**Philly Touch Tours**

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To hear a recording about our tours, programs and MeetUps, Call: 215-790-9079

**What we do**:

Accessibility Consulting; Sensitivity Training and Tour Designfor Museums, Cultural Institutions, Medical Professionals and Businesses.

Regular and Custom Designed Tours + Instructional Workshops for people with vision loss

**WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2018?**

**Touch and Sensory Tours & Programs**

**Penn Museum Programs:**

**Insights into the Roman World: 2-hour Touch Tour**

This two-hour docent led, verbally described touch tour introduces you to life in ancient Rome. Hear the stories of ordinary and upper class Romans, touch original marble statues and replica and real everyday objects, even wear a mock toga if you want. Join us and enter into the ancient world of myth and intrigue.

 **Cost:** $9 per person with vision loss with one sighted guide per person free of charge.

**Insights into Ancient Egypt #1:**

**The Power Trip: 2-hour Touch Tour**

Learn first-hand, about ancient Egypt by interacting with sculpture and carvings created up to 5000 years ago. Dubbed 'The Power Trip,' visitors will visit the Museum's Lower Egypt Gallery to learn about the all-powerful gods and goddesses, the role of the pharaohs and the ancient Egyptian desire for eternal life. Touch and explore the Museum's monumental granite sphinx and learn to read and recognize hieroglyphs.

**Cost**: $9 per person with vision loss with one sighted guides per person free of charge.

**Insights into Ancient Egypt #2:**

**Life, Death and the Afterlife: 90-minute Touch Tour**

This Touch Tour takes place in the Penn Museum’s Upper Egypt Gallery. Explore the massive quartzite statue of Ramesses the Great, touch and learn about some of the hieroglyphs decorating his throne. Meet Sekhmet, a tall seated statue of the feline headed goddess and learn about two sarcophagi that once entombed the bodies of important ancient Egyptian dignitaries.

**Cost:** $9 per person with vision loss with one sighted guide per person free of charge.

**Insights into Ancient Egypt #3:**

**Workshop: In Touch with Mummies, 1-hour sensory and interactive program**

Learn firsthand about the beliefs, rituals and practice of Mummification in this multisensory classroom program. This hour-long interactive classroom session, complete with a full size replica mummy, can be presented on site at your location or in conjunction with the “Life Death and the Afterlife” Touch

Tour listed below.\*

**Cost for Workshop only**: $100 group fee, includes admission.

**Cost for Workshop and Tour:** $100 group fee plus $2 per person.

**History in Every Sense: A Traveling Exhibit: 2- hour workshop**

Philly Touch Tours staff presents a sensory adventure back into Roman times with stories about life as a Patrician woman, a Pretorian Guard and an owner of a classical mosaic. You will handle replica artifacts, sample ancient scents, and enjoy activities designed to stimulate all the senses. To learn about everyday Roman life participants will:

* Touch a replica Roman plate, cup, and grinder
* Smell garum, a common Roman fish sauce
* Listen to ancient Latin poetry that was recited at Roman banquets
* Handle a strigil, a tool used to clean the skin before a bath.
* Learn about the Roman tools for writing
* Wear a mock toga…. and much more

**Cost for Workshop:** $250 for 5-15 participants

**OTHER POPULAR TOURS:**

**9th Street Italian Market: 2-hour Sensory Tour**

Learn about the market's family heritage and meet local store owners and vendors. Revel in the rich aromas and tempt

the taste buds at stores and stands overflowing with fresh fruit, produce, pasta, cheeses, chocolates, flowers, herbs, spices and olive oils. Philly Touch Tour staff offer sighted guide and verbal description throughout the tour.

**Cost:** $25 per person -Individuals and groups welcome by arrangement

**Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens: 2-hour Touch Tour**

A two hour verbally described and touch experience at Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens, an icon of the city’s landscape, designed and created by visionary artist, Isaiah Zagar. Imagine a place where the walls, window ledges, floors and ceilings are embedded with ceramic tiles, old bike wheels, colorful glass bottles, cups, saucers, plates, and folk art statues. Strange and interesting quotes abound and thousands of glittering mirrors reflect the objects and visitors alike. Imagine all of this within an intricate combination of rooms, paths, archways and passageways that take you both indoors and outdoors!

**Cost:** Price available upon request: Individuals and groups welcome by arrangement.

**Old City Philadelphia**: **History in 3D: 3-hour immersive history tour**

Join us for a dynamic presentation and walking tour with Joe Becton, historian and musician extraordinaire. This 3-hour program begins with a lively one-hour presentation, in costume, about the history of Philadelphia, the Revolutionary War and the Civil Way. This is followed by an entertaining walking tour with Joe leading the way, playing his tin whistle as he goes and stopping to share interesting stories as we make our way through Old City to visit Christ Church and Ben Franklin’s 18th Century Print Shop. The tour concludes with a thrilling opportunity to learn about and touch the Liberty Bell.

Location: Philly Tour Hub, 229 Arch St. Philadelphia, PA 19106

**Cost:** $35 per person - By arrangement for groups of 5+ participants:

Learn More about Joe: <http://www.jobecton.com/jbtours.htm>

**Up Close and Personal with Benjamin Franklin:**

**3-hour immersive history program**

Philadelphia costume actor, Mitchell Kramer, brings Ben Franklin and Philadelphia history to life though his knowledge of history, command of language, sense of humor and dramatic flair and touchable replica artifacts of the era-truly interesting and entertaining! Ben brings objects, artifacts and clothing, including his spectacles, to be handled and even tried on. This one and a half hour presentation is followed by a walking tour with stops along the way that include Ben Franklin's 18th Century Print Shop and a thrilling opportunity to learn about and touch the Liberty Bell.

Location: Philly Tour Hub, 229 Arch St. Philadelphia, PA 19106.

**Cost:** $35 per person, by arrangement for groups of 5+ participants

Learn more about Mitchell: https://www.mitchellkramer.com

**Simeone Automobile Foundation Museum**- **2hr interactive tour**

If you like cars, this is the place for you! On this tour you’ll hear about some of the historically significant cars assembled over 50 years by Dr. Frederick Simeone. The collection includes Ferrari, Alfa Romeo, Mercedes, Porsche, Aston Martin, Corvette and more. We’ll touch the body panels and hear the engines of a 1916 Stutz Bearcat and a 1956 Jaguar D Type. We’ll learn how fuel is moved through the engine and hear videos and stories about key races. Groups of up 8 people with vision loss and assistants welcome.

Meet at the Automobile Museum: 6825 Norwitch Drive,

Philadelphia, PA 19153

**Cost: $25 per person**

**AND… Philly MeetUp for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

Our Social Group meets at Philly Tour Hub, 229, Arch St, Philadelphia, PA

This lively social group is open to everyone in the blind and visually impaired community around the Philadelphia area.

We meet once a month on a Wednesday evening and have a lot of fun with some really exciting events that inspire and inform.

Go to MeetUp.com + join Philly MeetUp for the Blind and Visually Impaired. $15 annual membership

<https://www.meetup.com/Meetup-for-the-Blind-and-Visually-Impaired>

**Some of our other tours and programs these past few years:**

• Morris Arboretum Sensory Tour • Red Pedal Bike Pub Tour • Dragon Boating on the Schuylkill River • Wissahickon Environmental Center Birding Program • Surrey Bike Ride along the Schuylkill River • Maple Sugaring in the Wissahickon • Spruce Street Harbor Park Visit • Accessible Games Night • Karaoke Night • iPhone Clinic • Center City Holiday Tour • Annual Holiday Party • Annual Beach Day

Contact us for more information:

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Website: <http://www.phillytouchtours.com>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/phillytouchtours>

**Seeing might be believing, but when you touch, you know!**