

EXCLUSIVE RANKING. THE TOP 100 TOWNS BEST PLACES TO LIVE

Did your town
make the cut?

New Jersey MONTHLY



HOBOKEN

HUDSON COUNTY

The Mile Square City sets the bar for all other Jersey downtowns—particularly the urban kind. Then again, not every town overlooks the Hudson River and the Manhattan skyline. Washington Street, the main thoroughfare, is blessed with wide sidewalks to accommodate the foot traffic generated by its cafés, bars, restaurants and shops. It's a vibrant and stimulating place to stroll; even better is the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, a linear park along the river.

"You can enjoy a wonderful meal on Washington Street and minutes later be in a tranquil, expansive green space with the most breathtaking views of Manhattan," says Daniel Gans, CEO of Hoboken Brownstone Company. Runners, bikers, skateboarders, sunbathers and strolling families use the Walkway, which is also the venue for free movies, art exhibitions and other cultural attractions.

WHERE TO EAT: Frank Sinatra's hometown has plenty of authentic Italian food, including Anthony D'Angelo's pizza shop **Dozzino's**; and **Fiore's Piccolo's** has the best

and Latin is well represented by **Cucharama** (by Beard Award winner Maricel Presilla) and **Silla's Zafra**. Speaking of Cuban, **La Isla** restaurant location. **Elysian Cafe** is a hip boite, **Bareburger** an upscale burger chain. **Schnackenberg's** is renowned for its killer doughnuts and carrot cake. Then there's French-inspired patisserie **Choc O Pain**; **Love and Yogurt**; family-owned **Lepore's Homemade Chocolates**; and media favorite **Carlo's Bakery**. Coffee shops abound, including family-run **bwé kafe**, which spotlights Haitian coffee beans and art.

WHERE TO SHOP: Check out funky boutiques and small chains like **Anthology**, **Dor L'Dor**, **Dear Hannah**, and the contemporary/vintage **Mint Market**. There's a pretty, two-story outpost of the regional chain **Anthropologie**. **Luxe Face and Body** offers treatments and an array of curated beauty products.

DON'T MISS: The riverfront **W Hoboken** hotel, for cocktails or dining with a sparkly Manhattan view. The **Mile Square Theatre**, which will soon move into a new West Hoboken venue. The **Hoboken Historical Museum** is home to an expansive collection of artifacts detailing Hoboken's history. The **Hoboken Cove Boathouse** at Maxwell Place offers free public kayaking.

THEN AGAIN: Parking is notoriously tight, so consider mass transit. The PATH train conveniently deposits you at the south end of Washington Street. —Lauren Barbagallo

DOWNTOWN SHOWDOWN Vote for your favorite downtown, starting September 1 at njmonthly.com

towns

IONS TO STROLL,
SEE THE SIGHTS

WHERE TO EAT:

Then there's French-inspired patisserie **Choc O Pain**;



Like this scene?
Find out where it
is: page 50.