



## Philadelphia City Guide for Elon Alumni



### Chapter Contacts

- **Philadelphia Alumni Chapter** – Newer on the Elon Alumni Association scene, but gaining momentum quickly! We hold events every three months currently and plan to increase the frequency in the future.
- Email [elonphillyalumni@gmail.com](mailto:elonphillyalumni@gmail.com) to get on the email list for events or to get involved with the chapter.
- Chapter President: **Jennifer Black '03**, [jblack@burrislogistics.com](mailto:jblack@burrislogistics.com)
- Facebook Group: "Elon Alumni in Philadelphia"



## Areas to Live

### ➤ **Philadelphia County**

- **Washington Square West:** In the heart of Philadelphia, just a few blocks east of Broad Street and south of Market Street. Easily accessible to Center City, but still offering tree-lined streets and 19<sup>th</sup>-century townhomes.
- **Old City:** This neighborhood is located closer to the waterfront and Penn's Landing and boasts a wonderful mix of history and modern flare. A great neighborhood if you are looking for arts and nightlife.
- **Society Hill:** A historic neighborhood complete with cobblestone streets and quaint row homes. Society Hill is a more upscale neighborhood, so be ready to spend some money to live in this area.
- **Queen Village/Bella Vista:** New and upcoming neighborhoods that are popular with young Philadelphians. This neighborhood is fresh and modern with completely renovated townhomes and new restaurants and shopping.
- **Northern Liberties:** Also a newer neighborhood in Philadelphia nestled just northeast of Chinatown. It offers a great nightlife and affordable housing options.
- **Manayunk:** This neighborhood is probably the most popular area for young Philadelphians and is located just north of the city. The streets of this area are lined with upscale shopping, restaurants, and bars. The housing in this area starts to become more affordable as you move outside of the city.
- **Fox Chase/Rawnhurst/Bustleton:** Located in the Northeast corner of Philadelphia County these neighborhoods offer a more suburban feel than the other areas. They are more affordable and still quickly accessible to the city by mass transit.

- **Montgomery County:** This area offers residents a wide range of activities while still being within 10 to 45 minutes of Philadelphia. Many large employers such as Merck and GlaxoSmithKline are located in Montgomery County. The neighborhoods of **Wynnewood**, **Bala Cynwood**, and **Bryn Mawr** offer the feel of the suburbs with a quick commute into the city. **King of Prussia** is about 30 minutes from Philadelphia. This area is popular to young people, offering many jobs and high rise apartments. Young professionals also flock to **Conshohocken** which is about 25 minutes from the city and has a very urban feel. Its main street includes everything from high-rise office complexes to chic bars.

- **Delaware County:** Delaware County is located south of Philadelphia and offers many residential options. This area is popular for young families who want to get away from living in the city, but commute in every day on interstates 95 and 476 or state routes 1 and 3. Neighborhoods such as **Radnor Township, Haverford, and Newtown Square** have a very “family” feel and offer more homes than apartments and condominiums.
- **Salem County, NJ:** Just across the river from Philadelphia, Camden County offers everything from relaxed rural settings to busy urban life. **Cherry Hill** is just minutes from Center City and boasts the quickest growing areas in New Jersey for new businesses and residents.
- **New Castle County, DE:** New Castle County offers the city of Wilmington and a 30 minute ride to Philadelphia, but also many job opportunities with companies such as DuPont, ING Banking, and AstraZeneca. If you are looking for city living in Wilmington the **Trolley Square** neighborhood is popular with young Delawareans and presents options from condominiums to row homes, with quaint bars and restaurants on every corner. **Pike Creek** and **North Wilmington** also offer young professionals new housing close to jobs or a quick commute to Philadelphia.

### 2008 Average Cost of Living in Philadelphia, PA

Bedrooms	Mar	Feb	Jan	3 Month % change
Studio	\$1,079	\$1,103	\$1,070	0.8%
1 Bed	\$1,145	\$1,176	\$1,215	-5.8%
2 Bed	\$1,459	\$1,652	\$1,748	-16.5%
3 Bed	\$3,103	\$2,812	\$2,761	12.4%

### Job Guides

- **Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Daily News:** Philly’s main newspapers, very useful for job searching.
- **PhillyJobs.com:** A resume posting, job searching, and networking web-site dedicated to the Philadelphia area. ([www.PhillyJobs.com](http://www.PhillyJobs.com))
- **Philly.com:** Philadelphia web-site with a thorough job-search listing. ([www.philly.com/philly/jobs](http://www.philly.com/philly/jobs))

### Relocation Sites

- **Chamber of Commerce:** A complete relocation web-site including information packets that can be sent to you directly. ([www.greaterphilachamber.com](http://www.greaterphilachamber.com))
- **City of Philadelphia Website:** Information on municipal services, permits, and other important information. ([www.phila.gov](http://www.phila.gov))



### Nightlife

- **South Street:** Offers a large variety of bars and restaurants that cater to everyone from club goers to intimate bar hoppers. This area is always busy and full of young people till early into the morning.
- **Manayunk:** A more “open air” feeling than Center City with just as many great bars and restaurants as South Street. Manayunk boasts a great variety of ethnic foods.
- **Northern Liberties:** Located in the city, Northern Liberties is growing in popularity with its fresh, chic restaurants and bars. This area gives a very new, clean feel.
- **Conshohocken:** With its suburban feel Conshohocken offers people the opportunity to stroll along in and out of many taverns and bars. The upscale feel of this area draws young professionals from nearby neighborhoods every weekend.

### Recreation

- **Philadelphia Sports and Social Club:** It is the area’s largest organizer of adult leagues and sports events offering coed and single-sex teams in sports like soccer, flag football, volleyball, softball, etc.
- **Manayunk Sports and Social Club:** Offers a large variety of sports like the Philadelphia Sports Club, but on a smaller scale.
- **Fairmount Park, Wissahickon Trail, Kelly Drive, and Martin Luther Drive:** If you are up for a nice walk, jog, or bike ride these are great, scenic areas to enjoy yourself.
- **Philadelphia Rock Gym:** Located in Montgomery County, this facility is the only full-service indoor rock climbing area.
- **Blue Cross River Rink:** Open from Thanksgiving weekend until mid-February this facility offers the public outdoor ice-skating opportunities.
- **Pocono Mountains:** About an hour drive from Philadelphia the Poconos offers skiing at areas such as Camelback, Blue Mountain, Jack Frost, and Big Boulder. During the summer the Poconos are popular for hiking, mountain biking, or just a weekend for relaxation.
- **Parks:** The tri-state area is packed with great parks.
  - **Pennsylvania** ([www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks))
  - **New Jersey** ([www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests))
  - **Delaware** ([www.destateparks.com](http://www.destateparks.com))
- **U.S. Hot Air Balloon Company:** Take a bird’s eye view of the area throughout the counties in Pennsylvania.



## Attractions

- **Independence National Historic Park:** This center welcomes visitors to one of the most historic square miles in America. Landmarks such as Carpenter’s Hall, the Betsy Ross House, Independence Hall, Congress Hall, and the Liberty Bell are all part of this historic park.
- **National Constitution Center:** Completed in 2003 this facility was built to give visitors a better understanding of the U.S. Constitution. This interactive museum allows guests to take part in evolution of America.
- **Walt Whitman House:** Located in Camden, NJ, take a tour of the home where Walt Whitman spent the last 20 years of his life.
- **Hagley Museum and Library:** Located in Wilmington, DE, this facility contains a large collection of photos, books, and manuscripts that chronicle the history of American business and technology.
- **Philadelphia Art Museum:** Not only is this the sight of Rocky Balboa’s famous training in Rocky, but it is the third-largest in the United States. Features include paintings, sculptures, furniture and architecture. Artists such as Picasso, Cezanne, Matisse, and Monet draw crowds from all over.
- **Philadelphia Academy of the Fine Arts:** This is the oldest art museum and school of fine arts in the country and exhibits 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century works of art.
- **The Franklin Institute Science Museum:** Pennsylvania’s most popular museum, it contains a giant walk-through heart, 350-ton locomotive, and an IMAX theater.
- **Mutter Museum:** Adventure into this showcase of fluid-preserved pathological specimens, medical instruments, and rare artifacts. If you dare there are conjoined twins, the skeleton of a midget, a giant colon, and the brain of an epileptic.
- **Avenue of the Arts:** Touring Broadway plays stop at the **Merriam Theater, Forrest Theater,** and the **Academy of Music.** Completed in December of 2001 **The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts** hosts local performing groups such as The Philadelphia Orchestra, Pennsylvania Ballet, the Philly Pops, etc.
- **Tweeter Center:** Along Camden’s Waterfront this year-round amphitheater offers concerts from children’s shows to rock concerts, be sure to catch Jon Bon Jovi near his home town.
- **Longwood Gardens:** Just a 30 minute ride from Philadelphia the gardens are located in Kennet Square, PA. These gardens cover over 1,000 acres with 40 indoor and outdoor gardens boasting more than 11,000 plants.



### Annual Events

- **Sunoco Welcome America:** Weeklong festivities celebrating where independence began leading up to a spectacular fireworks show on the Fourth of July.
- **Mummers Parade:** Philadelphians version of Mardi Gras, the parade features string bands, floats, and Mummers in brilliant costumes. This is an indescribable event, must see it to believe it!
- **Manayunk Arts Festival:** This festival occurs every June and lines the main street of Manayunk with artists exhibiting their craft. The shops throughout the town stay open as well to allow people to browse and live entertainment and food vendors can be found everywhere.
- **East Coast Vulture Festival:** This off beat festival is located in Gloucester County and celebrates the over 200 vultures that inhabit their town each winter. Be sure to bring your best vulture costume.
- **Philadelphia Flower Show:** The flower show comes to Philadelphia every March and brings people throughout the United States to the area.
- **Rittenhouse Row Spring Festival:** Each May this upscale neighborhood offers live music, great food, indoor and outdoor sales, and arts and crafts for all to enjoy.
- **First Union U.S. Pro Cycling Championship:** The First Union men's pro cycling championship is the nation's longest running, richest single-day race on the Pro Cycling Tour. The Amateur Wall Climb has cyclists pedaling up the Manayunk Wall, a stretch of road at a 45-degree angle. The race starts at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.
- **Thanksgiving Day Parade:** Dating to 1920 as the nation's first Thanksgiving Day parade, Philadelphia's spectacle now lasts three hours and features more than a dozen marching bands, floats, a youth choir and more.
- **Holiday Light Show:** Since 1956, a multi-media holiday light show has unfolded with water fountains, organ music and more in the Grand Court at Center City.

## Local Teams

- **Football:**
  - **Philadelphia Eagles** ([www.philadelphiaeagles.com](http://www.philadelphiaeagles.com)) is the professional football team playing at Lincoln Financial Field.
  - **Philadelphia Soul** ([www.philadelphiasoul.com](http://www.philadelphiasoul.com)) is the local indoor arena football team owned by Jon Bon Jovi and Richie Sambora, playing at the Wachovia Center.
- **Baseball:**
  - **Philadelphia Phillies** ([www.phillies.com](http://www.phillies.com)) is the oldest, one-city, one-name, continuous professional sports team in the U.S. This National League team plays at Citizens Bank Park.
  - **Camden River Sharks, Trenton Thunder and Wilmington Blue Rocks** are local minor league baseball teams located in Camden, NJ, Trenton, NJ and Wilmington, DE respectively.
- **Basketball:**
  - **Philadelphia 76er's** ([www.sixers.com](http://www.sixers.com)) play their games inside the Wachovia Center and have quite a young and up-coming team.
- **Hockey:**
  - **Philadelphia Flyer's** ([www.philadelphiaflyers.com](http://www.philadelphiaflyers.com)) also make their home at the Wachovia Center and are one of the most successful National Hockey League teams in history.
  - **Philadelphia Phantoms** are an American Hockey League team who play at the Wachovia Center and feed the Flyer's team.
- **Lacrosse:**
  - Philadelphia based **Wings Lacrosse** ([www.wingslax.com](http://www.wingslax.com)) have won six championships since their beginning in 1987.
- **Soccer:**
  - The **Philadelphia KiXX** ([www.kixxonline.com](http://www.kixxonline.com)) began in Philadelphia in 1996 and have reached the playoffs every year since.

