

where now

The savvy traveler's guide
to Philadelphia

THE GREEN ISSUE

Springtime in the City

Warmer temperatures, longer days, shorter sleeves—all signs point to the cheery conclusion that spring has arrived. From expert-led outdoor tours to leisurely days spent lounging in a picturesque city park to blooming paintings and sculptures, Philadelphia is the perfect place to embrace the season.
By Amy Gordon

Philip Leslie Hale's
"Top of the Morning"

Art in Bloom

Two bronze sculptures placed in a garden-like setting, complete with real plants and flowers, welcome visitors to the **Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts'** exhibit, "The Artist's Garden: American Impressionism and the Garden Movement, 1887-1920." This colorful collection, on view through May 24, includes pieces by artists like J. Alden Weir, Violet Oakley, and William Merritt Chase.

Through a stunning collection of paintings, sculpture, books and stained glass, "The Artist's Garden" explores the intertwining stories of Impressionism and the growing popularity of gardening in America during the Progressive Era, and highlights the Philadelphia region's role in the national garden movement. The Colonial Revival Garden movement originated at the World's Fair in Philadelphia in 1876, and the Garden Club of America was established here in 1913.



Rittenhouse Square Park

Pretty City Parks

Enjoy Philadelphia's lush public squares this spring. Along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, **Logan Circle** (200 N. 19th St.) is just steps from iconic sites like the Philadelphia Museum of Art and The Franklin Institute. Trendy shops, upscale hotels and chef-driven restaurants surround **Rittenhouse Square** (18th and Walnut streets). Benches line the park's walkways that crisscross throughout green space, which hosts art exhibitions, concerts and other events year-round. Moving east, **Washington Square** (Sixth and Walnut streets) spans more than six acres. The lawns bustle with locals, often accompanied by their companions. Kids love to ride the Parx Liberty Carousel in **Franklin Square** (200 Sixth St.) a family-friendly haven in Old City. After a round of Philly-themed mini-golf, visitors can grab a bite at Stephen Starr's casual take-out spot SquareBurger.

Outdoor Tours

FREE AND FRIENDLY WALKING TOURS

Aptly named, this local tour group doesn't charge anything (but graciously accepts tips), for fun, informative experiences like Haunted History and the Colonial Cheesesteak tours. Reservations are required for all tours. 877.558.9617

PHILADELPHIA URBAN ADVENTURES

Take the Italian Market Immersion walking tour, where

participants munch on tasty samples and meet local shopkeepers, or opt for the beer drinker's favorite Philly On Tap tour of local pubs and microbreweries. 229 Arch St., 215.280.3746

MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS

This audio tour from the Association of Public Art offers an engaging and fun way to learn about 65 outdoor sculptures along the Ben Franklin Parkway, in Fairmount Park and Center City via a free mobile app. museumwithoutwallsaudio.org

PHILLY BIKE TOUR CO.

Pedal your way through Fairmount Park on a historical tour, or see the iconic sites around town such as the Rocky Steps and Liberty Bell. 2015 Fairmount Ave., 267.521.2150

SPIRITS OF '76 GHOST TOUR

Get to know the city's sinister side with the Spirits of '76 Ghost Tour, which departs from Fourth and Chestnut streets when the sun goes down. Visit more than 20 spooky sites to hear creepy stories and folklore. 325 Chestnut St., 215.525.1776



Philly Bike Tour Co.