



## A National Treasure

WHAT COMES TO MIND when you think of national parks? Yellowstone? The Grand Canyon? America's national parks include dramatic natural landscapes as well as cultural and historical sites. These national treasures tell the story of America's past, but they also help us understand the present, and provide inspiration for the future.

At Independence National Historical Park, you can stand in Independence Hall—the birthplace of the nation. Or, you can visit the Liberty Bell Center and gaze upon the iconic bell with its enduring message of liberty.

But, the park includes hidden gems as well. Check out the Fragments of Franklin Court exhibit (318 Market St.), where you can get a behind-the-scenes look at 18th century construction techniques in a home once owned by Benjamin Franklin (open 1-5pm, daily). See page 6 for more information on the Franklin Court sites.

Preserving this park and others is the business of the National Park Service. Established in 1916, the National Park Service turns 99 years old on August 25. Families can celebrate with us all summer in our National Park Fun Zones—places to play and learn—located in the Liberty Bell Center and the Visitor Center. Join us for Founders Day on August 25 and enjoy a daytime family festival in Franklin Court, as well as an evening picnic on the lawn



Look for park rangers - with their distinctive flat hats - here at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. Park rangers promote the preservation and enjoyment of national parks with the goal of leaving these treasures "... unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

next to the Visitor Center. It's practice for next year's BIG celebration, the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service. We invite you to "Find Your Park"—and to find peace, heritage, and celebration—in America's national parks.



Be inspired by Benjamin Franklin's story, or explore the road to revolution - all in the "NPS Independence" mobile app. It's FREE.

Visit the story telling benches located throughout the park and you may even get to participate in a story or two. Visit one bench, or visit them all. See page 5 for more information.

Be a storyteller yourself at [FindYourPark.com](http://FindYourPark.com). As the National Park Service approaches its 100th birthday, we invite you to share your story about a special moment in your national parks. We are all storytellers!

## Welcome to the "Best Park in History"

Welcome to Independence National Historical Park. You're visiting at one of the most exciting times of the year, so be sure to take advantage of special events and programs only available in the summer.

Around here, summer means celebration! We celebrate the men and women whose wisdom and foresight created our great nation. We celebrate stories of revolution, stories of individuals who fought for human rights, stories of people coming together to unite behind common values and common beliefs. And of course, we celebrate Independence Day. While you're here, share your story or photo, and use the hashtag #FindYourPark to join in the conversation.

Some of this history may be well known to you. Some of it may be new to you. I hope that during your time here you'll learn something you didn't know before. A visit to any national park is an opportunity to relax, explore, learn, and have fun. We're gearing up for the National Park Service centennial in 2016. That means more programs, more events, and more opportunities for everyone to #FindYourPark!

More details about our programs, events, and tours are also available at the Independence Visitor Center, on our website, or in our mobile app. Start your visit at the Independence Visitor Center and enjoy your Independence!

Cynthia MacLeod  
Superintendent

## FIND YOUR PARK

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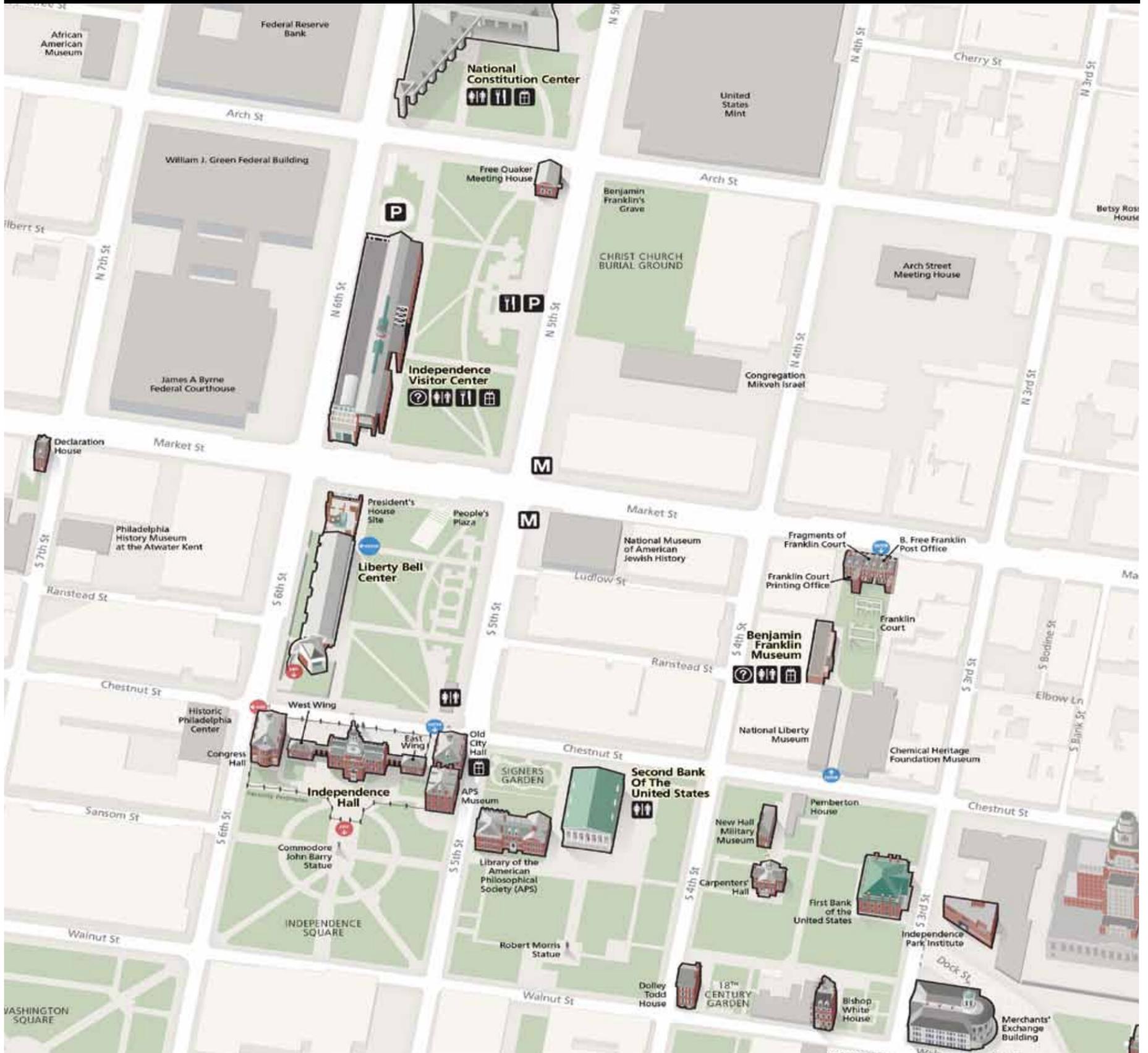
"Summer" season runs from May 23 through September 7, 2015.

## Find Your Story

WOVEN THROUGHOUT THE PARK'S SITES and landscape are stories about the power of people coming together—to make a nation, to create networks to freedom, and to fight for suffrage and civil rights for all. Look and listen for stories that will amaze and inspire you.

View the changing exhibits in the Liberty Bell Center this summer. "Independence Hall and the LGBT Movement" in June and July commemorates the first organized LGBT demonstrations that took place across the street from Independence Hall fifty years ago. In August and September, see the "Votes for Women" exhibit and learn the story of the campaign for women's suffrage and how the Liberty Bell inspired a new symbol, the Justice Bell.

Interested in Benjamin Franklin, or the founding of the nation? Those are two of the five thematic audio tours available on the park's FREE mobile app, "NPS Independence." Download the app (*tip: use the free Wi-Fi in the Visitor Center*) and listen to timeless tales about choosing sides during the British occupation of Philadelphia, or the enduring pursuit of liberty. Search "NPS Independence" in the App Store or on Google Play.



Park map available in park brochure or download the NPS Independence mobile app.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Independence National Historical Park

### Superintendent

Cynthia MacLeod

### Deputy Superintendent

BJ Dunn

### Park Information

215-965-2305

### Website

www.nps.gov/inde

### Mailing Address

143 S. 3rd Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

### E-mail

INDEvisitorinfo@nps.gov

### Emergency - Call 911

### Park Dispatch

215-597-7077

## Other Sites of Interest

### Deshler-Morris House (Germantown White House)

5442 Germantown Avenue  
Open Saturdays 10:00am - 4:00pm

### Carpenters' Hall

Chestnut St. between 3rd and 4th Sts.  
Open 10:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday

### Museum of the American Philosophical Society

*Jefferson, Science, and Exploration* exhibit  
Enter from inside Independence Square or 5th St. entrance (no fee; donation requested)  
Open 10:00am - 5:00pm Thursday-Sunday

### Gloria Dei (Old Swedes' Church) National Historic Site

916 Swanson Street  
Open 9:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday

### Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S.

Chestnut St. between 4th and 5th Sts.  
Tentative reopening scheduled for mid-August; ask a ranger at the Visitor Center desk for more information or visit [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde)

### B. Free Franklin Post Office

316 Market Street  
Open 9:00am - 5:00pm Monday-Saturday

## Safety

To help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone, please follow park rules and posted regulations.

- Pets are not allowed inside public buildings, unless a designated assistive animal. Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet and under control at all times. Please remember to pick up after your pet and dispose of waste in a trash bin.
- Please dispose of your garbage in trash containers or take it with you when you leave.
- Bicycles are not allowed on park sidewalks and pathways.
- Security checkpoint screening is required for entrance to Independence Square buildings and the Liberty Bell Center.

## Accessibility

The park strives to provide access to all our facilities and programs for the broadest possible range of visitors. Due to the historic nature of many sites, access for wheelchairs or other physical challenges cannot always be accommodated. Please ask a park ranger before entering a building to learn what resources are available. Look for signage that indicates services provided for the hearing-impaired and audio description. All park films are open captioned.



## Independence Visitor Center

Open daily 8:30am - 7:00pm

The Independence Visitor Center is Independence National Historical Park's and the region's welcome center for people all over the nation and the world offering visitor amenities including:

- trip planning services
- easy onsite ticketing for area attractions
- multilingual concierge staff
- dinner or hotel reservations
- comprehensive daily listing of area events
- attraction displays and regional maps
- free, informative historical and orientation films
- free wireless Internet access

No one should sightsee on an empty stomach! Grab your fill of Philly favorites at the Independence Mall Cafe. Located across the lawn from the Independence Visitor Center, dine al fresco and take in the gorgeous view of Independence National Historical Park.

Follow @PHLVisitorCntr, the Visitor Center's virtual concierge service on Twitter. For more information, call 215-965-7676 or visit [PHLvisitorcenter.com](http://PHLvisitorcenter.com).



Enjoy lunch at the outdoor cafe.

## Independence Hall

Open daily 9:00am - 7:00pm

Stand inside the birthplace of the nation. See the room where the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were debated and signed.

Ranger-guided tours begin every 15 minutes. Free tickets are available on the day of your visit at the ranger desk in the Independence Visitor Center. Tickets run out early during the busy summer months so plan ahead. Tickets may also be reserved in advance online at [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov), or by calling 877-444-6777.

**Note:** Must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to tour time to pass through on-site security screening. Security screening closes at 6:45pm.

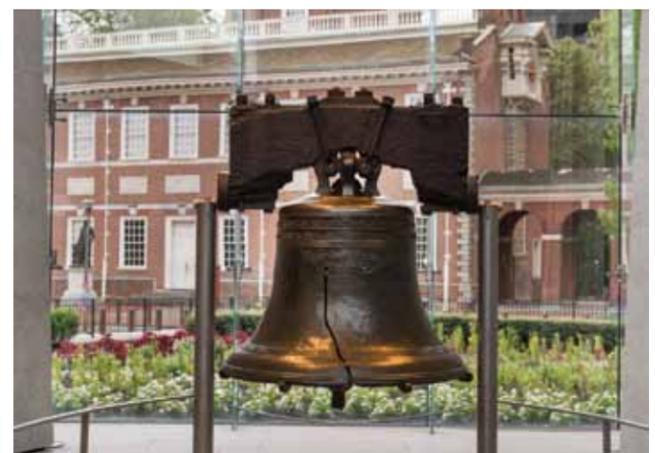


## Liberty Bell Center

Open daily 9:00am - 7:00pm

Come see the international symbol of freedom in all its glory. Learn about the Liberty Bell's legacy as a symbol of protest and celebration, from its humble beginnings as the State House bell to its use as a rallying cry to end slavery and an inspiration to the modern civil rights movement.

**Note:** On-site security screening before entry. Screening closes 5 minutes before the building closes for the evening.



## National Constitution Center

Open 9:30am - 5:00pm Monday thru Friday;  
'til 6pm on Saturdays; 12Noon - 5:00pm Sundays

The museum of We the People, America's Town Hall and a headquarters for civic education brings the U.S. Constitution to life for visitors of all ages. With interactive exhibits, theatrical performances, and historical documents of freedom, stop by and learn about the rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Americans.





**Congress Hall**

Open 9-5 daily  
Tours begin every 20 minutes

Walk the halls of Congress and see the chambers where the first House of Representatives and Senate of the United States met and debated during those formative years. Hear the stories of conflict and compromise as elected officials struggled to interpret the true meaning of the U.S. Constitution.



**West Wing**

Open 9-5 daily

The “Great Essentials” exhibit contains some of our nation’s most celebrated documents - original printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States. Also on display is the silver Syng inkstand, believed to be the one used by the signers in the cause of independence.



**Old City Hall**

Open 9-5 daily

This building, completed in 1791, once served as City Hall for the city of Philadelphia. During the early years, the courtroom was used by the U.S. Supreme Court to hear cases that tested the interpretation of our Constitution. City Council met on the second floor while court convened below.



**Declaration House**

Tours at 1:30pm and 4pm daily; tour is limited to 15 people, meet in the courtyard, 7th and Market Streets.

Thomas Jefferson resided here while drafting the Declaration of Independence. In rented rooms on the second floor, Jefferson wrote his timeless defense of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,” and all the while attended by an enslaved servant. The original house was demolished in 1883 and reconstructed by the NPS in 1976.

For park information, visit us on the web at [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde)



Follow us @IndependenceNHP



facebook.com/IndependenceNHP



**The President’s House: Freedom and Slavery in the Making of a New Nation**

Open 7am-10pm daily

George Washington and John Adams both lived at this site while serving as President of the United States. Washington’s household included numerous indentured and enslaved servants. Adams, in contrast, never owned slaves and employed a small staff. These outdoor exhibits examine the paradox between slavery and freedom in the founding of our nation, in a place right next door to the Liberty Bell itself.



**New Hall Military Museum**

Open 12Noon-5 daily

Home to the War Department in the 1790s, the museum highlights the history of the Continental Army, Navy, and Marines. Constructed by The Carpenters’ Company, the building houses a memorial to members of the U.S. Marine Corps who lost their lives during World War II, and the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.



**Benjamin Franklin Museum**

Open 9-7 daily

Explore the life and legacy of one of Philadelphia’s most famous sons. This underground museum displays historical objects, animated videos, and computer interactives that allow visitors to learn about Benjamin Franklin through his life-long interests in science, philanthropy, business, and politics. The exhibits reveal interesting aspects of Franklin’s character and try to explain his continued popularity and relevancy today.

*\*Free admission on 8/25*



**Franklin Court Printing Office**

Open 10-5 daily

As a printer himself, Benjamin Franklin understood the power of the press. Visitors can see first-hand how an 18th century printing office operated and discover the pivotal role that the printed word played in the American Revolution and the founding of the nation. Adjacent to the printing office is the newspaper office of Franklin’s grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache.



## “Dr. Franklin’s Philadelphia” walking tour

Printer, politician, diplomat, inventor - get to know the real Ben Franklin as you explore the streets and sites of his beloved city. Franklin achieved much in his long and prosperous life and his accomplishments continue to shape our city, country, and the world.

**10:00am Saturday/Sunday only**; meet at Benjamin Franklin Museum entrance,

## “In the Paths of the Founders” walking tour

Join a park ranger for this orientation tour of Independence National Historical Park. Explore the world-changing events that happened right here, from the Declaration of Independence to the creation of a new government.

**2:30pm daily**; meet in Signers Garden at 5th and Chestnut, *no tour 8/16-23*

## “Forging Justice: The Women’s Liberty Bell” ranger talk

Find out how women in Pennsylvania forged a new symbol for the women’s suffrage movement using their own “Liberty Bell” in this 10 minute ranger talk.

**11am daily in August**; inside Liberty Bell Center

## “Ladies of Liberty, Justice, and Equality” slide program

Join a park ranger for a 30 minute slide program about the many women whose contributions helped to further the cause of liberty, justice, and equality for all Americans.

**12noon daily**, August 16-23; Independence Visitor Center Theater

## “The Women’s American Revolution” walking tour

Follow in the footsteps of the women who used Independence Square to fight their own revolution. March on to victory and discover the women’s suffrage campaigns that took place in the shadow of Independence Hall.

**2:30pm daily**, August 16-23; at Signers Garden, corner of 5th and Chestnut Sts.



## Once Upon a Nation Storytelling

Visit all ten *Once Upon a Nation* storytelling benches to hear captivating tales from Philadelphia’s past. Learn about the untold heroes and lesser known stories that will encourage you to explore the park.

**11am - 4pm**; throughout the park

Schedule for Storytelling and Declaration Reading:

June 9-August 15, *Tuesday thru Saturday*

August 21-September 5, *Friday and Saturday only*

September 6-7, *daily*

## Reading of the Declaration

Come join the *Once Upon a Nation* History Makers as they read from select passages of the Declaration of Independence.

**3:45pm**; Barry Statue on Independence Square

## Free Quaker Meeting House

Visit the site where Free Quakers worshipped and learn more about the fascinating history of this little-known group.

**Open 11am - 4pm daily**, 5th and Arch Sts.

*Programs above are presented in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia, Inc.*



## Fragments of Franklin Court at 318 Market St.

Open 1-5 daily

This home, built in 1786 by Benjamin Franklin as a rental property, features an archeological exhibit containing artifacts found buried in Franklin Court. Now stripped to the bare walls, this house provides a behind-the-scenes look at construction techniques. Examine 18th century building practices, observe some of Benjamin Franklin’s fire safety improvements, and see fragments of pottery and other household goods found in Franklin Court.



## Dolley Todd and Bishop White Houses

Tours offered daily; times vary, reservations required.

Pick up tickets at Visitor Center information desk.

Due to room size, tours restricted to 10 people; no strollers allowed.

Get a glimpse of how people lived in the 1790s. See the home of future First Lady Dolley Madison where she lived with her first husband, John Todd, from 1791-93. Then see the home of William White, Bishop of the American Episcopal Church and pastor of St. Peter’s and Christ Churches. In this finely appointed home, the Bishop entertained many of the city’s elite.



## Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site

Open 9-5 (closed 12-1pm) Friday-Sunday

Celebrate Edgar Allan Poe’s astonishing creativity in the home where he published such tales as *The Gold-Bug* and the *The Spectacles*. Descend to the basement to see Poe’s inspiration for *The Black Cat*, and explore the exhibits to learn of his life as well as his continued literary influence.

Located at 532 N. 7th Street  
On-street parking is available, or take the SEPTA #47 bus  
[www.nps.gov/edal](http://www.nps.gov/edal)



## Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial

Open 12Noon- 4 weekends only

The house and its exhibits tell the story of an international champion of freedom and civil rights. Kosciuszko was a Polish military engineer and volunteer during the American Revolution. He played a significant role in the design of fortifications at Saratoga and West Point. In his rented rooms, he entertained many leading figures of the day, including Thomas Jefferson and Chief Little Turtle of the Miami Nation.

Located at 3rd and Pine Sts.



# Exploring Franklin Court



In *Poor Richard's Almanack*, Benjamin Franklin wrote, "If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing." He did both!

Explore Franklin Court, what Franklin called "his niche," and be intrigued with Franklin's personality, his family, and his city.

*In the Benjamin Franklin Museum...*

- play the virtual glass armonica
- look for Skuggs the squirrel

*In the Franklin Court Printing Office & Bindery...*

- listen for the sound of the sticky ink



*In the Fragments of Franklin Court exhibit...*

- find the mystery feature in the basement



*In the Courtyard...*

- see the remains of Franklin's house buried in the ground
- participate in a story at the *Once Upon a Nation* storytelling bench

\*program presented in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia Inc.

Enter Franklin Court from either Market or Chestnut Streets, between 3rd and 4th Streets. Visit the Benjamin Franklin Museum (*fee applies*), Franklin Court Printing Office & Bindery, Fragments of Franklin Court exhibit, the Franklin Court Courtyard, and the B. Free Franklin Post Office.



## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER



Special Exhibition: *Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights* now through 2017

The National Constitution Center is proud to be the first institution in Pennsylvania to exhibit one of the 12 surviving copies of the Bill of Rights. Part of the New York Public Library's renowned collection, the Bill of Rights will be displayed alongside a first edition of the Stone Engraving of the Declaration of Independence and a rare copy of the first public printing of the U.S. Constitution. Also on display are illustrations of the 10 Amendments especially commissioned for the exhibit in the brand new George H.W. Bush Gallery.



Creating Camelot: The Kennedy Photography of Jacque Lowe now through September 7

This new exhibition showcases more than 70 intimate photographs and iconic images of President John F. Kennedy and his family. *Creating Camelot* was created by the Newseum in collaboration with the Jacque Lowe Estate.

Speaking Out for Equality: the Constitution, Gay Rights, and the Supreme Court now through September 7

Through artifacts, personal stories, pivotal court cases - and pushback - *Speaking Out for Equality* chronicles the decades-long debate over gay rights, a debate that ultimately brought issues of LGBT equality before the Supreme Court.

## Military Muster



2pm and 3pm  
meet in Signers Garden  
to begin the march

June 9-August 15  
*Tuesday thru  
Saturday*

August 21-September 5  
*Friday and  
Saturday only*

September 6-7  
*daily*

The marching drum is a sure sign: the Continental Army is looking for a few good kids for drills in the art of marching and musket etiquette.

*This program is presented in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia, Inc.*

## Founders Day - August 25

Help celebrate the *National Park Service's 99th birthday* with activities - day and evening - for the whole family.

Enjoy FREE admission to the Benjamin Franklin Museum all day. Meet K-9 ranger Ken Franklin, and get your photo with a Founding Father in Franklin Court, 10am - 2pm.



Don't miss the Founders Day Picnic on the lawn next to the Visitor Center from 5pm to 8pm. Grab a picnic supper and join us for an evening of music and fun. Participate in ranger programs about America's treasures, your national parks.

## For kids

### Independence Junior Ranger



Ring the Liberty Bell, Create Your Own Portrait and earn a Jr. Ranger badge or certificate. Download the FREE "Independence Junior Ranger" app. For iPhone and iPad.

Pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at the Visitor Center desk. Edgar Allan Poe NHS, Thaddeus Kosciuszko NM, and the Germantown White House have booklets too. Ask for them when you visit those sites.

### Barnacles and Bullets



George Washington wants you! Come learn about life as a soldier. Have some fun trying on kid-sized military uniforms and colonial dress.

1pm and 4pm daily  
meet at New Hall Military Museum

### National Park Fun Zones

Discover some family fun with the help of puzzles, games, and the park's mobile app. Try on a ranger hat for size, and share your knowledge of America's national parks.

9:30am - 11am in the Liberty Bell Center;  
Throughout the day in the Visitor Center

### Trading Cards

Answer questions from park rangers and earn cards from three different series.





## PHLASH Bus

Just in time for the summer season, the Philly PHLASH is back and making stops at Independence National Historical Park and beyond. PHLASH is easy for visitors to see those can't-miss attractions in Center City including the Benjamin Franklin Museum and Independence Hall.

For just \$2 per ride or \$5 all-day, it's an affordable and convenient way to see the sights. Find out more by visiting [PhillyPHLASH.com](http://PhillyPHLASH.com).

## Support Your Park with Eastern National



Remember your visit with items from the Benjamin Franklin Museum Store. Now open 'til 7pm. The Old City Hall store is open from 9am - 5pm.

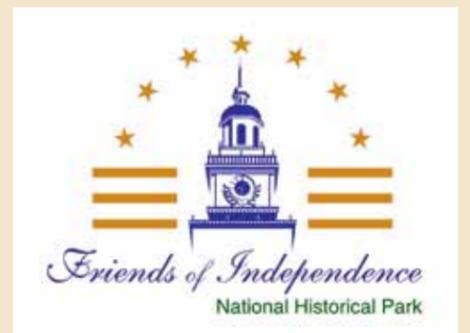
Come browse through the park's museum stores. Operated by Eastern National, each store carries one of a kind items to commemorate your visit to the park. Learn about the history of the park and the Founding Fathers through a special selection of books, postcards, apparel, and household goods. See the fascinating collection of Jamestown colonial glass and visit the special children's section in each store. Stores are located in the Benjamin Franklin Museum and in Old City Hall. *A portion of sale proceeds goes to support the park.*

## Twilight Tours

Enjoy an introduction to Independence National Historical Park on an evening stroll through the grounds. This free twilight tour is led by knowledgeable volunteers from the park's "Friends" group.

6:00pm daily; meet at Visitor Center ranger desk

For more than 42 years, the Friends of Independence National Historical Park has supported the park in their endeavors to preserve our national treasures and provide educational interpretation to the millions of visitors each year. During this time we have helped purchase over 1,000 artifacts for the park's collections, raised funds for major spaces within the park, provided over 35 years of free education walking tours and so much more. Wouldn't you like to join us in supporting the "Greatest park in History"? We cannot do it alone. For more information, please visit our website: [www.friendsofindependence.org](http://www.friendsofindependence.org) or call our office at 215-861-4971.



## Independence After Hours Tour

A one of a kind chance to "sneak" into Independence Hall after hours! Join your colonial guide for a delicious three course meal at historic City Tavern before heading out on an evening of adventure in the park. Eavesdrop on conversations of the Founding Fathers as they debate the Declaration of Independence in the summer of 1776.

5:30pm

June 9 thru August 15, Tuesday thru Saturday  
August 21 thru October 24, Friday and Saturday only

Admission: \$85 Adults; \$80 Seniors, Students and Military; \$55 Kids 12 & under.  
For reservations, call 215-629-4026

*Independence After Hours is presented in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia, Inc.*

**CITY TAVERN RESTAURANT**  
A Triumph of Tradition  
Est. 1773  
Open Daily at 11:30 a.m. Lunch, drinks & dinner  
The corner of 2nd & Walnut Streets, 138 South 2nd St., Philadelphia  
[www.CityTavern.com](http://www.CityTavern.com) 215-413-1443

December 1773: City Tavern opens boasting the second largest ballroom in the British North America.  
May 1774: Paul Revere arrives at City Tavern to announce the closing of the port of Boston.  
September 1774: City Tavern is the unofficial meeting place of the first continental congress. Participants include George Washington, Thomas Jefferson & John Adams.  
July 1777: America's first Fourth of July celebration is held at City Tavern.  
August 1777: General Washington uses City Tavern as the official headquarters of the Continental Army.

January 1789: City Tavern becomes the headquarters of the Merchant's Coffee House & Place of Exchange.  
1976: The newly rebuilt City Tavern opens in time for the bicentennial.  
1994: Chef Walter Staib wins congressional approval to operate City Tavern & feature 18th century gourmet cuisine.  
Today: Chef Walter Staib's *A Taste of History* premieres on PBS & wins Emmy Awards, a James Beard nomination, is filming new seasons!

**TWO ENTRÉES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE**

Valid Sunday through Friday lunch or dinner. Only valid with the use of a major credit card. Not valid on Saturdays, restaurant holidays or with special menus.  
Not Valid May 10, May 24; June 21; June 24-July 3 Expires Sept. 3  
Walk-ins Welcome

**Independence App** Free Download

Use NPS Independence to discover maps, sites, tours, and ranger programs right from your smartphone.

**NPS**

Download on the **App Store** **ANDROID APP ON Google play**