



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY
OF THE FINE ARTS

NEIGHBORHOODS OF PHILADELPHIA

Logan Square, Spring Garden & Fairmount: These areas are located along Benjamin Franklin Parkway with the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Barnes Foundation and the Rodin Museum nearby. Those living here enjoy many cultural and recreational activities close to home with residential neighborhoods, restaurants, bars, and café's. Fountains, flowers and flags adorn the tree-lined Parkway.

Housing options: Row houses line most of the streets of Fairmount, but you will also find several high-rise apartment complexes. Housing prices are comparable to Center City, but parking is tricky.

Transportation: Because of its proximity to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, which runs directly toward City Hall, buses are an extremely useful form of transportation in this area. Also, because the Art Museum Area sits adjacent to Fairmount Park, many of the locals travel by bicycle.

Rittenhouse: Rittenhouse occupies the southwest corner of Center City. Rittenhouse square, itself, is a prestigious destination with dozens restaurants and shops within walking distance.

Housing Options: The area is home to a diverse group of people including single professionals, families with children and an increasing number of retirees who are rediscovering the joys of city life.

Transportation: The area is in close proximity to all of Center City, but parking is an expensive challenge. Bicyclists abound, and taxis are ready to take you anywhere you want to go.

Chinatown & Callowhill: This area of Philadelphia is one of the fastest-growing areas in Center City, a prospering community nestled between the Pennsylvania Convention Center and just north of the Vine Street Expressway. It is richly cultural, and a popular residence for medical students studying at nearby Jefferson and Hahnemann Hospitals. An exceptional dining scene highlights Chinatown, with cheap eats, ideal for students on a budget. The Vox Populi gallery complex is a great place to see art on the weekends!

Housing options: With the recent expansion of the Pennsylvania Convention Center, new hotels and condominiums continue to sprout. Apartments in this area distinctly contrast the historic brownstones that typify Center City living.

Transportation: Chinatown & Callowhill are only a few blocks from PAFA. Students here will have no trouble walking to school, regardless of the weather.

Market East: Market East serves as Philadelphia's shopping and entertainment gateway. Nestled in between Old City and Rittenhouse Square, this exciting neighborhood is home to the City Hall, Macy's department store in the historical Wanamaker Building and Reading Terminal Market. Numerous restaurants, clubs and theaters are within walking distance.

Housing options: Though Market East is known for the shopping and entertainment, some studio apartments, one-, two- and three- bedroom apartments are available in many apartment buildings and lofts. Parking is a big challenge here; on-street spaces are rarely available.

Transportation: You can take the bus, subway or a taxi, and nearly everything in Center City is accessible on foot.

Washington Square West: Washington Square West is a colorful part of Philadelphia. You'll find townhomes and brownstones throughout this neighborhood, as well as performing arts venues on the Avenue of the Arts.

Housing Options: Similar to Rittenhouse Square, many small apartments are found in Washington Square West. They often carry premium prices, but small or shared spaces remain within a student's budget.

Transportation: This area is walking-distance from everything in Center City.

Old City & Society Hill: Old City is the birthplace of Philadelphia. It is home to the Liberty Bell, Independence Mall, and dozens of historical attractions. Numerous restaurants, clubs and theaters are within walking distance. Old City also houses many of the city's Art Galleries.

Housing options: Housing in Old City is at a premium, and costs can be substantial. Parking is a challenge here; on-street spaces are rarely available.

Transportation: You can take the bus, subway or a taxi, and nearly everything in Center City is accessible on foot.

Bella Vista & East Passyunk (South Philadelphia): The communities in South Philly have been described as the city's most colorful and ethnically diverse neighborhoods. South Philadelphia is also home to several of Philly's famous cheesesteak vendors, and also the Italian and Mexican Markets: full of grocers, cafes, restaurants, bakeries, and cheese and butcher shops.

Housing options: Ground-level shops and traditional row homes cover the area. The neighborhood is heavily residential.

Transportation: The neighborhood is near the Broad Street Subway Line, which conveniently transports students toward downtown. By bike, you can easily get to Center City in 15-20 minutes.

University City: University City encompasses the campuses of the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University. The area is heavily student oriented, and located across the Schuylkill River from Center City.

Housing Options: The area is filled with off-campus student housing, including many apartment rentals.

Transportation: Bus lines run along Market, Chestnut, and Walnut streets and provide easy access to Center City. The Market-Frankford Subway line and several trolley lines also travel through University City, and many students will own a bicycle in this area.

Northern Liberties & Fishtown: In recent years, the Northern Liberties & Fishtown areas of Philadelphia have experienced a revival. Due to recent improvement and revitalization projects, the area has become a center for local artists and musicians.

Housing options: Like many Philadelphia neighborhoods, row homes are the primary residential option. Apartment costs now regularly parallel Center City prices.

Transportation: Bicycles and public transportation are appropriate transit choices here. The Market-Frankford Subway Line has several stops in Northern Liberties and Fishtown, on Spring Garden, Girard and Berks streets. The commute to PAFA is about 20 minutes on the Market-Frankford Line.

For more information visit the Interactive Housing Map: www.visitphilly.com/philadelphia-neighborhoods/