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INDEPENDENCE VISITOR CENTER CORPORATION WELCOMES BACK VISITORS FOR START OF THE SUMMER SEASON

The IVCC announces extended hours, discounts, programs, and exhibits beginning Memorial Day Weekend 2021.

PHILADELPHIA, **PA** (**May 26**, **2021**) – As the nation and City of Philadelphia begin to ease restrictions put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Independence Visitor Center Corporation (IVCC)** announces plans to welcome back visitors this summer with extended hours of operation, discounts, promotions, programming, and collaborations with tourism partners, beginning Memorial Day weekend.

Locations and Services:

- Independence Visitor Center (599 Market St., 800.537.7676): Open Daily, 9 a.m. 5 p.m.
 Memorial Day Weekend Extended Hours: Friday, May 28 Sunday, May 30: 9 a.m. 6 p.m.
 Summer Hours through Labor Day: Sunday Thursday: 9 a.m. 5 p.m.; Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. 6 p.m.
 Distributed for FREE from the Information Desk: Walking Map of the Historic District + Attraction Hours
- LOVE Park Visitor Center (1569 John F. Kennedy Blvd., 215.344.8544): Open Daily, 10 a.m. 5 p.m. New visitor center kiosk in historic location, proudly sponsored by Bank of America
- Philly PHLASH® Downtown Loop (20 stops located by top destinations): Daily Service, 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Passes available onboard, online, and visitor centers. Seniors, kids 4 & under, SEPTA Key and Pass holders always ride free!

Deals and Programs:

- <u>City Hall Exterior Tour</u>: Although the IVCC's satellite visitor center located in City Hall's east portal remains closed due to the pandemic, public interest in the nation's largest and most elaborate seat of municipal government has not waned. This led retired Director of City Hall Tours and Visitor Center, Greta Greenberger, to develop a new way for visitors and locals to safely learn about the National Historic Landmark: an outdoor, socially-distanced, guided walking tour around the building's perimeter. The hourlong tour explores the art, architecture, and history of City Hall, and is available Thursday Saturday, at Noon and 1 p.m., weather-permitting. Tours depart from the LOVE Park Visitor Center. Purchase online at PHLvisitorcenter.com/CityHallExteriorTour.
- Free Parking Saturdays sponsored by Visit Philadelphia: Visitors enjoying a day trip to Philadelphia can park for free every Saturday at the AutoPark at Independence Mall, located below the Independence Visitor Center, when they purchase a ticket to a local tour or attraction at the Visitor Center. To take advantage of this great deal, enter the garage after 10 a.m. and leave by 7 p.m. Extended through July 3!

- Long May She Wave: Historic Flags and Banners from the Philadelphia Flag Day Association's Collection at the Betsy Ross House: This FREE flag exhibit is on display for a limited time in the North End of the Independence Visitor Center for visitors to enjoy at no cost, made possible through partnership with the Betsy Ross House. The fascinating collection of 21 historic and rarely seen flags (the oldest is from circa 1861) represents just a fraction of the collection belonging to the Betsy Ross House. On Friday, June 18, additional rare flags, including two hand-made by Betsy Ross' granddaughter and great-granddaughter, will be displayed in a pop-up exhibit at the Betsy Ross House for Flag Fest 2021, the House's annual weeklong celebration of the Stars & Stripes, which runs June 13 19, and features free, special events each day. More details about Flag Fest 2021 available at historicphiladelphia.org.
- Reading Terminal Market Flower by PHLASH®: To preserve the annual tradition for many Philadelphia Flower Show attendees who include shopping at Reading Terminal Market (RTM) as part of their experience, the IVCC has partnered with RTM and Philadelphia Horticultural Society to offer a transportation package serviced by PHLASH® to FDR Park, the location of the 2021 Flower Show. The \$25 package includes round-trip transportation from RTM to FDR Park, a complimentary cocktail or beverage at RTM's pop-up Outdoor Garden Bar, and a \$10 RTM gift card. Available for purchase exclusively at PHLvisitorcenter.com/RTM-Flower-PHLASH.
- Terrace on Tap Presented by Visit Philadelphia: Enjoy a family-friendly, pop-up outdoor dining experience in a beautiful setting in the heart of Historic Philadelphia while supporting local businesses, Workhorse Brewing Co., Wissahickon Brewing Co., and Brûlée Catering. This all-ages special event series is presented by Visit Philadelphia as part of its Craft Beer Trail program at The Liberty View Terrace at Independence Visitor Center. Operating hours for Memorial Day weekend are noon 8 p.m. on Sunday, May 30 and Monday, May 31. Reservations required, available at TerraceOnTap.com.
- <u>Visit Philadelphia Overnight Hotel Package Buy-One, Get-One-Free Attraction Tickets</u>: When visitors book the Spring/Summer 2021 Visit Philly Hotel Package, they can purchase "buy-one, get-one-free" tickets to local attractions at the Independence Visitor Center (up to a \$32 value), based on availability. Extended through September 30, 2021!

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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, Visit Philadelphia, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, the City of Philadelphia, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The IVCC manages the Independence Visitor Center, the official visitor center of the Philadelphia region and primary point of orientation for Independence National Historical Park; satellite visitor center locations; and the visitor-friendly public transit service, Philly PHLASH® Downtown Loop. PHLvisitorcenter.com