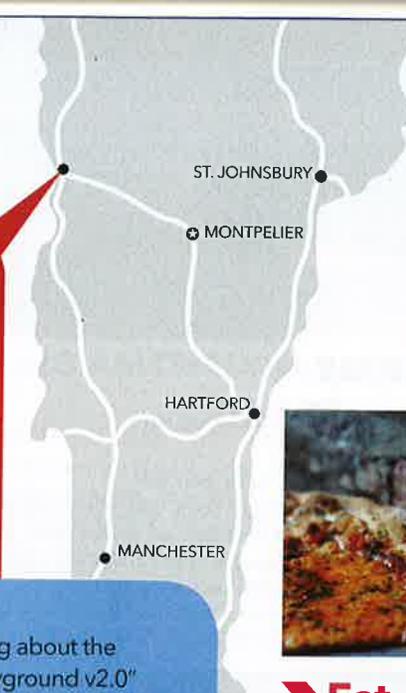


[ Vermont ]

## Burlington

BY PETER CRABTREE

It's a surprise that Burlington, Vermont, population 42,260, doesn't attract more people, given the beauty of its location beside Lake Champlain and a burgeoning restaurant and craft brewing scene. But if you're one of the lucky visitors in the know, you'll find this college town's attractions clustered in a walkable downtown filled with locavores and outdoors enthusiasts.



### ➤ Eat

The blazing wood-fired oven at the entrance to the **American Flatbread** dining room will whet a pizza lover's appetite. Pair a Green State Lager with a tangy Medicine Wheel pie for a satisfying lunch. 115 Saint Paul Street. (802) 861-2999; [americanflatbread.com](http://americanflatbread.com).  
Decisions, decisions. **The Farmhouse Tap and Grill** pours an overwhelming variety of craft brews. Order one of its special burgers, and the grill will donate a portion of the proceeds to a worthy cause. 160 Bank Street. (802) 859-0888; [farmhousetg.com](http://farmhousetg.com). Food writer Mark Bittman fell in love with **Hen of the Wood**, and it became recognized as one of Vermont's top fine-dining restaurants. Striving for both environmental harmony and delicious cuisine, its reputation is deserved. 55 Cherry Street. (802) 540-0534; [henofthewood.com](http://henofthewood.com).

The family-friendly **Echo, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain**, makes learning about the so-called Sixth Great Lake entertaining. The traveling exhibit "Innovation Playground v2.0" opens September 22. 1 College Street. (877) 324-6386; [echovermont.org](http://echovermont.org). The **Community Sailing Center** shows how to make the most of the wind and water. If a sailing class doesn't appeal, paddle craft are available for a modest fee. 505 Lake Street. (802) 864-2499; [communitysailingcenter.org](http://communitysailingcenter.org). Explore the scenic, 8-mile **Burlington Greenway**

([tinyurl.com/burlgway](http://tinyurl.com/burlgway)) on two wheels. Local Motion rents "comfort bikes" to suit the casual rider, as well as tandems, trailers, and tag-a-longs. 1 Steele Street. (802) 861-2700; [localmotion.org](http://localmotion.org).



### SHOP

**Pure Pop Records** is an anomaly, offering more new LPs than used vinyl. Peruse the bins and you'll find Michael Chorney's "Shameless Light," written, recorded, and pressed in Vermont. 115 S. Winooski Avenue. (802) 658-2652; [purepoprecords.com](http://purepoprecords.com). When one tires of the crowds at the Church Street Marketplace, the independent **Crow Bookshop** can provide relief. Its stock is lovingly curated, and the used volumes are often in pristine condition. 14 Church Street. (802) 862-0848; [crowbooks.com](http://crowbooks.com). Reclaimed chestnut, tiger maple, and oxidized ash are some of the woods available to customize the classic but contemporary furniture designs of **Vermont Farm Table**, located downtown in a historic building. 206 College Street. (802) 992-1960; [vermontfarmtable.com](http://vermontfarmtable.com).



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Call to confirm hours and availability of businesses, attractions, and events before you visit. Be sure to designate a driver if you plan to drink alcohol.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: PETER CRABTREE (2); COURTESY ECHO, LEAHY CENTER FOR LAKE CHAMPLAIN