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Charlottesville: For Foodies & Lovers

BY KATHERINE SCHWARTZ



Take a hot air balloon ride over Charlottesville on a long weekend.

In the coming months, as the cold subsides and leaves start to go green, take a weekend trip to Charlottesville, Virginia, about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Washington, D.C., to find some peace, quiet and love. Combine your love of food, wine and hiking and explore Thomas Jefferson's historic town that is now ranked one of the best food cities in the country.

To absorb the countryside landscape, stay at [Keswick Hall](#), a luxury resort at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Be sure to dine at [Marigold](#), its new lauded restaurant by Chef Jean-Georges. For staying in town, book a room at the hip [Quirk Hotel](#), steps away from a host of restaurants and complete with its own dining room, cafe and famous rooftop — pictured on a myriad of visitors' Instagrams. It's steps away from a slew of Cville's best restaurants. The Graduate also offers a central town location, just blocks from the "Corner," the University of Virginia's main strip. The boutique hotel offers more budget stays as well as a rooftop restaurant and downstairs coffee shop. The Boars Head Inn boasts a combination of country and city proximity. It's backed by lakes, a golf course and nature trails, while still a ten-minute drive to town