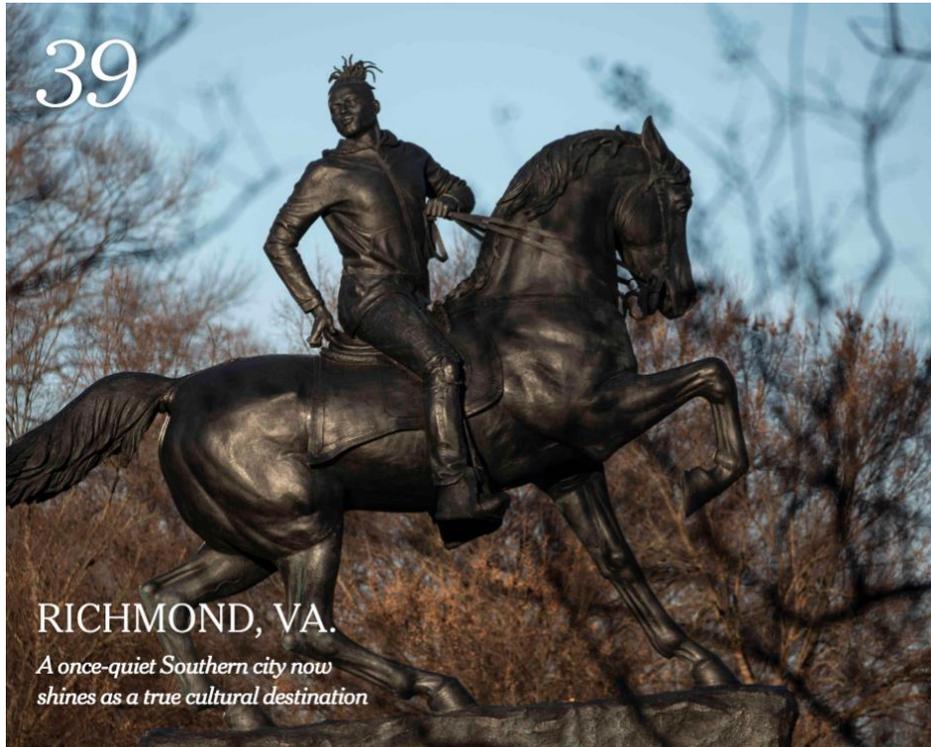


SEANKELLY

Dorman, John L. "52 Places to Go in 2020." *The New York Times*. January 2020.

The New York Times



Tony Cenicola/The New York Times

Richmond, long known as a sleepy capital steeped in Confederate history, has morphed into a dynamic cultural center on the cutting edge of the arts, food and recreation. Within easy driving distance from Washington, D.C., Charlottesville, Va., and Virginia Beach, the city is a magnet for Washington expats, millennials and college students. The entrance of the [Virginia Museum of Fine Arts](#), on the newly christened Arthur Ashe Boulevard, features [Kehinde Wiley's](#) massive "[Rumors of War](#)" statue, which was designed to challenge the narrative of heroism in a city where Civil War monuments still loom. The Belleville, the city's first food hall, [will open](#) later this year in [Scott's Addition](#), a longtime industrial neighborhood turned urban hot spot. The food hall will be anchored by [The Veil Brewing Co.](#), a popular local craft brewery, along with 18 vendors and three bars. Newer dining standouts include the [Spoonbread Bistro](#), which blends Southern fare with French cuisine, and [Parterre](#), a quaint restaurant offering comfort food at the historic Linden Row Inn. For outdoor enthusiasts, the mighty James River [offers](#) challenging Class III and IV whitewater rafting, a rarity within an American city.

—JOHN L. DORMAN