

Best of Williamsburg



Dessert



CW Attraction



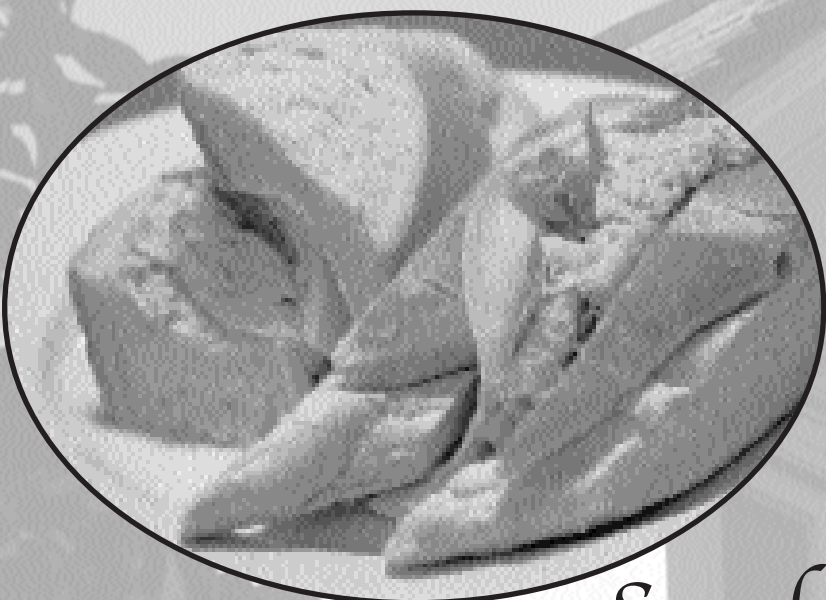
Shop for Mom



Candy Shop



Bagels



Sandwiches

It's easy to forget sometimes that Williamsburg offers one of the best forms of entertainment imaginable for College students: eating. From the decadent desserts offered at The Trellis, to the various rich coffees at Aromas and sweet confections at Wythe Candy Shop, Colonial Williamsburg provides abundant opportunities for palatable indulgence. Once you've gorged yourself, check out the Flat Hat Editorial Board's suggestions for everything else Williamsburg has to offer for the fourth year running, including where to pick up that perfect gift for mom and dad and the best place to get it on when you're feeling randy.

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Dessert: Death by Chocolate

It may seem obvious that The Trellis provides the best dessert in Williamsburg with their disgustingly decadent and unbelievable array of confections. Any dessert at The Trellis is bound to satisfy, from the Chocolate Temptation to the simple Strawberries and Cream. But it is ultimately the layers of chocolate brownie cake, chocolate ganache, cocoa meringue and chocolate mocha mousse cake — covered with more chocolate ganache, topped with chocolate mousse and mocha rum sauce — of the Death by Chocolate that has won over this category for two years running.

Cheap Eats: Dunkin' Donuts

It's 3 a.m. You've been trying to relate Kierkegaard to Kerouac for the last six hours. Sleep threatens to overtake your philosophy-addled mind, and your stomach is gnawing at itself, demanding food. You dig through the couch cushions, pillage the ashtray and even clean out the pockets of all your jeans in the laundry. The result? \$1.71. Where can you find satisfaction?

The cheery Richmond Road Dunkin' Donuts, of course, where nobody knows your name, but you can get a large iced coffee with enough sugar to put you into insulin shock, plus a handful of greasy, sugary heaven for mere pennies. Late at night the staff of the 24-7 shop will throw in two or three pastries for the price of one, if you ask nicely and tip them.

Delivery: Mr. Liu's

You can only order in pizza so many times before you start to resemble a pie slathered with tomato sauce and mozzarella. That's when it's time for the hot soups, veggie-laden entrees and savory dumplings at Mr. Liu's. Not only is the food top-notch, with tender, flavorful meats and crisp vegetables with no MSG, but the delivery service is speedy, polite and best of all, free. Tip the staff well, because they work hard to ensure your food is delivered hot, fast and not spilled all over the inside of the bag.

Comfort Food: Wawa Chicken Soup

On another cold, rainy Williamsburg night, all you want is to be curled up at home in front of a fire, under a blanket accompanied by a really trashy book or a really trashy booty call. When none of the above is an option, or you're too dependent on Tylenol Flu to be feeling randy, pop into Wawa for a cup of steaming chicken soup.

Unlike the canned variety, Wawa's soup features a full serving of noodles, vegetables and chicken, all suspended in a thick broth that's just salty enough. Pair it with one of Wawa's custom-made subs and not only do you get to push more buttons on the order screen, but you might not be so lonely for that booty call after all.

Kept Secret: 48-Hour Rule

The best-kept secret in Williamsburg is the infamous 48-Hour Rule. It's so well-kept that even second semester seniors aren't always aware of its existence or its implications. Simply put, the rule prohibits students from having more than 48-credit hours in one department count toward graduation. Students are not warned on their DARS reports or during registration if they are about to violate the rule. Violators risk not being able to graduate on time and having to take overloads during their final semesters at the

College. And, despite difficulties with the rule in the past few years, the administration has done little to let this cat out of the bag.

Coming Attraction: The New Cheese Shop

Since it was announced last spring, the most anticipated addition to the area has been the bigger, better Cheese Shop scheduled to be located on Duke of Gloucester Street. Currently, the Cheese Shop crams tons of delicacies, beers and deli goodness into a small store on Prince George Street.

The new location, formerly occupied by A Good Place to Eat, promises to offer the sandwiches, bread ends and house dressing for which it's famous and then some. However, the moving date keeps being pushed back, meaning students will still have to wait for the best change to Colonial Williamsburg. With an expanded menu, indoor seating and a private party room in the basement, the new Cheese Shop promises to be the best thing since sliced bread — French bread, that is.

Dinner with Parents: Berret's

Not quite as famous, nor as expensive, as the Trellis, Berret's offers Williamsburg's best spot for dinner with the parents. The friendly, well-lit environment is perfect for a casual family meal. Berret's specializes in seafood but offers selections for children and

those who would rather stay on land. Also, what is not well known about this restaurant is that its desserts are as creative and delicious as those at the Trellis but without the chocolate. Moderately priced, well-lit and friendly, Berret's is the place to go when the family is in town.

Pizza: Papa John's

One of the most important aspects of delivery pizza is that it arrives on time and it arrives hot. Papa John's, with their delicious doughy crust and enjoyable sauces, is great at keeping the pizza hot and getting it there quickly. Unlike most things in Williamsburg, the campus special is actually a good value. Plus, if you flirt with the person on the phone, it's easy to get a discount.



Flower Shop: The Flower Cupboard

For the purposes of adding color to any drab dormitory room, showing appreciation or cheering up on a dreary day, The Flower Cupboard, located on North Boundary Street, is your one stop shop for cheer, happiness and joy. The Flower Cupboard offers a variety of fresh-cut flowers and flower arrangements. Students can simply drop in and create their own arrangement from the selection in the shop. Balloons can be added for minimal cost and extra cheer. Flowers are not the only items available at The Flower Cupboard, however. Any of the novelty items in the front room are perfect for a small gift or a complement to any flower arrangement.

Place to Shop for Dad: Online

Face it, unless your father is a colonial history buff, there's really nothing to buy him in Williamsburg. You could try Ace Hardware for power tools or pick up a College shirt from The Campus Shop, but how many green and gold shirts does a man really need? So instead just go online to Amazon.com or eBay and get him something he'll really want. The selection is better, the prices are more reasonable and there aren't any tourists to fight with.

Tradition: Yule Log

Sure, Princeton has its Nude Olympics, but for fond memories you'll remember for years to come, the College's Yule Log Ceremony beats random nakedness hands down. Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler's yearly incarnation of "Twas the Night Before Finals" always pokes clever fun at the situations we thought were so important throughout the year, and President Timothy Sullivan's arrival as Santa Claus is well worth standing under a sooty torch for an hour. Plus, the array of multicultural participation includes readings of the Christmas story from the Book of Luke, the Hanukkah story, an explanation of the observance of Ramadan and the origins of Kwanzaa. Finally, there's nothing like listening to the Gentlemen of the College tirelessly caroling as you assign a trouble to each leaf of a holly sprig and then cast it into a roaring fire.

Place for Breakfast: IHOP

Even with all the assorted breakfast places around town, the one that stands out is the reliable International House of Pancakes. Serving its customers breakfast for dinner or dinner for breakfast, IHOP has tastier choices than most restau-

rants. Don't be fooled by all the construction that's going on; IHOP is still running smoothly. The only qualm is the staff who are either surly or fun depending on whether you're in the smoking section or not, but this can be overlooked because the food is well worth it.

Bathroom: Swem Library

For the best in restroom enjoyment no facility comes close to matching the pleasures of the Swem bathrooms. The restrooms of Swem are in a league of their own when it comes to style. There are no harsh fluorescent lights to damage the eyes and make everything painfully obvious. The cleanliness is also commendable. But what really sets these particular bathrooms above all the rest is the inclusion of a monthly newsletter, "The Throne," that covers all sorts of hygiene and library trivia.

Customer Service: Ukrop's

The best customer service award goes to Ukrop's, where you can find everything you're looking for and have your groceries taken to the car for you. The staff at Ukrop's is friendly and courteous, and willing to help customers find whatever they need. And while you might wait in long lines at other grocery stores, the checkers at Ukrop's are quick and efficient to help you save time.

Vegetarian: Nawab

When Dining Services' mounds of greasy, chunky and unidentifiable meat products make even the most faithful meat-o-phile gag, Nawab provides an escape. While arguably one of the best restaurants in Williamsburg, Nawab also provides multiple and varied options for vegetarians. The vegetable patia's combination of mango and

spices is irresistible, and the garlic naan is the perfect appetizer. More importantly, you get the feeling that Nawab doesn't baste all its food products in lard like the Center Court.

Graduation Speaker: Bob Woodward

Who? That's the general reaction elicited when the administration announces the spring commencement speaker, such as Brent Scowcroft in 2001 and Lamar Alexander in 2002. It's high time for a speaker who would really speak to students. Former Washington Post managing editor Bob Woodward exemplifies the qualities the College has tried to foster in us all these years: dedication, perseverance and an inquiring mind. Woodward and partner Carl Bernstein broke the Watergate scandal that brought down the Richard Nixon presidency. During his tenure at The Post, Woodward also uncovered the Pentagon Papers and helped build the reputation of the fourth estate The Post now enjoys. Besides, Robert Redford played him in the movie version of "All the President's Men."

Supermarket: Ukrop's

Simply put, Ukrop's is the supermarket of the gods. Its prices may be a little higher than other grocery stores around Williamsburg, but trust us, you'll be getting your money's worth. Their killer combination of size, selection, freshness and friendliness can't be beat. With items ranging from gourmet sandwich trays and sushi platters to organic foods and pharmaceutical prescriptions, Ukrop's has virtually everything that anyone could need. Be forewarned: if you shop at Ukrop's, you will become used to their level of excellence and won't be able to buy groceries anywhere else.



Candy Shop: Wythe

If Ukrop's is the supermarket of the gods, Wythe Candy Shop, located in Merchant's Square, is where they go when they're done grocery shopping. There aren't too many confections that you can't find at Wythe. It isn't just the selection of delicious treats that makes Wythe special, it's also the attention to detail and customer service that make the shop stand out. It might be more expensive than Wawa, but you won't find its selection anywhere else. Whether you want something chocolate, crunchy, gummy, gooey or all of the above, you will be sure to find it at Wythe Candy Shop.



Place to Shop for Mom: Master Craftsmen

When shopping for a gift for mom, try Master Craftsmen for top-of-the-line gold, silver and pewter jewelry and other collectibles. A majority of the pieces found in this store are handcrafted and made to last for generations. While some of the items may seem a little pricey, your mom is sure to love gifts from Master Craftsmen.

Addition to Williamsburg: Wal-mart Supercenter

Located just off Route 199 on East Rochambeau Road, the brand new Wal-mart Supercenter is a gift from the cash-depleting gods.

While Wal-mart has always had a reputation as the ghetto fabulous stepchild of the one-stop shopping family, this vast, sparkling empire of goods (which includes groceries, a hair salon and even a McDonald's) could easily win over even the staunchest Target devotee's heart. It takes a bit longer to get there by car, but it's worth it. Stock up on necessities like laundry detergent and Betta fish, even if it's 2 a.m., because this glorious establishment, as if it's not great enough, is also open 24 hours.

Place to Study: Swem

Newly renovated, filled with good resources and peacefully quiet, Swem Library is the spot to go to on campus when students need to hit the books. Although sadly understaffed, those working will go out of their way to be helpful. The best part about studying in the library is that it has what every good study spot must offer: people-watching opportunities.

Hamburger: Second Street

For the best hamburger in Williamsburg, try one of the many selections at Second Street. Only a short drive from campus, Second Street offers a variety of hamburgers that can appeal to all tastes. Combined with delicious french fries, these burgers are sure to satisfy your hunger.

Fast Food: Wawa

How did we ever survive before being able to buy Wawa subs 24 hours a day? Since the opening of the convenience store last year, Wawa has, without a doubt, become the best place to find fast and affordable food, day or night.

Stocked with made-to-order sandwiches, coffee and every type of snack food you can crave at 3 a.m., Wawa instantly became a College staple overnight. And don't forget to try the deliciously cheap store brand green tea for just over \$1.

Ice Cream: Ben and Jerry's

Three words: free cone day. Yes — Ben and Jerry's is a Williamsburg spot with fabulous ice cream, countless delicious flavors, fun furniture with stories to read while you eat, but best of all, free cone day.

There are three shops in the area and that equals a lot

Italian: Sal's by Victor

If you're looking for great Italian food with great prices, Sal's by Victor is the place for you. With the quality of their pizza, pastas and parmesan cheeses, you'd think that you were in the middle of New York City — except for the reasonable prices. Nestled in the back corner of the Williamsburg Crossing Shopping Center on Richmond Road, it's a little out of the way for run-of-the-mill tourists. Sal's is the perfect place to take your parents when they come down to visit and is close enough for students to walk. Just make sure you don't try to get dinner with a large group of people on a Friday night — you'll be in for a long wait.

Coffee Shop: Aromas

There is nothing in Williamsburg that can quite match the atmosphere of Aromas. The amazing selection of coffees, teas, sandwiches and delectables makes Aromas the coffee shop of choice for most of the College population. Whether you want to grab a quick bite with a friend, catch up on reading or groove to local bands, Aromas has a hip, relaxed and friendly feeling that will help you get your work done. It's pricey, but you'll find their desserts worth every

penny. For the cost-conscious, try out the ridiculously tasty turtle brownies for \$1.50 each. Now if we could only get them to have the same hours as Wawa.

Ethnic: Chez Trinh

To any readers who have yet to try Vietnamese food, you need to. We at The Flat Hat enjoy eating, and moreover we enjoy eating excellent food that is reasonably priced. Vietnamese food tastes much more like mild Thai than traditional Americanized Chinese food. Chez Trinh has a wide variety of chicken, beef, tofu and seafood dishes ranging from very mild to Dante's Inferno.

We recommend the spring rolls, which are light, crunchy alternatives to deep-fried egg rolls. The great prices, delicious food and attentive wait staff will keep you coming back for more. The only downside of Chez Trinh is its location. Located off the beaten path can be good for locals, but if your parents want to go there, make sure you go with them; they are located in the Stein Mart shopping center across the street from the Monticello Shopping Center.

Bagels: Big Apple Bagels

Although far from New York City, the bagel capital of the nation, Big Apple Bagels brings a

hint of that flavor south while accepting William and Mary Express. A wide assortment of flavored cream cheeses, scrumptious muffins, a pleasant and clean dining area, helpful service and great value means Big Apple offers almost everything a bagel lover could desire.

Another bonus: if you buy food in bulk, rumor is they give you lots more for free. The epitome of a college food shop, Big Apple employs College students, hangs student posters and gives out Tribe sports information cards.

Sandwiches: The Cheese Shop

The unanimous winner for the third year in a row, The Cheese Shop successfully defends its title of the Best Sandwich ever. College alums have been known to beg their undergrad friends for holiday gifts of house dressing to liven up dull lunch fare.

The smell of fresh, hot French bread, decorated with thin slices of roast beef and creamy Swiss cheese could bring a hungry carnivore to his knees. Thick, savory and inimitable, Cheese Shop sandwiches are worth the trip, the price and even being in Williamsburg for long periods of time.

of free ice cream in one day. Even better, the selection of flavors includes the ever-popular Cherry Garcia, Chubby Hubby, Bovinity Divinity and Chunky Monkey, all served in that inimitable Vermont style in your choice of cone, cup or sundae. As a special treat, take a whole gang of friends and get the Vermonster, a sundae big enough for you and all your ice cream-craving cronies.

Mexican: Tequila Rose

While price is sometimes the only factor in defining a good restaurant, Tequila Rose provides the best of both worlds: cheap and satisfying. You find all the staples of Mexican restaurants here, as well as the authenticity that few provide. The quesadillas and enchiladas are especially noteworthy, and unlimited chips and salsa never hurt. But perhaps the best item on the menu is the generously large lime margarita — just don't forget the salt.

Deli: Paul's Deli

Paul's Deli is the perfect hangout for students of all ages. Alumni and sports nuts will love it for the old memorabilia from former Tribe athletes. With a jukebox full of great tunes and plenty of space for a large group of friends, Paul's has a wide selection of food ranging from pasta to subs.

Hot Chocolate: Aromas

With less caffeine than coffee, hot chocolate is a great cold-weather comfort drink. Most notable is the hot chocolate made by the drink experts at Aromas using one of the best chocolates, Ghirardelli. Made with either skim or 2 percent milk and topped with a mountain of whipped cream, the hot chocolate at Aromas far surpasses any other that Williamsburg or the surrounding area has to offer.



First-Date Place: A Carroll's

Williamsburg can be the perfect place for romance. A simple walk down Duke of Gloucester Street at night or sitting on Barksdale Field on a clear, starry night are perfect ways to show someone you care. But there is a lot that happens in between "just friends" and "we are one," such as the nerve-wracking but very important first date.

A first date is the way to show someone who considers you a friend that you want to move into that uncharted territory. To do this, you have to stop going to the

dining halls alone for dinner, because while it may just be the two of you, eating food from the UC does not necessarily scream "I want you."

One place to consider strongly for your first date would be A Carroll's Bistro, located on Boundary Street. This classy restaurant specializing in gourmet martinis is perfect (especially if you are 21) because it is within walking distance from the College. A date here provides both of you the chance to dress up and prove that you clean up well.

Upon arrival the mood is set with dim lighting and candlelit tables. A date can start and end with drinks or can begin with drinks and end with dinner or dessert. Either way, a pleasant, relaxing evening at A Carroll's will be special to both of you and a great place to return if you are lucky enough to celebrate anniversaries. And, if the evening ends too soon, A Carroll's is only three blocks away from DoG Street, so the walk to the capitol could end the perfect first date.

Worst of Williamsburg

Campus Eatery: The Marketplace

Among one of the greatest misconceptions at the College (including that one about the girls on campus being ugly — so not true) is that the Marketplace is the best dining establishment here. Sure, OK, if by the best you mean the worst. Stale desserts, more carbohydrates than anyone could ever need, lack of options, long lines, overcrowded tables ... the list could continue. Vegetarians and vegans have it particularly rough at the Marketplace, as they don't have the option of Burger King or Chick-Fil-A to fall back on if the fettuccini is looking particularly bland. While the entrees at the UC Center Court are hardly exceptional either, the all-you-can-eat cereal and gigantic salad bar are accessible alternatives. The Freshens station at the Marketplace, a veritable oasis of smoothies and Brown Roof parfaits, is still fabulous, but Flex Points tend to vanish quickly there.

Building: Dillard

As bad as the crumbling ceilings in Millington Hall and the decrepitude of Tucker Hall are, no one has to live there. The Dillard Complex is another story. Being exiled three miles from the main campus is bad enough, but the residents of Dillard are also far enough in the wilderness to be attacked regularly with infestations of ants, moths and infamous ladybugs — the queens of all insectoid evil and tyranny. It's also mildly disturbing to sleep in a place that used to be part of an insane asylum.

Place to Study: UC Basement

Don't study in the University Center basement. Don't even pretend you're going to get work done

there. Sure, there are nice, comfy chairs and ethernet ports, but the UC basement just isn't for work. There's a reason there are pool tables, video games and multiple televisions. Even without all the entertainment it would still be a bad place to study because of the twin distractions of the Students' X-Change and mailboxes. Think about how often you check your e-mail while you work: imagine how much you'd check your mail if you were in close proximity to the mailboxes. And really, who would rather spend time studying instead of browsing the X-Change for food?

Thing To Do When Bored: Google yourself

Google™

Procrastination technique #1: Check the away messages of everyone on your Buddy List until AOL Instant Messenger blocks you temporarily. Technique #2: Alphabetize your CDs. Then your videos and DVDs. Then color-code your clothes. Final, desperate, need-a-hobby technique: Go to google.com and type in your own name, just to see what comes up.

Follow by searching for the names of all your relatives, friends, roommates, friends' significant others, pets, professors, manicurists and grocery store clerks until your eyes glaze over. Truly, Googling oneself betrays a desperate need for either a change of major or eight hours' uninterrupted sleep. Get out of the room, or the computer lab, and get some fresh air, for pity's sake.

Place to Hook Up: Your Room

This year, The Flat Hat will not tell its readers to get it on in places such as the wooden gazebo by Swem Library or the bleachers at Zable Stadium, former winners of this dubious award. Nor will we recommend the Ewell practice rooms, Barksdale Field or dorm lounges. And for goodness sakes, there is nothing more unappetizing than to look over and see a couple scrumpin' at the UC Center Court during dinner. May we go so far as to suggest your room?

Just think: no more grass stains, no possibility of Campus Police crashing the party and shining flashlights in your face, and no matter what anyone says, it's always more fun on a bed. Yes, for most College students, there is that pesky roommate thing. If making arrangements is not an option, be creative. Do it when the roommate's in class or at work, or something. Just don't bring it outside. Please.

Renovation: Swem Library

The renovation at Swem Library is, without a doubt, the most noteworthy the campus has seen in years. Since it's the library, everyone can benefit from the drastic and visible changes it's undergone since the dismal days. Students actually like studying at the library now, thanks to the snazzy new furniture (while the graffiti was endearing, people wasted more time reading it than studying anyway), gigantic

windows and excellent lighting. Although the moveable stacks are still as frightening as ever and the tables are always packed with kids who never, ever shut up, this is a vast improvement from cubicles in seedy poop-colored rooms. It's hard to imagine how awesome the final product will look, which at this rate, could take about 14 years.

Bookstore: Barnes and Noble College Bookstore

Hipper-than-thou independent bookstore lovers may scoff, but Barnes and Noble College Bookstore, though it reeks of corporations, is still the best bookstore in town. It's better than Books-A-Million by a long shot, with its superior selection and cooler ambiance.

The throngs of tourists may intimidate students, but the cafe is a pleasant place to study. Although most people just like to gawk and not actually buy anything (unless, of course, it's the beginning of the semester), that new book smell is enough to make a bookstore visit delightful.

Thing to Do When Bored: Play Cranium

The colorful board game Cranium hit the shelves a couple of years ago, but its popularity on campus has just gone through the roof. One round is quick enough even for those with the shortest attention spans, and you don't have to be a giant egghead with Coke-bottle glasses to get the answers

