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PITTSBURGH, PA ITINERARY

Tips provided by **Jim Hammett**, contributor to SB Nation's Pittsburgh blog, **Cardiac Hill**, (<http://www.cardiachill.com/>) and Pittsburgh fans.

Unique traditions to experience on game weekend

- Check out the university's campus before the game to get a general sense of the "game day vibe" from students and alumni.
- Look out for the Panther statue over by the William Pitt Union on campus across from the Cathedral of Learning.
- Catch the university band gearing up on their march to the stadium.
- The university organizes a large family-oriented tailgate by the stadium before the game that's cool to attend.

Best local hangout/restaurant to watch the game

- East Carson Street in the Southside of Pittsburgh is lined with dozens of bars / restaurants.
- Mario's
- Fat Heads
- Peter's Pub

What to wear to the tailgate/game

- Dress warm! The rivers are right next to Heinz Field and can make things colder than usual.

Must-sees at the tailgate

- The Pitt Band plays a concert before the game right behind the scoreboard. Sit on the steps and watch them perform. They also march down the street and into the stadium closer to game time.

The food/drink must-have at the game

- *Primanti's Sandwich* – (2) thick slices of Italian bread piled high with meat, cheese, fries and cole slaw
- *Chicken Wings* at Quaker State and Lube or LA Lickers
- *Heinz Ketchup and Fries* (you're in Heinz field!)

Best shops to purchase team merchandise

- The Team Store inside the Petersen Events Center (the University's basketball arena)
- Sideline stores throughout Heinz Field

Favorite part of the campus

- The Cathedral of Learning
- The Petersen Events Center

Other insider tips and hidden gems in Pittsburgh

- Stop in at the National Aviary.
- Visit the zoo or aquarium.
- Visit all the museums the city has to offer, including the ones of Andy Warhol and the Clemente Museum (Clemente is by appointment only).
- Ride the incline up to Mount Washington and take in the view of the Pittsburgh skyline.
- Catch a show at one of the downtown theatres.
- Take in the nightlife of Southside and Shadyside.