

# Independence

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National Historical Park  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



February, 2015

## Building Hours and Program Times

Independence Visitor Center.....8:30 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.

**Programs:** “Junior Ranger Induction Ceremony” daily at 4:00 p.m.

Liberty Bell Center..... 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

*Please note - security screening closes 5 minutes before the Liberty Bell Center closes for the evening*

## Independence Square (Access to the “Square” is through security located at 5th and Chestnut Streets)

*Please note - security screening closes 15 minutes before the buildings on the block close for the evening*

Independence Hall..... 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Congress Hall..... 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Old City Hall.....9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Great Essentials Exhibit in the West Wing of Independence Hall..... 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

## Carpenters’ Court

Carpenters’ Hall.....open Wednesday-Sunday..... 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

## Franklin Court

Benjamin Franklin Museum.....(fee charged)..... 9:00 a.m.-5:00p.m.

B. Free Franklin Post Office..... open Monday-Saturday.....9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Printing Office..... 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

## Other Park Sites

The City Tavern.....opens at 11:30

National Constitution Center (fee charged)... open Monday-Friday..... 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

open Saturday.....9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. open Sunday..... Noon-5:00 p.m.

The President’s House Site Memorial.....7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

## Other NPS Sites

Edgar Allan Poe NHS..... open Friday-Sunday.....9:00 a.m.– Noon and 1:00-5:00 p.m.

## Special Events and Program Descriptions

### February 1, 7 & 8

3:00-3:30 - **Underground Railroad in Philadelphia** - During the 18th and 19th centuries Philadelphia was an important stop on the Underground Railroad. Learn more about the people and places connected to this important era in Black history during this 30 minute slide program at the Independence Visitor Center.

### February 14 & 15

3:00-3:30 - **George Washington Invents the Presidency** – Hear about the precedents set by the nation’s first president in this 30 minute slide program in honor of President’s Day. The U.S. Constitution provides little more than the basics about the role of the chief executive. President Washington summed up the challenges: “I walk on untrodden ground.” Independence Visitor Center.

### February 21

2:00-3:00 - **Strike Up The Band: the life and music of Francis Johnson** – Learn about the extraordinary music and career of Philadelphia’s premier Black bandmaster, Francis Johnson (1792-1844), who overcame numerous social and political adversities to become one of the most celebrated bandleaders of the early nineteenth century. Slide show and live performance of Johnson’s music. Independence Visitor Center.

### February 22 & 28

3:00-3:30 - **Crisis in the Capital City – the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793** – Learn about the human side of the epidemic, including the heroic contributions of the African American community in this 30 minute slide program. Though faced with fear and death, Philadelphians grew stronger and more capable of caring for their fellow citizens as result of this ordeal. Independence Visitor Center.

## Holiday Hours

**President’s Day – February 16, 2015** Independence Visitor Center 8:30- 6:00, Liberty Bell Center, Independence Hall and Benjamin Franklin Museum 9:00- 5:00