

SPEP VISITOR'S GUIDE TO PHILADELPHIA

Center City Philadelphia is organized according to what can be called the Milesian Plan, that name coming from the 6th century BC Milesian school, used by Alexander the Great and later the Romans in setting up colonies. This means Philadelphia is laid out along an easily navigable grid pattern with one longitudinal and one traverse artery, Broad and Market Street respectively. Philadelphia is also city of neighborhoods. Sheraton Society Hill is located in the heart of Philadelphia's Old City district. Old City, anchored by Second Street, (just a short walk from the SPEP hotel) is a combination of beautiful old buildings, cobble stone streets, tourists, boutiques, galleries and lots of bars and restaurants. Many of your dining and entertainment needs can be met right here. Below we have listed the best options in this neighborhood and in the city generally. Price ranges for entrées are indicated on a relative scale of one to four dollar signs (\$ - \$\$\$\$). Finally, if you want to be out and about without paying a fortune in cab fare, you can hop on any of the westbound buses on Walnut St. or go up to Market Street to catch the Market-Frankford line armed with \$2 to head to addresses beyond walking distance in Center City.

Dining

Recommendations mostly in order from nearest to furthest from the Society Hill Sheridan.

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MORIMOTO, 723 Chestnut St. (215) 413-9070 . www.morimotorestaurant.com. High-end, creative Japanese cuisine, created by the Iron Chef himself. Personalized attention and hip environment.

VETRI, 1312 Spruce St. (215) 732-3478. <http://www.vetriristorante.com>. High-end Italian cuisine. Artfully designed and plated. Tables get personalized attention from the chef. A premier Philly restaurant—reservations a must.

LE BEC FIN, 1523 Walnut St. (215) 567-1000. <http://www.lebecfin.com>. For a long time, this was the standard against which fine dining in the city was measured. French haute-cuisine. Multiple desserts are encouraged. In the grand old style, no calorie is spared. Very pricey, but cheaper than a flight to Paris. \$\$\$\$. Try fixe-prix lunch.

LA CROIX, 210 Rittenhouse Square. (215)-790-2533. <http://www.lacroixrestaurant.com>. This is one of Philly's finest restaurants. Very upscale experience in food and atmosphere. The 3 course prix-fixe lunch is a steal.

OSTERIA, 640 N. Broad. (215)-790-2533. <http://www.osteriaphilly.com>. Upscale Italian with a tuscan flare; very good wine list. Vetri is one of the top restauranters in the city.

\$\$\$ (20-30 per person for entrée)

ZAHAV, 237 Saint James Place. (215) 625-8800. <http://www.zahavrestaurant.com>. Excellent Israeli small plates with good wine pairings. Beard Award winner for best restaurant, mid-Atlantic region, 2011. It's best to call ahead and make a reservation. Zahav has a relaxed atmosphere. Excellent for vegetarians.

AMADA, 217 Chestnut St. (215) 625-2450. <http://amadarestaurant.com/>

Spanish tapas by Iron Chef Jose Garces, with a wonderful selection of Spanish wines. It is best to call ahead to make a reservation, but there is some first-come, first-served seating available in the bar.

BUDDAKAN, 325 Chestnut St. (215) 574-9440 . <http://www.buddakan.com>. Buddakan is a Philly celebrity—the restaurant itself is a Warholian scenester. Serving avant-garde Asian fusion beneath a giant Buddha statue, the place bustles with the young and beautiful. Seared rare tuna and braised duck breast are two highlights. Dessert is also great. Prepare for a loud, hip atmosphere.

FORK, 306 Market St. (215) 625-9425. <http://www.forkrestaurant.com>
American high-end bistro very close to the Sheraton Society Hill.

TALULA’S GARDEN, 210 W. Washington Sq. (215)-592-7787. <http://www.talulasgarden.com>. A Steven Starr seasonal food restaurant. 10 minute walk.

THE FARM AND THE FISHERMAN, 1120 Pine St. <http://www.thefarmandthefisherman.com>. 30 seat BYOB featuring sustainably grown seasonal food. 10 minute walk.

GARCES TRADING COMPANY, 1111 Locust St. (215) 574-1099. <http://garcestadingcompany.com/>
Artisanal market and café featuring American and Mediterranean fare. Garces Trading Company is a Bring Your Own Bottle (BYOB), sort of. They waive the corkage fee on the first bottle of wine. Wine can be bought in the state-run wine store located inside the establishment. They also offer a full wine, beer and cocktail list. The restaurant is a 10 minute walk from the Sheraton. More informal.

BISTRO LA MINETTE, 623 South 6th Street. (215) 925-800. <http://www.bistrolaminette.com>
Well-executed French food a 10 minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill.

LITTLE FISH, 746 South 6th Street. (267) 455-0172. <http://littlefishbyob.com/>
Small seafood restaurant with positive reviews from Bon Appétit and the New York Times. Little Fish is a BYOB, and it is best to call ahead for reservations. It is a 10 to 15 minute walk from the Sheridan. Or: try FISH at 17th and Lombard. Same chef and more tables. www.fishphilly.com. (215)545-9600.

Barbuzzo, 110 South 13th St. (215) 546-9300. <http://www.barbuzzorestaurant@yahoo.com>. Highly recommended Mediterranean kitchen and bar.

AMIS, 412 South 13th Street. (215) 732-2647. <http://amisphilly.com/>
Roman trattoria style small plates from one of the most respected and lauded Italian chefs in the country, Mark Vetri. Amis is a 15 to 20 minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill.

BIBOU, 1009 South 8th Street. (215) 965-8290. <http://www.biboubyob.com/>
Highly recommended top-notch rustic French cuisine. BYOB. It is very hard to get a table, so be sure to call ahead and make reservations or ask if there have been any cancellations. Bibou is a short cab ride or about a 20 minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill.

OYSTER HOUSE, 1516 Sansom Street. (215) 567-7683 <http://oysterhousephilly.com/>
Fresh raw oysters, clams, lobster and shrimp. Dollar oyster happy hour from 5 to 7 on weekdays. 15-20 minute walk or a short bus or subway ride.

PUMPKIN, 1713 South St. 215-545-4448 BYOB. <http://pumpkinphilly.com/restaurant/> Owned by a husband and wife team who take very seriously their goal of hand-crafting unique dishes composed of local ingredients. Your dish will have been lovingly prepared and, most likely, memorable. The dining room is small for an intimate setting.

BRANZINO, 261 S. 17th St. (215) 790-0103 BYOB. <http://branzinophilly.com>. A very good choice for a somewhat upscale BYOB. The Branzino is very good.

MELOGRANO, 2012 Sansom St.. (215)-875-8116. BYOB. <http://melogranorestaurant.com>. Noisy but excellent center city Italian restaurant.

PORCINI, 2048 Samson St. (215)-751-1175 BYOB. <http://www.porcinirestaurant.com> Very good Italian.

KOO ZEE DOO 614 N. 2nd. (215)-9238080. BYOB <http://www.koozeedoo.com>. Superb Portugese cooking served family-style. 15 minute walk.

MODOMIO, 161 West Girard Av. (215)-203-8707. BYOB. <http://www.modomiorestaurant.com>. Well-reputed Italian. The kitchen is occasionally careless and the service sometimes clueless, but when everything is clicking, it's irresistible.

\$\$ (\$10-\$20 entrée per person)

FORK ETC, 306 Market Street. (215) 625-9425. <http://www.forkrestaurant.com/forketc.htm>
A smaller, less expensive café that shares a kitchen with the more upscale Fork, serving mostly prepared entrées, salads and sandwiches. Very near to the hotel.

HAN DYNASTY, 108 Chestnut Street. (215) 922-1888. <http://handynasty.net/>
BYOB. Authentic and often very spicy Sichuan dishes – the spicy cucumbers are especially recommended. It's very popular so it is best to make a reservation or you might end up waiting for awhile. The restaurant is right around the corner from the hotel.

FARMACIA—15 S. 2nd St. 215-627-6274. <http://www.farmiciarestaurant.com/> BYOB *or* order from the list (wow!). This pleasant and relatively quiet Old City spot focuses on local, organic, and artisanal ingredients.

CHLOE –232 Arch St. 215-629-2337. <http://www.chloebyob.com/> BYOB cash only, no reservations. A fixture in the BYO scene, Chloe's menu changes with the seasons, but is consistently delicious no matter what the weather. It's worth the wait for a table.

NATIONAL MECHANICS, 22 South 3rd Street. (215) 701-4883. <http://www.nationalmechanics.com/>
Gastropub just around the corner from the hotel . Can get crowded on Fridays and Saturdays. Or try:
ROYAL TAVERN, 937 East Passyunk Avenue. (215) 389-6694. <http://www.royaltavern.com/>
An even better Gastropub than National Mechanics, located further from the hotel (about a 10 to15 minute walk). Royal Tavern has perhaps one of the best cheeseburgers in the city. Or try:
STANDARD TAP, 901 N. 2nd Street. (215) 238-0630. <http://standardtap.com/drink.html>. Another great gastropub, placing emphasis on fresh and local ingredients. Standard Tap has great food, an interesting menu and often good people-watching. It's a short cab ride from the Sheraton Society Hill, or alternatively one stop away on the Market-Frankfort Line (Spring Garden Station).

LOLITA – 106 S. 13th (at Sansom) 215-546-7100 BYOB. A boutique-style Mexican restaurant whose menu changes frequently to accommodate seasonal ingredients (many grown locally). Dishes are artful and generally satisfying. Intimate atmosphere. Bring wine or tequila, but be prepared for the \$12 margarita mix if you choose the latter.

\$ (entrée less than \$10 per person)

KABUL—106 Chestnut St. 215-922-3676 . BYOB. Tasty Afghan food. We haven't tested the veracity of their claim that if you ask for a glass of wine they'll give it to you (free!), but it's a nice offer. The good food at very reasonable prices makes up for the somewhat dingy atmosphere.

Pizzeria Stella. 2nd and Lombard. (215) 3208000. <http://www.pizzeriastella.net>. Excellent Roman-style pizza. Or try Zavino Pizzeria at 112 S. 13th St. <http://zavino.com>. (215) 732-2400
WEDGE + FIG, 150 North 3rd Street. Purveyors of fine cheese and charcuterie, this small establishment also has a variety of interesting and delicious sandwiches and salads. The prosciutto, blue cheese and fig spread panino is highly recommended. BYOB. A few blocks from the hotel.

CHINATOWN RESTAURANTS: RANGOON—112 N. 9th (between Arch and Cherry) 215-829-8939 \$. How many chances do you expect to have in your lifetime to try Burmese food? That's what we thought. If you think fermented green tea paste sounds interesting, this is your spot, culinary adventurer. **VIETNAM PALACE/VIETNAM RESTAURANT**—221 and 222 N. 11th St. (at Vine) 215-592-9596/215-592-1163 \$. These two restaurants (across 11th Street from each other) are not *exactly* the same, but choosing between them is a toss-up. Whether you want a light meal of fresh tofu rolls and pho or a more filling dinner, you are in for a sensational meal in a friendly, bustling atmosphere. **LEE HOW FOOK** – 219 N. 11th St. (near Vine) 215-925-7266 \$ Delicious Mandarin Chinese food that seems authentic to this American palette. **SANG KEE**- 238 N. 9th St. (at Vine) 215-925-7532 \$-\$\$. They specialize in Peking duck, but all the food is.

PHỞ HA, 610 Washington Ave.

Vietnamese noodle soup is the specialty here and they do it very well. There are other also other options such as BBQ pork and specialty soups on the weekends. Not vegetarian friendly.

DiNIC'S ROAST PORK AND BEEF, Reading Terminal Market, 51 North 12th Street.

Lunch only. Amazing sandwiches, with options of either roast pork or brisket with broccoli rabe and sharp provolone. Located in the historic Reading Terminal Market, which offers many other good lunch stands. A 15 minute walk or short cab ride from the hotel. Expect a bit of a line and a curt staff.

PAESANO'S, Italian Market, 1017 South 9th Street.

Lunch only. Wide array of amazing and often decadent hot sandwiches in Philadelphia's Italian Market area. Short cab ride or 20 minute walk away from the Sheraton Society Hill.

PAT'S KING OF STEAKS, 1237 East Passyunk Avenue. Pat's claims to have invented the Philly cheese steak, and is less famously xenophobic than the competing Geno's Cheese Steaks, which is right across the street. Pat's also offers great fried hot dogs for only \$1.50. Located in the Italian Market, Pat's is a 25- 30 minute walk or a short cab ride away from the Sheraton Society Hill.

JAMAICAN JERK HUT, 1436 South St. (215)-545-8644. BYOB recommended Jamaican food

ARGAN 132 South 17th St. (215) 568-8354. Real Moroccan Couscous; The chef ages the butter himself for a perfect texture. Great eggplant salad and Moroccan cookies. Excellent choice for vegetarians. BYOB.

S&H KEBAB HOUSE , 611 E. Passyunk Ave. (267)-639-3214. www.kebebbhouse.com. BYOB Turkish, Middle-Eastern.

TIFFIN 710 W. Girard. (215)-922-1297. <http://www.tiffin.com>. Indian cuisine. Will deliver to hotel.

Beer

EULOGY BELGIAN TAVERN, 136 Chestnut Street. (215) 413-918 <http://eulogybar.com/>

Has an extensive beer list and specializes in Belgian beers. Eulogy is very near to the hotel, and reservations can be made for large groups. Or try:

SUGAR MOM'S, 225 Church Street. This large, inexpensive bar is located in the basement of a factory-turned condominium complex. It is a five minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill, and a good choice for larger groups, though it can get quite loud in the evenings. Or try:

OSCAR'S TAVERN, 1524 Samson Street. An inexpensive dive bar with a good juke box located near city hall, and a favorite of Villanova grad students. A 20 minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill, or short ride on the 42 bus on Walnut St. bus or subway ride on the Market-Frankfort line (to 15th street Station). Or try:

MONK'S, 264 South 16th Street. Specializes in Belgian Beer and Mussels. A 20 minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill, or short ride on the 42 bus on Walnut St. bus.

Wine

TRIA, 1137 Spruce Street, (215) 629-9200.

A wine and cheese bar with reasonable happy hour prices Mondays through Thursdays, from 5-7 pm. A fifteen minute walk from the Sheraton Society Hill.

GROCERY STORES

CHEF'S MARKET 231 South St. -or WHOLE FOODS 10th and South

WINE AND SPIRITS STORES

326 S. 5th St. and 32 S. Second St.

Places of Interest

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART, 26th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

A world-class museum with a particularly strong Duchamp collection. Philadelphia's Rodin Museum is located nearby, and can be visited on the same trip.

RITTENHOUSE SQUARE PARK, between 19th Street and 22nd Street south of Walnut Street.

One of Philadelphia's five original open-space parks planned by William Penn and his surveyor Thomas Holme during the late 17th Century. The park forms the centerpiece of the Rittenhouse Square Neighborhood, and offers many benches to sit on and paths to stroll down. The park is good for people watching, and is surrounded by restaurants, bars, shopping and cafés.

MÜTTER MUSEUM, 19 South 22nd Street. http://www.collphyphil.org/site/mutter_museum.html.

A fascinating collection of medical oddities, anatomical and pathological specimens, wax models, and antique medical equipment.

MASONIC TEMPLE, 1 North Broad Street. <http://www.pagrاندlodge.org/>

Daily tours are offered of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, located just north of city hall.

ITALIAN MARKET, 9th Street between Christian Street and Wharton Street.

The oldest and largest working outdoor market in the United States. The Italian Market offers many cafes, Mexican and Italian restaurants and specialty food stores.

READING TERMINAL MARKET, 12th Street and Arch Street.

Over one hundred merchants offer fresh produce, meats, fish, groceries, ice cream, flowers, baked goods, crafts, books, clothing, and specialty and ethnic foods. With open food court seating, this is a great place for lunch.

KIMMEL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 260 South Broad Street. Schedule of events below

| Date | Event |
|------------|---|
| October 19 | <p>Philadelphia Chamber Music Society: Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio</p> <p>Michael Tree, viola</p> <p>Harold Robinson, double bass</p> |
| October 20 | <p>Pennsylvania Ballet:</p> <p>Russian Suite</p> <p>Ratmansky & Balanchine</p> <p>Philadelphia Orchestra:</p> <p>Lang Lang Plays Liszt</p> |
| October 21 | <p>Philadelphia Orchestra:</p> <p>Lang Lang Plays Beethoven</p> <p>Pennsylvania Ballet:</p> <p>Russian Suite</p> <p>Ratmansky & Balanchine</p> <p>Philadelphia Chamber Music Society:</p> <p>Emerson Quartet</p> |
| October 22 | <p>Pennsylvania Ballet:</p> <p>Russian Suite</p> <p>Ratmansky & Balanchine</p> |