

A few of us put together this introduction to Baltimore. We remember how difficult it is to try to see a new city without knowing anyone to give you insider's tips – it's can be frustrating and downright boring... so here you go – things to do in Baltimore while your favorite lady or man is interviewing for the Osler Medical House Staff Training Program!

Dinner before the interview day –

Come to the dinner the evening before the interview. All the restaurants are fantastic, and you'll have the opportunity to chat with Medicine Residents and their SOs (we promise to be at as many of them as possible!!!) By the way, a not so random survey of one intern's spouse said their pre-interview dinner at Hopkins was the best of any program!

Baltimore – A one day crash course

Getting Around – Baltimore ain't Manhattan... or DC or Chicago or San Francisco... Public transportation is spotty, but the metro does one thing well – it ends in the Hopkins Hospital basement. The best way to see the city is by car. Drop off the applicant in the morning (or put him or her on the metro) and use your wheels to see the town. If you don't have a car, you can walk between several of the neighborhoods – ask at your hotel for the best route to walk.

Introduction – We've recommend a few places for breakfast, lunch, shopping, and sight-seeing that will introduce you to Baltimore and give you a little taste of some of our favorite downtown neighborhoods. Baltimore has many hidden jems (some pretty funky) – we're still discovering them! This is in no way a totally inclusive list – there are tons of other great urban and suburban neighborhoods you can explore later.

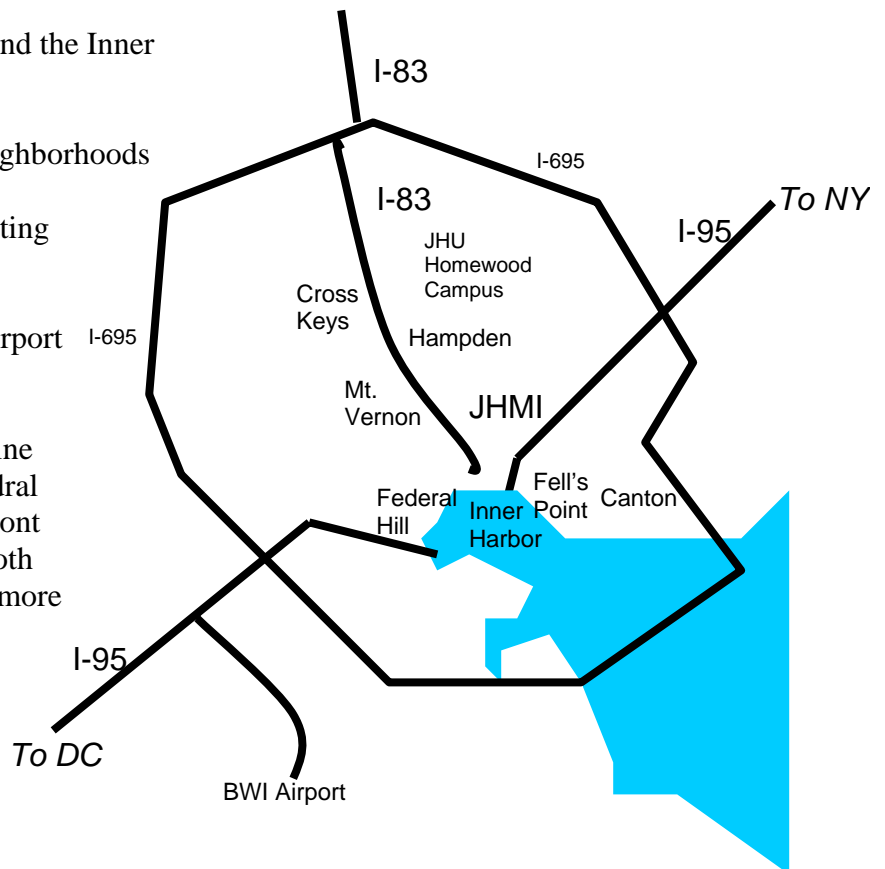
- A map of downtown is available at http://www.baltimore.org/cmt_media/pdfs/dt_area.pdf
- Grab a free Baltimore City Paper to see the kinds of things that are happening around Baltimore this week. Look for the yellow paper boxes on street corners or check <http://www.citypaper.com/>.

Orientation – Baltimore City was built around the Inner Harbor of the Chesapeake Bay.

Today, some of the most happening city neighborhoods border the water. Baltimore is encircled by I-695 (the Baltimore Beltway) with I-95 cutting through the lower portion of the city.

The Baltimore-Washington International Airport is a 15 minute drive from the city.

The two hotels recommended by the Medicine program are the Peabody Court (612 Cathedral Street) in **Mt. Vernon** and Celie's Water Front B&B (1714 Thames St.) in **Fell's Point**. Both are excellent starting points for seeing Baltimore and are a 10-15 minute drive from JHMI (Johns Hopkins Medical Institutes).



Downtown Neighborhoods –

Federal Hill – Federal Hill overlooks the Inner Harbor. It is a ten minute walk from most harbor attractions and well within walking distance of most downtown businesses – lots of young professionals in their 20s and 30s live here. For shopping and restaurants, check out the area around the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Light Street. Also drop by the American Visionary Art Museum on Key Highway. If it's warm out, you can carry out lunch and eat on Federal Hill. See map for directions.

Fell's Point – National Register Historic District and a waterfront community. Residential area of small row houses and some new development mixed with an eclectic commercial area of restaurants, antique, and specialty shops. It's a great area to walk around. The show "Homicide" was filmed here. See map for directions.

Canton – Waterfront apartments and condos in rehabilitated industrial buildings and turn of the century two & three story row houses on narrow streets. O'Donnell Square has many small interesting restaurants. From Fell's Point, continue east on Fleet Street. Turn **right** at Boston Street.

Mt. Vernon – This lively neighborhood is home to a diverse group of residents and businesses with numerous restaurants, shops, and theaters. There are some large row houses and apartment homes. Walters Art Gallery, Peabody music shops, the city library, and boutique shopping on Charles Street. See map for directions.

Hampden – Hampden is said to have a "small town atmosphere" with proximity to downtown. It's a fun place to visit with lots of funky stores and eclectic restaurants. Directions: Drive north on I-83 for a few miles to Falls Road (Exit 8). After you merge onto Falls Road, turn **right** at the first stop light onto West 36th Street. Park and walk around 36th Street.

Cross Keys – A gated, planned community that will remind you of the suburbs. There's an outdoor shopping area with your favorite "mall" stores (Williams-Sonoma, Ann Taylor) and a few other funky shops. Also home to one of Baltimore's best antique jewelers. Directions: Drive north on I-83 for a few miles to Northern Parkway East (Exit 10A). At the light, turn **right** onto Falls Road. Go 0.4 miles and turn **right** into the gated community of Cross Keys. Go left toward shopping.

Coffee and Brunch Suggestions –

Federal Hill – Spoons – 24 E. Cross Street. Fun coffee shop, voted "Best Tuna Salad" by Baltimore Magazine 2001.

Fell's Point (just a few steps from Celie's Water Front B&B):

Daily Grind – 1720 Thames Street. Coffee house with great coffee, chai, and yummy sandwiches.

Blue Moon Café – 1621 Aliceanna. Seven-day-a-week gourmet brunch-style breakfast, served on lacy tablecloths.

Canton – Kiss Café – 2400 Boston Street in the American Can Company. A combination coffee bar, billiard hole, and café with free wi-fi.

Mt. Vernon (these are just a few blocks from the Peabody Hotel):

Donna's Coffee Bar and Restaurant – 800 N. Charles Street

City Café – 1001 Cathedral Street. One side of the restaurant has table services, the other is a café. It's a great place to grab a coffee and read.

Hampden – Golden West Café – 1105 W. 36th St. Try the french toast!!!

Shopping –

Eclectic, funky, junque – Hampden, 36th Street. Some of our favorites are Mud and Metal, Avenue Gallery, David's, and Wild Yam Pottery.

Mix of favorite “mall” standards (Ann Taylor, William-Sonoma), plus high-end fashion at Ruth Shaw, Joanna Gray, and funky – Cross Keys.

Antiquing, boutique – Fell's Point. Look for a brochure on Fell's Point's antique stores.

Lunch – (We also recommend the brunch places, above, for lunch)

Federal Hill:

Porter's – 1032 Riverside Ave. Neighborhood bar.

Cross Street Market – Cross Street between Light and Charles. Classic Baltimore “market” with food stalls, try the steamed shrimp at Nicks.

Fell's Point:

Burritos En Fuego – 809 S. Broadway. Small shop, for a fast and filling Mexican-inspired food.

Liquid Earth (vegetarian) – 1626 Aliceanna. Classic “hole in the wall” coffeehouse, try the “Ruben.”

Mezze – 1606 Thames Street. Greek and Mediterranean food and seafood.

Mt. Vernon:

Al Pacino Café/Cafe Isis – 900 Cathedral Street. Celebrated Egyptian, American, and Mediterranean cuisines prepared in an authentic wood burning oven.

Kawasaki – 413 N. Charles St. The city's oldest continuously operated sushi restaurant.

Akbar – 823 N. Charles St. Indian buffet – all you can eat for about \$7.

Hampden:

Holy Frijoles – 908 W 36th Street. Tex mex and a margarita, a great way to spend an afternoon.

Sight seeing –

American Visionary Art Museum – Federal Hill, 800 Key Highway. Adults \$11, Students \$7. Open Tuesday-Sunday. Fun, funky art exhibits and collections. (Washington Post called it “an astonishing assortment, by turns whimsical, diverting, disturbed, serene, intensely focused, powerfully moving...”)

Walters Art Museum – Mt. Vernon, 600 North Charles Street. Adults \$10, Students \$6. Wednesday-Sunday. The museum's collection, encompassing art from around the world and throughout the ages. Beautiful works by Monet, Fabergé, Delacroix, and Raphael; ancient treasures from Egypt, Greece, and Rome; intricate medieval manuscripts.

Baltimore Museum of Art – Charles Village (near Johns Hopkins Homewood Campus), 10 Art Museum Drive. Adults \$7, Students \$5. Wednesday-Sunday. Maryland's largest art museum showcases collections ranging from ancient mosaics to contemporary art, plus ever-changing exhibitions, and a sculpture garden.

Baltimore Museum of Industry – Federal Hill, 1415 Key Highway. Adults \$10, Students \$6. Monday-Saturday. From food canning to broadcasting, visitors can interact with the technologies which forged the Industrial Revolution and brought us to the 21st century.

Enoch Pratt Free Library – Mt. Vernon, 400 Cathedral Street. Free. Looking for a quiet place to read or study? Enoch Pratt Central Library in Mt. Vernon is a great library and an impressive building.

Harbor Place – Pratt and Light Streets along the Inner Harbor. For lots of brochures on Baltimore attractions, drop by the visitor's center on Light Street. On Pratt Street, check out the ESPN Zone and Barnes and Nobel in the old Power Plant building. The National Aquarium is fantastic. For mall shopping, try the Galleria on Pratt Street. (Some of us find this place a little too “touristy,” but it is worth seeing.) If it's warm you can ride the water taxi to Federal Hill and Fort McHenry.

Enjoy your visit!