

# PENN TRACKS

## ITALIAN MARKET

### Overview:

This tour explores one of the oldest and largest U.S. outdoor markets, the Italian Market. You'll find vendors selling vegetables, fish, spices, and more. Enjoy delis, specialty shops, and diverse cuisines including Mexican, Vietnamese, Korean, Thai, and Laotian, reflecting the market's rich Italian heritage and multicultural offerings.

### Transportation:

To get to the market: Take the Market – Frankford Line 8th Street, then catch the 47 bus to 8th and Washington.

To return to Penn: Take the Broad Street line from Ellsworth-Federal to City Hall and transfer to the MFL to 34th Street or 40th Street.

### 1 Honduran Food @ Tamalex 1163 S. 7th Street

This Honduran restaurant also serves Mexican food. Vegetarians will love the huitlacoche or flor de calabaza quesadillas. They also make excellent horchata, a refreshing rice-based drink.

### 2 Geno's Steaks 1219 S. 9th Street

Glitzy cheesesteak place famed for its anti-immigrant politics as much as its food, Geno's is a reminder of an older, nastier South Philly.

### 3 Pat's King of Steaks 1237 E. Passyunk Avenue

Inventors of the Philly Cheesesteak. Worth a visit, though most would argue they are not the best cheesesteak place in the city. Bring cash, and know how to order. Watch this video first: <http://www.visitphilly.com/articles/Philadelphia/top-10-spots-for-authentic-philly-cheesesteaks/>

### 4 Tacos @ Prima Pizza Taqueria 1104 S. 9th Street

Several Mexican eateries line 9th Street, but for tacos, Prima is unbeatable. Try their carne enchilada tacos and quesadillas. Open till 4am daily.

### 5 Fresh Tortillas @ Tortilleria San Roman 951 S. 9th Street

A beloved institution in the Italian Market. This is the only place in Philly where they make fresh tortillas, hot off the griddle. If you're lucky, you'll walk in and be handed a tortilla and some salsa, gratis.

### 6 Coffee and Dessert @ Anthony's 903 S. 9th Street

A warm neighborhood coffee house where people come to chat and hang out, not just work on laptops. The family has been in the area for a century. Enjoy their sandwiches, cannolis, and sfogliatella (if you can pronounce it!).

### 7 Historical Marker for "9th Street Curb Market" 9th and Christian Streets

The Italian Market is formally known as the "Ninth Street Curb Market" and is the oldest outdoor market in America.

### 8 Banh Mi @ Cafe Cuong 811 S. 8th Street

Home of some of the best banh mi (or Vietnamese hoagie) sandwiches in the city. Also have delicious Vietnamese coffee.

### 9 Fresh Bread @ Sarcone's Bakery 758 S. 9th Street

The bread at Sarcone's is legendary. Take a loaf home or stop by their deli a few doors up for a classic Italian hoagie.

### 10 Pastries @ Isgro 1009 Christian Street

Even if you don't have a sweet tooth, or any space for dessert, step into this 100-year old bakery for the atmosphere & the aroma.

### 11 Pizza @ Santucci's 901 S. 10th Street

For the best pizza in the Italian Market, try Santucci's. Here the pizza is square and the sauce is poured over the cheese, not below, but when in Rome... A great neighborhood family restaurant.

### 12 Hot Sandwiches @ George's 900 S. 9th Street

There's no dearth of sandwich places in the Italian Market. But for a hot sandwich—say a cheesesteak or hot roasted pork or spicy veal (or tripe and tongue sandwich for the truly adventurous)—you can't really do better than George's. Just don't expect to get a place to sit.

### 13 Fresh Mozzarella @ Claudio's 924 S. 9th Street

Claudio's Specialty Food offers an affordable alternative to Di Bruno Brothers next door, with a great selection of cured meats, cheeses, antipasto, and Italian treats. Their standout feature is fresh mozzarella made next door, available hot and delicious for days.

### 14 Free Samples @ Di Bruno Bros. 930 S. 9th Street

Di Bruno Brothers, originally located in the Italian Market, now has branches citywide. The shop offers a wide selection of cheeses, meats, and specialty items, though it's a bit pricey. The best part of any visit is the generous free samples—don't be shy, try their selection.

### 15 Hung Vuong Supermarket 1122 Washington Avenue

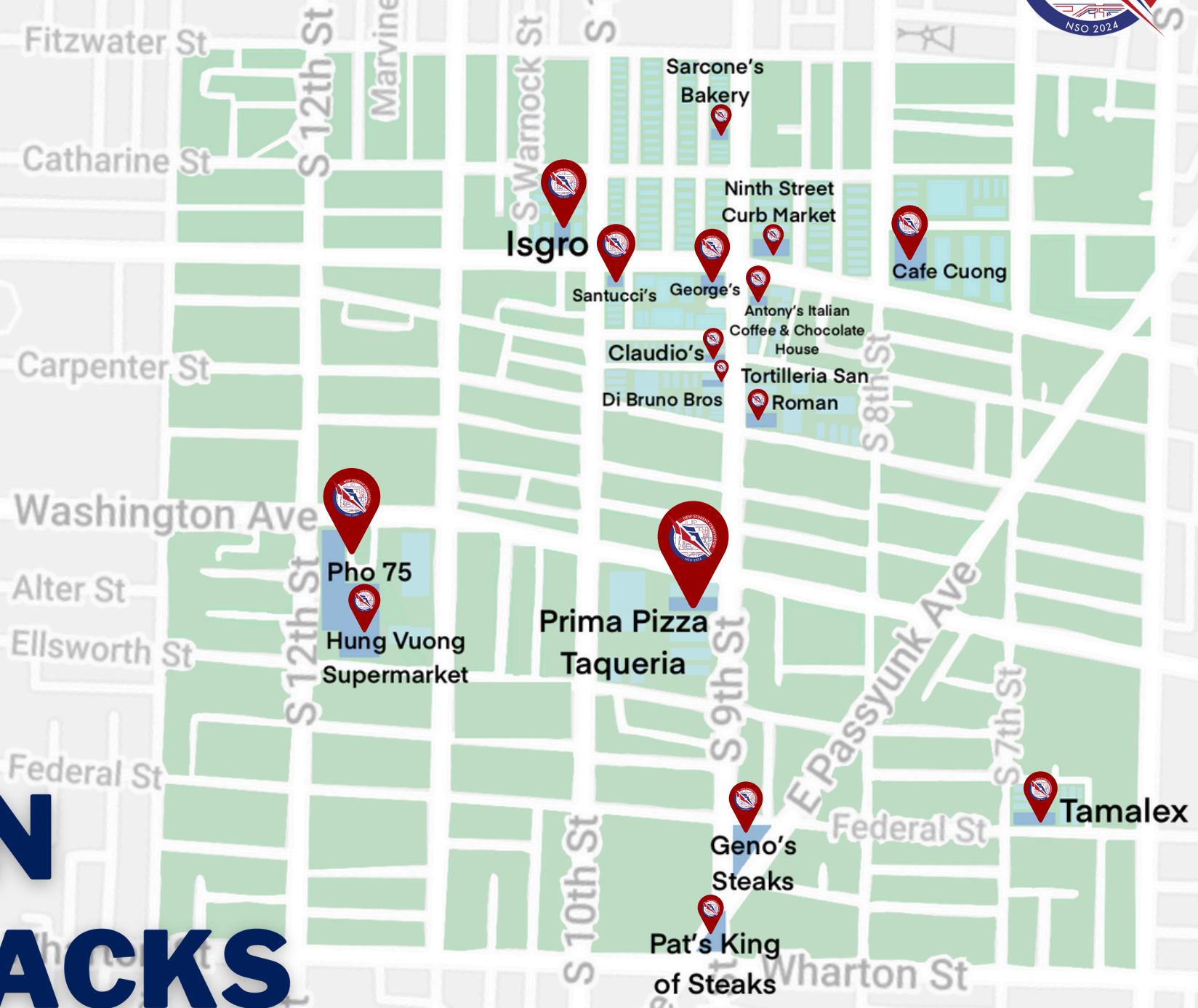
Hung Vuong is an Asian supermarket stocked full of various Asian groceries. Stop here to grab fresh baked goods, yummy snacks, or unique brands of ramen that you can't find on campus.

### 16 Pho @ Pho75 1122 Washington Avenue

If you haven't tried the delicious noodle and beef broth known as Pho, go here immediately. If you've had Pho elsewhere, try the place where Philly's chefs—and everyone else—go for their pho. Featured in Anthony Bourdain's "cheesesteak-free" episode on Philly. The Vietnamese coffee here is also some of the best!

See [www.italianmarketphilly.org](http://www.italianmarketphilly.org) for more information.

# Italian Market



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# FUN FACTS

## NSOAI Communications Track '24

The Italian Market's history traces back to the late 1880s when Antonio Palumbo started accommodating Italian immigrants at his boardinghouse. This influx spurred the opening of shops along 9th Street shortly thereafter.

The Italian Market has made appearances in iconic films like Rocky and Rocky II, as well as in popular television series such as Hack and It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia.

Pat and Harry Olivieri are credited with inventing the original Philly cheesesteak in the 1930s. The sandwich became immensely popular, leading Pat to establish his own restaurant, 'Pat's King of Steaks,' which remains in operation to this day.



**Sneha Sebastian**  
**T Fong**  
**Thu Le**

