

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

by Brooke Porter Katz July 21, 2015

HOTELS AND RESORTS | DURHAM

Eight Reasons We're Loving The Durham Hotel



There were plenty of reasons Durham, North Carolina, was on [our list of best places to travel in 2015](#). One of those reasons: the opening of [The Durham](#), a 53-room hotel set in a mid-century Home Savings Bank building. James Beard Award winner Andrea Reusing (of Chapel Hill's Lantern) runs the food and beverage programs, and the design firm Commune handled the aesthetic vision.

What we love about it: free high-speed Wi-Fi, rooftop yoga classes, and bicycles with which to explore the city. But if there's one thing that impressed us the most, it's the hotel's commitment to all things North Carolina. Here, a few local highlights.

Uniforms

Matt Dick of Small Trade Company uses denim from Cone Denim, a mill in Greensboro, North Carolina, to create the stylish uniforms.

Flour

Carolina Ground flour from Asheville—stone ground in a gristmill, made from grains only farmed in the South—is what you'll find in the hotel's kitchen.

Chocolate

Used in the hotel's baked goods, specialty coffee drinks, and turndown service, Escazu Artisan Chocolates creates small-batch, bean-to-bar chocolate in Raleigh.

Blankets

Raleigh Denim custom designed the blankets you'll find in the guestrooms (shown above). Like it enough to buy it? They're available in the hotel's store.

Skincare

Durham's own Burt's Bees supplies some of the bath amenities, including Beeswax Lip Balm and Hand Salve.

Music

The hotel newsstand will carry new releases and classic albums from another hometown favorite, Merge Records—co-founded by Mac McCaughan, who's married to The Durham's chef Andrea Reusing. McCaughan himself created the playlist you hear in the restaurant lobby; expect hits from North Carolina and beyond.

Decorative items

Guestrooms are outfitted with ceramic trays by Haand, a small company located near the city of Graham. In the restaurant, the porcelain eggcups—each individually printed—are made by Mimi Logothetis from Cedar Grove.

Minibars

The in-room fridges are stocked with goodies made only in North Carolina, including cocktail mixers from White Whale and nut butters from Big Spoon Roasters, both based in Durham.