

Once Upon A Nation

Philadelphia Celebrates America's 250th Anniversary

In the heart of Philadelphia, gather to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution.

Navigate the hallowed grounds of Independence Hall, tracing the footsteps of the Founding Fathers who shaped the nation's destiny. As you explore iconic landmarks such as the Liberty Bell and the historic cobblestone streets, the air is charged with the echoes of history, fostering a deep appreciation for the pivotal events that unfolded in this cradle of American independence.

SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY ONE - America's Greatest Mile

Arrive in **Philadelphia, PA**, and begin your journey into America's history with a visit to **Independence Hall** where the Declaration of Independence and The United States Constitution were debated, adapted, and signed.

See the **Liberty Bell**, the symbol of American independence. Previously called the State House Bell, it is truly an iconic symbol and a favorite photo opportunity for visitors.

Stroll along **Elfreth's Alley**, the oldest continuously inhabited residential street in America.

Explore the groundwork of **The President's House Historic Site**, once home to Presidents George Washington and John Adams. Although the house was demolished in 1832, the foundations still remain visible in this unique, outdoor exhibit focusing on the contradiction of liberty and enslavement in the new nation.

Tour **The Betsy Ross House**, the birth place of the American Flag. The well-known and loved story of Betsy Ross sewing the first Stars & Stripes is tightly woven into the colorful fabric of America's rich history.

Explore **Christ Church & Burial Grounds**. Once the home of worship for prominent history-makers, including Benjamin Franklin, Betsy Ross, and George Washington, Christ Church remains an active Episcopal Church and continues to hold weekly services.

Enjoy cold brews at **McGillin's Olde Ale House**, Philadelphia's oldest, continuously operated bar.

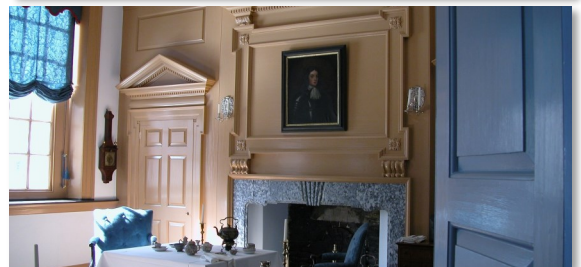
Tonight's delightful, **included dinner** will feature a very special guest appearance by **Ben Franklin!**

Check-in to your local MARS Partner Property hotel.

DAY TWO - Creating a Nation & The United States Constitution

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel.

Explore **The National Constitution Center** to celebrate the Constitution and its creators. The NCC brings people together to learn about the Constitution as America's leading platform for constitutional education and debate, fulfilling its congressional charter "to disseminate information about the U.S. Constitution on a nonpartisan basis."



Next, you'll experience the "**Once Upon A Nation Story Stroll**". Lace up your shoes and begin a walk through America's history. Story tellers will guide your group through four centuries of the stories that shaped a Nation.



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SAMPLE ITINERARY *(continued...)*

Enjoy **lunch on own** while exploring.

Take a deep dive into history & visit the **American Revolution Museum** where you'll explore the dramatic story of The American Revolution.

This evening, dine on "**The Moshulu**", the world's oldest and largest square rigged sailing ship still afloat.

DAY THREE - Washington Crossing the Delaware

Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel this morning prior to **checking out**.

Depart for the **Washington Crossing National Historic Park** to experience "**Traversing the Ten Crucial Days**". Visitors can retrace the December 25 crossing of the Delaware and the American and British military engagements at Trenton & Princeton. Historical interpreters will tell the remarkable story of these ten days that breathed crucial life into the expiring American Revolution. Hear how the terrain, weaponry, and weather influenced the ways the battles were fought and how the lives of the local people were disrupted by them. See where armies marched, fought and struggled to survive on an otherwise peaceful landscape, while the course of the human history of America hung in the balance.

Check-in to your local MARS Partner Property hotel.

Enjoy **dinner included** this evening at **Washington Crossing Inn**. The Inn adjoins the spot where General George Washington and his troops assembled before the historic crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas night in 1776. General George Washington most likely dined at the Ferry Inn before the crossing. Hessians captured during the battle were also imprisoned there after Washington's remarkable victory.

Return to your hotel to rest and relax

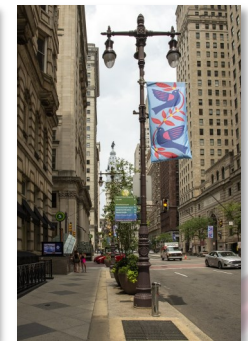
for the remainder of the evening.

DAY FOUR - Valley Forge and Farewell

Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel this morning prior to **checking out**.

Embark on an adventure with a **Ranger-led Tour of Valley Forge National Park**. Valley Forge is the encampment site of the Continental Army during the winter of 1777-1778. The park features 3,500 acres of meadows, woodlands, and monuments commemorating the sacrifices and perseverance of the Revolutionary War generation and honoring the power of people to pull together and overcome adversity during extraordinary times.

Enjoy **lunch on own** and depart for home.



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