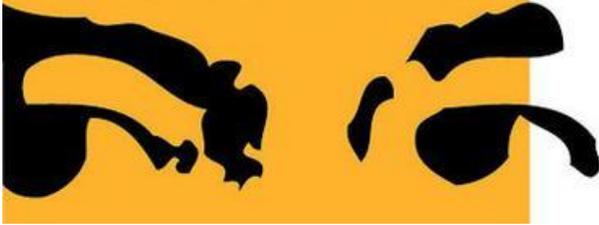


AMERICAN SHAKESPEARE

CENTER



MISSION: The American Shakespeare Center recovers the joys and accessibility of Shakespeare's theatre, language, and humanity by exploring the English Renaissance stage and its practices through performance and education.

VISION: The American Shakespeare Center is Shakespeare's American Home – a beacon for all to feel more alive through the experience of Shakespeare, changing lives one encounter at a time.

WHAT WE DO: There are three legs of the American Shakespeare Center that help support our mission. Each one reaches out to different communities to bring the joy of Shakespeare through performance, education, and the tour.

ON STAGE: BLACKFRIARS PLAYHOUSE

- Our home base is the world's only re-creation of Shakespeare's indoor theatre.
- Since opening in 2001, the Playhouse has welcomed 914,624 guests to 5,606 performances.
- Each year we produce up to 14 Productions over 5 Seasons featuring at least 3 Distinct Companies of actors.
- All shows are performed in repertory with troupe members playing multiple roles in each show.

The Blackfriars Playhouse

Situated in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse has delighted hundreds of thousands of audience members from all over the world.

THE ORIGINAL BLACKFRIARS

Shakespeare's Blackfriars Theatre was originally a 13th century monastery. Henry VIII dissolved the monastery in 1538 when he removed the Catholic Church from England. The monastery's numerous buildings and gardens were divided up and sold off to private interests.

James Burbage purchased the property from the estate of Thomas Cawarden in 1596 and converted it into a Playhouse. Shakespeare's company began performing there in 1608, charging twelve times as much for tickets to the indoor theatre as they did for the outdoor.

The original Blackfriars burned in the 1666 Great Fire of London.

CONSTRUCTION

A product of years of research, the Blackfriars Playhouse was built in 2001 at a total construction cost of \$3.7 million. It was designed by the late Richmond architect Tom McLaughlin. Former Shakespeare's Globe Director of Research Andrew Gurr and the late C. Walter Hodges, illustrator of the Globe, advised the work.

There is little direct visual evidence of the details of the original Blackfriars, but documentary evidence helped McLaughlin in determining the overall size, orientation, internal organization, scale, materials, and textures of the original building including but not limited to:

- archaeological excavations of the Blackfriars precinct



- James Burbage’s deed of 1596
- visits to surviving Tudor structures
- Westminster Hall
- well-preserved Elizabethan and Jacobean houses
- Architectural drawings by Simon Basil (1605), Inigo Jones (1616), and John Webb (1629)

TODAY

The Blackfriars Playhouse is open year-round for performances of Shakespeare’s plays and contemporary works in productions hailed by *The Washington Post* as “shamelessly entertaining.”



OUR HISTORY

We began in 1988 when Jim Warren and Ralph Alan Cohen formed the Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, a traveling troupe that used Shakespeare’s staging conditions to perform his plays. By 2000, we had performed in 47 states, one U.S. territory, and six foreign countries. Partnering with the City of Staunton and aided by private donors and generous help from Augusta County and the Commonwealth of Virginia, we built the world’s only re-creation of Shakespeare’s indoor playhouse in 2001. With one troupe at home and one on the road, we expanded our educational offerings and created America’s first MFA program in Shakespeare and Performance at MBU. We also established an international biennial conference for scholars, and we became the American Shakespeare Center. In 2009, to honor our achievement of turning Staunton into a world Shakespeare destination, the Commonwealth recognized us with the Governor’s Arts Award. By our 30th year, in 2018, we had played to nearly two million people, produced all 38 of Shakespeare’s plays (many of them more than twice), 36 plays by his contemporaries, and a grand total of 286 different productions in 5,506 performances.

The Tempest

by William Shakespeare

Political exile, revenge, and magic meld in this edge-of-your-seat thriller, capped by a master manipulator’s calculated lesson in the folly of hatred.

The Tempest and *Pericles* will be produced in ASC’s Actors Renaissance style, in which the actors cast and stage the show, in the method used by Shakespeare’s own original company.

From: <https://americanshakespearecenter.com/>

The Tempest Summary

Prospero uses magic to conjure a storm and torment the survivors of a shipwreck, including the King of Naples and Prospero’s treacherous brother, Antonio. Prospero’s slave, Caliban, plots to rid himself of his master, but is thwarted by Prospero’s spirit-servant Ariel. The King’s young son Ferdinand, thought to be dead, falls in love with Prospero’s daughter Miranda. Their celebrations are cut short when Prospero confronts his brother and reveals his identity as the usurped Duke of Milan. The families are reunited and all conflict is resolved. Prospero grants Ariel his freedom and prepares to leave the island.

Act I

Close to a Mediterranean island, a storm overcomes a ship that carries King Alonso of Naples, his son Ferdinand, and his brother Sebastian. They were on their way home home from Tunis to Italy when the storm hit and demolished their ship. Shipwrecked with them are the courtier, Gonzalo, and the Duke of Milan, Antonio.

From the island, Prospero, the former Duke of Milan, watches the storm and shipwreck with his 15 year-old daughter, Miranda. Miranda fears for the ship's crew, but Prospero assures her that everything is fine. He decides to open up about his past, telling her how 12 years previously, his brother Antonio had deposed him in a coup.

With the aid of Gonzalo, Prospero had escaped in a boat with the infant Miranda and his books of magic. They travelled to the island, made it their home, and enslaved the only native islander, Caliban. The only other inhabitants of the island are the spirits including Ariel, whom Prospero had rescued from imprisonment in a tree. Since Antonio was on the boat that is now shipwrecked, Prospero hopes finally to rectify his past.

As Miranda sleeps, Prospero discusses his role in the shipwreck with Ariel. They plot about what to do with the men now that they are on the shore.

The courtiers from the ship are cast ashore unharmed. But the King is near despair, believing that Ferdinand, his son, drowned. Ferdinand has actually arrived safely on a different part of the island where he meets Miranda and they instantly fall in love. Prospero, fearing for his daughter, captures Ferdinand and forces him to carry wood. In the meantime, Ariel seeks his freedom. Prospero promises that he will liberate Ariel from servitude following the completion of just a few more tasks (typical).

Act II

Ariel uses music to lead the courtiers astray, while Sebastian and Antonio plot to kill the King while he is asleep. Their attempt is foiled by Ariel. All the people from the ship become ever more confused as they wander around. In another part of the island, the timid court fool, Trinculo, has come ashore and discovered Caliban. Trinculo hides beside Caliban from an approaching storm, and the ship's butler, Stephano finds them.

Act III-IV

Stephano, Caliban, and Trinculo, at Caliban's suggestion, intend to kill Prospero and make Stephano lord of the island. They get very drunk before setting off to the cell to kill Prospero. Ariel, who saw the whole thing in his invisible state, reports this wicked plot to his master. Meanwhile, Prospero has relented and gives his blessing for Ferdinand and Miranda's marriage. Then he entertains them with a masque of goddesses and dancing reapers before he remembers Caliban's plots.

Prospero and Ariel then set a trap for the three plotters. Stephano and Trinculo fall for the plot and become distracted by gaudy clothes hung out for them. After they touch the clothing, they are chased away by spirits disguised as dogs.

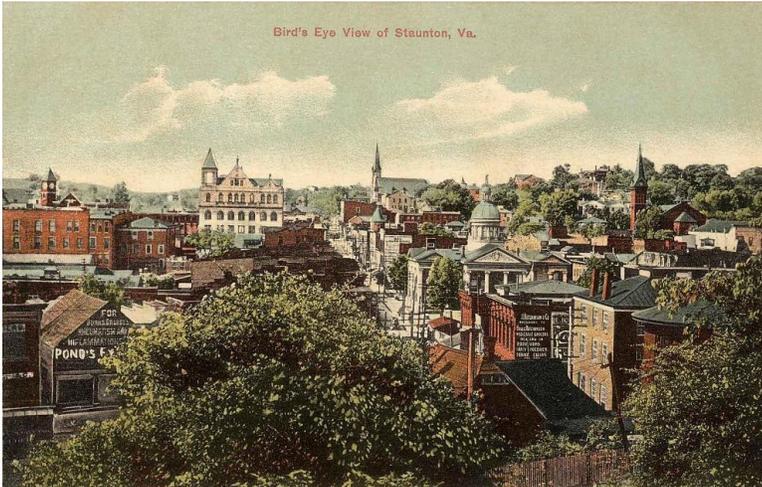
Act V

Ariel brings all the courtiers to the cell where Prospero, renouncing his magic, reveals himself. Instead of enacting his revenge, he forgives them and accepts the return of his dukedom. Ferdinand and Miranda are betrothed. Sailors come to announce that the ship is safe. Prospero fulfils his promise and frees Ariel while Caliban and the drunken servants are rebuked. The play ends as all go to celebrate their reunions, and Prospero asks the audience to release him from the play.

From: <https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/shakespepedia/shakespeares-plays/tempest/>

Staunton, Virginia

HISTORY



Bird's eye view c. 1910

In 1915, Staunton mayor Hampton Wayt addressed the Convention of the American Instructors of the Deaf. During his speech, he said, "I always speak in a modest vein when I speak of Staunton, the Queen City of the Valley. It is called Staunton from the wife of a former governor of this State, who was a woman of queenly graces of mind and heart. It received its name of the Queen City of the Valley because at one time it was the county seat of the largest county in the world, larger than Germany or France, and even larger than most of the principalities of Europe."

Staunton, Va. was settled in 1732. It was named for Lady Rebecca Staunton, wife of colonial governor Sir William Gooch. It was the capital of the Northwest Territory from 1738 to 1770. The Virginia General Assembly established Staunton as a town in 1761 and the town was formally incorporated in 1801.

When the Virginia Central Railroad arrived in 1854, Staunton became a transportation hub, and during the Civil War, Staunton was the site of a supply base.

Staunton is the birthplace of 28th president Woodrow Wilson. Wilson was born on December 28, 1856 at 20 N. Coalter Street, the current site of Wilson's Presidential Library and Museum.

Staunton is also credited with creating the city manager form of government, which was formally adopted in 1908. According to the International City Management Association (ICMA), Staunton's city manager style led to the council-manager form of government that is still used by thousands of American cities.

From: <https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/government/history>

The area was first settled in 1732 by John Lewis and family. In 1736, William Beverley, a wealthy planter and merchant from Essex County, was granted by the Crown over 118,000 acres in what would become Augusta County. Surveyor Thomas Lewis in 1746 laid out the first town plat for Beverley of what was originally called Beverley's Mill Place. Founded in 1747, it was renamed in honor of Lady Rebecca Staunton, wife to Royal Lieutenant-Governor Sir William Gooch. Because the town was located at the geographical center of the colony (which then included West Virginia), Staunton served between 1738 and 1771 as regional capital for what was known as the Northwest Territory, with the westernmost courthouse in British North America prior to the Revolution. By 1760, Staunton was one of the major "remote trading centers in the backcountry" which coordinated the transportation of the vast amounts of grain and tobacco then being produced in response to the change of Britain from a net exporter of produce to an importer. Staunton thus played a crucial role in the mid-18th century expansion of the economies of the American Colonies which, in turn, contributed to the success of the American Revolution. It served as capital of Virginia in June 1781, when state legislators fled Richmond and then Charlottesville to avoid capture by the British.

Lewis Miller, Sketchbook of Landscapes in the State of Virginia, 1853-1867. Courtesy, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia; slide 84-896c. Titled, "Slave trader, Sold to Tennessee." The caption states: " The company going to Tennessee from Staunton, Augusta county, the law of Virginia suffered them to

go on. I was astonished at this boldness, the carrier stopped a moment, then ordered the march, I saw the play it is commonly in this state, when the negro's in droves Sold."

Like most of colonial Virginia, slavery was present in Staunton. For instance, in 1815, a slave named Henry ran away from John G. Wright's Staunton plantation. Wright placed an ad in the Daily National Intelligencer in Washington, D.C. seeking Henry's return. It notes that Henry was an excellent cook and was widely travelled, having been as far as the West Indies.

The Civil War and immediately prior

Letter from N.K. Trout, mayor of Staunton, describing a contribution of \$80 to the 1st Georgia Regiment, then encamped at Monterey, Virginia.

In August 1855, President Franklin Pierce visited Staunton. He gave a speech at the Virginia Hotel, in which he stated that his "feelings revolted from the idea of a dissolution of the union." He said that "[i]t would be the Iliad of innumerable woes, from the contemplation of which he shrank."

Located along the Valley Pike, Staunton developed as a trade, transportation and industrial center, particularly after the Virginia Central Railroad arrived in 1854. Factories made carriages, wagons, boots and shoes, clothing and blankets. In 1860, the Staunton Military Academy was founded. By 1860, Staunton had at least one pro-Union, pro-slavery (the *Staunton Spectator*) and at least one pro-secession, pro-slavery newspaper (the *Staunton Vindicator*). The *Spectator* ran editorials before the war urging its citizens to vote for union, while the *Vindicator* ran, e.g., stories reporting on "unruly" slaves mutilating themselves to escape being sold.

On May 23, 1861, shortly after the firing on Fort Sumter began the American Civil War, Virginians voted on whether to ratify articles of secession from the Union and join the Confederate States. The articles were overwhelmingly approved throughout the Commonwealth, even in the majority of the counties that would later become West Virginia. The vote in Staunton was 3300 in favor of secession, with only 6 opposed. During the war, the town became an important Shenandoah Valley manufacturing center, a staging area, and a supply depot for the Confederacy.

On June 6, 1864, Union Major General David Hunter arrived with 10,000 troops to cut supply, communication and railway lines useful to the Confederacy. The next day, they destroyed the railroad station, warehouses, houses, factories and mills. Union soldiers looted the stores and warehouses and confiscated supplies.

Post-bellum Staunton

On July 10, 1902, Staunton became an independent city.

From: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Staunton,_Virginia

Downtown Staunton



AIR

Shenandoah Valley Airport (SHD)

77 Aviation Circle, Weyers Cave
 540-234-8304

The Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport provides the quickest, most convenient access to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and now flies to Chicago O'Hare (ORD) and Washington Dulles (IAD). With well-timed departures and arrivals, SHD makes it easy and affordable to fly local. FlySHD.com

RAIL

Staunton Train Station (STA)

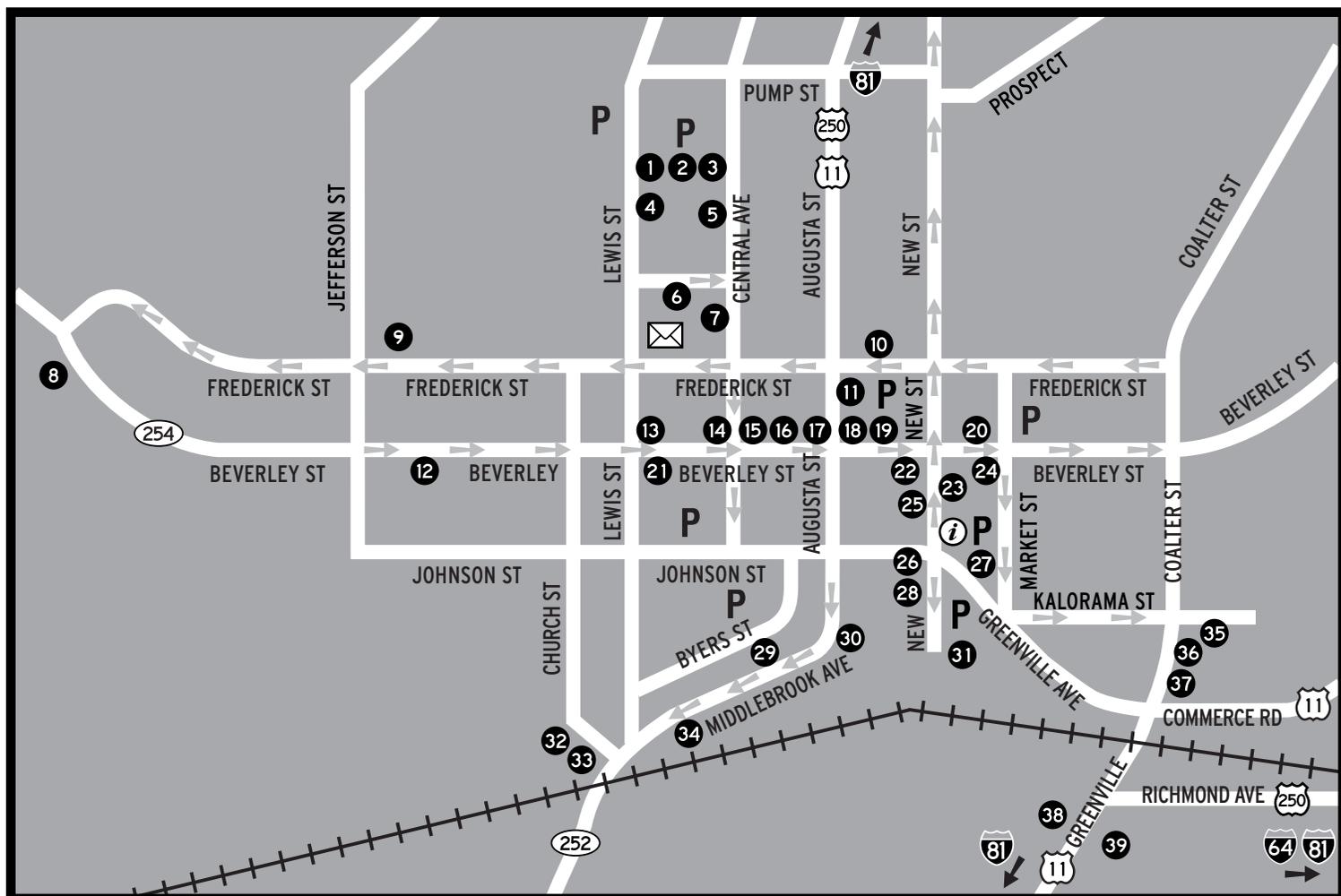
1 Middlebrook Avenue, Staunton
 800-872-7245

The Cardinal offers unforgettable views of the Southeast's stunning natural beauty. You'll see gently rolling horse country, the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains and the Shenandoah Valley as the Cardinal approaches Staunton. This is an unmanned station. For tickets or long-term parking information, call 1-800-USA-RAIL or visit Amtrak.com.

TROLLEY

The Green Trolley Route

includes the downtown area, the Wharf Historic District, and Gypsy Hill Park. The trolley makes a continuous loop around downtown and stops at the Visitors Center every 30 minutes. There is a 25-cent charge to ride the trolley. Schedule information can be found at visit BriteBus.org.



Downtown Staunton, Virginia Restaurants

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1 Chicano Boy Tacos
240 N Central Ave, Suite 6 540-569-2105</p> <p>2 Jade China House Restaurant
240 N Central Ave 540-885-8558</p> <p>3 D&L Donuts
240 N Central Ave, Suite 1 540-688-3942</p> <p>4 The Store
221 Lewis St 540-886-1534</p> <p>5 Gonzo's Pollo
212 N Central Ave 301-526-0321</p> <p>6 Staunton Patio Market 34
110 Baldwin Street 540-421-8513</p> <p>7 Big Red Barbecue
108 N Central Ave 540-849-5741</p> <p>8 Newtown Baking
960 W Beverley St 540-885-3799</p> <p>9 Ubon Thai Victorian Restaurant
515 West Frederick St 540-886-4141</p> <p>10 Frederick Street Café
11 E Frederick St 540-886-3060</p> <p>11 Aioli Mediterranean Tapas
29 N Augusta St 540-885-1414</p> <p>12 Magdalena Bake
610 W. Beverley St 540-471-9444</p> <p>13 Blu Point Seafood Co.
123 W Beverley St 540-712-0291</p> <p>14 Vic's Eats
101 W Beverley St</p> | <p>15 Clocktower Eats & Sweets
27 W Beverley St 540-213-0665</p> <p>16 Baja Bean Co. Restaurante Y Cantina
9 W Beverley St 540-885-9988</p> <p>17 The Split Banana Co
7 W Beverley St 866-492-3668</p> <p>18 Yelping Dog Wine
9 E Beverley St 540-885-2275</p> <p>19 Shenandoah Pizza & Taphouse
19 E Beverley St 540-213-0008</p> <p>20 Zynodoa
115 E Beverley St 540-885-7775</p> <p>21 The Green Room
130 W Beverley St 540-712-0293</p> <p>22 The Pampered Palate Café
26-28 E Beverley St 540-886-9463</p> <p>23 Cranberry's Grocery and Eatery
7 S New St 540-885-4755</p> <p>24 By and By Café
140 E Beverley St 540-887-0041</p> <p>25 Réunion Bakery & Espresso
26 S New St 540-569-2819</p> <p>26 Crumbl
18 E. Johnson St. 540-712-0216</p> <p>27 The 1924 & Magnolia South
24 Market St 540-885-4848</p> <p>28 Taste of India
106 S New St 540-213-8882</p> | <p>29 Byers Street Bistro
18 Byers St 540-887-6100</p> <p>30 Serendipity Java Bar & Eatery
125 S. Augusta St Ste. 1100 540-490-4907</p> <p>31 Mill Street Grill
1 Mill St 540-886-06569</p> <p>32 Crucible Coffee Roasters
300 Church St #201 540-490-4038</p> <p>33 Table 44
300 Church St 540-885-5026</p> <p>34 Depot Grille
42 Middlebrook Ave 540-885-7332</p> <p>35 Firkin Pie Company
310 Kalorama St 540-885-7437</p> <p>36 The Staunton Grocery
103 S. Coalter St 540-466-5313</p> <p>37 The Shack
105 S Coalter St 540-490-1961</p> <p>38 Wright's Dairy Rite
346 Greenville Ave 540-886-0435</p> <p>39 Second Draft Bar & Bistro
301 Greenville Ave 540-712-0601</p> <p>i Visitor Center
35 S. New St 540-332-3971</p> |
|---|--|---|

Staunton Restaurants

(numbers correspond to map key)

11. Aioli Mediterranean Tapas (Price: \$\$-\$\$\$)

Assorted Mediterranean tapas, salads, entrees, and desserts. Wine and beer.

13. Blu Point Seafood Co. (Price: \$\$)

Local seafood restaurant with seafood raw bar, starters, soups, seafood & land entrees, salads, sandwiches. Cocktails, wines, beers, and desserts.

17. Clocktower Eats and Sweets (Price: \$\$)

Circa-1890 clock tower with a retro interior is the locale for Italian eats, sandwiches & drinks. Appetizers, Sandwiches, Wraps, Paninis, Burgers, Salads. Plus, Breakfast is served all day!

18. Yelping Dog Wine (Price: \$\$)

Wine bar serving wide range of local, domestic, and international wines, as well as craft beers and non-alcoholic beverages. Plus, gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, charcuterie, and cheese plates.

19. Shenandoah Pizza & Tap House (Price: \$\$)

Low-key pizzeria & taproom featuring specialty pies, subs, calzones, stromboli, wraps, desserts, a global beer list, plus weekend live music.

20. Zynodoa (Price: \$\$\$)

Modern, farm-to-table Southern eatery & bar with upscale urban decor in a historic building. Starters, land and sea entrees, and wines.

28. Taste of India (Price: \$\$)

A classic Indian menu offered in a warm, relaxed space with a tin ceiling & full bar.

29. Byers Street Bistro (Price: \$\$)

Casual, colorful bistro with outdoor seating offering Southern-style American fare & live music. Daily dinner specials, soups & salads, appetizers, sandwiches, and 10" gourmet pizzas. Beer, cocktails.

31. Mill Street Grill (Price: \$\$)

Traditional American fare & live music in the casual interior of a turn-of-the-century flour mill. Daily menu plus regular soups, appetizers, salads, pastas, entrees. Gluten free menu available. Wines, beers, and cocktails.

34. Depot Grille (Price: \$\$)

American eatery & bar with a classic tavern vibe set in a historic rail depot with beam ceilings. Appetizers, salads, burgers/sandwiches, entrees, desserts.