

10

Small-Town DISCOVERIES



VIRGINIA

1 KILMARNOCK Sip hand-crafted, award-winning wines at Good Luck Cellars, and look for bald eagles and deer at nearby Belle Isle State Park whilst you stay in this pedestrian-friendly town on Virginia's Northern Neck peninsula.

2 WOODSTOCK Admire the Shenandoah County Court House — designed by President Thomas Jefferson — and slumber in cosy inns surrounded by the verdant scenery of the Shenandoah Valley in the fourth-oldest town in Virginia.

3 SMITHFIELD Grab a table with panoramas of the Pagan River at Smithfield Station, where dishes like sweet potato-encrusted rockfish hit the spot. Or bite into a mouth-watering ham roll at Smithfield Inn, one of the many places to sample the town's world-famous Virginia ham.

4 ABINGDON Stroll the cobblestone pavement of the 20-block historic district, lined with art galleries and shops. Hop on the Virginia Creeper Trail, a 34.3-mile rail-to-recreation trail from Abingdon to Whitetop, Virginia, that caters to hikers and cyclists.

5 WARRENTON Roam the trails at nearby Sky Meadows State Park, examine the works of local artists at five art galleries in Old Town Warrenton and tour the Fauquier History Museum at the Old Jail, housed in an old prison complex dating back to 1808.

MARYLAND

6 MONKTON Be amazed by one of the world's top topiary gardens — featuring shrubs and trees intricately clipped into ornamental shapes — at Ladew Topiary Gardens. Stop into Maryland's first winery, Boordy Vineyards, for a tasting hosted in their historic 19th-century fieldstone barn.

7 CUMBERLAND Climb aboard the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad for a ride through the Allegheny Mountains, and check out the historic log cabin where President George Washington manned a command post in the mid-1750s.

8 BOONSBORO Take advantage of close proximity to Greenbrier and South Mountain state parks, as well as the Appalachian Trail, for outdoor immersion. Famed author Nora Roberts may now own the charming Inn BoonsBoro, but the property's history dates back to just after the American Revolution.

9 CHESAPEAKE CITY Learn the rich history of the waterway built in the early 19th century to connect the Delaware River and Chesapeake Bay at the C&D Canal Museum, and don't pass up a sunset cruise on the canal.

10 BERLIN Join the locals at welcoming eateries in the revitalised historic downtown like Rayne's Reef Soda Fountain & Grill and Fins Ale House & Raw Bar. Book a room at the quaint Holland House bed-and-breakfast, housed in a former doctor's residence from the 1900s.



From top: The Martha Washington Inn, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Western Maryland Scenic Railroad, Visit Maryland.