

Adams-Morgan

Neighborhood Top Five

- ➊ Explore **18th St NW** (p180), where Africans, Latin Americans and hard drinkers collide in a row of restaurants, music clubs, dive bars, vintage boutiques, and indie book and record shops.
- ➋ Stroll through **Malcolm X Park** (p180), a surprising green space of statuary and hilltop views.
- ➌ Make a bleary-eyed stumble into the **Diner** (p180) to quell late-night munchies.
- ➍ Soak up the previous night's debauchery with a drag queen brunch at **Perrys** (p182).
- ➎ Catch a band at **Madam's Organ** (p186) and snap a photo under the bawdy mural.



For more detail of this area, see Map p334 ➔

Explore Adams-Morgan

Adams-Morgan has long been Washington's fun, nightlife-driven neighborhood. It's also a global village of sorts, from an earlier time when rents were cheap and immigrants set up shop. The result is a raucous mash-up centered on 18th St NW. Walk the half-mile stretch between Columbia Rd and Florida Ave and you'll sniff shish kebabs, Ethiopian lamb stew, jerk chicken and vegetable biryani mingling in the air. Vintage boutiques, arty homewares stores and record shops poke up between the ethnic eats, and make for good browsing by day.

But nighttime is when AdMo (as it's called in local text message-ese) really lets loose. Whether you love it or hate it – and everyone in DC seems to experience both emotions at some point – 18th St becomes one of the great bar crawls in town. Bored kids from the 'burbs, the international crowd, Hill rats, Dupont cats, Georgetown brats, a multiracial crew of young professionals and even a fair amount of party people from the rough side of town all throw aside their differences for a while to shake a tail feather and scream in your face. If you're looking for a quiet night out, this is *not* your place.

The neighborhood's only real sight is Malcolm X Park, off the beaten path to the east and well worth a walkabout.

Local Life

- ➔ **Long Weekend** It starts on Thursday in Adams-Morgan, when many bars and clubs offer 'college night' promotions that draw crowds.
- ➔ **Bang on the Drum All Day** When the weather warms, a multicultural group gathers in Malcolm X Park (p180) for a drum circle 3pm to 9pm Sunday.
- ➔ **Block Party** The Adams Morgan Festival rocks the second Sunday of September. International bands, dance and food vendors take over the streets for DC's biggest neighborhood bash.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** To reach most of 18th St, use the Woodley Park-Zoo/Adams Morgan station (Red Line). For points on 18th St south of Kalorama Rd, the Dupont Circle station (Red Line) is closer. For U St destinations, go to U St-Cardozo (Green Line). Each station is about a 15-minute walk from its hot spots.
- ➔ **Bus** The DC Circulator runs from the Woodley Park-Zoo/Adams Morgan Metro to the corner of 18th and Calvert Sts (a block north of Columbia Rd), before heading east out of the neighborhood.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

While 18th St grabs the glory for its wide-ranging bounty of bars and cafes, and Columbia Rd is well known for its Latin clubs and restaurants, don't overlook U St in the neighborhood's Southeast quadrant. It has its share of cool-cat shops and bars, and they extend east into the historic U St Corridor.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Diner (p180)
- ➔ Bardia's (p180)
- ➔ Meskerem (p181)
- ➔ Amsterdam Falafelshop (p181)
- ➔ Rumba Cafe (p181)

For reviews, see p180 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Dan's Cafe (p182)
- ➔ Tryst (p183)
- ➔ Black Squirrel (p183)
- ➔ Stetson's Famous Bar & Grill (p183)
- ➔ Bukom (p182)

For reviews, see p182 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Crooked Beat Records (p187)
- ➔ Brass Knob (p187)
- ➔ Meeps Vintage Fashionette (p187)
- ➔ Idle Time Books (p187)
- ➔ Skyneer Designs Gallery (p187)

For reviews, see p186 ➔