



## News Release

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## Pennsylvania Meeting + Events Announces Readers' Choice for Best of Pennsylvania 2016

The Hershey Harrisburg Regional Visitors Bureau proudly recognizes  
7 Top Award Recipients who are Tourism Partners of DMO.

**HARRISBURG, PA** (Oct. 19, 2016) — The readers of Pennsylvania Meetings + Events magazine recently picked their favorites for the publication's inaugural Best of Pennsylvania awards, including seven businesses and properties that are active Partners In Tourism with the Hershey Harrisburg Regional Visitors Bureau.

### **BEST (SMALL) HOTEL with MEETING/EVENT SPACE:**

Warehouse Hotel at the Nook

Manheim, PA

The [Warehouse Hotel at the Nook](#) was named the Best Hotel with Meeting/Event Space (Less than 200 Guest Rooms). The Warehouse Hotel is a sleek, modern hotel born from within the Armstrong World Industries manufacturing plant which is connected to Spooky Nook Sports, the nation's largest indoor sports facility located just 20 miles from Hershey, PA.

"Each room has its own character, with some showing off exposed beams or pipes," says Alyssa Matangos, communications and public relations manager. "Much of our décor was repurposed to keep with the industrial theme." The Warehouse has all of the bells and whistles of a luxury hotel (hip restaurant, plush rooms) but this place has so much more (a 60,000-square-foot fitness and performance training center, for one).

"With the Nook, our facility is 700,000 square-feet, including 100,000 square feet of meeting and event space," says Matangos. "We have the ability to host everything from expos and galas to concerts, picnics and team-building."

### **BEST (LARGE) HOTEL with MEETING/EVENT SPACE:**

Hershey Lodge

Hershey, PA

The [Hershey Lodge](#) received the Best Hotel with Meeting/Event Space (More than 200 Guest Rooms) award because larger meetings are never a problem for this resort property with 665 guest rooms and suites that provide a welcome respite from a meeting or conference. The resort has 100,000 square-feet of meeting space, with plenty of unique spaces, and the team-building opportunities are seemingly limitless. Add the team of on-site certified meeting professionals, and meetings are, well, sweet here. Of course, there's always Hersheypark for rides and attractions.

### **BEST CASINO:**

Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course

Grantville, PA

[Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course](#) earned Best Casino for games & dining with 2,450 video slot and poker machines, 50 table games and 16 poker tables, and **Final Cut Steakhouse** which has become well known for its Wine Spectator-awarded wine list while the **Mountainview Lounge Bar** has front-row seats to all of the action of the horse races on the track. There's also **Skybox** sports bar for a casual atmosphere.

### **BEST HISTORIC/CULTURAL VENUE:**

Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center

Gettysburg, PA

The [Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center](#) was voted Best Historic or Cultural Venue. The history is fascinating, and guests can relive the battles between the Union and Confederate soldiers or even participate in a unique teambuilding event at the battlefield through the Gettysburg Foundation's—which operates the facility — “In The Footsteps of Leaders.”

### **BEST WINERY with EVENT SPACE:**

The Vineyard and Brewery at Hershey

Middletown, PA

[The Vineyard and Brewery at Hershey](#) earned top honor as the Best Winery with Event Space. While most places make you choose between wine or beer, this place has both, as well as hard cider and craft soda. The mood is casual and fun—it was started by five friends, after all. Set on a 40-acre historic farm just minutes outside of Hershey, complete with a scenic pond and a setting that could hardly be more picturesque. Events range from small wine dinners to larger gatherings outdoors on the deck and even live concerts—some that have even featured national recording artists. Of course, each event can also include a wine and/ or beer tasting.

### **BEST RESTAURANT with PRIVATE DINING SPACE:**

Forklift & Palate

Manheim, PA

[Forklift & Palate](#), inside the Warehouse Hotel and Spooky Nook Sports, wins for Best Restaurant with Private Dining Space. “Everything, from the décor and the food to the overall experience, was meticulously planned,” says Matangos. The menu changes with each season and incorporates Lancaster County ingredients whenever possible. The interior echoes the hotel’s industrial chic sensibility with tables crafted from repurposed wood/pallets. The size is impressive in its own right, with seating for as little as 10 and up to 175 in the restaurant/atrium bar. The atrium bar and hotel atrium can hold up to 600 for private events.

### **BEST TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER:**

Premiere #1 Limousine Service

Middletown, PA

[Premiere #1 Limousine Service](#) wins for Pennsylvania’s Best Transportation Provider. This company prides itself on delivering top-notch customer service. “All of our employees, including CEO Douglas Rydbom, keep suits in their offices just in a case they are needed for a last-minute run,” explains Chelsea Hess-Moore, communications manager. “One thing that we provide to all of our customers is the utmost effort to make sure that the customer gets the best experience from start to finish,” she adds. “We field requests overnight and on weekends. It is not unusual for a call to come in at 2 a.m. requesting a vehicle for two hours later. Most companies are known not to answer the phones after 5 p.m., and with 24-hour service, including weekends, this dedication to our job allows our pride to shine through.”

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## **ABOUT THE HERSHEY HARRISBURG REGIONAL VISITORS BUREAU**

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The HHRVB is the official non-profit partnership-based Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) leading economic growth for Pennsylvania’s Hershey & Harrisburg Region through destination marketing and tourism development. The organization, accredited by Destination Marketing Association International ([DMAI](#)) since 2010, is committed to actively marketing the tourism assets in Dauphin & Perry County to business and leisure travelers both domestic & international. The bureau also leads regional sales efforts to attract meeting & event organizers, sporting event producers, and group tour leaders. For more information go to [VisitHersheyHarrisburg.org](#) or call 877-727-8573. Media can use #HHRVB and #HHRVB4Media when tagging stories and social media posts related to the region.