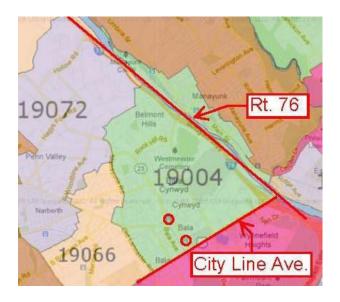
BALA CYNWYD

The map shows Bala Cynwyd in green. The red line labeled Rt. 76 (also called the Schuylkill Expressway) is the main route leading into center city and out to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Rt. 476 (also known as the Blue Route). PLEASE NOTE: The narrow green section to the northeast of Rt. 76 is inaccurately portrayed on zip code maps as part of Bala Cynwyd. In fact, the area on the north side of the river (paralleled by Rt. 76) is part of Manayunk, a neighborhood contained within the Philadelphia city limits. The two little train stations (which are NOT stops on the Paoli Local R5 line) are circled in red.



Bala Cynwyd Highlights

Shopping: City Line Center, shoes, art/craft supplies, pharmacies, clothing, lighting, jewelry Food: Delis, coffee shops, restaurants, supermarket, department stores Entertainment/Culture: Cynwyd Heritage Trail, parks/playgrounds, libraries, pool

Click here to see my video of Bala Cynwd, taking you through different neighborhoods and retail areas.

Bala Cynwyd is the first suburb of Philadelphia to the northwest and lies entirely within Lower Merion Township. This proximity makes it the easiest commute to Philadelphia from the Main Line. One of the unique features of this town is the Cynwyd Trail. The paved trail used by joggers, bikers, and dog walkers but closed to vehicular traffic used to be the train route from the Cynwyd station to Norristown. Due to low usage, the rail service, SEPTA, discontinued service to that area. Lower Merion Township removed the railroad tracks and recently redesigned a section of it to serve as a local park. The trail includes access along the old railway bridge across the river to Manayunk's shops, restaurants and events and festivals. (A note about train service from Bala Cynwyd: There is train service, but it is NOT on the R5 line as are all the other towns' stations; Bala Cynwyd runs on the R6 line and there are only around six trains a day. Keep in mind, there are three Paoli Local stations within about 10 minutes).

At the southeastern edge of Bala Cynwyd is City Line Avenue, which separates Lower Merion Township from the city of Philadelphia. City Line Avenue has a shopping center with several dining choices including an Olive Garden, a Five Guys, and a Honeygrow, a super market, a Michael's, and an L.A. Fitness. Along Montgomery Avenue is a Starbucks, Indian, Chinese and seafood restaurants as well as two long-established delis. One of the most affordable sections of Bala Cynwyd is Belmont Hills, which is at its opposite end (the northeast boundary) which runs up to Route 76. As the name implies, it is very hilly with some twin homes as well as singles. The lots are fairly small. Belmont Hillers love their proximity to the expressway (76) and the library and beautiful community pool complex.