## Southbound **FULLY BOOKED** HE PRINCE'S TIDES **NOVEL IDEA** ANN PATCHETT EXPANDS HER NASHVILLE BOOKSTORE

## HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville's cool little sister

endersonville is often called a small-town version of Asheville. And these days, when you're lucky to snag a table at Pack Square's crowded restaurants and bars, the comparison tempts. Hendersonville is known for its serpentine Main Street adorned with colorful planters and dotted with alfresco dining tables. **Postero** offers New American fare such as poached salmon on avocado toast, while **Mezzaluna** showcases a refined Italian menu with fifty beers on tap. A visit to the gleaming **Sierra Nevada** brewery in nearby Mills River is in order, but make no mistake: Hendersonville is a hard cider hub. Check out the **Flat Rock Ciderworks** tasting room or the newly opened home



of Appalachian Ridge Artisan Ciders. Prefer wine? Scarlet on Main, a fashion-forward women's clothing boutique, offers samples from local winery Saint Paul Mountain Vineyards inside its shop.

Find fine accommodations at the Bed & Breakfast on Tiffany Hill, where each plush but understated room channels a different town in the South (balmy Seaside, equestrian Lexington). If you prefer a downtown locale, the circa-1880 Charleston Inn recently got a new name and facelift. Don't skip a day trip to the neighboring town of Flat Rock, home to the state theater of North Carolina, the Flat Rock Playhouse (which operates a satellite location in downtown Hendersonville). It's also where you'll find the historic residence of poet and writer Carl Sandburg. From the Sandburg home, it's an idyllic one-and-a-half-mile trek to the top of Big Glassy Mountain. Another popular lookout is Jump Off Rock, where on a clear day you can see four states. visithendersonvillenc.org

