

# PENN TRACKS

## MIDTOWN VILLAGE

### Overview:

“Midtown Village” is the area between the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers, from Market Street to the north, South Street to the south, Broad Street to the west, and 10th Street to the east. It features top restaurants, shops, museums, theaters, and more.

### Transportation:

To get to Midtown Village: Take the Market—Frankfort Line to 15th Street or take the 21 bus from 40th and Chestnut and get off at Broad and Chestnut.

To return to Penn: Take Market—Frankfort Line from 13th and Market streets back to 34th Street or 40th Street or take the 21 or 42 bus from Walnut and Broad to 40th Street.

### 1 City Hall /Dilworth Park *Broad & Market street*

City Hall was the tallest building in Philadelphia until Liberty Place was built, and you can still get one of the city’s greatest views from its observation deck. Many movies feature this unusual building, done in the French Second Empire style—you may recognize it from Trading Places, 12 Monkeys, Philadelphia, and more. Its plaza, the recently renovated Dilworth Park, hosts many outdoor activities in season.

### 2 Macy’s Center City *1300 Market Street*

Philadelphia’s largest department store is famous for its beautiful central atrium, equipped with a large, still-working pipe organ, and the eagle sculpture that’s a popular meeting spot. During the weeks around Christmas and New Year, the Macy’s Holiday Light show is a favorite free attraction, and plays several times each day.

### 3 Forrest Theatre *1114 Walnut Street*

This Broadway-style theater, opened in 1928, and still owned by the famous Shubert Organization, regularly hosts popular plays and especially musicals. Beginning in August 2019, it will be home to the Philadelphia company of Hamilton.

### 4 Walnut Street Theatre *825 Walnut Street*

Founded in 1809, this is the oldest theater in America, and continues to boast the largest subscription audience in the country. You’ll find a wide selection of musicals and plays on stage here throughout the year.

### 5 Antique Row *Pine Street, between 9th & 12th streets*

These blocks of Pine Street are particularly pleasant for a leisurely walk, where you can take in an interesting collection of shops or sit and enjoy coffee or a meal.

### 6 Giovanni’s Room *345 S. 12th Street*

Since 1973, Giovanni’s Room has been the biggest and best source of books, periodicals, and information by and about the LGBT and women’s communities. Giovanni’s Room, which continues to function as a cultural center, is also historic: one of the first LGBT book stores in the United States.

### 7 Cobblestone Streets *Camac & Quince streets*

Take a walk on the historic cobblestone streets in Philadelphia! These narrow streets dating back to the 1800s, are full of charm, and recall what the city looked like centuries ago.

### 8 William Way Community Center *1315 Spruce Street*

The William Way Center is home to various social, political, and support groups for the LGBT community, ranging from Buddhist meditation, to intergenerational activities, to discussion groups, and more. There’s also an exhibition gallery, and a 10,000 volume library archive. While you’re here, look for the well-known Pride and Progress mural.

### 9 Library Company of Philadelphia *1314 Locust Street*

Located next to the Historical Society, the Library Company is another research center for rare materials on our city, and also a notable center for visual art exhibitions.

### 10 Historical Society of Pennsylvania *1300 Locust Street*

Founded in 1824, this elegant building is on the Philadelphia Register of Historical Places, and its collection includes over 600,000 printed pieces and over 19 million manuscripts and graphic items on the history of our city.

### Of Additional Interest

#### A Louis I. Kahn Park *11th & Pine street*

Dedicated to world-famous Philadelphia architect Louis Kahn, the parks is a wonderful place to relax in the heart of the Washington Square West neighborhood. Volunteer in the garden or stop in for the annual Summer Concert Series and other events throughout the year.

#### B Center City District Restaurant Week *September (Dates TBA)*

Experience some of the best restaurants in Philly for a fraction of the price. During Center City District Restaurant Week, you can get a three course lunch or dinner at some of the nicest places in the city. Organize a hall outing or grab a group of friends for a special treat. Your stomach will thank you for it!

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# FUN FACTS

## NSOAI Communications Track '24

Midtown Village hosts an annual Midtown Village Fall Festival, a popular event that draws thousands of visitors for a day of live music, food, shopping, and family-friendly activities, showcasing the neighborhood's lively atmosphere.

Midtown Village is home to Philadelphia's famous "Gayborhood," an area recognized for its vibrant LGBTQ+ community, with rainbow street signs and a wide array of LGBTQ+-owned businesses, bars, and cultural events.

The area is rich in history, with many buildings dating back to the 19th century, offering a blend of historic charm and modern development, making it a unique and attractive part of Philadelphia.



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