Independence

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Summer 2016

1916 2016

Portrait Gallery Exhibit Reopens

Visit the Second Bank of the United States... and see where architecture, fine art, and economic history meet. The building — a marvel of Greek Revival architecture — and its famed collection of portraits reopens to the public this summer after a 16 month closure. A fire in the building's mechanical system in January 2015 necessitated extensive cleaning and conservation.

The building itself once served as a financial hub for the nation as home to the Second Bank of the U.S. Today, it houses the "People of Independence" exhibit, with over 150 portraits of 18th and 19th century political leaders, military officers, explorers and scientists, including many by noted artist Charles Willson Peale. A number of these portraits once inspired visitors to Peale's Philadelphia Museum, located on the second floor of Independence Hall in the early 1800s.

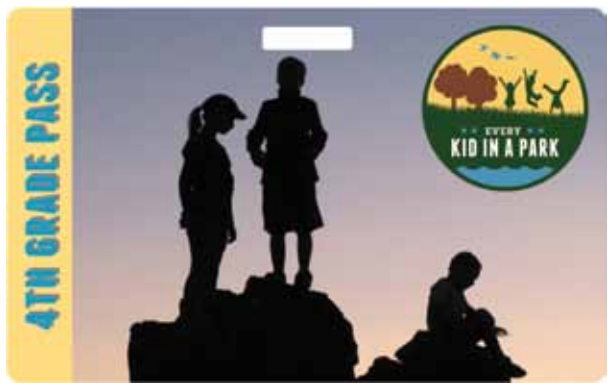
Chartered by Congress in 1816, the Second Bank of the U.S. played a pivotal role in the "bank wars," which pitted President Andrew Jackson against powerful bank president Nicholas Biddle. Step inside to see original portraits of the Founding Fathers.

We invite you to take a moment to marvel at the building's barrel vaulted ceiling, to gaze upon the famous portraits, and to ponder the complexities of the nation's economic history. Families are sure to enjoy a scavenger hunt using the Hidden History clue cards. The Second Bank is open again, and full of interesting stories to discover!

Every Kid in a Park

Calling all 4th graders! Did you know that 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.

To help inspire future generations of park visitors, the White House, in partnership with the Federal Land Management agencies, launched the Every Kid in a Park initiative. The immediate goal is to provide an opportunity for each and every 4th grade student across the country to experience their national parks in person with their families throughout the 2015-2016 school year. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for more details.



The Every Kid in a Park pass opens doors to learning. Parks are great places for families to explore together, and to play together.

Summer Fun

The Historic District is buzzing with excitement this summer. Listen to stories at all 13 *Once Upon a Nation* storytelling benches, or enjoy the new puppet show behind Carpenters' Hall on Saturdays. Want to practice your hoop rolling skills? You can do that at the Colonial Stations offered in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia Inc. See page 7 for more information.

What better time to have fun in a national park than during the National Park Service's 100th birthday? Celebrate with us on Founders Day (August 25) and every other day this summer!

Welcome to the "Best Park in History"

Welcome to Independence National Historical Park. We are in full swing as we approach the busy summer season in Independence National Historical Park and continue to celebrate the 100th birthday of the National Park Service. I'm pleased to share that we have re-opened the Second Bank Portrait Gallery and are looking forward to seeing you at this wonderful architectural jewel and its art exhibit.

Our actual centennial anniversary is August 25, 2016. We are planning many events surrounding this momentous occasion including a picnic on the Mall with the Friends of INHP, a time capsule, and the dedication of a plaque in honor of Stephen Mather, one of NPS's founders.

We continue to consider ways to bring new audiences to the Park and develop meaningful partnerships. We are excited about the pollinator garden behind the Free Quaker Meeting House that we created with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and local school volunteers. To help engage and create our next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates, our Every Kid in a Park initiative continues to provide an opportunity for 4th graders and their families to experience their federal public lands and waters in person throughout the year.

Please stop by the Independence Visitor Center to learn more about our events, programs and tours. You can also visit us online and on social media or download our mobile app. And #FindYourPark when you do visit!

Cynthia MacLeod
Superintendent

FIND YOUR PARK

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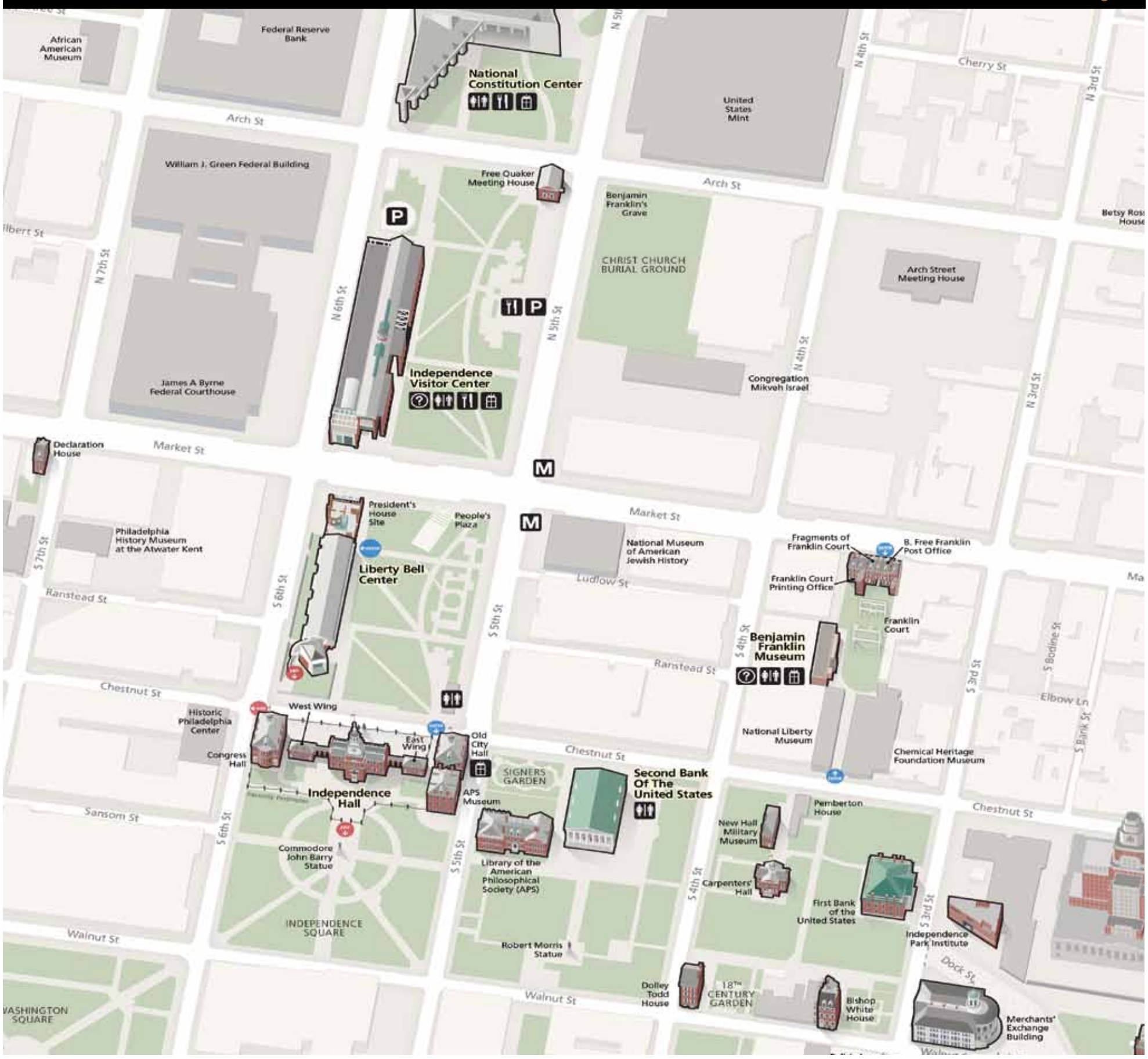
"Summer" season runs from May 28 through September 5, 2016.

Park Map

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Summer 2016



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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Other Sites of Interest

Deshler-Morris House (Germantown White House)
5442 Germantown Avenue
Open Saturdays 10:00am - 5:00pm

Carpenters' Hall
Chestnut Street between 3rd and 4th Streets
Open 10:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday

Free Quaker Meeting House
5th and Arch Streets
Open 11:00am - 4:00pm Saturday - Sunday thru 6/11
Beginning 6/12, open 11:00am - 4:00pm daily

Museum of the American Philosophical Society
Gathering Voices: Thomas Jefferson and Native America exhibit
Enter from inside Independence Square or 5th St. entrance
(no fee; donation requested)
Open 10:00am - 5:00pm Thursday-Sunday

Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site
532 N. 7th Street
Open 9:00am - 5:00pm (closed 12N - 1pm) Friday - Sunday

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes'Church) National Historic Site
916 Swanson Street
Open 9:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday

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, 'til 8:00pm July 1-4

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 start your time in Philadelphia, offering visitor amenities, including:

- Free, timed tickets to tour Independence Hall
- Multilingual Visitor Services Representatives
- Onsite ticketing to more than 100 area tours and attractions
- Free brochures and regional maps
- Free, informative historical films
- Free Wi-Fi and cell phone charging station
- Public restrooms
- Indoor and outdoor cafés

Enjoy a beautiful outdoor dining experience in the heart of America's Most Historic Square Mile. Simple American cuisine paired with handcrafted beers and savory wines are the perfect complement to a day of sightseeing. Open daily, 11am - 5pm.

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

Enjoy lunch at the Independence Mall Café.

Independence Hall

Open daily 9:00am - 7:00pm, 'til 8:00pm July 1-4

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, or by calling 877-444-6777.

Note: Visitors must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to tour time to pass through on-site security screening. Security screening closes at 6:45pm (closes at 7:45 from July 1-4)

Liberty Bell Center

Open daily 9:00am - 7:00pm, 'til 8:00pm July 1-4

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 Saturday;
12N - 5:00pm Sundays

The **Museum of We the People, America's Town Hall,** and a headquarters for **Civic Education,** the National Constitution Center inspires active citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution. The Center brings the Constitution to life for visitors of all ages through interactive exhibits, theatrical performances, and historic documents.

Places to Visit

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

Open 12N-5 daily

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 1975.

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

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

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.

Second Bank of the United States (Portrait Gallery)

Open 11-5 daily

Chartered by Congress in 1816, the Second Bank played a pivotal role in the "bank wars" which pitted President Andrew Jackson against bank president Nicholas Biddle. Designed by William Strickland, this marvel of Greek Revival architecture houses a permanent collection of over 150 portraits of famous men and women by such noted artists as Charles Willson Peale and Thomas Sully.

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 - 8/28*

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.

Guided Tours and Programs

"Independence Hall and the History of Gay Rights in Philadelphia"
Join a park ranger for a slide program about the LGBT movement's roots in Philadelphia. On July 4, 1965, demonstrators marched across the street from Independence Hall in one of the first organized gay rights demonstrations in the United States.
3pm June 9-11; at Independence Visitor Center Theater

***"The British Occupation of Philadelphia"* walking tour**
Hear the stories of the officers, the soldiers, and the civilians during the British occupation of Philadelphia from September 1777 to June 1778. Which side would you choose?
3pm June 18-19; at the arbor in the Franklin Court courtyard

***"Happy (Founding) Father's Day"* gallery tour**
Join a park ranger to learn about the sacrifices and hardships facing the families of the Founders as these Fathers forged a new nation.
4pm June 19; inside the Second Bank at the Washington statue

***"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; at Signers Garden at 5th and Chestnut Sts., *beginning 6/25*
no tour 7/24-30, and 8/18, 8/20, and 8/21

***"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's accomplishments continue to shape our city, country, and the world.
10:00am Saturday/Sunday only; at Benjamin Franklin Museum entrance, *beginning 6/25*

Stripes and Stars 2016
Flag Day Festival

June 14
8am - 3pm

Celebrate Flag Day and the birthday of the U.S. Army with pomp and parade. Join the flag raising at the National Constitution Center at 10:30am followed by a patriotic parade of troops—past and present— to Independence Hall for opening ceremonies. Hear the proclamations for both the American flag and the U.S. Army, and watch future soldiers take the oath of enlistment. At noon, sky divers from Fastrax Parachute Team will land on Independence Mall. The day winds down at 3:00pm with the ceremonial folding of the American flag on Independence Mall.

Founders Day
August 25

Help celebrate the National Park Service's 100th birthday with activities for the whole family. Ask a ranger at the Visitor Center desk for more information.

Fragments of Franklin Court at 318 Market St.

Open 12N-5 daily

Beginning 6/11

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.

New Hall Military Museum

Open 12N-5 daily

Beginning 6/11

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.

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.

Beginning 6/25

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.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial

Open 12N-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.

More Programs

"Bank Orientation Tour" gallery tour

Learn about the notable people in the gallery.
11:30am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 3:30pm, 4:30pm daily
Meet inside the Second Bank at the Washington statue
beginning 6/25

"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 August 18, 20, and 21; inside Liberty Bell Center

"The Election of 1796" walking tour

Learn about the first contested American presidential election and the only one in which a president and vice president were elected from opposing tickets/parties.
2:30pm July 24-30; at Signers Garden, corner of 5th and Chestnut Sts.

"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 August 18, 20, and 21; Independence Visitor Center Theater

Philadelphia - A City of Conventions

Exhibit in the Liberty Bell Center, June 11 thru August 4

Explore the temporary exhibit in the Liberty Bell Center to learn about Philadelphia's long tradition of hosting conventions. From the Continental Congresses to the Constitutional Convention to the 2016 Democratic National Convention, Philadelphia remains a gathering place.

"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 August 18, 20, and 21; at Signers Garden, corner of 5th and Chestnut Sts.

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 through Election Day.

Celebrate Flag Day and the U.S. Army Birthday
Stripes and Stars Festival, June 14

From star-spangled banners to five-star generals, Philadelphia celebrates the shared birthday of two of our country's greatest institutions - the American flag and the U.S. Army. Events include flag raising ceremonies, a patriotic parade, and giant flag folding demonstrations. Admission will be $5 on June 14, courtesy of Macy's.

The All American Celebration
June 30 - July 4

Enjoy an array of patriotic festivities. Create Colonial-era arts and crafts and stop by the museum's Revolutionary War encampment on the front lawn. Colonial musical performances will take place throughout the week. Free admission on June 30 courtesy of Wawa; free admission on July 4, courtesy of the John Templeton Foundation.

"We Differ As Rational Friends"

Adams - Jefferson Debate

July 23, 1 pm
August 6, 1 pm

Congress Hall
enter through security
at 5th and Chestnut Sts.

Join bitter political rivals and close personal friends John Adams (Peyton Dixon) and Thomas Jefferson (Steve Edenbo) as they discuss, debate, and sometimes decry the revolutionary storms they weathered throughout a relationship spanning 50 years. *Recommended for ages 14 and up*

Re-enactment of the First Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence

July 8
12Noon

Independence Square

On July 8, 1776, Colonel John Nixon strode to a platform in the State House Yard (now Independence Square) and shared the news of the Declaration of Independence with the crowd. Help celebrate this historic occasion by joining park staff for a commemorative reading. Free copies of the Declaration will be given out to all visitors.

Find Your Story with "NPS Independence"

Want to follow in Franklin's footsteps? Or, go in pursuit of liberty? Use the audio tours in the park's FREE mobile app to find your story. The app map will also help you find the nearest restroom! Available for download from the App Store and Google Play.

Family Fun @ Independence

Enjoy expanded summer programming offered in cooperation with Historic Philadelphia, Inc.

Once Upon a Nation Storytelling

Visit all 13 *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

May 28 - 30, daily
June 3 - June 11, Friday and Saturday
June 14 - August 13 (and July 3 and 4), Tuesday - Saturday
August 19 - September 3, Friday and Saturday
September 4 - 5, 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

May 28 - 30
daily

June 3 - June 11
Friday and Saturday

June 14 - August 13
Tuesday - Saturday

August 19 - September 3
Friday and Saturday

September 4 - 5
daily

Colonial Stations

Famous and not-so-famous historical figures will captivate visitors with their past. Meet the Founding Mothers and Fathers, learn how to roll hoops, hear music, and see demonstrations of unusual 18th century crafts like scrimshaw.

11am - 1pm; May 28 - September 5, Tuesday - Friday

Tuesday: Christ Church
Wednesday: Harmony Lane
Thursday: Independence Square
Friday: National Constitution Center

Colonial Kids' Quest Puppet Show

Enjoy this light-hearted adventure where kids of all ages will help animal puppets search for a missing copy of the Declaration of Independence.

11am and 1:30pm; May 28 - July 23
Saturdays only
Behind Carpenters' Hall
320 Chestnut Street

Military Muster

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.

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

May 28-30, daily
June 3 - June 11, Friday and Saturday
June 14 - August 13, Tuesday - Saturday
August 19 - September 3, Friday and Saturday
September 4-5, daily

National Park Service Fun and Games

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.

National Park Fun Zone

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.

Beginning 6/25
10am - 2pm daily
inside the Liberty Bell Center

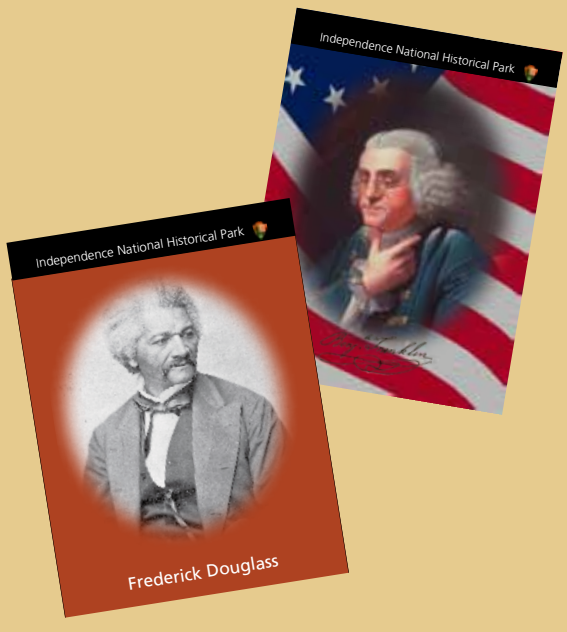
Barnacles and Bullets

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

Beginning 6/25
1pm and 4pm daily
meet in New Hall Military Museum

Trading Cards

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



Support Your Park with Eastern National

Remember your visit with items from the Benjamin Franklin Museum Store. Now open 'til 7pm. The Independence Square 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 beautiful collection 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 in Old City Hall. *A portion of sale proceeds goes to supporting the park.*

See Philly in a PHLASH!

Sightseeing in Philadelphia couldn't be easier aboard the Philly PHLASH Downtown Loop. Making stops in Independence National Historical Park, the PHLASH connects visitors to key destinations, including the Benjamin Franklin Museum, National Constitution Center, Independence Hall, and the Liberty Bell. Its route travels in a continuous loop from the Delaware Waterfront to Fairmount Park, providing service to every stop every 15 minutes from 10am - 6pm.

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 RidePhillyPHLASH.com.

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, *beginning 6/15, no tour 7/3*

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 or call our office at 215-861-4971.

Friends of Independence
National Historical Park

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

May 27 thru June 11; Friday and Saturday only
June 14 thru August 13, Tuesday thru Saturday, *plus July 4*
August 19 thru October 22, 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.

A Triumph of Tradition
CITY TAVERN RESTAURANT
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.

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*** premiers on PBS & wins Emmy Awards, a James Board nomination, is filming new seasons!

Independence
App
Free Download
Use NPS Independence to discover maps, sites, tours, and ranger programs right from your smartphone.
Download on the App Store
ANDROID APP ON Google play