



PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

National League East



x2



x8
NL

10112
FRANCHISE WINS

90-72
2023 SEASON

2nd
DIVISION

#23
FARM SYSTEM RANK

Philadelphia, PA - Citizens Bank Park (42,901)
 Manager: Rob Thomson (155-118, 3rd Season)

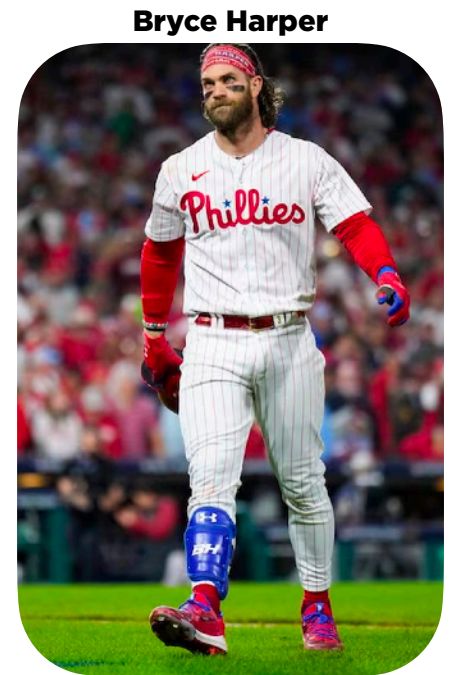
2023: Lost in NLCS

Phillies Prep For Another Playoff Push

For a second straight season, the Phillies made a deep postseason run as an NL Wild Card team, once again knocking their rivals and East champion Atlanta Braves out of the postseason. They were only a game away from appearing in their second straight Fall Classic. While most teams would kill for what Philly has accomplished in the postseason, the Phillies aren't satisfied and want to bring home some hardware, and they believe they have the team to make it happen in 2024. As it turns out, it's because they return virtually the exact same team this season.

Batting

The Phillies are hopeful that **Bryce Harper** will be able to play closer to 141 games in 2024, the number of appearances he made in his MVP season of 2021 when he simply destroyed opposing pitching to the tune of a .309/.429/.615 slash line. While he wasn't quite as otherworldly in 2023, he still had a remarkable season when he eventually made his season debut following a torn UCL. The injury moved him from the outfield to first base, which is now his permanent home on defense. While he mostly played DH, expect him at first more this season so that power hitter **Kyle Schwarber** can occupy DH. Schwarber is far from your prototypical leadoff hitter, but what he lacks in average he makes up for with his tape measure power. He's easily led the majors in strikeouts in each of the past two years but he's also hit 93 home runs and driven in 198 runs while drawing over 200 walks. **Trea Turner** wields home run power too. He's a career .296 hitter but struggled for the majority of the 2023 season. Philadelphia fans gave Turner a standing ovation to support the floundering shortstop and it seemed to rejuvenate him as he promptly put together a 10-game hitting streak and he was also excellent in the postseason. **J.T. Realmuto** continues to be one of the best and most well-rounded catchers in the game, although there are finally some signs of decline. **Nick Castellanos** is another veteran with pop. **Bryson Stott** looks to build on a promising sophomore season that featured a .280 average and 31 stolen bases. **Brandon Marsh** also played well in his first full season with the Phillies and may slide over to left field more frequently with Schwarber expected to play more DH and with defensively gifted **Johan Rojas** covering centerfield. Rojas is ready to build on what was a very strong rookie regular season of 59 games although he was abysmal at the plate in the postseason (4 of 43).



Bryce Harper

Photo via NJ.com

Pitching


After another very strong season, the Phillies extended the contract of **Zack Wheeler**. He's already lived up to his 5 year, \$118 million deal signed in 2020 and then some. He's been remarkably reliable and consistent and he was simply dominant in the postseason. You can say the same about **Aaron Nola** who also signed a big contract extension this offseason and who has likewise been the epitome of reliability. His ERA did jump from 3.25 to 4.46 in 2023 but he continued his streak of 180 innings or more in a season (not including the shortened 2020 year) to five. **Ranger Suárez** and **Taijuan Walker** will jockey for starts towards the back of the rotation. Walker has bounced around to numerous teams in the last few seasons but he pitched a career-high 172.2 innings for the Phillies last year but that also came with a 4.38 ERA and a career-high 1.309 WHIP. The Phillies signed **Spencer Turnbull**, a former starter with the Tigers, but injuries have largely derailed his career to this point and he may be better suited in the bullpen.

That bullpen was a strength in both the regular season and the postseason and features veterans **Gregory Soto**, **Matt Strahm**, and **Seranthony Domínguez**. Nine different Phillies earned a save last year with now-departed Craig Kimbrel leading the way with 23. Kimbrel's exit gives **José Alvarado** the opportunity to be the unquestioned closer for the first time in his career. He possesses a high-90s fastball that he's willing to throw high in the strike zone and he mixes in a cutter that still tops 90 on the radar gun.

The Bottom Line

The Phillies didn't make a big splash in free agency in terms of new additions, but the extensions of Nola and Wheeler solidifies a core that made the Fall Classic in 2022 and was one game away from the World Series in 2023. While the loaded Atlanta Braves are better poised to bring home another division title, it's doubtful that the Phillies even care considering they've bounced the Braves from the playoffs in each of the last two seasons. Bryce Harper's health remains paramount, but if the two-time MVP stays on the field and if Trea Turner returns to the form he showed in the postseason, the Phillies will have one of the most dangerous offenses in the game. As long as the back half of the rotation holds up, the Phillies pitching staff should also be dangerous and the bullpen should be a Top 10 MLB bullpen like they were last season.

2024 Projection: 89-73, 2nd in NL East



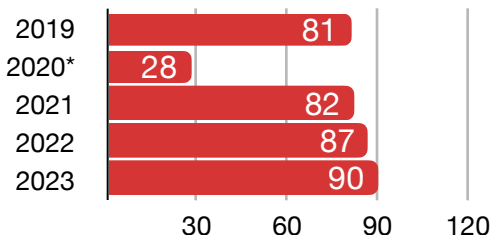
2023 MLB Ranks
 RPG - 4.91 (8th)
 HITS - 1417 (9th)
 HR - 220 (8th)
 ERA - 4.03 (12th)
 SO - 1454 (9th)
 FD% - .984% (19th)

Aaron Nola



Photo via NBC Sports

PHILLIES 5-YEAR WIN TREND



7 < Number to Know

A seven game win streak in late September helped guide the Phillies back to the postseason and set the table for another deep playoff run.

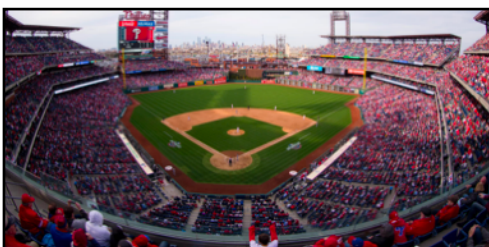


Photo via MLB

PROSPECT TO WATCH Mick Abel - SP

Arguably, the main concern for the Phillies heading into 2024 is the rotation (outside of staples Zack Wheeler and Aaron Nola). Abel might be able to help alleviate that concern. In the minor leagues he's demonstrated that he's in possession of quality strikeout stuff (11.1 K/9 in 266.1 IP). The downside to his game is that he has struggled with control at times and will walk a lot of batters too, leading to elevated pitch counts early in his starts. His upside, which includes a fastball that sails to home plate in the upper 90s, outweighs any downsides. He's made only one start at the triple-A level so don't expect him to make the Opening Day roster, but if he succeeds in Lehigh Valley he could still debut in 2024. Could he be a valuable piece of a postseason roster?

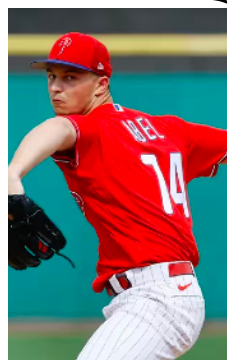


Photo via Philadelphia Inquirer

Projected Lineup

'23 AVG

12	Kyle Schwarber	DH	.197
7	Trea Turner	SS	.266
3	Bryce Harper	1B	.293
10	J.T. Realmuto	C	.252
5	Bryson Stott	2B	.280
28	Alec Bohm	3B	.274
8	Nick Castellanos	RF	.272
16	Brandon Marsh	LF	.277
18	Johan Rojas	CF	.302

Projected Rotation

'23 ERA

45	Zack Wheeler	SP	3.61
27	Aaron Nola	SP	4.46
55	Ranger Suárez	SP	4.18
99	Taijuan Walker	SP	4.38
61	Cristopher Sánchez	SP	3.44
46	José Alvarado	CL	1.74

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

J.T. Realmuto - C



2023 Statistics

GP AVG OPS HR RBI
135 .252 .762 20 63

Realmuto continues to play the catcher position at an elite level even into his thirties. His offense alone sets him apart from all other catchers. A slash line of .252/.310/.452 with 20 home runs and 63 RBI could actually be considered as somewhat of a "down" year compared to past seasons but just about any other catcher would take that production in a heartbeat. His right arm is a cannon and his glove is gold two times over. What's even more remarkable is his ability to overcome the wear and tear of the catcher position as he has played 130 or more games in four consecutive 162-game seasons.

2024 Schedule

March/April 2024

					ATL 3:05				ATL 4:05	30
ATL 1:35	CIN 6:40	CIN 6:40	CIN 7:45	CIN 1:05		WSH 6:45		WSH 4:05		6
WSH 1:35	STL 7:45	STL 7:45	STL 1:15	STL 1:15	PIT 6:40	PIT 6:40		PIT 4:05		13
PIT 1:35	COL 6:40	COL 6:40	COL 6:05	COL 6:05		CWS 6:40		CWS 6:05		20
CWS 1:35	CIN 6:40	CIN 6:40	CIN 6:40	CIN 1:10		SD 9:40		SD 8:40		27
SD 4:10	LAA 9:38	LAA 9:38								

May 2024

				LAA 4:07		SF 6:40		SF 6:05		4
SF 2:05	SF 4:05	TOR 6:40	TOR 1:05			MIA 7:10		MIA 4:10		11
MIA 1:40	NYM 7:10	NYM 1:10	NYM 6:40	NYM 6:40		WSH 6:40		WSH 6:05		18
WSH 1:35		TEX 2:10	TEX 6:40	TEX 10:55		COL 8:40		COL 9:10		25
COL 3:10	SF 5:05	SF 9:45	SF 3:45			STL 6:40				31

June 2024

									STL 7:15	1
STL 1:35	MIL 6:40	MIL 6:40	MIL 4:05					NYM 1:10		8
NYM 10:10a		BOS 7:10	BOS 7:10	BOS 7:10		BAL 7:05		BAL 4:05		15
BAL 1:35	SD 6:40	SD 6:40	SD 1:05			ARI 6:40		ARI 4:05		22
ARI 1:35	DET 6:40	DET 6:40	DET 1:10			MIA 6:20		MIA 4:05		29
MIA 1:35										

July 2024

			CHC 8:05	CHC 8:05	CHC 2:20	ATL 7:20		ATL 7:15		6
ATL 1:35			LAD 6:40	LAD 7:05	LAD 6:05	OAK 6:40		OAK 4:05		13
OAK 1:35			All-Star Break - Arlington, TX				PIT 6:40		PIT 6:40	20
PIT 1:35	MIN 7:40	MIN 7:40	MIN 1:10			CLE 6:40		CLE 6:05		27
CLE 1:35	NYG 6:40	NYG 6:40	NYG 12:35							

August 2024

						SEA 9:40		SEA 9:40		3
SEA 4:10	LAD 10:10	LAD 10:10	LAD 10:10	ARI 9:40		ARI 9:40		ARI 8:10		10
ARI 4:10		MIA 6:40	MIA 6:40	WSH 6:40		WSH 6:40		WSH 6:05		17
WSH 1:35		ATL 7:20	ATL 7:20	ATL 7:15		KC 8:10		KC 7:10		24
KC 2:10	HOU 6:40	HOU 6:40	HOU 4:05	ATL 6:40		ATL 6:40		ATL 7:15		31

September 2024

ATL 1:35		TOR 7:07	TOR 3:07	MIA 6:40		MIA 7:10		MIA 4:10		7
MIA 1:40	TB 6:40	TB 6:40	TB 6:40			NYM 6:40		NYM 4:05		14
NYM 1:35	MIL 7:40	MIL 7:40	MIL 7:40	NYM 7:10		NYM 7:10		NYM 4:10		21
NYM 1:40	CHC 6:40	CHC 6:40	CHC 6:05			WSH 6:45		WSH 4:05		28
WSH 3:05										

HOME

AWAY