

# A Few Nightlife Suggestions for Forest Legality Week 2019

For those of you here at Forest Legality Week who may wish to continue discussions with colleagues and friends into the evening, here is a list of watering holes to suit various tastes, all relatively nearby. As in all big cities, take care when out at night; DC is not an especially dangerous city, but muggers and pickpockets tend to favor areas where there are a lot of restaurants and bars. Uber and Lyft are ubiquitous in DC, and there are lots of taxis. When in doubt, have the restaurant or bar call a taxi.

## [The Dubliner](#) and [Kelly's Irish Times](#) – Corner of North Capitol Street and Massachusetts Avenue

This is the option closest to WRI, just a few short blocks away, across from the front of Union Station. These two Irish pubs, right next to each other, are, well, classic Irish pubs, as one finds all over the world. Food is a bit better and the décor a bit fancier at the Dubliner; but the Irish Times has an undeniable scruffy charm and a huge whiskey collection.

## [Wunder Garten](#) – Corner of L Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street, NE

Wunder Garten is a German-style tent/outdoor beer garden that is a 10-minute walk north from WRI on 1<sup>st</sup> St NE. Open-air, but climate controlled, it is an informal place with a great selection of beers as well as a full bar and pub food. Closes pretty early.

## [Bistro Bis](#) – 15 E Street, NW

Located in the Hotel George, a short walk from WRI up past the Irish bars towards Capitol Hill, Bistro Bis has a nice bar and is also a good upscale French restaurant – dinner reservations recommended, bar should not be too crowded though.

## [Mandu](#) – 435 K Street, NW

Go no further for excellent casual Korean fare and a good bar scene. Great happy hour specials until 7 PM and near to WRI.

## [Busboys & Poets](#) – 450 K Street, NW

Branch of iconic local chain of eatery/bookstore/bar/performance space owned by DC progressive activist [Andy Shallal](#). Cool.

## [Bar Elena](#) – 414 H Street, NE

A nice local bar with food, about a 15-minute walk from WRI. Recommended.

## [Ethiopic](#) – 401 H Street, NE

Good Ethiopian cuisine in a nice setting. Serves beer and wine but no bar.

## [Copycat](#) – 1110 H Street NE

Copycat features pan-Asian small bites (tasty dumplings and skewers) and good craft cocktails; the kitchen is downstairs, the bar and seating area upstairs. Cool little place. If it is too crowded, there are tons of other places on H Street nearby.

## [Tiger Fork](#) – 922 N Street, NW (“Blagden Alley” complex)

Asian small bites and cool cocktails, with a “Hong Kong” feel, on the boundary of the trendy Shaw and Mt. Vernon neighborhoods, not very far from WRI, near Mount Vernon Metro station.

## [Espita Mezcaleria](#) – 1250 9<sup>th</sup> St NW (Corner of 9<sup>th</sup> and N Streets, NW, “Blagden Alley” complex)

Espita's thing is hundreds of kinds of mezcal, and innovative Mexican small plates. If neither Tiger Fork nor Espita Mezcaleria are to your taste, there are lots of other options in the neighborhood.

## [Tabard Inn](#) – 1739 N St NW

If you are interested in something to eat a bit more fauna-oriented than WRI's plant-based offerings, the legendary Tabard is both a great restaurant and a fun bar. Old School funky, nice terrace area, tons of dark nooks and crannies. Famous for deal-making, romantic trysts and eclectic celebrity sightings. (e.g. I've seen both John Roberts and Julia Roberts there.)

## [Off the Record](#) – Hay Adams Hotel, 800 16<sup>th</sup> St NW (corner of H St. NW)

If neither beer pubs nor trendy nouvelle ethnic small plate/craft cocktail joints are to your liking, you may wish to get a taste of old-school political Washington in the basement of the iconic Hay Adams Hotel, by the White House. A true DC experience and great cocktails. “The place to be seen and not heard” is their unofficial motto. Right in the Belly of the Beast.

## [Quill](#) – The Jefferson Hotel 1200 16<sup>th</sup> St, NW (corner of M St. NW)

Quill is another old school classic, the sort of place for people who like the ambience of Off the Record but think the clientele there is a bit too lowlife (i.e. politicians and lobbyists). Wonderful atmosphere and cocktails, quiet enough to actually talk.

Finally, if you are looking for **good restaurants**, I'd recommend looking at the *Washington Post's* Spring 2019 [Dining Guide](#) by Tom Sietsema, their excellent restaurant critic. Sietsema's 2019 Fall Dining Guide is unfortunately not out until October 10<sup>th</sup>, but he has offered this [preview](#). The reality is you probably can't get into – and probably can't afford – the ones on the top 10 list. Eating out is a cutthroat competitive sport in Washington, like most things. But Tom also suggests other options.

***Or you could just go back to your room and do email...***