

Independence

Spring 2016



LET'S CELEBRATE! The National Park Service is turning 100 years old in 2016 and invites you to join in the celebration all year long. The National Park Service promotes the preservation and enjoyment of national parks with the goal of leaving these treasures "...unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." All 409 national park sites have plenty of special events in 2016. Check out www.FindYourPark.com and discover what centennial events are being planned at a national park site near you.

Welcome to the "Best Park in History"

As we enter the spring of the NPS Centennial year, I am looking forward to programs and events showcasing national parks both here at Independence National Historical Park and elsewhere in the region. I know it is going to be an exciting spring with opportunities for everyone to find their park.

To kick off the season, we invite you to the Philadelphia Flower Show at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Our country's oldest and largest annual flower show is themed this year for the NPS centennial! Through a great partnership between NPS and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, visitors will get to experience national parks from across the country without ever leaving Philadelphia. Come meet park rangers from throughout the National Park system and hear unique ranger programs. Who knows, you might even meet the National Park Trust mascot, Buddy Bison.

Here at the park, we will also be celebrating 100 years of national parks. After visiting us at the Flower Show, come to the park for our many programs focused on women's history in March. Or, help us kick off National Park Week with Junior Ranger Day on April 16. Bring your kids for fun children's programming, games, and prizes.

More details about these events are available in this newspaper, on our website, or in our mobile app.

I hope to see you this spring.

Cynthia MacLeod
Superintendent

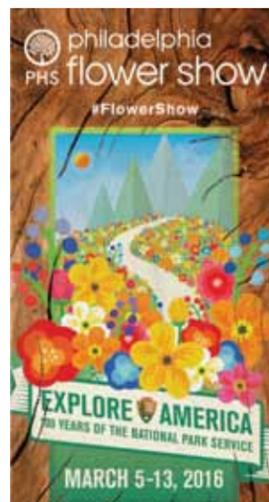


Philadelphia Flower Show

SPRINGTIME IS HERE. There are few better signs of spring than the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Philadelphia Flower Show, America's oldest and largest indoor flower show, going on March 5-13, 2016. This year's theme is, *Explore America: 100 Years of the National Park Service*.

The Flower Show, held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, has acres of options. Enjoy fabulous displays, gardening workshops and join National Park Rangers from all over the nation in special ranger programs and activities. Be sure to visit the Find Your Park Pavilion and let a park ranger help you find a special corner of America that you may not have known existed. Kids can pick up an Explorer's Journal and earn a special National Park Service Centennial Junior Ranger badge.

Tickets are available at the Independence Visitor Center information desk, or visit www.theflowershow.com.



Celebrating Parks



Join us in April for National Park Week and Jr. Ranger Day as we celebrate 100 years of "America's Best Idea," the National Park Service.

NATIONAL PARK WEEK is America's largest celebration of national heritage. Join Independence National Historical Park, April 16-24, 2016, as we celebrate National Park Week with special ranger programs, events, and fee free days at the Benjamin Franklin Museum.

The week will kick off Saturday, April 16 with National Junior Ranger Day on Independence Mall. Kids can play games, meet our rangers and staff to find out what's like to work for the National Park Service, and win prizes. You might even get to meet the National Park Trust mascot, Buddy Bison.

Visit one of our friendly park rangers at the Independence Visitor Center for more information.

Every Kid in a Park

CALLING ALL 4TH GRADERS! Did you know you can see America's natural wonders and historic sites for free? You and your family get free access to hundreds of parks for an entire year with the Every Kid in a Park Pass. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for more details.



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Park map also 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

Mailing Address

143 S. 3rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Website

www.nps.gov/inde

E-mail

INDEvisitorinfo@nps.gov

Emergency - Call 911

Park Dispatch

215-597-7077

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Other Sites of Interest

Carpenters' Hall

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

Museum of the American Philosophical Society

new exhibit, *Gathering Voices: Thomas Jefferson and Native America*

opens April 15

enter from inside Independence Square or 5th St. entrance

(no fee; donation requested)

open 10:00am - 4:00pm Thursday-Sunday

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes' Church) National Historic Site

916 Swanson Street

open 9:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday

Free Quaker Meeting House

corner of 5th and Arch Streets

open 11:00am - 4:00pm Saturday & Sunday

Note: Portrait Gallery in Second Bank is closed

The site will remain closed to visitors while curators and conservators clean the paintings and work to preserve the building.

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 assistive listening and audio description services. All park films are open captioned.



Independence Visitor Center

Open daily 8:30am - 6:00pm

The Independence Visitor Center, located in Independence National Historical Park, is the official visitor center of the Greater Philadelphia region. It is the perfect place to begin your visit in Philadelphia, offering visitor amenities including:

- multilingual visitor representatives
- onsite ticketing to more than 60 area tours and attractions
- free brochures and regional maps
- free, informative historical and orientation films
- free Wi-Fi and cell phone charging station
- public restrooms
- onsite cafe

Follow @PHLVisitorCntr, the Visitor Center's virtual concierge service on Twitter. For more information, call 215-965-7676 or visit www.PHLvisitorcenter.com.



Independence Hall

Open daily 9:00am - 5:00pm (tickets required)

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

Ranger-guided tours begin every 15-20 minutes. Free tickets are available on the day of your visit at the ranger desk at the Independence Visitor Center. **Note:** Visitors must arrive on Independence Square 30 minutes prior to tour time to pass through on-site security screening.



Note: Security screening for Independence Hall and the buildings on Independence Square closes fifteen minutes before the buildings close.

Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell Center, and the Independence Visitor Center will be open 'til 7pm, beginning May 28.

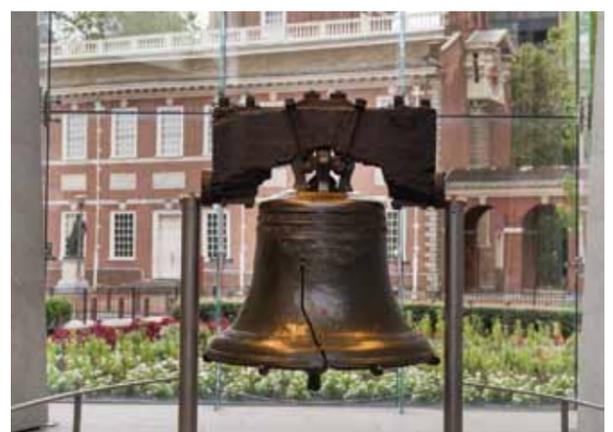


Liberty Bell Center

Open daily 9:00am - 5:00pm

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.



National Constitution Center

Open 9:30am - 5:00pm Monday thru Saturday;
12N - 5:00pm Sundays
www.constitutioncenter.org

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

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 meaning of the U.S. Constitution.



West Wing

Open 9-5 daily

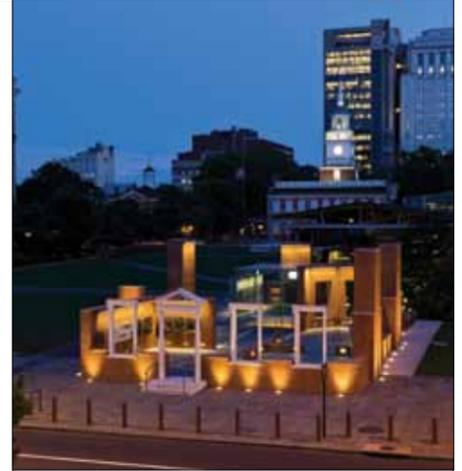
This gallery contains some of our nation's most celebrated documents - original printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States. Also on display is the silver Syng inkstand, believed to be the one used by the signers in the cause 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.



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 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.

For park information, visit us on the web at www.nps.gov/inde

Follow us: @IndependenceNHP facebook.com/IndependenceNHP @independencenps



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 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 #47 bus.
www.nps.gov/edal



Benjamin Franklin Museum

Open 9-5 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.

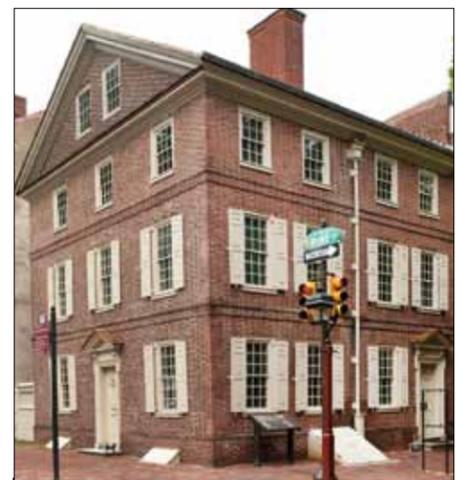
**Free admission on 4/16 thru 4/24*



Franklin Court Printing Office

Open 10-5 daily

As a printer himself, Benjamin Franklin understood the power of the press. Visitors can see firsthand 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.



Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial

Open 12N-4
Saturday and Sunday
Beginning April 2, 2016

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



Women's History Month Programs

Ranger Talk: "Forging Justice: the Women's Liberty Bell"

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.

10:30am Saturdays and Sundays in March

Liberty Bell Center

Demonstration: "Gentlewomen of the Press"

Hear about such women as Deborah Franklin, who assisted in her husband's shop, Mary Katharine Goddard who printed an early copy of the Declaration of Independence, and other women printers of the 18th century in this short ranger-led program. Special edition Women's History Month prints will be available for sale.

11:30am Saturdays and Sundays in March

Franklin Court Printing Office

Living History: "Women of the Revolution-Heroes and Villains"

Meet Lydia Darragh and Peggy Shippen Arnold, two women on different sides of the American Revolution. Like men, there were women who emerged as heroes and others as traitors to the cause.

1:00pm Saturday and Sunday, March 19 & 20, 2016

Independence Visitor Center

Ranger Program: "Ladies of Liberty, Justice, and Equality"

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

3:00pm Saturdays and Sundays in March

Independence Visitor Center

Walking Tour: "Seeds to Suffrage"

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

1:00pm Saturday and Sunday, March 26 & 27, 2016

Signer's Garden, at the corner of 5th and Chestnut Streets

House Tour: "Women in the Life of Edgar Allan Poe"

Join a ranger in a special tour of the Edgar Allan Poe house that explores the women in Poe's life. Discover how the women in his life, from his youth until his untimely death, influenced him in both his personal life and professional career as a writer.

1:00pm Saturday and Sunday, March 12 & 13, 2016

Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, 532 N. 7th Street, Philadelphia, PA

NPS Independence Mobile App

Follow "In Franklin's Footsteps" or go "In Pursuit of Liberty" using the park's FREE mobile app, "NPS Independence." Enjoy five thematic audio tours and listen to timeless tales of sacrifice, intrigue, compromise, and independence. Download the app from the App Store or on Google Play. *Tip: use the free Wi-Fi in the Visitor Center.*



Enjoy FREE admission to the Benjamin Franklin Museum, April 16-24th!

National Park Week

April 16 to 24, 2016

Join Independence National Historical Park as we celebrate the NPS centennial during National Park Week. We invite you and your family to enjoy special ranger programs, events, and fee free days at the Benjamin Franklin Museum. Be sure to see the new NPS Centennial exhibit in the Liberty Bell Center or play in the NPS Fun Zone in the Independence Visitor Center. For more details, or to find out about Jr. Ranger Day (see below), talk with a park ranger at the Independence Visitor Center, or visit our website:

www.nps.gov/inde/planyourvisit/eventsactivities



Keep a lookout for Buddy Bison. He'll be in the park for National Park Week.

Junior Ranger Day

April 16, 2015

National Park Week kicks off with our annual Jr. Ranger Day. Play games, meet our rangers and staff, collect NPS centennial trading cards, take a selfie with Buddy Bison, and win prizes. It's all FREE!

10am-4pm - Independence Mall next to the Liberty Bell Center

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER



Special Exhibition: Headed to the White House

The next president of the United States will be...you! Visit the National Constitution Center for the timely "Headed to the White House" exhibit, and experience the excitement, intrigue, and Constitutional legacy of presidential elections through hands-on interactive and multimedia experiences. Now open through Election Day. For tickets, visit www.constitutioncenter.org.



Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights now through December 2017

Experience America's founding documents up close! The National Constitution Center is proud to display one of the 12 surviving copies of the Bill of Rights. It has been preserved as part of the New York Public Library's renowned research collection for over 100 years.

Celebrate Memorial Day Weekend at the National Constitution Center, May 28-30

Visit the National Constitution Center over Memorial Day weekend and explore the history of our military. See how our nation pays homage to the people who have given their lives defending the Constitution. Free admission on May 30, 2016.

Support Your Park with Eastern National



Pick up a passport book or keepsake pin at the Independence Square store.

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 beautiful selection of Jamestown colonial glass or visit the special section for children's gifts in each store. Stores are located in the Benjamin Franklin Museum and Old City Hall. *A portion of sale proceeds goes to supporting the park.*

Become a "Friend" to Independence!



For over 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 who visit Philadelphia each year. During this time we have helped purchase over 1,000 artifacts for the park's collections, raised funds to rehab park spaces, provided over 35 years of free educational walking tours, and so much more.

Our members are making a difference. Please join us in supporting the "Best Park in History." For more information, please visit our website: www.friendsofindependence.org or call our office at 215-861-4971.

Living History Programs

Beginning Memorial Day weekend and running through the summer, Historic Philadelphia, Inc. kicks off Once Upon a Nation activities for young and old alike. Look out for special living history programs throughout Independence National Historical Park:

- **Once Upon a Nation Storytelling Benches**, in 13 different locations in the Park
- gaming, crafting, and music at **Colonial Stations** in the Independence Visitor Center
- **Independence After Hours** tour and dining experience (admission fee required)
- meet **History Makers**, costumed interpreters in locations throughout the park portraying real people from Philadelphia's past
- and the **Military Muster**, where children are "drafted" into the Continental Army

More information on these programs and more can be found by visiting www.historicphiladelphia.org.



Independence Junior Ranger

Download the FREE "Independence Junior Ranger" app. For *iPhone* or *iPad*.

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 215-413-1443

December 1773: City Tavern opens boasting the second largest ballroom in the British North America.	January 1789: City Tavern becomes the headquarters of the Merchant's Coffee House & Place of Exchange.
May 1774: Paul Revere arrives at City Tavern to announce the closing of the port of Boston.	1976: The newly rebuilt City Tavern opens in time for the bicentennial.
September 1774: City Tavern is the unofficial meeting place of the first continental congress. Participants include George Washington, Thomas Jefferson & John Adams.	1994: Chef Walter Staib wins congressional approval to operate City Tavern & feature 18th century gourmet cuisine.
July 1777: America's first Fourth of July celebration is held at City Tavern.	Today: Chef Walter Staib's <i>A Taste of History</i> premieres on PBS & wins Emmy Awards, a James Beard nomination, is filming new seasons!
August 1777: General Washington uses City Tavern as the official headquarters of the Continental Army.	

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. Discount will be applied to the least expensive entrée. Children's meals are considered entrees.

Not Valid Feb. 13-15; March 25-28; May 8, 27-30, 2010
 Expires June 15th, 2010



You can catch a PHLASH bus outside the Independence Visitor Center at 6th and Market Streets.

See Philly in a PHLASH!

Sightseeing in Philadelphia couldn't be easier aboard the Philly PHLASH Downtown Loop. Making stops at Independence National Historical Park, the PHLASH bus loop connects visitors to 22 key destinations, including the Benjamin Franklin Museum and National Constitution Center. For just \$2 per ride or \$5 per day, it's an affordable and convenient way to see the sights.

An Afternoon of Music with The Pennsylvania Flute Choir

The Fords of the Brandywine

April 17, @2pm in the Independence Visitor Center

Independence National Historical Park and the Friends of Independence invite you to enjoy a special National Park Week musical performance by The Pennsylvania Flute Choir as they present *The Fords of the Brandywine*.



This special flute composition evokes General George Washington's ill-fated Battle of Brandywine, from the opening volley to the last hurrah. Written and narrated by Dr. Debra Torok. Visit www.friendsofindependence.org for more information.



Experience a one of a kind chance to "sneak" into Independence Hall and eavesdrop on the Founders during the Independence After Hours tour.