

Q&A

GIRLS-ONLY WEEKEND

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE
CHARLOTTESVILLE ALBEMARLE AREA!

THE EXPERIENCE:

Explore the best of Virginia wines with your best of friends

Q: I am interested in planning a girls-only weekend. We want to visit wineries. What other activities do you recommend?

A: The Charlottesville Albemarle area is a great place to visit with your girlfriends, particularly if you are passionate about wine.

CONTACT US:

info@visitcharlottesville.org
(434) 293-6789

WINERIES

MONTICELLO WINE TRAIL

Monticello Wine Trail encompasses over 40 wineries. Vineyards are incredibly scenic and often host live music, food trucks, and special activities like yoga or trivia games. For your planning purposes, focus on one or two wineries that really interest you and build an itinerary including others nearby.

Website: <https://monticellowinetrail.com/>

KING FAMILY VINEYARDS

King Family Vineyards in Crozet produces nationally acclaimed wines in a beautiful setting. Septenary: The Winery at Seven Oaks Farm, Chiswell Farm & Winery, Pollak Vineyards, Grace Estate Winery, and Stinson Vineyards are all within a 10 minute drive of King Family.

Website: <https://kingfamilyvineyards.com/>

MOUNT IDA FARM & VINEYARD

Mount Ida Farm & Vineyard has incredible views and is close to Blenheim Vineyards, Trump Winery, Eastwood Farm & Winery, and Jefferson Vineyards; all of which produce award winning wines.

Website:

<https://mountidareserve.com/tasting-room-and-taphouse/>

KESWICK VINEYARDS

Keswick Vineyards is a leader in Virginia's wine industry. Castle Hill Cider is right across the road; and neighboring Merrie Mill Farm & Vineyard has a welcoming and whimsical tasting room. All three have ample outdoor seating to enjoy the gorgeous scenery. Keswick is a quick drive to six other vineyards in the Barboursville area.

Website: <https://keswickvineyards.com/>



PLAN YOUR VISIT:



TIPS FOR GETTING AROUND:

Cville Hop-On Tours, Charlottesville Wish Wish Wine Tours, and Crozet Trolley provide excellent tours to wineries. Depending on the size of your group, you may decide to book a private wine tour. Look to www.visitcharlottesville.org/wineries/wine-tours/ for upscale transportation options. Local companies can help you develop a personalized itinerary and know which wineries accept groups of more than eight people.

DINING

DOWNTOWN, BELMONT & MIDTOWN DISTRICTS

Charlottesville and Albemarle County are “foodie” communities. The Downtown, Belmont, and Midtown neighborhoods boast dozens of restaurants and bustle with both upscale and everyday dining options. Local favorites include Hamiltons’ at First & Main and The Whiskey Jar in Downtown; The Local and Lampo in Belmont; and Maya and Public Fish & Oyster in Midtown. Website: <https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/food-drink/>

TAPAS & SMALL PLATES

Many restaurants, including Mas Tapas, Tilman’s, Tonic, Bang, Oakhart Social, Little Star, and Siren, feature small plates and shareable entrees. Website: <https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/food-drink/>

WINE & DINE

Crush Pad Wines is a combination wine shop, wine bar, and restaurant. Seating is first come, first serve; but its Champagne Room is available for private wine tasting or dinner. Website: <https://www.crushpadcville.com/>

SWEETS FOR THE SWEET

Area bakeries and candy makers appeal to sweet lovers of all ages. For grown-up palates, book a cake and wine pairing at Cake Bloom or private tour and chocolate tasting at Gearharts Fine Chocolates. Websites: <https://cakebloom.com/> & <https://www.gearhartschocolates.com/>

BREAKFAST WITHOUT AN ALARM CLOCK

Check out Belle, The Fitzroy, Tavern & Grocery, The Pink Grouse, The Ridley, and Farm Bell Kitchen for some of the best brunch menus in Virginia. Website: <https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/food-drink/>



MAKE MEMORIES:

Looking for a unique experience? Indian Summer Guide Service leads horseback rides through local vineyards

Monticello Wine Tour & Coach Co. offers private tours with lunch at The Vintner's Table – Pippin Hill's celebrated farm-to-table restaurant – and a visit to Monticello.

C'ville Picnic organizes sumptuous picnics.

LOCAL LIFE

IX ART PARK

Held most Saturday mornings, Farmers Market at Ix Art Park is the quintessential community event. Go to people watch and shop for fresh produce, homemade gifts, and takeaway food. The Looking Glass, an immersive art exhibit, and North American Sake are also located at Ix Art Park.

Website: <https://www.ixartpark.org/>

OUTDOOR RECREATION

TRAILS AT MONTICELLO & JAMES MONROE'S HIGHLAND

Set aside time to hike the Saunders-Monticello Trail or rustic trails at James Monroe's Highland. Both trail systems are free and open to the public; no admission charged.

Websites: <https://www.monticello.org/visit/the-saunders-monticello-trail/>
<https://highland.org/plan-your-visit/highland-trails/>

CARTER MOUNTAIN ORCHARD

Enjoy stunning views and buy seasonal fruit at Carter Mountain Orchard. Pick-your-own peach season usually runs June into August; apple season lasts from late August into November. Carter Mountain Orchard is home to two tasting rooms: one for house wines and one for Bold Rock Cider.

Website: <https://chilesfamilyorchards.com/venues/carter-mountain-orchard/>

RIVANNA RIVER COMPANY

Rivanna River Company is the only outfitter within city limits. So, a tube, canoe, or kayak trip doesn't have to take all day! Bookings usually available mid-April to mid-October.

Website: <https://rivannarivercompany.com/>

JAMES RIVER BATTEAU COMPANY

Head to small town of Scottsville for sunset cruise in a traditional batteau. Charcuterie and live music are all part of the ambiance.

Website: <https://www.jamesrivertour.com/>



VISITOR CENTERS:



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ENTERTAINMENT

LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Fridays After Five concerts, held mid-April to early September at Ting Pavilion, allow you to experience life as a local. Jefferson Theater, The Southern Café & Music Hall, and The Front Porch host a full lineup of music performances year-round. John Paul Jones Arena attracts big name performers.

Website: <https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/events/>

CINEMAS

Alamo Drafthouse, Regal Stonefield, and Violet Crown screen blockbuster, arthouse, and vintage films. Purchase tickets for a regular show or reserve an auditorium just for yourselves.

Websites: <https://drafhouse.com/charlottesville>
<https://www.regmovies.com/theatres/regal-stonefield-imax/1969#> & <https://charlottesville.violetcrown.com/>

ESCAPE ROOMS

There are four escape room venues in the area, including Unlocked History, which features stories about UVA alumnus Edgar Allan Poe and 1781 British invasion of Charlottesville.

Website: <https://unlockedhistory.com/>

SALT SPA

Halo Salt Spa has a Himalayan Salt Room where you can relax together. Feel free to bring your favorite refreshments.

Website: <http://halosaltspa.com/private-events/>

CRAFTS GALORE

Pikasso Swig and The Hive offer retro craft projects for groups.

Website: <https://www.pikassoswig.com/> &
<https://www.thehivecville.com/>

COOKING CLASSES

Culinary Concepts AB and The Happy Cook lead private, hands-on classes where you can discover new techniques and recipes – perfect for groups who love to learn while socializing.

Website: <https://culinaryconceptsab.com/> &
<https://www.thehappycook.com/>