

[THE VIEW FROM HERE]

My Baltimore



Spike & Amy Gjerde

[Locavore Power Couple]

This duo put the city on the culinary map in 2007 when they opened Woodberry Kitchen, for which Spike was a James Beard chef finalist last year. With two new spots (and a butcher on the way), they continue to tout Baltimore's foodshed. Together they share what else the city has to offer.—*Kelsey B. Snell*

Describe the culinary energy here.

Baltimore has many things that people appreciate more now than they did 15 years ago like crabs and great ethnic foods. It was the perfect place for us to do what we did at Woodberry: source locally, talk to growers and translate that into an experience.

What's one of your favorite zones?

Remington is going to be "the spot." Station North has become an arts center with small galleries, work spaces and cafes—from the ground up, as it happens in Baltimore.

What city feats make you proud?

We're in the middle of "The Star-Spangled Banner" bicentennial, and that still makes me kind of proud. Fort McHenry is emblematic of what

we are as a city: underestimated and a tougher opponent than expected.

Where do you take visitors to eat?

The city's known for fish and shellfish, so either Thames Street Oyster House or Ryleigh's Oyster. Crab cakes and oysters in Cross Street or Lexington markets are great experiences too.

What makes the best souvenir?

Can we say our own Snake Oil hot sauce? It's of this place—made here and derived from fish peppers grown in Maryland but contributed by Afro-Caribbean cooks. (See page 2.)

Where's the most scenic vista?

Federal Hill is almost comically beautiful. The view over the city from the south end of the harbor is amazing.

MY PERFECT DAY

Morning

Breakfast 'n' Buds

We might head downtown to Pâtisserie Poupon for our favorites: pain aux raisins (Spike) and macaroons (Amy). Then we shop at Housewerks and Second Chance for items we can "upcycle" at home and in our restaurants, and Amy picks up flowers from The Flower Shop or Rosie's Posies.

Noon

Buzz Feed

We'd have a nourishing lunch at our own cafe Artifact Coffee, where Spike gets his mid-afternoon perk-up: a "Spikeiatio" (macchiato with a shot of espresso on the side).

Afternoon

Play It Cool

After lunch we'd pick up our kids (Finn, 14, and Katie, 11) and play some disc golf in Druid Hill Park. Katie and Amy like going to The Maryland Zoo beside the park. After all that activity, the kids likely want Italian ice, soft-serve or fresh limeades from Tropicool.

Evening

Date Night

After a movie at the newly renovated, historic Senator Theatre, we'd walk across the street to Belvedere Square Market and into our new restaurant Shoo-Fly for dinner. Then we'd drop off the kids and go to Ottobar in Remington for some music or get cocktails at speakeasy-style WC Harlan.



For the Gjerdes' full interview and itinerary, go to wheretraveler.com.

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