

# CitiScapes

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

PEOPLE • PLACES • EVENTS • FOOD • FUN

## THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Piltdown Outdoor Company  
Hogshead Tours  
Buffalo Outdoor Center  
Horseshoe Canyon Ranch

**also:**

**PROFILE:** Paxton Roberts, Bicycle Coalition of the Ozarks  
**OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING:** Thrill of the Grill  
**STYLE FILE:** Summer's Hottest Looks

JUNE 2016  
\$2.50 VALUE

# HOGSHEAD TOURS

HOP ON BOARD WITH NORTHWEST ARKANSAS' FIRST BEER, WINE AND FOOD TOUR OPERATOR



Whether you're a visitor to Northwest Arkansas or are an area native, if you're passionate about craft beer, food or wine, a day with Hogshead Tours deserves a spot on your summer bucket list.

If you are looking for a unique way to experience our area's bustling culinary scene, then let University of Arkansas graduates and Hogshead Tour owners Dustin and Lora Murphy take you on a ride in their 1970 Volkswagen Van for a savory experience you won't soon forget.

Taking inspiration from their own travels and recognizing a need for culinary tours in Northwest Arkansas, in March 2014 the Murphys boarded a one-way flight to Santa Rosa, Calif., where they picked up the company's iconic vintage van and set off for their new business venture. After a quick stick-shift driving lesson in a Home Depot parking lot and a 2,000-mile trek back to Arkansas, in July of 2014 Hogshead Tours officially opened for business as Northwest Arkansas' first and only beer, wine and food tour operator.

"We have been on many beer, wine and food tours during our travels throughout the U.S. and Europe, so our past tour experiences have definitely acted as our muse for the business," says Lora. "Taking a tour is such a great way to explore an area's culture and its people."

Striving to connect people with our area's gastronomic culture, the Murphys carefully design their tours to highlight local businesses and Northwest Arkansas' culinary scene.

"Our primary goal is to showcase our area's small businesses and the men and women who run them," says Lora.



Lora and Dustin Murphy



"We have a tremendous appreciation for the culture and diversity that our local businesses bring to the area. Sharing their stories and creating a guided experience around them is what we set out to do."

From brewery tours to a stroll through the vineyards, Hogshead Tours offers a little something for everyone looking to get out and explore Northwest Arkansas in a new way. For just around \$70, tour-goers can expect a three-hour guided excursion in Hogshead's vintage van "Vanny," or in "Lucinda," the company's more modern transportation option, a GMC Yukon XL Denali, and will enjoy drink and/or food samples and behind-the-scenes looks at how sampled products are made.

Their most popular tour, the South Brewery Tour, includes stops at Fossil Cove Brewing Co., Apple Blossom Brewing Co. and Columbus House Brewery, with rotating stops to Core Brewing Co., Saddleback Brewery and Black Apple Crossing, with information and beer tastings at each location. A similarly popular route is their North Brewery Tour, which visits Northwest Arkansas' northern breweries, Bike Rack Brewing Co., Bentonville Brewing Co. and

Core Brewing Co., and makes rotating stops at Ozark Beer Co. and New Province Brewing Co.

For those who prefer fruit to hops, the Hogshead Wine and Cider Tour is a wonderful way to explore our area's local wine and cider scene. This excursion starts with a history lesson and glass of wine at the Tontitown Winery before heading to downtown Springdale for a cider tasting at our state's first and only operating cidery, Black Apple Crossing. The tour then proceeds with a drive to scenic Sassafras Springs Vineyard, where participants will enjoy another taste of local wine while taking in the beautiful views of the property. Once the tour is complete, like with all of Hogshead's tours, tour goers will then be safely driven back to their home or hotel, full on drinks and history.

Though it's Hogshead's drink tours that predominantly keep the company busy, anyone with a passion for food should be sure to keep an eye out for their occasional farm and food tours, like the Flavors of Fayetteville tour coming up on the 11th of this month. Showcasing local foods and farms, this fun and educational tour includes a private mini-cheese class and tasting with Sweet Freedom Creamery, a macaron and tea tasting at Alchemy, a visit to the Center Street Mercantile, and a picnic and farm tour at Apple Seeds Farm, as well as samplings of other local and regional goods. Can't make it for this month's food tour? Keep an eye out for the Farmer's Table Café farm-to-table tour coming up in the near future!

Whatever your culinary interests, Hogshead Tours is there to help fuel your passions. They even offer custom and private tours for those looking for something a bit different than their standard offerings.

"In a custom tour, we work with our customers to craft a tour around their interests," says Lora. "What's not to like about that? When our customers are wanting to have a more intimate experience or maintain some privacy, our private tours are an excellent option.

"Most people are looking for a unique experience they can share with friends or to visit with like-minded people. We find that a lot of people have a huge desire to learn. We do our homework and hire staff that is passionate about the area's thriving beer and food scene, and we provide an experience that people can't often achieve on their own." ■

For more information, visit  
[www.hogsheadtours.com](http://www.hogsheadtours.com).



## MARTIN'S Plastering & Stucco

We have over 24 years of quality, service, and excellence. Our specialties include 100% real stucco, EIFS, and manufactured stone veneers. Let us start your masterpiece today!



(479) 871-0051   got.stucco@hotmail.com   www.MartinsStucco.com



Damon Shaw   
OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Fine art prints available at  
[DamonShawPhotos.com](http://DamonShawPhotos.com)

