AFFIRE DAYS IN ANAPOLIS



FALL/WINTER
-2021-EDITION





The air is different here. Born of the special mix that is the Chesapeake Bay, Severn River and Spa Creek, Annapolis has the carefree, breezy feel of a vacation enclave.

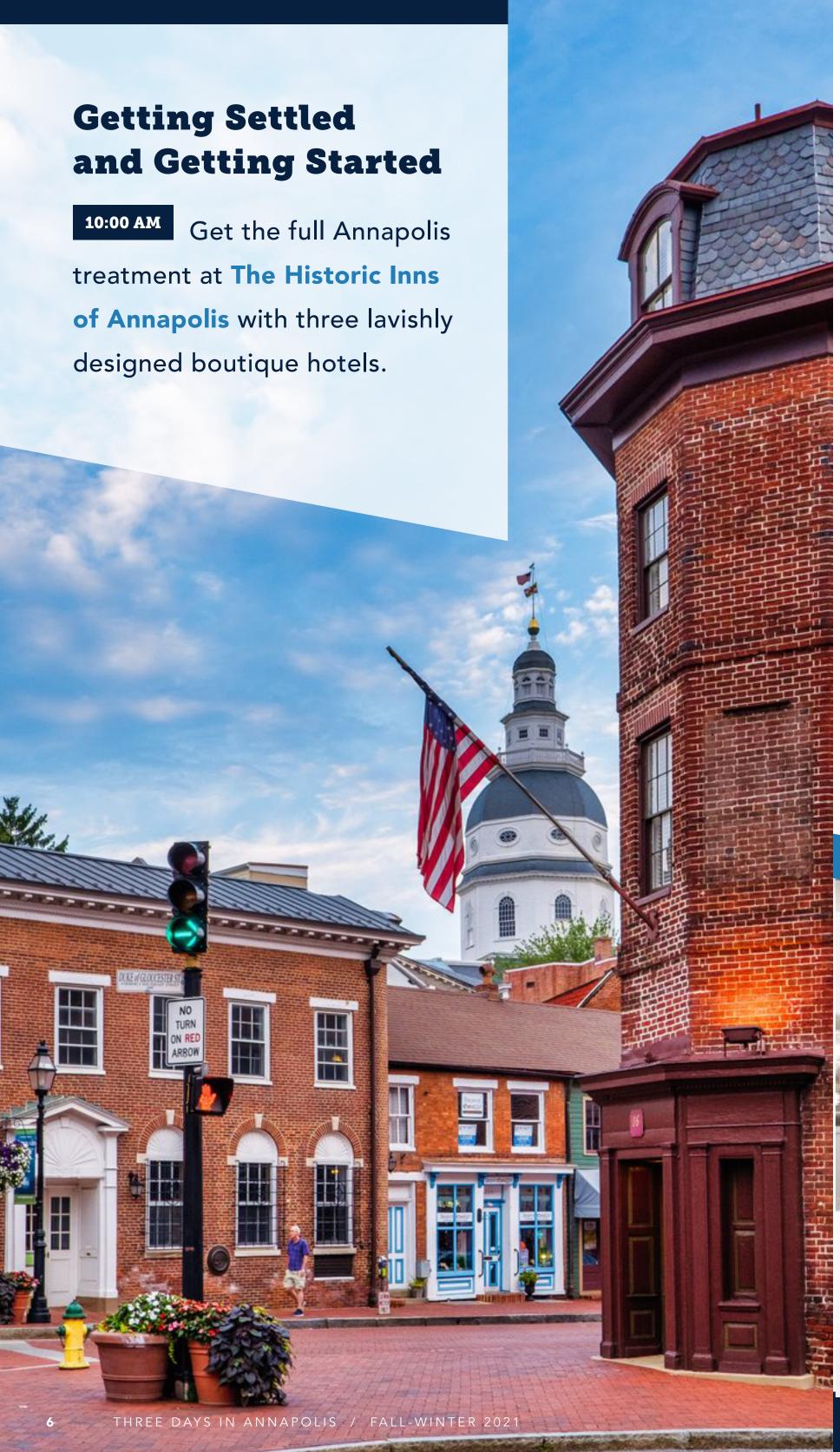
Marry this with charm-filled cobblestone streets, row houses marching in 18th-century perfection, an elite military academy and incredible local eateries featuring fresh seafood plucked from the waters, and you'll discover a dreamy resort town that you can take in over a weekend or a lifetime—and it's especially magical in the fall.



Traveling There

Arriving in the morning will give you the full day to explore and get into the rhythm of relaxation. If you're traveling by car, you'll be glad to know that downtown Annapolis is only minutes from US-50. If you're flying into our fair city, you'll want to book your flight to BWI Airport (Baltimore-Washington International). Only a 35-minute drive through the fall foliage, it's the closest airport—and as the hub for discount airlines like Southwest, it's affordable too.

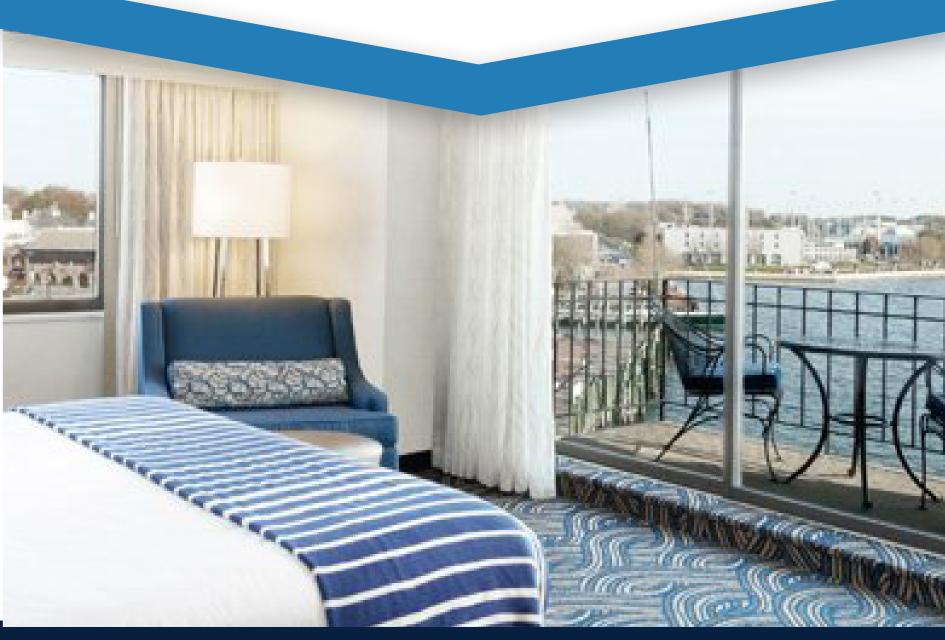




All nestled in the Annapolis historic district, Governor Calvert House, Robert Johnson House and Maryland Inn provide the perfect blend of Victorian period pomp with today's modern comforts and amenities.

Perhaps you'd like a different vantage point? Check yourself into the **Annapolis Waterfront Hotel**, a key location for Marriott Hotel's luxurious Autograph Collection with expansive views of the Chesapeake.

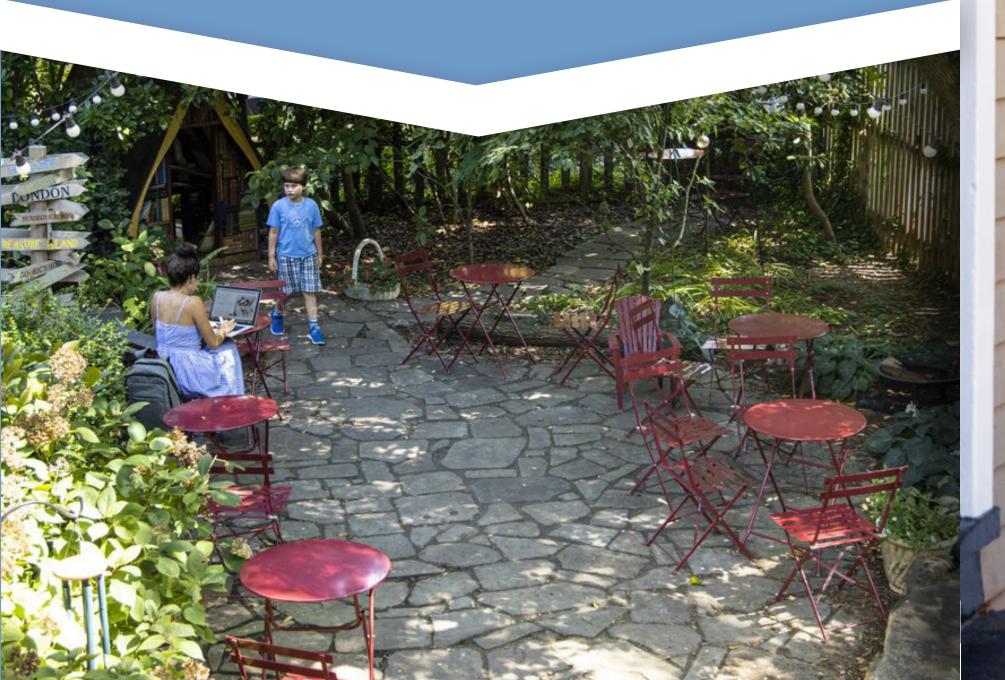
This Annapolis institution is beautifully appointed with upscale modern maritime decor and a stunning waterfront restaurant. In fact, it's the only waterfront hotel in Annapolis, and rooms feature over-water balconies so you can immerse yourself in the sunrise or just watch the water world go by.



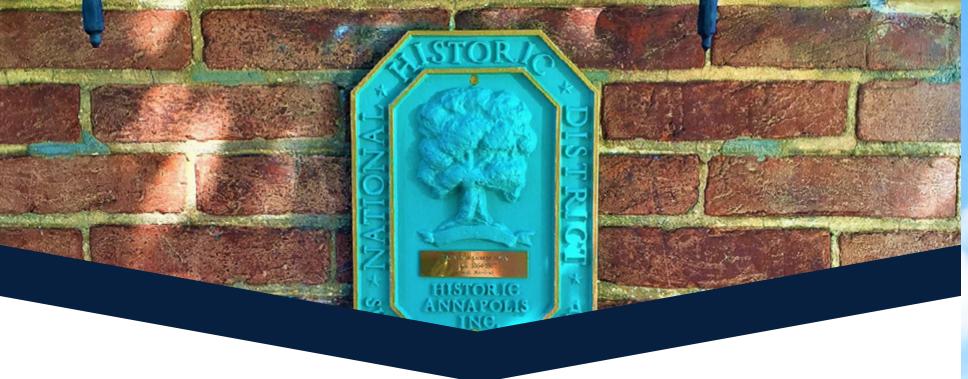
Greet the Day

ahead! Bitty & Beau's Coffee is an incredible experience. Run by intellectually and developmentally disabled people, the coffee is excellent and so is the service. Founder Amy Wright was named CNN Hero of the Year in 2017 and the coffee shop has been featured on "The Today Show," "Good Morning America," "The Rachael Ray Show" (official coffee of), in People Magazine and more.

Just a short stroll down the street, you can enjoy the crisp fall air and indulge in the "ridiculously good coffee™" served up by Brown Mustache Coffee. Pair it with their fresh-made local eats, including delectable donuts, cookies, pastries, chocolates and kombucha. Not far from the Naval Academy, they're housed in an old rowhouse with comfortable, cheerful outdoor seating.







Feel the History

Visit one of the most iconic representations of Annapolis, **The Maryland State House**. It's the only state house that served as our country's capital and the only statehouse in contiuous legislative use. From November 26, 1783, to August 13, 1784, the Continental Congress met in the Old Senate Chamber, and these walls gave witness to George Washington's resignation as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army and the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War.

Even Thomas Jefferson and James Madison once sat atop the dome and looked out over Annapolis. Alas, you cannot. However, you can take a free self-guided tour any day of the week between 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (except Christmas and New Years Day). Come discover the treasures here, including historical paintings, Washington's resignation letter and some of the very furniture from that time in history. History speaks to you here.



Grab Some Eats

You're sure to have worked up a healthy appetite after all of that time traveling. Since Annapolis is world-famous for its local blue crabs and melt-in-your-mouth crab cakes, you'll have a bushel to choose from. Some of our favorites serving up this must-savor are:

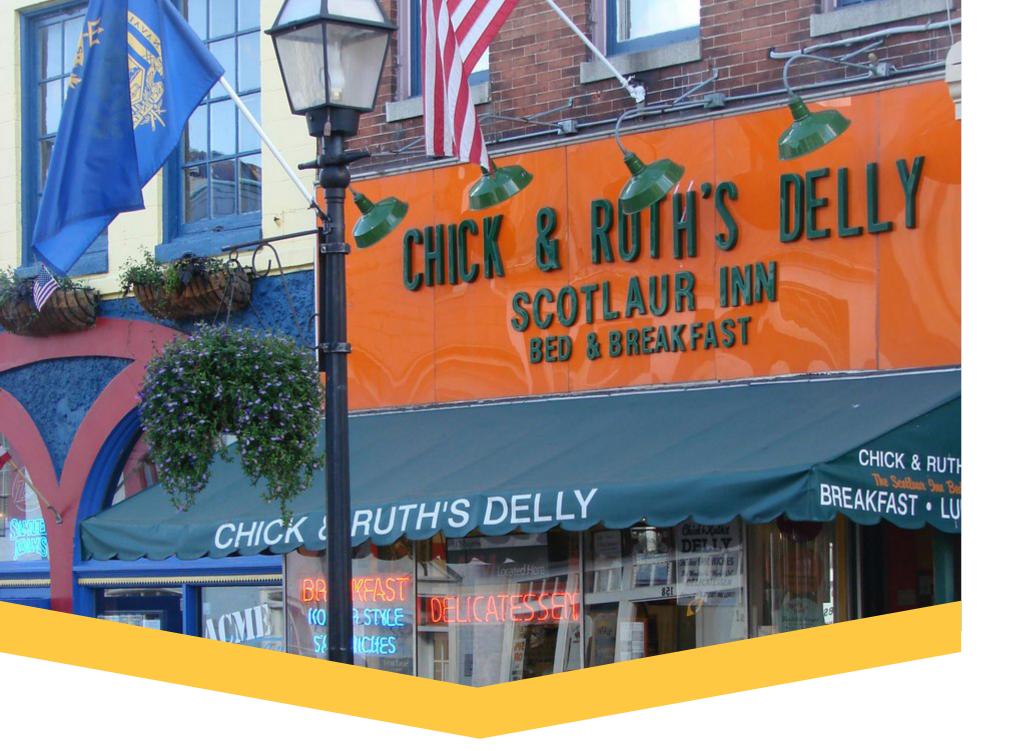




Boatyard Bar & Grill

Ranked #2 for "The Best Bar for Sailors in America," this cheery Annapolis institution is just a 10-minute walk through the leaves from downtown Annapolis. You'll rub elbows with midshipmen, tuck into "all killer, no filler" crab cakes ("Best crab cake sandwich you'll ever eat," raves Southern Living) partake in the fresh and salty raw bar and wash it all down with excellent cocktails. The restaurant itself recalls the smooth lines of a ship and is filled with maritime treasures.

When the weather is fair, you can take your meal outside on the charming patio. And the marina across the way lets you pull up like a true sailor. Landlubbers get easy parking—and the same gracious hospitality.



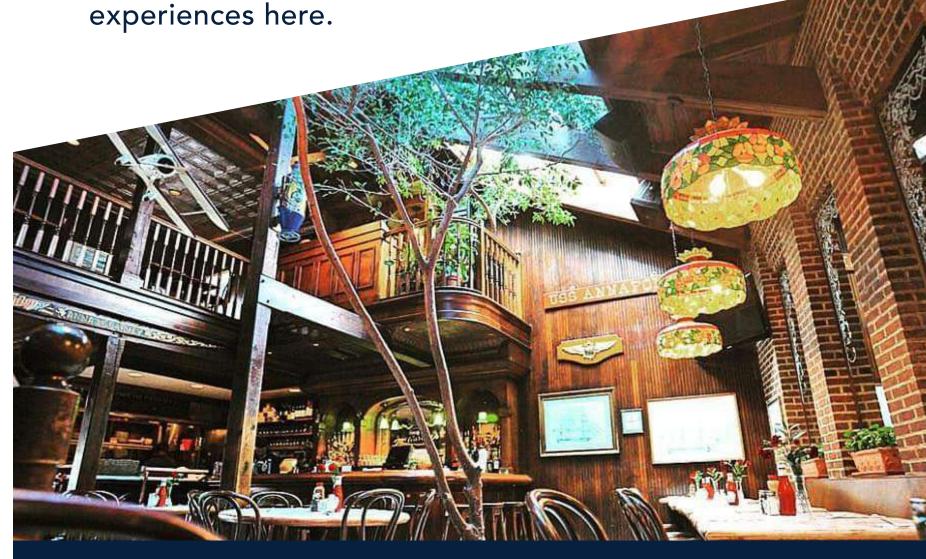
Chick & Ruth's of Annapolis

"Enjoy the Show," urges this 50+ year-old paean to great delis. Since 1989, they have kicked off every morning with the Pledge of Allegiance—and it doesn't get more American than fresh seasonal pies from scratch with no mixes or preservatives. Whether you're feeling a personal pizza pie or a creamed chipped beef on toast, you can find a delicious, hearty meal here. The crab cakes are billed as the biggest in Maryland. But if you're especially hungry, go for a Colossal Challenge (three-pound cheeseburger, anyone?). They offer outdoor seating and service that's both sweet and snarky—a real treat in Annapolis.

McGarvey's Saloon & Oyster Bar

Yes, they've got loads of delectable crab dishes! Plus fresh local steamed shellfish in their famous oyster bar, and even secret menus. Just steps from the Bay's infamous "Ego Alley" and its big boats, this place is an Annapolis staple, featuring classic Chesapeake-inspired dishes at home in a historic building with a private mezzanine and outdoor seating. This special place dates all the way back to 1879 but didn't become a restaurant until 1974 when Air Force Captain Michael Ashford named it with his grandmother's maiden name. Now owned by three former midshipmen, it continues to be a gathering place for locals and tourists alike.

But if seafood isn't your thing, not to worry—as you will find other incredible culinary



Davis' Pub in Eastport

This historic pub dates back to the 1920s when it was opened by George Washington Davis as a confections and general store. The motto says it all, "Where there are no strangers...only friends you haven't met." It's open every day from 11:00 AM - 12:00 AM with plenty of outdoor seating that channels a beachy vibe one block from Back Creek. In autumn, the temperate breezes make you feel alive. You can enjoy pub tots, fried pickles, fresh salads, a grilled steak sandwich, pulled pork barbecue, burgers, a kids menu and more, not to mention a full assortment of bar offerings. It's a local gem that will make you feel like a true Annapolitan for the afternoon!

Preserve

16

This relative newcomer to the Annapolis food scene (last decade) offers a casual American menu with a bevy of seasonally inspired and beautifully prepared vegan and vegetarian options—in addition to craveable short ribs, bone-in lamb shoulder chops and butter baked scallops. Recommended by Southern Living magazine, they are passionate about pickling, preserving and fermenting. Locally, responsibly sourced delicious food is their specialty, from fall-perfect butternut squash salad to vegan pot de creme, all complemented by natural wines and a relaxed but beautiful atmosphere. Find other incredible culinary experiences here.





Satisfy Your Appetite for Fun

You'll return just in time to enjoy dinner and a view. With the "Bay Fever" burning from your recent sail, these restaurants with Chesapeake Bay views won't disappoint:

Pusser's Caribbean Grille

Voted "Best Dockbar Restaurant" by What's Up?

Annapolis, this is the view you've been waiting for.

Pair it with a charming ambiance, fresh local Caribbean fare and tropically prepared seafood like Jamaican jerk tuna, Pusser's famous surf & turf, key lime pie, colorful tropical drinks including their "world-famous Painkiller," consistently warm service, live music on the dock, indoor dancing on the weekends—and you've got a fun and festive dinner date that's worthy to cap off your cruise.





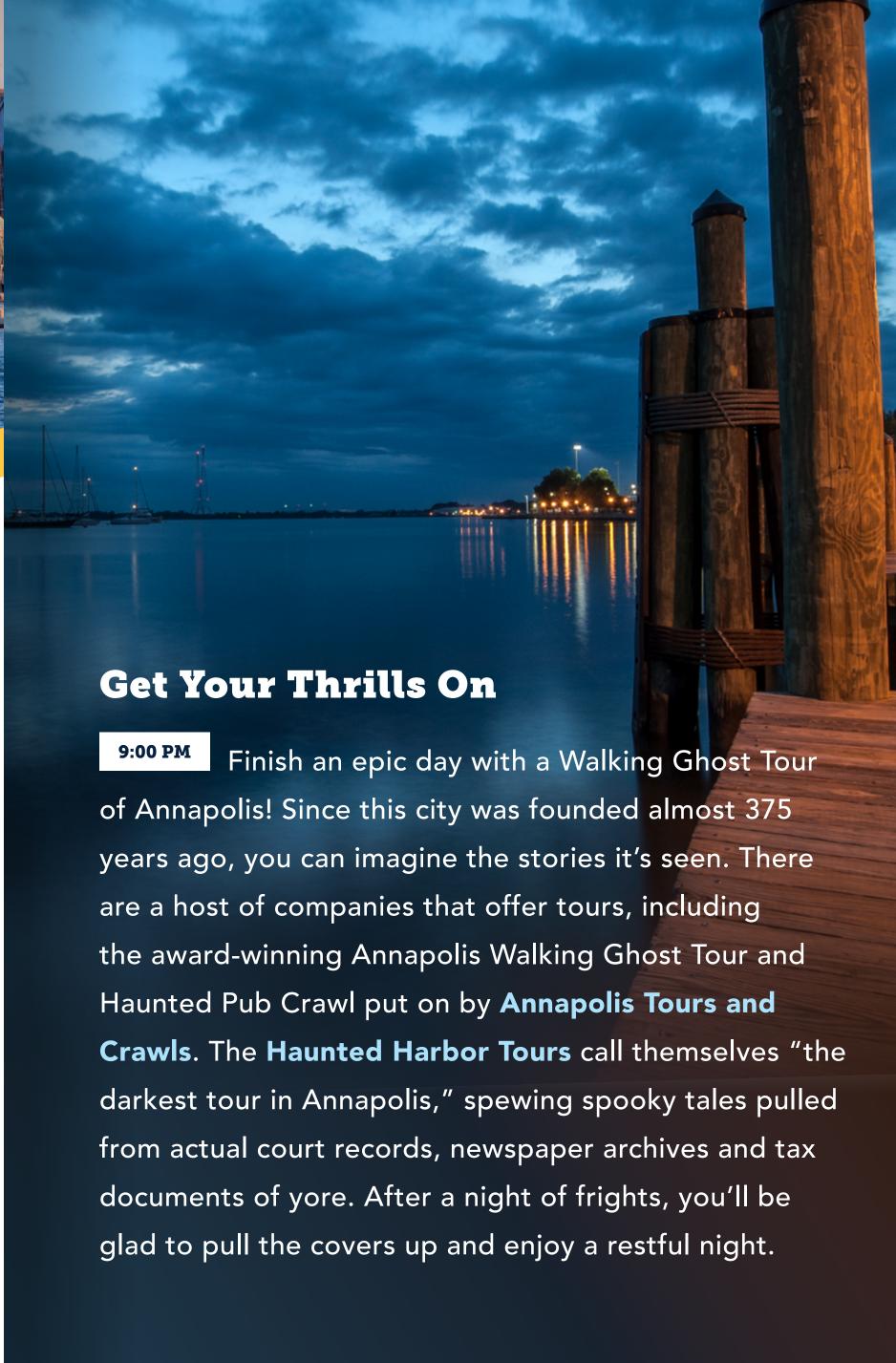
Carrol's Creek Cafe

This special occasion restaurant offers fine dining on the Chesapeake that honors its historical heritage with new American innovations like sea scallops with lump crab and prosciutto ham, an herb-encrusted rockfish fillet and a jumbo lump crab sandwich, just to name a few. It's nutfree and customer-focused, with extensive craft beer and wine lists. Their elegantly appointed dining room takes in a riveting view of the bay in all it's fall glory, and the service is attentive and friendly. Kids are welcome too!



The Chart House

Formerly a boathouse perched at the edge of Spa Creek, this fine dining establishment offers one of the best waterfront views in Annapolis and an equally stunning interior, anchored by a stylish roaring fire. Its sophisticated menu embraces local cuisine, so you can dine on shrimp beignets, an assortment of fresh fish plucked from the sea, lemon herb-crusted salmon, Australian lobster tail and filet mignon. There are mocktails to make your mouth water and an impressive wine list. You may have seen other Chart Houses in similarly sensational locations, but this one is pure Annapolis.







Feed Your Senses

9:30 AM
Time for breakfast at **The Iron Rooster**,
where they're "makin' bacon" every day. This local
tradition fries, bakes and makes breakfast all day,
as well as lunch, supper and drinks. They pride
themselves on their strong sense of community
and traditional comfort food with a twist, like their
selling-like-hotcakes Roostarts (their take on a pop
tart), waffle churros and breakfast quesadillas with all
the fixin's. They offer outdoor seating and a historic
atmosphere. Dig in and fill up for a fun fall day ahead!





Visit the United States Naval Academy (five-minute walk from Iron Rooster). Founded in 1845, the Naval Academy underwent a full-scale renovation in 1908, when the Academy's striking Beaux-Arts architecture was unveiled. Since that time, it has grown to include over 4,400 midshipmen plus faculty and staff. One of the most prestigious schools in the country, the USNA is training the naval leaders of tomorrow.

You can literally step into history when you step onto their campus, known as the "Yard." Military pride and tradition permeate every wide walkway, from the rousing formal parades on Worden Field to the perfectly coordinated, goose-bump-inducing **noon formation** before lunch at Bancroft Hall.





There is so much to see here. You can start at the Armel-Leftwich Naval Academy Visitor Center, which is a minimuseum, featuring the inspiring movie *The Call to Serve*, as well as interactive kiosks, exhibits and a well-stocked Go Navy! **Gift Shop**.

And if you don't have space in your suitcase, you can hop on their **online shop** and have your Navy treasures shipped home.



Enjoy a Naval Academy Tour

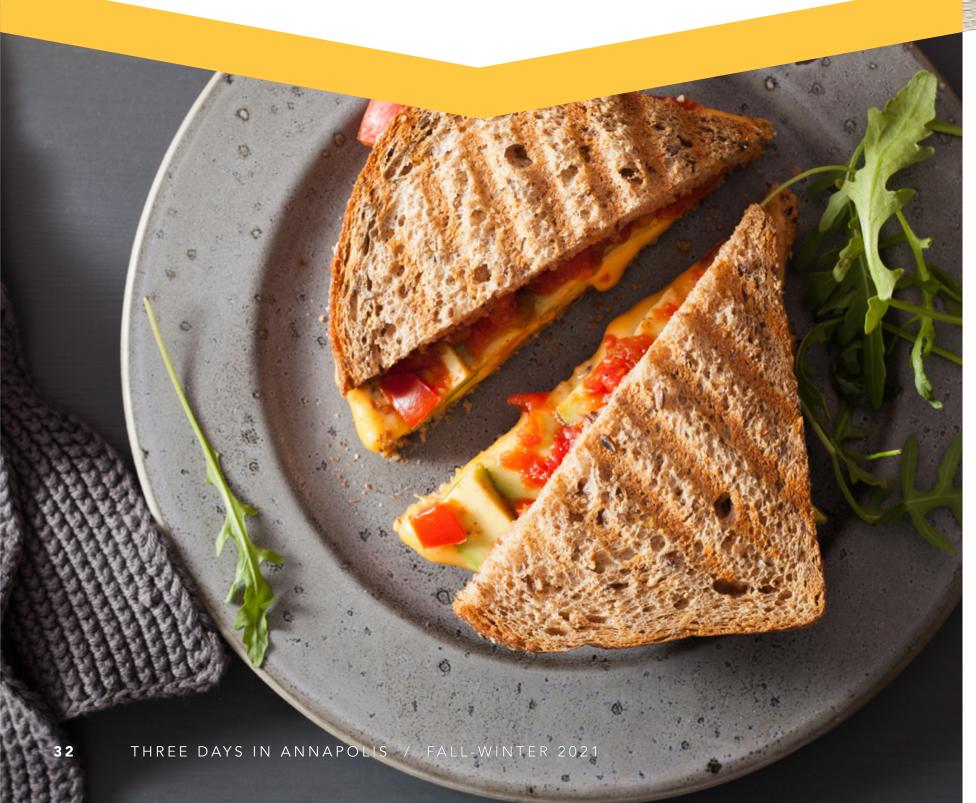
From there, you can **set off on a fascinating tour** of the Yard, decked out in full autumn regalia. There are **many different options**, including public walking tours that leave every half hour most days from 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Or you can book a walking or driving private tour that runs the gamut, from the history of the Academy to its military traditions, to tours for kids and veterans.





Break for Lunch

amongst the crisply uniformed midshipmen at **Drydock Restaurant**. Nestled in Dahlgren Hall, this Yard favorite features the "best pizza in town," deli-style sandwiches and tasty burgers. Served up in the spot that used to house the famous Ring Dances and ice rink, it features a plethora of Navy memorabilia and a jovial Navy atmosphere.





If you want to hit another Yard hangout, you can also swing by 1845 Coffee, the friendly neighborhood coffee shop housed in the oldest building on the Yard, so named for the year it was built. In addition to some savor-worthy coffee offerings, you can enjoy fresh salads, wraps and pastries.



Immerse Yourself in Nature

After a day on the Yard, you can take a brief stroll in the cool autumn air to the William Paca Garden in the center of Downtown Annapolis. William Paca was the Governor of Maryland and signatory to the U.S. Declaration of Independence, among other noteworthy roles. Working from a 1772 portrait, gardeners labored to bring this prestigious Annapolitan's garden back to life, with the native plants, water features and garden layout from that time period. The William Paca Garden is the only Annapolis garden true to history and open to the public. Get in touch with stunning nature while you travel to a quieter time.











Wander West Annapolis

This best-kept secret is a few minutes from Downtown Annapolis and a short walk from Navy Stadium. The district is generating more and more attention for its amazing boutiques and shops but has kept its cozy neighborhood feel. You can spend some time exploring the nooks and crannies.





Ring the Dinner Bell!

You're probably ravenous by now! From West Annapolis to Eastport, there are many options to satiate your appetite or grab a drink. Here are a few of our favorites:

Flamant

This Belgian/French gem has garnered national attention for its innovative cuisine. The atmosphere of casual luxury is also a big draw. A deceptively simple but exquisite menu features thoughtfully designed dishes like house-smoked trout, rabbit ragout and blue cheesecake, as well as a four-course meal option. Chef Frederik de Pue wows the DC area with his culinary prowess and intriguing presentations. He and his team focus on local foods and even harvest their own vegetables and herbs on site. Whether you dine inside or on the bohemian chic patio, you're in for a memorable meal.







Forward Brewing

Brewing in Eastport are a great way to cap off a fall night. While it's a new addition to the old town of Annapolis, this sustainably-focused brewery has made a big splash over the last year and a half! Husband and wife owners, Cam and Claire Bowdren, started the Clean Bay, Clean Beer initiative, which donates money to add precious water-filtering oysters to the Chesapeake Bay—and their nano brewing setup is created with the environment in mind. You'll enjoy a friendly vibe and great beer in their airy taproom or out on their front porch, where you can toast the end of an excellent day.

Wake up refreshed and ready to enjoy some more time in Naptown, as the locals call it.

Grab Some Breakfast (or Brunch)!

Bakers & Co

Head here for some of the best croissants and lattes in the area. In fact, you'll be grateful for your foresight if you take a loaf or two home (maybe one for the pet sitter to go with that wine) to enjoy every last crumb. This small shop in Eastport is open only on the weekends and is dedicated to serving up sweet, savory and all-around scrumptious delights, including their olive oil and sea salt focaccia and kalamata olive and rosemary focaccia, alongside quiche, muffins and other tasty treats that pair with expertly brewed local coffee. It's one of the best coffee shops in





Evelyn's Anapolis

Annapolitans are big fans of the brunch.

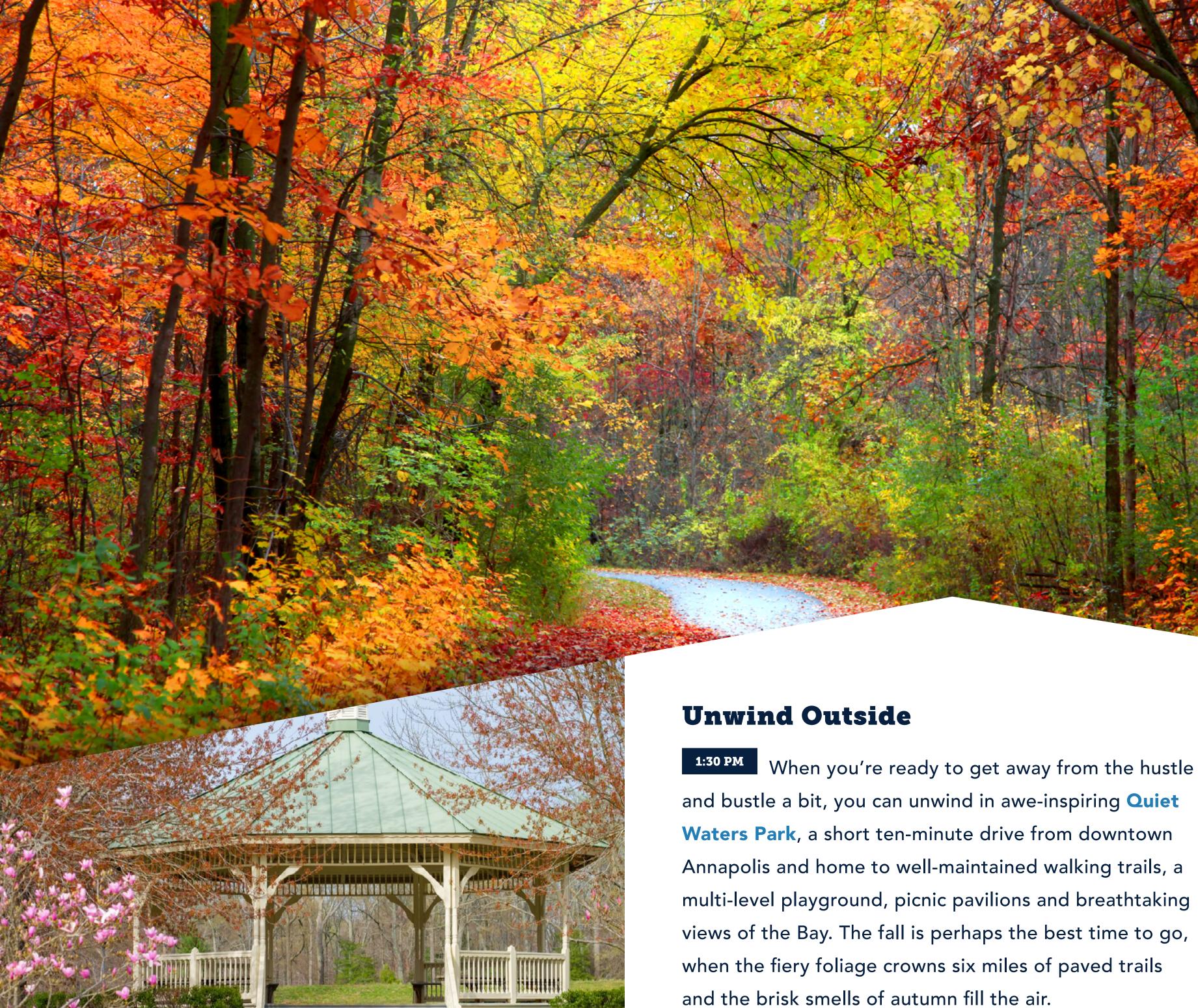
If you can stay for the day, Sunday brunch is a must! In West Annapolis, Evelyn's Annapolis has been cooking up local, organic homestyle meals for years. Try their "Feed the Navy" three-egg omelet with steak, Italian sausage, bacon, cheddar, home fries and a whole lotta love! You will not leave hungry.



Make One Last Shop

any unique gifts, souvenirs or thank you's to bring home, not to worry. You can hit the shops before you hit the road. The beautiful downtown historic district is full of unique shops, so you're sure to find a special gift for that special someone (and yourself!). Whether it's tea, olive oil, jewelry, pottery, apparel, seasonally inspired foods, home goods or more—you can take in the sights and smells of the harbor as you enjoy a full sensory shopping experience!





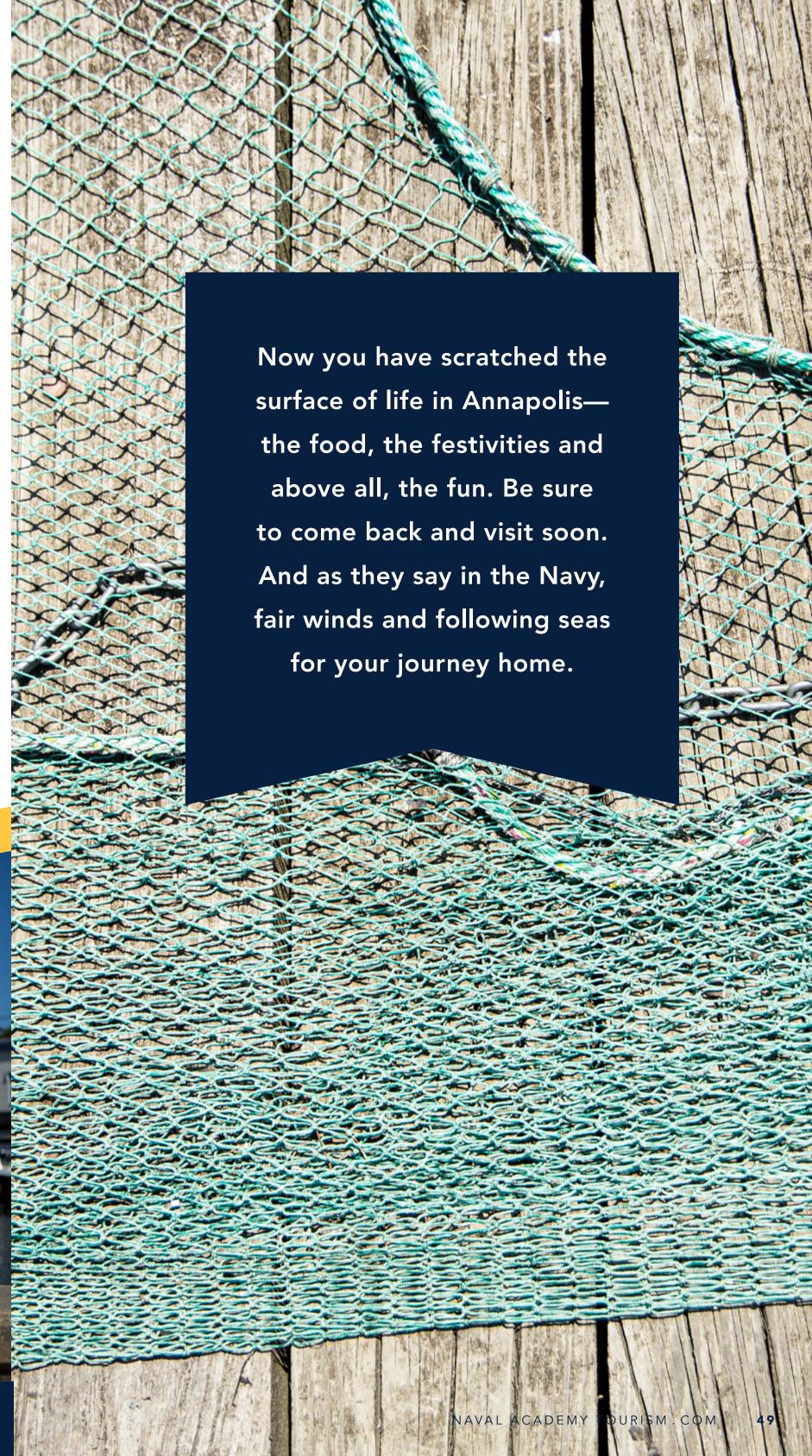
and bustle a bit, you can unwind in awe-inspiring Quiet Waters Park, a short ten-minute drive from downtown Annapolis and home to well-maintained walking trails, a multi-level playground, picnic pavilions and breathtaking views of the Bay. The fall is perhaps the best time to go,

Have a Sweet Ending

Last stop: Ice cream! The Red Bean offers high-quality ice cream made with locally sourced dairy, as well as premium coffees and whole leaf teas. Bold and innovative like the power of "red," this spot is a community treasure and a true Annapolis experience.

You can also sample the sweets at the Annapolis Ice Cream Company. Voted "best ice cream in Annapolis for 18 straight years," this stalwart features changing menus with tons of creamy flavors as well as pie and cobblers mixed into their ice cream and donut ice cream sandwiches. Want sugar cereal on your ice cream? Why not? If a kid ran an ice cream shop, this would be it!







NAVAL ACADEMY TOURISM. YOUR KEY TO THE YARD.

You might be forgiven for thinking that Annapolis is a sleepy seaside town, but what makes this southern city even more exciting is the premier military academy it houses, the formidable and beautiful U.S. Naval Academy, which currently has an 8% acceptance rate and ranks among the most competitive schools in the country. Fueled by the drive of America's future naval leaders, the town exudes an incredible pride that's bolstered by centuries of history and intense hard work.

The Naval Academy Business Services Division (NABSD) has twelve departments with nineteen business units that support the midshipmen of the Academy. They wash and dry-clean 1.5 million pounds of clothing, outfit the midshipmen with 160,000 clothing and uniform items, perform 50,000 haircuts, fund 140 club sports and other activities—and so much more.

You can help support these important services by supporting the NABSD. Check out their website, NavalAcademyTourism.com, to help you plan an unforgettable trip to the Naval Academy from top to bottom. Every time you dine at a USNA restaurant, shop at the USNA Gift Shop or NavyOnline.com or take Annapolis Naval Academy tours, the proceeds go directly to the Brigade of Midshipmen.



VISIT ANNAPOLIS AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY: FALL IN LOVE WITH THE AREA

Visit Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (VAAAC) is a love letter to the capital of Maryland and its surrounding treasures. This non-profit supports the thousands of businesses that serve leisure and business travelers. By forming partnerships with state agencies, NGOs, and community organizations, they bring Annapolis and the local area to life for the millions of people that travel here each year.

Come experience the wonder of Annapolis for yourself. We look forward to welcoming you here!







