Philly Fun

Graduate & Professional New Student Orientation 2015
Get more information and register at www.gsc.upenn.edu/orientation. More events are being added all the time so check the website frequently!

Great Reference Websites

1) Visit Philly: http://www.visitphilly.com/
   - The official tourist and travel site for Philadelphia and the surrounding counties
     - Sports: http://www.visitphilly.com/sports/
     - Outdoor Activities: http://www.visitphilly.com/outdoor-activities/

2) Uwishunu: http://www.uwishunu.com/
   - Daily blog detailing Philadelphia “from the inside out.”
   - Updates daily with information on special events, restaurant openings, food and nightlife recommendations, and more by date and by neighborhood.

3) Young Involved Philadelphia: http://www.younginvolvedphila.org/

4) Yelp: http://www.yelp.com/philadelphia
   - A local review site to search locally for nightlife, restaurants, shops, bars, grocery stores, coffee shops, health and beauty services, and more.
   - Especially good for specialty searches, such as Bring-Your-Own-Bottle restaurants.

5) Graduate Student Center: http://www.gsc.upenn.edu

6) GradFest 2015: http://gapsa.upenn.edu

Student Discounts

1) KimmelStix: $10 student rush tickets to select Kimmel Center performances

2) eZseatU: $25 seasonal tickets to all Philadelphia Orchestra performances

3) Philadelphia Museum of Art: Pay-what-you-wish on the first Sunday of every month + every Wednesday after 5:00 PM.


5) Many restaurants, venues, attractions, and even shops will offer student discounts. Reference yelp.com or individual company websites for specifics.

6) GAPSA + Grad Center student events: check upcoming events via weekly newsletter.

How to get around Philadelphia

1) SEPTA: http://www.septa.org
   - Try the “Trip Planner”

2) Penn Transit: http://cms.business-services.upenn.edu/transportation/

3) Biking:
   - Commuter routes provided by the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia:
     http://bicyclecoalition.org/ride-your-bike/bike-maps/

4) Walking:
   - Walking directions can be explored using: https://maps.google.com

Select neighborhoods of Philadelphia

1) Independence Mall and Historic District
   a. The Independence Visitor’s Center located at the corner of 6th St. and Market St. is the place to start for information and advice.
   b. http://www.visitphilly.com/historic-philadelphia/ is a comprehensive website detailing the tours, attractions, restaurants, and nightlife in the historic district.
   c. http://historicphiladelphia.org is a website with information on the Betsy Ross House, Franklin Square, and the Lights of Liberty.

2) Center City
   a. Arts and Music:
      i. The Art Museum District also known as “The Parkway” as it lies along the Ben Franklin Parkway
ii. The Avenue of the Arts houses many of the city’s large theatres, including the Kimmel Center, the Wilma Theatre, and the Academy of Music.

iii. The Academy of Vocal Arts and the Curtis Institute of Music are world-renowned music conservatories training orchestral composers, organists, pianists, and singers.

b. Popular sites: Rittenhouse Square, Center City Sips, Happy Hours, Walnut Street Theater, Kermit’s Bake Shoppe, Federal Donuts, El Rey, Oscar’s Tavern, Monk’s Café, Bob & Barbara’s, The Farmer’s Cabinet, El Vez

3) Old City
a. Popular sites: Arden Theater, Painted Bride Art Center, Mac’s Tavern, Ritz Movie Theaters, Triumph Brewery Company, Eulogy Tavern, Cuba Libre
b. www.oldcityarts.org

4) South Street
a. Popular Sites: Theater of the Living Arts (TLA), Retrospect, Repo Records, Atomic City Comics, Eyes Gallery, Magic Garden, Jim’s cheesesteaks
b. www.southstreet.com

5) Northern Liberties
a. Popular sites: Standard Tap, Honey’s Sit-n-Eat, The Foodery, PYT, Silk City, The Piazza at Schmidts, North Bowl

6) Fishtown
a. Popular sites: The Barbary, Frankford Hall, Barcade, Kraftwork, Pizza Brain, Little Baby’s Ice Cream

7) Chinatown
a. Popular sites: Hop Sing Laundromat, the Trocadero Theater, and the Pennsylvania Convention Center
b. www.phillychinatown.com

8) West Philadelphia
a. Popular sites: Clark Park, University City Arts Alliance, Woodlands Cemetary, Fiume, World Café Live, Dock Street Brewing Company, Green Line Café, The Porch

9) South Philadelphia
a. Popular sites: the Italian Market, the great Pat’s vs. Geno’s cheesesteak rivalry, and the Columbus Avenue Stores (Ikea, Target, Home Depot, etc.).

Food and Drink in Philadelphia

1) Microbreweries: Dock Street Brewery, Iron Hill Brewery, Triumph Brewery, Yards Brewery, Philadelphia Brewing, Nodding Head Brewing

2) Alcohol: Wine and liquor stores separate from beer distributor. Reference yelp.com for specifics locally

3) Grocery shopping
   a. Superstores
      i. Fresh Grocer, Whole Foods, Trader Joes, Superfresh, Shop Rite, Supreme, ALDI
   b. Farmers Markets
      i. Both seasonal and year-round: http://thefoodtrust.org/farmers-markets
   c. International Groceries
      i. University City: Rice and Spice, International Food and Spices, Makkah Market, Dana Mandi
      ii. Italian Market
      iii. Chinatown

Outdoor Activities

1) Sports
   a. Tickets from team site or http://www.stubhub.com
   b. Penn Athletics: http://www.pennathletics.com

2) Fairmount Park
   a. Popular Sites: Wissahickon Creek, Philadelphia Zoo, Japanese Tea House, Mann Center for Performing Arts.

3) Outdoor Activities: http://www.upenn.edu/recreation/outdoor-adventures/adventure-trips/
   a. Outdoor rock-climbing, skiing, hiking, and backpacking.