



CARRBORO
COFFEE ROASTERS
 27510



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savorNC



taste.
 carolina
one city at a time

PHOTOS BY CHARLES HARRIS

BY KELLY DAVIS

As our party strolled down Franklin Street, I wondered what would be the perfect way to wind down our tasting tour. We found it at the Carrboro Beverage Company. Featuring an impressive selection for both the beer novice or the connoisseur, the shop offered samples of old favorites and new flavors, from local brews to Japanese beers.

From there, we ventured out for the ultimate end-of-meal pleasure: coffee. But this wasn't just any joe. At the Open Eye Cafe in Carrboro, my tour group and I learned

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about the art of craft coffee from Michael Harwood, an award-winning barista. The delight he took in the pungent and sultry beans was obvious as he described several methods for achieving the perfect cup.

As the excursion ended, most of my fellow tourists bid the group goodbye, while the rest of us more brazen food nerds lingered a bit longer to pick the brains of Harwood and Naus.

Eventually I tore myself away from the conversation with a three-hour ride back to Charlotte hanging over my head. My husband and I returned to our car, exhausted but beaming with joy from a day of good conversation and phenomenal food in two sister towns that feel like home.

For Taste Carolina Gourmet Food Tours details and reservations, visit www.taste-carolina.net or call 919-237-2254.



ABOVE: Carrboro's Open Eye Cafe hand-chooses the farms with which it partners.
LEFT: Coffee connoisseur Michael Harwood mesmerizes tourists with his passion for the coffee industry.

More Ways to Tour

Culinary Adventures with Liz Biro

This food critic is the perfect host for restaurant and cocktail tours of historic downtown Wilmington. Liz Biro's discriminating taste led her to choose only the best of what Wilmington has to offer, from contemporary Southern to Mediterranean cuisine. Be sure to check out the upcoming Downtown Brunch Stroll, or book a custom tour for a special group. www.lizbiro.com; 910-545-8055

Asheville Food Tours

This tour provides a wonderful opportunity to see what Asheville's booming culinary scene has to offer. Food enthusiasts choose between downtown Asheville and Biltmore Village — and the restaurants and eateries change regularly. Two consistencies: All tastings are provided by independent Asheville businesses and all tours end with a food tour passport offering free or discounted items at the visited locations. www.ashevillefoodtours.com; 828-273-0365