



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National  
Historical Park

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## Independence National Historical Park

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For Immediate Release  
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### Celebrate the Inauguration on Independence Mall!

Watch the 44<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration on the Mall – Independence Mall! The nation's first capital is the best place to celebrate the inauguration, where you can watch the Inauguration broadcast live on a jumbotron on Independence Mall, right outside the Independence Visitor Center between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets and Market and Arch streets starting at 11:00 am on January 20, 2009. The outdoor broadcast of the Inauguration is made possible by Independence Visitor Center, Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, 6ABC, National Constitution Center and GPTMC. For more information on this and other Inauguration weekend activities please visit [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde) or [www.phillyinauguration.com](http://www.phillyinauguration.com).

Unlike the National Mall, strollers, backpacks, thermal containers, chairs and blankets are welcome on Independence Mall! To help visitors and residents enjoy the viewing there will be special discounts in the Independence Visitor Center gift shop on Obama merchandise and Independence Cafe will feature Soft Pretzels and Hot Dogs. FREE hot chocolate will be offered to all outside on the Independence Mall lawn.

Independence National Historical Park will also be hosting a new, free program in Congress Hall on January 20 at 10 am and 3 pm. Witness the first peaceful transfer of power during a reenactment of John Adams' presidential inauguration in Congress Hall, the very place where the second president took the oath on March 4, 1797. That was a historic peaceful transfer of power in a time when power around the world was transferred only through blood lines or blood loss. It was a presidential inauguration that truly changed the world, just as on January 20, 2009, we will witness another historic inauguration. The re- enactment will be performed by the American Historical Theater, and actors will be available to answer questions following the performance. The actors will not only show what happened on that occasion and convey the

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significance of the peaceful transfer of power, they will also provide an insider's perspective of the people participating in this handoff and demonstrate the significance of Philadelphia as the capital for our young nation. The event is free, no tickets needed, but seating is limited so come early! Independence Square can be entered from 5th and Chestnut Streets.

A unit of the National Park Service, Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, PA, was created by an Act of Congress on June 28, 1948. Independence NHP, accredited by the American Association of Museums, covers almost 54 acres in Philadelphia's Old City, and includes Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Congress Hall, Franklin Court, and other historic buildings associated with the founding of the United States. The park is open daily with the exception of Christmas day. A visit to Independence National Historical Park should start at the Independence Visitor Center, located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Market Streets. Here, visitors can pick up a park brochure, park map, and free timed tickets for guided tours of Independence Hall. For more information visit the park's website, <http://www.nps.gov/inde>.

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