

# An Insider's Guide to Asheville

(This list consists of the admittedly biased perspectives of a few locals – take it all with a grain of salt)

# <u>DINING</u> (\* indicates restaurants that are within walking distance of the DoubleTree hotel) Expensive but delicious

- \*Corner Kitchen upscale bistro, located in the Biltmore Village, reservations recommended.
- <u>Curate</u> absolutely delicious Spanish tapas, located in downtown Asheville, reservations required.
- Rosa Bees Hawaiian cuisine and great cocktails, located in the River Arts District, reservations recommended.
- <u>The Bull and Beggar</u> European style food and great ambiance, located in the River Arts District, reservations recommended.

## Mid-Range

- 12 Bones BBQ Some of the best BBQ in town, located in the River Arts District, only open for lunch. No reservations.
- Little Bee Thai Delicious, authentic Thai food, located near downtown. No reservations.
- \*Anda<u>az</u> Good Indian food, located in the Biltmore Village, reservations optional.
- \*The Cantina Good Mexican food, located in the Biltmore Village. Great option for large parties. No reservations.
- Wasabi Great sushi and sake, located in downtown, reservations optional.

## Less expensive

- <u>Taqueria Munoz</u> Delicious, authentic Mexican food. Open for lunch and dinner, located just outside the Biltmore Village, but not walkable (lack of sidewalks). No reservations.
- \*Village Wayside Bar and Grille Good salads, sandwiches and burgers. Open for lunch and dinner. No reservations.
- \*Standard Pizza Awesome pies! Individual slices or whole pizzas. Open for lunch and dinner.
  No reservations

#### **Breakfast and Coffee**

- \*Well-Bred Bakery and Cafe Amazing pastries and breakfast options, plus great sandwiches and salads.
- Round Earth Roasters Great coffee, espresso and pastries. Located just outside the Biltmore Village, but not walkable (lack of sidewalks).
- Sunny Point Café An Asheville staple! Fantastic breakfast, but be prepared to wait for a table.
  Located in west Asheville.

## **ACTIVITIES**

For an extensive list of things to do, check out the Explore Asheville page.

## Hiking

- Bearwallow Mountain (easy/moderate) –only 1 mile each way. Picturesque summit, great for a picnic. 30 minute drive from DoubleTree to the trailhead.
- Craggy Pinnacle Trail only 1 mile each way. Easy to access trailhead right off the Blue Ridge Parkway. 360 degree views, perfect for sunset viewing. 35-40 minutes drive from Doubletree.
- Trombatore Trail (moderate/difficult) 5 miles round trip, varied terrain. Great long range views from the summit. 30 minute drive to the trailhead (shares a starting point with the Bearwallow Mountain trail)
- North Carolina Arboretum various options for hiking and biking, beautiful gardens. \$20 fee to enter (per car)

## Music, Movies and Art

- River Arts District (RAD) Asheville's famous RAD is full of working studios and galleries.
  Hundreds of artists specializing in painting, wood working, jewelry, glass blowing and more can be found here. It's great for a day of strolling and shopping.
  - There is also a lovely greenway that runs through the RAD, perfect for walking and jogging.
- Asheville Art Museum various exhibitions, located in the heart of downtown Asheville
- Folk Art Center featuring the crafts and makers of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Located in east Asheville, off the Blue Ridge Parkway. Hikes are also accessible from this location.
- Grail MovieHouse artisanal mom and pop movie theater, located in the River Arts District.
- The Orange Peel Asheville's favorite live music venue

#### Other

- <u>The Grove Park Inn</u> one of Asheville's most historic sites and a great spot for a cocktail on the outdoor patio overlooking all of downtown. Please note that there is a \$20 parking fee.
- <u>The Biltmore Estate</u> the largest private estate in the U.S. Expensive admission, but worth the visit. Located just down the road from the DoubleTree.
- LaZoom bus tours various bus tours of Asheville. Fun, educational and great for families.