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CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Office of the Mayer 215 City Het Philosophia, PA 19107 (216) 255-2161 PAR (215) 555-2162

MICHAEL A. NUTTER Meyor

March, 2010

Greetings and welcome to Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection!

In Philadeiphia, we're proud of our status of being a city of firsts. In addition to being the birthplace of our nation, our city is also the site of the first protests for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) civil rights, which began in 1985. While in town, be sure to visit the historio marker commemorating the first LGBT civil rights protests – it can be found in the historio district at 6th and Chestnut Streets.

Another first can be found in this year's Navigaytour – a Gay History Trail Map – a first for any U.S. city. The Gay History Trail will highlight our region's LGBT landscape from the Chill War to modarn day, providing an insider's look at the people, places, and events that have been integral to Philadelphia's LGBT history.

Whether your visit to Philadelphia is for business or for pleasure, I encourage you to experience all that our city has to offer – day and night. Historic sites abound in Philadelphia and the hub of our LGBT community, the "Gayborhood," is centrally located in the downtown Washington West neighborhood.

You'll also find many LGBT-friendly bars, restaurants, and boutiques and you'll know you're in our "Geyborhood" when you see the rainbow street signs.

Throughout your visit to Philadelphia. I invite you to Get Your History Straight and Your Nightlife Gay"

With kind regards,

Michael A. Nutler

Mayor

PRODUCED BY

NAVIGAYTOUR

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LOCUST ST

Rainbow street signs celebrate Philadelphia's lively Gayborhood

PHILADELPHIA AROUND THE CLOCK

Philadelphia may be best known as the birthplace of freedom, but there's a lot more to the City of Brotherly and Sisterly Love than America's most historical square mile. As the sixth-largest city in the United States, Philly is filled with non-stop energy thanks to its eclectic enclaves, arts and cultural attractions and celebration of gay and lesbian life around the clock—and around the region.

Founded in 1682 by William Penn (that's him immortalized atop City Hall at Broad and Market streets). Philadelphia is a magnificent metropolis that attracts tourists from around the world. It's a city where Revolutionary-period cobblestone streets intersect with bustling avenues, and where historic landmarks, world-famous architecture, creative cuisine, first-class destinations and high culture welcome residents and visitors into an energetic network of neighborhoods.

The pedestrian-friendly downtown (or what locals call Center City) is the heart of Philly with a gateway to many diverse districts stretching between the scenic Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. When you're not people-watching in bucolic Rittenhouse Square or museum-hopping along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, follow the rainbow signs to Philadelphia's Gayborhood, several lively blocks filled with bars, nightclubs, eateries and shops just footsteps from the Avenue of the Arts, Pine Street's Antiques Row and the posh Washington Square neighborhood.

Gay culture also thrives in South Philadelphia along East Passyunk Avenue where the Old World meets the new thanks to galleries, gourmet eateries, shops and bars lining this eclectic crossroads. No trip to gay Philly would be complete without adventures in hip and historic Old City, where you're as likely to find horse-drawn carriages and actors sporting Colonial couture as you are sophisticated gallery goers making the rounds every First Friday of the month. Art also rules uptown in Northern Liberties, a one-time industrial enclave that's now home to a European-style square and alternative music venues welcoming rockers from around the world.

FREEDOM STARTED HERE

Years before the famous Stonewall Riots changed the course of gay history in New York City, Philadelphia played an important role in the modern gay rights movement. Some of the nation's first gay rights protests took to the streets at Independence Hall as early as 1965. These "Annual Reminders," as they were called, attracted gay and lesbian pioneers fighting for equal protection on the very site where America's founders signed the Declaration of Independence more than 200 years earlier.

Philadelphia has also welcomed several other gay firsts over the years, including the *Philadelphia Gay News*, one of the first gay newspapers, launched by activist Mark Segal in 1976, and one of the oldest gay bookstores and video stores—all of which are still in operation today.

Today's gay life in Philly stretches through all walks of life with professional and athletic associations, gay theatre troupes, galleries and film festivals that attract younger generations to the region every day. It's true that while many visitors come to Philly for the history, they stay for the nightlife, the culture and the gay and lesbian experience that can literally be found around every corner in this, America's authentic birthplace.

NAVIGAYTING PHILLY

Located in the crossroads of the Northeast corridor, Philadelphia is easily accessible by air, rail, bus and car.

By Air: Philadelphia International Airport serves the region with both domestic and international flights from most major carriers. Call **800-PHL-GATE** or visit **phl.org**.

Located just eight miles from Center City, taxi service is available between the airport and Center City with drive times estimated between 15 and 20 minutes. SEPTA's R1 regional rail line also connects with stops at all airport terminals, 30th Street Station, Suburban Station near City Hall and Market East Station at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

By Train: Amtrak operates trains to and from Philadelphia's 30th Street Station with Northeast corridor connections via Baltimore, Boston, New York City, Washington D.C. and cities across the country. Regional rail is also available via SEPTA, NJ Transit and PATCO.

+ Visit GAYCITIES.COM and download the FREE Gay travel APP for your iPhone



ANNUAL GAY EVENTS

New Hope Celebrates Pride MAY Pride Day JUNE Philadelphia Gay + Lesbian Theatre Festival JUNE - JULY Welcome America Philadelphia JULY Philadelphia Cinefest JULY Philadelphia Phillies Gay Community Day AUGUST New Hope Open AUGUST Philadelphia Live Arts Festival + Philly Fringe SEPTEMBER Gavborhood Games SEPTEMBER **Outfest OCTOBER** AIDS Walk Philly OCTOBER Gay Community Night's Terror Behind the Walls **OCTOBER** World AIDS Day DECEMBER New Year's Day Mummer's Parade JANUARY Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge MARCH Philadelphia Flower Show MARCH **Emerge APRIL** Gay Day at the Philadelphia Zoo APRIL Mr. Gav Philadelphia APRIL Philadelphia Black Gay Pride APRIL Equality Forum APRIL - MAY

By Bus: Several bus companies operate between Philadelphia and major cities in the Northeast, including Greyhound and Bolt. SEPTA and NJ Transit also operate city and suburban routes.

By Car: Philadelphia is accessible by Interstates 95 and 76, and the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Turnpikes with street and garage parking throughout the region. Taxi service is also available.

+ QUICK LINKS	BUS	TAXI	TRAIN
	Boltbus.com 877-BOLTBUS	All City 215-467-6666	Amtrak.com 800-USA-RAIL
	Greyhound.com 800-231-2222	Crescent Cab Co. 215-365-3500	NJTransit.com 800-772-2287
	NJTransit.com 800-772-2287	Liberty Cab. Co. 215-389-8000	RidePATCO.org 856-772-6900
	SEPTA.org 215-580-7800	Olde City 215-247-7678	SEPTA.org 215-580-7800
		PHL Taxi 215-232-2000	
		Victory Cab 215-225-5000	



DAY 1



Follow Your Freedom

Independence Hall in historic Philadelphia, a neighborhood along the Delaware River waterfront, is considered America's most historic square mile. Not only is it home to the birthplace of democracy, it's also where many of the earliest gay rights protests took place. Today, a historical marker at Chestnut Street between Fifth and Sixth honors these brave activists.

The Independence Visitor Center and National Constitution Center are both great starting points for learning about history and the laws that would eventually impact gay rights today. You can ring your bell (so to speak) at Liberty Bell Center, a dramatic \$314 million addition to Independence National Historical Park that offers a contemplative opportunity to view the country's most enduring symbol of freedom.

In the shadow of the Liberty Bell, archeologists recently unearthed former slave quarters that are being excavated and transformed into a memorial for enslaved Africans. Within the same block, the American Jewish History Museum will also open its doors this year.

Philadelphia is home to the second-largest collection of gay and lesbian books, movies and magazines in the country thanks to the Barbara Gittings Collection at the Free Library of Philadelphia on 1901 Vine Street (between 19th and 20th Streets on the Parkway). Named for the lifelong Philadelphia activist who fought for the inclusion of gay and lesbian materials in public libraries, the collection provides a rare glimpse into modern gay life in America. In the region: Across the river in Camden, New Jersey, stands Walt Whitman's house just two blocks from the waterfront. Original manuscripts and rare photos are displayed in the historical home where the famously gay poet died in 1892.

DAY 2



along the Avenue of the Arts.

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE GAYBORHOOD

Follow the rainbow street signs to Philly's Gayborhood in the heart of Center City. One block from the Avenue of the Arts, Philly's famous theatre district, and within walking distance of attractions like Washington Square and Antiques Row, the Gayborhood is where gay and lesbian culture converges around the clock.

While nightlife comes alive after dark at bars, lounges and taverns throughout this lively neighborhood, the William Way Community Center on Spruce Street offers activity in the form of monthly art shows, a gay and lesbian library and special events for singles, couple and families of all ages.

Gay-owned businesses also give the neighborhood its flair, especially if you're in the market for art, fashion and housewares from independent shops along 13th Street. The Gayborhood's also home to one of the nation's oldest operating gay and lesbian bookstores and the country's oldest gay video stores, as well as community groups where locals and visitors can find support for health, fitness and AIDS awareness.

The eats and drinks in the Gayborhood also run the gamut between casual and fine dining thanks to plenty of new favorites and old standbys. Weekend brunches may be made for friends, but visitors can also make new acquaintances any night of the week during happy hour or around a lively piano sing-a-long. The party and pride starts early and stays late seven nights a week with drinks, dancing and laughs that will keep you up way past bedtime.

In the region: New Hope's party scene is full of live music, piano bars and cabarets throughout the year. Relax poolside at the Raven, New Hope's gay resort, or take in a campy show at The Nevermore where it's always better to stay for the night.

DAY 3 OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Keep an opened mind to uncover the best-kept secrets Philly has to offer. Whether you're staying for a long weekend or just for the day, there are plenty of gay-friendly adventures that make the locals proud.

Have a soft spot for mosaic? Check out local artist Isaiah Zagar's Magic Garden, a tiled wonderland at 10th and South Street in the midst of Philly bohemia, a neighborhood filled with thrift stores, vintage shops, hip bars and stellar B.Y.O.Bs. The Curtis Center on Walnut also showcases a real glass act—a Tiffany mosaic based on a painting by Maxfield Parrish.

Art is also in the air during citywide Mural Arts Tours that shuttle visitors to local landmarks featuring original murals by Philly artists. Philadelphia boasts the most murals of any city in the U.S. and the mural tours are the best way to see these masterpieces in neighborhoods around town.

Put on your walking shoes or take advantage of Philly's public transportation to check out the Italian Market in South Philly and gay-friendly galleries in Northern Liberties. West Philly is also home to college life, as well as exotic restaurants with international menus from as far away as Africa and India. And Chinatown, wedged between Center City and Old City, simmers with sumptuous dining destinations famous for creative cuisine for meat eaters and vegetarians alike.

In the region: Go vineyard hopping at wineries throughout the region. Both Chaddsford and New Hope wineries harvest locally grown grapes for fine vintages that can brighten a weekend afternoon or make the perfect gift to go.

PHILADELPHIA IS MAGNIFIQUE





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OFITEI

"Philadelphia's top three destinations are, in order: the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and the Reading Terminal Market."

Food Network





FAMILIES + KIDS: CHILD'S PLAY FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

Philadelphia's renowned history and diverse culture make it the ultimate vacation destination for gay parents and children of all ages. Galleries, a world-famous zoo, mural and gardens tours and theme parks entertain families year round—from city to countryside.

Along Philly's Parisian-inspired Parkway, with its stunning views spanning City Hall to the stairs of the Philadelphia Museum of Art where Rocky famously made his run, are art museums and educational institutes offering special family programming. Across town at Franklin Square, an old-fashioned carousel and miniature golf course provide the perfect pit stop on the way to historic Old City sites.

Family fun is also footsteps away in nearby Fairmount Park—all 9,200 acres of it—with tours, playgrounds and nature trails along the scenic Schuylkill River where main attractions like the Philadelphia Zoo and Please Touch Museum both make their home. At the Please Touch, kids enjoy interactive exhibits and a turn-of-the-century carousel, while the zoo features plenty of activities, including Big Cat Falls and lessons on conservation and wildlife. And across the Delaware River in New Jersey, families find one of the region's premier aquariums, a battleship tour and a children's garden with four acres of horticultural sites, including a tree house and dinosaur garden.

Gay parents and their kids can also hop a barge in Bucks County for a ride down New Hope's old-time canals. The arts mecca, just 30 minutes from Philadelphia, has long attracted gay artists and families to its Main Street for shopping, eating and exploration along the Delaware River. And in nearby Langhorne, generations of families have been taking a familiar stroll to meet Big Bird, Oscar the Grouch and the beloved cast of characters at Sesame Place.

Whether you make a day or week of it, kids of all ages will enjoy the colorful farmers markets, orchards, parks and exhibits around town, as well as family-friendly restaurants with kid-approved menus. When it comes to finding fun, Philly is truly a family affair.



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877-887-8225 [phillyducks.com 6th and Market Sts at the Independence Visitor Center

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For details call 215-580-7800 or visit www.SEPTA.org/fares/independence



* Restrictions apply for travel to Trenton and West Trenton, New Jersey. Some children may travel free depending on age and height. Not valid on Peak Hour Regional Rail Trains arriving at or passing through Center City Philadelphia Stations prior to 9:30 a.m., except on the Airport Line. Check SEPTA.org for details.



Crowne Plaza Hotel Philadelphia Downtown 1800 Market St.

215-561-7500 + cpphiladelphia.com Upscale hotel blocks from Museum District,

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Max Weiner Jewelers 805 Sansom St.

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The Bishop's Collar

2349 Fairmount Ave.

215-765-1616 + thecollar.us

Enjoy a perfectly poured pint of Guinness, an outstanding microbrew or a "Sunday Morning Bloody Mary" at this British-style bar/restaurant. Sidewalk café. Mon. 3pm-2 am, Tues.-Sun. 11am-2 am.

Philadelphia Museum of Art

26th Street & Benjamin Franklin Pkwy.

215-763-8100 + philamuseum.org Experience a world of discovery showcasing 2,000 years of exceptional human creativity spanning six continents. With engaging public programs for visitors of all ages. The Museum is always a place for inspiration and adventure.

10 Please Touch Museum

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215-581-3181 + pleasetouchmuseum.org The children's museum of Philadelphia! Families love our interactive exhibits, theater, musical storytimes, and Carousel! Conveniently located, just off I-76. On-site parking, the Please Taste Café. Kids' Store and more!



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1 12th Street Gym

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- + 12th Street Gym
- + Giovanni's Room
- + Sisters
- + Tavern on Camac
- + Voyeur Nightclub
- + William Way Community Center
- + Woody's



GAY BARS + CLUBS

12th Air Command 254 S. 12th St. 215-545-8088 + 12thair.com

Bike Stop 206 S. Quince St. 215-627-1662 + thebikestop.com

Bob & Barbara's 1509 South St. 215-545-4511

JR's Lounge 1305 Locust St. 215-735-3055

Knock 225 S. 12th St. 215-925-1166 + knockphilly.com

Libations 231 Broad St.

Q Lounge + Kitchen 1234 Locust St. 215-732-1800 + qphilly.com

Shampoo 417 N. 8th St. 215-922-7500 + shampooonline.com

Sisters 1320 Chancellor St. 215-735-0735 + sistersnightclub.com Stir 1705 Chancellor St. 215-732-2700 + stirphilly.com

Tavern on Camac 243 S. Camac St. 215-545-0900 + tavernoncamac.com

The Raven 385 W. Bridge St., New Hope 215-862-2081 + theravennewhope.com

Uncles 1220 Locust St. 215-546-6660

Venture Inn 255 S. Camac St. 215-545-8731 + viphilly.com

Voyeur Nightclub 1221 St. James St. 215-735-5772 + voyeurnightclub.com

Westbury 261 S. 13th St. 215-546-5170 + westburybarand restaurant.com

Woody's 202 S. 13th St. 215-545-1893 + woodysbar.com

NAVIGAYTOUR RESOURCES

Bucks County Conference and Visitors Bureau 215-639-0300 + Visitbuckscounty.com

Brandywine Valley Conference and Visitors Bureau 800-228-9933 + Brandywinevalley.com

Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation

215-599-0776 + Visitphilly.com/gay

Independence Visitor Center 800-537-7676 + Independencevisitor center.com

International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association 954-630-1637 + Iglta.org National Constitution Center 215-409-6600 + Constitutioncenter.org

Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau 215-636-3300 + Philadelphiausa.travel

Philadelphia Gay Tourism Caucus Philadelphiagaytourism .com

Valley Forge Conference & Visitors Bureau 610-834-1550 + Valleyforge.org



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Crowne Plaza Philadelphia Downtown 1800 Market St. 215-751-9977 + elephantcastle.com Casual, pub-style dining.

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2010 GAY PRIDE EVENTS



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more info at phillypride.org

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 CAN DATILLY ON FOOT Being the birthplace of America means thirdelphia has also nurtured a long and interesting history of gay and lesbian culture dating back to the forefathers. As home to the oldest gay and lesbian bookstore in the country, as well as several important sites of early activism, the city provides a unique peek into its fabled past, while also preserving everything that's fun, fabulous and free about gay and lesbian life today. Enjoy the ride! Independence Visitors Center about gay and lesbian adventue. Independence wall west- 6th and Market Streets Gate a crash course in American history in the most histor is tabled past. Independence wall west- 6th and Market Streets Gate a crash course in American history in the most histor is the volue of each and warket Streets Gate and Market Streets Gate and Gate and Constitution Center Marker honors the first Gotumented gy rights for independence. Gate Street Gate and Cleature Streets Gate and Gate and Cleature Store S

*Source: City of Sisterly and Brotherly Loves: Lesbian and Gay Philadelphia, 1945-1972 by Marc Stein (Temple University Press, 2004)

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ARTS + CULTURE: The finer side of life

Philadelphia is truly a city of art. Cultural repositories around town and throughout the region comprise one of the finest art collections in the world. Philadelphia also has the largest concentrations of public and mural art in the country, as well as shops and galleries throughout the city.

The Philadelphia Museum of Art may be famously known as the place where Rocky triumphed over adversity, but it's also home to sculpture, painting and decorative arts from around the world. More than 30,000 works are on display at the museum, as well as its new annex at the Perelman Building. It's easy to spend a day getting lost in Renaissance masterpieces, an ancient Japanese teahouse and modern art spectacles in dozens of awe-inspiring galleries throughout the Greek Revival-style building.

The Rodin Museum, also located along the Parkway, houses the largest collection of sculptures and drawings by Auguste Rodin outside of Paris, including the artist's famous "The Thinker," which greets visitors from around the globe. Within a few blocks, American Artists are on display at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, which has been educating and exhibiting artists since 1876. It's the country's first-ever art museum and school, and regularly showcases works by famous alumni including gay artist Charles Demuth, Mary Cassatt and Barkley Hendricks.

Historical museums also shape Philadelphia's cultural scene. As the first of its kind in the U.S., the African American Museum tells the story of black culture. Also housing rare collections, the Atwater Kent and Rosenbach museums both specialize in literary and Early American artifacts (the Rosenbach boasts original manuscripts by the famed and openly gay Maurice Sendack, author of Where the Wild Things Are).

Arts and culture can also be found at the Institute of Contemporary Art in University City, a bastion of the most cutting-edge works being created today, as well as the James A. Michener Art Museum, Mercer Museum and Brandywine River Museum in the beautiful countryside. And the unique Barnes Foundation, a museum collection once housed on the Main Line just minutes from Center City, is building a new home downtown. The rare collection of European and American art, including many Picasso drawings, will make its new home on the Parkway, which has fast become a kind of museum row.

There's also plenty of public art on display in Philadelphia, including almost 3,000 colorful murals throughout the city, as well as sculptures, like the whimsical clothespin by Claus Oldenburg near City Hall and a Roy Lichtenstein Pop Art masterpiece at 17th and Market. There's even an original mural by openly gay artist Keith Haring at 22nd and Federal streets in South Philly.



Visit PHILADELPHIAUSA.TRAVEL/GLBT for additional information



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4 TIPS FOR LOOKING YOUNGER + HEALTHIER

Hotel reservations, dinner downtown, nightclubbing, a local history tour... , and a visit to the doctor? More and more travelers are using their vacation getaways to pamper them selves from the outside in. Dr. Ron Hayes of Wallingford Sm ilem akers shares four ways gay and lesbian travelers can look and feel younger, starting with healthy skin and an improved sm ile.

murai

- 1. Hydrate: It's easy to forget to drink plenty of liquids when you're on the road. But water keeps your skin and body healthy when you're on the go.
- 2. Moisturize: There are many specialty shops in Philadelphia that offer effective moisturizers and sun block. Remember to moisturize twice a day—in the morning and in the evening. Also consider moisturizers with SPF that protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays. Wearing a hat also protects your face from sun damage.
- Avoid cigarettes and alcohol: Smoking nicotine and drinking in excess can both dry out your skin. Even though it's common to imbibe on vacation, keeping it at a minimum won't take a toll on your skin.
- 4. Consider outpatient procedures: Botox and Juvaderm both mask premature aging. Using these injectables, the effects of Botox take effect within a few days while Juvaderm, a filler, can be seen immediately. There's also a growing trend to have smile reconstructions while on holiday. It's easy to schedule a treatment to whiten and brighten your teeth, relax and enjoy sessions that improve your smile within only a few hours.

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BRANDYWINE VALLEY: THE ULTIMATE GAY GETAWAY

Painter Andrew Wyeth and his family made Philadelphia's countryside famous around the world. And in nearby Chester County's Brandywine Valley, just 45 minutes from Center City, it's easy to see what inspired these artists for generations. The picturesque landscapes provide the perfect backdrop for artistic inspiration, golfing, outdoor recreation and romantic getaways for gay tourists and locals alike.



+ Brandywine Valley Wine Trail 866-390-4367 + bywinetrail.com

Visit tour and taste with the Brandywine Valley Wine Trail! Eight wineries located in the countryside between Philadelphia and Lancaster. Dozens of quaint bed and breakfasts nestled in rolling hills are within reach of high-end shopping, fine dining and fascinating tours of local museums and world-class wineries in the region. One of the most popular attractions is the magnificent Longwood Gardens with more than 1,000 acres of flowers and foliage. The gardens provide tours and host special events, including concerts by well-known classical and jazz artists.

Throughout the Valley, visitors can also follow a beautiful wine trail that winds its way throughout the countryside where grapesare harvested each season for new vintages.

Historically, the Brandywine Valley also played an important role in the American Revolution. The Brandywine Battlefield tells this tale of the dawn of American democracy with tours for all ages. Visitors are invited to retrace the steps the first president and his troops first took during the battle for independence.

There are many other remnants of early American life scattered throughout the bucolic the Brandywine Valley. The great American country estate of Winterthur steps back in time to showcase a unique collection of antiques and 60-acre garden, while the nearby Brandywine River Museum follows the legacy of the Wyeth family with a collection of works from N.C. to Jamie Wyeth.

And while rest and relaxation are certainly hallmarks of this beautiful river valley, it's just as easy to embrace arts and entertainment thanks to world-class theatre, movie houses, bookstores, boutiques, arboretums and gardens stretching throughout Philly's fabled countryside. Discover our Ever-changing Nature

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VALLEY FORGE: SEIZE THE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT

Just a half-hour from Center City sits Valley Forge National Historical Park and King of Prussia in Montgomery County where arts, nature and shopping collide to create a fun-filled experience in Philadelphia's countryside.

As a major historic destination in the United States, Valley Forge has been preserved to provide visitors with a sense of Early American history around every corner. The rolling hills of Valley Forge National Historical Park are home to deer that roam freely, as well as sites that showcase the region's most treasured traditions—and remnants of its fight for freedom. With recreational facilities abounding, gay and lesbian visitors also can commune with nature by golfing, hiking along the Perkiomen Trail, fishing, horseback riding and boating down a pristine river.

The region also boasts the East Coast's largest shopping mall at King of Prussia where discerning buyers can browse the high-end likes of Versace, Louis Vuitton and Michael Kors, and enjoy a slew of eateries surrounding this three-level shopper's paradise. Visitors will also want to check out special events every season, including must-see fashion shows at shops throughout the mall, including Neiman Marcus.



Visiting Valley Forge and its gay-friendly communities can also mean everything from zip lining at Spring Mountain Adventures and visiting the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove to walking in George Washington's footsteps and enjoying special events and festivals at the Convention Center. The remarkably diverse attractions also include world-class museums and accommodations to suit romantics and families alike. The scenic beauty of Valley Forge is matched only by the history, tradition and revolutionary spirit that have defined locals and visitors for more than two centuries.





BUCKS COUNTY: WHERE ART AND NATURE COLLIDE

Nestled between two great cities of Philadelphia and New York City, Bucks County is tucked neatly within Philadelphia's Countryside amidst rolling hillsides, working farms and picturesque old-time towns, offering a peaceful respite for residents escaping the hustle and bustle of big city life. Travelers in search of historical delights, artistic treasures, charming bed and breakfasts, magnificent museums, and breathtaking views find that Bucks County has it all.

The riverside village of New Hope is a gay-friendly centerpiece to Bucks County as a popular artist colony offering eclectic charm. This premiere gay travel destination is peppered with elegant art galleries, designer shops, lively nightlife, piano bars, cabarets, more than 30 fine restaurants and pride events along the Delaware River that attract gay and lesbian visitors from around the world.

Plenty of famous faces have visited these cultured cobblestone pathways, including renowned artists Daniel Garber, Edward Redfield and Pearl S Buck whose home is open daily for public tours.

With culture and creativity abound, New Hope is also home to the Bucks County Playhouse. This venue is a national landmark for Broadway plays rich in theatrical history with an impressive who's who of stars who have graced the stage, including Princess Grace Kelly, Bea Arthur, John Travolta, Liza Minnelli and Merv Griffin, as well as producing countless gay plays and musicals. Add the historical attractions of the New Hope and Ivyland Railroad, ghost tours and Parry Mansion, New Hope's eclectic allure is as enchanting today as it was to so many eminent figures of yesteryear.

Every May, New Hope celebrates its diverse community with its annual New Hope Celebrates Pride Week & Parade. This week-long celebration boasts history and art walking tours, a vendor fair, softball games, nightly entertainment, family picnics and the grand parade down Main Street. While the arts are certainly thriving, you won't want to miss the outdoor adventures Bucks County has to offer. Some of the best views in the region (and its famous covered bridges) can be found gliding in a hot-air balloon overlooking the scenic Delaware River. In nearby Delaware Canal State Park, hiking, biking and camping are always in season. Float over to Bucks County River Country for the tubing experience of your life with kayaking, rafting, tubing and canoeing down the picturesque Delaware.

Continue your adventure along the Bucks County Wine Trail with more wineries than any other county in the state. The wineries encompass hundreds of acres of vineyards on gentle rolling hills that make Bucks County one of the premier grape growing regions of the East Coast, not to mention a perfect gay travel location.

For more information, check out *www.visitbuckscounty.com* or follow *VisitBucksPA* on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.



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- + Delaware River Tubing
- + James Michener Museum of Art
- + The Nevermore Hotel
- + New Hope Winery
- + Mercer Museum
- + The Raven





Plan your next unforgettable getaway in Bucks County. Explore our historic covered bridges, indulge your senses at our wineries, shop New Hope, Doylestown and Peddler's Village, experience nightlife, theater and live entertainment.

a lla



PR-

NEW HOPE, BUCKS COUNTY MAP



ATLANTIC CITY: THE CITY BY THE SEA

For anyone who enjoys a generous serving of sand, surf and slots, Atlantic City, New Jersey, is a perfect destination. This gay-friendly beach community has become increasingly cosmopolitan in recent years thanks to new luxury casinos, hotels and beach-front getaways that make A.C. an energetic vacation destination year round.

An hour-drive from Philadelphia (train and bus service are also available), Atlantic City is saturated with world-class entertainment by day and night, whether gay and lesbian visitors are looking to have fun in the sun, spot celebrities at nightclubs or roll the dice at casinos along the resort's famous boardwalk. Atlantic City's beaches also boast cabanas where sipping cocktails is in season every summer.

Many hotels also house spas and pools that come alive day and night with parties pulsating with playlists by internationally known DJs and performers. Don't be surprised to spot a Hollywood starlet or New York socialite sipping sexy cocktails or placing bets at popular game tables.

The casinos regularly book big names in entertainment throughout the year. The gay-friendly resort welcomes world-famous music acts and comedians to venues like the House of Blues and Borgata each week.

Atlantic City, while famous for its gambling and beach scenery, is also a popular hot spot for five-star restaurants and designer shops along the Piers at Caesar's Palace. Backdrops, like the Quarter at Tropicana with its Old Havana style, only add to the ambiance of this anything-goes city by the sea.



PUBLISHER PICKS by DAVID JEFFERYS



I love Philadelphia. Between the charm of its narrow, pedestrianfriendly streets or any of its amazing gay-friendly neighborhoods and the shops, the restaurants, the people, and the beauty and openness of its parks, museums and murals—I've selected a few must-see destinations just for you.

Best spot to eye local guys: Kelly Drive along Boathouse Row (a 15-minute walk from Center City). When the heat goes up, the clothes go down. Weekends are best for spotting sporty types along the beautiful riverfront.

The perfect gay night out: I like to start the night by strolling down Walnut Street at twilight. Check out the shops and the action on the Avenue of the Arts before visiting Rittenhouse Square. Center City is home to some of the finest restaurants in the world. Take a bite before heading to Locust Street in the heart of the Gayborhood for drinks and dancing. All the boys will be there (and the girls, too!).

Where to meet new friends: Check out our bars and clubs list. Philly folks are very friendly, so go ahead and

start a conversation. If bars aren't for you, there's plenty to do at the William Way Community Center, whether you're into art exhibitions, socializing or just want to learn more about gay Philly from the folks who know it best.

Best way to escape the city scene: I love the neighborhoods outside Center City, like Manayunk and Chestnut Hill, where shops and restaurants line lively Main Streets (you can get there by car, train or bus). You can also stretch out across the Delaware River to South Jersey (Philly is less than an hour from the Jersey beaches!). A perfect weekend getaway can also be found in historic Valley Forge, the Brandywine Valley, with its wineries and art destinations, and New Hope in Bucks County, one of the oldest gay communities on the East Coast.

For the girls: There are several popular nightclubs that cater to women who like women (please check out our bar list). Also look for ongoing events, like weekly and monthly women's parties around town, as well as seasonal softball and roller derby competitions.

What's not to miss in gay Philly: Whether you're gay or straight, don't miss out on the history of this city. Our country was born here. Be sure to stop at the Independence Visitors Center and the Constitution Center, and tour the Liberty Bell. You won't regret it.

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