

PENN TRACKS



This tour takes you through the Asian cultural center of Philadelphia. Established in 1871, Chinatown has faced over 150 years of fighting against gentrification and displacement. The neighborhood has acted as a haven for the working class, immigrants, and local youth. Chinatown is particularly known for having a variety of amazing cuisines, including Japanese, Thai, Cambodian, Burmese, Laotian, Malaysian, and Vietnamese.



CHINATOWN





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PENNTACKS TOURS

1

CHINATOWN FRIENDSHIP ARCH

Arch St & N 10th St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dedicated in 1984, the arch was built by Chinese artisans and is America's first authentic Chinese gate. Dragons and phoenixes from the Ming and Qing dynasties adorn the gate to bring protection, luck, and longevity for the community.

2

FIRE STATION

33 N. 10th Street, at the NE corner of 10th St. & Cherry St.

The station was originally established on July 4, 1791 as part of the Diligent Volunteer Fire Company. Nicknamed the "House of Dragons," it was first located on South Market near 8th Street and moved locations before settling.

3

KEN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

1004 Race St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

A Philly classic known for fresh seafood, karaoke, and late-night hours. Perfect for night owls.

4

VIETNAM RESTAURANT

221 N 11th St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Awarded a James Beard for its authentic Vietnamese cuisine, this spot is a must-visit for lovers of bold flavors and tradition.

5

CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND CENTER

1101 Vine St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Beginning in the late 1800s, increased religious activity in Philadelphia led to the founding of the Chinese Christian Church and Center in 1941. It remains a cornerstone of Chinatown's history, with a second campus at 11th and Vine.

6

HISTORY OF CHINATOWN MURAL

237 N 10th St, Philadelphia, 19107

Commissioned in 1995 for Chinatown's 125th anniversary, this mural by Arturo Ho traces the community's journey from early laundrymen to resistance. Such conflicts include protests against the Vine Street Expressway, which demolished parts of historic Chinatown, and recent protests in 2024 and 2025 led by the "No Arena Coalition" against a proposed stadium for the 76ers.

7

SANG KEE PEKING DUCK HOUSE

238 N 9th St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Known for its signature Peking duck, Sang Kee offers a taste of traditional Chinese cuisine in the heart of Chinatown. A go-to spot that is especially popular during the holidays!

8

FRANKLIN SQUARE

200 N 6th St, Philadelphia, PA 19106

One of Philadelphia's five original squares, the square features various attractions, including a carousel and mini golf. Each summer, it hosts Chinatown's Chinese Lantern Festival with performances, food, and countless handcrafted lantern displays.

9

RACE STREET

Race Street, Philadelphia, PA

Laid out as part of William Penn's original 1680s street grid, Race Street helped shape early Philadelphia into the "City of Brotherly Love." Just blocks away, revolutionary ideas laid the groundwork for American independence. Today, Race Street is the culinary heart of Chinatown.

10

THE PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER

101 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

The Pennsylvania Convention Center houses exhibitions, conferences, and other large events. With four main halls and a grand hall from the former Reading Railroad terminal, it brings people together for learning, dialogue, and major events like the Philadelphia Flower Show.

11

READING TERMINAL MARKET

1136 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

This is part of the Reading Railroad you know from Monopoly! Treasured by locals and tourists alike, the market brings together a variety of cuisines under one roof: Amish pretzels, steaks, and hoagies—all Philly originals!

TAKE A LOOK!

If you brought your glasses, take a look at the very top of City Hall! You'll see the guy who founded the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (he's been standing up there since 1894).

For more information, visit: www.visitphilly.com/chinatown