



Bridge Across Delaware River Links Camden, NJ With Philadelphia

Crossing the Delaware River from Camden, New Jersey to Philadelphia is easy, now. We have the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, named after a signer of the Declaration of Independence, who also signed the Constitution of the United States and founded the city's biggest employer, the University of Pennsylvania, in 1740.

Getting across the bridge involved paying a train fare to PATCO, driving a car and paying a bridge toll to the DRPA, or walking, cycling or skate boarding on the predestrian bridge.

Since I moved to New Jersey with my family in 1983, I have traveled over the bridge over 100 times a year and until Labor Day, 2015, had never walked on the bridge.

On Labor Day I witnessed the annual Union Parade to Penn's Landing, chatted to several Walmart

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employees about their efforts agitating for a minimum hourly wage of USD15. George was a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon, Osborne is running for Mayor of Philadelphia.

I watched a concert by the Urban Guerilla Orchestra, and thought hard about the Syrian refugees I have been talking about for over 2 years. Who have suddenly turned from being a trickle to a flood of eloquent, educated professionals walking across Europe with only the clothes on their backs.

My right foot was cut, and hurting, which I decided would not be an excuse to anyone fleeing Syrian President Asad's Russian-supplied tanks, US drone strikes or the ISIL knives and bullets.

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"In memory of those who lost their lives in the building of this bridge", written above on a copper plaque. At this point, the bridge is over Pennsylvania. Picture above, Quaker Francis is pushing his bicycle up onto the bridge after a Sunday cooking at Newton Quaker Meeting and serving food to guests in front of the Riverline on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

And so I walked from Penn's Landing, where I took the photographs on this page, to the start of the Benn Franklin Bridge on 5th Street, north of Race Street.

Delight greets the walker or the cyclist, look at the bottom picture which I took on a sunny September

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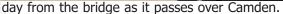
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From the Camden side, you can walk from Newton Quaker Meeting: two cream and green wooden buildings surrounded by an urban farm on Haddon Avenue between Market and Cooper Streets.

Reach the steps to Benjamin Franklin Bridge by walking down Cooper Street and turning right on 5th Street. You will walk under the Rutgers University Law Library, pass the Camden County Library on your left and a parking lot on your right, as you walk towards the big blue iron structure.

Walk left and parallel with the bridge for a few steps and climb the stairs onto the pedestrian walkway when you see it. You only have one opportunity to get onto the bridge on the Camden side, and one opportunity to get off on the Philadelphia side.

Once on the walkway, you have to keep walking for over a mile, you cannot sit anywhere and you have to keep going.

When you reach the other side, in Philadelphia, you



come out on 5th Street. The pictures on this page were taken at the Philadelphia entrance. Cars drive to the right and end up on Vine Street with options to head north, west or into Chinatown and Center City. You head left and straight or left and left. Going right is not an option. Very dangerous road.

If you want to go west, towards Fairmont Park: Walk left towards Race Street, cross over, walk down Race Street and gradually work your way towards Arch Street, the next one over. Then head down Arch Street, wave at the statue of Mary Dyer (hanged for being a Quaker in Massachusetts) in the courtyard of Friends Center. And keep going straight, you will end up in the Parkway which has flags from many countries, and ends in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which has some spectacular stairs and looks like it was lifted from Ancient Greece.

If you want to go south, to the Philadelphia waterfront and Penn's Landing, head down 5th Street, and wave at the statue of George Washington in front of

> Independence Hall, where independence was proclaimed in 1776, and the document that presidential candidates do not seem to understand was written in 1787. The Constitution of the United States of America. In use since 1789. Turn left and keep going until you come to the river. You are at Penn's Landing. If you want to go north, to Temple University Germantown: walk down

5th Street as for Penn's Landing and at the first opportunity, follow the signs that say SEPTA, and catch a train. If you are on a bicycle, head down Race Street to Broad Street and turn right to follow Broad Street.

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