

PALOMAR

PHILADELPHIA
A KIMPTON HOTEL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOTEL PALOMAR PHILADELPHIA IS A NEW NEIGHBOR IN CITY'S FASHIONABLE RITTENHOUSE SQUARE DISTRICT

PHILADELPHIA, September 1, 2009 – Philadelphia is a city of neighborhoods, and, although it is the sixth largest city in the United States, it is the “neighborly feel” that visitors often talk about when describing what they most like about the destination. On the list of as many as 175 neighborhoods, residential Rittenhouse Square is among the most popular, especially for visitors looking to experience the city like locals do, as well as enjoy Philadelphia’s best shopping, dining and nightlife.

The center of the neighborhood is the picturesque park, Rittenhouse Square, one of the city’s favorite public spaces and gathering spots. Beautifully landscaped and impeccably maintained, it’s like a garden oasis in the center of the city’s busy downtown, with the trees, grass, flowers, a reflecting pond and several animal-themed outdoor sculptures. It is here you will see parents pushing strollers, kids walking dogs, business people eating lunch, and artists painting. Surrounding the park is the striking architecture of high-end residential buildings, as well as coffee shops, outdoor cafes and boutiques.

When deciding on a location for its first Philadelphia hotel, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants chose this neighborhood as its home. Located in the historic Architects

Building at 17th and Sansom streets, Hotel Palomar Philadelphia is just a two-block walk to the park and among the neighborhood's fashionable retail, restaurants and galleries.

Rich in history and art, Rittenhouse Square is one of the five original parks designated as open spaces in Philadelphia founder William Penn's vision for this "greene countrie towne." Penn's surveyor, Thomas Holme, drew the city plan in 1682, encompassing five city squares named for their geographic locations: Center, Northwest, Southwest, Northeast and Southeast. The original name for Rittenhouse Square was Southwest. In 1825, the park took the name of David Rittenhouse, a Philadelphia clockmaker, astronomer, Revolutionary era patriotic leader and descendant of William Rittenhouse, Philadelphia's first papermaker. The other squares are now named Center Square, Franklin Square, Logan Square and Washington Square.

Architect Paul Philippe Cret, who designed the Architects Building, now home to Hotel Palomar Philadelphia, was instrumental in the design of the current-day Rittenhouse Square, creating a redesign in 1913. Among his contributions is the Rittenhouse Square Fountain. Other well-admired sculptures in the park are Antoine-Louis Barye's *Lion Crushing a Serpent* (1832), *Duck Girl* by Paulanship (1911), *Billy* the billy goat by Albert Laessle (1914), *Evelyn Taylor Price Memorial Sundial* by Beatrice Fenton (1947), and *Giant Frog* by Cornelia Van A. Chapin (1941), and *Rittenhouse Square Dogs* by an unidentified artist (1988).

The Curtis Institute of Music, a training ground for the world's finest musicians, is here, as well as the Ethical Society of Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Art Alliance. For nearly 80 years, Rittenhouse Square has been home to the Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show, held in June and September. An annual park fundraiser, the Friends of Rittenhouse Square's Ball on The Square, is also held in June. In the winter, colorful globe lights illuminate the park's trees making it one of the city's prettiest venues at the holidays.

The Hotel Palomar Philadelphia is located in the heart of Center City, at 117 South 17th Street, in Philadelphia's Rittenhouse Square neighborhood. For more information or reservations, please visit www.hotelpalomar-philadelphia.com, or call 877.725.1778 or 1-800-KIMPTON.

ABOUT HOTEL PALOMAR PHILADELPHIA

Hotel Palomar Philadelphia, one of Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants' nearly 50 boutique hotels in the United States, is a highly stylized, eco-friendly, upscale boutique hotel located in the heart of Philadelphia's Rittenhouse Square neighborhood. It is the first Kimpton hotel to open in Philadelphia and Kimpton's first LEED-registered hotel. With its thoughtful adaptive reuse renovation of one of Philadelphia's architectural landmarks, the Architects Building, and its 230 stylish and sustainable guestrooms, 6,000 square feet of meeting space and living room-style lobby, Hotel Palomar Philadelphia exemplifies artful and eco-conscious design. Hotel Palomar Philadelphia is located at 117 South 17th Street, one block from picturesque Rittenhouse Square, and within walking of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. For more information, please visit www.hotelpalomar.com or call 877.725.1778.

ABOUT KIMPTON

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, a collection of boutique hotels and chef-driven restaurants in the US, is an acknowledged industry pioneer and was the first to bring the boutique hotel concept to America. Founded in 1981 by Bill Kimpton, the company is well-known for making travelers feel welcomed and comfortable while away from home through intuitive and unscripted customer care, stylish ambience and having a certain playfulness in its approach to programs and amenities. Each hotel provides a range of exciting culinary experiences through locally-loved, top-rated, destination, chef-driven restaurants. Kimpton leads the hospitality industry in ecological practices through its innovative EarthCare program that spans all hotels and restaurants. Privately held Kimpton has consistently earned high customer satisfaction scores by the Market Metrix Hospitality Index, exceeding other hotel companies including those in luxury and upscale segments. Among the company's newest properties are the Hotel Monaco Baltimore and restaurant B&O American Brasserie by Chef E. Michael Reidt in Baltimore, MD, which opened in July 2009. Currently, projects are underway in New York City, Philadelphia and Chicago. For more information, please visit www.KimptonHotels.com or call 1-800-KIMPTON.

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