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Halloween in the Historic District

Philadelphia's Historic District Comes Alive with Weekend of Fall Fun, October 18 - 20

October X, 2024 (PHILADELPHIA)—The [Philadelphia Visitor Center Corporation](#) (“the Visitor Center”) will host a festive weekend of fall fun for all ages, including a spooky movie on Friday, October 18 and trick-or-treating at over 30 historic locations on Saturday, October 19. “Halloween in the Historic District” invites visitors and locals alike to explore Philly’s most iconic landmarks in a whole new way, blending history with Halloween thrills. From ghostly tales and themed activities to seasonal treats, this weekend promises to bring a fresh burst of autumnal excitement to the heart of Philadelphia.

These events are made possible through the collaboration of the Historic District Partners, led by the Visitor Center, Independence National Historical Park, and Independence Historical Trust. Together, they will transform the Historic District into a hub of Halloween-themed festivities, offering locals and tourists alike a chance to experience the city’s rich heritage with a spooky twist.

Halloween in the Historic District events and happenings include:

Friday, October 18:

Poetober: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Before the Movies on the Mall screening of *The Sixth Sense*, celebrate the master of macabre, Edgar Allan Poe at “Poetober.” Hosted by the National Park Service, “Poetober” will feature family-friendly games and activities inspired by “The Raven” author, including an impersonator of Poe himself.

Movies on the Mall featuring *The Sixth Sense* (1999)

Family friendly activities begin at 5 pm.

Screening begins at 6:30 p.m.

Join the Visitor Center, Independence Historical Trust, and Liberty Garden for “Movies On The Mall,” an outdoor movie series celebrating the themes and history of Independence National Historical Park. October's movie will be *The Sixth Sense* (1999), a psychological thriller written and directed by Philadelphia-favorite, M. Night Shyamalan. It stars Bruce Willis as a child psychologist whose patient (Haley Joel Osment) claims he can see and talk to the dead.

This event is a featured “Philly Night Out” with Campus Philly! College students attending can enjoy special discounts at Liberty Garden all night.

Saturday, October 19:

Trick-or-Treating in Historic Philadelphia: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Philadelphia’s Historic District will welcome costumed trick-or-treaters for a special Halloween afternoon across America’s most historic (and haunted) square mile. More than 30 Old City businesses, museums, and historic attractions will welcome trick-or-treaters with candy and other special programming. Kids are encouraged to come in costume. Start your adventure at the Independence Visitor Center, where we’ll be handing out bags and maps for all trick-or-treaters. The map will guide you to participating organizations throughout the district, some offering special events, programs, and of course, candy!

Historic Hayrides on Independence Mall: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Experience the charm of Old City Philadelphia on a unique hayride right in the heart of Old City! Celebrate fall with a hayride around Independence Mall, with views of the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall through the iconic landmarks of America’s most historic square mile. Rides begin at Independence Visitor Center.

Oktoberfest Craft Market: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Visitor Center, Art Star, and Liberty Garden are hosting an Oktoberfest Craft Market at Liberty Garden and the North End of the Independence Visitor Center. Come shop with 15+ local vendors selling hand-made crafts, art, gifts and more, take part in family-friendly activities like pumpkin painting, and celebrate the fall season!

Meet Edgar Allen Poe: 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Learn more about the life and impact of the master of macabre, Edgar Allan Poe by chatting with an impersonator of Poe himself.

[Additional Programming Around the Historic District](#)

Sunday, October 20:

Liberty Garden's Final Day of the Season: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Join us for the final day of Liberty Garden's season before this vibrant new addition to Independence Mall closes for winter. Nestled right across the green from Independence Visitor Center at Independence National Historical Park, Liberty Garden offers a refreshing break after exploring Philadelphia's rich history.

About the Philadelphia Visitor Center Corporation:

The Philadelphia Visitor Center Corporation (PVCC) connects visitors to memorable, authentic, and fun Philly experiences at our four visitor center locations: 6th and Market, City Hall, Love Park, and the Parkway. It facilitates the operation of the Independence Visitor Center, the primary point of orientation for Independence National Historical Park and the official visitor center of the Philadelphia region, including Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties. PVCC also operates the Philly PHLASH seasonal public transit service, and The Liberty View, a private event space at The Independence Visitor Center overlooking the Liberty Bell and Independence Mall. For more information, please visit www.phlvisitorcenter.com.

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