In 1851, a group of ten Philadelphians commissioned noted architect Samuel Sloan to design a village on 120 acres of land nestled between the Delaware River and the Camden and Amboy Railroad. The town would be named Riverton, a summer escape that offered easy access to Philadelphia.

More than 150 years later, Riverton remains a charming Victorian riverfront community. Less than one square mile, historic Riverton has retained its small town charm. This quaint community is a year-round retreat for residents and visitors who are drawn by its character, relaxing atmosphere, and proximity to Philadelphia.

Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia is an initiative of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) designed to foster the growth of the region’s older communities by promoting what makes each community a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

Explore Riverton, NJ and the other Classic Towns of Greater Philadelphia at classictowns.org.
Community oriented, family friendly, easily walkable, and not too far from Philadelphia, singles, families, and seniors all hold Riverton in high regard.

Living in Riverton

Wide tree-lined walkways allow residents to stroll from residential neighborhoods to Riverton's commercial center to grab groceries, relax and enjoy a bite to eat, or savor an ice cream cone before making their way to the Delaware River. As darkness descends, gas lamps illuminate the sidewalks greeting residents for the walk home.

Riverton's housing stock reflects its Victorian roots. The community is home to an incredible number of stately and well-maintained homes. Some border the river, others can be found more inland. The eastern half has experienced much of the recent growth and it is here that you can find more modern construction.

Working in Riverton

Riverton has a robust economy. Many middle and high-income individuals live in town and the surrounding region, and support its locally owned businesses.

The community’s concentrated commercial center features an assortment of professional services, retailers, and restaurants. Doctors, lawyers, dentists, and even graphic designers are all doing well in Riverton.

Many of Riverton’s residents commute regularly to Philadelphia via NJ Transit’s RiverLINE and PATCO. It’s a quick and easy commute and takes less than a half-hour — enough time to immerse yourself in a book, catch up on the day’s news, or simply sit back and enjoy the scenery.

The eastern side of the river is equally ripe with employment opportunities. Just outside of Riverton, you’ll find a number of towns and communities where Riverton’s residents work.

Visiting Riverton

The fun starts in early spring with a treasure hunt of sorts — the town-wide yard sale. Come May, Riverton’s Victorian homes go on display, arts and crafts vendors fill its streets, and antique cars rule the road for the Victorian Day Town Center Fair.

Throughout the summer and fall, the Riverton Yacht Club hosts a number of races. The Governor’s Regatta is the highlight. Held each June, it attracts sailors and spectators from around the region.

The Fourth of July is a full day of festivities. It begins with a fun run and includes a homemade raft race and pet pageant before culminating with a cocktail party at the Yacht Club.

December is one of the best times to visit Riverton. Many of its Victorian homes are decorated for the season, opening their doors to friends, family, and visitors from all over.

While each season presents special celebrations, Riverton is home to many year-round attractions. The Historical Society of Riverton includes a diverse collection of artifacts that documents and preserves Riverton’s past. Another favorite is the Thomas Margaret Gallery where regional artists often exhibit their work. Just outside of Riverton is Palmyra Cove, which features more than 250 acres of preserved wetlands and hosts a number of educational events throughout the year.

Playing in Riverton

Activities abound in Riverton. The Delaware River is a regular destination. It is perfect for leisurely strolls or simply relaxing while watching the water drift by.

If you’re looking to get out on the river, look no further than the Riverton Yacht Club — one of the oldest clubs of its kind in the country. Friendly and informal, the club holds weekly races each Wednesday. The club also hosts a number of regattas throughout the summer and fall.

One of Riverton residents’ favorite recreational spots is Riverton Park where tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, and even a large, modern playground can all be found. Within the park are numerous hiking trails, including one that runs adjacent to picturesque Pompeston Creek. A number of pocket parks can also be found throughout the community.

By bus, by train, or by both, Riverton is a quick ride away on NJ Transit and PATCO. Visit njtransit.com and ridepatco.org to learn more.