

THE TRAVEL & OUTDOORS ISSUE

wnc

MOUNTAIN LIVING IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Images
of WNC
PHOTO
CONTEST!

See page 112

24

Awesome Adventures


DISCOVER THE BEST THINGS TO DO
IN EVERY COUNTY ACROSS
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

MAY-JUNE 2015
WNCMAGAZINE.COM



Plus!

EPIC THRILLS IN THE NEW RIVER GORGE,
SUMMER COOKOUT RECIPES, GLAMPING
OPPORTUNITIES, AND GREAT TRAILS FOR KIDS




The chef/owners at Cúrate and Rhubarb (below) are both James Beard Award nominees.

BUNCOMBE

Fill Up on Asheville

If you've ever dreamed of a restaurant scene to explore endlessly without a sub-par meal—a Foodtopia—Asheville is it. This city of 85,000 boasts hundreds of independent restaurants offering unique flavors, plus foodie tours, supper clubs, breweries, and distilleries. Find food from James Beard Award-nominated chefs throughout downtown. Katie Button serves traditional Spanish tapas with incredible wines at Cúrate. At her late-night spot, Nightbell, she creates American cuisine and cocktails with modernist twists. Meherwan Irani dishes out Indian street food at casual Chai Pani, and at nearby MG Road, he incorporates those exciting Indian spices into craft cocktails. For seasonal ingredients, try Jacob Sessoms' Table and John Fleeher's Rhubarb.




Local beers have also spread Asheville's name across the nation. For many years, the Brewers Association dubbed it Beer City, USA. *Travel + Leisure* calls Asheville Brewing one of "America's coolest breweries," a great place to enjoy a sessionable brew. CNN loves Wedge Brewing's exclusive Vadim Bora Russian Imperial Stout, available seasonally at the River Arts District hideaway. For something harder, check out Asheville Distilling's Troy & Sons whiskey, located right next door to the city's oldest brewery, Highland.

Admittedly, the number of restaurants and watering holes could overwhelm an out-of-towner. For an insider's approach, check out Eating Asheville food tours, Asheville Brews Cruise, or Blind Pig Supper Club, in which local chefs collaborate in one-time events.

For information about the restaurants above and many more, check out our Dining Guide at wncmagazine.com/dining-guide. For details about tours and more, visit exploreasheville.com/foodtopia.

—E.P.



Burial Beer Co. is among some 20 breweries in Buncombe County.