

One hotel!



# PHILADELPHIA FREEDOM

June 3-8, 2024

Walk in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers in the "Birthplace of America!" See where our nation's two most important documents were signed, explore the life and character of Benjamin Franklin, and savor the flavors of Philly's culinary scene. Brandywine Valley and the Poconos also await!

## DAY 1 MONDAY, JUNE 3

#### **PHILADELPHIA**

(Dinner)

Today we'll transfer to the airport for our flight to **Philadelphia**, called "a booming cultural and culinary destination" by the Wall Street Journal. Upon our arrival in Philly, we'll settle into our rooms at the **Holiday Inn Express Penns Landing** (or similar) for the next five nights and freshen up for a wonderful welcome dinner.

Note: The airport location and airline will be confirmed nine months before departure.

#### DAY 2 TUESDAY, JUNE 4

#### **PHILADELPHIA**

(Breakfast, Lunch)

After breakfast our touring will begin at the **Liberty Bell**, which rang out from the tower of Independence Hall in 1776 and summoned the citizens of Philadelphia to the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. Next is a tour of **Independence Hall**, the meeting place for the Second Continental Congress. It was in the Assembly Room that George Washington was appointed commander in chief of the Continental Army and the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were signed. Up next is a visit to **LOVE Park**, a must on any visit to the "City of Brotherly Love." Here we'll pose for photos in front of the iconic **LOVE sculpture**. The park is also home to green spaces, a fountain, and walking paths, and it's the perfect spot to sit and enjoy delicious **Philly cheesesteak sandwiches**. After lunch we will make our way to **Philadelphia City Hall** for a guided tour of this architectural treasure that happens to be the largest municipal building in the United States. Be sure to look up to see the statue of Philadelphia founder William Penn atop the building's 548-foot tower! Then we are off to stroll through **Elfreth's Alley**, a historic cobblestone street filled with early American structures built between 1720 and 1830. A guided tour of the **Elfreth's Alley Museum** will teach us about the working class of America who helped build this country through sweat and commerce. Tonight we will explore Philadelphia's amazing food culture with free time at **The Bourse Food Hall**. The vendors here offer a delicious lineup of globally inspired dishes!

#### DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

#### **PHILADELPHIA**

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Following breakfast we are off to the **Benjamin Franklin Museum** to explore Franklin's life and legacy through his character traits. The exhibit area is divided into five spaces with each focusing on a particular trait: ardent and dutiful, ambitious and rebellious, motivated to improve, curious and full of wonder, and strategic and persuasive. At the **National Constitution Center**, we will be immersed in the story of "We the People" as the Constitution comes to life through innovative exhibits, photographs, sculptures, text, films, and artifacts. Lunch is on our own at the Reading Terminal Market, America's oldest and largest public market, where there's an incredible selection of vendors and a wide variety of restaurants to choose from. This afternoon's touring will take us to **The Franklin Institute** to explore the three floors of interactive exhibits and live programs dedicated to science and technology. The institute is the center of science education in Philadelphia and also home to the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial. Dinner this evening will be enjoyed at a local restaurant.

## DAY 4 THURSDAY, JUNE 6

## **PHILADELPHIA**

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Today we will venture outside the city toward Wilmington, DE, to visit Alfred du Pont's **Nemours Estate**. The estate boasts a French chateau-inspired, seventy-seven-room mansion; the largest formal French gardens in North America; a Chauffeur's Garage housing a collection of vintage automobiles; and nearly 200 acres of scenic woodlands, meadows, and lawns. Our journey will then take us into Pennsylvania's Brandywine Valley to **Longwood Gardens**, where garden design, horticulture, education, and the arts interplay to inspire and enlighten. This celebrated botanical garden was founded by Pierre du Pont and showcases more than 1,000 acres of gardens and elaborate horticultural displays. From the intricate fountain systems to the meticulous gardens to the architectural grandeur, awe-inspiring discoveries await at every turn! Lunch is on our own in Longwood's café before we continue on to **Galer Estate Vineyard & Winery** for a tour and tasting of their award-winning wines. Dinner will be enjoyed as a group upon our return to Philadelphia.

Enjoy breakfast bright and early this morning before we set out to spend the day in the lovely Pocono Mountains. Here we'll board a vintage coach on the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway and embark on a narrated ride through the high-rising cliffs and mountain scenery (subject to availability). The train will weave along the majestic Lehigh River over bridges, through Glen Onoko, and into Lehigh Gorge State Park. Keep your eyes peeled for the abundant wildlife that call the Poconos home! The afternoon is yours to explore the historic downtown of Jim Thorpe at your leisure. Named for the greatest athlete of all time, the town is a Poconos hidden gem with a rich history to uncover. Elegant Victorian mansions were once home to turn-of-the-century industrialist millionaires and have since been restored to house unique shops, restaurants, museums, galleries, and more. Enjoy lunch at one of the town's fantastic restaurants and browse the boutiques and specialty stores lining the winding streets in search of one-of-a-kind items. Our day will come to an end back in Philadelphia with a wonderful farewell dinner.

DAY 6 SATURDAY, JUNE 8 HOME (Breakfast)

We head for home today, but not before we climb the **steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art**, made famous by Sylvester Stallone in the movie *Rocky*. Don't forget to get your picture taken with the bronze sculpture of Rocky Balboa that was originally created for a scene in *Rocky III!* If time allows, we'll tour the museum before heading to the airport for our flight home.

# INCLUSIONS

- Ground transportation to O'Hare from Libertyville (Fox Lake with 6+)
- Round-trip air to Philadelphia (air allowance of \$550)
- Private motorcoach transportation
- 5 nights' accommodations
- 10 meals (5 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 4 dinners)
- Admission to attractions as stated on itinerary
- · Porter service of one bag per person at hotel
- · Taxes and gratuities for included services
- · Audio listeners
- · Professional tour manager

#### Not included in the price of this tour:

Meals other than those listed on the itinerary, beverages other than tea/coffee/water with included meals, items of a personal nature/souvenirs, phone calls and faxes from hotel, travel protection plan, current baggage fees at the airport as assessed by the airline, fees related to any COVID-19 requirements for this destination, and any service not listed in the above inclusions.

#### Activity Level: Minimal to Moderate

In order to participate in this tour, you must:

- Be able to walk/stand 2-3 hours at a time at an easy pace in all weather conditions
- Be able to maneuver some stairs, inclines, and uneven surfaces without assistance

For further information or questions, please contact:
Nadine Mihaljevic
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Optional Travel Protection available. Ask Nadine for a quote.



# TOUR PRICING\*

\$2,998 per person, double \$3,498 per person, single

\*Tour cost subject to 3% credit card transaction fee, or no fee by check.







A \$100 deposit per person is required with your registration form in order to reserve your spot:

FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE: MARCH 1, 2024