

DOWN BY THE RIVERS

Our picks for summer fun on the Delaware and the Schuylkill

DELAWARE RIVER

(Numbers start at the northern edge of the region and work south)

1 Burlington City

Burlington is among the Garden State's most historic towns, boasting a compact sightseeing district with scores of Colonial-era buildings — including the homes of Capt. James "Don't give up the ship!" Lawrence and James Fenimore Cooper, author of *The Last of the Mohicans*. Scenic riverfront hosts a summer concert series; the annual Festival of Lights/ Boat Parade & Fireworks is Aug. 10. **Burlington City**, 609-386-0200, tourburlington.org.

2 Pennsbury Manor State Park

William Penn's country estate looks a whole lot like it did back in the 1680s. It's got stables, kitchen gardens and a kitchen house (because that's how they rolled back in the 17th century), plus a great river view. **400 Pennsbury Memorial Road**, \$3-\$9, 215-946-0400, pennsburymanor.org.

3 Neshaminy State Park

There are lots of things to love about this 339-acre park: a marina with endless boat strips, a gentle hiking trail along the tidal marsh and a pair of pools — one regular, one splash. It's so loved, in fact, that picnic pavilions reserve 11 months in advance. **3401 State Road (at Dunks Ferry Road)**, Bensalem, 888-PA-PARKS, dcnr.state.pa.us.

4 Andalusia Mansion

Dang, that Biddle family sure lived nice. No wonder their estate, a National Historic Landmark with lush grounds and lavish manor, is by appointment only, only on weekdays. **1237 State Road, Andalusia**, \$10-\$20, 215-245-5479, andalusiapa.org.

5 Amico Island Park

Hidden treasure on 55 acres where Rancocas Creek meets the Delaware. Hiking and biking trails, picnic facilities and plenty of flora and fauna. **Amico Island Park**, co.burlington.nj.us.

6 Penn Treaty Park

Formerly known as Shackamaxon, this historic plot where the Lenape

tribe and William Penn made a pact has new trees and a playground. Pleasant for family-friendly gatherings such as "Fantastic Friday" 6 p.m. concerts. **1341 N. Delaware Ave.**, free, penntreatypark.org.

7 SugarHouse Casino

Since its 2010 opening, Philly's only casino has made the Delaware River integral to its operation via windows that give gamblers a water view, a pedestrian path along the river and an outdoor patio lounge. **1001 N. Delaware Ave.**, 267-232-2000, sugarhousecasino.com.

8 Festival Pier

This 7,000-person concert venue, contracted to Live Nation, lacks atmosphere and shade. Still, its themed, midlevel national band bills and moderate pricing create a mini-festival, money-well-spent feeling. **601 N. Columbus Blvd.**, 800-745-3000, delawareriverwaterfrontcorp.com.

9 Cavanaugh's River Deck

DJs rule the party at this expansive drinkin' and snackin' club, basking in the sunset glow we loved in its prior persona as Katmandu. With themed nights: country Wednesday, rock-'n'-roll Friday, "Island Vibes" Sunday. **417 N. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-629-7400, theriverdeck.com.

10 Dave & Buster's

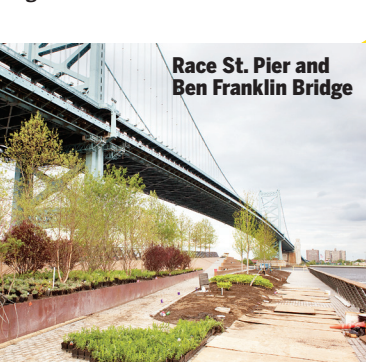
A beer, a string of tickets and a go at Donkey Kong, Dream Raiders or plain-old billiards. At some point in your life, a visit to this indoor grown-up play place is practically obligatory. **325 N. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-413-1951, daveandbusters.com.

11 Morgan's Pier

Make it a full night at this American beer garden, with dinner and a mash-up of entertainment. Most appreciated: R5 Productions-curated rock acts some Wednesdays, and big-name electronic-dance-music spinners Thursdays through Saturdays. **221 N. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-279-7134, morganspier.com.

12 Liberty Sailing School

Tacking and jibing, celestial navigating and coastal cruising are among the topics tackled in four-person-per-boat courses at this reputable school. **Classroom: 303 N. Front St.**; fleet: Pier 12, 235 N. Columbus Blvd., courses from \$259, 215-393-7833, libertysailingschool.com.



ED HILLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

13 Ben Franklin Bridge

Savor a spectacular view from above by leisurely strolling 1.8 miles (3.6 over and back) across the lifeline between Philly and Camden. (If you get lazy in Jersey, hop on PATCO for the ride back.) **Enter on 5th Street at Race Street or Delaware Avenue and Pearl Street, Camden**, 6 a.m.-9 p.m. daily until October, free, 856-968-2255, drpa.org.

14 Race Street Pier

Fairly new, split-level, landscaped park comes alive with free entertainment (heavy on improv comedy and made-in-Philly music) on Third Thursdays and First Fridays. Stadium benches at the pier's end stage hold about 800. **Columbus Boulevard and Race Street**, 215-629-3200, delawareriverwaterfront.com.



Fishing

Throw your line out on the Delaware at Frankford Access and Hog Island Road for migrating striper, possibly the safest local fish to eat, since they live mainly at sea. **5625 Tacony St., or Hog Island Road (follow Island Avenue to Enterprise Avenue)**. On the Schuylkill side, the Art Museum and Flat Rock dams are where you can hook catfish, small- and largemouth bass and the occasional walleye. The fish commission recommends you do not eat freshwater fish on a regular basis. **Art Museum Dam (Kelly Drive)**, Flat Rock Dam (Manayunk Canal).



ELISE WRABETZ / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

15 Ristorante La Veranda

Say what you will about his ethics: Vince Fumo had good taste in food. At his onetime hangout, tuxedoed servers elegantly deliver salt-baked branzino, stellar antipasti and classic pasta. **Pier 3, 30 N. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-351-1898, laverandapier3.com.

16 Ride the Ducks

This goofy, educational, land-to-river amusement appeals to kids and kids-at-heart. **Departs from 6th and Chestnut streets**, \$17-\$27, 877-887-8225, philadelphia.ridetheducks.com.

17 Great Plaza at Penn's Landing

Hard to believe a former city administration was ready to trash this congenial setup. Multistage, terraced venue is ideal for free ethnic cultural festivals held every summer weekend. The main amphitheater fits 3,400 for free movie screenings ("Silver Linings Playbook," "Pitch Perfect"), smooth-jazz concerts and occasional paid-admission stuff from Live Nation. **Chestnut Street and Columbus Boulevard**, 215-922-2386, delawareriverwaterfront.com.



CHARLES FOX / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Fort Mifflin

18 RiverLink Ferry

The coolest way to reach Adventure Aquarium (or the Lil Wayne concert at Susquehanna Bank Center) is a 12-minute ride on this open-air vessel. Take your time with one of the ferry's new, 50-minute sightseeing excursions. **Boards at Independence Seaport Museum and Camden's Wiggins Park**, \$6-\$12, 215-925-LINK, riverlinkferry.org.

19 Independence Seaport Museum

This maritime museum is a clearinghouse for waterfront activities: an exhibit on the African presence on the Delaware, tours of nearby war memorials, behind-the-scenes on the Submarine Becuna and, if you're age 7 to 13, day camp with weekly themes: Pirates! Sea monsters! **211 S. Columbus Blvd. (at Walnut Street)**, \$10-\$13.50, 215-413-8655, phillyseaport.org.

20 Summer Wind

Take a 90-minute, music-infused ride on a 48-foot Chinese junk. Beneath its ethereal sails, you'll feel like you're in the Indian Ocean. Sorta. **211 S. Columbus Blvd.**, \$40-\$50, 215-900-7758, americansailing-tours.com.

21 Moshulu

At age 99, the world's largest, still-floating, four-masted sailing ship has become a bona fide dining destination with champagne brunches and music-filled deck parties. **401 S. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-923-2500, moshulu.com.

22 Spirit of Philadelphia

The Love Boat it's not. But the well-meaning cruise ship's entertainment and oft-open bar are lovable, nonetheless. **401 S. Columbus Blvd.**, \$39.90-\$79.90, 866-455-3866, spiritofphiladelphia.com.

23 Chart House

Great views of the Spirit of Philadelphia and the Camden waterfront are hallmarks at Penn's Landing's outpost of this upscale chain, as are the big salad bar and molten chocolate cake. **555 S. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-625-8383, chart-house.com.

24 Shank's Original

You loved them in South Philly. Now love their eggplant parm and roast pork on the Delaware, too. **901 S. Columbus Blvd., Pier 40**, 215-218-4000, shanksoriginal.com.

25 Ikea

Best place to gape the grand

decrepitude of the U.S.S. United States? Through the glass windows of this Swedish retailer's upstairs dining area, where breakfast costs 99 cents. **2206 S. Columbus Blvd.**, 215-551-4532, ikea.com.

26 Camden Riversharks

This independent minor-league team plays in a jewelry box of a ballpark with many family-friendly activities and promotions (such as Friday-game fireworks). **Campbell's Field, 401 Delaware Ave., Camden**, 856-963-2600, riversharks.com.

27 Adventure Aquarium

Home to a mind-boggling array of waterborne wildlife, including the only hammerhead sharks in American captivity. Recently arrived is Mighty Mike, billed as the country's "biggest, baddest" alligator. **1 Riverside Drive, Camden**, \$17.95-\$24.95, 856-365-3300, adventureaquarium.com.

28 Susquehanna Bank Center

Our area's largest indoor-outdoor concert spot packs up to 25,000 patrons (7,500 under cover) for high-profile shows. Especially strong this summer: new country talent and rock happenings. On a clear night, the view of Philly is fantastic. **1 Harbour Blvd., Camden**, 856-365-1300, susquehanna.net.

29 Battleship New Jersey

A monument to those who served in World War II, America's most decorated naval vessel offers daily tours and special events. World War II Remembrance Day has re-enactments, historic artifact displays and a dance. **100 Clinton St., Camden**, \$17-\$21.95, 866-877-6262, battleshipnewjersey.org.

30 Red Bank Battlefield Park

Jersey's Revolutionary War history isn't just about Washington's raid on Trenton. Forty miles south, American troops fought and won the Battle of Red Bank at Fort Mercer in northwestern Gloucester County. The Whitall House, built in 1748 and used as a hospital during the battle, is open to the public. **100 Hessian Ave., National Park**, 856-853-5120, co.gloucester.nj.us.

31 Fort Mifflin

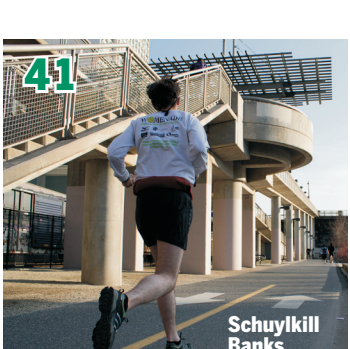
Colonial-era re-enactors are major fans of the city's only fort. School-age kids flock for Pirate Day, Aug. 17. Mifflin's remaining structures don't date to 1777, when the British heavily bombarded the site. Still, they're centuries old and, some say, fairly haunted. **Fort Mifflin and Hog Island roads**, \$3-\$6, 215-685-4167, fortmifflin.us.

SCHUYLKILL RIVER

(Numbers start in Manayunk and work south)

32 Schuylkill River Trail

The 10-mile Philly section (of a planned, 130-mile route to Pottsville) includes Schuylkill Banks (see No.41). Rollerblade, run, bike or walk the paved route from the Banks to East Falls. Follow Roxborough streets and Manayunk Canal



COURTNEY MARABELLA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

38 Water Works

You could drop \$50 on a fancy bottle of...water. Or \$40-plus on a tower of chilled seafood. Whatever you pay, it'll be worth it, provided you sit outside and watch the sun set. **640 Water Works Drive**, 215-236-9000, thewaterworksrestaurant.com.

39 Paine's Park

With LOVE Park closed to skateboarders, this \$4.5 million skate park is a dream-come-true for wheeled daredevils and their fans, with plenty of flat banks to ramp and shady spots to watch. **Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Ben Franklin Parkway**, free, franklinspainepark.com.

40 Hidden River Outfitters

Get a paddleboard lesson on the Delaware, or take a kayak tour along the Delaware or Schuylkill. **Independence Seaport Museum marina (Delaware): Walnut Street Bridge Dock (Schuylkill)**, \$40-\$45, hiddenriveroutfitters.com.

41 Schuylkill Banks

Site of Philly's 9/11 Memorial, kayak and riverboat tours, dance performances, an open-air market and free movies, this ever-improving spot is Philly's place to get out and work out. **Water Works to Fort Mifflin**, 215-222-6030, schuylkillbanks.org.

42 Grays Ferry Crescent Park

The latest branch of the Schuylkill Banks development screens "Men in Black" (July 18) and "Clueless" (Aug. 15). **River at Wharton Street**, 7:45 p.m., free, schuylkillbanks.org.

43 Bartram's Garden

No wonder the 18th-century home of naturalist John Bartram is in demand for outdoor weddings. The verdant acreage shelters American botanical wonders. It's also a sweet spot for a picnic. Weekends, a commuter yacht sails from Schuylkill Banks' Walnut Street dock for a three-hour trip that includes a guided tour of J.B.'s crib. Reserve ahead. **5400 Lindbergh Blvd.**, 215-729-5281, bartramsgarden.org.

44 John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge

Canoe Darby Creek, take a guided butterfly walk or simply DIY bird-watch at this Fish and Wildlife Service-run freshwater tidal marsh, the largest such protected area left in Pennsylvania. You'll marvel at how wildlife thrives in the shadow of Philly. **8601 Lindbergh Blvd.**, 215-365-3118, heinz.fws.gov.

— Compiled by Jenice Armstrong, Chuck Darrow, Lauren McCutcheon and Jonathan Taffin