



The MerManor Guidebook

Cocktails



End of Days Distillery

1815 Castle St

32 locals recommend

The EOD has an amazing cocktail selection. It has a few snacks but this is really a cocktail bar. The Mercantile located inside will let you try their spirits that are made inhouse. I suggest the Gin!



Taste the Olive & Vine

242 Princess St

6 locals recommend

The Vine is the wine bar owned by Taste the Olive & Vine. It is located on 25 N 3rd St, Wilmington, NC 28401. Taste the Olive & Vine is further outside the city so make sure to go The Vine. It's only opened Thursday through Saturday but it is so cute, has an amazing selection and the owner is usually there and is so friendly and helpful!



Alcove Beer Garden

348 Hutchison Ln

16 locals recommend

The Alcove Beer Garden is within walking distance of the house. It is right on 16th and Queen and connected to the Mess Hall. It has a very nice beer selection and is very low key if you need a quiet or chill evening.



Blind Elephant

21 N Front St

49 locals recommend

You must try The Blind Elephant. It has an amazing speakeasy feel and some of the best cocktails in the city. It is a "members only" bar so you'll have to pay a fee but they scan your ID and then they just look you up the next time you're in! It is totally worth the visit!



Satellite Bar and Lounge

120 Greenfield St

126 locals recommend

Satellite Bar is a little younger in the crowd but whether you are in your 20 or 50s they will have something for you. The beer selection is nice and they have a small liquor bar although they don't have a cocktail menu.



Hi-Wire Brewing - Wilmington

1020 Princess Street

28 locals recommend

Hi-Wire is an awesome North Carolina brewery with locations all over the state (and TN & KY). Wilmington's location does not disappoint. We have been to all 3 in NC and Wilmington's is just as great as the others!



Palate Bottle Shop & Reserve

1007 N 4th St

52 locals recommend

Palate is absolutely adorable. It's not quite what I would call walking distance (36 minutes) so I would suggest driving or Lyfting but if it's a gorgeous day and you can make stops along the way you could totally walk it.



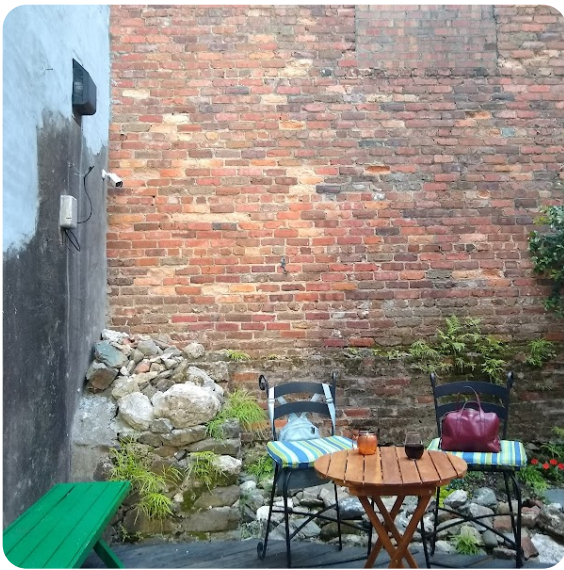
Ibis Coffee and Cocktails

In the morning you can get coffee and an everything bagel with lox cream cheese and at night an espresso martini on draft. It doesn't get much better!



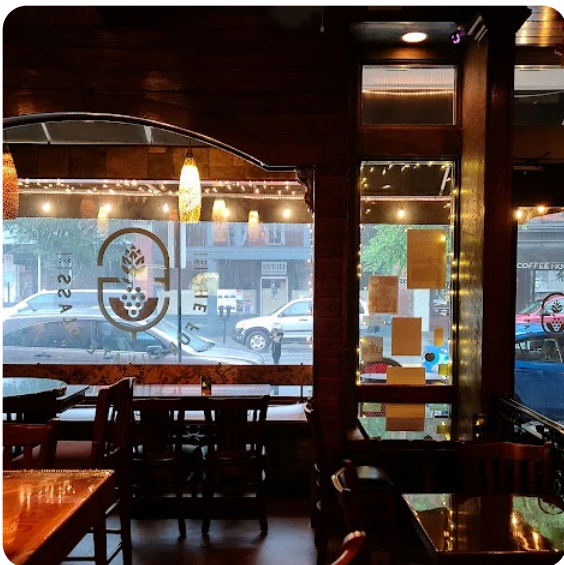
The Underfront Co.

This place is literally Under Front Street. The cocktails are good and the bartenders are quite skilled. It can skew younger but it's worth popping in for a drink or two!



Banter

You absolutely have to go to this little gem. It isn't very big but the espresso martini is delicious and the lavender gin drink on the menu is going to knock your socks off.



The Fortunate Glass Wine Bar

29 S Front St

25 locals recommend

This is a great little spot with great wine, good service, and good food.

Coffee



Spill Coffee Co

1207 S Kerr Ave

Get anything - it's all gold... or pink. Honestly, this coffee is amazing. It is about a 10 minute drive so it's not quite walkable but it is worth the drive!



The Workshop

86 Waynick Blvd

28 locals recommend

If you're having a beach day at Wrightsville, stop here for some caffeine before hitting the sand! It's such a cute shop with excellent coffee!



Blue Cup Roastery

348 Hutchison Lane

Perfect cup of coffee within walking distance of the house!



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Food scene



CheeseSmith

624 South 17th Street

20 locals recommend

If you go nowhere else you have to go to CheeseSmith! They are closed on Mondays so make sure to go Tues-Sun. I get The New G and the Beer cheese French fries!



Beer Barrio

34 N Front St

39 locals recommend

Beer Barrio is an adorable taco restaurant (don't worry, they have other things but don't expect fajitas... they don't have those - but trust me you won't need them with how delicious the tacos are). They also make a delicious margarita. Perfect for a mid day snack or dinner!



Benny's Big Time Pizzeria

206 Greenfield St

62 locals recommend

This is a must if you want some good pizza! So many amazing choices and an equally awesome cocktail menu!



Yosake Downtown Sushi Lounge

33 S Front St

84 locals recommend

Getting some soosh? Then you need to get it at Yosake! They take reservations on Resy and I try to always make one because they are always popping! But I've gotten in without one in the past. Cocktails are delicious and the food is phenomenal!



Circa 1922

8 N Front St

79 locals recommend

Circa 1922 is a beautiful restaurant in the heart of the historic downtown. The menu has a lot of amazing choices and the cocktails are divine! I usually sit at the bar when alone but have had table service for date night.



Marina Grill

18 Harnett St

29 locals recommend

You might think you're headed in the wrong direction with this one because it is located by the water and little further outside of Historic Downtown but once you find this hidden spot you'll enjoy yourself. Despite the name the food and atmosphere is pretty un-pretentious and it's just a nice place to grab a bite if you don't want to think about making plans.



Bluewater Grill

4 Marina St

112 locals recommend

If you want seafood then head to Bluewater! If you are 8+ people you definitely will want to call a few days ahead. Unfortunately, they don't take reservations for parties less than 8 but the wait is worth it! The food is amazing and the atmosphere is phenomenal! This is also by Wrightsville Beach (about 20 minute drive from the house) so you can plan a little sunset walk by the beach before or after your meal.

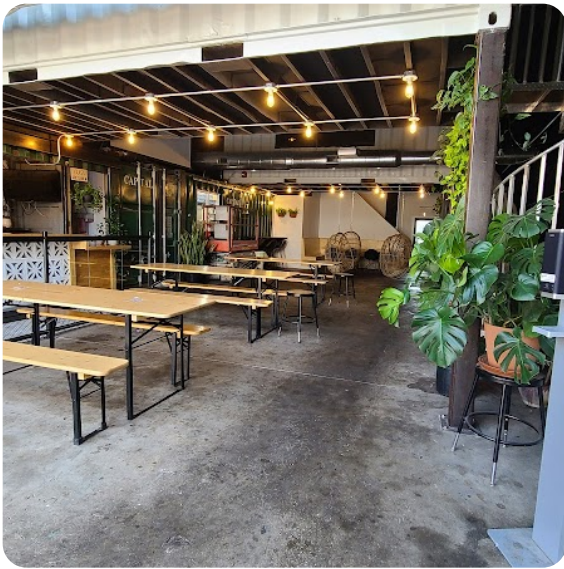


K-Bueno Mexi-Q Grill

1127 Military Cutoff Road

15 locals recommend

If you're further out from Historic Downtown and need a quick bite K-Bueno really hits the spot. I am the first to admit it has a bit of a TGI Friday's look to it, but the margarita was good (like it definitely had some tequila which we know is a MUST) and the street style tacos were delicious. I wouldn't suggest it as a "drive out of your way to get there" place but if you're that direction it is a place you should stop.



Mess Hall ILM

2136 Hutchison Ln

33 locals recommend

Grab an amazing burger (or get crazy and get the chicken tender tots!) and then grab a beer from the Alcove and relax outside or inside if it's a little drizzly.



Pravda Wilmington

2 Market St

9 locals recommend

Some of the best Italian food you will have! If you can get one of the balconies on the second story it is absolutely perfect for a dinner for two.

Antiquing, Oddities and Vintage Shopping



The Ivy Cottage

3030 Market St

21 locals recommend

Want to do some antiquing, oddities or vintage shopping? The first stop is The Ivy Cottage! It's actually 5 shops down Market Street (cottage 3 is my personal favorite - many of the mermaids in the house came from that cottage). If Jody is working tell her the one obsessed with mermaids sent you!



Primrose Cottage

5226 College Road

Primrose is a little shop in a strip mall - you're going to think I steered you wrong until you walk in and are overwhelmed with joy. Many items in the house were picked out at Primrose. The ladies that run the shop are so sweet and amazingly helpful. It is a little further south from the house but it is WELL worth the drive!



Thrill of the Hunt

4713 Oleander Dr

You MUST visit Thrill of the Hunt if you are into finding the perfect unique item or antique. The giant mermaid hanging out in the kitchen was scooped up at Thrill of the Hunt. The woman who owns and runs the shop is so awesome and always eager to help you find something or answer questions. She works with a local artist and sells some of his art - it is spectacular. Definitely stop in.



Baker Street Curiosity Shop

6780 Market St

Baker Street is phenomenal. It is huge (which you would never know from the outside). It has little stalls all set up with different items, themes, eras, etc. Totally worth the trip down Market St. (Pro Tip: Start at Baker Street Curiosity Shop and work your way back in to the house.) Tell my ladies that the person always shopping for mermaids and giant giraffes sent you!



K & M Antiques

1502 North 23rd Street

Finally Made it to Azalea Antiques and Arts and it did not disappoint! You have to get yourself there! It's not just vintage but also a lot of local artists!



Vintage Marketplace

This is a must especially if you love vintage jewelry, bags, furs, etc. Of course they also have furniture and decor and the knowledge they have about their pieces is just amazing! A must do while in town!

Things To Do



Robert Strange Pool

401 South 10th Street

This summer, the YMCA of Southeastern NC will be managing and operating the City of Wilmington's Legion Stadium and Robert Strange pools. Along with the traditional opportunity for public swim, the Y will be providing swim lessons, water aerobics, and a number of other aquatics programs to the community.

Pricing is located on their website:

<https://www.ymcasenc.org/locations/robert-strange-pool/robert-strange-pool/>



Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park

5320 Oleander Dr

138 locals recommend

Water Park (open seasonally), Go Karts, Laser Tag, Miniature Golf, Arcade, Rock Climbing Wall, and Kids Jungle Indoor Playground. Something for everyone!
