

Insider's Guide To Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Local entrepreneur Nancy Stampahar tells you why she's proud to call this legendary steel city home.

PENNSYLVANIA

✦ Pittsburgh



Just Ducky Tours

MY STORY Although I was born and raised in Pittsburgh, I moved away when I was 19 to see what life was like in other cities. It quickly became clear to me that I couldn't see myself living anywhere else, so I moved back in 1993 and I've been here ever since.

GOOD EATS Pittsburgh may not seem like a culinary mecca, but our restaurant scene is thriving. One of my go-tos is **Monterey Bay Fish Grotto**. It has the best views of the city skyline from Mt. Washington and fresh fish options on the menu every day. *1411 Grandview Ave.; 412-481-4414; montereybayfishgrotto.com.*

THE GREAT OUTDOORS Pittsburgh has more than 20 miles of bike trails that are especially beautiful in the fall. **The Heritage Trail** is a good place to get started. It runs along the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers and is great for walkers and runners, too. *412-488-0212; friendsoftheriverfront.org.*

SEE THE SIGHTS One of the best ways to take in land and water views of the

city is with **Just Ducky Tours**. You hop on an open-air "duck boat," a converted World War II military vehicle that travels on streets and in the water, and tour the business and cultural districts before driving into one of the city's three rivers. *125 West Station Square Dr.; 412-402-3825; justduckytours.com.*

FINE ART I love the **Frick Art & Historical Center** for its gorgeous landscaping. One of the most interesting parts of the center is the Car and Carriage Museum. It's full of vintage cars from as far back as 1898 and it makes me feel like I've been transported back to the Gilded Age. *7227 Reynolds St.; 412-371-0600; thefrickpittsburgh.org.*

A HISTORIC STAY Thanks to its location in downtown Pittsburgh, the **Omni William Penn Hotel** is perfect for visitors and is also breathtakingly beautiful—it was built in 1916 and retains most of its original architecture. *530 William Penn Pl.; 412-281-7100; omnihotels.com.*

—as told to Cheryl Lock