

CAMWS 2016

A Local's Guide to Dining and Entertainment and other things you might want to know about Williamsburg

(including Dining, Shopping, Entertainment, Medical, Local Transportation, and other curiosities)

Where to Dine

On Merchant's Square (a short walk from the Lodge)

AROMA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND BAKESHOP (431 Prince George St; <http://www.aromasworld.com/Content/9/Summary.aspx>) serves up just about any kind of coffee concoction one can contemplate (plus teas, for the loyalists of course). A no brainer for breakfast (my personal favorite is the brie stuffed French toast), but also an inexpensive and tasty option for lunch or dinner. The end-of-term destination for Georgia's morning classes.

BERRET'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT AND TAPHOUSE GRILLE (199 S Boundary St; <http://www.berrets.com/>) Like seafood? Berret's is your go-to place for fresh, local selections. Crab cakes are a local specialty, and the seafood baked in parchment paper is fabulous. One of the better key lime tarts you'll find, even in the tidewater region where every little diner has its own take on this popular desert (several VA diners and dives have been featured on Triple D). Pricey, and reservations are highly recommended.

THE BLUE TALON BISTRO (420 Prince George St; <https://bluetalonbistro.com/>) has a nice cappuccino and a lovely French brasserie menu (try to get a table in the back). The food is delicious, but pricey. Great choice for breakfast or lunch or an elegant dinner out. Needless to say, reservations are recommended.

THE CHEESE SHOP (410 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://www.cheeseshopwilliamsburg.com/>). Its popularity with locals and tourists alike is well-earned, so be prepared for a wait (but you **can** call your order ahead: 757.220.0298). In addition to the variety of sandwiches, cheeses, and charcuterie, the store offers a variety of specialty oils, vinegars, pastas, cookies, and other culinary ingredients. Don't miss the wine cellar shared with the Fat Canary. An inexpensive to moderate option for lunch or (early) dinner. [10% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

DOG STREET PUB (401 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://www.dogstreetpub.com/>). Great pub fare, including “British” comfort food (oh, those loyalists!!) and the best burger in town! Highly recommended for the beer lover—17 taps and a something to tempt every beer palate. Ask for a table downstairs (if *al fresco* is not practical). Moderate prices. [15% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge: 9:00 pm–11:00 pm: Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday; 9:00 pm – 12:00 am Friday and Saturday]

FAT CANARY (410 W Duke of Gloucester St, <http://www.fatcanarywilliamsburg.com/>). Elegant food and impressive wine list (as the name would suggest, wines having been provisioned from the Canaries by ships on route to the New World: “Oh for a bowl of fat Canary, rich Palermo, sparkling sherry” ~John Lyly and the Fat Canary homepage). Do take a field trip to the wine cellar (adjoining the Cheese Shop)! The menu features a selections of upscale seafood and “Colonial” dishes. Reservations (and deep pockets) recommended.

OISHI JAPANESE RAMEN & HIBACHI GRILL (515 Prince George St; <https://twitter.com/OishiiVA>). Off the beaten path, offering noodle dishes, soups, salads, and sushi. An inexpensive option for lunch or dinner (I've not tried it).

RETRO'S (435 Prince George St; <http://www.retrosgoodeats.com/indexs.php>). Cute 50s style diner, offering burgers, hotdogs, soups, salads, sandwiches, blue plate comfort food, and the usual ice-cream delicacies. Great affordable option for lunch, late afternoon snack, or (early) dinner.

SEASONS CAFÉ (110 S Henry St; <http://www.seasonsofwilliamsburg.com/ordereze/home.aspx>). A nice variety of "Colonial" and American cuisine is to be found *a la carte*. If you are really hungry, you might consider their all-you-can-eat BBQ buffet (the Virginia pork industry is legendary—ever wonder about Smithfield Hams? Smithfield is about 20 miles across the river in the Isle of Wight County). Prices are moderate. [10% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

STEPHANOS PIZZARIA (110 S Henry St; <http://www.stephanosofwilliamsburg.com/ordereze/Menu/0/Menus.aspx>). I haven't tried it, but the prices are reasonable and the menu offers a tempting variety of pizzas, sandwiches/wraps, and salads. [10% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

THE TRELIS BAR AND GRILL (403 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://www.thetrellis.com/>). "Refined new American fare" that includes seafood, steaks, pasta, and pork, among other things. Made famous by Chef Marcel Desaulniers' "Death by Chocolate" (plenty enough to share). Another pricey option and reservations are recommended.

For a real "Colonial" experience, try one of the restaurants operated by CW: the menus feature typical 18th century dishes, the wait staff are in period clothing, and peripatetic bards regale diners. These can be pricey, and reservations are a good idea.

CHRISTIANA CAMPBELL'S TAVERN: George Washington's favorite seafood eatery

JOSIAH CHOWNING'S TAVERN

KING'S ARMS TAVERN: the most formal of the table-service restaurants

SHIELDS TAVERN: the least formal

Candy and Treat Shops in Merchant Square

BASKIN ROBBINS (416 Prince George St), an institution among the students. [20% discount with CAMWS coupon]

BLACKBIRD BAKERY (407 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://www.blackbirdbakerywilliamsburgva.com/>). For freshly baked pastries, breads, cookies, cakes, and, of course, coffee.

KILWINS (FUDGE SHOP) (421 Prince George St). New to the Merchant's Square, owned by the nicest young family, and worth a trip just to see the beautiful old floor in an elegant historic building. [10% discount with CAMWS badge]

THE PEANUT SHOP (414 Prince George St; <http://www.thepeanutshop.com/>). A local landmark specializing in this gourmet delicacy and nutritional powerhouse (peanuts have been an agricultural mainstay in the region)

dating back to the earliest settlers; while I omit mention of the importance of the crop to my eponymous state, I recommend digging into George Washington Carver's relationship with the not-so-humble South American plant).

WYTHE CANDY SHOP (414 West Duke of Gloucester St; http://www.wythewill.com/ret_sto.aspx)

Near the College (a slightly longer walk from the Lodge, but Williamsburg is a great town for walking, and this walk doesn't even come close to an "Irby walk")

BRICKHOUSE TAVERN (755 Scotland St; <http://www.brickhouse-tavern.com/BHWMAN.html>). Pub food, pizzas, burgers, salads, moderately priced.

PAUL'S DELI (761 Scotland St; <http://paulsdelirestaurant.com/>), where the Greek language classes usually meet for lunch on the last day of the semester. A sports bar with Italian and Greek offerings, and pub fare, moderately priced. [10% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

PITA PIT (Tribe Square, 249 Richmond Rd). Friendly service with good vegetarian (and meat) options for a quick and inexpensive lunch. [15% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

RICK'S CHEESE STEAK SHOP (603 Prince George St). Friendly eatery, one of the best cheese steaks in the Hampton Roads area. [5% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

THE COLLEGE DELLY (336 Richmond Rd; <http://collegedelly.com/>). A cozy diner with a generous menu. Glenn Close, '74, and Jon Stewart, '84 are among the College Delly's illustrious patrons (the Hot Holly is reputedly one of Jon's favorites). Moderately priced. [10% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

THE CRUST CAFÉ (249 Richmond Rd #103; <http://www.thecrustcafe.com/>), a popular place for pizzas, also has good salads, sandwiches, and nachos (my particular fave). I'd be remiss not to mention the cheap beer, the chalk mural of the Wren building, and the campus-inspired culinary titles. The end-of-term destination for Dr. Irby's afternoon Latin classes. [20% discount—excluding alcohol—with CAMWS badge]

THE GREEN LEAFÉ CAFÉ (765 Scotland St; <https://www.facebook.com/greenleafecafe/>): Offering typical pub fare, and advertising 42 taps. Open late (2 a.m.)

TRIANGLE TAPAS BAR (601 Prince George St; <http://www.trianglewilliamsburg.com/>). The newest kid on the block, receiving rave reviews: e.g. "nothing less than the finest cocktail bar in Williamsburg." Tapas and cocktail menus are promising! Not to mention a pretty serious whisk(e)y menu. How expensive? That depends on how many tapas you plan to sample. Individually the prices are reasonable, but the small plates can add up.

WAWA'S (315 Richmond Rd) right next to the Crust. Yes, it's a convenience store, but the coffee is good, and they also offer decent soups and sandwiches (made to order) if you should need a meal on the cheap and quick. Take and go.

On campus

Friday afternoon, you might want to swing by AROMA's on campus (in the lobby of Swem library) or THE DAILY GRIND (273 Gooch Dr, Williamsburg; <http://the-daily-grind.com/> —just down the hill from the Sadler Center, and a popular spot with faculty and students alike for excellent coffee and bagels and such).

The BOEHLI CAFÉ in the Mason School of Business (near our home, Morton Hall) offers a variety of drinks, sandwiches, and snacks.

Let's cut to the chase

Coffee (what can I say? I'm an academic)

- AROMAS (Merchant Square and Campus)
- BLACKBIRD BAKERY (Merchant Square)
- BLUE TALON (Merchant Square)
- BOEHLI CAFÉ (campus)
- THE DAILY GRIND (campus)
- RICHARD CHARLETON'S COFFEEHOUSE (near the Capitol in CW) offers samples of coffee and chocolate to guests, but, alas, you'll be more than two centuries too late to broker deals or foment revolution over a steaming cup on the premises.
- WAWA'S

Bars (what can I say? I'm a sailor; oh, wait, academic covers both)

- DOG STREET PUB
- BRICKHOUSE TAVERN
- GREEN LEAFÉ CAFÉ
- THE CRUST
- THE CHEESE SHOP for bottles of wine

So this should take care of the **essential** food groups.

If you want something further afield, here are just a very few suggestions

There are a number of chain and specialty restaurants in New Town (<http://www.newtownwilliamsburg.com/>)

plus

ISTANBUL (1784 Jamestown Rd; <http://www.istanbulrestaurantva.com/main/>) Turkish cuisine, needless to say.

CARROT TREE (1782 Jamestown Road; <http://www.carrottreekitchens.com/pages/Williamsburg>) for breakfast and lunch.

OLD CHICKAHOMINY HOUSE (1211 Jamestown Rd; www.oldchickahominy.com/) for an authentic southern country breakfast or lunch.

BANGKOK GARDEN (Thai: 1346 Richmond Rd; try the pumpkin curry!)

FAT TUNA GRILL AND OYSTER HOUSE (1433 Richmond Rd; <http://www.fattunagrill.com/>) seafood and a plethora of taps for the beer aficionado.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT (1647 Richmond Rd; <http://foodforthoughtrestaurant.com/menu/>) Eat, Drink, Think. Lunch and Dinner. Breakfast on the weekend.

NAWAB (204 Monticello Ave; <http://www.nawabonline.com/>) Indian Lunch buffet; a la carte for lunch or dinner.

PIERCE'S PITT BAR-B-QUE (447 E Rochambeau Drive; <http://www.pierces.com/>; 757.565.2955)

Have a microwave in your room? Nearby grocery Stores include

TRADER JOE'S (5000 Settlers Market Blvd)

FRESH MARKET (5231 Monticello Ave)

FOOD LION (1234 Richmond Road)

Shopping

Merchant's Square has lots of gems just waiting to be discovered, but I'll point out only a few of the more interesting ones:

BARNES AND NOBLE, MERCHANT SQUARE (345 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://wm.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=17554&catalogId=10001&langId=-1>). Good stop for Tribe souvenirs. [Enjoy the faculty 10% discount with CAMWS badge]

MERMAID BOOKS (421-A Prince George Street; <http://www.mermaidbookswilliamsburg.com/>). Downstairs, next to Aromas, across from the Peanut Shop. I said books, what more do you want?

BRUTON PARISH GIFT SHOP (331 W Duke of Gloucester St; <http://www.brutonparish.org/shop>). For the mindful shopper, proceeds have supported a number of worthy causes, including Heritage Humane Society, Battered Women, and many initiatives supported by the Episcopal Church.

KNITTING SISTERS (Village Shops At Kingsmill; 1915 Pocahontas Trail; <http://www.knittingsisters.com/>)

Colonial Williamsburg is sprinkled with hard-to-miss colonial themed gift shops.

New Town is also littered with shops.

And, of course, there are the Outlet stores (5715-62A Richmond Rd; <http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/williamsburg>)

What to do?

Think about bringing the family and tacking on an extra few days if you can. Williamsburg is a popular tourist destination. I bear no responsibility should you be seduced by these siren distractions.

Near the Lodge

Colonial Williamsburg (the obvious attraction): a fun place to stroll even without the admission ticket. In March, the daffodils and tulips should be in bloom!

Williamsburg Colonial Ghost Tour: <https://colonialghosts.com/?gclid=CLz28LHopsoCFQokHwodz9wLQA> (they start from the Kimball Theater)

CW also runs walking tours (including a ghost tour that starts in front of Shields Tavern) and evening shows. See <http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/do/evening>

Bruton Parish Candlelight Concerts: http://www.acswebnetworks.com/brutonparish/music_performances

Kimball Theater: <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/do/kimball-theatre/>

On campus

Campus Tour (we are trying to arrange a Friday afternoon campus tour, should anyone be interested)

Muscarella Museum of Art: <http://muscarelle.org/>

Look for the updated guide in early March for campus events

Further Afield

JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT (<http://www.historyisfun.org/>): with costumed interpreters: come see my ships! Or check out Military through the Ages (re-enactors from across the country, blowing things up), concurrent with CAMWS weekend, March 19-20.

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE (<http://www.nps.gov/jame/index.htm>): the first permanent English settlement in North America.

YORKTOWN VICTORY CENTER (<http://www.historyisfun.org/>): the museum is undergoing an extensive renovation, but the sites are operational.

YORKTOWN BATTLEFIELD (<http://www.nps.gov/york/index.htm>): this is where Cornwallis surrendered to Washington on October 19, 1781

BUSCH GARDENS (<https://seaworldparks.com/en/buschgardens-williamsburg>) a beautifully manicured amusement park, re-opening on March 20 for families who can over a day or two

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT (1735 Richmond Rd; <http://www.ripleys.com/williamsburg/>)

WATER COUNTRY USA (unlikely to open so early in the season)

GO APE ZIPLINE & TREETOP ADVENTURE FREEDOM PARK (5537 Centerville Road; <http://goape.com/zip-line/virginia-freedom-park>)

PIRATE'S COVE: THE ORIGINAL ADVENTURE (MINIATURE) GOLF (2001 Mooretown Road; <http://www.piratescove.net/williamsburg>)

REGAL CINEMAS NEW TOWN 12 (4911 Courthouse St; <http://www.regmovies.com/Theatres/Theatre-Folder/Regal-New-Town-Stadium-12-8014>)

MOVIE TAVERN (1430 High St; <http://www.movietavern.com/contact-us/>)

Newport News

MARINER'S MUSEUM (100 Museum Dr, Newport News, VA; marinersmuseum.org) Our country's premier nautical museum

VIRGINIA LIVING MUSEUM (524 J Clyde Morris Blvd, Newport News; <http://thevlm.org/>): indoor and open air exhibits featuring indigenous species, geological exhibits, and an observatory

Want more? Really?!? Just ask.

Working out

At the risk of appearing lazy, I refer you to this handy website: <http://www.mapmyrun.com/us/williamsburg-va/> (this guide is delaying my own workout)

IRONBOUND GYM (4325 New Town Avenue; <http://ironboundgym.com/>; 757.229.5874)

ANYTIME FITNESS (5251 John Tyler Highway; <http://www.anytimefitness.com/gyms/3636/gym-Williamsburg-Virginia-fitness-center>; 757.903.4265)

PURE BARRE (Courthouse Commons Shopping Center, 5231 Monticello Avenue, Suite B; <http://purebarre.com/va-williamsburg/>; 757-378-2476)

And in keeping with the boozy theme of this local guide, there is something for every taste (it seems all we lack now is a distillery)

Williamsburg Winery (5800 Wessex Hundred; <http://williamsburgwinery.com/>; 757.229.0999)

Alewerks Brewing Company (197 Ewell Rd; <http://alewerks.com/>; 757.220.3670)

Silver Hand Meadery (224 Monticello Ave; <http://silverhandmeadery.com/>; 757. 378.2225)

Have a head ache, feeling queasy, hung-over, anxious?

Colonial Williamsburg does, in fact, have an apothecary, and it come highly recommended as a state of the art facility (for the 18th century) but this may not be your best choice.

For pain killers, toiletries, and such, Barnes and Noble has the best selection; Wawas has a limited offerings. The closest pharmacy would be WALGREENS (1309 Richmond Rd, 757.229.0962); Williamsburg even has a compounding pharmacy (Williamsburg Drug Co: 240 Mclaws Circle; <http://www.williamsburgdrug.com/>; 757.229.1041; they offer free delivery) in business since 1895

For something more serious

SENTARA URGENT CARE: 4374 New Town Ave #100, 757.259.1900

The closest hospital is Riverside Doctor's Hospital: 1500 Commonwealth Ave, 757.585.2200

Finally, getting around the 'burg

Easiest: you have your own car

Getting to New Town: try the trolley (see <http://gowata.org/>)

We also have a limited public bus system (see <http://gowata.org/>)

And seven taxicabs (on a good day):

- Triangle Taxi: 757.564.6969; <http://www.triangletaxiwilliamsburg.com/>
- Colonial Capital Cabs: 757.345.2224; <http://www.colonialcapitalcabs.com/>
- Best Taxi Williamsburg: 757.358.7151; <http://www.besttaxiwilliamsburgva.com/>

You can also book a horse-drawn carriage ride in CW, but the American Cream Drafts won't take you beyond the confines of the park