

Unharried in Hagerstown

MIX HISTORY WITH GALLERY HOPPING FOR A RELAXING EXCURSION

Story by Julekha Dash

ith a walkable downtown filled with parks and cultural attractions Western Maryland's Hagerstown, about a 90-minute drive from Baltimore and Washington, D.C., is an ideal day trip. Stay the weekend to explore the historic sites, breweries and wineries that surround the seat of Washington County.

Arts aficionados can stroll the Hagerstown Cultural Trail, which is punctuated with murals and sculptures and links City Park with the downtown Arts & Entertainment District, where you will find the Historic Maryland Theatre, art galleries and restaurants.

City Park is dotted with museums, including the Hagerstown Railroad Museum & Engine 202, Mansion House Art Center and the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts.

The park also hosts summer concerts in the Peter Buys Band Shell.

In downtown Hagerstown you'll find such significant African-American heritage sites as the 1879 Asbury United Methodist Church, the oldest African American church in Hagerstown. A historical marker recognizes the Harmon Hotel, which housed traveling African Americans during segregation.

History buffs will want to make the 30-minute ride south to Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Start at the visitor center, where you'll find museum exhibits and an introductory film. Then listen to a park ranger recount the Battle of Antietam, a watershed Civil War battle.

On the way to Sharpsburg, make a detour to the charming and quaint canal town of Williamsport (stopping at Antietam Brewery to quaff a Hub City Copper Ale or Smash Pilsener). The C&O Canal National Historical Park is a great place to bike, hike or take a boat ride. After the exertion, head to Cushwa Brewing Company for an IPA or Berliner Weisse, a sour German-style beer.

You may also want to set aside an afternoon to visit five wineries located within 30 minutes of Hagerstown: Knob Hall Winery, Cool Ridge Vineyard, Red Heifer Winery, Big Cork Vineyards and Orchard Cellar Meadery & Winery. Nearly all offer live music and a country setting. Knob Hall in Clear Spring offers nearly two dozen varietals that you can taste in a 200-year-old barn. Red Heifer Winery in Smithsburg serves several sweet wines that are fun to sip while relaxing on the patio on a warm day.

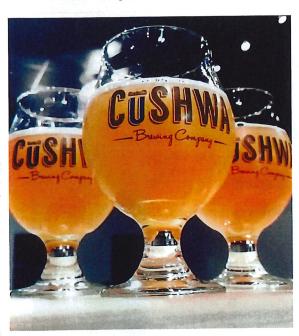
Pack a picnic or pick up some charcuterie at Big Cork's market to savor with a glass of petit verdot or syrah rose while soaking up the countryside on the covered patio.

Orchard Cellar in Middletown produces mead, the honey wine once favored by monks, as well as several reds, whites and rosés. Cool Ridge Vineyard, whose 2015 Cabernet Franc won the 2017 Maryland Comptrollers Cup Competition, offers tours and tastings by appointment.

Here are places to eat, drink, shop and sightsee in and around Hagerstown.

Antietam Brewing

antietambrewery.com 140 Western Maryland Parkway, Hagerstown Sip the Otto's Orchard Series or Freedom's Porter, General's Golden Ale in the tasting room or patio.

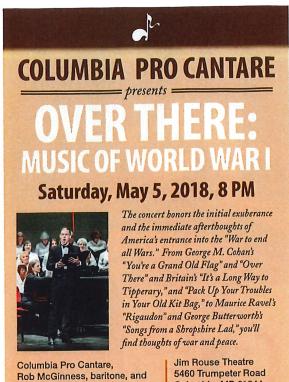


Cushwa Brewing Company A

cushwabrewing.com 10212 Governor Lane Boulevard, #1012, Williamsport

Opened last year in the neighboring canal town of Williamsport, the brewery takes its name from the Cushwa Basin, where canal boats would turn around when the C&O canal was built.

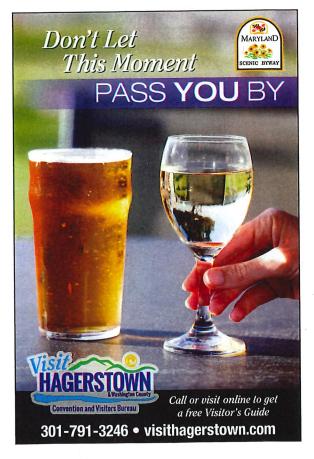
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The Lexington Brass Quintet

Columbia, MD 21044

TICKETS & INFORMATION: www.procantare.org or 410-799-9321



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Cool Ridge Vineyard

coolridgevineyard.com
19638 Cool Hollow Road, Hagerstown
The award-winning white and red
wines include chardonnay, gruner
vetliner, cabernet franc and several
blends. Tours and tastings are
available by appointment only.

Knob Hall Winery

knobhallwinery.com
14108 St. Paul Road, Clear Spring
Located 12 miles northwest of
Hagerstown, the winery's varietals
include chambourcin, malbec
and viognier. Join the wine club
for free tastings and discounts
and check the calendar for
their live music and festivals.

Big Cork Vineyards

bigcorkvineyards.com
4236 Main Street, Rohrersville
Enjoy fresh bread, cheeses and
charcuterie from the grab-and-go
food market while sipping wines in
the sleek, contemporary tasting room
or on the wraparound patio. Stay
the night in the four-bedroom winery
estate, which sleeps up to nine.

Red Heifer Winery

www.redheiferwinery.com 12840 Red Heifer Winery Lane, Smithsburg

The family owned, 56-acre winery serves sweet and dry wines, Check out the live music and happy hour specials.

Blue Mountain Wine Crafters

bluemountainwinecrafters.com
117 East Baltimore Street, Funkstown
Located just a few miles from downtown Hagerstown, this Funkstown
boutique spot allows customers to
make their own beer and wine.

Orchard Cellar Meadery and Winery

www.bluemountainwinecrafters.com 8546 Pete Wiles Road, Middletown Try the Middletown establishment's several varieties of honey wine, also known as mead.

SAVOR

28 South

28south.net

28 South Potomac Street, Hagerstown Located in a former 19th century warehouse with vaulted ceilings and wood floors, the downtown Hagerstown restaurant showcases local ingredients, beer and wine.

Dan's restaurant & Tap House drnth.com

3 South Main Street, Boonsboro The gastropub showcases local wine and beer, with 34 beers on draft.

SNOOZE

Elmwood Farm Bed & Breakfast

elmwoodfarmbandb.com
16311 Kendle Road, Williamsport
Enjoy a farm stay in a restored
19th century residence while
enjoying views of the surrounding mountains and gardens.

Inn BoonsBoro

innboonsboro.com

1 North Main Street, Boonsboro
Owned by best-selling romance
novelist Nora Roberts, the inn houses
eight rooms all named after literary
couples, such as Elizabeth and
Darcy from Pride and Prejudice.
Unwind in the library or patio.

SIDID

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park

nps.gov/choh/index.htm 205 West Potomac Street, Williamsport A great place for nature walks, riding bikes and boat rides along the canal.

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

wcmfa.org

401 Museum Drive, Hagerstown
Housing an impressive collection
of 19th and 20th century American
and European art, the museum
is located in a city park that the
family can explore afterwards.

SPEND

Hagerstown Premium Outlets

premiumoutlets.com/outlet/hagerstown 495 Premium Outlets Boulevard, Hagerstown

You'll find the usual chain outlet stores here, including Under Armour, Gap and Guess, as well as local finds like Persiano Gallery furniture store.

Weyira Olive Oil & Vinegar Tasting Gallery

weyiraoliveoil.com

1555 Potomac Avenue, Hagerstown Enjoy a wide selection of olive oil, spices, vinegars, jams and other specialty foods.

Pennsylvania Dutch Market

padutchmarket.com

1583 Potomac Avenue, Hagerstown
Featuring baked goods, meats and
cheeses, you won't leave the market
hungry. It's also a great place to buy
quilts, candles and wood furniture.

