

Winter Itinerary

Winters tend to be quite mild in Central Virginia. Other than the unusual and very occasional snow fall, visitors can expect cool and crisp temperatures during the day and the occasional freeze at night. All this to say that Charlottesville & Albemarle County is a wonderful place to visit during wintertime. Attractions are open and accessible year round and, since it is a quieter season tourism-wise in this area, guests can find spectacular discounts at area [hotels, resorts, and bed & breakfasts](#). Here is a suggested winter itinerary, which will leave you all warm and fuzzy!

Day one

Start your day by visiting [Thomas Jefferson's Monticello](#). Whether you choose a basic house tour or the more elaborate behind-the-scenes tour, you will marvel at our third president's ingenuity, passion, and knowledge. As you will have worked up a serious appetite, your next stop will be [Michie Tavern](#) for an 18th century gigantesque, hearty, and delicious midday meal by the fireplace. Be sure to visit the museum at Michie Tavern as well as the beautiful shops filled with Virginia-related items, edible and not, to take home. To walk off the calories, we suggest a leisurely hike along the [Saunders-Monticello Trail](#). With a total of only two miles each way, this easy path takes you from the intersection of routes 53 and 20 all the way to Monticello. After you check-in at one of our fine lodging establishments, you can relax before heading out to a light dinner at one of the dozens of restaurants located on or near the [Historic Downtown Mall](#). After dinner, you can catch a show at one of the many downtown music venues such as the [Paramount Theater](#), the [Jefferson Theater](#), [The Southern Café](#) and Music Hall, [Miller's](#), or the [Whiskey Jar](#).

Day two

This is the day to explore Albemarle County's spectacular [wine, craft beer, and/or artisan cider scene](#). There's no need to worry about driving, as one of our local [tour companies](#) will pick you up at the hotel and take you to multiple stops where you can enjoy these fine beverages, along with a delicious lunch, which will be provided to you along the way. At each stop, you will linger and relax, very often by the fireplace and who knows, you may be able to strike a conversation with the wine, beer, or cider maker during your visit! In the evening, it is time to cheer on the Hoos at the [John Paul Jones Arena](#) with a college basketball game.

Day three

If you feel adventurous, a short but beautiful drive through Nelson County to [Wintergreen Resort](#) will do the trick. There, you can enjoy downhill skiing or snowboarding. If extreme sports are not your cup of tea, why not visit one of Charlottesville's fine museums such as the [Fralin Art Museum](#), the [Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum](#), the [Lewis & Clark Exploration Center](#), or the [U.Va Small Collections Library](#), where historical documents are on exhibit. If you prefer to find your inner artist, an afternoon spent at [The Glass Palette](#) (to make beautiful glass art) or at [City Clay](#) (to create your own pottery masterpiece) is the way to go.

When planning your visit, please be sure to consult the event calendar at www.visitcharlottesville.org. Special events such as First Night Virginia, holiday concerts, or Restaurant Week all take place during winter time. There is never any shortage of this to do in Charlottesville & Albemarle County!