exhibits and a theatre show featuring George Washington’s actual war tent.

DINE: Stroll 2nd Street in Old City for a wide array of international flavors, including Cuban fare served in an open-air vipe at Cuba Libre (cubalibrerestaurant.com/en/philadelphia), traditional Irish pub favorites at The Plough & The Stars (ploughstars.com) and James Beard award winner for Outstanding Restaurant in 2019 – enjoy an Israeli menu of small plates, grilled vegetables and meat, and freshly whipped hummus served with warm, housemade pita. For dessert, order scoops of house made ice cream (perhaps on top of a warm slice of apple pie or coated in hot fudge) from a turn-of-the-century ice cream parlor setting at Franklin Fountain (franklinfountain.com).

WHAT TO SEE AND DO AND WHERE TO DINE

PARKWAY MUSEUMS DISTRICT/FAIRMOUNT

Centered around the magnificent Museum Mile on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway – modeled after the Champs-Élysées in France – this district offers outstanding museums and plenty of Insta-worthy sights.

SEE & DO: One of the world’s finest collections of impressionist, post-impressionist, and early modernist paintings awaits inside the Barnes Foundation (barnesfoundation.org). The Franklin Institute (fly.edu) is one of America’s most celebrated museums and is known for its all-ages, hands-on exploration of key science concepts, including a giant walk-through heart, planetarium and more. Just steps away, The Academy of Natural Sciences (ansp.org) features a hall of dinosaurs, butterfly room and Mütter Museum.

DINE: On a chilly day, cozy up in front of the fire at Tir na nOg (tirnanogphiladelphia.com), a classic wood-ash grilled Irish pub serving Emerald Isle standards and known as a top spot to watch early morning Premier League matches. The Parkway Museums District also boasts a family-friendly lineup of reservation-free pubs, teaquías, pizza parlors, and steakhouses, including Pizzeria Vetri (pizzavieri.com) and Iron Chef Jose Garces’ Buena Onda Tacos (buenaondatacos.com).

RITTENHOUSE SQUARE

Located in the heart of Center City, Rittenhouse Square is known for its green spaces, upscale shopping, arts and culture, and alfresco dining.

SEE & DO: Indulge in retail therapy at the chic boutiques, national retailers and luxury brands located along Chestnut and Walnut streets. The Rosenbach Museum (rosenbach.org) holds the private collection of noted rare book dealers the Rosenbach brothers, including the only surviving copy of Benjamin Franklin’s first Poor Richard’s Almanack and Bram Stoker’s notes for Dracula. See the country’s finest collection of medical artifacts housed at the Mütter Museum (muttermuseum.org), featuring anatomical specimens, models and medical instruments displayed in a Victorian “cabinet museum” setting.

Take in a live performance by Opera Philadelphia (paraphiladelphia.org), the Philadelphia Orchestra (philorch.org) and other top performing arts companies at the venues lining the Avenue of the Arts (avenueofthearts.org), including the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus (kimmelcenter.org), Opera Philadelphia (operaphila.org) and Merriam Theater (merriamtheater.org). Enjoy a Parisian brasserie experience in the heart of Philadelphia at Parc (parc-restaurant.com), complete with alfresco seating along Rittenhouse Square. At Harp & Crown (harpandcrown.com), savor a new-American menu, cocktails, and over 40 beers on tap in a stylish setting, complete with 32-seat bar and a bowling alley speakeasy in the basement. Top Chef Jennifer Carroll presents a menu of inventive modern-Mediterranean dishes at Spice Finch (spicefinnphilly.com), located at the base of the Warwick Hotel.
WASHINGTON SQUARE WEST/GAYBORHOOD/MIDTOWN VILLAGE

Lively dining spots and vibrant nightlife fill this quaint historic neighborhood. Stroll through tree-lined Washington Square Park or explore the charming Belgian block streets for some of Philadelphia's most photogenic views.

SEE & DO: Take in a show at the Walnut Street Theatre (walnutstreettheatre.org), America's oldest theater, whose 213th season is underway with productions of Disney's The Little Mermaid (Jan. 11-Feb. 13) and Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of The Speckled Band (Feb. 22-Mar. 27). Learn more about Philadelphia’s Gayborhood and the city's long history of LGBTQ+ activism and tolerance via a walking tour from Beyond the Bell Tours (beyondthebelltours.com). Stroll 13th Street and shop locally owned boutiques such as Open House (openhouseliving.com) – sellers of quirky home goods and Philadelphia-themed gifts. Learn more about the area's murals on a Mural Mile Walking Tour offered by Mural Arts Philadelphia (muralarts.org).

DINE: For breakfast, the pillowy egg sandwiches at Middle Child (middlechildphilly.com) are an absolute must-try. Feast on modern Mexican cuisine at Lolita (lolitaphilly.com), wood oven pizza and other Mediterranean-inspired dishes at Barbuzzo (barbuzzo.com) or traditional American comfort food at Bud & Marilyn's (budandmarilyns.com). Charlie was a sinner, (charlwaseasinner.com) specializes in vegan offerings, pairing small, plant-based plates with an exceptional lineup of creative cocktails in a well-appointed space.

South Philadelphia

Known for its easy access to major sporting arenas, this energetic neighborhood is also a hot thanks to multicultural and foodie attractions.

SEE & DO: Stroll along East Passyunk Avenue (visitaeastpassyunk.com) to find a seemingly endless assortment of local boutiques and shops selling a mix of apparel, jewelry, art, home goods and more. View one of the world’s greatest collections of sports racing cars at the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum (simeonefoundationmuseum.org), then explore the nation’s oldest Swedish museum, American Swedish Museum (americanswedish.org). Located in the heart of the spacious FOR Park, try your luck at the new Live! Casino & Hotel (philadelphia.livecasinohotel.com), which features 2,100 state-of-the-art slot machines, 121 live action table games, a sportsbook and more.

DINE: There is no shortage of excellent Italian eateries in South Philadelphia, such as Victor Café (victorcafe.com) where the servers double as opera singers that perform every 20 minutes. And yes, there are plenty of cheesesteaks to sink your teeth into, but in addition to the ever-popular Pat’s King of Steaks (patskingofsteaks.com) and Geno’s Steaks (genosteaks.com), other South Philadelphia shops to consider include: John’s South Street (johnsoutherncrush.com), Angelo’s Pizzeria (angeloispizzeraissouthphiladelphia.com), and John’s Roast Pork (johnnoroastpork.com).

PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

DISCOVERPHILLY.COM

University City/West Philadelphia

A hub for higher education, this neighborhood is home to top universities, including Drexel University and the University of Pennsylvania.

SEE & DO: The multisensory Please Touch Museum (pleasetouchmuseum.org) empowers visitors of all ages to learn through play and by interacting with permanent and rotating exhibits. On the University of Pennsylvania (upenn.edu) campus, explore priceless archaeological artifacts from around the globe – including the largest Sphinx in the western hemisphere – at the Penn Museum (pennmuseum.org). Take in a theater, dance or world-music performance at Live Arts (pennlivearts.org) and view installations from up-and-coming artists at the Institute of Contemporary Art (iacphila.org), which hosted Andy Warhol’s first solo museum show in 1962.

DINE: Reserve a table or grab a quick snack to go from Walnut Street Cafe (walnutstreetcafe.com), a modern cafe at the base of the FMC Tower, serving up American plates, breakfast through dinner. White Dog Café (whitedog.com) serves locally sourced, organic dishes in a charming Victorian brownstone adored with dog-themed décor. At Booker’s Restaurant & Bar (bookersrestaurantandbar.com), savor modern takes on traditional Southern-inspired dishes, including vegan jambalaya, blackened catfish, and an extra-spicy, jamaican jerk oxtail.

Northern Liberties/Fishtown/North Philadelphia

Just north of Center City, these diverse neighborhoods are home to eclectic restaurants, landmark gastropubs, craft breweries and distilleries, and popular live-music venues.

SEE & DO: Stroll through these neighborhoods to shop from local boutiques and small businesses selling artisan goods. In Northern Liberties, Trunc (trunc.net) sells handcrafted goods including art, clothing, jewelry, and apothecary items. Peruse and purchase literature that celebrates female writers, activists and artists at Black-owned Harriet’s Bookshop (oursisterbookshops.com) along Girard Avenue in Fishtown. Try your luck at Rivers Casino (rivercasino.com), with 1,755 slot machines, 105 table games, 62 hybrid gaming seats, a 28-table poker room, and a state-of-the-art sportsbook. In the evening, visit Fabrikate (fabrikaphilly.com), a dinner theater that spans two floors, features three bars and hosts nightly performances including circus and cabaret acts, live music and more. Enjoy more live entertainment at Johnny Brenda’s (johnnybrendas.com). The Fillmore (thefillmorephilly.com), The Met Philadelphia (themetphiladelphia.com), or the newly opened Brooklyn Bowl (brooklynbowl.com/philadelphia).

DINE: For breakfast or brunch, consider Café La Mau (cafelamaude.com), a French-Lebanese café that was named one of Yelp’s Top 100 Places to Eat in 2021. One of the best new restaurants in the world according to Condé Nast Traveler, Kensington’s Laser Wolf (laserwolfphiladelphia.com) serves an array of Israeli shawers, fresh hummus, warm pita, baba gansush, and more. The area is also fast becoming a destination for the city’s booming craft beer scene, with local brews available at one of several breweries, such as Yards Brewing Company (yardsbrewing.com), Love City Brewing (lovecitybrewing.com), or Triple Bottom Brewing Company (tripletbottombrewing.com) – Pennsylvania’s first certified B Corporation brewery.
WHAT TO SEE AND DO AND WHERE TO DINE

NORTHWEST PHILADELPHIA

The vibrant neighborhoods of Northwest Philadelphia feature wooded trails, historic sites and booming business districts with local shops, eateries and bars.

SEE & DO:
- Survey the 16 early American sites of Historic Germantown (freedominbackyard.com) and tour the Johnson House Historic Site (johnsonhouse.org), once a station along the Underground Railroad. Take advantage of tax-free shopping at the boutiques and shops in quaint Chestnut Hill (chestnuthillpa.com) or along Main Street in Manayunk (manayunk.com). Admire snowy landscapes, a seasonal train display, and some of the city’s rarest trees at the 92-acre Morris Arboretum (morrisarboretum.org). Visit Woodmere Art Museum (woodmereartmuseum.org) for engaging exhibits from Philadelphia-area artists.

DINE:
The Market at the Fareway (marketatthefareway.com) in Chestnut Hill is a modern farmers market, home to over a dozen local vendors that offer a variety of items including fresh produce, sushi, Vietnamese cuisine, cinnamon buns, coffee, and more. At Jansen (jansentaxiary.com) in Mt. Airy, Chef David Jansen strikes a perfect balance between contemporary American dishes and classical French techniques, with seasonal dishes served in an elegant setting.

WHAT TO SEE AND DO AND WHERE TO DINE

THE COUNTRYSIDE

Take the short trip to the Countryside of Philadelphia and you’ll be rewarded with rich, rolling hills, charming towns and an abundance of attractions that are a perfect addition to any Philadelphia itinerary.

SEE & DO:
- In the bucolic Brandywine Valley, explore the grounds of the 1,077-acre Longwood Gardens (longwoodgardens.org), complete with etherial indoor and outdoor gardens featuring seasonal displays. Explore the Mushroom Capital of the World, Kennett Square (morrissquashouse.com), to find a quaint downtown filled with local shops and restaurants. Learn about rotary-wing aircraft at the American Helicopter Museum (americanhelicopter.museum), located in a 20,000 square-foot hangar in West Chester.
- Visit Valley Forge National Historical Park (nps.gov/vafo), site of the encampment of George Washington and the Continental Army during the winter of 1777-1778. Navigate miles of multi-use trails to find memorials, monuments, reconstructed Revolutionary-era cabins and General Washington’s headquarters. Shop from a collection of luxury retailers unsurpassed in the region at one of the nation’s most iconic and largest shopping malls, the King of Prussia Mall (simon.com/mall/king-of-prussia), home to more than 450 shops and restaurants. After shopping, feel the rush of skydiving thousands of feet above but only a few feet off the ground at IFly Indoor Skydiving (iflyworld.com/king-of-prussia).

NEED ACCOMMODATIONS?

Philadelphia has a wide range of hotel options within walking distance of downtown. From the new, intimate Guild House Hotel, with 12 stylish rooms inside the former home of one of America’s most prominent women’s empowerment organizations, to the luxurious Four Seasons Hotel Philadelphia, named one of the top 50 hotels in the world in 2021 by Conde Nast Traveler readers, there is a variety of historic, eco-friendly, artistic and modern accommodations to suit any taste.

For more: discoverPHL.com/hotels

For more information on Philadelphia’s neighborhoods, visit: discoverPHL.com/neighborhoods
INSTA-DELPHIA

Capture memorable, Instagram-worthy scenes of the season with our suggestions of top photo spots around Philadelphia.

**TIP:** Follow @discover_PHL on Instagram for more photo inspiration and share your images on social media using #discoverPHL for a chance to be featured on our account.

**QUINCE STREET**
Quince Street is a narrow, quiet, residential street lined with Belgian blocks and some of the city’s most charming homes. Enter at Locust Street and point your lens south for an incredible vanishing point photo that captures Philadelphia’s quaint history.

**ELECTRIC STREET MURAL**
Tucked in an alley just steps from popular cheesesteak spots Pat’s and Geno’s, David Guinn’s and Drew Billiau’s light mural features more than 200 feet of lights. A second, larger mural by the same artists can be found along N. 6th Street, near Franklin Square.

**BROAD STREET**
Perhaps one of the most iconic views in the city comes via Broad Street’s median. Cross onto the median near the Pennsylvania Convention Center north of City Hall, or at Walnut Street on the southern end, and point your lens north for a stunning view of the historic municipal building positioned perfectly in the center of the street.

**RACE STREET PIER**
Once a shipping pier, Race Street Pier is now a recreational space with a central ramp that guides visitors east towards the Delaware River. The pier provides incredible views of the river and the Benjamin Franklin Bridge that soars overhead, and looks beautiful with a fresh dusting of snow.

**LOVE PARK**
Installed in 1976, Robert Indiana’s iconic ‘LOVE’ sculpture has since become one of Philadelphia’s most photographed pieces of public art. Visit early in the morning or closer to sunset to avoid crowds. If you frame your photo just right, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and Philadelphia Museum of Art will align perfectly with the statue’s pedestal, offering an uninterrupted view of Philadelphia’s Museum Mile.

Photo credit: Kyle Huff for the PHLCVB
Holiday Guide

Seasonal skating, pop-up markets, festive light shows, and beloved holiday performances—there is something special about Philadelphia during the holidays. Here are a few must-see experiences available in November and through December.

**CHRISTMAS VILLAGE IN PHILADELPHIA**
November 25 - December 24 | philacities.com

Now in its 14th season, the Christmas Village in Philadelphia fills LOVE Park with over 100 artisan vendors selling gifts and other handcrafted holiday goods. As you stroll the grounds, you can enjoy daily live performances and themed weekend activities, feast on an array of European-themed menu items and visit the beer garden to sip mulled wine or seasonal craft beer from area breweries. The festive fun spills over onto City Hall’s North Apron and Courtyard, with additional vendors, a Ferris wheel, Kids Train, and more.

**WINTER AT DILWORTH PARK**
Multiple dates and times | centercityphila.org/parks/dilworth-park/winter

To top attraction for family-friendly fun year-round, Dilworth Park in Center City is home to several top winter experiences, including a whimsical Wintergarden filled with festive topiaries and holiday lights. The Rothman Orthopaedics Ice Rink (Nov. 6-Feb. 27) allows visitors to ice skate in the shadow of City Hall or beneath a canopy of lights. With décor that evokes cozy ski chalet vibes, the Cabin invites visitors inside to relax, refuel and recharge with a menu of seasonal food and drink items. Over 40 local businesses, artists, and other vendors sell their goods and gifts at the Made in Philadelphia Holiday Market (Nov 20-Jan. 1). Don’t miss the mesmerizing Deck the Hall Light Show, bringing the western façade of City Hall to life with festive projections daily (Nov. 22-Jan. 1).

**MIRACLE ON SOUTH 13TH STREET**
November 25-December 24

Each year, residents along the 1600 block of South 13th in Philadelphia’s East Passyunk neighborhood team up to create a truly stunning holiday display for visitors of all ages to enjoy. Over 300,000 lights are strung along the street, crossing from house to house overhead while each building features their own unique holiday theme, such as The Grinch, A Christmas Story, and even Star Wars.

**MACY’S CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW & DICKENS’ VILLAGE**
December 1-31 | macy.com/local/estate-lнд

A Philadelphia tradition since 1956, this beloved light show in the historic Wanamaker Building features whimsical holiday scenes made of over 100,000 LED lights that dance along to classic tunes from the Wanamaker Organ (the largest playable instrument in the world). The light show is joined by Macy’s Dickens’ Village—a 4,000 square-foot walk-through experience featuring 26 scenes from Charles Dickens’ holiday classic, A Christmas Carol, with tall trees decorated in fiery colors. Visit in the evening to see the entire property glow with half-a-million carefully strung holiday lights.

**LUMINATURE AT PHILADELPHIA ZOO**
November 20-January 9 | philadelphiazoo.org

LumiNature returns to Philadelphia Zoo featuring dozens of illuminating, animal-themed displays spread throughout the grounds of the nation’s first zoo. The all-ages experience includes 14 different themed experience zones for guests to explore, each filled with whimsical and wonderful holiday light fixtures, such as a 100-foot-long aquarium tunnel, hundreds of glowing penguins, a 25-foot tree made entirely of flamingo lawn ornaments, and other creative displays, light shows, and holiday activities.

**A LONGWOOD CHRISTMAS**
November 19-January 9 | longwoodgardens.com

This holiday season, experience the spectacular seasonal wonderland that is Longwood Gardens during A Longwood Christmas. Stroll the 1,000+ acre property in nearby Kennett Square to admire beautifully decorated trees and other holiday light displays outdoors or relax and warm up beside one of several fire pits. Enter the Conservatory to admire a “frozen” succulent fountain and other displays that evoke an icy winter landscape and contrast beautifully with tall trees decorated in fiery colors. Visit in the evening to see the entire property glow with half-a-million carefully strung holiday lights.

**BLUE CROSS RIVERINK WINTERFEST**
November 26-March 6 | riverink.com

Celebrate the holidays at a waterfront winter wonderland, complete with boardwalk games, all ages activities and a riverside ice rink. After your skating session ends, relax beside a fire pit, inside a festive cabin, or at the Lodge, where you can enjoy seasonal food and drink specials (including warm, boozy winter beverages for adults). Don’t miss special events throughout the season, such as the holiday tree lighting on December 3 and two spectacular New Year’s Eve fireworks displays on December 31—one at 6 p.m. and another at midnight.

**WINTER IN FRANKLIN SQUARE**
November 18-February 27 | historicphila.org/franklin-square

Historic Franklin Square is transformed into a whimsical winter destination, complete with a festive mini golf course, charming carousel, and the popular Electrical Spectacle Holiday Light Show, featuring over 100,000 lights throughout the park that glow, twinkle, and dance along to a playlist of holiday favorites each evening (shows are every 30 minutes from 5:30 p.m., daily, weather permitting through December 31). New this year, guests can rest and warm up beside fire pits or inside a heated tent at Franklin’s Winter View and enjoy seasonal comfort food, local craft beer and warm beverages.

For more holiday activities, visit: discoverPHL.com/holidays

Philadelphia has something for everyone – quintessential history, unparalleled art, chef-driven cuisine, miles of outdoor space, walkable neighborhoods with distinct personalities, and plenty of unexpected yet memorable experiences around every turn.

Plan your perfect Philadelphia trip with the help of these tailored itineraries.

**BY-THE-BOOK**

These essential experiences immerse visitors of all ages in our city’s rich history, famed museums and renowned cuisine.

**MORNING**

Begin with a history lesson in Old City. After exploring the grounds and historic buildings of Independence National Historical Park (nps.gov/inde), make your way to Elfreth’s Alley (elfrethsalley.org) to observe the 32 17th-century homes that line this tiny corridor, establishing it as the nation’s oldest continuously inhabited residential street. Learn more about the U.S. Constitution via the exhibits inside the National Constitution Center (constitutioncenter.org) on the north end of Independence Mall – just two blocks from where the document was signed in 1787.

**AFTERNOON**

Spend the afternoon exploring Philadelphia’s Parkway Museums District. Navigate the crumbling cellblocks of Eastern State Penitentiary (easternstate.org), once the most famous and most expensive prison ever built. Ascend 72 of the most iconic steps in all of cinema at the Rocky Steps, then enter the iconic Greek Revival building that houses the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art (philamuseum.org), which ranges from Renaissance masters to Asian ceramics to contemporary artists. The Thinker greets you outside of the Rodin Museum (rodinmuseum.org), home to one of the largest collections of sculptor Auguste Rodin’s work outside of Paris.

**EVENING**

Have a historic happy hour at McGillin’s Olde Ale House (mcgillins.com) in Midtown Village. The city’s oldest continuously operating tavern has been pouring pints along Drury Street since 1860. End the day back in Old City, where you can enjoy a traditional Philadelphia cheesesteak at family-owned Campo’s Philly Cheesesteaks (camposdeli.com), or dine at one of the many restaurants that line 2nd Street.

**ART LOVERS**

Home to the largest collection of public art in the U.S., Philadelphia also boasts plenty of historic museums, renowned performing arts companies and eclectic eateries that will impress any art aficionado.

**MORNING**

Start on Philadelphia’s Museum Mile, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, and visit Moore College of Art & Design (moore.edu), founded in 1848. Free to visit, the Galleries at Moore (moore.edu/the-galleries-at-moore) introduce the work of significant regional, national and international artists to the community through distinctive exhibitions and educational programs.

**AFTERNOON**

Grab lunch at Urban Farmer (urbanfarmersteakhouse.com) inside The Logan Hotel (theloganhotel.com), offering a seasonal menu with locally sourced ingredients. Then, explore The Logan’s 1,800+ piece art collection with a self-guided or private art tour open to visitors and guests.

Visit the Fabric Workshop and Museum (fabricworkshopandmuseum.org), an internationally acclaimed contemporary art museum featuring works by multidisciplinary artists with diverse artistic backgrounds. At the gift shop, find affordable artwork and cool accessories and gifts designed by artists in residence, with purchases supporting artist programs.

**EVENING**

End your art tour with a walk along Philadelphia’s famous South Street (southstreet.com), known for its diverse mix of shops, bars, and restaurants. Grab a meal at Tattooed Mom (tattooedmomphilly.com) and peruse the display of street art and graffiti from local and visiting artists.

Photo credits: Kyle Huff for the PHLCVB, Eastern State Penitentiary, Moore College of Art & Design, The Logan, Carlos Avendano, PUNCH Media
FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Traveling with kids can be challenging, but Philadelphia makes it easy, offering family-friendly activities, fantastic food and opportunities to learn, grow and make lasting memories together.

MORNING

Begin with a history lesson at the Betsy Ross House (historicphiladelphia.org/betsy-ross-house) in Old City. There’s quite a bit to learn about our flag — and the woman who reportedly created it — as you tour the upholsterer’s former home along Arch Street.

AFTERNOON

Embark on adventure through America’s maritime history at the Independence Seaport Museum (phillyseaport.org) along the Delaware River waterfront. Interact with hands-on exhibits inside the museum, then explore one of the two historic ships docked nearby.

EVENING

Visit Fashion District Philadelphia (fashiondistrictphiladelphia.com) to find one several indoor entertainment options, such as Wonderspaces (philadelphia.wonderspaces.com), a futuristic gallery space home to a collection of interactive and immersive art installations. Grab dinner at one of Philadelphia’s many family-friendly restaurants, such as Craft Hall (crafthallphilly.com), which features a pirate-themed playset and arcade games for the younger ones, with a BBQ-focused menu and craft beer brewed on-site for adults.

ROMANTIC

The “City of Brotherly Love” is equipped with no shortage of romantic experiences, including dreamy murals, sky-high spas, historic candy stores and intimate dining experiences.

MORNING

Start with a couples’ massage at one of the spas found at a luxury hotel, such as The Rittenhouse Hotel (rittenhousehotel.com), W Philadelphia Hotel (wphiladelphia.com), or the spa in the sky located on the 57th floor of the Four Seasons Hotel Philadelphia (fourseasons.com/philadelphia).

AFTERNOON

Snap a selfie with your partner in front of the iconic ‘LOVE’ sculpture in LOVE Park, then take a short walk west along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to find the ‘AMOR’ sculpture, Robert Indiana’s alternate take on the statue. For more affectionate art, journey to West Philadelphia where you can view a series of witty and charming “Love Letter” murals painted by artist Steve ‘ESPO’ Powers (muralarts.org).

TREAT your sweetheart to chocolate from a historic candy store in Old City. Shane Confectionery (shanecandies.com), the nation’s oldest continuously operating candy store, specializes in sweet treats made using traditional recipes and equipment.

EVENING

Book a reservation at one of Philadelphia’s romantic restaurants, such as the aptly named The Love (theloverestaurant.com) near Rittenhouse Square, rated one of the most romantic restaurants in America by Forbes. Another option to consider is Double Knot (doubleknotphilly.com), serving a full range of Japanese cuisine including sushi, robatayaki meats, mochi and more in an underground, candlelit izakaya.

For more, visit discoverPHL.com/itineraries.
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