

# The Virginian-Pilot

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## Norfolk named one of America's 15 charming (and probably overlooked) Southern cities

By Isabel Dobrin  
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Rich-Joseph Facun | The Virginian-Pilot  
Norfolk's West Freemason, seen Thursday, October 3, 2013.



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Norfolk's West Freemason, the city's oldest standing neighborhood, has been named one of the 10 best neighborhoods in the country by the American Planning Association, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013 in Norfolk.

A “surprisingly dynamic vegan scene”? Check.

“Picturesque harbor views”? Check.

Mix in a few more recommendations for places to eat, stay and play, and Norfolk makes for a great Southern city destination, according to CNN Travel.

Norfolk came in No. 4 on [CNN Travel’s](#) “15 Charming Cities in the American South You May Have Overlooked.” The list mentions Yorgo’s Bageldashery, The Main and Push Comedy Theater as Norfolk places to visit.

"Norfolk is excited that our local entrepreneurs along with national business leaders are creating a recognized destination for dynamic and eclectic restaurants, hotels and shopping experiences," Mayor Kenneth Cooper Alexander said.

CNN Travel, which offers trip tips and guides, listed Charlottesville as No. 7. It's the only other Virginia city mentioned on the list, released last week.

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Norfolk's also apparently not a bad place to retire, either, according the rental website Zumper. It named the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News area one of the best places for your golden years. The area came in at No. 58 out of 117 in the company's ranking, released Tuesday.

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