



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Start Your Holiday Season in Philadelphia
with the Independence Visitor Center Corporation**

PHILADELPHIA, PA (November 27, 2019) – **Independence Visitor Center Corporation** (IVCC) welcomes visitors for the holidays with extended hours and festive programming.

All are invited to start their season with the IVCC to receive personalized service from friendly staff who provide expert guidance to help curate the perfect holiday experience itinerary.

New and Notable for Holiday 2019:

- **[Thanksgiving Week](#)**: For the first time in the building's history, **[Independence Visitor Center](#)** will **open its doors on Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 28, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.**, in a dedicated effort to provide an exceptional welcome experience for every visitor to the Philadelphia region. The Visitor Center will open with extended hours on **Friday, Nov. 29** and **Saturday, Nov. 30, 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.**
- **[PHLASH® Day-to-Night Service](#)**: The PHLASH provides the best way to get around and access seasonal attractions, from day to night. **[Philly PHLASH® Downtown Loop](#)** resumes daily daytime service for the season, November 29 - December 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

New for 2019: the **[PHLASH Holiday Evening Service](#)** provides access to seven stops located near holiday attractions, Friday - Sunday, 6 - 10 p.m., through December 29. Daytime PHLASH fares are accepted on the evening service, and a special evening rate is available for purchase onboard vehicles after 6 p.m. for only \$2 for an All-Night Pass.

- **[Historic Holiday Pass powered by PECO](#)**: **Enjoy historic savings and deals** at dozens of attractions, museums, restaurants, and shops in Philadelphia's Historic District with the **Historic Holiday Pass**! New for 2019, participating businesses and attractions offer visitors a holiday gift that keeps on giving with this free digital pass, with offers valid from **Nov. 14 – Dec. 31, 2019**. To view full list of offers and redeem, download the pass on your mobile device and present at time of purchase. *Bonus: Ride PHLASH to access many of participating attractions.*



Returning Holiday Favorites:

- **Winter Storytelling:** Huddle around the Storytelling Bench located inside the Independence Visitor Center and listen to tales about the cold winter of 1776, including Washington's epic journey across the Delaware on Christmas night. This free, interactive program is available from **10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 29 and Saturday, Nov. 30; Thursday - Saturday, Dec. 19 – 21 and Dec. 26 – 28.**
- **Holiday History Makers:** Meet colonial townsfolk in the halls of the Visitor Center, who share tales, anecdotes, and good cheer about life in 18th-century Philadelphia. The History Makers will be at the Visitor Center from **11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 29 and Saturday, Nov. 30; Wednesday, Dec. 26 - Tuesday, Dec. 31.**
- **Mummers Tickets:** For 14 years, the IVCC has been the exclusive seller of tickets for bleacher seating at the Mummers Parade, a long-standing Philadelphia tradition for welcoming the New Year with intricate costumes, music, and pageantry. Tickets for the Fancy Brigade Shows at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, and MummersFest, a four-day, family-friendly festival, are also available for purchase.

Save the Date!

- **HERSHEY'S at the City of Philadelphia Official Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration, Meet and pose for photos with HERSHEY'S mascot** as a featured guest at the city's official holiday tree lighting ceremony, and receive a coupon to try out the goodies at [HERSHEY'S Kitchens café](#), located inside Independence Visitor Center. **Wednesday, Dec. 4, 5 - 7 p.m.**
- **Holiday Gift Grab: Enter to win a 60-second free shopping spree at Independence Gift Shop!** It's easy: follow [@PHLvisitorcenter on Instagram](#) and tag two of your friends in the comments to enter. *More details announced soon!* **Winner's Event: Friday, December 20**

Satellite Locations:

- **City Hall Visitor Center:** Located in room 121 in the East Portal of Philadelphia City Hall, this visitor center location operated by the IVCC provides visitor services and information, a gift shop, and Interior and Tower Tours of the architectural treasure. **Closed Thanksgiving | Open Black Friday, Nov. 29, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 30, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
- **Fashion District Concierge Services:** The IVCC provides concierge staffing services for this immersive new shopping destination that spans three city blocks along East Market St. Concierge staff assist guests with information, reservations, transportation access, and at



special cultural event programming, such as the upcoming Photos with Santa.

Closed Thanksgiving | Open extended hours for Black Friday, Nov. 29, 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Visit [PHLvisitorcenter.com/holidays](https://www.phlvisitorcenter.com/holidays) for more details about holiday programs and events.

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About the Independence Visitor Center Corporation (IVCC): The Independence Visitor Center Corporation (IVCC) is a Pennsylvania nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization, which operates in cooperation with the National Park Service to manage Independence Visitor Center, the official visitor center of the greater Philadelphia region. [PHLvisitorcenter.com](https://www.phlvisitorcenter.com)