

## The Rule Book

Feed your ego with a weekend in the world HQ that is Washington, D.C.



### OLD GUARD

A two-year redo has restored the Beaux Arts **Jefferson** hotel's grandeur. There's a soupçon of France in the 99 rooms, which have painted-silk wallpaper (1200 16th St. N.W.; 202-448-2300; doubles, \$333-\$433).



Long a hangout of lobbyists, lawmakers, and summer interns, the **Capital Grille** remains one of the city's buzziest haunts. Regulars order the classic wedge salad—a favorite of former First Daughter Jenna Bush's (601 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.; 202-737-6200; lunch entrées, \$13-\$35).



**Theodore Roosevelt Island**, an 88-acre teardrop-shaped nature preserve in the Potomac River, remains one of the city's best escapes, with two and a half miles of dirt trails winding through the park (703-289-2500).



Georgetown is the prepster hangout, and **Ralph Lauren** is the go-to for logo-emblazoned jackets (1245 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.; 202-965-0905). The younger set heads to **Rugby**, a collegiate-inspired offshoot up the block (1065 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.; 202-298-5928). The adjacent **Rugby Café** has good cocktails and bar grub (202-298-6894; sandwiches, \$9-\$12).



Made famous by the Bush twins, **Smith Point** is still the spot for social-climbing young Reps who line their stomachs with club sandwiches and hangar steak. Look for tech billionaire Michael Saylor and hostess-du-jour Juleanna Glover (1338 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.; 202-333-9003).



Thanks to the restaurant's proximity to the Pentagon and devout celeb following, **Bourbon Steak** at the Four Seasons Hotel is one of the hottest tables in town. Star chef Michael Mina's Carolina soft-shell crab with bacon noisette and fried green tomatoes is sheer perfection (2900 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.; 202-944-2026; entrées, \$29-\$65).



On U Street, **Stetson's** is a Red fave—the neon-and-pinata decor appears to pay homage to the Lone Star State (1610 U St. N.W.; 202-667-6295). At **Local 16**, a coiffed lot packs the rooftop into the wee hours (1602 U St. N.W.; 202-265-2828), while literati hang-out **Kramerbooks & Afterwards Café** is open all night on weekends (1517 Connecticut Ave. N.W.; 202-387-3825).



### NEW GUARD

The 317-room, Beaux Arts-style newbie **WWashington D.C.** gives you a prime view of Obama's backyard from the rooftop lounge. We love the color-shifting LED chandeliers and the purple suede wingback chairs (515 15th St. N.W.; 202-661-2400; doubles, \$260-\$409).



The longtime power spot for left-leaning politicos is the Oval Room. Chef Tony Conte has a refreshingly modern take on American cuisine: Try the roasted beets with a passion fruit gelée (800 Connecticut Ave. N.W.; 202-463-8700; lunch entrées, \$15-\$21).

Head to the **Newseum**—a cavernous seven-story space devoted to the history of news that's a favorite of Sasha and Malia's. Highlights include sections of the Berlin Wall and 30,000 historic newspapers (555 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.; 888-639-7386).



Michelle Obama and former social secretary Desiree Rogers have catapulted D.C. back onto the style map. Follow in their footsteps and trek across town to **Hu's Shoes**, where owner Marlene Hu Aldaba expertly curates edgier designs like studded Brian Atwoods and suede cutout Barbara Bui peep toes (3005 M St. N.W.; 202-342-0202).

The hottest boîte is just floors above your room, on the rooftop terrace at the **W's P.O.V.** bar. White House deputy chief of staff for policy Mona Sutphen and White House speechwriter Jon Favreau come for the retro cocktails (created by Sasha Petraske, of New York City's Milk & Honey) and the spicy snacks.



On Capitol Hill, **Art and Soul Restaurant**, run by Art Smith—a.k.a. Oprah's personal chef—is a soaring space punctuated with faux ostrich benches. Smith's take on Southern-inspired Chesapeake fare informs everything from the cocktails to entrées like braised pork shank with black-eyed pea stew (415 New Jersey Ave. N.W.; 202-393-7777; entrées, \$18-\$35).

Hop a cab to U Street, a bipartisan enclave renowned for its concentration of hip bars. There, blues hit **The Gibson** is a cozy pseudo-speakeasy that dishes up hand-crafted vintage drinks (2009 14th St. N.W.). Next door, bar-resto **Marvin**, named for Washington native Marvin Gaye, is a haunt of Rahm Emanuel's (2007 14th St. N.W.; 202-797-7171; entrées, \$14-\$25). Finish at **Ben's Chili Bowl**, where Barack Obama dined his first week in office (1213 U St. N.W.; 202-667-0909; entrées, \$4-\$9).



Want to sleep smack-dab in the center of N.Y.C.? Try the new **ANDAZ 5TH AVENUE** (212-601-1234; doubles, \$295-\$445).