

THE TASTEMAKER'S GUIDE TO

WASHINGTON, D.C.



CHRISTIE'S

JW MARRIOTT.



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GUIDE TO
WASHINGTON, D.C.

A Christie's and JW Marriott Production





With its countless museums and monuments, history has always been at the heart of Washington, D.C. Luckily for travelers, the city has been able to keep a focus on the past while building toward a future that includes some of the country's hottest restaurants and most stylish scenes. The recommendations in this guide, presented by Christie's and JW Marriott, will highlight a vibrant and colorful metropolis—a city that goes well beyond red, white and blue.

WHEN HUNGER STRIKES

DINING

With over 150 foreign embassies within its borders, Washington, D.C. is an international city—a fact reflected by the global scope of its restaurant scene. Whether you are interested in grabbing an all-American hamburger or sampling cuisines from further afield, this capital city is a foodie's paradise.

1331 BAR AND LOUNGE

1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. // +1 202 393 2000

Cuisine: American/ Small Plates

If you are searching for a place to unwind while staying plugged in, look no further than 1331 Bar and Lounge. Conveniently located in the lobby level of the JW Marriott, this lounge boasts 11 flat screens, meaning that whether you're looking to catch a game or need an update on the news of the day, you'll find everything you require to stay in the know. Cozy fireplaces add a welcome bit of balance to the sleek lines of the technology-centered offerings throughout.

AVENUE GRILL

1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. // +1 202 626 6970

Cuisine: American

With windows that overlook one of America's most notable streets—Pennsylvania Avenue—this restaurant within the JW Marriott offers food as inspiring as the view. We like the Washington, D.C.-inspired cocktails—including the Rickey which was invented on site in 1883—and the classic entrees including grilled beef tenderloin, roasted strip steak and Maryland crab cakes.

BAKED AND WIRED

1052 THOMAS JEFFERSON ST. NW // +1 202 333 2500

Cuisine: Bakery

If you have a sweet tooth, we suggest you schedule a preemptive dentist appointment before making your way over to this delightful bakery and coffee spot. Because once you're there, you'll be surrounded by an incredible selection of bars, brownies, cakes, muffins and more. Don't forget the biscotti—you'll want to pick up one of these Italian-style cookies to dunk,

swirl and dip in your cup of Stumptown coffee. Traveling with Fido? Their all-natural dog treats are sure to elicit a bark of approval.

CHEF GEOFF'S

1301 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. NW // +1 202 461 4461

Cuisine: Contemporary

Two words—bacon bar. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, Chef Geoff's serves up what can only be described as an ode to pork—a bacon-crusted catch-of-the-day, bacon-stuffed dates, bacon and white cheddar popcorn, and a variety of other appetizers, mains and desserts to sample if you're in the mood to pig out. During the rest of the week, you are sure to come across many equally inspired meals prepared with great ingredients and a dash of creativity—food the way it should be.

ESTADIO

1520 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 319 1404

Cuisine: Spanish/ Small Plates

If you're interested in sampling the cuisine of Spain's Basque and Catalan regions minus the transatlantic flight, Estadio is your ticket to an unforgettable evening of food and flavors. Named after the Spanish word for stadium, this restaurant's small plates create an atmosphere of excitement, an arena where dueling ingredients like tarragon butter and sea salt come together in masterful, innovative combinations. Adding an additional theatrical flourish, centuries-old Spanish tiles contrast nicely with more modern elements like steel stools, lending a feeling of both style and substance to this creative interior. Complete your dining experience with a glass of wine from their selection of over 250 labels.

HANK'S OYSTER BAR

633 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. SE // +1 202 733 1971

Cuisine: Seafood

Now with its Capitol Hill address, chef Jamie Leeds has expanded her oyster bar empire to three locations throughout the area. This particular outpost includes the Eddy Bar, with drinks designed by acclaimed mixologist Gina Chersevani. Between the seafood and cocktails, diners are sure to leave happy as clams.

KOMI

1509 17TH ST. NW // +1 202 332 9200

Cuisine: Greek/ Mediterranean

Komi has endeared itself to countless Washingtonians who praise this no-menu, set multi-course dinner dining experience. Be prepared to start with several *mezzethakia*—appetizers—before moving on to a family-style entree and desserts. The restaurant's accolades have drawn the attention of several high-profile guests, including President Obama, who has reportedly dined here.

MASA 14

1825 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 328 1414

Cuisine: Latin/ Asian

This Latin-Asian fusion menu charts new territory, pairing ingredients like mole with edamame and chipotle aioli with masago. The interior is the definition of chic, the rooftop is stunning and the brunch options—which include a gluten-free menu—are a culinary home run. What's not to love?

OLD EBBITT GRILL

675 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 347 4800

Cuisine: American

If you've spent your day walking around the National Mall, travel a few blocks north and you'll encounter the comfort of the Old Ebbitt Grill. The 21st century will seem to fade away once you step through the door of the Beaux-Arts facade. From salads and sandwiches to heartier fare, there is something to suit every palate.

PS 7

771 1 ST. NW // +1 202 742 8550

Cuisine: American/ Asian

P.S. usually stands for postscript but this restaurant's innovative take on American-Asian fusion cooking has made it anything but an afterthought. Choose the lounge menu—filled with tasty bites like salami jalapeno poppers, pull-apart pork sticky buns and crispy oysters—or browse the dinner options—replete with all manner of smoked and seared meats. For dessert, sample something sweet or pick one of the delectable dessert cocktails to complete your meal.

RASIKA

633 D ST. NW // +1 202 637 1222

1190 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE. NW // +1 202 466 2500

Cuisine: Indian

A destination for Indian cuisine, Rasika offers a wide selection of favorites among a few surprise entries. For instance, those accustomed to traditional naan can upgrade to the chili olive variety that is guaranteed to take your taste buds for a spin. Save room for a cup of mint green tea and masala cheesecake to round out your meal.

TWO AMYS

3715 MAYCOMB ST. NW // +1 202 885 5700

Cuisine: Pizza

This casual venue offers a wine bar menu that's worth perusing, but the real fun starts once diners have had a look at their pizza options. It's Neapolitan pizza-making at its best. Not to be outdone by the more savory side of the menu, two kinds of sweet morsels—*sfogliatelle*, a type of pastry, and fresh doughnuts—are available on select weekend days.

ZAYTINYA

701 9TH ST. NW // +1 202 638 0800

Cuisine: Mediterranean

Greek, Turkish and Lebanese delights are served as small plates at this boundary-breaking restaurant under the direction of renowned chef José Andrés. For restaurant-goers, this translates into more variety and the ability to sample a cornucopia of fresh ingredients. While meat and seafood plates abound, this is also a great pick for vegetarians.

Notes



CULTURE VULTURE

LANDMARKS,
MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

This city's political institutions are usually on every visitor's must-see list and rightly so, but whether you are visiting Washington, D.C. for a long weekend or an extended trip, don't forget about the wealth of cultural opportunities that await.

ADAMSON GALLERY

1515 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 232 0707

This gallery's artist roster features heavyweights like Chuck Close and Robert Longo. Interestingly, it also includes a print studio—the Adamson Editions Atelier. The studio has collaborated with many of today's top contemporary artists and is available for custom archival printing.

CONNER CONTEMPORARY ART

1358 FLORIDA AVE. NE // +1 202 588 8750

This 7,000-foot gallery showcases the contemporary art you need to know about. Most likely, you've seen works by its artists in museums around the world—the gallery supported artist Leo Villareal's 200- and 300-foot installations at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and the Tampa Museum of Art. But you'll also be introduced to works by a group of emerging artists and rising stars from the moment you set foot through the door.

CURATOR'S OFFICE

1515 14TH ST. NW, SUITE 201 // +1 202 387 1008

This self-described "micro-gallery" features a rotating selection of works due to its intriguing curatorial premise—the arts space invites curators from all walks of life to create focused presentations of contemporary artists' works. Stop in to view an ever-changing variety of images and viewpoints.

HEINER CONTEMPORARY

1675 WISCONSIN AVE. NW // +1 202 338 0072

In Georgetown, hot pink doors are anything but de rigueur, so the entryway of the Heiner

Contemporary gallery will catch your eye immediately. Fortunately for art enthusiasts, the space is more than just a unique first impression. Their exhibitions tend to focus on a range of colorful contemporary art that makes a lasting impact.

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

NATIONAL MALL, CORNER OF 7TH ST. AND INDEPENDENCE AVE. SW // +1 202 633 1000

A trip to Washington, D.C. isn't complete without a stop at the Hirshhorn's sculpture garden. There's nothing quite like viewing works of art set down amongst the beauty of nature...now imagine that moment multiplied by seeing not just one masterpiece but an entire collection. While you're there, don't forget to step into the enclosed museum for a look at some of the best modern and contemporary art the world has to offer.

IRVINE CONTEMPORARY

1412 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 332 8767

Irvine Contemporary made news when the National Portrait Gallery acquired Shepard Fairey's *Portrait of President Barack Obama* from it back in 2009. They continue to attract attention for their thought-provoking exhibitions and stellar group of represented artists.

MORTON FINE ART

1781 FLORIDA AVE. NW // +1 202 628 2787

With their biannual mobile "pop-up" gallery and detailed services for collectors, Morton Fine Art takes a thoughtful approach to any project it undertakes. Their artists work in a variety of styles and mediums, meaning that on any given day,

you're likely to find something on exhibit that will suit your tastes and interests.

NATIONAL MALL & MEMORIAL PARKS

NATIONAL MALL // +1 202 426 6841

The National Mall is the perfect place to embark on a day of sightseeing. You can join a scheduled tour or explore on your own. Starting on the western edge, walk up the steps of the majestic Lincoln Memorial. As you progress eastward, a history of the United States unfolds with each step. You'll pass the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Reflecting Pool, the World War II Memorial and the Washington Monument. If your schedule permits, plan to visit in the evening when these iconic structures are illuminated against the night sky.

NEWSEUM

555 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. // +1 888 639 7386

One of the latest additions to Washington, D.C.'s museum scene, the Newseum looks and feels like a 21st-century institution—it's well-designed, interactive and celebrates the past by showing its relevance to our present and future. Explore eight 12-foot high sections of the Berlin Wall and stroll through a gallery dedicated to Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs.

THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

1600 21ST ST. NW // +1 202 387 2151

The Phillips Collection bills itself as America's first museum of modern art. Nearly a century after it first opened its doors, the museum continues to build one of the most preeminent collections of modern art in the country. You could potentially spend hours here, but if your time is limited, be

sure to visit the famed Rothko Room and take a few minutes to admire Pierre-Auguste Renoir's *Luncheon of the Boating Party*.

THE SMITHSONIAN

MULTIPLE ADDRESSES // +1 202 633 1000

To give you an idea of this organization's size and scope, you could visit a different one of its museums, buildings or centers every weekday for an entire month. Given its reach, most travelers have to edit their list to a few must-sees. The Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of Natural History, which houses the Hope Diamond, are just a few of our top picks.



Notes



RETAIL THERAPY

SHOPPING

Washington, D.C. has always been center stage for national discussions on everything from culture to politics, but a 24-hour news cycle has ensured that residents have begun to dress for the spotlight. The result has been a surge in shopping options. The following stores, boutiques and hidden finds get our vote.

A MANO

1677 WISCONSIN AVE. NW // +1 202 298 7200

A visit to A Mano is like traveling the world equipped with a bottomless suitcase. Owner Adam Mahr often sources pieces for this unique home decor shop while journeying to lands near and far, so you'll find everything from detailed ceramic platters to whimsical napkin rings.

BETSY FISHER

1224 CONNECTICUT AVE. NW // +1 202 785 1975

With racks filled with the latest designs from Citizens of Humanity, Rachel Roy, Nicole Miller and more, this store offers everything a shopper would want from a boutique experience. Fans of wrap dresses and other items from Diane von Furstenberg will be in retail heaven, and given their fantastic selection of shoes, you'll be sure to find the perfect stilettos to complete your look.

CÔTÉ JARDIN ANTIQUES

3218 O ST. NW // +1 202 333 3067

For those looking to bring a hint of the outdoors to the interior of their home, Côté Jardin Antiques specializes in French furniture and garden antiques that will add a breath of fresh air to any decor. The shop sources many of its items from abroad, offering seating, cabinetry and other accessories that will have you seeing la vie en rose.

I. GORMAN JEWELERS

1133 20TH ST. NW // +1 202 775 8544

Washington, D.C. provides a variety of scenic venues perfect for popping the ultimate question, and I. Gorman Jewelers offers rings

so breathtaking, a "yes" is all but guaranteed.

Although the shop specializes in creating stunning sparklers, you'll also want to browse their extraordinary array of earrings, necklaces, bracelets and other jewels.

MULÉH

1831 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 667 3440

This high-end furniture and clothing store understands that style is a way of life—an expression of self that's meant to be conveyed not only in what you wear but how you live. If you subscribe to that philosophy, then you've found a one-stop shop for everything from chic Vivienne Westwood ensembles to creative lighting by Hive.

POLITICS AND PROSE

5015 CONNECTICUT AVE. NW // +1 202 364 1919

For anyone who's ever enjoyed a stroll through an independent bookstore, Politics and Prose should be on your must-stop list of itinerary items. That's because this hidden gem elevates the concept of a bookshop to another level. Delicious baked goods? Check. A knowledgeable staff conversant on a wide variety of topics? Check. Best of all, you can easily participate in one of the store's many author events and book signings.

RUE 14

1803A 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 462 6200

Rue 14's owners—Washington, D.C. natives who returned home after working in the New York City fashion scene for over a decade—ensure that their store carries modern men's and women's clothing that's on trend and within budget. With

brands like Marc by Marc Jacobs, Happy Socks and Life After Denim, it's nearly impossible to walk out of the store without looking—and feeling—a little more stylish.

SANGAREE

3288 M ST. NW // +1 202 333 4960

This women's clothing boutique takes its name from a blend of spiced wine, a quirky, creative way to brand a store that focuses on a diverse assortment of nationally and internationally sourced labels. Adding an additional dash of flavor, you'll also find jewelry and handbag collections.

SHERMAN PICKEY

1647 WISCONSIN AVE. NW // +1 202 333 4212

In a city with a rich historical grounding like Washington, D.C. you might be tempted to think that Sherman Pickey is the name of a long-lost general or political figure, but this Georgetown shop's namesakes are actually the owner's dog and cat. It seems to follow then that this pet-friendly establishment can stock preppy labels for the well-dressed Washingtonian—think Lilly Pulitzer, Tory Burch and Petit Bateau—without taking itself too seriously.

Notes



PAINT THE TOWN

MUSIC, DANCING
& NIGHTLIFE

A big part of campaigning is meeting and greeting, and in this town, someone is always running for office. So, mix, mingle and be merry with the best of them at these evening hotspots.

BLUES ALLEY

1073 WISCONSIN AVE. NW // +1 202 337 4141

This venue's claim to fame is its assertion to be the oldest continuing jazz supper club in the country. Its continued relevance to the jazz scene over its nearly 50-year history stems from the fact that the best of the best have—and continue—to be showcased within its red brick carriage house walls. Whether you see this place as a bit of history, or history in the making, it's a Washington institution worth the visit.

CHI CHA LOUNGE

1624 U ST. NW // +1 202 234 8400

A Latin-inspired lounge meets hookah bar, this is the perfect place to see and be seen before taking a break to sip on a glass of sangria. The primarily young professional crowd it attracts is interested in dancing the night away.

CHURCHKEY

1337 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 567 2576

Sommeliers have long been associated with wine bars and the finest restaurants, but Churchkey's director, Greg Engert, has taken beer connoisseurship to the same level as wine appreciation with this stellar representation of over 500 unique labels stocked from 30 countries. With this kind of variety, you might expect food to take a backseat to beer, but delightful offerings including great flatbreads and the difficult-to-resist mac and cheese sticks are a welcome surprise.

CORK WINE BAR

1720 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 265 2675

Presenting 50 wines by the glass and over 150 bottles from producers around the world, this bar provides a wide selection of vino in a disarmingly low-key environment. With special tasting events each week and wine flights offered daily, exploration is a big part of the Cork Wine Bar experience.

EIGHTEENTH STREET LOUNGE

1212 18TH ST. NW // +1 202 466 3922

It's trendy, it's exclusive and it's in a remodeled Victorian mansion once owned by Teddy Roosevelt. Still need more reasons to stop by? ESL (as it's called by virtually all who are in the know) also has a great rooftop bar and is recognized for its live music. Heed reports of its picky dress code, but don't let that stop you—dress to impress and have a great time.

THE GIBSON

2009 14TH ST. NW // +1 202 232 2156

The Gibson is the kind of place where drinks are called libations and conversations are meant to be heard—which is to say that this chic speakeasy is our kind of bar. Reservations are recommended—once you're there, order one of the fizzes. It's time travel in a glass.

JACK ROSE DINING SALOON

2007 18TH ST. NW // +1 202 588 7388

Both beers and spirits are specialties at this saloon-style bar that features a veritable library of whiskeys—complete with a sliding ladder that glides across dark wooden shelves packed with the finest bottles of brew. Stick with drinks, skip

the snacks—with over 1,400 varieties of spirits, you'll have more than enough to choose from.

THE KENNEDY CENTER

2700 F ST. NW // +1 202 467 4600

No matter what kind of production you're planning to see, it's a majestic experience to walk up to the Kennedy Center, set just on the edge of the Potomac River. Depending on the season, you'll be treated to performances by the National Symphony Orchestra or the Washington National Opera. You can also catch plays, oftentimes featuring celebrated stage and screen actors.

THE PASSENGER/ COLUMBIA ROOM

1021 7TH ST. NW // +1 202 393 0220

As a neighborhood favorite, the Passenger offers great food and even better drinks. If you're planning to be in the area, consider making a reservation at the Columbia Room, an exclusive cocktail bar located within the Passenger. With its inclusion on nearly every best-of-the-best list we can think of, the Columbia Room has become a destination for anyone interested in the art of the cocktail.

THE SOURCE

575 PFNNSYI VANIA AVE. NW // +1 202 637 6100

Under the direction of chef Wolfgang Puck, this restaurant is well-regarded for its contemporary fare, but its bar and lounge area deserves its own special mention. Its sushi, sashimi and dumplings are the perfect accompaniment to any drink of choice. On Saturdays, be sure to stop in for their dim sum brunch—don't miss their creative takes on Bloody Marys, with ingredients including Maryland crab and pickled Szechuan chili.

Notes



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