



Touring Asheville on the amazing Pubcycle

BEER CITY, USA

ASHEVILLE, N.C. OFFERS UNIQUE BEER EXPERIENCES

By Sandra Chambers

Hidden in the mountains of western North Carolina, Asheville is famous for its scenic views, local artists and culinary creations. Its newest claim to fame is being named "Beer City, USA" by Examiner.com four years running. With more breweries per capita than any other city in the country, Asheville has become the craft-brewing center of the Southeast.

On any single day, roughly 100 local beers can be enjoyed both on draft and in bottles at one of its 21 craft breweries—each with its own unique atmosphere. Highland Brewery, Asheville's oldest brewery, offers tours, concerts and daily

tastings along with various events throughout the year. Wicked Weed, known for pushing creative boundaries, has opened a second location, Funkatorium, the Southeast's first and only sour tasting room. This new hot spot is located in South Slope, which is quickly becoming the city's unofficial beer district with eight local breweries, restaurants and specialty shops.

Have fun playing bartender at Pour Taproom. The world's largest self-pour bar allows patrons to pay by the ounce, allowing enthusiasts to taste as few or as many of the 46 craft beers or eight wines available on draft.



Thirsty Monk, one of Asheville's favorite downtown bars

Open Brewing is the country's first commercial home-brewing brewpub that offers a menu built around recipes from local home brewers. While craft beer is constantly flowing in the mountain town, take time to discover hard cider, America's first "craft beverage," by heading to Nobel Cider, Asheville's first cidery.

Enjoy some scenery while taking an Asheville Brews Cruise or gather 12 of your best drinking buddies and pedal through town on Asheville's Pubcycle.

Asheville also offers unique ways to indulge in one's "hops obsession" including a foot soak of beer-based body wash at Wake Foot Sanctuary, a Bend and Brew yoga class followed by a well-earned beer tasting or shopping for unique beer-based products such as shampoo, ice cream and even dog biscuits.

During the year the town is host to five beer festivals with various themes, music, food and, of course, beer. With its small town charm, Asheville is the perfect destination for those wishing to "sip-back" and relax or have a brew on the go. However you choose to enjoy Beer City, USA, it will be a memorable experience! For more information, visit exploreasheville.com. 🍺



Open Brewing, the country's first commercial home-brewing brewpub

Photo of Pubcycle and Thirsty Monk courtesy of ExploreAsheville.com; Open Brewing courtesy of Ryan Stuart Burns