



# MATPRA

## MID-ATLANTIC TOURISM PUBLIC RELATIONS ALLIANCE

Press Release

For Immediate Release

## The Mid-Atlantic Offers a Feast of Media-Friendly Dining Experiences

**(U.S. Mid-Atlantic Region, February 16, 2018)** - The Mid-Atlantic Region features numerous unique dining spots that draw visitors who have seen the experience profiled on TV, online, or in print. So, grab a knife and fork and dig into these delicious destinations offered up by members of the Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance ([MATPRA](#)).

Interested in learning more about a location listed below? Email the contact in the description below for specific information.

### **DELAWARE**

#### **Delaware's Quaint Villages**

Visit Delaware's Quaint Villages' Tiffanee & Co. Bakery, located in downtown Dover, for homemade cakes, cupcakes, cake pops, and so much more! Tiffanee & Co. Bakery was featured on Food Network's "Cake Wars" two years ago and has been a growing success ever since. *Delaware's Quaint Villages*, Danielle Jonigan, [djonigan@visitdelawarevillages.com](mailto:djonigan@visitdelawarevillages.com), [VisitDelawareVillages.com](http://VisitDelawareVillages.com)

#### **Greater Wilmington**

The House of William & Merry is not only one of Greater Wilmington's best-reviewed and best-loved restaurants, it's the actual home of a husband and wife culinary team. Inside their charming Victorian farmhouse in Hockessin, they delight patrons with creative New American cuisine prepared from the freshest seasonal ingredients. *Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau*, Lyn Lewis, [lynlewis@visitwilmingtonde.com](mailto:lynlewis@visitwilmingtonde.com), [VisitWilmingtonDE.com](http://VisitWilmingtonDE.com)

### **MARYLAND**

#### **Annapolis & Anne Arundel County**

Follow the celebrity dining trail! Head to Galway Bay and Davis' Pub ("Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives"); Chick & Ruth's Delly ("Man vs. Food"); Cantler's, Vin 909, Iron Rooster, Vida Taco Bar, and 49 West ("Lonely Planet"); and Grump's, Soul, Boatyard, and Bean Rush Café ("Cheap Eats"). *Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County*, Susan Seifried, [sseifried@visitannapolis.org](mailto:sseifried@visitannapolis.org), [VisitAnnapolis.org](http://VisitAnnapolis.org)

#### **Baltimore**

Dine at celebrity-chef restaurants by Guy Fieri, Giada De Laurentiis, and Gordon Ramsay between playing games and salsa dancing at the Horseshoe Casino. Take a private cake-making class at Charm City Cakes, featured on TV's "Ace of Cakes," or enjoy a cake jar at their newest spot in Harbor East. *Visit Baltimore*, Kelly Nagle, [kellynagle@me.com](mailto:kellynagle@me.com), [Baltimore.org](http://Baltimore.org)

#### **Calvert County**

Appearing on FOX 45 in Baltimore for Mother's Day brunch ideas, Gwyn Novak, chef at No Thyme to Cook, inspires cooks in a new waterfront kitchen. Seasonal classes are offered to all ages with a focus on creating fabulous food using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. *Calvert County Department of Economic Development*, Katie Brittain, [katie.brittain@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:katie.brittain@calvertcountymd.gov), [ChooseCalvert.com](http://ChooseCalvert.com)

#### **Cecil County**

Steak & Main in North East was ranked #1 on Travel Channel's "Greatest Steaks of America." It was also featured on Food Network, Cooking Channel, and Man vs. Food's Great Steak Challenge. It ranked #5 on America's Chow-Down Count-Down for steaks, and more! Want steak? Head for Steak & Main! *Cecil County Tourism*, Sandy Turner, [sturner@ccgov.org](mailto:sturner@ccgov.org), [SeeCecil.org](http://SeeCecil.org)

#### **Frederick County**

If you are a fan of "Top Chef," you probably remember the showdown between brothers Michael and Bryan Voltaggio. You can visit two of Bryan's restaurants, Volt (fine dining) and Family Meal (upscale diner), in Frederick! *Visit Frederick*, Melissa Joseph Muntz, [mmuntz@fredco-md.net](mailto:mmuntz@fredco-md.net)

[VisitFrederick.org](http://VisitFrederick.org)

### **Hagerstown - Washington County**

Dan's Restaurant & Taphouse, owned by the son of New York Times best-selling author Nora Roberts, is located on the square in historic Boonsboro, across the street from her lavish Inn Boonsboro. The restaurant recently celebrated its fifth anniversary and showcases the best in local breweries and farms. *Visit Hagerstown, Betsy DeVore, [betsy@visithagerstown.com](mailto:betsy@visithagerstown.com), [VisitHagerstown.com](http://VisitHagerstown.com)*

### **Harford County**

Laurrapin Grille executive chef Kristina Sciarra was only one round shy of winning an episode of the Food Network's cooking competition "Chopped" on which contestants create meals using a basket filled with mystery ingredients. Laurrapin Grille has now become Lagom and is co-owned by Sciarra. *Visit Harford, Mindy Schneider, [mindy@visitharford.com](mailto:mindy@visitharford.com), [VisitHarford.com](http://VisitHarford.com)*

### **Howard County**

A Food Network favorite, R&R Taqueria in Elkridge, MD has appeared on "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives," "Patti's Mexican Table," and, most recently, "Top 5 Restaurants." Hungry travelers will find authentic Mexican dishes made with creativity and passion. Must-haves include the lamb taco enchiladas and tacos al pastor. *Visit Howard County, Sarah Kurtanich, [sarah@howardcountytourism.com](mailto:sarah@howardcountytourism.com), [VisitHowardCounty.com](http://VisitHowardCounty.com)*

### **Queen Anne's County**

In Queen Anne's County, the seafood is fresh, the maritime industry thrives, and the waterfront views are endless! *Food & Wine* lauded Kent Narrows Waterfront restaurant in "100 Top Scenic in America." Enjoy Maryland seafood at some of the finest boat-to-table restaurants specializing in the freshest Eastern Shore cuisine. *Queen Anne's County Office of Tourism, Ashley Chenault, [achenault@gac.org](mailto:achenault@gac.org), [VisitQueenAnnes.com](http://VisitQueenAnnes.com)*

### **Talbot County**

Mark Salter of the Robert Morris Inn bested Eric Ripert of Manhattan's Le Bernadin in a crab cake cook-off. Pit master Andrew Evans of The BBQ Joint competed on "Beat Bobby Flay." Chesapeake Landing is the restaurant arm of the last crab picking house in Talbot County. *Talbot County Office of Tourism, Cassandra M. Vanhooser, [cvanhooser@talbgov.org](mailto:cvanhooser@talbgov.org), [TourTalbot.org](http://TourTalbot.org)*

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

### **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania is home to the stars! From the Llanerch Diner in *Silver Linings Playbook* (Upper Darby) to Michael Scott's favorite Cooper's Seafood restaurant on "The Office" (Scranton), visitors can dine where celebrities did. For even more famous food, try Iron Chef Jose Garces' award-winning restaurants in Philadelphia! *Pennsylvania Tourism Office, Natalie Buyny, [nbuyny@tiernyagency.com](mailto:nbuyny@tiernyagency.com), [VisitPA.com](http://VisitPA.com)*

### **Butler County**

North Country Brewing Company is known for its large variety of craft beer, sturdy fare served straight from the farm, and its offbeat and unusual atmosphere. Built in 1805, this elfish, colonial pub features handcrafted hardwoods and unique carvings throughout, providing a rustic feel found only in Slippery Rock. *Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau, Tiffany Hernandez, [tiffany@visitbutlercounty.com](mailto:tiffany@visitbutlercounty.com), [VisitButlerCounty.com](http://VisitButlerCounty.com)*

### **Central Pennsylvania**

Step back to the 1950s in downtown State College at Baby's Burgers & Shakes. If the 1950s aren't vintage enough, head to Boalsburg to test the cuisine at Duffy's Tavern, which dates to 1819. When you're done, hit the Penn State Creamery, where Ben and Jerry learned their trade. *Central Pennsylvania Convention & Visitors Bureau, Andy Rupert, [andy@visitpennstate.org](mailto:andy@visitpennstate.org), [VisitPennState.org](http://VisitPennState.org)*

### **Chester County**

Talula's Table is a unique gourmet market, modern-day general store, and, at night, features a sumptuous Farmhouse Table dinner. Lauded in the New York Times Magazine and Conde Nast Traveler, the one-table of 8-12 per evening books at least 8 months in advance and offers seasonal, inspired, fresh fare. *Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau, Nina Kelly, [nina@brandywinevalley.com](mailto:nina@brandywinevalley.com), [BrandywineValley.com](http://BrandywineValley.com)*

### **Clearfield County**

Featured on various TV shows, Denny's Beer Barrel Pub in Clearfield is nationally known as the home of the "World's Largest Hamburger Challenges." It all started with a 2lb. hamburger challenge with homemade buns baked in a coffee can and the rest, as we say, is history. *Visit Clearfield County, Josiah Jones, [jjones@visitclearfieldcounty.org](mailto:jjones@visitclearfieldcounty.org), [VisitClearfieldCounty.org](http://VisitClearfieldCounty.org)*

### **Endless Mountains**

Former professional-wrestler-turned-chef J. R. Tiger, winner of Food Network's cooking competition "Chopped," helms the kitchen at the Steakhouse at Fern Hall Inn. This historic property (the former Johnson & Johnson family estate) is surrounded by the panoramic scenery of the Endless Mountains and welcomes visitors year-round. *Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau, Morgan Christopher, [sales@endlessmountains.org](mailto:sales@endlessmountains.org), [EndlessMountains.org](http://EndlessMountains.org)*

### **Franklin County**

The delicious potato rolls and bread of Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe Inc. in Chambersburg have made their way on to TVs everywhere with spotlights on the Food Network Channel's "Food

Quest." They're also a favored item of Rachael Ray! *Franklin County Visitors Bureau, Lauren Cappuccio, [lcappuccio@explorefranklincountypa.com](mailto:lcappuccio@explorefranklincountypa.com), [ExploreFranklinCountyPA.com](http://ExploreFranklinCountyPA.com)*

### **Greater Johnstown/ Cambria County**

Jennifer Shearer strives for fusion in the food she makes at PRESS Bistro in Johnstown. Her unique spin on panzanella, an Italian bread salad, is a perfect example. Shearer's "Strawberry Cornbread Panzanella" just earned her the Grand Prize in the 2017 Neighborhood to Nation Recipe Contest from General Mills Foodservice. *Greater Johnstown/ Cambria County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Olivia Bragdon, [oliviab@visitjohnstownpa.com](mailto:oliviab@visitjohnstownpa.com), [VisitJohnstownPA.com](http://VisitJohnstownPA.com)*

### **Lancaster County**

The shoofly pie at Lancaster County's Bird-in-Hand Bakery is perfectly sweet and crumbly. It's "very Americana," according to USA Today and INSP Network's "State Plate" with Taylor Hicks. *Discover Lancaster, Joel Cliff, [jcliff@discoverlancaster.com](mailto:jcliff@discoverlancaster.com), [DiscoverLancaster.com](http://DiscoverLancaster.com)*

### **Laurel Highlands**

Nothing beats good beer and BBQ, something Chef Jeremy Critchfield of The Stone House Restaurant understands and has mastered. A classically trained chef, local legend, and grill-master, the Hunt Chef is constantly developing new recipes and bringing his wild game to the table in creative ways. *Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau, Anna Weltz, [aweltz@laurelhighlands.org](mailto:aweltz@laurelhighlands.org), [LaurelHighlands.org](http://LaurelHighlands.org)*

### **Lehigh Valley**

Sample your way through Lehigh Valley's eclectic dining scene, including the culinary offerings of Chef Lee Chizmar, a two-time James Beard nominee. Recently featured on the Food Network's "Beat Bobby Flay," Chef Chizmar owns and operates the exceptional Bolete, as well as Mister Lee's within the Easton Public Market. *Discover Lehigh Valley, Kaitie Burger, [kaitie@discoverlehighvalley.com](mailto:kaitie@discoverlehighvalley.com), [DiscoverLehighValley.com](http://DiscoverLehighValley.com)*

### **Pittsburgh**

The Travel Channel's "Man v. Food" kicked off 2018 in Pittsburgh with a Buffalo Chicken Pierogi Sauté at Church Brew Works in Lawrenceville. Food Network's Guy Fieri checked out a traditional Polish dish called Haluski at Kelly O's on "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives." *VisitPITTSBURGH, Kristen Wenger, [kristin.wenger@visitpittsburgh.com](mailto:kristin.wenger@visitpittsburgh.com), [VisitPittsburgh.com](http://VisitPittsburgh.com)*

### **Pocono Mountains**

The Pocono Mountains has an array of written-about places to dine, whether they be upscale, casual, après-ski, or outdoors overlooking the beautiful mountain landscape. With the accessibility of local and organic ingredients, farm-to-table practices are becoming increasingly available, allowing dining locations to serve up healthier and more sustainable dishes. *Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, Kelly Shannon, [kshannon@poconos.org](mailto:kshannon@poconos.org), [PoconoMountains.com](http://PoconoMountains.com)*

### **Potter County - Tioga County**

Visit the historic Hotel Crittenden in Coudersport where G-Man Elliott Ness spent hours writing his book *The Untouchables*. This restaurant will be the site of July 2018's "Eliot Ness Fest" where visitors can celebrate the restaurant's history as well as one of the region's most popular former residents. *Visit Potter-Tioga, Morgan Christopher, [morgan@visitpottertioga.com](mailto:morgan@visitpottertioga.com), [VisitPotterTioga.com](http://VisitPotterTioga.com)*

## **VIRGINIA**

### **Arlington**

In Arlington, dining is truly global. Feast on Balkan delicacies at the authentic Ambar; experience the flavors of Spain at celebrity chef Jose Andres' Jaleo; try Uzbekistani comfort food at Rus-Uz; or bring your appetite for beignets to Bayou Bakery, which transports your tastebuds to the streets of New Orleans. *Arlington Convention & Visitors Service, Cara O'Donnell, [codonnell@arlingtonva.us](mailto:codonnell@arlingtonva.us), [StayArlington.com](http://StayArlington.com)*

### **Charlottesville and Albemarle County**

Recently named "locavore capital of the world," Charlottesville & Albemarle County features renowned culinary creations such as the Gus Burger, Bodo's Bagels, the "Bronut," and Crozet Pizza, which was recognized by National Geographic as having the best pizza in the world. This foodie paradise has something to please any palate! *Charlottesville & Albemarle County CVB, Bri Warner, [warnerb@charlottesville.org](mailto:warnerb@charlottesville.org), [VisitCharlottesville.org](http://VisitCharlottesville.org)*

### **Fairfax County**

Whether dining on the famous Peking Duck featured on "Best Thing I Ever Ate" or the street tacos featured on "Food Paradise," Fairfax County's food scene is worth savoring. New this year: unprecedented dining destinations in Tysons and Springfield by "Top Chef" alums Mike Isabella and Spike Mendelsohn. *Visit Fairfax, Ali Morris, [amorris@fxva.com](mailto:amorris@fxva.com), [FXVA.com](http://FXVA.com)*

### **Hampton**

For Hampton's best French, Creole, and NeoSoul food, head to Mango Mangeaux. Throughout the menu are dishes featuring the restaurant's own "Mango Mango" mango preserves, a product that appeared on a 2013 episode of "Shark Tank." Mango Ginger Shrimp and "Mango Mango" Basil Sorbet, among other items, contain the preserves. *Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, Elizabeth Severs, [elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com](mailto:elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com), [VisitHampton.com](http://VisitHampton.com)*

### **Harrisonburg**

Many of Harrisonburg's melting pot of restaurants bring the farm-to-table philosophy to life, creating gourmet dishes from locally sourced ingredients. Featured on "Family Travel with Colleen Kelly," the Local Chop and Grill House offers a fine dining experience in a savvy

atmosphere with a variety of homemade shrubs in creative cocktails. *Harrisonburg Tourism & Visitor Services, Brenda Black, [brenda.black@harrisonburgva.gov](mailto:brenda.black@harrisonburgva.gov), [VisitHarrisonburgVA.com](http://VisitHarrisonburgVA.com)*

### **Loudoun County**

Indulge at The Conche - an exclusive chocolate-themed restaurant featuring an array of artisan handmade chocolate confections, chocolate-infused savory cuisine, and hand-crafted cocktails. Also featuring a chocolate lab and specialty classes, the restaurant was started by award-winning Chef Santosh Tiptur who has been on various Food Network culinary competitions. *Visit Loudoun, Jennifer Sigal, [sigal@visitloudoun.org](mailto:sigal@visitloudoun.org), [VisitLoudoun.org](http://VisitLoudoun.org)*

### **Lynchburg**

Lynchburg loves its culinary celebs! Meet Mrs. Joy, owner/baker of her namesake shop and Food Network's 2015 Christmas Cookie Challenge winner, and Stephan Parry, formerly with Ruth's Chris Steak House, now owner of five Lynchburg restaurants including Shoemakers Grille, winner of five categories in *Virginia Living* magazine's "Best Of 2017." *Lynchburg Office of Economic Development & Tourism, Krista Boothby, [krista.boothby@lynchburgva.gov](mailto:krista.boothby@lynchburgva.gov), [LynchburgVirginia.org](http://LynchburgVirginia.org)*

### **Richmond**

Great dining options in Richmond are endless, and many of the city's restaurants are headed by James Beard-nominated chefs. Chef Lee Gregory has three amazing restaurants and Chef Brittany Anderson has two, including the Alpine-themed Brenner Pass. *Richmond Region Tourism, Meghan Gearino, [mgearino@visitrichmondva.com](mailto:mgearino@visitrichmondva.com), [VisitRichmondVA.com](http://VisitRichmondVA.com)*

### **Shenandoah County**

"Rustic venue, Rustic cuisine" describes the restaurant on the ground floor of the historic Edinburg Mill, set in the 1848 charm of its limestone walls and low beam ceilings. In a cozy and intimate atmosphere, you'll find a menu that takes simple offerings and elevates them to extraordinary heights. *Shenandoah County Tourism, Jenna French, [jfrench@shenandoahcountyva.us](mailto:jfrench@shenandoahcountyva.us), [VisitShenandoahCounty.com](http://VisitShenandoahCounty.com)*

### **About Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance**

The Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance (MATPRA) is a cohesive unit of regional tourism partners encompassing Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C. The group serves travel journalists by creating a regional resource that ignores geographical boundaries. The Alliance promotes common threads and offers saleable stories to journalists about the mid-Atlantic destination as a whole. For more information, visit [www.matpra.org](http://www.matpra.org).

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### **Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance**

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