

Chile-Braised **Short Ribs** P.76
Creamy Polenta with **Pork Ragù** P.76
Vanilla Bean **Tarte Tatin** P.79

The
**COMFORT
FOOD**
Issue

Calling All Carbs!
America's Best Bread P.15

bon appétit



The New Rules of Pasta

How **clever**
techniques
& **surprising**
ingredients
are changing
the way
we make
our favorite
dinner

P. 52

+
24 HOURS
AT THE
**WAFFLE
HOUSE**

P. 60

That richness
and spice? It's
called nduja.

When it
comes to
spaghetti,
try taking
it black.

Chopped
shrimp instead
of sausage?
Yes, please.

MARCH 2015

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PLUS The kitchen appliance we're kinda embarrassed to admit
that we're totally obsessed with P.29



STAY HERE

With new hotels planned for 2015, Asheville's lodging will soon catch up to its food scene. For now, downtown's **Aloft** offers modern rooms and mountain views, and it's the pick-up/drop-off spot for many beer tours.

HAYWOOD ROAD

In the past few years, West Asheville has become the hipper, grittier alternative to gentrifying downtown. Here's how to spend an entire day on its main drag.

1



2



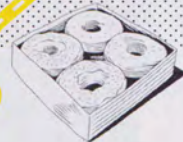
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6



1 / HARVEST RECORDS

From vintage psych to alt-country and everything in between, this place is vinyl heaven.

2 / BATTLECAT COFFEE BAR

Refuel with a Café Miel—espresso, honey, and steamed milk—and take in the D.I.Y. energy.

3 / VILLAGERS

Need a kraut tamper for your fermentation crock? You'll find it at this shop for the urban homesteader.

4 / SHORT STREET CAKES

Visit the "cake ladies" at this tiny spot. Sleeper hit? Gluten-free peach-bourbon hand pies.

5 / URBAN ORCHARD CIDER COMPANY

An oasis for hard cider in Beer City. The bar/shop offers 22 varieties.

6 / HOLE

What's better than the rustic design here? The toasted almond doughnuts with cinnamon and sesame.



Your Restaurant Hit List

You may have come for the beer, but you need to eat. Fortunately, the food here—from Indian street fare to classic Carolina barbecue—is worth its own visit.

◀ From far left: Pickled shrimp and fried green tomato at Rhubarb; open for business at 12 Bones Smokehouse; clams in cider at Cúrate; sweet potato chaat and dahi sev papdi at Chai Pani.



▶ KING JAMES PUBLIC HOUSE

This Southern gastropub has a deft touch with charcuterie—from duck liver pâté to lardo and turkey rillettes—and all things fermented and pickled. The order: Any of the "Jars."

▶ CÚRATE

Chef Katie Button's line-generating tapas place lives up to the hype—and there's a lot of it. Sit at the bar, sip a Rebutito cocktail, and watch them slice Ibérico ham. The order: Clams in cider.

▶ RHUBARB

After inventing Foothills Cuisine at Tennessee's acclaimed Blackberry Farm, John Fleeer moved back to his home state to open this spot, which riffs on Southern food traditions. The order: Pickled shrimp and fried green tomato.

▶ ALL SOULS PIZZA

The pizza outpost of Farm & Sparrow bakery, where chef David Bauer mills all the grains used in-house. Grab a loaf of its heirloom grit bread on the way out. The order: Cremini, kale, and mozzarella polenta pizza.

▶ 12 BONES SMOKEHOUSE

Obama ate here. Unlike politics, however, the mahogany-glazed ribs are something everyone can agree on. (Note: closed weekends.) The order: The 12 Bones.

▶ CHAI PANI

We're not sure how authentic Bombay Chili Cheese Fries and the ground-lamb Sloppy Jai are, but the Indian street food here is so good, so vibrant, we don't care. The order: Dahi sev papdi (think nachos with mashed potatoes).



ROCK ON!

From the annual Moogfest to a range of venues, Asheville loves its live music. Local musician **Don Howland** (Gibson Brothers) shares his favorite places.

THE MOTHLIGHT

"A small club with a great bar in a former furniture store. The bands that play here are super eclectic, from avant-jazz to experimental rock."

THE GREY EAGLE

"An old warehouse where you could imagine seeing Hank Williams. They've got a taqueria, too. Local and national acts play six nights a week—Mondays are about contra dancing."

THE ORANGE PEEL

"This was a big soul club in the '70s. Now it hosts A-list names like Nick Cave and Aimee Mann—though they'll still book a cover band now and then."