

PREPARING TO LIVE IN PHILADELPHIA

The city of Philadelphia is the largest city in Pennsylvania and the fifth most populous metropolitan area in the United States with an estimated population of 5.8 million. It is colloquially referred to as *Philly*, and known as *The City of Brotherly Love*. This world-class city pairs a rich heritage with a vibrant, modern community.

During part of the 18th century, the city was the first capital and most populous city of the United States. At that time, it eclipsed Boston and New York City in political and social importance, with Benjamin Franklin taking a large role in Philadelphia's rise. The city was the geographic center of the 18th century thinking and activity that gave birth to the American Revolution and subsequent American democracy and independence.

Now in the 21st century, Philadelphia is a major commercial, educational, and cultural center for the nation. Living in Philadelphia offers unparalleled access to the cultural gems of the Northeast Corridor, stretching from New York City to Washington D.C. – each city approximately 2 hours away. In addition to the largest municipal park in the country, it is home to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Rodin Museum, the Barnes Foundation, Institute of Contemporary Art and the Kimmel Center. Philly has a thriving local arts community and vibrant gallery scene - on the first Friday evening of every month, the streets of the nearby historic neighborhood, Old City fill with art lovers of all kinds who wander among the area's 40-plus galleries.

After Boston, Philadelphia has more colleges and universities than any other city in the world. Living in Philadelphia is therefore very accommodating to a student's budget and more affordable than many other American cities. Small studio apartments in the center of the city start at about \$700, about a third of the cost of New York City. Sharing a house with roommates can help reduce costs significantly.

Center City, framed by two rivers and anchored at the center by William Penn atop of City Hall (4 blocks from Studio Incamminati) is a flat and convenient city to get around by foot or on bicycle – about half of our students do not keep a car. Public transportation services as well as the effective PhillyCarShare organization keep Philadelphians on the go between cheesesteak stops.



The following is a list of websites that may help you on your search:

www.theregisgroup.com - Studio Incamminati is housed in the Wolf Building – a multi-use converted building in the rapidly developing Loft District. The Wolf Building is owned and managed by The Regis Group, who also owns a number of buildings in the city including inexpensive artist housing. Several of our students currently live in apartments managed by The Regis Development.

www.business-services.upenn.edu/offcampusliving - This University of Pennsylvania website is a great resource for both long-term and transitory housing, specifically for graduate students and faculty.

www.philadelphiaweekly.com/classifieds_online - this local weekly newspaper comes out on Wednesdays and features the most extensive Center City classifieds for housing. You can find the paper on most street corners in Philly, and they post their ads online too.

philadelphia.craigslist.org - Its craigslist! Stay clear of the scams and it's a great resource.

www.4wallsinphilly.com - Professional resource. Pretty standard.

www.phillycarshare.org – Philly Car Share is a non-profit organization providing its members with fuel-efficient cars on an as-needed basis. It's an affordable alternative to owning or renting because you pay for the car by the hour and you don't have to worry about parking or maintenance. Plus, it's good for the environment! Membership is required.

www.phila.gov/residents/index.html - The city's website for residents – find information on services, emergency contacts and the local officials.

www.centercityphila.org/living/default.aspx - another city site for resources and events in the area.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Philadelphia_neighborhoods - List of Philadelphia neighborhoods with brief descriptions as to its features.

If you have questions about the big move, please feel free to call the studio and speak with staff, or send us an email at **info@studioincamminati.org**.



Trinity-style Row Home on Camac St.