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**SOUTH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDE**  
*The Colorful Shops, Restaurants, Cafes & More Of Philadelphia Classic South Street*

**PHILADELPHIA, October 28, 2019** – South Street is, as its name suggests, the street that divides Center City—specifically, the [Society Hill](#) and [Washington Square West](#) neighborhoods—and South Philadelphia—specifically, the [Queen Village and Bella Vista](#) neighborhoods. For these purposes, South Street runs from Front Street to Broad Street. Details on South Street west of Broad Street can be found in the [Graduate Hospital](#) neighborhood guide.

South Street's 14 blocks comprise a vibrant retail, dining and entertainment corridor known for cheesesteaks, ethnically diverse and destination restaurants, bars that keep the party going late, streetwear shops and boundary-pushing galleries and performance spaces. Each May, the blocks between Front and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets close to car traffic and transform for the [South Street Spring Festival](#), featuring loads of live music, vendors and a beer centric Maifest.

**Food & Drinks:**

- **Banh Mi and Bottles** – Vietnamese classics and street eats come together with crafty cocktails at this moodily lit date-night destination. A well-stocked bottle shop next door has fridges full of rare beers to take out or drink in. 712-714 South Street, (215) 800-1533, [banhmiandbottles.com](http://banhmiandbottles.com)
- **BAP** – This simple Korean quick-serve devotes its full attention to bright bibimbap: rice bowls topped with fresh and pickled vegetables, a choice of proteins and a fried egg. 1224 South Street, (215) 735-0553, [bapphilly.com](http://bapphilly.com)
- **The Bean Cafe** – With local art on the walls, a dessert case full of treats and a full coffee, tea and smoothie menu, this cozy cafe plays host to South Street's artistic and indie crowd. The rotating selection of vintage action figures and other nostalgic items on display round out the fun vibe. 615 South Street, (215) 629-2250, [fairmountfair.com/beancafe](http://fairmountfair.com/beancafe)
- **Big Gay Ice Cream** – Rainbows, unicorns and portraits of the Golden Girls set the stage for the city's most flamboyant soft-serve spot. Specials change with the seasons, but a chocolate-dipped, caramel-coated Salty Pimp cone is never a bad idea. 1351 South Street, (267) 886-8024, [biggayicecream.com](http://biggayicecream.com)
- **Bincho** – South Street now has a dinner-only robatayaki (Japanese grill), complete with U-shaped bar and chefs that cook in front of customers. 228 South Street, (267) 534-3774
- **Brauhaus Schmitz** – At this authentic German beer hall, diners dig into hearty lunches, dinners and late-night dishes with modern, approachable twists. To wash it all down, they can choose from 30 beers on a tap and a bottle list so big it knocks the lederhosen off of any beer fan. 718 South Street, (267) 909-8814, [brauhauschmitz.com](http://brauhauschmitz.com)

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- **Caribbean Delight** – This jerk food destination dishes out curry goat, curry shrimp, fried chicken and vegetarian dishes. A large outdoor seating area and reggae music set the mood, so guests can enjoy a mini island retreat along with their Jamaican fare. 1124 South Street, (215) 829-1030, [ordercaribbeandelight.com](http://ordercaribbeandelight.com)
- **Copabanana** – This brightly painted, vacation-inspired eatery has been a South Street staple for more than 40 years. What keeps diners coming back? The tropical drinks, half-pound burgers and spicy Spanish fries. 344 South Street, (215) 923-6180, [facebook.com/CopaSouth](https://facebook.com/CopaSouth)
- **Gold Standard Cafe** – After 40-plus years, this West Philadelphia breakfast and lunch favorite has crossed over to open an outpost east of Broad Street. Morning menus feature ranchero bowls, bagels and tofu scrambles, while afternoon fare ranges from classic clubs and burgers to veg-friendly options like barbecue seitan wraps and vegan chicken salad. 1318 South Street, (215) 645-9500, [thegoldstandardcafe.com](http://thegoldstandardcafe.com)
- **Green Basil** – A crowd-pleasing menu of Thai staples, including curries, noodles and salads, are joined by a handful of specialties from Laos, all available to take out or enjoy with a couple of bring-your-own-bottle (BYOB) beers. 240 South Street, (215) 644-8180, [greenbasilphila.com](http://greenbasilphila.com)
- **Federal Donuts** – It was only a matter of time before Philly's favorite fried chicken and fancy donut shop opened up on South Street. This spacious branch offers an extended menu of breakfast sandwiches, wings and Middle Eastern-spiced fries. 540 South Street, (267) 761-4512, [federaldonuts.com](http://federaldonuts.com)
- **IceMax** – A giant graffiti walrus welcomes the sweet-toothed into this compact specialist in Thai-rolled ice cream. Guests customize their own concoctions or choose creative specials such as the Purple Haze with taro and banana, or The Hulk with matcha and strawberry, adding a macaroon on top for \$1 more. 252 South Street, (215) 922-1050
- **Ishkabibble's** – This pink-and-yellow vendor has been cooking up cheesesteaks and chicken cheesesteaks since 1979. Favorites (at both locations) include Spanish fries and the original Gremlin, a half-lemonade, half-grape-juice concoction. 337 South Street, (215) 923-4337; 517 South Street, (215) 922-0494, [philacheesesteak.com](http://philacheesesteak.com)
- **Jim's Steaks South Street** – Philadelphians love their cheesesteaks, and at Jim's on South Street, locals and visitors line up for a taste of some of the city's best. From lunchtime to 1 a.m. (3 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays), the queue of hungry patrons stretches out the door and around the block. 400 South Street, (215) 928-1911, [jimssouthstreet.com](http://jimssouthstreet.com)
- **Jules Pizza Kabob & Curry Grill** – There's no shortage of places to grab a slice on South, but this Indian-Italian spot is the only one where you can get a tandoori kebab pizza or a chicken tikka cheesesteak. 431 South Street, (267) 618-9609, [julespizzagrill.com](http://julespizzagrill.com)
- **La Forno Ristorante Trattoria** – Along with an extensive wine list and BYOB nights every Wednesday and Friday, this Italian restaurant dishes out mussels and shrimp scampi, along with more casual eats. 636 South Street, (215) 627-9000, [laforno.com](http://laforno.com)
- **La Nonna** – Italian dishes roll out of the kitchen and onto red-checkered tablecloths at this homey, family-owned joint near Headhouse Square. Handmade pastas—especially marshmallow gnocchi with mascarpone and ricotta—star here, as does Northern Italian veal *Valdostana* and chicken Marsala and steaming bowls of mussels. 214 South Street, (267) 928-3262, [ristorantelanonna.com](http://ristorantelanonna.com)
- **Las Bugambillas** – At this colorful bistro, authentic Mexican lunch and dinner is served seven days a week and at brunch Friday through Sunday. The draws here: traditional house-made mole sauce that tops entrees, including enchiladas with Chihuahua cheese gratin, and inventive cocktail and tequila lists. 148 South Street, (215) 922-3190, [lasbugambillasphilly.com](http://lasbugambillasphilly.com)

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- **Lorenzo & Sons** – Oversized slices served after-hours are the reason that this pie shop has been a South Street staple for decades. The rules here: no credit cards, no toppings, no utensils and no pretense. 305 South Street, (215) 800-1942
- **Lovash Indian Cuisine** – This white tablecloth establishment comes with all the traditional and not-so-traditional plates one expects to find at an Indian restaurant—and a full-service bar. 236-238 South Street, (215) 925-3881, [lovashrestaurant.com](http://lovashrestaurant.com)
- **Manny Brown's** – Open since the summer of 1983, this standby does up Buffalo wings, chicken fingers, potato skins and craft beer. Daily specials often make drinking at Manny's an affordable project. 512 South Street, (215) 627-7427
- **Mashwa** – Tunisian fare is the standout at this newcomer to South Street's Mediterranean scene. Stuffed pitas known as *arayas* are filled with meat, cheese and fresh vegetables, and chicken is rubbed with a signature spice blend. South Street, (267) 928-2523, [mashwagrill.com](http://mashwagrill.com)
- **Ms. Tootsie's Restaurant Bar & Lounge** – Serving Southern specialties with a big side of soul, KeVen Parker's popular spot entices the dinner crowd with fried chicken, crab macaroni and cheese and collard greens. Patrons can make a night of it at the Luxe Lounge, offering cocktails, bottle service and a late-night menu. 1312 South Street, (215) 731-9045, [kevenparker.net](http://kevenparker.net)
- **Nora's Taqueria & Grill** – Tacos, burritos, bowls and chicken and rice plates make up the menu at this fast-casual, family-run Mexican spot, which prides itself on attention to detail and house-made everything. 248 South Street, (267) 758-2413, [norasmexicankitchen.com](http://norasmexicankitchen.com)
- **Pietro's Coal Oven Pizzeria** – Alfresco Italian bites and beer are available on the patio of this coal-fired pizzeria on the quiet end of South Street. Weekday happy hour and lunchtime prix-fixe menus offer deals on drinks and light fare. 121-123 South Street, (215) 733-0675, [pietrospizza.com](http://pietrospizza.com)
- **Red Poke Express** – This Hawaii-inspired spot offers sushi burritos and bowls and fish fantasies of customized poke with a rainbow of bright mix-ins. 135 South Street, (215) 923-0800, [redpokeexpress.com](http://redpokeexpress.com)
- **Sansom Kabob House** – On a sunlit corner, this family-run Afghan BYOB (formerly on Sansom Street) offers expertly grilled kabobs and fluffy pilafs. 1300 South Street, (215) 751-9110, [sansomkabobhouseonsouth.com](http://sansomkabobhouseonsouth.com)
- **Serpico** – New York's Peter Serpico (of Momofuku Ko fame) and Philadelphia restaurateur Stephen Starr collaborate on this one-room, 60-seat project. Serpico has been credited with heralding a culinary renaissance for South Street, via an evolving menu of playful yet unfamiliar takes on global fare. 604 South Street, (215) 925-3001, [serpicoonsouth.com](http://serpicoonsouth.com)
- **Sip-N-Glo Juicery** – The premier location of this Philly-born juice chain draws the post-yoga crowd with a rainbow of nutritious and tasty smoothies, ginger and wheatgrass shots and bottled cold-pressed juices. 932 South Street, (215) 351-9300, [sipnglo.com](http://sipnglo.com)
- **South Street Diner** – Open 24 hours a day for breakfast, lunch and dinner, this nearly 50-year-old refuel station offers traditional diner fare, along with Greek specialties, baked goods and free delivery. 140 South Street, (215) 627-5258
- **South Street Souvlaki** – For more than four decades, this South Street staple has been dishing out authentic Greek and Mediterranean fare such as stuffed peppers, souvlaki, gyros and falafel. 509 South Street, (215) 925-3026, [southstreetsouvlaki.com](http://southstreetsouvlaki.com)
- **The Sweet Life Bakeshop** – Cases of lemon bars and pastel buttercream cupcakes draw dessert lovers into this tiny storefront bakery, but those in the know never leave without ordering a tub of what the shop does best: banana pudding. 740 South Street, (215) 717-7770

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- **Tamarind** – This modest BYOB is the place to go for Thai food on South Street. The kitchen prioritizes fresh herbs and spices in its health-focused menu of flavorful curries, noodle bowls and spicy soups. 117 South Street, (215) 925-2764, [tamarindsouthstreet.com](http://tamarindsouthstreet.com)
- **Tattooed Mom** – Beers and a casual comfort-food menu take the spotlight in this dive bar with a rocker, art-gallery edge. Upstairs, a lounge, two pool tables and an eclectic art collection add to the joint's laidback vibe. 530 South Street, (215) 238-9880, [tattooedmomphilly.com](http://tattooedmomphilly.com)
- **Tea Bowl Shop** – A light menu of custom-built poke bowls is served alongside milk teas, fruit slushes, sparkling rose and honey drinks. 643 South Street, (215) 923-3796
- **Vegan Tree** – Vegan food, customers and the planet are the priorities at this joint, where the menu includes smoothies, cakes, bubble tea, chow mein, wraps and salads. 742 South Street, (215) 454-2898, [742vegantree.com](http://742vegantree.com)
- **Woodrow's Sandwich Shop** – Updated riffs on Philly faves are what it's all about at this sandwich joint. Cheesesteaks come topped with truffle Whiz and cherry pepper mayo; bacon, egg and cheeses get sandwiched into pretzel croissants. 630 South Street, (215) 470-3559, [woodrowsandwich.com](http://woodrowsandwich.com)

#### Arts & Entertainment:

- **MilkBoy South Street** – This two-story venue spins off a similarly named spot for live music, local drinks and good food at 11<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Streets. Beyond glass garage doors, six draft lines, including one nitro, pour Pennsylvania beer, a chef-musician creates the menu and up-and-coming bands do their thing. 401 South Street, (215) 925-6455, [milkboysouthstreet.com](http://milkboysouthstreet.com)
- **Philadelphia's Magic Gardens** – Mosaics bloom at this fantasy-like art showplace, presenting and preserving the work of artist Isaiah Zagar. Visitors can take a tour or attend a mosaic workshop led by the artist himself, a player in the South Street community since the 1960s. 1020 South Street, (215) 733-0390, [phillymagicgardens.org](http://phillymagicgardens.org)
- **Theatre of Living Arts (TLA)** – The smallest large venue in Philadelphia, the TLA offers concertgoers a more personal environment in which to take in well-known post-rock (Mogwai), rap (Prophets of Rage and Snoop Dogg), death metal (Attila), pop (Noah Cyrus) and, on occasion, Brandy. The venue houses two bars, a snack stand and a 21+ balcony. 334 South Street, (215) 922-1011, [tlaphilly.com](http://tlaphilly.com)

#### Shops:

- **Accent on Animals** – This brightly painted pet-supply shop fills its shelves with high-quality foods and accessories for all types of pets. 804 South Street, (215) 625-8420, [aoapets.com](http://aoapets.com)
- **Atomic City Comics** – Atomic City features new comic book and graphic novel releases each week, an extensive collection of back-issue and \$1 comics, a handful of 1990s arcade games and a sizable selection of independent and small-press books for comic enthusiasts and casual readers alike. It also hosts parties for highly anticipated releases and movie and television viewing parties. 638 South Street, (215) 625-9613
- **BridgeSet Sound** – This independent, family-owned store caters to musicians of all levels with a variety of instruments, including ukuleles and synthesizers. It's also the go-to spot for recording equipment—and offers lessons in recording, songwriting, music theory and several instruments to audiophiles of all ages. 710 South Street, (267) 507-4350, [bridgesetsound.com](http://bridgesetsound.com)
- **Dudes Boutique** – This clothing shop offers goods for both men and women, including handmade leather jackets and an international selection of shoes. 646 South Street, (215) 928-0661, [dudesboutiqueonline.com](http://dudesboutiqueonline.com)

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- **Ethik** – Founded in New York City, this men’s lifestyle retailer offers a range of edgy street wear and accessories for city guys: hoodies, limited-edition tees, duffel bags, visors and more. 441 South Street, (267) 930-7579, [ethikworldwide.com](http://ethikworldwide.com)
- **Eyechic** – Sun worshippers find plenty of stylish ways to protect their peepers in this eyewear boutique that specializes in upscale, fashion-forward brands and styles for men and women such as Gucci, Dior and Frenzy & Mercury. An in-house optician caters to prescription framing needs. 333 South Street, (215) 564-5100, [eyechic.com](http://eyechic.com)
- **Eye’s Gallery** – Julia Zagar, spouse of prolific mosaic muralist Isaiah, opened this must-shop destination for exotic South American crafts in 1968. Religious iconography, sterling-silver jewelry, hand-woven blankets, handmade folk art—and mosaics—fill three stories, floor to ceiling. 402 South Street, (215) 925-0193, [eyesgallery.com](http://eyesgallery.com)
- **Garland of Letters** – At this New Age bookstore, people can find serenity—or at least a book to direct them there. Crystals, journals, incense and gifts assist in the journey to Zen. 527 South Street, (215) 923-5946
- **Gilly Jeans** – Urban cowboys and cowgirls shop for American-made boots and leather goods here. The belt buckle selection alone is impressive. 320 South Street, (215) 592-9926, [gillyjeanswestern.com](http://gillyjeanswestern.com)
- **Greene Street**– The upscale atmosphere at this corner consignment boutique delights secondhand shoppers. One of several Philly-area Greene Streets, this store stocks seemingly limitless fashion treasures, from Gap to Gucci, clothes to shoes to accessories. 700 South Street, (215) 733-9261, [greenestreet.com](http://greenestreet.com)
- **Harry’s World** – A holdover from the strip’s hippy-dippy days, Harry’s stocks all manner of candles, herbs and other spell-casting paraphernalia. Love, wealth or retribution: No matter the quest, the staff here can recommend a notion or a potion. 1210 South Street, (215) 309-3326, [harrys-world.business.site](http://harrys-world.business.site)
- **Heres2CoolStuff** – The first level of this upstart retail store offers several racks of new, locally made clothing for men and women; many pieces have retro or African-inspired designs. In the basement, thrift hounds find even more to dig through among a collection of vintage shirts, jeans and dresses. 1214 South Street, (267) 341-8511, [facebook.com/Heres2coolstuff](https://facebook.com/Heres2coolstuff)
- **Mineralistic** – Exotic artifacts, rare gems, fossils, figurines and silver, gemstone and Celtic jewelry, pack the displays of this longtime retailer. A knowledgeable staff is always on hand to inform shoppers. 319 South Street, (215) 922-7199
- **Modloft** – South Street gets a touch of class thanks to this sophisticated, bi-level spot for luxury contemporary home decor and furnishings. 321 South Street, (215) 999-3055, [modloft.com](http://modloft.com)
- **Nepal Tibet Handicrafts** – This new addition bills itself as a one-stop shop for all things metaphysical, spiritual and dharma related. In other words, this is the place to go for Tibetan singing bowls, crystals, incense and prayer Malas. 644 South Street, (215) 279-7507, [nthandicrafts.com](http://nthandicrafts.com)
- **Newsboy Hats** – This place is filled to the brim with hats of every variety, including baseball caps, fedoras, derbies and Kangols. The focus is mainly on men’s styles, with a small selection of floppy sun hats and shades for women. 620 South Street, (215) 910-3999
- **Nocturnal** – Catering to both real skateboarders—and those who just want to look the part—Nocturnal stocks its shelves with all of the necessary gear. This neighborhood spot is more than just a place to shop; it’s a hub that supports Philly’s skating community. 533 South Street, (215) 922-3177, [nocturnalskateshop.com](http://nocturnalskateshop.com)

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- **Platinum** – This contemporary clothier stocks select pieces from G-Star RAW, Diesel, PRPS, Versace, Moschino, Pierre Balmain, Iceberg, Alexander McQueen, BBC, Comme des Garçons and Hugo Boss. The store also offers women's and men's outerwear, footwear and accessories. 526 South Street, (215) 599-7528
- **Ps and Qs** – At this menswear boutique, heritage brands such as Herschel Supply Co. and Pendleton share racks with trendy labels like Norse Projects, Penfield and Topo Designs. Each piece has been thoroughly vetted to be on point, right down to the masculine scents of the rugged candles. 820 South Street, (215) 592-0888, [psandqs.com](http://psandqs.com)
- **Pretty Green Terrariums** – Exotic houseplants, a selection of succulents and mini ecosystems housed in glass vessels are all staples here at this crowdfunded home decor emporium. 1116 South Street, (845) 423-8880
- **Raxx Vintage** – Plentiful polyester and parachute pants line the racks in this shop, where the definition of vintage means anything made before the year 2000. Come holiday season, Raxx's ugly Christmas sweater selection is unparalleled. 534 South Street, (215) 922-2898
- **Repo Records** – This 30-something music haven provides audiophiles with CDs and vinyls of their favorite indie, punk, hardcore, new wave, soul, jazz and alternative rock bands, along with hard-to-find releases. 506 South Street, (215) 627-3775, [reporecords.com](http://reporecords.com)
- **Retrospect** – At this funky vintage boutique, throwback fashionistas find jeans, furs, coats, hats, jewelry and old T-shirts. 508 South Street, (215) 925-3761, [retrospectvintage215.com](http://retrospectvintage215.com)
- **Suplex** – Savvy sneakerheads make regular rounds to this upscale resale shop for limited-edition Yeezys, Jordans and other fresh-out-of-the-box kicks. 624 South Street, [suplexphiladelphia.com](http://suplexphiladelphia.com)
- **Totem Brand** – Classic, rustic, made-in-the-U.S.A. men's fashion is the stock-in-trade at this rugged yet dapper dudes' boutique. Clothing and shoe lines include Wolverine, Danner, Rogue Territory, Patagonia, Red Wing, Filson, Woolrich and Norman Porter, while candles, soaps and incense that appeal to the outdoorsman in everyone. 535 South Street, (215) 440-9922, [totembrandco.com](http://totembrandco.com)
- **Totem Woman** – A few doors down from its original men's store, Totem Brand's offshoot caters to outdoorsy women by stocking trail-ready footwear from brands such as Barbour and Birkenstock, threads by Patagonia and Jungmaven and a collection of woodsy candles, fragrances and stationery. 529 South Street, (215) 440-9922, [totembrandco.com](http://totembrandco.com)
- **VILLA** – Head-to-toe gear for men, women and children fill a high-energy environment. Villa is known for volunteering through neighborhood partnerships, educational initiatives and anti-violence programs. 608 South Street, (215) 574-4980, [ruvilla.com](http://ruvilla.com)
- **Wooden Shoe Books** – An indie neighborhood isn't complete without a collectively run anarchist bookstore, and Wooden Shoe fills that role for South Street. Volunteers stock the shelves with resources for activism, organizing, art and community building. Be on the lookout for events such as musical performances and film screenings. 704 South Street, (215) 413-0999, [woodenshoebooks.com](http://woodenshoebooks.com)

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*Note to Editors: For high-resolution photos and high-definition B-roll of Greater Philadelphia, visit the Photos & Video section of [visitphilly.com/mediacenter](http://visitphilly.com/mediacenter).*