



TRISHA YEARWOOD

The platinum-selling singer was born in Georgia, but now calls Nashville home. Her in-town itinerary is landmark country classics all the way.

JUSTIN TOWNES EARLE

Born and raised in Nashville, this Southern Americana singer knows all the good locals-only gems. (He's played at some of Rach's parties, too!)

two takes on nashville

Country superstars choose their standout spots in Music City USA. BY AMANDA WAAS

1 musicians' hangout

While the Ryman Auditorium across the street may bring in bigger musical acts, **Tootsie's Orchid Lounge** is where all the musicians hang out after their shows. "They walk straight across the alley from the back door of one to the other," Trisha says. "It still has that classic country atmosphere. I always imagine Patsy Cline sitting at the bar whenever I walk in." 422 Broadway, 615-726-0463, tootsies.net

2 fried chicken to go

No seats in **Something Special** restaurant: Everything is to go. "They've got the best fried chicken, second only to my mama's. It's so good, my husband, Garth [Brooks], and I had it flown to Oklahoma for our wedding!" The meals travel well in-town, too: Orders come boxed with fancy sides, like marinated asparagus and peppery pasta salad. 107 Heady Drive, 615-352-0296, somethingspecialtn.com

3 cultural nostalgia

It sounds touristy, but the **Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum** at Fort Negley Park is the real deal! The museum is 130,000 square feet of pure country music history and memorabilia, right down to Johnny Cash's guitar. "The architecture is among the most striking in the city. When I first moved to town, I was a tour guide here!" 222 5th Ave. S., 615-416-2001, countrymusichalloffame.org

4 outdoor movie spot

Don't forget to get outside! **Centennial Park** has walking trails, picnic tables and Silver Screen Saturdays in the summer: "I bring a blanket, sit on the grass, and watch the classic movies they play on the big screen, like *Gone with the Wind*." 1100 Fort Negley Blvd., 615-862-8470



5 cool clothing store

Step over the lazy dog that hangs out in the doorway of **Imogene + Willie** to pick up a pair of hand-stitched jeans. It's set up in an old gas station, used sewing patterns hang from the ceiling, and vintage sewing machines and clothes are everywhere. "They host acoustic concerts in the back, too," Justin says. "I've played one myself." 2601 12th Ave. S., 615-292-5005, imogeneandwillie.com

6 after-work hangout

The extra-long happy hours at **FooBar** offer the best of both worlds: You can play old-school board games like Operation, Checkers and even Hungry Hungry Hippos, so it's a "semi-adult and semi-childish good time. Plus, they always have great live music." (On Mondays you can join in—it's karaoke night.) 2511 Gallatin Road, 615-226-7305, thefoobarnashville.com

7 kick back + relax coffee shop

Neighborhood spot **Sip Café** serves hand-roasted coffee and is sure to have townies from all walks sitting and sipping on the shady brick patio out back. "It's Drew's Brews locally brewed coffee, my absolute favorite cup." If you're not in town, order a bag of those famous beans at drewsbrewscoffee.com. 1402 McGavock Pike, 615-227-1035

8 spicy fried chicken

True to its name, the cast-iron-skillet-fried chicken at **Prince's Hot Chicken Shack** is scorch-your-mouth spicy. (Warning: The white bread slices stacked alongside don't help much—even the "mild" order has kick.) "Their chicken is coated with the spiciest substance on the face of the Earth. You'll see people eating with tears in their eyes." 123 Ewing Drive, 615-226-9442

nibble on This!

Wedding cakes were once savory wedding pies! Until the 19th century, nuptials were celebrated with something called the "bride's pie"—a pastry filled with sweetbreads, mincemeat or mutton.