



Tour the Cruiser *Olympia*, the world's oldest floating steel warship, at the Independence Seaport Museum.

Ahoy Matey!

Explore the maritime history of the Delaware River and the vessels that have called her home.

The history of Philadelphia is inextricably linked to the Delaware River, from its beginnings as a colonial city to its primacy as one of the world's great working ports.

At the Independence Seaport Museum, visitors can discover that history as they explore exhibitions, peek in on a shipbuilding workshop, and climb aboard two anchored vessels designated as National Historic Landmarks.

Dating from 1892, the gleaming *Olympia* was Admiral Dewey's flagship during the Spanish American War, and is the only warship from that conflict still afloat. The *Becuna*, a 1944 submarine, served in World War II and, after being equipped with radar and nuclear warheads, in the Korean and Vietnam wars. Both

ships are open during museum hours, and behind-the-scenes tours take place on the first Saturday of every month. For a unique view, the museum rents row boats and kayaks so you can row next to these ships.

The museum's permanent collection delves into the waterfront's history, from its early naval heroes and the birth of the U.S. Navy to its growth as a mercantile and ship-building center and to its development as an industrial and recreational powerhouse.

This summer, visit exhibits including *Tides of Freedom: African Presence on the Delaware River*, which traces 300 years of African American experience in the Delaware Valley and is curated by Dr. Tukufu Zuberi, the host of the PBS Series "History Detectives."

BY JOANN GRECO

Independence Seaport Museum

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