

# Best Philly Nightlife

# Philadelphia, 1 Day

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# **Guide Description**



AUTHOR NOTE: This list will guide you to the hottest spots in Philadelphia, whether they offer live music (the Kimmel Center, Chris' Jazz Cafe, and World Cafe Live), incredible beer (Monk's Cafe and Tria), dancing (Fluid and 700 Club), or if they're just a hot spot to see and be seen—and sip fancy cocktails (Rouge and Continental Midtown). And then there's Drinker's, an ordinary bar in comparison, that's packed with young singles every weekend night (and many weekdays too).



# Day 1 - Philadelphia

Y	Kimmel Center Royal performances
Y	World Cafe Live Live music venue with food and drinks
Y	Monk's Cafe Belgian beer emporium and restaurant
Y	Continental Mid-Town Upscale restaurant and martini bar
Y	Chris' Jazz Café Jazz café
Y	<b>Tria</b> Classic cheese and wine bar
Y	Rouge Good taste on Rittenhouse Square
Y	Fluid Intimate hip-hop/techno nightclub
T	Drinker's Tavern Lively pub in heart of old city
T	700 Club Trendy neighborhood club

# Day 1 - Philadelphia

**QUICK NOTE** 

#### contact:

tel: 215 893 1999 fax: 215 790 5801

http://www.kimmelcenter.org/

#### location:

260 South Broad Street Philadelphia PA 19102

#### hours:

Daily 10a-6p



# **Kimmel Center**

**DESCRIPTION:** Opened with tremendous fanfare in December 2001, Rafael Vinoly's dramatic glass-and-steel vault along the Avenue of the Arts encompasses Verizon Hall, a 2,500seat cello-shaped concert hall built specifically to house the Philadelphia Orchestra; and Perelman Theater, a 650-seat hall for chamber music, dance, and drama with a turntable stage. Other features at Kimmel include an interactive education center; "black box" theater space; a daytime cafe and gift shop in the plaza along Spruce Street; and parking and restaurant facilities. Above all, there is space, acres and acres of it -space designed to sparkle and amaze, unlike anything else in the area. With its comfortable mahogany interior, four levels of seating, and excellent acoustics, Verizon Hall is a pleasure. Perelman's design is also nice, with a metal-clad exterior and light woods and warm fabrics within. Most of the jewels in Philadelphia's cultural crown -- the city opera, orchestra, and ballet companies -- perform either at Kimmel or at the historic Academy of Music (which is affiliated with Kimmel and located 1 block north). Visiting talent in music and dance and an incredible jazz series presented by the Kimmel Center also use the venue frequently. Tickets for both locations are sold during the day only at the Kimmel Center box office. The Kimmel also presents frequent free performances by jazz artists, DJs, singing groups, folk ensembles, and more in its main Commonwealth Plaza, usually in the early evening or afternoon. © Frommer's



wcities

## contact:

tel: 215 222-1400 fax: +1 215 222 1417 http://www.worldcafelive.com/

#### location:

3025 Walnut Street Philadelphia PA 19104



## World Cafe Live

DESCRIPTION: In addition to being a world class music venue, World Cafe Live also features extensive and eclectic menus both upstairs and downstairs with daily lunch specials, nightly chef specials, great music and the hottest Happy Hour west of Liberty Place.



citvsearch

#### contact:

tel: 215 545-7005 www.monkscafe.com

#### location:

264 S 16th St Philadelphia PA 19102

#### hours:

Daily 11:30am-2am



## Monk's Cafe

DESCRIPTION: Monk's Cafe is dedicated to bringing you the best, most hard to find beers in the world. They offer one of the finest selections of beer in the entire United States and sell quality beers at moderate prices. They also offer a large selection of Belgian Ales on Tap in the United States and a great selection of Single Malt Scotch, Small Batch & Single Barrel Bourbon, and Premium Tequilas.





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#### contact:

tel: 215 567-1800

www.continentalmidtown.com

#### location:

1801 Chestnut Street Philadelphia PA 19103

#### hours:

Mon-Sat 11:30am-3:30pm Sun-Wed 5pm-11pm Thu-Sat 5pm-12am



## **Continental Mid-Town**

DESCRIPTION: A Rittenhouse Square version of Stephen Starr's popular Old City martini bar. This restaurant and bar offers a wide variety of Asian fusion dishes and a creative martini menu. There are two floors inside (including a second-floor balcony with swinging basket seats) and a popular rooftop bar with a modern fireplace.



Continental Mid-Town

#### contact:

tel: 215 568 3131 http://www.chrisjazzcafe.com

#### location:

1421 Sansom Street Philadelphia PA 19102

#### hours:

M-F 11a-2a, Sa 5p-2a



# Chris' Jazz Café

DESCRIPTION: This finger-snapping hip café is nestled just around the corner from the Bellevue Hotel and just a few blocks walk from the Convention Center in Center City. It is a perfect stop for relaxing and enjoying live jazz six nights a week. Winner of two "Best of Philly" awards, this is a serious jazz club featuring serious talent—the place jazz musicians go to hear jazz. It also serves an outstanding dinner menu which includes crab cakes and grilled ahi tuna. © wcities.com



citysearch

#### contact:

tel: 215 972 8742 fax: +1 215 972 5586 http://www.triacafe.com

#### location:

123 South 18th Street Philadelphia PA 19103

#### hours:

M-F Noon-12:30a, Sa 4p-12:30a, Su 4p-12:30a



## Tria

DESCRIPTION: Tria offers its guests a relaxing and intimate environment. It is a mixture between a small bar and a café. On Philadelphia's warm nights, they open the candle-lined bay windows. There are numerous, inexpensive items on the menu ranging from salads to sandwiches. The dessert selections nicely accompany Tria's wine list. This bar-café sets itself apart from other noisy venues in Philadelphia by offering a cozy setup that would be ideal for a date or a relaxing night. © wcities.com



citysearch

#### contact:

tel: 215 732 6622

#### location:

208 South 18th Street Philadelphia PA 19103-5900

#### hours:

M-F 11:30a-2a, Sa-Su 11a-2a



## Rouge

DESCRIPTION: Located on Rittenhouse Square, the outdoor seating at Rouge offers a fresh environment to dine on French fare and sip a glass of fine wine. Wines of exquisite vintage enhance the delicate entrees of traditional and contemporary French seafood, poultry and beef dishes. Prices tend to be on the high side but are not exorbitant for a restaurant in the Rittenhouse area. Popular day and night, the casual yet elegant Rouge appeals to sophisticates and culture-seekers of all ages for lunch, dinner or drinks. Restaurateur Neil Stein has given locals a hip spot to enjoy the park's greenery. © wcities.com



wcities



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#### contact:

tel: 215 629 0565 fax: 215 940 0496

http://www.fluidnightclub.com/

#### location:

613 South 4th Street Philadelphia PA 19147

#### hours:

Daily 10p-2a



# **Fluid**

DESCRIPTION: This quintessential Philly club has love for all musical genres -- and all manner of talented DJs. King Britt, Josh Wink, and? uestlove (the Roots' drummer) spin here regularly. The second-floor space is small, but somehow, everyone seems to fit. Techno, rock, punk, glam, new wave, hip-hop, and electronic music all have their nights, as do accessible funk, Motown, soul, and reggae mixed with house music. The entrance is an unmarked door in the alley just off 4th Street, above the Latest Dish. © Frommer's



fluidnightclub.

#### contact:

tel: 215 351-0141 http://www.drinkers215.com/drinkerstavern215/

#### location:

124 Market Street Philadelphia PA 19103

#### hours:

Tue-Sat 5pm-2am

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# **Drinker's Tavern**

DESCRIPTION: Located on busy Market Street, Drinker's adds to the popular nightlife of Old City. Drinker's has two floors with a wood decor, huge bar and ample seating. Enjoy a game of pool with your friends at the pool table, admire the Elvis memorabilia, and play your favorite songs on the jukebox, which has been rated best jukebox several years running.



citysearch

#### contact:

tel: 215 413 3181 http://philadelphia.citysearch.c om/profile/8970063/philadelph ia\_pa/700\_club.html

## location:

700 North 2nd Street Philadelphia PA 19123-3008

#### hours:

M-Sa 4p-2a



# 700 Club

DESCRIPTION: Known locally as the "700 Club," this converted two-story house offers plenty of drinking and dancing to anyone wanting to mingle with people of the trendy club/ underground/art scene. The first floor contains a large wooden bar and standing room only, while the upstairs is strewn with vintage, and not so vintage, couches and chairs. A converted kitchen serves as 700's second-floor bar. © wcities.com



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# My List

### contact:

tel: 215 772 1230 fax: 215 875 7649 http://www.philorch.org

#### location:

260 South Broad Street Philadelphia PA 19102

## hours:

M-F 9a-5p



# Philadelphia Orchestra

DESCRIPTION: As winners of three Grammies, the orchestra has consistently maintained the renown they've earned for more than 100 seasons. This is the orchestra featured in Disney's film Fantasia.) Performances are held at the Academy of Music and, in the summer, outdoors at the Mann Center in Fairmount Park. © wcities.com



Philadelphia Orchestra

#### contact:

tel: 215 413 1433 fax: +1 215 568 0582 http://www.lucys.info/

#### location:

247 Market St Philadelphia PA 19103

#### hours:

Mo to Su from 05:00 PM to 02:00 AM



# Lucy's Hat Shop

DESCRIPTION: Though it doesn't actually sell lids, Lucy's Hat Shop, does provide intimate dining as well as a trendy socialite bar in Philadelphia's Old City. After beginning with, among others, the Grilled Quail over fresh red grapes, you can choose such contemporary dishes as the vegetarian Portobella steak or the N.Y. Strip Steak. After 10pm, the kitchen closes as locals convene in this converted millinery, filling up chairs, antique couches and floor space. © wcities.com



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# Philadelphia Snapshot

#### **Local Info**

One thing you will never hear about Philadelphia is that it lacks character. Philadelphia is chock full of character: you'll find it while you're walking the cobblestone and brick streets of Old City; you'll find it in the thousands of murals that decorate Philadelphia's public walls; you'll find it in the classic Philly cheesesteak you eat for lunch and the adorable BYOB restaurant vou patronize for dinner. Whether you run the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and pose for a Rocky-style photo, watch the Phillies atCitizens Bank Park and partake in the rowdy behavior that makes Philadelphia sports fans notorious, or visit historic homes inGermantown, you'll leave with a sense that Philadelphia and its inhabitants really are unique.

Philadelphia's uniqueness was partially planned: William Penn, who founded Pennsylvania, established the colony as a haven for religious minorities who were being persecuted in England. He designed Philadelphia as a simple grid with four central squares or circles(parks, really). The numbered streets run north to south; east-west streets are named after trees.

That means getting around downtown is a cinch once you figure out the system. And what makes it even better is that "Center City" is completely walkable and almost unbearably charming, with its brick rowhouses(Philadelphians' name for what other cities usually call townhouses), tiny restaurants and boutiques, and, in Society Hill, cobblestone streets. Photographers and laymen alike will agree that the sight of dappled sunlight falling on a threehundred-year old brick home, complete with shuttered windows and a hitching post in front, is awe inspiring. Add some snow and a horse-drawn carriage, which you can hire through 76 Carriage Company, and you'll feel like you might just stumble upon Benjamin Franklin.

One of the best ways to understand what makes Philadelphia tick is to visit the many distinct neighborhoods that comprise the city. Center City offers classic culture, innovative dining, and the beauty and functionality of Rittenhouse Square (described in Jane Jacobs' The Death and Life of Great American Cities as the prime example of successful urban planning). South Philadelphia, made

famous by theRocky movies, serves as an example of how different immigrant groups throughout U.S. history shaped their new communities. Germantown, once a rural getaway for colonial Philadelphia's leading families, is the home of nowhistoric mansions and thousands of murals. Destinations in Old City and Society Hill, includingIndependence National Historical Park, the Constitution Center, and Elfreth's Alley, one of the only intact colonial streets in the country, will satisfy any history buff's curiosity about colonial life. If you want to picnic amongst scenic hills, Valley Forge National Historic Park and other beautiful suburbs are an easy ride away.

Another way in which Philadelphia sets itself apart from other cities is its cuisine - and by cuisine, we're not just talking about cheesesteaks and soft pretzels. In the 1970s Philadelphians witnessed a "Restaurant Renaissance," with such highly acclaimed restaurants asLe Bec-Fin andFriday Saturday Sunday first opening their doors. In the decades since then, Philadelphia bolstered its reputation as a restaurant city. Hosts of new restaurants open every year, each offering more daring and refined cuisine than the last - and, particularly in Stephen Starr's restaurants, some awe-inspiring décor as well. BYOBs, where patrons can bring their own liquor and save on the bill, are especially popular(and especially diminutive, often occupying just the first floor of a rowhouse), since getting a liquor license in Pennsylvania is notoriously difficult. On a weekend night in the spring or summer, crowds of people will wait hours for a coveted table at the newest BYOB.

As a visitor to Philadelphia, getting around the downtown area is quite easy, since Center City only stretches about a mile from east to west, between the Schuylkill(pronounced "Skoo-kill" by locals) and Delaware Rivers. Most of the main historic and cultural destinations are within walking distance of any downtown hotel. For those who would rather ride between destinations, the Phlash bus(a bus that travels between popular tourist destinations), Septa(the local bus and subway system) and cabs are all available. Septa's regional rail lines travel to neighborhoods further away from downtown, such as Germantown and any suburbs you might want to visit. For tips on

navigating Septa, ask at your hotel or at the Visitors' Bureau.

Finally, if you want to feel like a true Philadelphian, try some of the local brews that you can find at most bars in the area. Victory, Flying Fish, Stoudt's, Yards, Philadelphia Brewing Company, and Yuengling(pronounced "Yingling") are all popular local breweries. Yuengling Lager is the standard beer that nearly all bars have on tap; if you're going to order a pint, just ask for a "Lager," and nobody will ever know you're not from Philadelphia.

© NileGuide

## **History**

When the American colonies were founded in the 1600s, the guiding principle for the New England colonies was freedom to practice religions not popular in England; for the southern colonies the aim was agricultural development extending the holdings of British landowners. There were two exceptions. New York, established by Dutch companies, has always been a place for trade. The other exception was Pennsylvania, and the town of Philadelphia.

William Penn(1644-1718) arrived in 1681 from a London that had recently burned and was just discovering sanitary plumbing. He wanted Philadelphia to be"a greene Country Towne, which will never be burnt, and allways be wholsome." Founded on Quaker principles of tolerance and harmonious living, Philadelphia had a religious foundation like its New England neighbors, but welcomed other beliefs and races. Like its southern neighbors, it started with an agricultural economy, but slave auctions were banned early. A community of ex-slaves grew, centered around the Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, the cornerstone of the A.M.E. movement. By 1790, there were 300 slaves in Pennsylvania and 7,579 free blacks. By 1860, there were 22,185 free blacks and Philadelphia was an important stop on the Underground Railroad, the secret network that helped slaves escape from southern slave states.

Instead of sprawling mindlessly, streets were laid out on a grid system with five public squares(the present day Washington, Rittenhouse and Franklin Squares, Logan Circle and City Hall). The town was built



with no fortifications. Native Americans were welcome. Even the name of the town demonstrated peace; while most other colonial towns were named for founders or expedition sponsors, Philadelphia is Latin for "City of Brotherly Love."

Of course, when you invite everyone in, there's the likelihood of disagreement. By 1690, scarcely nine years after the first Quaker Meeting House went up, arguments over the direction of the city had turned into formal ideologies. Philadelphians have been arguing ever since.

Penn had originally envisioned his colony as a "wholesome" farming community, but the port quickly became one of the most important trading spots in America, rivaled only by New York. The rising merchant class wasn't terribly interested in the simple Quaker lifestyle. Pubs, theaters, circuses, dances and races soon entered the scene. The tolerant attitude attracted many immigrants. British Quakers were followed by German immigrants as early as the 1690s.

In 1723. Benjamin Franklin arrived from Boston. He eventually started his own publishing house, producing several newspapers and an annual farm guide, Poor Richard's Almanac. In his spare time, he invented the Franklin stove, the glass harmonium and bifocals. He helped write the Declaration of Independence. He was a founding member of the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Hospital, the first public library, a fire insurance company, the Post Office and the Constitutional Congress. His 1751 book, Experiments and Observations in Electricity, was considered the most important scientific work in the world in its time. His name is on everything here.

This is where the Congress met and founded the nation on July 4th, 1776.

The city is filled with reminders of the colonial period. Fairmount Park is dotted with colonial homes that were moved there as museums. Elfreth's Alley is the oldest continually occupied neighborhood in the country. Old Swede's Church offers a perfect example of the "public" architecture typical at the country's founding. Delegates to Congress were astounded at the wealth and beauty they saw here. Because of the active seaport, food and fabrics from the Indies and China were readily available, even with the difficulty of getting past British warships. There were some of the finest examples of colonial silversmith, textile work and furniture in the homes.

In 1800, the nation's capital moved to Washington, DC. New York began to overshadow Philadelphia as a financial and cultural center. Also in the 1800s, Irish. Polish and Italian immigrants came in waves, drawn by employment on massive projects like the new turnpike system, the canals and the railroad. Coal mining upstate created more jobs and the coal provided steam power for the factories of the Industrial Revolution that made Philadelphia a major manufacturing center. The Centennial Exhibition of 1876 brought 100,000 people to Fairmount Park to see the wonders of industrialism.

By the end of World War II, things were looking up again. While heavy industries moved out, the economy stayed robust. Always known for its hospitals, medical schools and research facilities, Philadelphia is now leading bioengineering research and development, and the city has become a popular film location thanks to innovators like M. Night Shyamalan.

The Philadelphia of the present has achieved what previous generations had thought impossible: New Yorkers come for a quick visit, fall in love, and decide to look for a house, hearkening back to the year 1776, when Congressional delegates were bowled over by the quality and comfort of this city.

**Hotel Insights** 

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Philadelphia has a range of hotels to suit all kinds of travelers. Look east of Broad(especially in Midtown Village or Society Hill) for more romantic boutique hotels and bed and breakfasts. These hotels will put you right in the middle of the action, close to historic sites and a wealth of restaurants and bars. West of Broad Street, in the Rittenhouse Square area, you'll find swankier hotels, some of which cater to the stars when they're shooting in Philadelphia. University City, while it usually caters to students and families of students, also offers some charming bed and breakfasts, as well as a unique culture that makes its residents proud to live west of the Schuylkill. If you want a quiet escape away from the action, look for a room in historic Germantown or Chestnut Hill, perhaps at the Chestnut Hill Hotel or the Ancestry Inn. Both of these neighborhoods have shopping areas and restaurants that make them feel like small cities unto themselves.

© NileGuide

# **Restaurants Insights**

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restaurants likeBuddakan,Barclay Prime, andContinental. Iron Chef Jose Garces has recently given Stephen Starr a run for his money, opening up popular places likeAmada,Village Whiskey, andGarces Trading Company(the only restaurant in Philadelphia that managed to get a license to have its very own liquor store inside the restaurant). There is no shortage of excellent restaurants with creative dishes and colorful drinks in the downtown area.

Because of Pennsylvania's liquor laws, however, a unique breed of restaurant has remade the downtown Philadelphia dining scene, particularly in Midtown Village and Old City: the BYOB(or BYOT - Bring Your Own Tequila - at certain Mexican restaurants!). These restaurants are often smaller, occupying an old store front(likeMercato, in Midtown Village) or part of a Victorian home(likeMarigold Kitchen in West Philly), and hungry wouldbe patrons sometimes willingly wait over an hour for a table. If you plan on trying a BYOB, remember to get to a Wine and Spirits store before 7pm and pick out a bottle of wine to complement your meal. © NileGuide

# **Nightlife Insights**

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Philadelphia has nightlife to satisfy anyone, from the person who wants to see an opera to the person who wants to hang out all night at a dive bar. If you're interested in the opera, the ballet, the orchestra, or a play or musical, check the local newspapers for times and shows. If you're looking for

a family activity, tryPhiladelphia Ghost Tours, Lights of Liberty(a walking tour of Revolutionary-War-era Philadelphia), or Dave and Busters, an enormous indoor arcade and club for children and adults, atPenn's Landing. For those who want to check out the bar scene, Philadelphia offers a wide range of options. If you're looking for a swanky place with a dress code and creative drinks, try somewhere on or near Rittenhouse Square or in Old City. Anywhere in-between, you'll find hundreds of bars, ranging from the upscaleUnion Trust(situated in a beautiful old bank building on Chestnut Street) to the ultra-divey Oscar's Tavern on Sansom Street. Midtown Village(known locally as "the gayborhood") offers a concentration of great bars and restaurants, including several predominantly gay bars. Philadelphia also has many well-known music venues, including the Trocadero on Arch Street, the TLA on South Street, theTower Theater in Upper Darby(a subway away from Center City), and hosts of other smaller venues. For dancing, Silk City and Fluid never fail to satisfy; local newspapers will point you to specific DJ's and genres on different nights of the week. © NileGuide

## Things to Do Insights

Like most cities, Philadelphia has invisible layers of history running through the streets. Decide what you're looking for on a particular day and then everywhere you look it will seem there are examples of it to see.

### Independence Hall

Tour Independence Hall, the place where the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were signed. You'll find the Liberty Bell just steps away. Dine at Brasil's. Nearby are the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Old City Hall are also in this area.

## Liberty Museum

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located on Society Hill, close to the Franklin Court, which chronicles Ben Franklin's achievements. Indulge in authentic Italian at Sfizzio. The Liberty Museum focuses on exploring America's

beginnings, while the Graff House preserves the room in which Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence.

#### Chinatown

The historic George W. South Memorial Church of the Advocate and the Shoe Museum can both be found in Chinatown, but the real draw to this district is the dining. Get tasty dim sum at the nearby Joy Tsin Lau or try the Vietnam Palace, which is just steps from the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

#### Philadelphia Museum of Art

The Philadelphia Museum of Art has a collection of 19th and 20th-century masterpieces by Renoir, Picasso and more. The Rodin Museum down the road has more of the same. Grab a bite at the nearby London Grill, then stroll along Kelly Drive and admire the ships on Boathouse Row.

#### Fairmount Park

The nearly 9,000-acre Fairmount Park is also close to the Philadelphia Zoo. Dine at the Adobe Cafe, then stop into the nearby Please Touch Museum and the Academy of Natural Sciences, where interaction with the displays is encouraged.

#### Walking Tours

Poor Richard's Walking Tours(+1 215 206 1682/http://www.phillywalks.com)

Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia(+1 215 525 1776/http:// www.theconstitutional.com/)

Philadelphia Tours( +1 888 478 1479/http://www.phillytours.us/)

#### **Bus Tours**

Connective Tours(+1 215 925 8687/http://www.phillytour.com/service.asp?ID=27)
Philadelphia Tours(+1 888 478 1479/http://www.phillytours.us/)

## Helicopter Tours

Sterling Helicopter(+1 866 783 7435/http://www.sterlinghelicopter.com/)

### **Boat Tours**

Spirit of Philadelphia(+1 866 455 3866/ http://www.spiritcruises.com/)

Liberty Belle Cruises(+1 215 757 0800/ http://www.libertybelle.com/)

### **Culinary Tours**

Chef's Tour of the Italian Market(+1 215 772 0739)



Wok and Walk Tour(+1 215 500 9774/http://www.josephpoon.com/toursWokWalk.htm)

Carriage Tours

76 Carriage Company(+1 215 923 8516/http://www.phillytour.com)

**Trolley Tours** 

Philadelphia Trolley Works(+1 215 389 8687/http://www.phillytour.com/)

**Sports Tours** 

Big League Tours(+1 866 619 1748/http://www.bigleaguetours.com)

**Ghost Tours** 

Ghost Tour of Philadelphia(+1 215 413 1997/http://www.ghosttour.com/

## **Travel Tips**

Getting There

Air

Philadelphia International Airport( PHL) http://www.phl.org/

PHL is seven miles from downtown Philadelphia.

Air Jamaica(+1 800 523 5585/http://www.airjamaica.com)

Air Canada( +1 800 776 3000/http://www.aircanada.ca)

Air France( +1 800 871 1366/http://www.airfrance.com)

America West( +1 800 235 9292/http://www.americawest.com)

British Airways( +1 800 247 9297/http://www.british-airways.com)

Continental( +1 800 525 0280/http://www.continental.com)

Delta( +1 800 221 1212/http:// www.delta.com)

Lufthansa( +1 800 645 3880/http://www.lufthansa.com)

Southwest( +1 800 435 9792/http://www.southwest.com)

United( +1 800 241 6522/http://www.ual.com)

US Airways( +1 800 428 4322/http://www.usairways.com)

From the Airport

Car Rental: Alamo( +1 800 327 9633/http://www.alamo.com)

Avis( +1 800 831 2847/http://www.avis.com)

Budget( +1 800 527 0700/http:// www.budget.com)

Dollar( +1 800 4000/http://www.dollar.com)

Hertz( +1 800 654 3131/http://www.hertz.com)

National( +1 800227 7368/http://www.nationalcar.com)

Payless(+1 800 729 5377/http://www.paylesscarrental.com)

Another attractive ground transportation option is Zipcar, which operates in certain U.S. cities. This new breed of rental car allows you to rent on an hourly basis rather than a daily basis. Be sure to register online before your trip. Zipcar(+1 866 494 7227/http://www.zipcar.com)

For reliable car hire service in and around the city, contact A&C Transport Car service.(+1 609 573 5163/http://www.actransportonline.com)

Train

Amtrak services Philadelphia daily( +1 800 872 7245; in PA+1 800 562 6960/http://www.amtrak.com) and is located on 30th Street.

Bus

Greyhound( +1 800 231 2222/http://www.greyhound.com) accesses Philadelphia daily.

Highway

Philadelphia can be reached from any direction on I-95 and I-76.

Getting Around

This was the first major city to be designed on a grid system, which means that directions make sense: You can walk from the east end of Market Street to the west end in a straight line. The streets running north to south are numbered from two to 69. On-street parking is generally limited to two hours and some streets have their own peculiar restrictions, so read the signs carefully. There is a lot of construction and street repair going on, but generally these are small projects that only disrupt the traffic flow for a few days at a time in any one spot. There are ample parking garages with rates lower than New York and discounts for all-day parking. The local public transportation, SEPTA, has routes that cover the whole region, including a

light rail from the airport. SEPTA passes are available at day, weekly or monthly rates. Cab drivers here are as peculiar as they are anywhere, but they are all licensed and generally very reliable. In Center City, the wait for a cab should be no more than five minutes.

**Public Transit** 

SEPTA- Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority is in charge of the metro area. The High Speed Rail Line costs \$5.50 one way and serves five downtown locations. It also runs to the Amtrak station and Greyhound bus terminal(+1 215 580 7800/http://www.septa.org/). SEPTA also operates a local bus and subway system and both the Owl bus and subway run 24 hours a day.

Taxi

There is a\$20 flat rate on cabs to Center City Philadelphia. A few of the cab companies include:

Academy(+1 215 333 1111)

Airport Express(+1 215 651 7757/http://www.magicyellow.com/)

Avistar Avistar(+1 800 763 6845/http://www.pnfnetwork.com/)

PHL Taxi(+1 800 936 5111)

City Cab Co.(+1 215 492 6500)

Liberty Cab Co.(+1 215 389 8000)

Victory Radio Dispatch Association(+1 215 225 5000/http://www.victorycabco.com/)

A.C. Taxi and Blue Car Service( +1 609 645 2583/http://www.acblue.com/) offers a variety of transportation needs with a fleet of taxis, minivans and stretch limos. Service is offered to Atlantic City(one hour) and New York(two hours). One day prearranged reservation via phone or email for pickup in Philadelphia or New York City.

Atlantic City Airport Taxi& Lou's Luxury Car Service(+1 609 383 1457/http://www.limolou.com/) serves riders to and from Atlantic City to the region's major airports, Philadelphia, New Jersey and southern New York.

**Traffic Information** 

For up-to-date traffic information, go to:http://www.traffic.com/Philadelphia-Traffic/Philadelphia-Traffic-Reports.html

If traveling overseas, take the safety precaution of registering your trip athttps://



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travelregistration.state.gov and for helpful, practical advice about traveling technicalities and safety standards check outhttp://travel.state.gov/.

### **Fun Facts**

Philadelphia

State: Pennsylvania Country: United States

Philadelphia By The Numbers:

Population: 5,398,000

Elevation: 10 feet/ 3 meters

Average Annual Rainfall: 41 inches/ 104

centimeters

Average Annual Snowfall: 20.8 inches/ 53 centimeters

Average January Temperature: 32 degrees

F/ 0 degree C

Average July Temperature: 77 degrees F/ 25 degrees C

Quick Facts:

Major Industries: Oil, Electronics, Computers, Automobile Manufacturing, Telecommunications, Chemicals, Higher

Education, Shipping

Electricity: 110 volts, 50Hz, standard two

pin plugs

Time Zone: GMT- 5(GMT- 4 from last Sunday in March to Saturday before last

Sunday in October)

Country Dialing Code: 1 Area Code: 215, 267, 445

Did You Know?

Philadelphia has an international reputation for its Rowing competitions such as Head of the Schuylkill. Inter-collegiate and professional rowing teams are a popular sight up and down the Schuylkill River that runs through Philly.

The City of Brotherly Love is also home to the Liberty Bell and the place where the Continental Congress met in 1776 to sign the Declaration of Independence.

