



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National  
Historical Park

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## Independence National Historical Park

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### **Independence National Historical Park Maintains High Visitation Levels, Boosts Area Economy by \$150 million**

**Philadelphia** -- With four million visitors in 2009, Independence National Historical Park is bringing tourists—and their wallets—into the Philadelphia region, according to the Department of the Interior Economic Report.

The report is the first-ever effort to quantify the economic impacts of the Department of the Interior programs, revealing the strong economic impact destinations such as Independence National Historical Park have on local economies.

“With more visitors than even Yellowstone National Park or Yosemite National Park, Independence NHP is at the top of the charts for popularity, and contributes almost \$150 million annually to the region’s economy,” said Superintendent Cynthia MacLeod. “I am grateful to staff at the park and to our partners at GPTMC, the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Independence Visitor Center, among others, for attracting and serving visitors.”

The report’s findings include:

- 9,561 recreation jobs were created in Pennsylvania in 2009 as a result of National Park Service programs.
- The economic impact generated by the National Park Service in Pennsylvania in 2009 was \$555,896,000.
- Investments in recreation have big pay-offs: every \$1 million invested creates about 22 jobs.

“Home to the nation’s symbols of freedom, such as the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, the President’s House, National Constitution Center and more, Philadelphia is a must-see destination for people from around the globe who have a passion for history found in an urban chic destination. We are bucking national trends because we have an authentic story to tell. And we offer great value to our visitors, including tons of affordable things to do in and around beautiful Independence National Historical Park, America’s most historic square mile,” said Jack Ferguson, Executive Vice President, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



A unit of the National Park Service, Independence National Historical Park was created by an Act of Congress on June 28, 1948. Accredited by the American Association of Museums, Independence NHP covers almost 54 acres in Philadelphia's Old City, and includes Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Congress Hall, Franklin Court, and other historic buildings associated with the founding of the United States. The park is open from 9:00 am daily with the exception of Christmas day. A visit to Independence National Historical Park should start at the Independence Visitor Center, located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Market Streets. Here, visitors can pick up a park brochure, park map, and the free, timed tickets required for Independence Hall. For more information visit the park's website, <http://www.nps.gov/inde> or follow us at [twitter.com/independencenhp](https://twitter.com/independencenhp). Please read the Department of the Interior Economic Report on the web at: [http://doi.gov/news/pressreleases/upload/DOI\\_Economic-Impacts-Report.pdf](http://doi.gov/news/pressreleases/upload/DOI_Economic-Impacts-Report.pdf).

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