

THURMONT

A Main Street Community built by a legacy of hard work, ingenuity, and creativity amongst natural beauty.



It was Brunswick's proximity to the Potomac that caused its first growth spurt, when both the C & O Canal and B & O Railroad reached the community in the early 1820s. The C&O Canal National Historical Park Visitors Center is a great place to learn about the canal in its heyday. To experience the C & O Canal Towpath today (Brunswick sits at mile marker 55 on this 184-mile route from Washington D.C. to Cumberland, Maryland), there is no better way than from the seat of a bicycle. Pedal along between packed gravel and the leafy green canopy of the Appalachian foothills until you pick up the Appalachian Trail at Keep Tryst or beeline for Harpers Ferry six miles further north. If you like a little more adrenaline to your cycling, River's Edge Trails will have you mountain biking from hill-top to river valley.

The canal and railroad kept Brunswick, known throughout this time as Berlin, humming until 1890, when the B & O Railroad decided it would

be the ideal place to locate their major railyard. Brunswick became "the town between the tracks" and business boomed. The Brunswick Heritage Museum, along with the vintage 1907 train station, the c1926 caboose, and train viewing platform, capture the experience of living in a railroad boomtown.



White their tenants have changed, Brunswick's downtown buildings retain their turn-of-the-20th-century charm, like the freshly restored New-

berry Building. Today they are filled by independent entrepreneurs who keep "living local" at the heart of their businesses.

Smoketown Brewing pays homage to Brunswick's coal-fired past while upstairs, Cannon's Events hosts up-and-coming talent, just like it did when Patsy Cline and Duke Ellington played the space. Beans in the Belfry fills a former Reformed Church with art, music, and espresso, while Potomac River Interiors, Ampersand, and Antiques n' Ole Stuff offer the best in vintage treasure hunting. Boxcar Burgers, Maple & Rye Bakery, and Whistle Punk Gourmet Deli are passionate about serving up locally-sourced eats.

Just as Thurmont is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts and history lovers alike, you'll find even more to enjoy in Brunswick. Spend a few of these precious sunlit days biking, hiking, paddling, or exploring all this spunky, playful river and canal town has to offer.

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