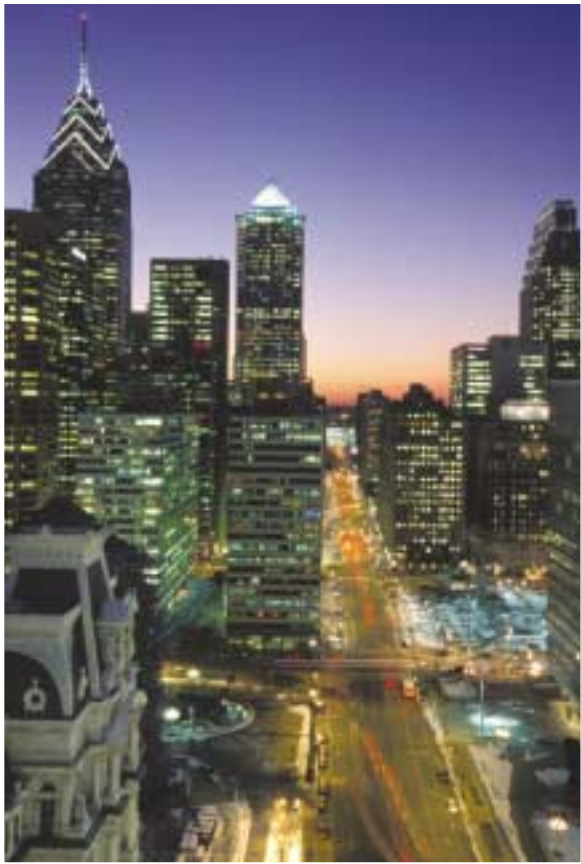


# Philadelphia



**AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
VISITORS GUIDE**

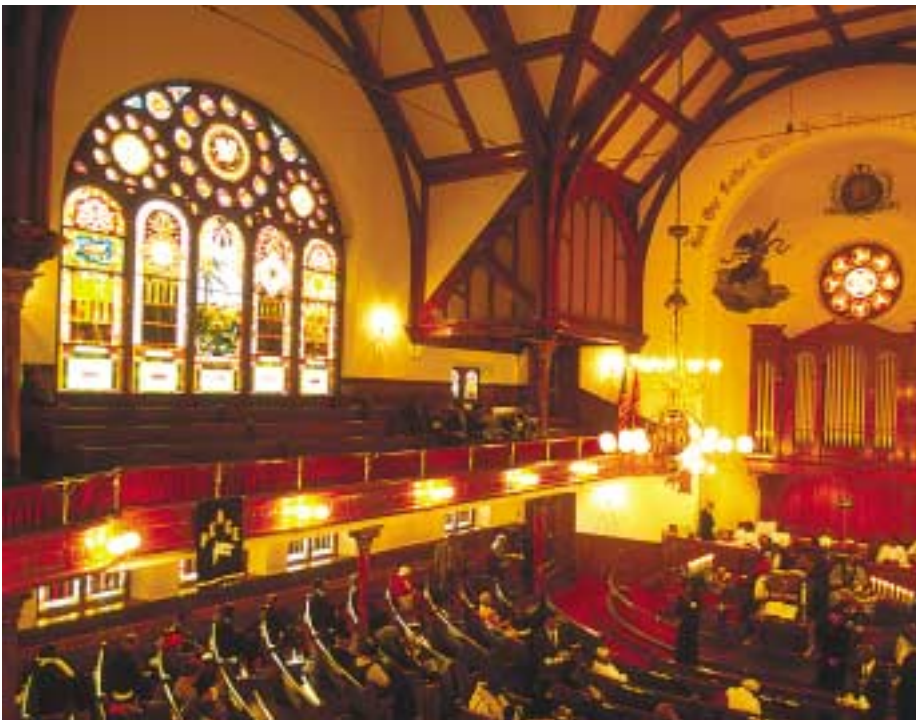


## TAKING A SECOND LOOK AT HISTORY

THERE IS ANOTHER REVOLUTION TAKING PLACE IN PHILADELPHIA, AND HISTORY WILL NEVER BE THE SAME. **LITERALLY** IN RECENT YEARS, INDEPENDENCE MALL, THE HEART OF THE CITY'S HISTORIC DISTRICT, HAS UNDERGONE A MAJOR MAKEOVER WITH THE ADDITION OF MAJOR NEW ATTRACTIONS... THE NEW **LIBERTY BELL CENTER**... THE NEW **INDEPENDENCE VISITOR CENTER**... THE NEW **NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. ALONG WITH THE MALL'S NEW LOOK COMES A NEW EMPHASIS ON THE UNDER-TOLD STORIES OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN COLONIAL PHILADELPHIA.



Walk through the soaring new Liberty Bell Center, and the connection between the internationally famous icon of freedom and African American history becomes obvious. A section of the Center is dedicated to the history of the Abolitionist Movement, which adopted the Bell and its inscribed quote from Leviticus - *"Proclaim liberty throughout all the*



land unto all the inhabitants thereof" — as symbols of its anti-slavery activities. Among other interpretive programs at the Liberty Bell Center you'll find information about the slaves who served at the President's House during George Washington's tenure and the modern-day controversy surrounding the National Park Service's efforts to tell their stories. 5th & Chestnut Streets.

(215) 965-2305; [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde)

Those new specially marked *benches* you see throughout "America's most historic square mile" — there are 14 in all — are more than a place to take a rest. They are part of a new program in the Historic District called *Once Upon A Nation* where you'll meet modern-day storytellers who will transport you to another time and place with tales about some famous and not-so-famous historical characters. When the Djembe drum starts beating in the shadows of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington Square, 6th and Walnut, you'll hear how enslaved Africans, ripped from their homeland, gathered here to share and preserve their culture.

Stop at the *bench* by the National Constitution Center and hear the story of Peter, a slave who purchased his freedom and through a series of coincidences met his long-lost brother William Still, abolitionist, businessman and author.

But don't stop there. Go on inside and explore the hands-on exhibits that depict how our government was formed. Take the presidential oath of office, vote on key legislation or cast your opinion on Supreme Court cases. Be sure to attend the multi-media theater presentation that delves into the history of the *Constitution*, warts and all.

Then, check out *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, a special exhibition running June 10 through November 4, 2005 that examines Lincoln's response to slavery, civil liberties, secession and the Civil War. One of only three copies of the 13th Amendment will be on display. 525 Arch Street.

(215) 409-6600; [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org)



### High-Tech History

Take an evening stroll through three centuries of history with *Lights of Liberty*, a multi-media show that utilizes special effects and some of America's most important historic landmarks as a backdrop. At the same time that adults hear the story of American independence narrated by Walter Cronkite, Ossie Davis, Meryl Streep and other celebrities, kids listen to Whoopi Goldberg relate a special version of the story just for them. 5th & Chestnut Streets. 1-877-GO-2-1776; [www.lightsofliberty.org](http://www.lightsofliberty.org)

### History on Wheels

Back in 1777, George Washington and his troops endured what might be the world's

worst camping trip. Among those who endured that bitter winter were African American soldiers whose story is preserved in *Determined to Persevere* an exhibit at the new Welcome Center at Valley Forge National Historical Park. The Park is the first stop on a self-guided African American Heritage driving tour that winds throughout the countryside. Some sites, such as the Quaker Meeting House graveyard are open to the public, others are noted by historical markers. To get driving directions, log onto [www.valleyforge.org](http://www.valleyforge.org), click the "visitors" tab and scroll down to Getaway Guide.

## PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE IS PRESERVED AT A NUMBER OF HISTORIC SITES THROUGHOUT THE REGION.



The dramatic story of the Underground Railroad is still unfolding at the Johnson House Historic Site. More than 160 years after the Quaker abolitionist homeowners hid escaped slaves in the Johnson House, recent archeological studies have revealed even more secrets. A trap door in the attic leading to the roof was recently discovered, adding further evidence to the danger involved in the flight to freedom. 6306 Germantown Avenue. (215) 438-1768; [www.johnsonhouse.org](http://www.johnsonhouse.org)

Talk about an over-achiever. It wasn't enough that Paul Robeson was a Rhodes scholar, four-letter athlete, and bibliophile, he was also a linguist who spoke 21 languages, a renowned Broadway actor and singer. But it was his work as a human rights activist that drew the ire of the government. Although silenced by the government, Robeson's ideals

and principles pervade the Paul Robeson House, a small West Philadelphia rowhouse where he spent his final days. His recordings and videos will introduce you to this Renaissance man who would not be repressed. 4951 Walnut Street. (215) 747-4675; [www.wpcalliance.org](http://www.wpcalliance.org)

Marian Anderson was the toast of the international music community, but a proposed concert at the Daughters of the American Revolution's hall in Washington, D.C. set off a firestorm of controversy. The famed contralto thrilled thousands with her performance on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and was awarded the NAACP's Spingarn Medal. Today, the modest Marian Anderson Home, which is open by appointment, preserves Anderson's legacy through a collection of her books, memorabilia, photos and films. And around the corner at 19th and Fitzwater Streets is the Union Baptist Church where Anderson sang as a child. 762 Martin Street. (215) 732-9505; [www.mariananderson.org](http://www.mariananderson.org)



The first is still the best. Built in 1976, the African American Museum in Philadelphia was the nation's first museum erected by a major municipality dedicated to interpreting the history, lives and work of African Americans. It remains one of the premier centers of African American heritage in the country. Check out the lively new exhibition *Saturday Night/Sunday Morning*. Through art, sculpture and photographs, you'll share the Saturday experience of hair salons, dance halls, and juke joints across the country. Then, you'll see how the nation spends Sunday mornings with images of worship services, family dinners and other leisure activities. But get there quick. The exhibition will be on view through September 17. 701 Arch Street. (215) 574-0380; [www.aampmuseum.org](http://www.aampmuseum.org)



**DINING TO A BEAT**  
FOR A GREAT MEAL WITH  
A SIDE ORDER OF RHYTHM,  
THERE IS PLENTY TO CHOOSE  
FROM AMONG PHILADELPHIA'S  
DINING SPOTS.

Raid the closet for your best threads and head to Zanzibar Blue, the city's premier jazz supper club. Here, both the menu

and the music reflect a level of sophistication that makes for a special night out. Taking a jazzy approach to cooking, the chef creates selections based on what's fresh and in season. On stage you're likely to see traditional favorites, such as Lou Rawls, Oleta Adams and Jimmy McGriff along with newcomers. Check out Sunday Jazz Brunch and Wine Wednesdays when the vino is half-price. 200 S. Broad Street, (215) 732-4500; [www.zanzibarblue.com](http://www.zanzibarblue.com)

If you're into blues and soul food in a sultry atmosphere, **Warmdaddy's** is your spot. After dining on down-home southern cuisine, you can burn off some calories on the dance floor when top-name blues bands take the stage. Tuesdays through Saturdays are for grown-ups, but Warmdaddy's goes family-friendly with a weekly Sunday Supper, featuring live Gospel music. Front & Market Streets, (215) 627-8400; [www.warmdaddys.com](http://www.warmdaddys.com)

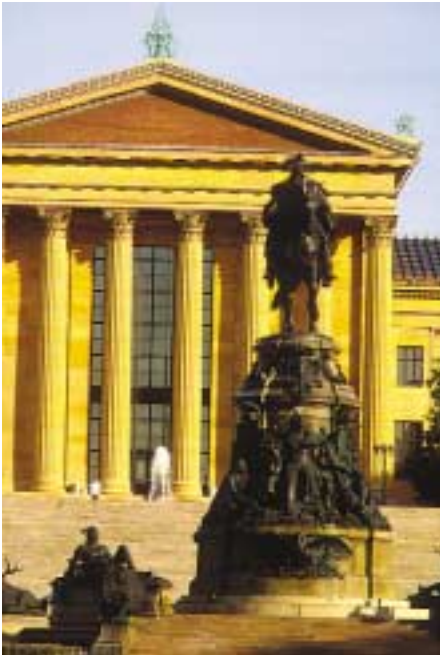
Even the owners describe **Ortlieb's Jazzhaus** as nondescript, but don't be fooled by outward appearances. This is one of the busiest jazz clubs in town. The menu has definite overtones of traditional southern and American cuisine, and with a line up that has featured Bootsie Barnes, Orrin Evans and other top performers, you know the music is the real thing. 847 N. 3rd Street. (215) 922-1035; [www.ortliebsjazzhaus.com](http://www.ortliebsjazzhaus.com).



Bearing the name of its namesake radio program, **World Café Live** blends casual dining with top name performers — and every seat is the best in the house. Make it a night with such big names as Al diMeola and Angelique Kidjo or make it a morning with Sunday Gospel Brunch. 3025 Walnut Street, (215) 222-1400; [www.worldcafelive.com](http://www.worldcafelive.com)

Come for the seafood, stay for the soul. Part restaurant, part nightclub, **Gloria's Gourmet Seafood** does both really well. You have to wonder how the small stage has handled such big names as Billy Paul and Jean Carne. The atmosphere is casual, but leave the jeans and sneakers at home. 2120 Fairmount Avenue, (215) 235-5290; [www.gloriascafe.com](http://www.gloriascafe.com).

Sleek and sophisticated, an evening at **Bluzette** starts with a menu of spicy Caribbean and southern cuisine and really heats up when the DJ start spinning dance hits. 246 Market Street. (215) 627-3866.



The weekly salsa parties, the musical mix that includes everything from Afro-Celt to Zydeco, the easy-going and grown-up atmosphere, and the layout which gives you a great view no matter where you sit (or dance). And while you are enjoying the eclectic musical line-up you can also enjoy the chef's eclectic culinary menu who keeps it real by keeping it simple. 7165 Germantown Avenue. (215) 248-1000; [www.nxnwphl.com](http://www.nxnwphl.com).

Keep Fridays open for *Art After Five* at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Have a drink and nibble on hors d'oeuvres while you catch a set of jazz or international music. Then join in the guided gallery tours and enjoy some of the world's great art. 26th Street & The Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 763-8100; [www.philamuseum.org](http://www.philamuseum.org)

The name pretty much says it all. For down-home cooking that will remind you of those big family Sunday dinners, head to Ms. Tootsie's Soul Food. Sample the traditional favorites and you just might agree with the *Philadelphia Inquirer* that it is the "best soul food restaurant in the city." 1314 South Street, (215) 731-9045. Take a break from the jazz and neo-soul featured at the Ogontz Grill, and enjoy a straightforward bistro menu. During the summer, try for a table on the patio at this casual-but-semi-dressed-up neighborhood dining spot. 7152 Ogontz Avenue, (215) 424-7100



There's a reason *Philadelphia Magazine* named *North by Northwest* the "best music venue." Lots of reasons actually.



## CASUAL COOKING AND DINING DELIGHTS

EVERY NOW AND THEN, YOU JUST HAVE TO TOSS THOSE CALORIE CHARTS ASIDE AND INDULGE IN A SCRUMPTIOUS FEAST. AND PHILADELPHIA IS JUST THE PLACE TO DO IT.

Innovative chefs, unlimited imaginations and diverse international culinary traditions have thrust Philadelphia into the nation's gastronomic spotlight. The newest trend — BYOB's (bring your own bottle)— has not



only made dining more affordable, it has launched dozens of cozy mom-and-pop places, authentic ethnic eateries, fresh seafood bistros and four-star restaurants. Join in a favorite local pastime . . . the tasty search for the perfect cheesesteak. Catch a bite in a friendly neighborhood café. Or, pull out all the stops for a sumptuous, candle-lit feast.

### Eat Like the Locals

When in Philadelphia, do as Philadelphians do. Locals love to eat out and patronize all the restaurants, but they also indulge in the region's favorite food groups - cheesesteaks, hoagies, water ice and soft pretzels.

First, some cheesesteak insider tips. There are really only three acceptable cheese options - Cheez-Wiz, American or provolone cheese. Also, to sound like a native, if you want onions on your cheesesteak, order a "cheesesteak wit."

If you prefer to hold the onions, order a "cheesesteak wit out." Got it? Now that you're prepared, here are some places to find this signature treat:

Campo's Deli, 214 Market Street, (215) 923-1000; Dalessandro's Steaks, Henry Avenue and Wendover Street, (215) 482-5407; Geno's Steaks, 1219 S. 9th Street, (215) 389-0659; Jim's Steaks, 400 South Street, (215) 928-1911; Pat's King of Steaks, 1237 E. Passyunk Avenue, (215) 468-1547.

There is more flexibility with hoagies. You can find them with or without lunchmeat, but the traditional is the Italian hoagie. But, come hungry and with a friend. Some are so large, you'll want to share.

Primo Hoagies, 21st & Chestnut Streets, (215) 496-0540; Salumeria, Reading Terminal Market, 12th & Arch Streets, (215) 592-8150; Sarcone's Deli, 734 S. 9th Street, (215) 922-1717; Tony Luke's Old Philly Style Sandwiches, 118 S. 18th Street, (215) 568-4630.

Yes, "water ice" might sound redundant, but it is a local summer staple. Pick your favorite flavor - cherry and lemon are popular - and then enjoy the chill. Some popular spots are: Rita's Water Ice, 235 South Street, (215) 629-3910; John's Water Ice, 702 Christian Street, (215) 925-6955; Morrone's Water Ice, 200 N. 63rd Street, (215) 747-2909; Dati's Delight, 23rd & Passyunk Avenue, (215) 271-0186. A good soft pretzel is doughy in the middle with just the right amount of salt. Yes, you will want to top it with mustard, so ask for a napkin. Find them at almost any street vendor and at: Philadelphia Soft Pretzels, 4315 N. 3rd Street, (215) 324-4315; Federal Pretzel Baking Company, 638 Federal Street, (215) 467-0505.

Of course you can find all these favorite Philadelphia treats at the Reading Terminal Market. The nation's oldest and largest farmers market is a maze of colorful crafts, fragrant ethnic food stands and fresh foods for eat-in or take-out. While you're there, stop by Delilah's. The world's most famous TV personality (Oprah Winfrey, of course) said Delilah's mac and cheese was the best in the nation. Make sure you leave room for the fried chicken, Virginia ham, greens and other Southern favorites. 12th & Arch Streets, (215) 922-2317; [www.readingterminalmarket.org](http://www.readingterminalmarket.org).



## A FEAST OF FESTIVALS

WITH A CALENDAR JAM-PACKED WITH FESTIVALS AND EVENTS, IT MIGHT SEEM LIKE THERE IS A PARTY IN PHILADELPHIA EVERY DAY.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Philadelphia's *ODUNDE Afrikan-American Street Festival*, one of the nation's oldest and largest celebrations of African American culture. Based on Yoruba cultural traditions, ODUNDE is a Yoruba word for happy new year. Spontaneous street celebrations will be joined by

performances on the main stage by Urban Bushwomen, Philadanco and Rennie Harris Pure Movement, among others. And, come prepared to shop. The authentic African marketplace features vendors selling merchandise from many African nations, the Caribbean and Brazil. Free. June 12th, South Street between 21st & 23rd Streets, (215) 732-8510; [www.odundeinc.org](http://www.odundeinc.org)

It didn't take long for the *West Oak Lane Jazz and Art Festival* to win fans. In only two years, it has already earned a reputation for first-rate music and art. Leading the line-up are Roy Ayres, the Sun Ra Arkestra, the Arpeggio Jazz Ensemble, the Odeon Pope Sax Choir and Orrin Evans. But that's just the start. It is a

weekend-long feast for the eyes and ears, with four outdoor stages, six indoor venues, more than 110 craftspeople and vendors, more than 40 musical groups and 300 musicians and a musical menu that includes reggae, blues, Latin, Salsa, Afro-Brazilian and avant-garde jazz. There is even a giant paint-it-yourself mural for the kids (Don't worry. It's washable paint). Free. June 24-26. (215) 438-5366; [www.westoaklanefestival.com](http://www.westoaklanefestival.com)

other. And bring the little ones. All of the entertainment is family-friendly and appropriate for kids. In fact, in addition to the R&B, gospel, hip-hop, reggae, jazz and soul bands that keep the music stages hopping throughout the day, there are even performers and activities especially for youngsters. If you can tear them away from the Children's Stage, stroll the Parkway and explore the Black Inventor's Stage, get tips for healthy living at the Fitness Stage, or discover



When Philadelphia celebrates the nation's birthday, the party lasts for days and days. Check out the schedule for *Sunoco Welcome America!* After eight days of R&B concerts on the waterfront, Gospel at the Mann, Arts on the Avenue, opera in Rittenhouse Square, grilling at Belmont Plateau, salsa and other music at Love Park, the Philadelphia Orchestra at Penn's Landing, movies on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and a day just for kids at the Great Plaza at Penn's Landing, things get really busy on the Fourth of July. Start Independence Day at Independence Mall with the presentation of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal, and then join in a giant dance party at Penn's Landing. Later, head to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway for the Southwest Airlines Fourth of July Parade followed by the Sunoco Sweet Sounds of Liberty concert and breathtaking fireworks. Check out the website for a complete listing of events, times and locations. Free. June 26-July 4, (215) 683-2200; [www.americasbirthday.com](http://www.americasbirthday.com)

Each year, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway is the site of many special events, but few are larger than the annual *WDAS Unity Day Festival*. You can eat, play and dance your way from one end of the Parkway to the

a new artist at the Culture Stage. And bring your wallet. There are dozens of artists, crafts people and food vendors that have something you just can't live without. Free, August 21, (610) 617-8500; [www.wdasfm.com](http://www.wdasfm.com)

## EXPERIENCE THE HEART & SOUL OF PHILADELPHIA

### PHILADELPHIA

### NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS

The best way to experience Philadelphia's tight-knit neighborhoods is with the Neighborhood Tourism Network's popular *Philadelphia Neighborhood Tours*. During the excursions, you become part of the neighborhood as you take in the art, hear the music, taste the food, experience the culture and listen to the stories that make it unique. Each tour is three hours long and features not just a tour guide but also someone who lives in the neighborhood you visit. And once you arrive, you might find yourself playing the congas in a salsa band, witnessing a dramatic reenactment of an Abolitionist meeting or behind the scenes at the studios of Philadelphia International Records.

## THE 2005 TOUR SCHEDULE:

### SUMMER

- 14-May Urban Oases: The Gardens of West Philadelphia
- 21-May Fishtown & Kensington
- 4-June Philadelphia's Civil Rights Struggle
- 11-June Taking a Stand for Freedom
- 18-June University City: Ethnic Dining
- 25-June The Sound of Philadelphia
- 9-July From Farm to Table

### FALL

- 10-Sep Latin Soul Latin Flavor
- 17-Sep Philadelphia's Civil Rights Struggle
- 24-Sep Taking a Stand for Freedom
- 1-Oct Fishtown & Kensington
- 8-Oct University City: Left of Center
- 15-Oct Philadelphia Open Studio Tour
- 22-Oct Voices of Chinatown
- 29-Oct Creepy Crypts & Criminals

For more information call (215) 599-2295 or visit [gophila.com/neighborhoodtours](http://gophila.com/neighborhoodtours)

Mark your calendar for the *First Friday* of the month when you can combine art, nightlife and tour a few of Philadelphia's most eclectic neighborhoods, all at the same time. Old City, one of the city's trendiest and most artistic communities, throws a First Friday open house each month, and you are invited. Gallery and shop-owners stay open well into the evening so you can sip a little wine, do a little shopping and stroll the streets of this funky neighborhood. (800) 555-5191. [www.oldcityarts.org](http://www.oldcityarts.org)

You can't be in two places at one time, but it is worth trying just so you can make it to Mt. Airy for their First Friday event. Stroll the tree-lined streets and chat with shopowners, gallery artists and restaurateurs who host special events, conduct workshops and offer goodies and discounts for their visitors. (215) 844.6021, [www.mtairyusa.org](http://www.mtairyusa.org)



## THE "ART" OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS

NOT ALL ART IS IN A MUSEUM. THAT'S ESPECIALLY TRUE IN PHILADELPHIA, WHERE MANY OF THE CITY'S NEIGHBORHOODS HAVE A DEFINITE ARTISTIC FLAIR.

The giant murals that dot the city's landscape have captured the attention of the nation. Hop aboard an old-fashioned trolley to tour some of the hundreds of murals that have been created since the Mural Arts Project began decorating neighborhoods more than 20 years ago. Tours run Wednesday and Saturday. For more information and reservations, (215) 685-0754

Go "Left of Center" to Powelton Village, located in the University City section of Philadelphia for Second Fridays, where you will find an eclectic mix of restaurants, museums, art galleries, and clothing shops. (215) 243-0555, [www.ucityphila.org](http://www.ucityphila.org).

## FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

WITH A MIX OF ATTRACTIONS THAT WILL APPEAL TO EVERYONE FROM TINY TOTS TO HARD-TO-PLEASE TEENS, PHILADELPHIA IS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO CATCH ITS BREATH AND RECONNECT.

## Something Fishy on the Waterfront

Getting to the new Adventure Aquarium is half the fun. Hop aboard the RiverLink Ferry at Penn's Landing, and enjoy a short cruise across the Delaware River that will drop you off just steps from the Aquarium. Once inside, the family can spend hours wandering through six acres of new exhibitions, including an underwater hippopotamus viewing area, a walk-through shark tank and the USS Verne, where you will discover all kinds of exotic, wonderful animals. 1 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ (856) 365-3300; [www.adventureaquarium.com](http://www.adventureaquarium.com)

## Playing on the Parkway

Its nickname is "Museum Row" but to parents looking for hands-on, memorable family fun, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway is "Must-See Row."

What is it with kids and dinosaurs? At the Academy of Natural Sciences, you can dig for dinosaur bones or climb inside a Tyrannosaurus Rex skull. And that's not all. Pet a live snake, touch a hissing cockroach or build a sandcastle. With four floors of exhibitions and activities, you can get up close and personal with all kinds of creepy-crawlies. 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway. (215) 299-1000; [www.acnatsci.org](http://www.acnatsci.org)

With Ben Franklin's 300th birthday just around the corner, a visit to The Franklin Institute Science Museum, is in order. After examining Franklin's personal belongings and inventions preserved in the grand rotunda, take a walk through newly restored *Giant Heart*. Then, turn the gang loose to hop aboard the giant locomotive, test a flight simulator, re-create some of

Franklin's experiments, or take in the latest flick at the giant IMAX Theater. 20th Street & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 448-1200; [www.fi.edu](http://www.fi.edu)



Across the street at the Please Touch Museum, pint-size exhibits, designed for children ages seven and under, are strictly hands-on. Little ones (and their parents) can sip tea with the Mad Hatter, feed baby chicks, "drive" a tractor, visit memorable friends from Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, or venture into the bigger-than-big magical world of Maurice Sendak's classic children's books come to life. 210 N. 20th Street. (215) 963-0667; [www.pleasetouchmuseum.org](http://www.pleasetouchmuseum.org)

If you're feeling really brave, you can do a little 'air-obatics' of your own. Hop aboard the Zooballoon, the giant hot air balloon at the Philadelphia Zoo, and see the city as the birds see it from 400 feet above the earth. Then



when you land, stroll through the nation's first zoo where you can take a trip to the African Plains, visit Bird Valley, mingle with the Australian Animals, explore Bear Country or pay a visit to hundreds of other animals in natural environments. 3400 W. Girard Avenue. (215) 243-1100; [www.philadelphiazoo.org](http://www.philadelphiazoo.org)



### Kids' Favorite Street

They celebrate their 25th anniversary at Sesame Place this year, but Bert, Ernie, Big Bird and the rest of the gang look pretty good for their age. Check out the season-long celebration that includes birthday parades and special events. Then, cool off in the Rubber Duckie Pond, the Count's Fount or other water rides or visit Twiddlebugland, Cookie Mountain or Oscar's Obstacle Course. 100 Sesame Road, Langhorne, PA (215) 752-7070; [www.sesameplace.com](http://www.sesameplace.com)

## ENTERTAINMENT UNDER THE STARS

PHILADELPHIA IS ONE OF THE NATION'S TOP SPOTS ON THE CONCERT CIRCUIT. WHETHER YOU PREFER TO GROOVE TO COOL JAZZ, SWAY TO THE BLUES, OR DANCE TO R&B, CHANCES ARE YOU CAN SPEND A MUSICAL EVENING WITH YOUR FAVORITE ARTIST.

Pack a picnic basket and take in the music on the sprawling lawn or spring for pavilion seating at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts. Already one of the region's busiest venues for outdoor entertainment, the Mann is undergoing \$13 million in improvements in parking facilities, footpaths, terrace and restaurants. All the better to enjoy an evening with this season's line-up. With a schedule that includes blues masters B.B. King and Robert Cray (June 4), jazz artists Al Jarreau, Boney James and Cassandra Wilson (June 22) or the divine diva Miss Patti LaBelle (August 19), you'll want to get your tickets early so you won't miss a note. 52nd & Parkside Avenue, (215) 893-1999; [www.manncenter.org](http://www.manncenter.org)



Head to the Tweeter Center and you get two shows in one - the headliner on stage and the spectacular views of the Philadelphia skyline with a computerized light show on the Benjamin Franklin Bridge in the background. Hop aboard the RiverLink Ferry and cruise across the Delaware River to the 25,000-seat amphitheater. Even if you opt for lawn seating, the giant video screens will allow you to catch your favorite performer's every nuance. They will come in real handy when the dynamic Earth, Wind & Fire hits the stage this summer (July 22). Camden Waterfront, [www.tweetercenter.com/philadelphia](http://www.tweetercenter.com/philadelphia) or [www.electricfactory.com](http://www.electricfactory.com)

Penn's Landing is a favorite spot for music lovers. With banners billowing in the breeze and boats drifting along the Delaware River, it is no surprise that every

Penn's Landing event takes on a festive atmosphere. Bring the whole family and spend the day at *International Islamic Heritage Day* (June 11) or the *African American Cultural Extravaganza* (August 27-28). Or, spring for a babysitter and let the *Smooth Jazz Series* turn into romantic evenings for two (August 5, 12, 19, 26). Let the spirit move you during the *Gospel Music Concert Series* (June 6, 13, 20, 27), or get down to the soulful sounds of the *R&B Music Series* (July 8, 15, 22, 29). Columbus Boulevard & Walnut Streets, (215) 629-3200; [www.pennslandingcorp.com](http://www.pennslandingcorp.com)



Fountains, fireworks, flowers . . . Longwood Gardens has all the ingredients you need for a spectacular evening under the stars. For a few special evenings each summer, Longwood lights up the skies with a breathtaking display of fireworks artistry set to music. Start your day

early and tour the outdoor gardens and conservatories. Just this once, forget about calories and indulge in a delectable dinner at the on-site restaurant. And then be dazzled when the brilliant colors and shapes paint the evening sky. But you have to be quick. Seating is limited and tickets go fast, so call early for your reservations. (May 29, July 3, September 4, September 10). Route 1, Kennett Square. (610) 388-1000 ext. 100; [www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org)

## PLANNING A FAMILY REUNION?

PHILADELPHIA OFFERS A NUMBER OF RESOURCES SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE AND HELP PLAN FAMILY REUNIONS.

Start with the Family Reunion Institute at Temple University, the only organization of its kind in the U.S. At the Family Reunion Institute you'll find step-by-step instructions on how to plan a family reunion, information on developing bylaws for your family organization, assistance in creating a family directory and suggestions for family projects and activities. Brochures, online support and a team of consultants can guide you through the process of getting the whole family together. Check out [www.temple.edu/fri/familyreunion](http://www.temple.edu/fri/familyreunion) for more information.

When Alex Haley needed help researching his family tree for his bestseller "Roots," he turned to the National Archives for assistance. With records that date back to 1790, the National Archives Mid-Atlantic office in Philadelphia is an invaluable resource for tracking your own family's roots. The staff can conduct workshops specifically targeted to help families trace their genealogy and provide on-site research assistance. 9th and Chestnut Streets (215)-606-0100; [www.archives.gov/midatlantic](http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic)

A call to the Multicultural Affairs Congress (MAC), a subsidiary of the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau can help smooth out the gritty details of site selection, booking hotels, catering and price negotiations for your family reunion. MAC meeting planners can help you find the right place for your family's size, budget and interest. (215) 636-3404; [www.philadelphiamac.org](http://www.philadelphiamac.org)



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