



# Neighborhoods: **Little Italy**

Nestled between Baltimore's famed Inner Harbor and historic Fell's Point, Little Italy is a cultural icon. Founded in 1849, when the gold rush and railroad jobs attracted Italian immigrants, the 12-block neighborhood became known for its Italian restaurants by the early 20th century. More than 30 eateries – many of them family-owned restaurants and cafes, dot Little Italy today. Original families still own a number of the traditional style rowhouses that fill the quaint streets. Many visit the close-knit Little Italy annually to enjoy the tastes and traditions of the “old country,” including bocce tournaments, open-air film screenings and Italian celebrations like the Festival of St. Anthony. According to legend, the immigrants prayed to St. Anthony to save Little Italy during the Great Baltimore Fire of 1904. After the neighborhood was spared, they decided to hold a festival in his honor every year.

## What to Do

- ★ **Bocce Ball** – Play one of Italy's favorite sports at La Scala Ristorante's indoor court or at the bocce courts on Stiles Street.
- ★ **Cabaret at Germano's** – The upstairs dining room at Germano's is an open performing space for guests to enjoy singers, actors and musicians while they dine.
- ★ **Christopher Columbus Piazza and Statue** – This treasure captures the power and majesty of the discovery of the New World.
- ★ **Civil War Museum at President Street Station** – Explore the city's connections to the Civil War and Underground Railroad in one of America's oldest surviving railroad stations.
- ★ **Cooking Classes** – Learn to prepare a gourmet dish alongside world-class chefs at Da Mimmo's Restaurant (seasonal).
- ★ **Segs in the City** – Explore many Baltimore icons and attractions in Little Italy, Fell's Point, the Inner Harbor and beyond by guided Segway tour.
- ★ **Star-Spangled Banner Flag House** – Meet Mary Pickersgill, the maker of the flag that flew over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812, and learn what life was like in the 19th century.

## Where to Eat

- ★ **Ciao Bella Ristorante** – Started in 1991 by Sicilian-born Anthony Gambino, specializing in fresh seafood, veal and pasta.
- ★ **Da Mimmo's Restaurant** – For over 20 years, Da Mimmo's has served the most popular dishes from every region in Italy, accompanied by live entertainment in the lounge each night.
- ★ **Germano's Piattini** – Germano's menu of small plates appeals to vegans and vegetarians, as well as steak and seafood lovers.
- ★ **Heavy Seas Alehouse** – A place for lovers of Baltimore's original craft brew, Heavy Seas, to enjoy fresh brews with simple yet delicious pub fare.
- ★ **La Scala Ristorante Italiano** – La Scala is dedicated to presenting a menu which balances the very best in traditional Italian cuisine with innovative specialties.

- ★ **La Tavola Ristorante Italiano** – La Tavola showcases the cooking of Venice-born chef Carlo Vignotto, who is most well-known for his award-winning dish Spaghetti Neri al Granchio.
- ★ **Sabatino's Italian Restaurant** – This family-owned restaurant serves delicious Central and Southern Italian cuisine.

## Annual Events

- ★ **Feast of St. Anthony** (June) – The spirit of un carnevale takes over as the streets are blocked off for two days with a celebration commencing the beginning of summer.
- ★ **Open Air Film Festival** (Fridays, July and August) – Arrive early to set up a lawn chair, stroll the neighborhood and eat dinner at one of our many restaurants before settling in to watch an Italian-related feature film projected onto a wall at High and Stiles streets.
- ★ **Feast of St. Gabriele** (August) – This Little Italy tradition end of summer festival includes two days of live music, dancing, food, children's activities and more.
- ★ **Columbus Day Parade & Commemoration** (October) – The annual parade strives to upkeep the spirit of Little Italy ancestors and heritage by celebrating the Italian explorer.
- ★ **Madonnari Arts Festival** (October) – Inspired by an Italian tradition from the 16th century, artists will create elaborate chalk paintings on the streets of Little Italy. The 3-day cultural event will also showcase Italian food, wine, music, theater and dance.

## Where to Stay

- ★ **1840s Carrollton Inn**  
www.1840scarrolltoninn.com
- ★ **Fairfield Inn and Suites Baltimore Downtown/Inner Harbor**  
www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-photos/bwifh-fairfield-inn-and-suites-baltimore-downtown-inner-harbor