

Polish Heritage Highlights in Philadelphia

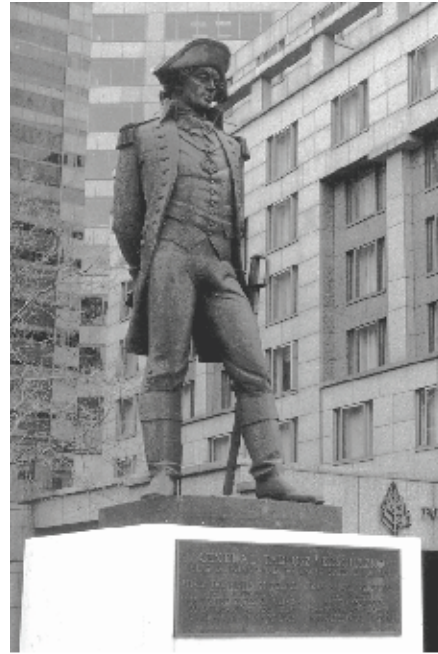
Besides the strong Polish American presence across Philadelphia in neighborhoods where Polish stores, churches and organizations are located, Polish history and culture are well represented in Center City where tourists can visit the following sites:



Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street, features exhibits highlighting treasured Polish traditions and the accomplishments of Poles and Polish Americans. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., admission-free. Historic Philadelphia area maps are available free at the Cultural Center.



The Benjamin Franklin Bridge, built in 1926, was the world's largest suspension bridge at the time. The bridge spans the Delaware River between Philadelphia and Camden, NJ. It was designed and built by Ralph Modjeski, a Polish immigrant who also built the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge and 30 other bridges in the United States. The bridge is located a few blocks from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

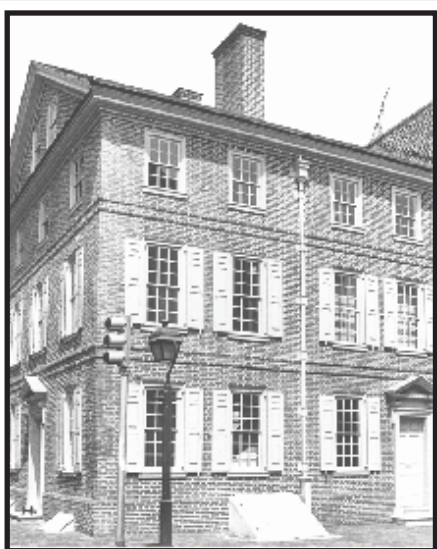


General Thaddeus Kosciuszko statue, 18th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, a gift to Polish Americans from the People of Poland.

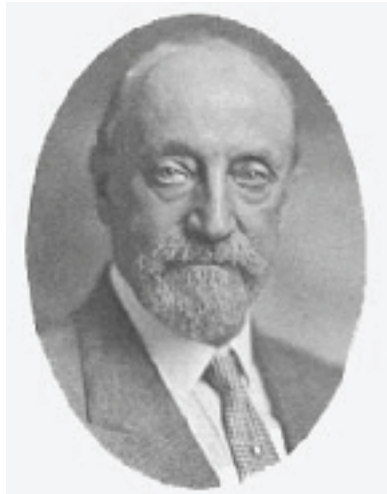
Nearby on the Parkway, the Polish flag flies proudly along with flags representing countries around the world.



Kopernik Monument, on the north side of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 18th Street, honors Polish astronomer Mikolaj Kopernik, well-known by his Latin name, Nicholas Copernicus. The monument is located on the Torun Triangle, which honors Torun, Poland, the Sister City of Philadelphia.



Kosciuszko House, 3rd and Pine Streets, the National Memorial to General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, American Revolutionary War hero, well-known for his fortification of West Point, NY. The Kosciuszko House is open to the public admission-free. Check with the National Park Service for days and hours of operation.



For more information about **Ralph Modjeski** and Great Men and Women of Polish Heritage, visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street and view the Internet site at: PolishAmericanCenter.com.

There is also a historical marker honoring Ralph Modjeski located on the corner of 6th and Race Streets near the Benjamin Franklin bridge.

Sunoco Welcome America!



Sunoco Welcome America is a celebration with free events, featuring fireworks, concerts, a parade, evening outdoor film screenings, plenty of fun for the whole family, and lots of red, white, and blue! The nation's premier independence celebration of "America's birthday in America's birthplace", takes place Friday, June 26th through Saturday, July 4th.

Show your patriotic colors and decorate your home and business in red, white, and blue from Flag Day, June 14th through the Festival Week!

For more information, visit: Americasbirthday.com

PolishAmericanNews.com



General Casimir Pulaski statue in the Garden of Heroes, west side of the Philadelphia Art Museum. General Pulaski was an American Revolutionary War General and is regarded as the "Father of the American Cavalry."



Celebrate America's Birthday

Beginning on Friday, June 26 through Saturday, July 4, 2009, the City of Philadelphia in conjunction with Sunoco Welcome America will be hosting many free events celebrating America's birthday.

In addition to the concerts, fireworks, and Independence Day Parade, you can visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, National Constitution Center, Kosciuszko House and much more.

The Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street, in historic Philadelphia, is working with the Sunoco Welcome America festivities as a Community Partner. The museum will be highlighting Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution, the second oldest democratic constitution in world history, in conjunction with events at the National Constitution Center at 6th & Arch Streets, featuring America's Constitution.

The Polish American Cultural Center Museum is on its summer schedule, open Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. and will be open on the 4th of July.

For more information, call the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 215-922-1700 or visit welcomeamerica.com or PolishAmericanCenter.com.

Celebrate America's freedom where it began - Philadelphia!

Bus Groups Welcome at the Polish American Cultural Center Museum



Philadelphia welcomes many bus groups and tour groups visiting the Historic District every day. If you are planning a group tour to Philadelphia, be sure to visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street and the Kosciuszko House at 3rd and Pine Streets.

When you make your plans, call the Museum in advance so that a representative can greet your group and give them a tour.

Call the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, Monday through Friday, between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. and let them know when your group is planning to visit. Call 215-922-1700.

For more info, visit: PolishAmericanCenter.com/busgroups.html

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