



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

# Fun Times in Philly

From historic sites to new museums, trendy restaurants and outdoor play spaces, RVers can park, ride and see it all in the City of Brotherly Love

— by Terri Peterson Smith

**In the late 1600s**, Philadelphia's founding father, William Penn, designed a "greene countrie towne." It became a hotbed of the American Revolution, this country's first World Heritage City and a destination for generations of family vacations. Philadelphia, one of our most historic cities, now offers RVers a big list of new attractions, terrific food and a surprising taste of the great outdoors.

To start your visit, head for Philadelphia's Old City to explore the new Museum of the American Revolution, which has won acclaim for the way it presents the war from different points of view including those of slaves, Native Americans and women. While you're in the historic district, visit the Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross House and Independence Hall, but don't miss newer venues such as the National Museum of American Jewish History and the African American

Museum in Philadelphia.

Indeed, the city's museums cover every interest. Art museums line beautiful Broad Street. You'll find anthropology and archaeology collections at Penn Museum, which reopens its refurbished Egypt and Africa galleries this year. Fans of medical oddities will find them at the quirky Mutter Museum, where artifacts include slices of Albert Einstein's brain.

The Bourse, the nation's first commodities exchange (circa 1895), was recently converted to a huge food hall and artisan market. Wander and nosh at the historic Reading Terminal Market, the Italian Market on South Ninth or one of the trendy eateries around Rittenhouse Square.

Later, work off those Philly cheese-steaks by visiting the new parks, piers

and play spaces where Penn's green vision for the city continues to bloom. You'll find Cherry Street Pier, now an open-air park with pop-up restaurants and Delaware River views. The first ¼-mile stretch of the Rail Park is open along an unused elevated rail line. It will ultimately provide 3 miles of pathways and open spaces. Spruce Street Harbor Park features more pop-up restaurants, along with hammocks to hang out in before heading back to your RV.

## STAY AND PLAY

Philly's Campus Park and Ride offers a full-service RV experience with free shuttles to mass transit that takes you anywhere in the city. Open year-round, the gated facility offers restrooms, water and electric hookups, Wi-Fi and a dump station. Its motto: "No lakes, no mountains, no grass, but with us, the entire city of Philadelphia is your campground." [www.campusparkandride.com/rv](http://www.campusparkandride.com/rv)

➦ After a long day's sightseeing in Philadelphia's historic district, a pair of hammock lounges at Spruce Street Harbor Park entice weary tourists to take a break on the Delaware River waterfront.