



## In the CITY



## In the COUNTRY



## By the BAY

PLAY



A handful of area **duckpin bowling** centers keep our home-grown brand of alley action alive. Bring your own beer, rent some shoes, and scatter the ducks; don't forget you get three balls per frame.

Shoot to thrill at **Paintball Adventures Park** in Taneytown where their multiple fields of splatter-play include a two-story castle and a mock village; group packages start at \$30 a player.

**Ultimate Watersports** in Middle River offers one-stop shopping for splashy bay fun with kayaking, sailing, paddle boarding, and windsurfing lessons and equipment rentals. All you need is sunscreen.

WANDER



Baltimore's **Fells Point** retains the feel of a 19th-century port town with its cobblestone streets, historic homes, and sweeping water views. A dense collection of pubs, eateries, and boutiques offers present-day delights.

**Ladew Topiary Gardens** in Monkton offers artfully crafted topiary displays and a sprawling flower-flocked greenspace that's a perfect place for strolls, picnics, and losing oneself in the leafy lush life.

**Chestertown** is a quaint water-lapped, Colonial village-cum-college town where the brick sidewalks lead past galleries, antique shops, and cafes, and the town dock often sports a historic sailing skipjack.

EAT

**Charm City Food Tours** takes foodies on stop-and-nosh walking tours of the tastiest Baltimore neighborhoods, including Fells Point, Little Italy, and Federal Hill. They can also take taste buds touring Lexington Market.

**Antrim 1844 Country House Hotel** offers some of Maryland's finest dining in a gorgeous, historic plantation set amid acres of groomed gardens. The bar is a whiskey aficionado's dream.

Crack into hot, **steamed crabs** while overlooking the water at Cantler's Riverside Inn, Nick's Fish House & Grill, Canton Dockside, or Sue Island Grill & Crab House. Eat 'em where they live.



CULTURE

Even folks who say they don't like art museums like the **American Visionary Art Museum** with its unique celebration of off-kilter creativity at the crossroads where folk-art meets eccentric genius.

**Oregon Ridge** is where the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra decamps on summer nights—a leafy, hillside, outdoor hall where they do everything from Beethoven to Broadway before a picnic-blanket crowd.

**Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum** in historic St. Michaels celebrates Maryland's rich tapestry of maritime cultures. The sprawling campus features exhibits on boat building, crabbing, and has an 1879 lighthouse open for climbing.

KIDS

**Port Discovery Children's Museum** is a warehouse-sized space of purposeful-play opportunities including a three-level jungle gym and a designated tot trail for the youngest of the young.

**Clark's Elioak Farm** offers a petting zoo, pony rides, and a maze made with figures from the old Enchanted Forest amusement park to enliven a still-rural corner of Howard County.

**Calvert Cliffs**, overlooking the bay, is filled with fossils and kids can hunt for teeth from the long-extinct monsters, such as the megatooth shark, at a number of public-access beaches.

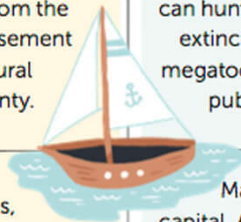
LOCAL COLOR



Birthplace of the whole "hon" phenomena and chock-a-block with hip shops, coffee houses, and restaurants, **Hampden** is that quirky former mill town where old-school Baltimore meets cutting-edge style.

Tucked in the suburbs, **Ellicott City** is a time-warp away with a cute Main Street that sports 1800s charm along with browsing and grazing opportunities galore.

Maryland's waterside capital, **Annapolis** buzzes with its own vibe beneath the oldest still-used state house dome. There's the Naval Academy, miles of marinas, and a plethora of eating and shopping options.



LIBATIONS

**Heavy Seas Alehouse** near Harbor East hosts private beer tastings and "beer dinners" featuring their locally made line of craft-brewed lagers, ales, and stouts.

A handful of wineries, including **Woodhall** and **Boordy**, are just 20–minutes beyond the Beltway for tours, tastings, and more. Stroll the vines, sip the wines.

**Cruises on the Bay** runs public and private happy-hour cocktail cruises to Key Bridge. See the city while you sip.