



Welcome to Philadelphia with School Tours of America!

This booklet is designed to be a helpful guide as you visit the beautiful city of Philadelphia. It will provide you with an overview of many of the sites you will see on your tour. It is also loaded with interesting facts and fun trivia questions!

Philadelphia is Pennsylvania's largest city, and it is noted for its rich history. The Liberty Bell, Independence Hall (where the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were signed), and other American Revolutionary sites are on full display. Don't forget about the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, immortalized by Sylvester Stallone's triumphant run in the film *Rocky*.

King Charles II granted William Penn land in Pennsylvania. The new territory became a safe haven for religious, racial, and gender equality. The city is known as "the City of Brotherly Love" as its name comes from the Greek words "phileo," which means "love," and "adelphos," which means "brother." William Penn himself chose this name for his city.

Penn's layout for the city of Philadelphia centered around a 1,200-acre plot of land. It was organized into a rectangular grid with lettered and numbered streets perpendicular to each other and broader streets more fitting for commerce and trade forming the main axes. Each quadrant has a public square with open green space named Logan, Franklin, Washington, and Rittenhouse Squares. Penn created evenly spaced lots to offer a sense of country living with space for gardens. This plan set a precedent for many early American cities.



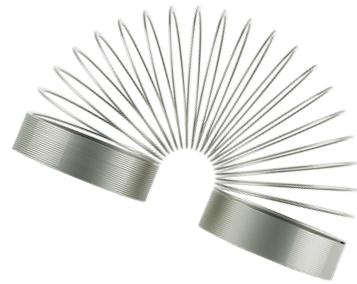
Philly Firsts

- Philadelphia is a city of American firsts. It was founded in 1682, making it one of the country's first cities.
- It is nicknamed the "Birthplace of America" since the city was the meeting place for the First Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention.
- It was the first capital city of the United States.
- It is the city where the country's two most important documents were written and signed - The Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution.



Philly had:

- the first lending library.
- the first hospital.
- the first university.
- the first art museum
- the first zoo
- the first US Mint
- the first medical college
- the first children's hospital
- the first World's Fair in America
- the first ice cream soda
- the first Mother's Day celebration
- the first Thanksgiving Day parade
- the first Slinky!



Historic Philadelphia

The Betsy Ross House



Elizabeth Griscom was born on January 1, 1752, in Gloucester City, New Jersey. She was the 8th of 17 children born to Rebecca James Griscom and Samuel Griscom. A young Betsy was apprenticed to an upholsterer, where she learned to sew mattresses, chair covers, and window blinds. At the age of 21, Betsy eloped with John Ross, with whom she started a new upholstery shop. Sadly, John died after barely two years of marriage. Shortly after his death, in the summer of 1776 (or 1777), Betsy was said to have received a visit from none other than General George Washington and others regarding a design for the new nation's flag.

They had a rough sketch, a flag with thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen six-pointed stars. Allegedly, Betsy suggested that the six-pointed stars be changed to five-pointed stars because they were easier to make. The story goes that she showed them how to make the new stars by folding a piece of paper into triangles, and with a "single snip of the scissors," she made a perfect star. The men agreed to change the design. Ross is said to have made the first American flag shortly after that meeting.

Carpenters Hall



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Carpenters' Hall is a two-story brick meeting hall built in 1775. It has been a key meeting place in the history of the United States. The First Continental Congress met there from September 5 - October 26, 1774, in response to the British threats to the colonies. This is where the Declaration of Independence was delivered to Congress on June 25, 1776.

The Hall once housed the first subscription-based library founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1731. The First and Second Banks of the United States were headquartered in Carpenters' Hall.

Philadelphia Trivia

1. The Academy Award for Best Original Song in 1993 went to what song with Philadelphia in the name, written and sung by Bruce Springsteen?
2. What movie boxer and franchise cornerstone, played by Sylvester Stallone, famously climbed the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art?
3. Philadelphia's border with New Jersey is created entirely by what river?
4. Locals often refer to what NFC East football team affectionately as "the birds?"
5. What "tough" furry orange mascot swung into his first appearance at a Philadelphia Flyers home game on a giant wrecking ball?
6. Philly's Mutter Museum is the place to see thousands of medical oddities, including pieces of the brain of what Nobel laureate who died in 1955?
7. A bridge connecting Philadelphia to Camden, NJ, across the Delaware River, is named for what American founding father who invented the bifocals, among other scientific, literary, and state accomplishments?
8. Despite its name, Philadelphia Cream Cheese was actually invented in what state?
9. What ABC television series uses the mockumentary style to follow the day-to-day lives of elementary school teachers in the Philadelphia public school system?
10. The famous Liberty Bell was cast with the inscription: "Proclaim LIBERTY Throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants Thereof." From what book was this quote lifted?

Christ Church



Christ Church was founded in 1695 as part of William Penn's Charter. It is known as "The Nation's Church" as it hosted members of the Continental Congress during the American Revolution. Early members of the church include Benjamin Franklin, Betsy Ross, John Penn (William's grandson), and signers of the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution. The Christ Church Burial Ground opened in 1719 and is the final resting place of Benjamin Franklin and four other men who signed the Declaration of Independence - Francis Hopkinson, Benjamin Rush, Joseph Hewes, and George Ross.

Congress Hall



Philadelphia served as the temporary capital of the U.S. from 1790 to 1800. The U.S. Congress met in Congress Hall, the House of Representatives met on the first floor, while the Senate convened upstairs. Presidents George Washington (second term) and John Adams both took the oath of office in this building.

Franklin Court



Franklin Court is the site of the home of Benjamin Franklin. He lived at this residence from 1763 until his death in 1790. During his time here, he served in the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention. The house was torn down 22 years after Franklin died, but today, there is a steel "ghost structure" that outlines the spot where Franklin's house stood. Also on the grounds is the Benjamin Franklin Museum, which explores the rich life of Franklin through artifacts, animations, and interactives, as well as a working reproduction of an 18th-century printing office, an architectural/archeological exhibit, and an operating post office.

Independence Hall



Independence Hall is the birthplace of America. This is where, in 1776, the Second Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence. Eleven years later, in the same room, 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention created and signed the framework of our government - the United States Constitution.

Construction on the building started in 1732. It was built to be the Pennsylvania State House, which would house all three branches of Pennsylvania's colonial government. The Pennsylvania legislature loaned the Assembly Room out for the meetings of the Second Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention. It was there that George Washington was appointed Commander in Chief of the Continental Army in 1775, and the Articles of Confederation officially took effect in 1781.

The National Constitution Center



The National Constitution Center is a museum dedicated to the study of the US Constitution. It serves as a national town hall that hosts government leaders, journalists, scholars, and celebrities to engage in public discussions, including Constitution-related events and presidential debates. There are many things to do inside the museum.

- *Freedom Rising* is a multimedia production that tells the story of America's quest for freedom. *The Story of We the People* is an interactive exhibit that uses film, photos, artifacts, and interactive activities to highlight America's constitutional history.
- Signers' Hall allows visitors to sign the Constitution amid 42 life-size bronze statues of the Founding Fathers.
- There is an exhibit dedicated to the women's suffrage movement called 19th Amendment: How Women Won the Vote.
- Finally, American Treasures traces the drafting of the Constitution and the addition of the Bill of Rights.

The Liberty Bell



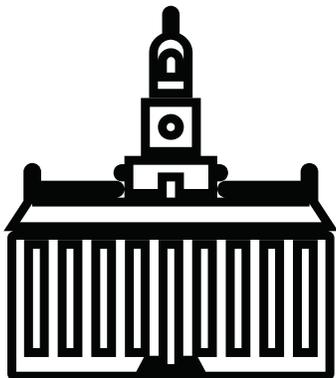
The Liberty Bell is a well-known symbol of freedom in the United States. It was ordered by the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1751 to be installed in the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall). The bell was cast in London, England, then shipped to Pennsylvania. Not long after it arrived, the bell cracked, so a new one was cast from its metal by local craftsmen John Pass and John Stow. On the bell are inscribed their names, the year in Roman numerals (MDCCLIII), and a Bible verse from the book of Leviticus: "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the Land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

Liberty Bell Facts and Figures

- The bell is an alloy, or a mix of metals; it is made of 70% copper, 25% tin, and also has zinc, lead, arsenic, silver, and even gold. The bell is suspended on what is believed to be its original yoke of American elm wood.
- The Liberty Bell weighs 2,080 pounds. The yoke weighs about 100 pounds.
- From lip to crown, the Bell measures three feet. The circumference around the crown measures six feet, 11 inches, and the circumference around the lip measures 12 feet.
- The cost of the original Bell, including insurance and shipping was £150, 13 shillings, and eight pence (\$225.50) in 1752—the recasting cost slightly more than £36 (\$54) in 1753.
- On the Liberty Bell, Pennsylvania is misspelled "Pensylvania." This spelling was one of several acceptable spellings of the name at that time.
- The strike note of the Bell is E-flat.
- The Bell's clapper broke on its first use and was repaired by local artisans John Pass and John Stow. Their names are engraved into the Bell.
- Each year, more than one million people visit the Liberty Bell.
- The Bell hasn't been rung since George Washington's birthday celebration in February 1846. Its fatal crack appeared the same year.

Guess Who - Philadelphia

1. This man is an actor, rapper and film producer. Perfectly enough, he was the star of the movie *Independence Day*.
2. He was a professional basketball player. A shooting guard, he spent his entire 20-year career with the LA Lakers in the NBA.
3. Her real name is Alecia Beth Hart Moore, a singer and songwriter. She is known for her rock-influenced pop songs, powerful contralto voice, and activism.
4. He is an actor who once got "Footloose."
5. This actress became a real-life princess when she married Prince Rainier III of Monaco.
6. This Mean Girls star was born just outside of Philly in 1970.
7. This enterprising fellow invented the game Monopoly during the Great Depression.
8. This actor was born to be a star!
9. This boxer was inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame.
10. This African American lady could really sing the blues.



Philadelphia Trivia Answers

1. Streets of Philadelphia
2. Rocky Balboa
3. Delaware River
4. Philadelphia Eagles
5. Gritty
6. Albert Einstein
7. Ben Franklin Bridge
8. New York
9. Abbott Elementary
10. The Bible

Guess Who - Philadelphia Answers

1. Will Smith
2. Kobe Bryant
3. Pink
4. Kevin Bacon
5. Grace Kelly
6. Tina Fey
7. Charles Darrow
8. Bradley Cooper
9. Joe Frazier
10. Billie Holiday

**Thank you for traveling
with School Tours of
America!**

