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Note to Editors: Related photography available [here](#).

**PHILADELPHIA ZOO, FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, FRANKLIN SQUARE &
OTHER MAJOR ATTRACTIONS BEGIN TO REOPEN IN PHILADELPHIA**
Protocols In Place To Help Ensure Visitor Safety & Comfort

PHILADELPHIA, July 7, 2020 – With Philadelphia easing into reopening, some of the city’s most family-friendly tourist attractions are beginning to open their doors again, with additional attractions scheduled to follow throughout the month. This week alone, the [Philadelphia Zoo](#), [The Franklin Institute](#), [Franklin Square](#) and [One Liberty Observation Deck](#) will start welcoming visitors again, following recent openings for [Philly by Segway](#), [Longwood Gardens](#), the [Brandywine River Museum of Art](#) and [Peddler’s Village](#). At many of the attractions, visitor capacity is limited and advanced reservations are required, so people are encouraged to plan ahead in order to ensure entry.

“We’re excited to see Philadelphia’s most popular sites and attractions reopening for locals and visitors to enjoy,” said Jeff Guaracino, president & CEO, VISIT PHILADELPHIA. “And we’re proud that all of these destination-defining places are putting the health and safety of their visitors and employees first. That’s a great comfort to people and helps them make informed decisions when they’re figuring out how and where to spend their time and money.”

Here’s a look at what’s opening this week and what’s coming soon:

Attractions Opening This Week:

- **Franklin Square**, July 6: The reopening of the popular city park means that carousel rides, mini-golf, playgrounds and SquareBurger are open for business — or, more accurately, fun — again. It also marks the return of the colorful and musical Franklin Square Fountain Show. To keep people safe at the seven-and-a-half-acre park, staff will undergo daily health screenings, hand sanitizer will be stationed throughout the square and masks will be required for the carousel and mini-golf.
- **The Franklin Institute**, July 8: Dedicated to celebrating science, The Franklin Institute reopens with several new protocols in place. The museum requires face coverings, no-touch temperature checks and advance tickets. In addition, the Ben Franklin Parkway mainstay is reducing visitor capacity and hours to allow for deep cleaning. With the reopening comes a brand new exhibit: **The Presidents By Madame Tussauds**, featuring life-like wax figures of every American president, as well as significant historical figures like Ben Franklin, Rosa Parks and Malcolm X. Running through January 3, 2021.

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- **One Liberty Observation Deck**, July 8: Stunning views of Philadelphia return with the reopening of the One Liberty Observation Deck. Operating Wednesday through Sunday, the sky-high attraction has all of the expected protocols in place: a mask requirement, hand-sanitizing stations, increased cleaning, limited guest capacity and employee health screenings.
- **Philadelphia Zoo**, July 9: Tickets must be purchased in advance for admission to the Philadelphia Zoo — America’s first — now home to touchless toilets, faucets, paper towel and soap dispensers, and hand-sanitizing stations. For the time being, it will be a completely outdoor experience for visitors, who will be able to bring their own food into the Zoo, take advantage of more grab-and-go food options and meet the zoo’s new sloth bear cub Keematee.
- **Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens**, July 10: When artist Isaiah Zagar’s masterpiece on South Street and one of the region’s most Instagrammable places reopens, people can once again snap a selfie in this mosaic wonderland constructed from bicycle spokes, bottles and other knick-knacks. Visitor capacity will be limited per time slot, so visitors must reserve tickets online in advance and wear a mask while on site.

Attractions Opening Soon:

- **Adventure Aquarium**, July 17
- **James A. Michener Art Museum**, July 23
- **Mercer Museum**, July 23
- **Barnes Foundation**, July 25
- **The Academy of Natural Sciences**, July 31
- **Fonthill Castle**, August 3

Hotels Opening:

More to see and do means there will be even more reasons for locals and visitors to spend a night or two at a hotel. Among the hotels that have recently reopened: **Four Points by Sheraton Philadelphia Airport** (July 1); **Morris House Hotel** (July 1); and **The Logan, Philadelphia’s Hotel**, including its pool, the outdoor patio at Urban Farmer Philadelphia and Assembly Rooftop Lounge (July 2).

Well known for its overnight hotel parking, the **Visit Philly Overnight Hotel Package** is available at dozens of hotels for one- or two-night stays. Visitors can book the package at visitphilly.com/overnight.

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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.