## **Industry Relations & Visitor Services**

The VBC team supports the more than 1,600 tourism & hospitality businesses in Bucks County by connecting and convening, encouraging product development and advocating for the tourism industry.

#### In 2023 the Industry Relations & Visitor Services Team:

- Introduced complimentary front-line staff training for Bucks County tourism and hospitality businesses.
- Connected with more than 12,500 visitors inside and outside the region at events and festivals.
- · Unveiled the new Mobile Visitor Center.
- · Promoted Bucks County to the wedding, group tour and meeting markets.



**Visitor Services** 



700



1,680



10.718 Online Destination Guide Requests



Weddings, Groups and Meetings Market Outreach

14 Shows & Events

3,566 Attendees

## **Advocacy**

VBC advocated for the tourism industry and hospitality industry, working closely with the Pennsylvania Restaurant and Lodging Association (PRLA), U.S. Travel Association and our local legislators and municipalities.











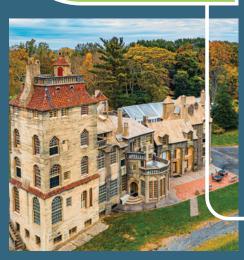




Billion dollars generated in Economic Impact











# VISIT BUCKS COUNTY Febbsylvahia

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT** 



## VisitBucksCounty.com

Promoting travel to and within Bucks County 215-639-0300 | @VisitBucksPA

Sources: Tourism Economics. Published: May 2024.



## A Message From the President/COO Paul Bencivengo

#### Tourism & Hospitality Businesses, Local Officials, Stakeholders and Residents.

We are proud to present the Visit Bucks County Annual Report, an overview of the past year's achievements. In 2023, Visit Bucks County remained centered on promoting and marketing Bucks County as a top travel destination, creating economic impact as well as supporting and advocating for the local tourism and hospitality industry.

Visit Bucks County shared the stories of local hospitality businesses through compelling content that captured the attention of visitors and groups. The creation of new marketing content and continued optimization of Visit Bucks County's digital platforms led to rapid growth that reached record levels of consumers. Visit Bucks County also supported these potential visitors by providing individual trip planning services and resources to ensure a positive experience.

Last year, the landscape of travel became increasingly competitive. Bucks County's hospitality community adapted to evolving economic conditions and new consumer trends, ultimately resulting in solid visitation. Lodging performance in 2023 achieved 64% occupancy just shy of the strong levels seen in 2022 while hotel average daily rate exceeded 2022 levels at \$126.97. Visitor volume analyzed in geolocation data from top markets exceeded 2022 levels.

Visit Bucks County continues to welcome new businesses and inspire new development to shape the future of Bucks County tourism. At the center of our efforts are partnerships and aligned strategies with Bucks County's economic development agencies and a shared goal of ensuring Bucks County is an attractive place to live, work and visit.

We look forward to new and exciting experiences in 2024. Thank you for your support of Visit Bucks County and the Bucks County tourism and hospitality industry.



### **Bucks County Commissioners**

Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW, Chair Robert J. Harvie, Jr., Vice Chair Gene DiGirolamo, Secretary

#### **Visit Bucks County Board of Directors**

Sharon Rossi, Vice Chair Bob McGowan, Treasurer

Linda Sallev Paul Boger Mycle Gorman Jonathan Snipes **Emily Harris Christine Triantos** Paul Licitra Carrie Nork Minelli Albert Giagnacova, Moses Reidenbach

#### **Visit Bucks County Team**

Jenna Scull Megan Connelly Jenna Giuliani Kelley Keeling Louise Trucks Rachel Macauley Claudia Murtha Lisa Paglaiccetti

Tami Casey Megan Rockey Laurie Ann Moore Ashley Snyder

Shannon Rinker Paul Bencivengo Vanessa Shubert Joanne Trusdell Heather Walter

#### **Destination Ambassadors**

Doug Miller, Chairperson

Ron Gilbert, Secretary

Dr. Charles Tweedy

Emeritus

## Summer in **BUCKS** COUNTY, PA

**Target Markets** 

HARRISBURG

## **BILLBOARDS**

## **Marketing & Communications**

Visit Bucks County's marketing campaigns included social media, digital, out-of-home, streaming video and broadcast television in target markets including, New York, Northern New Jersey, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Lehigh Valley and the Harrisburg area.

NORTHERN NJ

LEHIGH VALLEY

PHL

NYC

DERGROUND

RAILROAD

STOP





Celebrate Pride Events

Follow Us On Social Media!



105M **Impressions** 







12M **Video Views** 

Media

in 2023



193K **Impressions** 



**73K Impressions** 



9.8M **Video Views** 



# **Web Traffic**



2M Users



**5M** Pageviews

## **GRANT PROGRAM**

The 2023 Bucks County Tourism Grant Program, facilitated in partnership with the County of Bucks, distributed \$574,650 to 56 local organizations for tourism-related projects.

**Bucks County 2024 Lodging Revenue** 

Growth estimated for 2024 Source: Tourism Economics