

TOP LAWYERS 2020

**From Fighting Crime to Singing Sinatra
College Town or Vacation Destination?**

NorthernVirginia

Holiday Recipes

**FROM NOVA'S
TOP CHEFS**



Patrick O'Connell

**THE INN AT
LITTLE WASHINGTON**



Fabio Trabocchi
SFOGLINA



Carla Hall

**CHEF & TV
PERSONALITY**



Jan Van Haute
**GOODSTONE INN
& RESTAURANT**



Jacques Haeringer

**L'AUBERGE CHEZ
FRANÇOIS**



Johnathan Leonard
**THE ASHBY INN
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DECEMBER 2020

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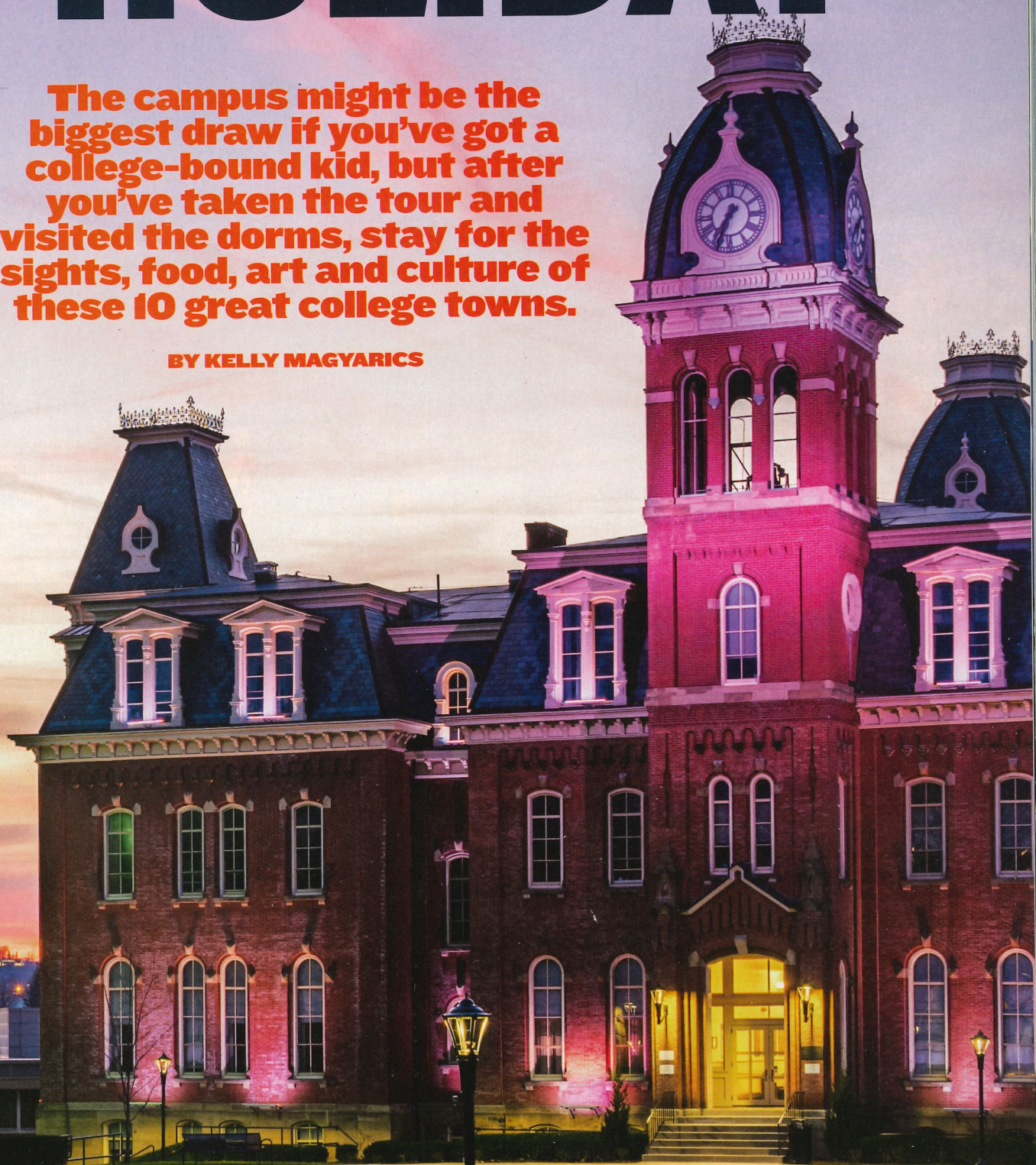
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HIGHER ED HOLIDAY

The campus might be the biggest draw if you've got a college-bound kid, but after you've taken the tour and visited the dorms, stay for the sights, food, art and culture of these 10 great college towns.

BY KELLY MAGYARICS





Right: Morehead Planetarium & Science Center
Left: North Carolina Botanical Garden

cultures and centuries. With all those hungry students (and visitors), the food and beverage scene here is pretty stellar, with on-campus staples like **Cafe Laura** (cafe-laura.psu.edu) and newer options across College Avenue, like **Local Whiskey** (localwhiskeybar.com) for dram fans or **Liberty Craft House** (dantesinc.com/locations/liberty-craft-house), a brewhouse with an industrial vibe.

MUST-DO'S

- Start the day with breakfast at **Original Waffle Shop** (originalwaffleshop.net), an institution in Happy Valley that's been griddling sweet and fluffy Belgian waffles since 1972.
- Book a 45-minute guided flat-bottom motorboat tour on **Lake Nitane** at **Penn's Cave** (pennscave.com), America's only all-water cavern and farm-nature-wildlife park, followed by an optional 90-minute guided wildlife tour in the pastures and forests.
- Depending on the season, race go-karts or go snow tubing at **Tussey Mountain** ([\[mountain.com\]\(http://mountain.com\)\).](http://tussey-

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- Taste at several spots on the 12-stop **Central Pennsylvania Tasting Trail** (centralpatasting-trail.com), like **Happy Valley Gold Cider** at **Good Intent Cider** (goodintencider.com) or craft gin or a Neshoni at **Big Spring Spirits** (bigspringspirits.com).

WHERE TO STAY

Located a few miles from downtown in Innovation Park, **The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center** (thepennstaterhotel.psu.edu) has 300 guest rooms and suites, a 24-hour fitness center, shuttle service to campus and two dining concepts; try The Gardens for Sunday brunch, and catch the big game or play a round of Penn State trivia over burgers and brews at sports bar Legends. **Carnegie Inn & Spa** (carnegieinnandspa.com), situated in the woodlands surrounding the university, offers a quieter stay. There are sunny rooms decked out with antique furnishings, Frette linens and deep soaking tubs; a spa offering treatments like a hot cocoa scrub; and Grace Restau-

rant, serving trend-forward cuisine paired with global wines.

THE TOWN

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

THE SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

DRIVE TIME FROM NOVA
4 hours, 15 minutes

WHAT MAKES IT GREAT

Located in the Piedmont area of central North Carolina, Chapel Hill was named after New Hope Chapel, which stood upon a hill where two roads crossed and is the current site of The Carolina Inn. The town was actually created to serve the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** (unc.edu), the oldest public institution in the country. Nicknamed the Southern Part of Heaven, Chapel Hill is also referred to as "a town within a park" due to how walkable it actually is, with guided tours, greenways and bike trails. Start by taking a free guided walking tour (freewalkingtourschapelhill.com), then look for the more than 20 color murals throughout downtown before heading to the **Coker Arboretum** (ncbg.unc.edu/visit/coker-arboretum), a 5-acre garden in the middle of UNC's campus. **The North Carolina**



Botanical Garden (ncbg.unc.edu) is one of the southeast's largest, with display gardens, nature trails, carnivorous plants, herb gardens and aquatics including lots of indigenous flora. On the UNC campus, **Ackland Art Museum** (ackland.org) has been one of the state's most important cultural resources, with more than 19,000 works of Asian, European, contemporary and 20th-century art as well as pottery and works on paper. **The Morehead Planetarium & Science Center** (moreheadplanetarium.org) offers planetarium shows and exhibits and was the place where 11 out of the 12 men who walked on the moon trained in celestial navigation. Hoops fans must visit the **Carolina Basketball Museum** (goheels.com/news/2017/6/26/gen-

eral-carolina-basketball-museum.aspx), which has artifacts, videos, photos and statistics of the Carolina basketball program along with tributes to alumni athletes. And barbecue is revered in Chapel Hill; two of the best spots to get messy while tucking into pulled pork and brisket are **Mama Dip's Kitchen** (mamadips.com) and **The Pig** (thepigrestaurant.com).

MUST-DO'S

- Catch the best sunsets by hiking up the **Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area** (ncparks.gov/occoneechee-mountain-state-natural-area), the highest point in the area; it's teeming with mountain laurel and rhododendron thickets.
- Visit the **Freedom Fighter**

Gateway (jacksoncenter.info/the-northside-gateway), a monument built at the corner of Roberson and Rosemary Streets to honor the residents of Chapel Hill's Northside neighborhood who fought for civil rights in the 1960s.

- Book a table at one (or both) of the town's James Beard Award-winning restaurants: **Lantern** (lanternrestaurant.com), whose chef Andrea Reusing was named Best Chef Southeast, or **Crook's Corner** (crookscorner.com), known for its amazing shrimp and grits.
- **The Crunkleton** (thecrunkleton.com) is the place to sip a modern interpretation of a classic cocktail, like a mezcal sour with mole bitters.

The Virginia Tech campus



WHERE TO STAY

Built in 1924 and modeled after the front of George Washington's Mount Vernon, **The Carolina Inn** (carolinainn.com) is on the edge of UNC's campus and a block from the shopping, galleries and entertainment in the historical Franklin Street district. Rooms and suites have four-poster beds and Southern-inspired decor; the hotel offers complimentary local transportation, and Crossroads Chapel Hill dishes out Carolina cuisine and handcrafted cocktails. At **Graduate Chapel Hill** (graduatehotels.com/chapel-hill), guest rooms have shades of Carolina blue with touches of Greek Revival architecture and decor honoring notable Tar Heels from Mia Hamm to Michael Jordan; a scoreboard at the front desk flashes the winning score from the 1982 Men's Basketball

Championship Game. Poindexter is a cafe by day and bar by night, and complimentary bikes are available to explore the area.

THE TOWN Blacksburg

THE SCHOOL VIRGINIA TECH

DRIVE TIME FROM NOVA
4 hours, 15 minutes

WHAT MAKES IT GREAT

More commonly called **Virginia Tech** (vt.edu), the full name for this university with more than 36,000 students is the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, founded in 1872 as an agricultural and mechanical college. It's situated in Blacksburg, which in 2011 was named Best College Town

in the South by a *Southern Living* readers' poll. (And its on-campus food is consistently ranked among the best of any college campus.) Learn more about town founder Alexander Black at the **Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation** (blacksburgmuseum.org). Main Street is very pedestrian-friendly and lined with galleries like **The Artful Lawyer** (artfullawyergallery.org), launched by attorneys and highlighting the arts and crafts of local artists, and the **Matrix Gallery** (matrixgallery.com), displaying pottery, glass, jewelry and woodwork. **The Lyric Theatre** (thelyric.com), opened in 1930, boasts original tapestries, replica lanterns and a restored lobby and is a nostalgic spot to catch a recent release or classic films, while the **Moss Arts Center** (artscenter.vt.edu) on campus