BCTDA Annual Meeting 2017



JIM MUTH

BCTDA Chair Beaufort House Inn



Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority





PAULA WILBUR

Immediate Past Chair

The Biltmore Company





GARY FROEBA

Vice Chair

The Omni Grove Park Inn





LEAH ASHBURN

Highland Brewing Company





CHIP CRAIG

Greybeard Rentals





JOHN ELLIS

Diana Wortham Theatre, Retired





HIMANSHU KARVIR

Virtelle Hospitality, LLC





JOHN LUCKETT

Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville





JOHN MCKIBBON

McKibbon Hotel Management





COMMISSIONER JOE BELCHER

Buncombe County Commission, Ex-Officio





COUNCILWOMAN JULIE MAYFIELD

Asheville City Council, Ex-Officio



In Appreciation of your Dedicated Service

John Ellis

BCTDA Board 2011 - 2017



In Appreciation of your Dedicated Service

Paula Wilber

BCTDA Board 2011-2018

BCTDA Chair 2015 - 2017



Stephanie Pace Brown

President & CEO

Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

BCTDA ANNUAL REPORT



HISTORY OF THE BCTDA

- 1983 Occupancy Tax established by state law and BCTDA created to invest the proceeds to attract overnight visitors
- **1985** 1% added
- 2001 | 1% added to create Tourism Product Development Fund
- 2015 2% added, ratio maintained
- 2016 Fiduciary Task Force created to modernize the administrative structure of the CVB
- 2017 Independent organization established



July 1

- Asheville CVB transitioned to Explore Asheville, a non-profit formed by the BCTDA
- New home! With AIR, Sports Commission and Asheville Symphony
 - A hub for tourism partner organizations
- The Visitors Center continues to be operated by the Chamber of Commerce as a member benefit

Discovery, inside and out

Explore ASHEVILLE

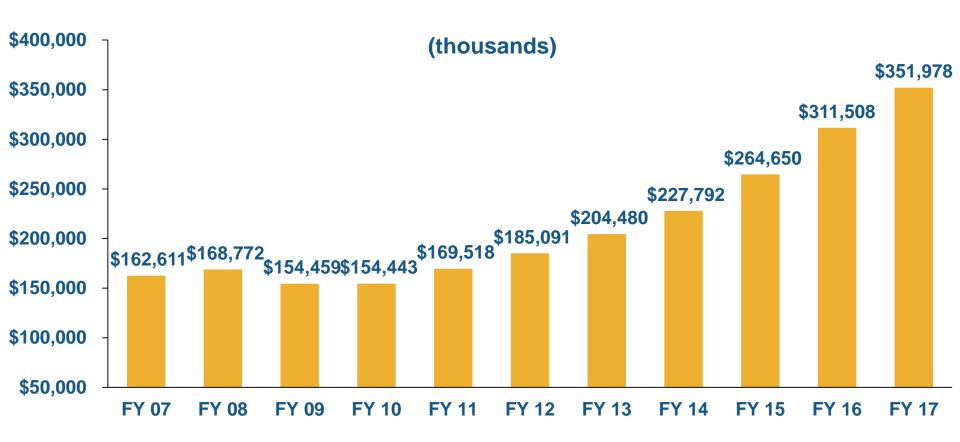
Same People

Same Work

Still FREE
To more than 1,200 local businesses

DESTINATION PERFORMANCE

Taxable Lodging Sales: Reported to Buncombe County Up 13%



Source: Buncombe County

Demand: Total Hotel Rooms Sold *Up 3.8%*

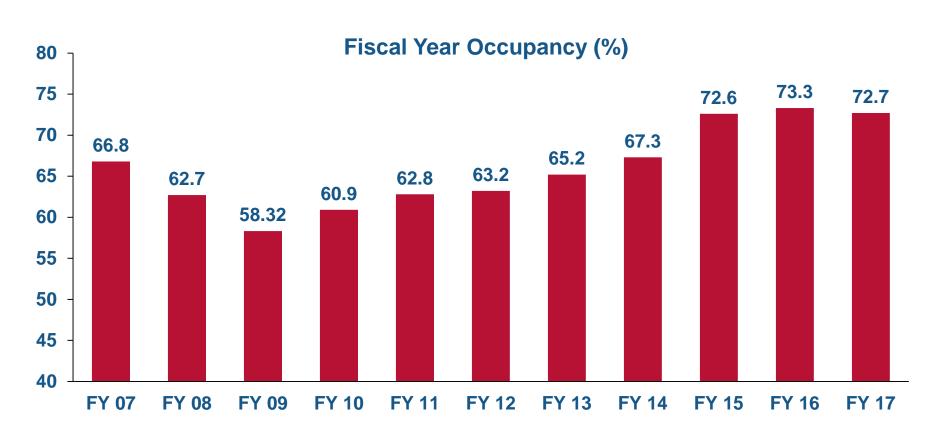




Source: Smith Travel Research, participating hotels

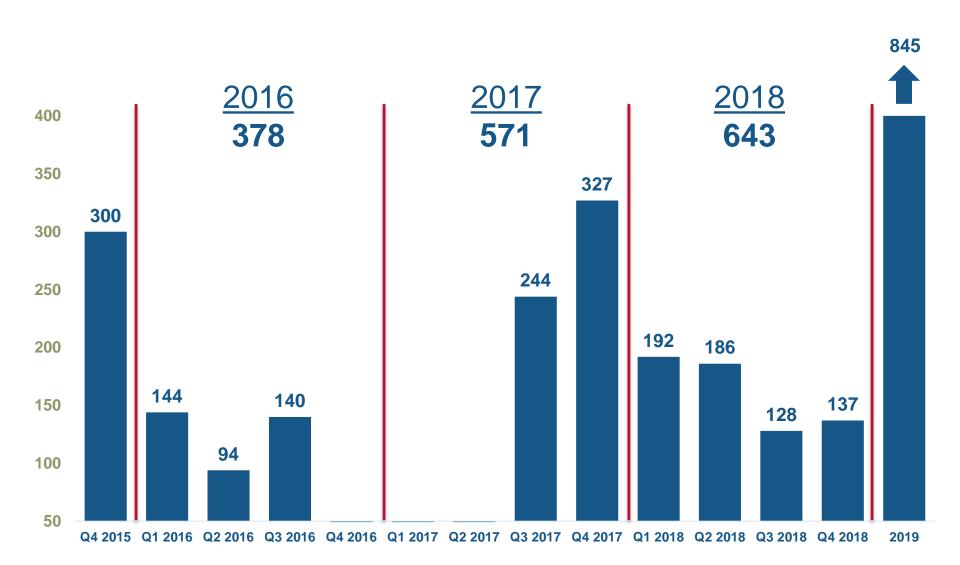
Occupancy: Percentage of Rooms Sold

-0.8%: Supply Up 4.6%



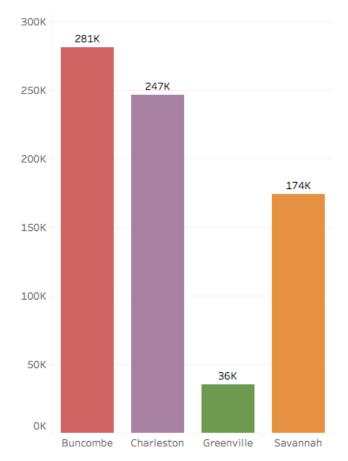
Source: Smith Travel Research, participating hotels

Buncombe County Supply Growth 2,737 New Rooms



Short-Term Rentals Grow Share *Airbnb sold 281,000 room nights in FY 17*

Hotel demand does not show the full picture, however, as Buncombe County outpaces competitors in AirBnB demand.



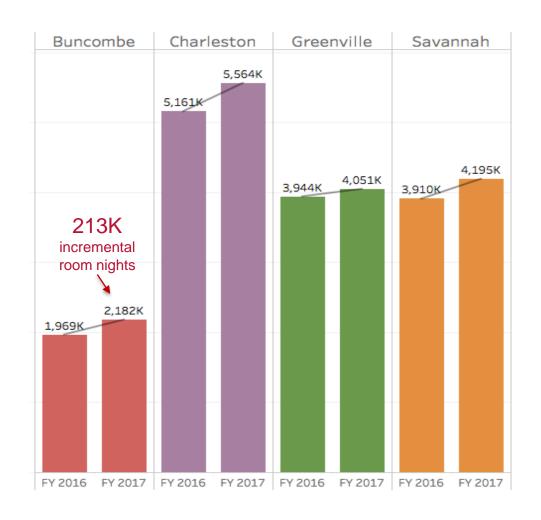
AirBnB Room Nights

With hotel and AirBnB demand combined, Buncombe County is outpacing key competitors' growth.

FY 2016/2017

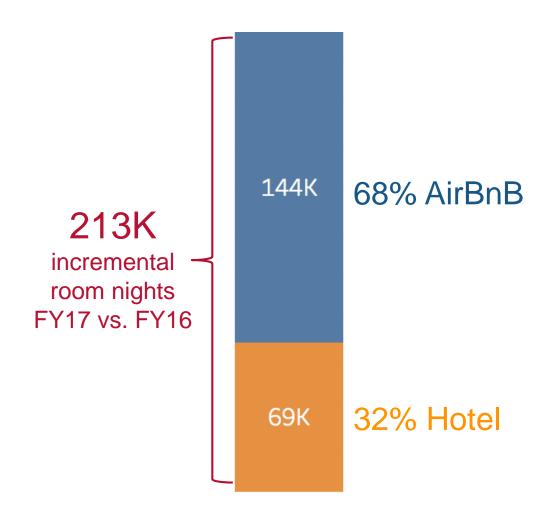
Hotel + AirBnB Demand Growth

- 10.8% Buncombe
- 7.8% Charleston
- 2.7% Greenville
- 7.3% Savannah



Growth rate of hotel plus AirBnB demand per Smith Travel and AirDNA data, the year ending 6/30/17 versus the year ending 6/30/16. Includes AirBnB entire place demand, not private room or shared room demand. VRBO and other hotel alternatives are not included.

AirBnB accounts for 68% of demand growth in FY 2017.



Source: Hotel demand data from Smith Travel and AirBnB data from AirDNA. Includes AirBnB entire place demand, not private room or shared room demand.

In Buncombe County, compared to key competitors, AirBnB accounts for a far greater share of available rooms.

| Destination | AirBnB Listings* | Hotel Rooms | AirBnB Share of Available Lodging | AirBnB Share of Booked Rooms |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Buncombe County | 1,337 | 7,229 | 15.6% | 12.9% |
| Charleston | 1,056 | 19,599 | 5.1% | 4.4% |
| Greenville | 147 | 8,992 | 1.6% | 0.9% |
| Savannah | 732 | 15,431 | 4.5% | 4.1% |

Marla Tambellini

Deputy Director/Vice President of Marketing Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

Marketing & PR





MARKETING PERFORMANCE

Advertising reach of 626 million

PR driven editorial reach of nearly 5 billion via print, broadcast and online coverage

Total editorial publicity value of \$7.68 million

4.3 million ExporeAsheville.com user sessions

Social following of nearly 345,000



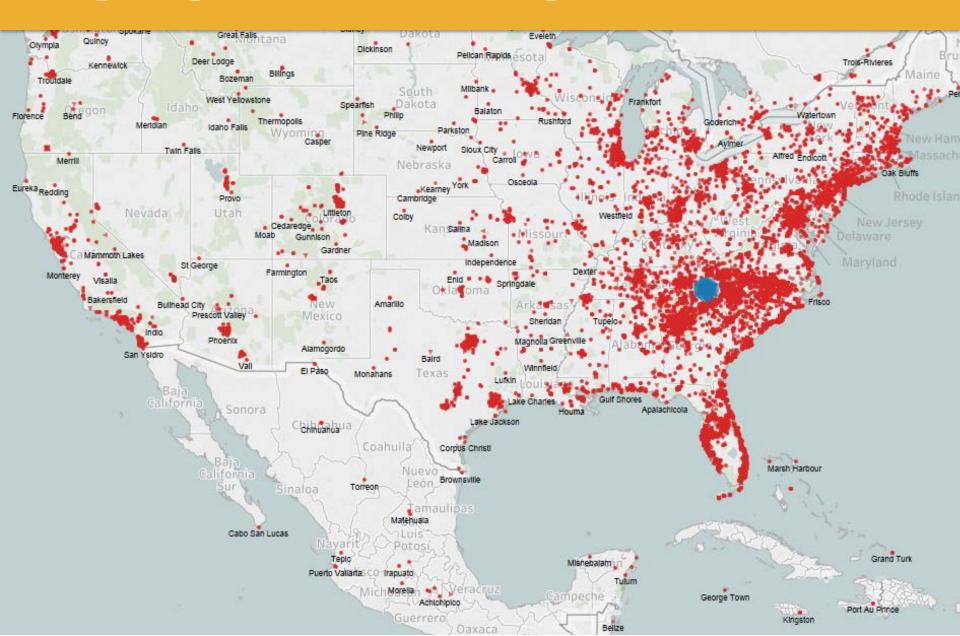
2016-2017

Total of 15 Broadcast Markets

16-17 expansion markets include:

Washington DC metro Florida: Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, West Palm Beach and Miami

VISITOR ARRIVALS



LET THE MAGIC FIND YOU CAMPAIGN



let the magic find you.



Otscovery, Inside and out













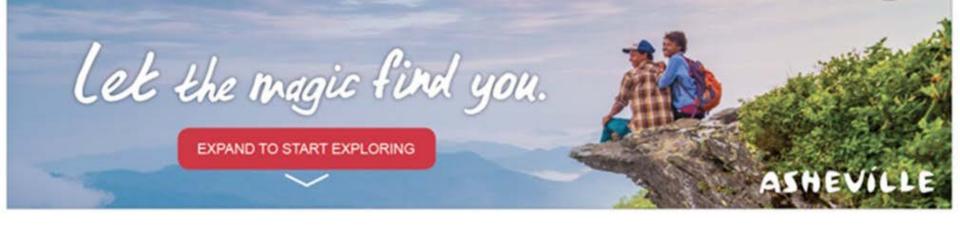
DIGITAL ADVERTISING

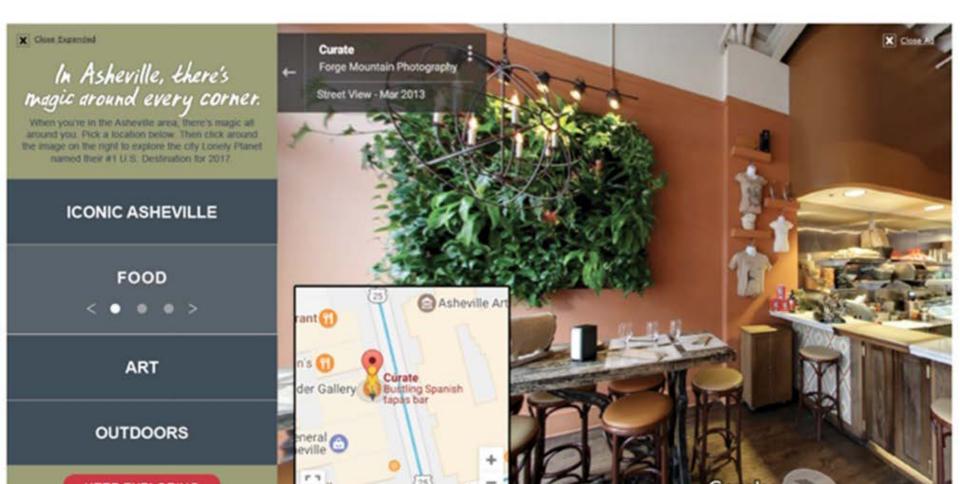












D.C. CAPITAL REGION BRAND PUSH





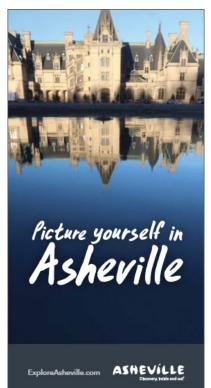




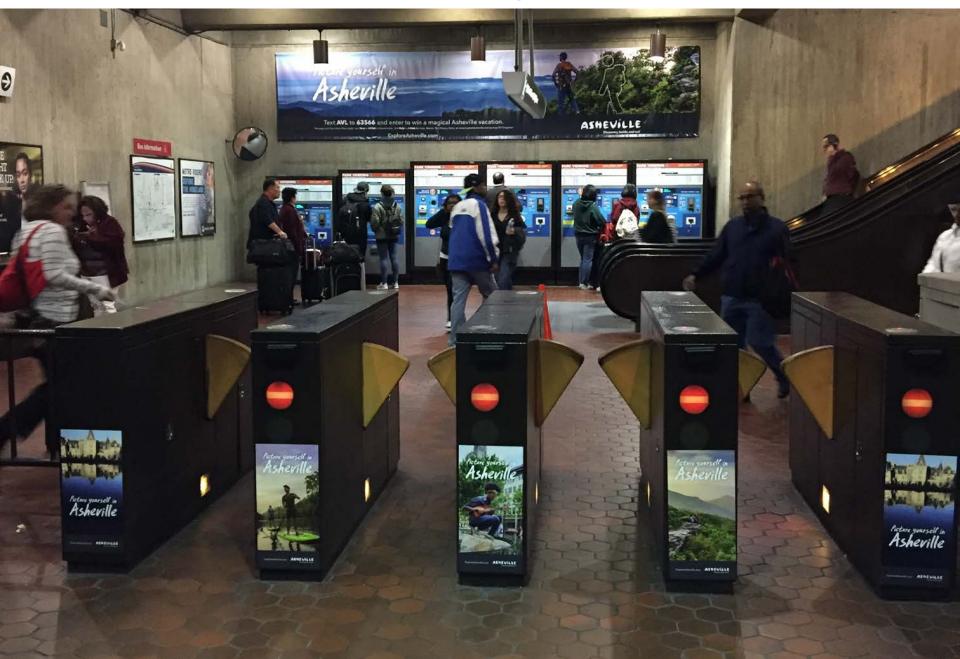








Estimated 1.5 million impressions over 4 weeks





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVEL PARTNERSHIP

45+ million reach | September 2016 – May 2017



ASHEVILLE

Artists, musicians, and makers brew up urban magic in North Carolina's highlands

A WITCH, JOHNSON, DIT, and uplest between Hill Intention...

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Chemical lands dust point the French Board Lives, believille streets in high models that of security likes, with evaluation migh-bedieveds, business that e.g., and a restraining, from the side, or finitely a field, in military with distributions are effective from the property of the relations who picker at Pickhani Port to residence who picker as Pickhani Port to residence who picker as pick and port to residence who picker as pick and port to residence the residence of the state of the residence of the state of the second port to the second point of the seco



Reinventing the rules is an Asheville tradition—be it visual art, cool crafts, funky music, theater, or film.



The Art of Asheville

Discover up-and-coming painters, potters, and designers in a city that's brimming with talent.

WWW.NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.COM







ASHEVILLE





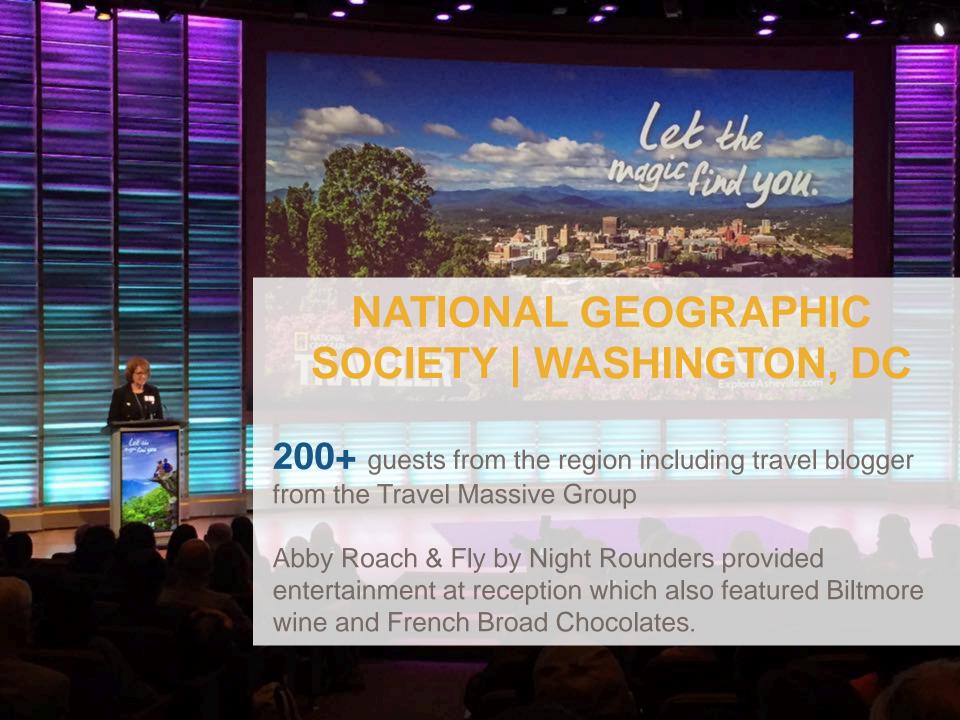












WINTER CAMPAIGN



Explore Asheville's undiscovered season.



With the best rates of the year.













DIGITAL ADVERTISING





















ENJOY BEST TRATES OF THE YEATZ

Choose a \$25 American Express Gift Card or an Asheville Goods gift box.

Limited time offer - January 1 through March 31

Book Online Below or Call 1-800-655-7514

Home

Packages

Help

My Cart

Package



Peak Perk Package

If the stay you are booking includes check-in dates between January 1 and March 31, 2017, you qualify for a Peak Perk! Choose either a \$25 American Express Gift Card, or an Asheville Goods gift box filled with delicious local products.

- · Step 1: Choose your hotel stay dates
- Step 2: Select your hotel and room and add to cart
- Step 3: Add your peak perk to the cart
- Step 4: Proceed through the checkout process to select your Peak Perk Gift Card or Local Gift Box
- Step 5: Redeem Peak Perks at the Asheville Visitors Center at 36 Montford Ave, close to downtown.

Included hotels

59

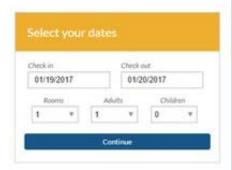
59 hotels to choose from

Included tickets



Asheville Peak Perk

\$25 AMEX Gift Card or Asheville Goods Gift Box







CONTENT PARTNERSHIPS

More than 7.6 million impressions



MATADOR VIDEOS



Sammy Visits Asheville

Music Video



Brew Video



Bellyak Video



MEDIA RELATIONS

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

This copy is for your personal, non-commercial use only. To order presentation-ready copies for distribution to your coleagues, clerks on http://www.direprints.com.

http://www.waj.com/articles/in-asheville-home-to-creft-beens-wine-scene-daes-1476975297

LIFE | FOOD & DRINK | ON WINE

In Asheville, Home to Craft Beer, a Wine Scene Rises

Known as Beer City U.S.A., Asheville might seem like the last place you'd want to o glass of wine. But a clutch of top wine bars and stores and restaurants with advent wine lists has made the city more than just a stop for hops



TASTE OF APPALACHIA Buzzy wine spots like tapas bar Córate, above, and Metro Wines, below, are giving bee Asheville a good name among cenophiles. PHOTO: EVAN SUNG

By LETTIE TEAGUE

Oct. 20, 2016 11:04 a.m. ET

MY NEW FAVORITE wine bar isn't in New York, Chicago or San Francisco. It's small North Carolina town mostly famous for craft beers.

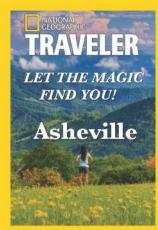
4.95 Billion Impressions















There's a small window of time for seeing the fall colors at their peak, and in many parts of North America, you haven't missed it yet. While leaves become more sparse and the thought of shoveling becomes much more real here in Canada, a long list of U.S. states are finally experiencing peak fall colors. These five destinations are the best



Generated 1.1 billion + media impressions

BEER MARKETING & TOURISM CONFERENCE



INFLUENCER PROGRAM

Divergent Travelers



Expert Vagabond



Anna Everywhere



Adventurous Kate



Travel Freak



Generated more than 28 million impressions

Returned more than 100 pieces of content, including images and video

Touched more than **50** local businesses



14 Reasons Why I'm Smitten with Asheville, North Carolina

I've been wanting to go to Asheville, North Carolina, for quite a long time. I'd heard that it was a beautiful town with a cool arts scene nestled in the Blue Ridge mountains. And I'd heard that it was a little drop of blue in a sea of red — or "the blueberry in the tomato soup," as one local told me — a liberal enclave within a strongly conservative region,... [Read more]



4 Perfect Days and Our Favorite Things to do in Asheville

July 12th, 2017 | 4 Comments





NORTH CAROLINA

Mini-Guide to Asheville NC

Asheville, or North Carolina itself, wasn't at the top of my list of places to visit. However, I think it definitely deserves more appreciation, as the Bohemian Asheville is surely one of a kind. From the...

AUG 10, 2017

2 COMMENTS



Asheville, North Carolina: Outdoor Adventure Mecca of the United States

Fourteen years ago, when I was looking at colleges, a small school by the name of Warren Wilson caught my eye. With a student body of just 800 people, it [...]

Keep Reading -->



Why Is Asheville North Carolina So Cool?

Matthew Karsten - 2 26

Asheville has to be one of the coolest small cities on the East Coast, with a relaxed bohemian vibe and adventurous spirit. Here are some fun things to do there!

PHASE 2 MUSIC

Paste

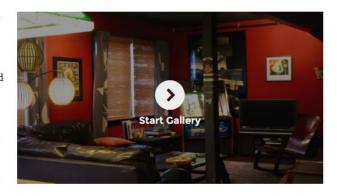
Sounds of the Southeast: Asheville, North Carolina

By Grace Williamson | April 18, 2017 | 12:30pm Photo by Grace Williamson

TRAVEL > GALLERIES > ASHEVILLE

Regardless of how many times you've been here, travelers can't help but return to Asheville,

North Carolina, time and time again. Once you've been exposed—infected—you are destined to be pulled back ... like being drawn by some subconscious magnetic force. The source of that magnetism is simple:



this city's singular energy and charisma. This Western North Carolina burg, with a population of around 80,000, is lodged in the mountains but still has a cosmopolitan heart. For instance, this is one of the few places where you can relax in a salt cave before walking around the block to see a street performance staged outside of a five-star restaurant.

The synapse that connects the vast numbers of well-curated oddities that make up the fabric of this town is music. Whether it be street performers, lively venues, or record shops this place knows how to make sounds ... and it revels in the echo of its own creations.

SMARTERTRAVEL

ARTS & CUILTURE Jun 19, 2017

9 Best Destinations for Music Lovers

7. Asheville, North Carolina, U.S.A.

The Music Scene: You read that right. Sure, Nashville has an unparalleled music scene — it is Music City, after all — but Asheville's got a good thing going too. The city has an emerging craft beer background that puts Portland to shame (sorry, Portland), and the scenery — eclectic neighborhoods backed by the Blue Ridge Mountains — coupled with the sound of drums, ukuleles and fiddles on every street corner is almost as intoxicating as the beer.

How to Experience It: Music brings locals and tourists together throughout the year, most notably during the Asheville Drum Circle on Friday evenings and during Shindig on the Green — a weekly gathering of musicians during the summer months. Bring your own instrument and join the fun!



Group Sales & Service





DIANNA PIERCE

VP of Sales Explore Asheville

BY THE NUMBERS

- 11,895 Direct client contacts
- 81,000 Indirect client contacts
- **30** Tradeshows, Marketplaces & Missions
- 31 Motorcoach Buyers Attended Christmasville FAM Trip
- **49** Independent Site Visits
- **220** AAA Staff in Training
- **4,000** Value Cards



BY THE NUMBERS

- 787 leads distributed (+1%)
 - **209,942** room nights (+4.3%)
- 376 leads turned definite (-4.1%)
 - **74,497** room nights (+14.7%)
- **424** groups serviced (+3.7%)







NATIONAL SPONSORSHIPS







Smartmeetings

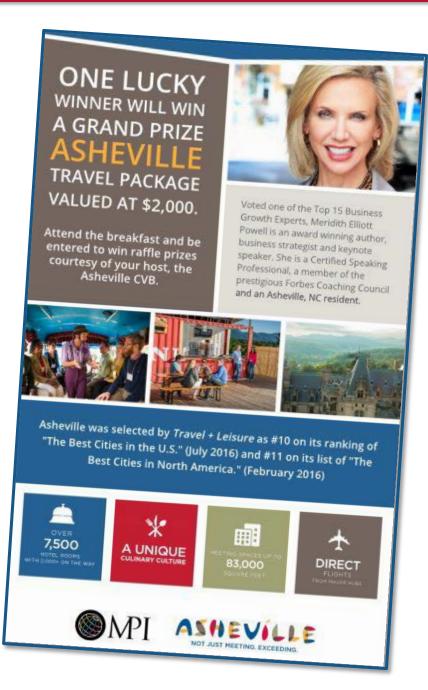




MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL







EVENTS

Martinis & Music at the Dallas Arboretum

35 Meeting Planners Hosted





MARTINIS & MUSIC AT THE DALLAS ARBORETUM 4.27.17

You're invited to join the Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau for a special evening of martinis and music at the Dallas Arboretum.

Thursday, April 27, 2017 6PM - 9PM Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden 8525 Garland Road Dallas, TX Full Event Information & RSVP



Named Lonely Planet's #1 Destination for 2017 and long celebrated for its bohemian flavor and superb quality of life, Ashaville offers meeting planners over 7,500 hotel rooms, the Ashaville Regional Airport with non-stops and easy connections and a range of conference hotel options.

conference hotel options.

Join us for the Arboretum's <u>Cool Thursdays Concert Series</u>

RSVP Here



Tina Porter, Senior Sales Manager Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau 628 258.6133 | <u>tporter@exploreasheville.com</u>

EVENTS

Top Golf Atlanta & Alpharetta



EVENTS

Ravenia Festival Chicago

10 Meeting Planners Hosted



EVENTS



32 Motorcoach Buyers Hosted



ASHEVILLE 48-HOUR



GROUP ADVERTISING & PR

GROUP ADVERTISING & PR

National Publications/Digital Placements we advertised in:

- Successful Meetings
- Meetings Today
- Association Forum
- MeetingsNet.com

The Asheville Meetings ad placed #1 for recall and readership in a February 2017 Signet Ad Study Report by Successful Meetings.



Public Affairs

Connecting Asheville area's 1,200 tourism industry partners with free sales and marketing offered through CVB channels





1,200 Industry Partners

19 Partner Events

1,327 Attendees

45,142 Partner Email Communications



About the BCTDA CVB 101 Research & Reports Sales & Marketing News & Events Careers in Tourism Tourism in the Community



24 Jul

Come Together & Make an Impact: Support the Hospitality Industry's School Supply Drive

Posted by: Admin 1 Comments Off

Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau, in partnership with United Way of Asheville & Buncombe County, is hosting a mini drive for tourism industry partners to collectively support United Way's School Supply Drive and maximize our impact.

Read more

f = 8 P

Quick Links

- Grant Programs
- Contact Us
- Extranet Login
- Request an Account

Upcoming Events

BCTDA Annual Meeting 2017

Wednesday, September 13, 3:00 pm -6:00 pm

Explore Asheville Open House

PARTNER FORUMS

- "Sales & Marketing Update"
- "Community Update"
- "CVB Engagement"
- "Asheville Visitor Research Update"
- "What's New With You?"
- "Social Media & PR Tips"
- "Portrait of an American Traveler"
- Economic Impact Report



NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK SUMMIT 2017 Friday, May 12









Explore Asheville

BCTDA Annual Meeting Sock Drive for Haywood Street Congregation

Green Opportunities

Service Day

Holiday Party Toy Drive







TOURISM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE

TPDF COMMITTEE

ROBERT FOSTER, CHAIR

Biltmore Farms Hotels

JOHN LUCKETT, VICE CHAIR

Grand Bohemian Hotel

JAY CURWEN

Nantahala Outdoor Center

MARK HEMPHILL

The Biltmore Company

HIMANSHU KARVIR

Virtelle Hospitality, LLC

FIELDING LOWE

Carolina Alliance Bank

DAVID MCCARTNEY

Aloft Asheville Downtown

KEN STAMPS

Navitat

RUTH SUMMERS

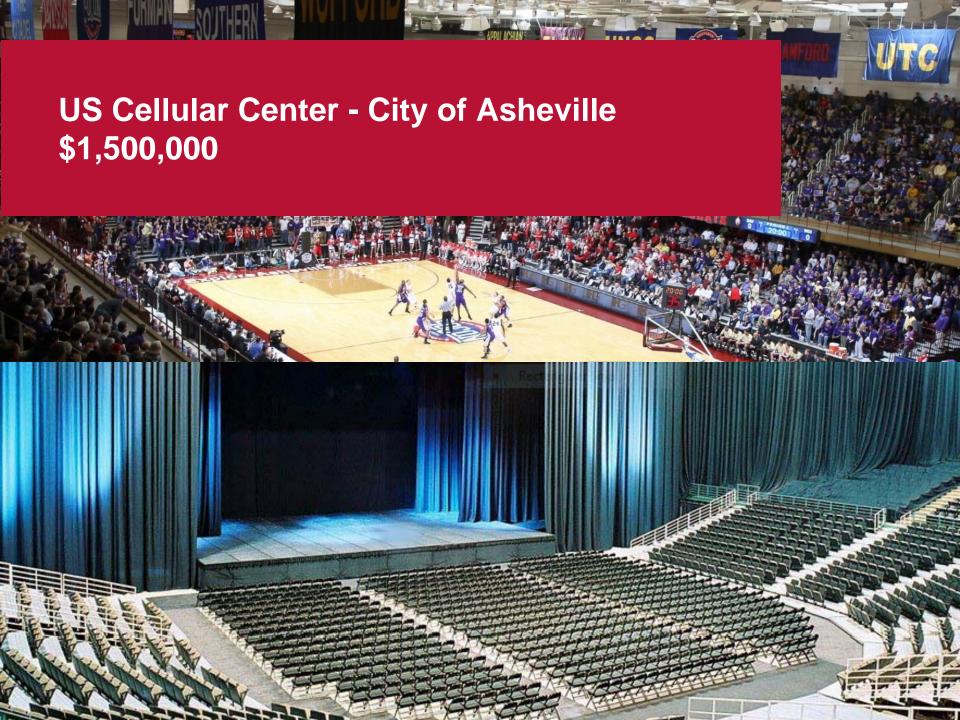
Grove Arcade



TPDF has awarded a total of \$29.6 million to 32 projects since the fund's inception in 2001.

In the 2016 cycle, \$3.93 million was awarded to five projects.













The first project to receive TPDF award through the Major Works Pathway.

PROJECTS RECENTLY COMPLETED OR IN DEVELOPMENT















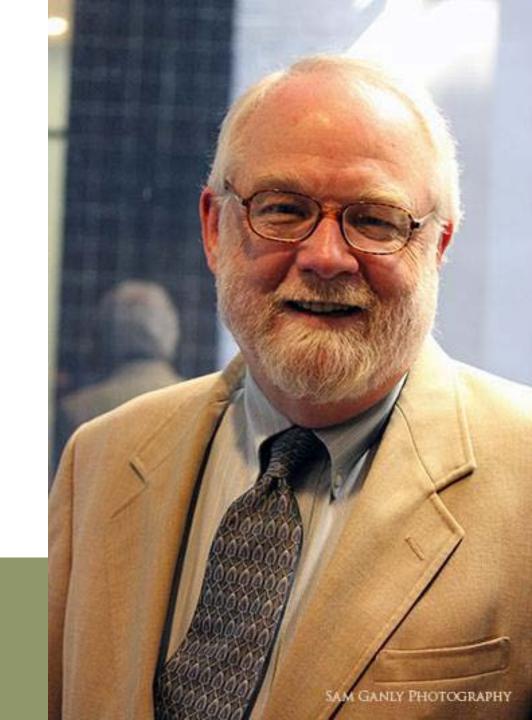


The WILLIAM A.V. CECIL Award



John Ellis

The WILLIAM A.V. CECIL Award



Tourism Builds Community

 Attracts visitors who spend \$1.9 billion annually, supporting 26,700 jobs and generating \$203 million in tax revenue

 Creates awareness and reputation... a foundation for economic development

 Builds community assets enjoyed by visitors and residents

THANK YOU!

The BCTDA and the Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau team extend a special thanks to

The Omni Grove Park Inn

for hosting the event!



OPEN HOUSE PARTY





BCTDA 2017-18 SALES & MATZKETING PLAN

Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau | 27 College Place | Asheville, NC |

