

## Washington, DC and Baltimore List September 2024

### Why DC Matters

Washington, DC has always been important, no question about it. The national monuments, museums and government institutions make it worth visiting. But, to me, DC seemed to be underachieving as a city. For all its relevance and clout, it lacked a certain “sense of place” and was more like a nice collection of buildings, but with no soul. DC is very organized, but I’m not sure I’d say it’s well planned. The National Mall and all of the government buildings are spread out and difficult to navigate on foot. The skyline is flat due to height restrictions and there is a certain blandness to most government buildings. Also, the nature of DC “residents” is challenging. By definition, a significant part of the population is transient and changes based on election results. Despite the historic stereotypes, DC has matured over the past 15 or 20 years. It has evolved into a real urban place with some great neighborhoods. Georgetown has always been good (and now it’s better), but DuPont Circle, the U Street/14<sup>th</sup> Street area (known as Shaw Neighborhood) and Penn Quarter (one of the best urban neighborhoods in U.S. that is anchored by a sports arena) are all success stories. Capitol Hill, Capitol Riverfront/Navy Yards and The Wharf neighborhoods are up and coming. DC finally started building places for people. Better restaurants have emerged. Downtown living has skyrocketed and the vast majority of young interns and government workers live in urban lofts, apartments or condos. The architecture and urban design have also improved. One of the great things about DC is that the entire region has developed around transit and, while it took some time, the results are favorable and DC shows how mass transit like the Metro can positively shape growth. There is a lot more authenticity to DC than you might think and it’s a neat urban destination that is growing into the great city it should be.

### DC Hotels

Canopy Hotel at The Wharf  
975 7<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest  
(202) 488-2500

[www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcacupy-canopy-washington-dc-the-wharf](http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcacupy-canopy-washington-dc-the-wharf)

Hay Adams  
800 16<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 638-6600

[www.hayadams.com](http://www.hayadams.com)

Kimpton Hotel Monaco  
700 F Street Northwest  
(202) 628-7177

[www.monaco-dc.com](http://www.monaco-dc.com)

Riggs Hotel  
900 F Street Northwest  
(202) 638-1800

[www.riggsc.com](http://www.riggsc.com)

### **DC Hotels (continued)**

Sofitel Washington  
806 15th Street Northwest  
(202) 730-8800  
[www.sofitel.com](http://www.sofitel.com)

The Dupont Circle Hotel  
1500 New Hampshire Avenue Northwest  
(202) 483-6000  
[www.doylecollection.com](http://www.doylecollection.com)

Waldorf Astoria  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 695-1100  
[www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcawawa-waldorf-astoria-washington-dc](http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcawawa-waldorf-astoria-washington-dc)

Watergate Hotel  
2650 Virginia Avenue Northwest  
(844) 617-1972  
[www.thewatergatehotel.com](http://www.thewatergatehotel.com)

Willard Intercontinental  
1401 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 628-9100  
[www.washington.intercontinental.com](http://www.washington.intercontinental.com)

### **DC Restaurants**

Ben's Chili Bowl (lunch)  
1213 U Street Northwest  
(202) 667-0909  
[www.benschilibowl.com](http://www.benschilibowl.com)

Bobby Van's Steakhouse  
809 15th Street Northwest  
(202) 589-0060  
[www.bobbyvans15thdc.com](http://www.bobbyvans15thdc.com)

Bourbon Steak, Four Seasons Hotel  
2800 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 944-2026  
[www.bourbonsteakdc.com](http://www.bourbonsteakdc.com)

Café Riggs  
900 F Street Northwest  
(202) 788-2800  
[www.riggsgdc.com/eat-drink/caf-riggs](http://www.riggsgdc.com/eat-drink/caf-riggs)

**DC Restaurants (continued)**

Clyde's of Georgetown  
3236 M Street Northwest  
(202) 333-9180  
[www.clydes.com](http://www.clydes.com)

Del Mar  
791 Wharf Street Southwest  
(202) 588-7272  
[www.delmardc.com](http://www.delmardc.com)

District Taco (lunch)  
1309 F Street Northwest  
(202) 347-7359  
[www.districttaco.com](http://www.districttaco.com)

El Presidente  
1255 Union Street Northeast  
(202) 318-4820  
[www.elpresidentedc.com](http://www.elpresidentedc.com)

Fiola (eat at the bar)  
601 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest (enter on Indiana)  
(202) 628-2888  
[www.fioladc.com](http://www.fioladc.com)

Founding Farmers  
1924 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 822-8783  
[www.wearefoundingfarmers.com](http://www.wearefoundingfarmers.com)

Hank's Oyster Bar  
1624 Q Street Northwest  
(202) 462-4265  
[www.hanksoysterbar.com](http://www.hanksoysterbar.com)

Kramers (breakfast)  
1517 Connecticut Avenue Northwest  
(202) 387-1400  
[www.kramers.com](http://www.kramers.com)

Le Diplomate  
1601 14th Street Northwest  
(202) 332-3333  
[www.lediplomatedc.com](http://www.lediplomatedc.com)

**DC Restaurants (continued)**

Mallard  
1337 14<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 567-2650  
[www.mallarddc.com](http://www.mallarddc.com)

Mi Vida at The Wharf  
98 District Square Southwest  
(202) 516-4656  
[www.mividamexico.com](http://www.mividamexico.com)

Old Ebbit Grill  
675 15th Street Northwest  
(202) 347-4800  
[www.ebbitt.com](http://www.ebbitt.com)

Pearl Dive Oyster Palace  
1612 14<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 319-1612  
[www.pearldivedc.com](http://www.pearldivedc.com)

Pizzeria Paradiso – Dupont Circle  
2003 P Street Northwest  
(202) 223-1245  
[www.pizzeriaparadiso.com](http://www.pizzeriaparadiso.com)

Rare Steakhouse and Tavern  
1595 I Street Northwest  
(202) 800-9994  
[www.raresteaks.com](http://www.raresteaks.com)

Succotash Prime  
915 F Street Northwest  
(202) 849-6933  
[www.succotashrestaurant.com](http://www.succotashrestaurant.com)

The Grill at The Wharf  
99 Market Square Southwest  
(202) 916-5996  
[www.thegrilldc.com](http://www.thegrilldc.com)

The Hamilton  
600 14<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 787-1000  
[www.thehamiltondc.com](http://www.thehamiltondc.com)

### **DC Restaurants (continued)**

The Prime Rib (CTU favorite)  
2020 K Street Northwest  
(202) 466-8811  
[www.theprimeribs.com](http://www.theprimeribs.com)

Zaytinya  
701 9th Street Northwest  
(202) 638-0800  
[www.zaytinya.com](http://www.zaytinya.com)

### **Bars and Cocktail Lounges DC**

Busboys & Poets  
2021 14<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 387-7638  
[www.busboysandpoets.com](http://www.busboysandpoets.com)

Churchkey (great beer selection)  
1337 14<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 567-2576  
[www.churchkeydc.com](http://www.churchkeydc.com)

Doyle Bar  
1500 New Hampshire Avenue Northwest  
(202) 483-6000  
[www.doylecollection.com/bardupont](http://www.doylecollection.com/bardupont)

EDGAR Bar and Kitchen, Mayflower Renaissance Hotel  
1127 Connecticut Avenue Northwest  
(202) 347-2233  
[www.edgarbarandkitchen.com](http://www.edgarbarandkitchen.com)

Hotel Washington – Vue Rooftop Bar  
515 15<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest  
(202) 661-2400  
[www.vuerooftopdc.com](http://www.vuerooftopdc.com)

The Next Whisky Bar and Kingbird Bar, The Watergate Hotel  
2650 Virginia Avenue Northwest  
(202) 827-1600  
[www.thewatergatehotel.com](http://www.thewatergatehotel.com)

Off the Record Bar, The Hay-Adams Hotel  
800 16th Street Northwest  
(202) 638-6600  
[www.hayadams.com/dining/off-the-record](http://www.hayadams.com/dining/off-the-record)

### **Bars and Cocktail Lounges DC (continued)**

Peacock Alley Bar, Waldorf Astoria Hotel  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 868-5042

[www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcawawa-waldorf-astoria-washington-dc/dining/peacock-alley/](http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dcawawa-waldorf-astoria-washington-dc/dining/peacock-alley/)

Quill Bar, Jefferson Hotel  
1200 16th Street Northwest  
(202) 448-2300

[www.jeffersondc.com/quill](http://www.jeffersondc.com/quill)

Round Robin Bar (CTU Favorite)  
1401 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
(202) 628-9100

[www.washington.intercontinental.com/food-drink/round-robin-scotch-bar](http://www.washington.intercontinental.com/food-drink/round-robin-scotch-bar)

### **DC Museums**

American History  
14<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest  
(202) 633-1000

[www.americanhistory.si.edu](http://www.americanhistory.si.edu)

Kennedy Center Tour (weekdays 10 – 5)  
2700 F Street Northwest  
(202) 467-4600

[www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org)

Library of Congress (tour)  
101 Independence Avenue Southeast  
(202) 707-5000

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

National Building Museum (best gift shop in DC)  
401 F Street Northwest  
(202) 272-2448

[www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org)

National Gallery of Art, East Building (I.M. Pei Architect, Modern Art, eat lunch at cafeteria in tunnel downstairs)  
401 Constitution Avenue Northwest  
(202) 737-4215

[www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)

### **DC Museums (continued)**

Portrait Gallery (also American Art Museum)  
801 F Street Northwest  
(202) 633-8300  
[www.npg.si.edu](http://www.npg.si.edu)

### **DC Places to Visit**

Day trip to Old Town Alexandria, King Street, Lucky Knot Shop  
Capital Riverfront, Yards Park, Bluejacket Brewery  
Shaw Neighborhood, 14<sup>th</sup> Street/U Street Corridor  
14<sup>th</sup> Street /U Street Corridor  
9<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, Florida Avenue, Atlantic Plumbing Building  
Shopping in Georgetown, outdoor drinks at Washington Harbour  
The Wharf

## **Baltimore List September 2024**

### **Why Baltimore Matters**

Baltimore faces a lot of challenges. It's not the business or economic force it used to be. There's too much city, and too little to do with it. Lots of vacant and underutilized real estate. But some success stories. Waterfront projects at Inner Harbor are the national model for tourist oriented urban redevelopment. Harbor East is good new mixed-use neighborhood. Fells Point, Mount Vernon and Federal Hill are interesting older neighborhoods with good housing stock and some notable restaurants. Camden Yards is the best "new construction" ballpark in the U.S. and an excellent example of how to integrate a sports stadium into the downtown fabric. Better art museums than you would think and a nice city to spend a long weekend. In some ways, Baltimore is inspiring. It could have totally failed, and it probably should have. But it has tried a lot of things and reinvented itself in many ways. Many old harbor or port cities would be lucky to have the development that Baltimore does. However, there are also many challenges ahead. This is a tough city to turn around, but one that proves solid urban planning and policy decisions can make a difference.

### **Baltimore Hotels**

Kimpton Hotel Monaco  
2 North Charles Street  
(443) 692-6170  
[www.monaco-baltimore.com](http://www.monaco-baltimore.com)

Marriott Harbor Waterfront  
700 Aliceanna Street  
(410) 385-3000  
[www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)

Royal Sonesta Harbor Court (close to Camden Yards)  
550 Light Street  
(410) 234-0550  
[www.sonesta.com](http://www.sonesta.com)

Sagamore Pendry  
1715 Thames Street  
(443) 552-1400  
[www.pendryhotels.com](http://www.pendryhotels.com)



## **Baltimore Restaurants**

Blue Agave, Federal Hill (lunch)  
1032 Light Street  
(410) 576-3938  
[www.blueagavemexicanfood.com](http://www.blueagavemexicanfood.com)

Charleston  
1000 Lancaster Street  
(410) 332-7373  
[www.charlestonrestaurant.com](http://www.charlestonrestaurant.com)

Cinghiale, Harbor East  
822 Lancaster Street  
(410) 547-8282  
[www.cgeno.com](http://www.cgeno.com)

Loch Bar  
240 International Drive  
(443) 961-8949  
[www.lochbar.com](http://www.lochbar.com)

Maximón, Four Seasons  
200 International Drive  
(410) 927-3020  
[www.maximonrestaurant.com](http://www.maximonrestaurant.com)

Oceanaire Seafood Room  
801 Aliceanna Street  
(443) 872-0000  
[www.theoceanaire.com](http://www.theoceanaire.com)

Ouzo Bay  
1000 Lancaster Street  
(443) 872-0000  
[www.ouzobay.com](http://www.ouzobay.com)

Pitango Gelato, Fell's Point  
802 South Broadway  
(410) 236-0741  
[www.pitangogelato.com](http://www.pitangogelato.com)

Rec Pier Chop House  
1715 Thames Street  
(443) 552-1300  
[www.recpierchophouse.com](http://www.recpierchophouse.com)

### **Baltimore Restaurants (continued)**

Rusty Scupper  
402 Key Highway  
(410) 727-3678  
[www.rusty-scupper.com](http://www.rusty-scupper.com)

Rye Street Tavern  
225 East Cromwell Street  
(443) 662-8000  
[www.ryestreettavern.com](http://www.ryestreettavern.com)

Taco Fiesta (lunch)  
618 South Exeter Street  
(410) 234-3782  
[www.tacofiesta.com](http://www.tacofiesta.com)

Tagliata  
1012 Fleet Street  
(410) 224-5830  
[www.tagliatarestaurant.com](http://www.tagliatarestaurant.com)

Thames Street Oyster House  
1728 Thames Street  
(443) 449-7726  
[www.thamesstreetoysterhouse.com](http://www.thamesstreetoysterhouse.com)

The Prime Rib  
1101 North Calvert Street  
(410) 539-1804  
[www.theprimeribs.com](http://www.theprimeribs.com)

The Ruxton Steakhouse  
720 Aliceanna Street  
(443) 688-9488  
[www.theruxtonsteakhouse.com](http://www.theruxtonsteakhouse.com)

Topside at Hotel Revival  
101 West Monument Street  
(410) 727-0065  
[www.hotelrevivalbaltimore.com](http://www.hotelrevivalbaltimore.com)

## **Baltimore Museums and Sights**

American Visionary Art Museum  
800 Key Highway  
(410) 244-1900  
[www.avam.org](http://www.avam.org)

Baltimore Museum of Art  
10 Art Museum Drive  
(443) 573-1700  
[www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org)

North downtown, near John Hopkins University, on Charles Street, 3 miles north of Inner Harbor; Gertrude's is a great museum restaurant in BMA sculpture garden

Sports Legends Museum at Camden Yards  
301 West Camden Street  
(410) 727-1539  
[www.baberuthmuseum.com](http://www.baberuthmuseum.com)

Walter's Art Museum (in Mount Vernon neighborhood, downtown)  
600 North Charles Street  
410-547-9000  
[www.thewalters.org](http://www.thewalters.org)

## **Baltimore Neighborhoods**

Fell's Point neighborhood, east of Inner Harbor, Admiral Fell Inn; Broadway and Thames Street; Canton is next district over to the east (O'Donnell Square)

Inner Harbor Water taxi, harbor cruise, Power Plant (Pratt Street), visitor center is very well done

Mount Vernon neighborhood, north Charles Street, one mile north of Inner Harbor, climb to top of Washington Monument

Harbor East Aliceanna Street, new urbanism, Whole Foods and lots of good restaurants

Federal Hill Light Street, Cross Street, Federal Hill Park

Baltimore Peninsula

Ride a Scooter Baltimore has several scooter share services, including Lime and Bird

Charm City Helicopters