

The Best Things To Do In Philadelphia

Guy Martin Senior Contributor Aug 4, 2019, 07:30pm

It was the Lenape, a Native American tribe, that actually founded what became Philadelphia in its felicitous delta between the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. The Lenape hospitably made room for William Penn, who then advertised his imagined paradise of freethinkers to the religious minorities in the rest of Europe.

It unleashed a trickle that became a flood, which accounts for much of Philadelphia's, and our country's, robust egalitarian structure today. It's not an accident that the first *and* second Continental Congresses were convened here, or that they wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution basically down the street. It's a welcoming town.

Here are some must-visit destinations in Philadelphia:

The Barnes Foundation

It's estimated to be a \$20 billion collection—yes, you read that correctly—of classic Impressionists, Modernists and other great masters amassed by the quirky chemist Albert C. Barnes and his Parisian dealer in the 1920s and '30s, when the getting was good. Time was, out on Philadelphia's Main Line in Merion, that the eccentric Barnes Foundation would only allow visitors into the collection of the classic Impressionists and Modernists for a day and a half per week, with a 500-person cap on those who requested a visit. After years of legal disputes, the Foundation moved to a new building not far from the Philadelphia Museum of Art and threw open the doors in 2012, which allowed the stunning Matisse, Cezanne, Picasso and Modigliani works that Dr. Barnes collected to be seen by a greater audience. The Logan Hotel in Philadelphia's Logan Square is a short walk from the Barnes.

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