



# Think Philly

Where You Can Learn, Live & Thrive

# WHY PHILLY?

**“Philly,” the nickname for the USA’s founding city, draws upon a groundbreaking history of leadership, innovation, and revolutionary vision.**

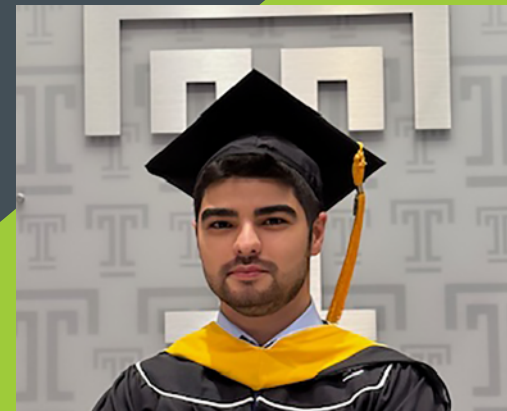
Philadelphia continues to shape its future as an inclusive destination with unstoppable ingenuity and opportunities for all.

**Nearly 100 languages** are spoken in Philadelphia and many of the varied nationalities of residents are represented on the 100+ flags along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

With **over 100 universities and colleges of different types** in the Philadelphia region, you can easily find the perfect place to study — public or private, 2-year community college or 4-year university/college, urban or suburban, small or large.



# STUDENT STORIES



**Murad Ahmadzada**

Temple University

📍 Azerbaijan

*“You don’t feel like you’re in another country. You will find everyone from all over the world.”*



**Elle Ward**

Arcadia University

📍 Ireland

*“I love the city so much. It’s the perfect size. I enjoy the abundance of things to do and the opportunities that the city gives you. It’s easy to get around and there’s so much to see.”*

# LEARN PHILLY



## WELCOMING

Largest U.S. city designated a **Certified Welcoming city** by Welcoming America, a designation given to cities that have policies and programs in place to make sure immigrants feel included and welcomed.



## DIVERSE

**15.7% of the population was born outside of the U.S.**

**24% of Philadelphians are multilingual.**

(City of Philadelphia Office of Immigrant Affairs, 2024)



## VIBRANT

**The growth of 25-34 age group population outranks other major U.S. cities.**

(Campus Philly, 2023)

**The region is home to 21,000+ international students.**

(IIE Open Doors, 2023)

# CITY OF FIRSTS

Where the United States and many of the nation's enduring institutions began.

- **First lending library** (1731)
- **First hospital** (1751)
- **First post office** (1775)
- **First U.S. stock exchange** (1790) and the **first bank** (1791)
- **First U.S. Mint** (1792)
- **First art museum and school** (1805)
- **First zoo** (1874)
- **First computer** (ENIAC), developed at University of Pennsylvania (1946)

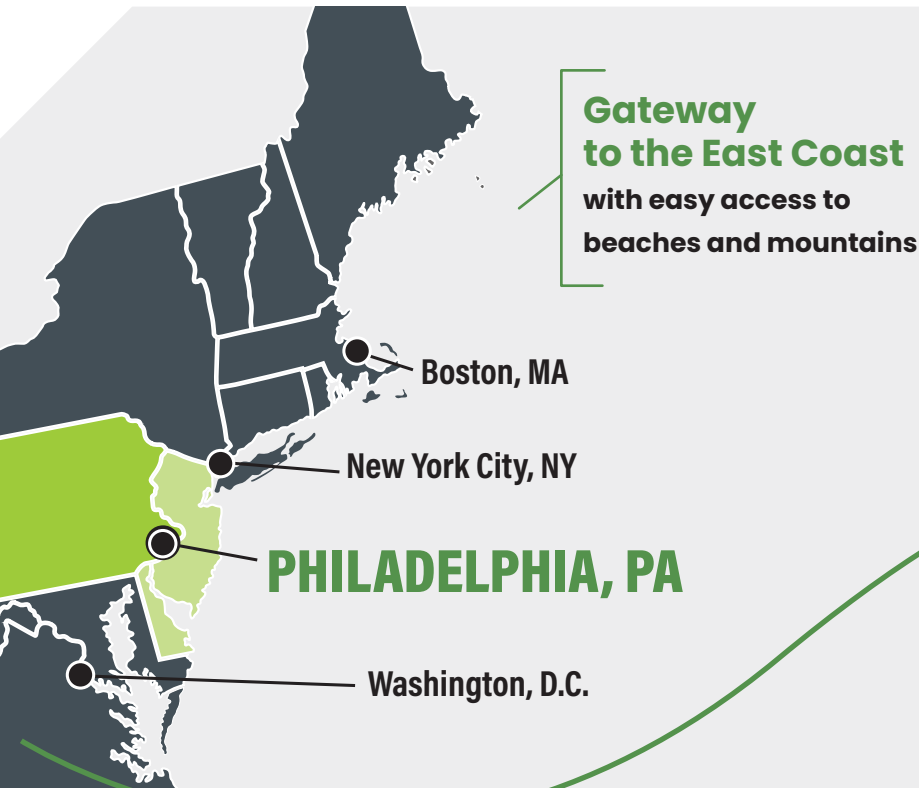


**First World Heritage City** in the U.S. (2015) with **Independence Hall** declared a UNESCO World Heritage site (1979).

# LIVE PHILLY

## The second largest city on the East Coast

- **FLY DIRECT** from over **120+ cities worldwide**
- **CONNECT** to other East Coast cities via **Amtrak**
- **EASILY NAVIGATE** the USA's **"most walkable city"**  
(USA Today 10Best, 2024)



## GETTING AROUND

- Hop on a **SEPTA** (public transportation) bus, subway, trolley, or train
- Use **200+ Indego bike share stations** to quickly and efficiently get around the city

# CITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Philadelphia's neighborhoods each have their own distinct flavor. Here are a few to check out:

**CHINATOWN** Located in Center City, Chinatown is home to restaurants and stores representing Hong Kong, Cantonese, Fujianese, Northern Sichuan and Taiwanese cultures, with a sprinkling of Korean, Thai, Malaysian, Burmese, and Vietnamese.

**AFRICATOWN** One of the fastest growing Black communities in the U.S., Africatown, located in Southwest Philadelphia, is deeply connected to Africa's heritage.

**EL CENTRO DE ORO** A hub of Latinx culture translating to "the Golden Block," this section north of Temple of University is home to family-owned shops, restaurants, community centers and arts spaces.

**WEST PHILADELPHIA/UNIVERSITY CITY** Home to University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University, West Philadelphia is a vibrant, diverse neighborhood with rich culture and a strong sense of community.

**SOUTH PHILADELPHIA** In this neighborhood, Vietnamese immigrants recently established grocery stores, restaurants, and karaoke bars, joining well-established Italian and Mexican businesses and residents.

**SUBURBS** Many area colleges and universities are situated in quaint suburban towns, all within commuting distance of the city by car or public transportation.



**Top U.S. City to Visit**

(Lonely Planet, 2024)

# THRIVE PHILLY

## Ideas are brought to life in our region.

- One of the nation's leading **centers for innovation**.
- Philadelphia's vitality is driven by a talented workforce that is helping deliver a **strong economy**. The city is undergoing an unprecedented development boom, driven by the city's tech, educational and medical institutions, and a flourishing life science sector.
- Billions of venture capital dollars have been infused into Philadelphia companies, making it the one of the best places in the country to **launch a startup**.

## Innovation and Impact

- The Philadelphia startup ecosystem is valued at **\$68 billion**, nearly double the global average
- **80%** of the world's pharmaceutical companies are in the region
- **Top 3** Cell & Gene Therapy Hub (Econsult, 2022)
- **Leading City** for Diversity in STEM Careers (Smart Asset, 2020)
- Home of University of Pennsylvania **Nobel Prize** in Physiology or Medicine winners, Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman, for work on mRNA technology used in the COVID-19 vaccines.
- **4th largest** media market in the U.S.



PHILADELPHIA'S MAGIC GARDENS

## COST OF LIVING

Compared to other major East Coast cities, Philadelphia is an affordable place to live. (Econsult, 2022)



# CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

The Philadelphia region is home to Fortune-500 companies including Aramark, Campbell Soup Company, Cencora, and Comcast

Discover a wide range of opportunities to match your interests in the sixth-largest city in the U.S.

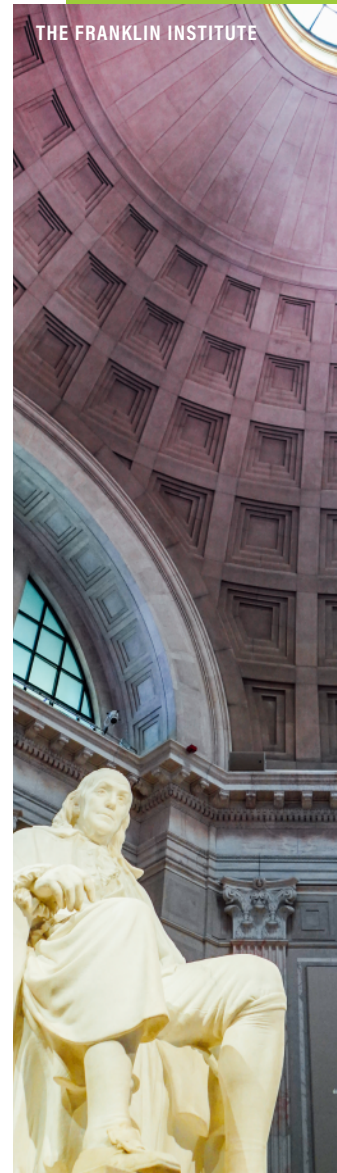
- **Biotechnology & Healthcare** (Spark Therapeutics, Penn Medicine)
- **Marketing** (Digitas Health, Carmichael Lynch)
- **Local Government** (City of Philadelphia)
- **Consulting** (Deloitte, Accenture)
- **Finance** (Vanguard Group, Lincoln Financial Group)
- **Insurance** (Independence Blue Cross, Cigna)
- **Higher Education** (100+ universities in the region)
- **Hospitality** (100+ hotels in Philadelphia County)
- **Manufacturing** (Leonardo Helicopters US, Rhoads Industries)
- **Technology** (Carpenter Technology Corporation, CDI)
- **Telecommunications** (Comcast, Alteva)
- **Tourism** (PHLCVB, Visit Philadelphia)
- **Transportation** (SEPTA, Amtrak)



# CITY OF ARTS & CULTURE

- **Mural Capital of the World** with the largest collection of public art in the U.S.
- **68 National Historic Landmarks**, such as Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell
- **Wealth of science, history, and art museums** such as The Franklin Institute, the Museum of the American Revolution, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art
- **Fairmount Park** – one of the country’s largest urban park systems
- **Robust performing arts scene**, including the world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra and the nation’s oldest theater (Walnut Street Theatre)
- **Nine major sports teams:** Eagles (American football), Phillies (baseball), Sixers (basketball), Flyers (hockey), Union (soccer), Wings (indoor lacrosse), Waterdogs (field lacrosse), Phoenix (ultimate frisbee), and Fight (rugby)

Visit **Campus Philly’s website** for information on student discounts for attractions.  
<https://campusphilly.org/explore-philly/things-to-do/student-discounts>



## STUDENT RESOURCES

### Make use of Philadelphia’s rich resources for university students.

Participate in city-wide events for all university students through **Campus Philly (campusphilly.org)**. And start the year with CollegeFest, an event to welcome and acquaint you with city offerings that includes free access to some popular attractions.



Find your feet and build your community in Philadelphia with **International House Philadelphia (ihphilly.org)**, an organization dedicated to international student success.



For international travel resources and up-to-date news on the Philadelphia region, visit **DiscoverPHL.com**.



## PHILLY TALK

**Birds** Philadelphia Eagles NFL football team

**Down the shore** going to the beach

**Hoagie** sandwich on a long Italian roll

**Jawn** a noun that can replace any and all nouns

**Wit/witout** how to order fried onions on a cheesesteak

**Wooder** water

**Youse guys** “plural” of you





# PHILADELPHIA: A GLOBAL EDUCATION HUB

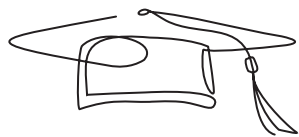


PHOTO BY R. BRANDENBERG

**The Philadelphia Global Education Hub** is a concerted effort by a broad coalition of colleges, universities, nonprofit organizations, civic and governmental agencies, all with the shared vision of promoting Philadelphia as a study destination for international students.

This campaign began as a result of founding members, many who were once international students themselves, who wanted to share their love of Philadelphia and the many benefits they received here.

Promotional materials for the Global Education Hub were initiated by a group of advertising students at Temple University who won a competition to develop the creative branding for the campaign.



## Think Philly

For more information, go to:  
[www.ihphilly.org](http://www.ihphilly.org) | [info@ihphilly.org](mailto:info@ihphilly.org)



PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART