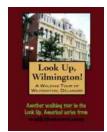
# **Exploring the Historic Beauty of Wilmington, Delaware: A Fascinating Walking Tour**



Are you tired of the same old tourist destinations and looking for a unique adventure? Look no further than the charming city of Wilmington, Delaware, nestled in the heart of the Mid-Atlantic region. With its rich history, stunning architecture, and vibrant atmosphere, Wilmington offers a truly immersive experience like no other.

### The Allure of Downtown Wilmington

As part of the Look Up America Series, this walking tour will take you on a captivating journey through the downtown area of Wilmington, Delaware. Step into a world where the past blends seamlessly with the present, as you explore historic landmarks, hidden gems, and architectural marvels that have shaped the city's identity.



## A Walking Tour of Wilmington, Delaware - Downtown (Look Up, America! Series) by Doug Gelbert(Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 4 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 2450 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported

Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 21 pages
Lending : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting: Enabled





Begin your adventure at the picturesque Rodney Square, a true testament to the city's architectural magnificence. With its manicured lawns, stunning fountains, and towering historic buildings, this square serves as the perfect starting point for your exploration. Take a moment to appreciate the

grandeur of the Wilmington Trust Company Building, a prime example of neoclassical architecture that has stood proudly since the late 1800s.

Next, make your way to the iconic Market Street, the vibrant heart of downtown Wilmington. This bustling thoroughfare is teeming with life, offering an array of shops, restaurants, and entertainment options. Take a leisurely stroll along its charming sidewalks, indulging in retail therapy or savoring the diverse culinary delights the city has to offer.



#### **Historic Landmarks Beckon**

No walking tour of Wilmington is complete without a visit to the captivating Nemours Estate. As you enter the gates of this sprawling mansion, you'll feel like you've stepped into a fairytale. Marvel at the opulent gardens, take in the breathtaking architecture, and learn about the rich history of the DuPont family who once called this place home. Don't miss the chance to explore the meticulously manicured grounds, which are a sight to behold throughout the seasons.



Continue your journey to Rockford Park, a serene oasis nestled amidst the hustle and bustle of the city. Admire the beautiful Rockford Tower, which offers panoramic views of the surrounding area from its observation deck.

The park's picturesque pathways are perfect for a leisurely stroll, or you can simply find a peaceful spot to relax and immerse yourself in the tranquil ambiance.

For history enthusiasts, the Delaware Historical Society Museum is an unmissable stop. Immerse yourself in the rich heritage of the state as you explore the museum's vast collection of artifacts, photographs, and documents that tell the captivating stories of Delaware's past. From Native American artifacts to exhibits on the Civil War and beyond, there is something to intrigue every curious mind.



### **Hidden Gems and Culinary Delights**

As you wander through the charming streets of downtown Wilmington, keep an eye out for hidden gems that often go unnoticed. Discover tucked-away courtyards, quaint bookshops, and art galleries that showcase the city's vibrant cultural scene. Engage with local artists, immerse yourself in

thought-provoking exhibitions, and take home a unique piece of Delaware's artistic expression.

No exploration is complete without satisfying your taste buds, and Wilmington does not disappoint! The city's burgeoning culinary scene offers a diverse range of cuisines to cater to every palate. From cozy cafes serving delectable pastries to fine dining establishments offering exquisite gastronomic experiences, you'll embark on a culinary journey like no other.

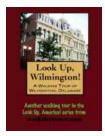


### Rediscover Wilmington: A Walking Tour Worth Embarking On

Embarking on a walking tour of downtown Wilmington is more than just exploring the city's physical beauty; it's a chance to immerse yourself in its rich history, vibrant culture, and welcoming community. Experience the sense of community that radiates through the streets, engage with the locals, and create unforgettable memories that will stay with you long after your footsteps fade away.

So, whether you're a history enthusiast, an architecture aficionado, or a food lover, Wilmington, Delaware, has something to captivate every

traveler. Put on your walking shoes, embrace the adventure, and allow the magic of this charming city to take you on a journey you'll cherish for a lifetime.



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There is no better way to see America than on foot. And there is no better way to appreciate what you are looking at than with a walking tour. Whether you are preparing for a road trip or just out to look at your own town in a new way, a downloadable walking tour from walkthetown.com is ready to explore when you are.

Each walking tour describes historical and architectural landmarks and provides pictures to help out when those pesky street addresses are missing. Every tour also includes a quick primer on identifying architectural styles seen on American streets.

After periods of Swedish (1638), then Dutch (1655), then British (1664) colonization, the area stabilized under British rule (with Quaker influence)

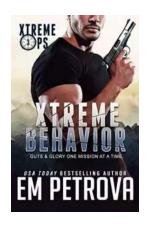
and was granted a borough charter in 1739 by the King of England which changed the name from Willington (after Thomas Willing, the first 'developer" of the land who organized the area in a grid pattern like Philadelphia) to Wilmington, presumably after Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington, a favorite of the King.

From the granting of the charter until the Revolution, the town developed steadily into a prosperous business and residential community. During the Revolution, its milling industries, geographic location, key leaders and resources made Wilmington particularly strategic. Topography and soil conditions affected the residential development pattern in the City. Wilmington lies at the fall line that separates the flat coastal plain from the hilly areas to the west. East of Market Street, and along both sides of the Christina River, the land is flat, low-lying and marshy in places. The west side of Market Street is hilly and rises to a point that marks the watershed between the Brandywine and the Christina Rivers. This watershed line runs along Delaware Avenue westward from 10th and Market Streets. The hilly and therefore healthier west side, was more attractive for the original residential areas such as Quaker Hill, developed beginning in the mid 18th century.

During the Industrial Revolution era Wilmington products included ships, railroad cars, gunpowder, shoes, tents, uniforms, blankets and other warrelated goods. By 1868, the city was producing more iron ships than the rest of the country combined and it rated first in the production of gunpowder and second in carriages and leather. The modern age of Wilmington began in 1905 when the DuPont Company's headquarters came downtown.

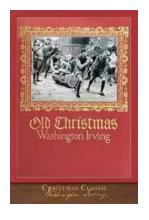
As an historically conservative city, Wilmington generally adopted architectural "high styles" about a decade after the style was introduced. Nonetheless, the city has a fine collection of extant buildings, displaying popular styles from the Revolution through late 20th century. Federal, Queen Anne, American Four Square are found in quantity; examples of Second Empire, Richardson Romanesque, Italian Villa, Greek Revival, Georgian, Art Deco and International Style punctuate the urban landscape. The vernacular row house makes up many of the stable neighborhoods, augmented by stylistic detailing from the high styles of its period of construction.

This walking tour will begin in the heart of the city around Rodney Square...



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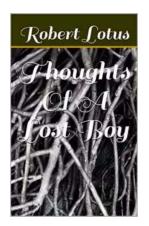
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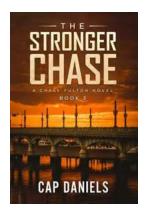
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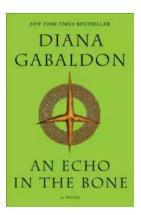
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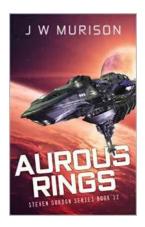
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