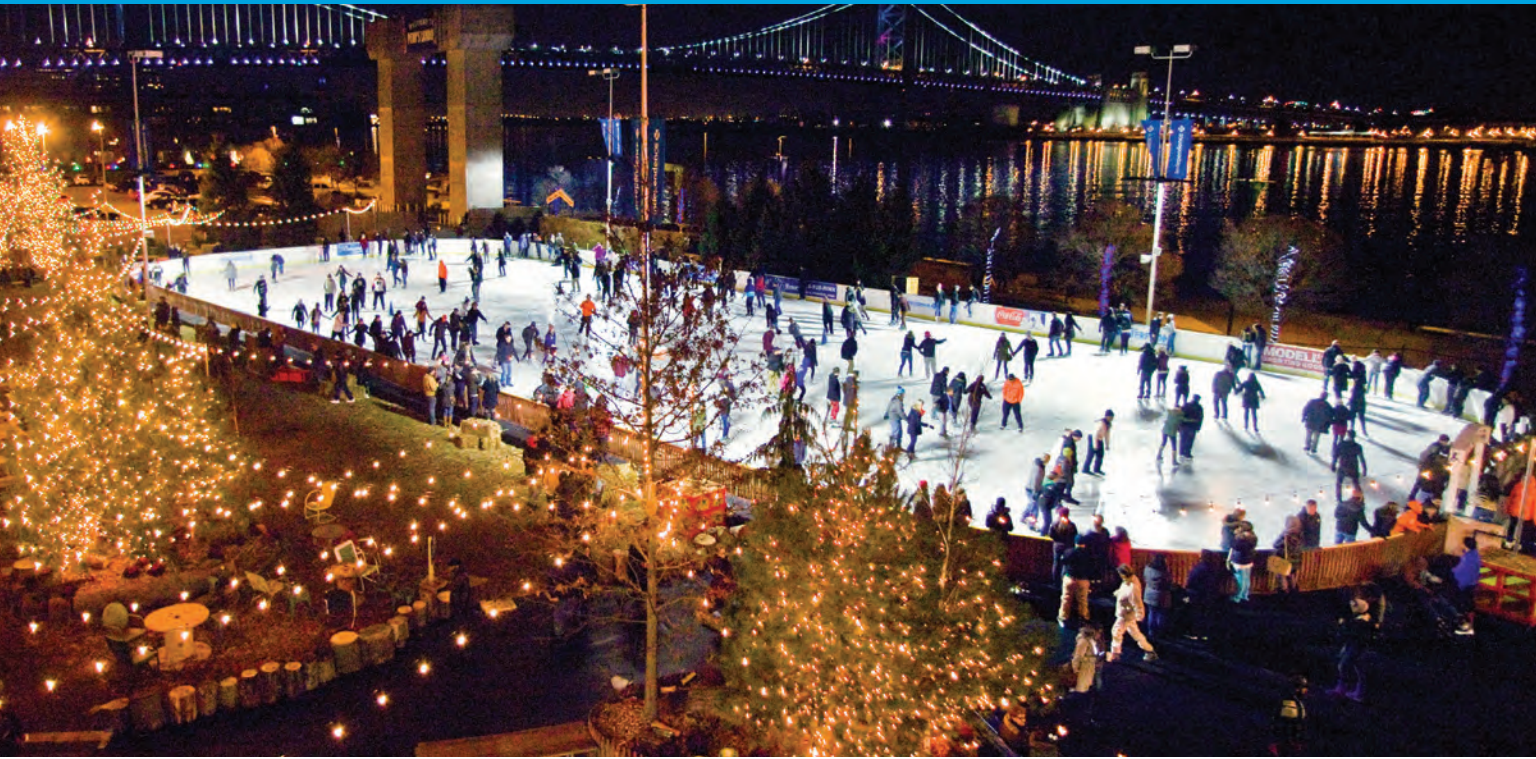


Mid-Atlantic Musts



RiverRink Winterfest

TOP 10

ATTRACTIONS

for 2015

By Eva Leonard

One of the best things about the Mid-Atlantic region is that it's jam-packed with exciting activities, events, and attractions to suit a wide range of tastes. Whether you love the arts and fine dining or craft beer and casino poker, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and Pennsylvania are loaded with options to suit every personality and mood. And it's all within a few minutes or hours of Washington, D.C., a great base for your explorations, offering its own rich bounty of history, culture, entertainment, and much more! ***Here are the Mid-Atlantic's top ten new attractions for 2015!***

BOARDING PASS

PASSENGER _____ FLIGHT NO. _____



FLIGHT NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

BWI AIRPORT

Spirit Airlines starts new daily nonstop service between BWI and Houston George Bush Inter-continental on March 27, 2015. Southwest Airlines adds once daily nonstop service between BWI and Portland, Oregon June 7, 2015.

DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Aer Lingus begins flights between Dulles and Dublin May 1, 2015. Alaska Airlines flights between Dulles and Seattle start March 11, 2015.

RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT

In December JetBlue Airways added three nonstop routes from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport to Florida: Fort Myers, Jacksonville, and West Palm Beach. Service to Jacksonville is twice daily, while service to Fort Myers and West Palm Beach is daily.

PHILADELPHIA, PA

PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

American Airlines offers a second daily flight between London Heathrow and Philadelphia starting March 29, 2015, departing Philadelphia at 9:55 a.m. and arriving London at 10:10 p.m.

Frontier Airlines has returned to Philadelphia International Airport with daily nonstop flights to Miami, Orlando, Tampa, and Cancun and begins nonstop flights between Philadelphia and Charlotte, Chicago, and Atlanta in spring 2015.

Spirit Airlines' new daily non-stop service between Philadelphia and Chicago O'Hare starts April 16, 2015

1 THE CAPITAL WHEEL NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND

Lending a carnival-like sense of fun to the D.C. area's otherwise understated skyline, the new Capital Wheel at National Harbor soars 180 feet high, lighting up the sky with multi-colored LED lights. Its 42 climate-controlled gondolas offer panoramic views of D.C., including the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol, as well as of Virginia and Maryland. Just off I-95, and also accessible by water taxi, National Harbor features special events, hotels, shops, restaurants, a carousel, and more.

165 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, MD 20745. Adults \$15, children 11 and under \$11.25. Seniors and military \$13.50. Winter hours Monday-Friday 4 p.m. -10 p.m.



2 HORSESHOE CASINO BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The 122,000-square-foot Horseshoe Casino made a big splash in Baltimore when it opened in August, with 2,500 video lottery terminals, more than 100 table games, and a 25-seat World Series of Poker-branded poker room. Hungry high rollers are spoiled for choice at Horseshoe, with restaurants including celebrity chef Guy Fieri's Baltimore Kitchen & Bar, Jack Binion's Steakhouse, Ruby 8 Noodle and Sushi Bar, and Johnny Sanchez taqueria from star chefs John Besh and Aaron Sanchez.

Horseshoe Casino's 14thirty Bar is the only one in Baltimore to serve drinks 24/7, and features a VIP seating area and a two-story video board. Tag Bar is an interactive lounge and bar with electronic table games, while B'More Beers showcases Baltimore's craft beers. Horseshoe Casino offers shuttle service from partner hotels.

Horseshoe Casino, 1525 Russell Street, Baltimore, MD 21230, 844-777-SHOE, www.caesars.com/Baltimore/

3 RIVERRINK WINTERFEST PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Frosty festivity rules at RiverRink Winterfest, back in Philadelphia through March 1, 2015. This year, Winterfest features a new ski-chalet-like lodge, an outdoor ice skating rink with on-site skate rentals, dancing lights, music, food and drink (yes, that includes cocktails), shopping, a winter garden and forest, and fire pits to keep the chill at bay. It's all happening at Penn's Landing on the Delaware River, with fantastic views of the river and the Ben Franklin Bridge.

Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest, Market Street and Columbus Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA, 19106, 215-925-RINK. Admission to Winterfest is free; admission to RiverRink is \$3 and skate rentals are \$10.

4 GENGHIS KHAN EXHIBITION THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mongol Empire gallops into Philadelphia's The Franklin Institute, when the Genghis Khan exhibition takes visitors on a wild ride through Khan's 13th-century kingdom. The exhibition is on view from May 9, 2015 through January 3, 2016.

The Franklin Institute, 222 N. 20th Street, Philadelphia, 215-448-1200, www.fi.edu

5 HOT NEW RESTAURANTS WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington, D.C.'s booming restaurant scene has snagged accolades from local and national foodies and critics. Here are four of the city's hottest newcomers earning raves:

ROSE'S LUXURY

Bon Appetit magazine named Rose's Luxury restaurant "America's Best New Restaurant of 2014," and the lines out the door indicate that many agree. The menu is small, focusing on simple, carefully selected dishes with quality ingredients, like Martelli spaghetti with lemon, butter, and cured duck egg. Rose's Luxury is open Monday through Saturday for dinner only. No reservations are accepted. The full dinner menu is also available at the bar upstairs.

Rose's Luxury, 717 8th Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003, 202-580-8889, www.rosesluxury.com

RURAL SOCIETY

James Beard award-winning chef Jose Garces opened this Argentine steakhouse in the Loews Madison Hotel in July, serving inventive far ranging from Argentine pizza to grass-fed Uruguayan tenderloin and empanadas with braised Wagyu beef belly.

Rural Society, Loews Madison Hotel, 1177 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, 202-587-2629, www.ruralsocietyrestaurant.com



DBGB KITCHEN AND BAR

Renowned chef Daniel Boulud added D.C. to his worldwide roster of restaurant locations when DBGB Kitchen & Bar opened in September at CityCenterDC, serving French-American food in a casual setting that's part bistro and part brasserie. Dishes range from gourmet burgers and seven kinds of house-made sausages to escargot and sherry-glazed duck, and fabulous desserts include Boulud's delicious twist on baked Alaska.

DBGB Kitchen and Bar, 931 H. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, 202-695-7660, www.dbgb.com/dc

PINEA

The W Hotel's new restaurant, Pinea, has been praised by the likes of The Washington Post and Zagat for its modern Mediterranean-inspired cuisine. On Pinea's lower level, a whiskey bar serves selections of scotch, whiskey, and wine from around the world.

Pinea, W Hotel, 515 15th Street, N.W., 202-661-2440. <http://www.pineadc.com/>

6 THE GREAT INKA ROAD: ENGINEERING AN EMPIRE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Now a UNESCO World Heritage site, the ancient Inka Road stretches for an astonishing 20,000 miles over mountains and valleys, across rivers, and through the deserts of what is now Colombia,



Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile. With Cusco as its hub, messengers, soldiers, workers, merchants, and officials traveled the Inka Road by foot, using llamas as pack animals. “The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire” tells the story of the Inka Road with artifacts from across the Inka empire and will be on view at the National Museum of the American Indian June 26, 2015–June 1, 2017

National Museum of the American Indian, 4th St. and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20560, 202-633-6644, www.nmai.si.edu

7 OYSTERS & 8 CRAFT BEER VIRGINIA

Virginia is running neck-and-neck with D.C. as a top 2015 foodie destination. Its well-regarded wineries are now complemented by booming craft beer breweries and world-class restaurants serving excellent local seafood and produce.



Chrysler Museum of Art

7 The big news is that oysters are back in Virginia! After a dip in production, the oyster industry is on the rebound, and Virginia is now the country’s largest producer of fresh, farm-raised oysters. With seven different oyster regions and dozens of yearly oyster festivals, roasts, and tours, Virginia offers plenty of opportunities to sample the briny treats! Check out this guide to Virginia’s regional oyster flavors to plan your trip! www.virginia.org/RegionalOysterFlavors/

8 Beer is big business in Virginia, now home to more than 60 craft breweries, including Wild Wolf, Blue Mountain, and Devil’s Backbone. Craft beer tours sample the wares of microbreweries from Roanoke to Alexandria, and craft beer festivals pair brew with music, oysters, barbecue and fun. August is Virginia Craft Beer Month, a great time for visitors to create their own craft beer tours. www.virginia.org/craftbeer/

9 CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

Following a \$24 million expansion and renovation, including the construction of two new wings, the

Chrysler Museum of Art on Norfolk’s Hague waterfront houses a collection of nearly 30,000 objects spanning 5,000 years. Known for its European and American painting and sculpture, the museum also showcases African, Asian, Islamic, and Pre-Columbian art and Federalist and Art Nouveau furnishings. Its extensive glass collection, regarded as one of the country’s best, includes Tiffany blown glass, windows and lamps, English and French glass, and a contemporary collection. General admission is free; traveling exhibitions may have admission fee.

Chrysler Museum of Art, One Memorial Place, Norfolk, VA, 23510, 757-664-6200, www.chrysler.org

10 FIREFLY MUSIC FESTIVAL DOVER, DELAWARE

In its fourth year, Delaware’s Firefly Music Festival presents four days of musical performances on nine stages by more than 125 emerging and established artists. Spread out over 300 acres, the festival offers camping hubs, an outdoor coffeehouse, a brewery, a bazaar, hammock areas, a headphone disco, a farmer’s market and an arcade. Last year’s festival drew 80,000 attendees a day from all 50 states and 17 countries.

Firefly Music Festival, June 18-21, The Woodlands, Dover, Delaware, www.fireflyfestival.com