

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

# *un*TACKED

THE EQUESTRIAN LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

## **EQUUS: LIGHT AND FORM**

*The Latest Series  
From Drew Doggett*

## **Holiday Gift Ideas**

For Horses And Humans

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHRONICLE OF THE HORSE

# MIDDLEBURG

## SPLENDID IN EVERY SEASON

By Mollie Bailey

Situated just 40 miles west of the nation's capital, Middleburg is an equestrian's paradise. Don't be surprised during your visit when you run into Olympians at a restaurant or see a store closed for the morning with a sign on the door saying, "Gone foxhunting."

The main street is filled with old-time charm, with antique shops and understated high-end clothing boutiques lining the sidewalks. And, since 1937, the town has been home to *The Chronicle of the Horse* magazine, now located next door to the National Sporting Library & Museum.

Depending when you make the trek you might be able to catch the Christmas In Middleburg parade, which will take place Dec. 7 this year, with decked out hunt horses and the much-loved Corgi Corps on display. Over Memorial Day weekend there's the Hunt Country Stable Tour, where you can peek behind the scenes at some of the most spectacular farms in the area. And every October features the Middleburg Film Festival, where you can see the hottest new movies and hear VIPs like Maggie Gyllenhaal, Viggo Mortensen and Yalitza Aparicio talk up their latest projects. Then there are several vineyards a stone's throw from town—and dozens more within an hour's drive.

Whether you're coming to town to watch—or ride in—a major equestrian event, or you're just looking for a weekend trip, don't miss this historic town with plenty of equestrian attractions.



MIDDLEBURG PHOTO

## THE RED FOX INN & TAVERN

2 East Washington Street | Middleburg, Virginia 20117  
(540) 687-6301 | [redfox.com](http://redfox.com)

The storied Red Fox Inn & Tavern predates the incorporation of the town of Middleburg and has been a local landmark since it was built in 1728. What started as a simple tavern has expanded into much more, with 22 unique rooms, suites and cottages located in the main building and interspersed throughout the establishment's property. And then there's the food, of course. There are several dining spaces, including the upscale tavern, the laidback pub and lovely garden terrace. The menu includes traditional Southern cuisine like Virginia peanut soup, as well as updated favorites like seared duck breast with cranberry pomegranate sauce.



## NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

102 The Plains Road  
Middleburg, Virginia 20117  
(540) 687-6542  
[nationalsporting.org](http://nationalsporting.org)

Looking to check out some spectacular sporting art or buckle down on an equine research project? Stop by the National Sporting Library & Museum. George Ohrstrom Sr. and Alexander Mackay-Smith founded this institution in 1954, and it's "dedicated to preserving, promoting and sharing the literature, art and culture of equestrian, angling and field sports."

At the museum there's a rotating slate of exhibitions. (Right now you can check out "Canter & Crawl: The Glass Sculpture Of Joan Danziger" and "Leading The Field: Ellen Emmet Rand," among others). The library is a treasure trove of books, hunting diaries and more. During late spring and

MOLLIE BAILEY PHOTO



summer the venue hosts outdoor concerts on the last Friday evening of every month, with the museum open late and admission fees waived. A local art teacher or artist leads free sketching sessions—supplies provided—in the museum as well on the first Sunday of every month. The museum is open Wednesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and admission is free on Wednesdays, \$10 for adults on all other days.

## MASTERS OF FOXHOUNDS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA HEADQUARTERS AND MUSEUM

301 East Washington Street | Middleburg, VA 20117  
(540) 883-0883 | [mfha.com](http://mfha.com)

After three years of renovation and anticipation, the MFHA's new headquarters and museum opened at the east end of town this spring. The nearly 200-year-old building houses a collection of artwork and sporting memorabilia in addition to office space for the organization, whose mission is to promote, preserve and protect mounted foxhunting.

Whether you're an experienced field master with a group of Pony Club children in tow, or the closest you've ever been to a foxhound is binge-watching "Downton Abbey," you're invited to stop by and visit. The collection and grounds are open to the public a few days a week—check the website for hours.



LIZ CALLAR PHOTO