



Maryland Office of Tourism • 401 E. Pratt Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202 Contact: Connie Yingling • 410.767.6329 • cyingling@visitmaryland.org Leslie Troy • 410.767.6298 • ltroy@visitmaryland.org

Love is Brewing in Maryland This February

From romance brews to food pairings, the state celebrates FeBREWary this month

Baltimore, MD (February 2, 2016) – Love is in the air and on tap in Maryland. In celebration of FeBREWary: Maryland Craft Beer Lovers Month, breweries are releasing new seasonal, love-themed craft beers, offering food pairings, hosting special events and partnering with local businesses to provide safe lodging and transportation.

"Maryland welcomes you to fall in love with a new style of beer or cozy up to an old local favorite," said Liz Fitzsimmons, executive director, Maryland Office of Tourism. "With more than 50 craft breweries, FeBREWary is the perfect opportunity to plan a weekend getaway or venture to a Maryland destination you've yet to explore."

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and what better way to treat your sweet tooth than with a decadent dessert beer. Choose from many new local flavors, such as <u>Antietam Brewery's</u> Cupid's Truffle chocolate raspberry stout, <u>Duclaw Brewing Company's</u> Quick Start My Heart strawberry milk stout or <u>Growlers of Gaithersburg's</u> chocolate pretzel with salted caramel stout. Stop by <u>Eastern Shore Brewing Company</u> for a pink-colored pilsner brewed with rose petals or <u>Assawoman Bay Brewing Company</u> for the Red Head Rye, inspired by the brewer's red-headed wife. Not feeling the romance? Give <u>Fin City Brewing Company's</u> Bitter Breakup IPA a try.

Celebrate the marriage of food and craft beer with a variety of appetizing options. Several breweries and brewpubs are playing match-maker and offering unique savory pairings. Tantalize your taste buds with course pairings at <u>Ruddy</u> <u>Duck Brewery and Grill</u> or <u>Mully's Brewery</u>; head straight to dessert pairings at <u>Scorpion Brewing</u> or <u>Red Shedman</u> <u>Farm Brewery</u>; or follow along the <u>Craft Beer and Food Pairing Trail</u>. Don't forget to indulge in oysters, a notorious aphrodisiac, paired nicely with <u>Flying Dog Brewery's</u> Pearl Necklace Chesapeake oyster stout.

Brewers are teaming up to celebrate FeBREWary all month long with special events and promotions. For the ultimate craft beer enthusiast, quench your thirst at "Love Thy Beer: Winter Warmer Showcase" presented by the Brewers Association of Maryland. The one-day festival, held February 12 in Silver Spring, features more than a dozen Maryland craft breweries. Find your passion by the pint at "Shore Craft Beer Fest: Love on Tap," on February 20 in Ocean City. Plan ahead and take advantage of the many Craft Beer Lovers Month hotel packages and safe transportation offers. Mark your calendars now for FeBREWary events happening across the state.

Visitors are encouraged to share their FeBREWary experiences on social media using the hashtags #MDfeBREWary and #MDBeerLovers.

For more information about FeBREWary, visit <u>www.visitmaryland.org</u> or call 1-800-719-5900.

About Maryland Tourism

The Maryland Office of Tourism is an agency of the Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts within the Maryland Department of Commerce. Visitors to the state spent \$16.4 billion on travel-related expenses in 2014. The Maryland tourism industry also generated \$2.2 billion in state and local taxes, and provided Marylanders with 140,288 jobs with a payroll of \$5.4 million.