



## **POD PHILLY DEBUTS AS PHILADELPHIA'S FIRST MICRO-HOTEL**

*The brand's sixth location brings functional style, clean design and exciting food and beverage to the Rittenhouse Square neighborhood.*

**PHILADELPHIA October 2, 2019**—Modus Hotels and Parkway Corporation announced the opening of Pod Philly, Philadelphia's first micro-hotel. The 252-room property is located at 31 South 19<sup>th</sup> Street, between Chestnut and Market Streets in Philadelphia's highly desirable Rittenhouse Square neighborhood. Following the model of the successful Pod Hotels in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Washington D.C., Pod Philly features well-designed guest rooms and vibrant food and beverage spaces, where travelers are encouraged to connect with locals and visitors alike.

Centrally located in the hub of the city's business and retail districts, Pod Philly is positioned to meet the needs of the modern business and leisure traveler alike. The streamlined and efficient Pod rooms are refreshingly affordable, offering incredible value with rates not generally expected in the city's most upscale neighborhood. The hotel caters to a discerning traveler who seeks a modern and exciting hotel stay.

Pod Philly's 234 guestrooms (averaging 180 square feet) and 18 larger studio rooms offer an alternative to the typical hotel experience. The guestroom design is chic, modern and efficient with nods to the city's industrial past through select finishes and details. Unique influences from local artists appear throughout the property from the first floor artwork to the unique design of the guest room corridors.

The interiors, designed by the New York firm Stonehill Taylor, carefully consider functionality to maximize the utilization of space in the Pod Philly guestrooms. The bed was designed with fully integrated storage nooks for guests to stow luggage. Additional storage can be found within the custom-made laminate bedside bench, and the custom designed nightstand doubles as a side table. Curved hooks from Denmark greet the entry allowing for easy access to clothing and bags. Guestroom ceilings make use of the building's pre-cast concrete floor slabs and metal joints in the design. Cove lighting on the ceiling perimeter illuminates the sanded surface's raw look and feel, while the gloss black painted metal echoes the color of the guestroom door. Guests will immediately note the expansive floor to ceiling windows exposing sweeping views of Philadelphia. In each of Pod Philly's 18 larger studios and select guestrooms, window seating allows for reclined observation of the busy street life below.

Pod Philly has three food and beverage spaces, each imagined and operated by Defined Hospitality, the restaurant group behind nationally renowned Suraya, Pizzeria Beddia and R&D cocktail bar. Occupying the ground floor, Condesa is a contemporary 140-seat eatery, named after the vibrant neighborhood in Mexico City.

Under the guidance of Executive Chef and co-owner Nick Kennedy, Condesa's menu highlights regionally-inspired dishes centered on Mexican heirloom corn tortillas, traditionally prepared with volcanic-stone ground masa and made entirely on premise each day. The bar, helmed by Aaron Deary (R&D cocktail bar), showcases a significant list of mezcal- and tequila-based spirits. El Café, with a 19<sup>th</sup> street entrance, is an all-day offering serving coffee from Stumptown Roasters, breakfast tacos and made-daily pastries from Suraya's Executive Pastry Chef James Matty – a perfect option for guests and neighbors. El Techo, the 11<sup>th</sup> floor taqueria, offers a more casual Mexican menu, communal tables, and expansive views of the Philadelphia skyline due to the state-of-the-art, retractable glass windows and roof that allows for year-round, open-air dining.

The on-site fitness center features Matrix Treadmills, Ellipticals, and a functional trainer as well as a Peloton Bike and free weights. Pod Philly's commitment to efficiency extends throughout the property with each floor featuring a Brita water station to encourage re-usable water bottles. Eco-friendly bath products, paperless check-in and linen and terry exchange upon request minimize the hotel's environmental footprint. The hotel's neighborhood partnerships allow guests to enjoy complimentary fitness classes and co-working space.

"Modus Hotels is looking to energize the Philadelphia hospitality scene with the addition of Pod Philly," said Aaron Katz, President and CEO of Modus Hotels. "We believe there is a place in the Philadelphia hotel market for a fun, value-driven hotel – one that places travelers in the center of the city's happenings, inspires an outreach to local adventures and offers them a social experience that is new and fresh to Philadelphia. Pod Philly will allow travelers to do all that without breaking the bank."

Pod Philly is located at 31 South 19th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (between Market and Chestnut Street at the corner of 19th and Ludlow).

Opening rates start at \$159 per night.

Website: [thepodhotel.com/pod-philly/](http://thepodhotel.com/pod-philly/)

Instagram: @podphilly

Phone: [\(267\) 494-0440](tel:(267)494-0440)

### **About The Pod Hotels**

Pioneered by hoteliers Richard Born and Ira Drukier, The Pod Hotels are a successful micro-hotel concept designed to accommodate the needs of today's savvy, "young-minded" traveler. With four existing Pod Hotels in Manhattan (developed by BD hotels) and Pod DC in Washington, DC (developed by Modus Hotels), Pod Philly is the brand's sixth location. The Pods Hotels offer guests efficient accommodations and vibrant communal spaces with high-tech amenities. Anchored by values of affordability, community, and innovation, the brand continues to be a success since its debut in 2007. [www.thepodhotel.com](http://www.thepodhotel.com)

### **About Modus Hotels**

Modus Hotels is a Washington, D.C. lifestyle hotel group that develops, owns and operates a portfolio of hotels and restaurants in various cities. Designed for the independent-minded traveler, each hotel offers a unique experience for those seeking an alternative to the predictability of an ordinary hotel. Located in diverse cities and neighborhoods, Modus Hotels are designed to fit today's traveler's individual taste and lifestyle. Modus' portfolio includes Pod DC, Avenue Suites Georgetown, Hotel Hive, The River Inn, One Washington Circle Hotel (all in D.C.) and The Windsor Suites Philadelphia and Pod Philly in Philadelphia.

For more information, visit [www.modushotels.com](http://www.modushotels.com) or call 202-331-3800. Follow Modus on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/modushotels](https://www.facebook.com/modushotels), Twitter [@modushotels](https://twitter.com/modushotels) and Instagram [@modushotels](https://www.instagram.com/modushotels).

### **About Parkway Corporation**

Parkway Corporation is a Philadelphia-based family-owned and operated company that has embraced the American Dream since 1930. For more than three generations, Parkway has acquired, developed, managed, sold and leased real estate and parking facilities across the United States and Canada. Parkway delivers full-service real estate development and management services and has a long history of strength in land acquisition strategy.

Visit [www.parkwaycorp.com](http://www.parkwaycorp.com) to learn more

### **About Defined Hospitality**

Defined Hospitality was formed in 2017, under the culinary direction of Chef Nick Kennedy, and in partnership with co-owners Greg Root and Al Lucas who oversee operations. In August 2019, the young hospitality group was named by *Philadelphia* magazine as “Restaurateurs of the Year” thanks to their success with nationally acclaimed restaurants, Suraya, Pizzeria Beddia and R&D cocktail bar in the Fishtown neighborhood of Philadelphia. Condesa, El Café and El Techo marks their foray into Center City, Philadelphia.

### **About Stonehill Taylor**

Stonehill Taylor is a hospitality-focused architecture and interior design firm based in New York City. The firm's approach to designing destinations is to create an inspired and distinct reflection on the location, space, history and culture for each project. Stonehill Taylor's distinguished portfolio in interior design and architecture includes: TWA Hotel, The Whitby, Moxy Chelsea, Ace Hotel New York, The Refinery Hotel, InterContinental Barclay, JW Marriott Nashville, and the Eliza Jane Hotel in New Orleans. Stonehill Taylor is at the forefront of sustainable design, developing projects that are conscious of their impact on local communities and the world such as: The Crosby Street Hotel, The NoMad Hotel and Nomad Las Vegas, and Portland's Press Hotel. For more information, visit: [www.stonehilltaylor.com](http://www.stonehilltaylor.com).

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