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## Honey, You've Arrived

[ Arrive, Wilmington, North Carolina ]

BY HANNAH LEE LEIDY

**GET A TASTE OF TINY-HOUSE LIVING** in the heart of Wilmington, North Carolina's riverfront downtown. Arrive, the multistory luxury boutique hotel, landed in the port city in early 2023, on the site of the former Wilmingtonian Inn and Hotel Riverwalk. This newcomer is a recent addition to Arrive's collection of similar properties in other Southern cities, including Palm Springs, Austin, and Memphis. The brand, which was recently acquired by Palisociety, blends design with environment, with each property customized to reflect its home city. Here, three striking stand-alone black-and-white brick buildings house 34 rooms, including suites and lofts. But don't be fooled by the serious façade—splashy walls, pastel-colored armchairs, and vibrant decor reflect the subtropical locale along with nautical nods sprinkled throughout the lobby, rooms, and on-site restaurant, the Dram Yard. The result is a place that immerses visitors in their destination city, reminding them that they have, indeed, arrived.

Clockwise from top: Each room offers the option of private porch sitting; the Gazebo Bar serves a range of colorful cocktail options; you might be tempted to stay in your robe all day.

### THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Located on South Second Street, Arrive positions visitors a couple of blocks from popular spots like Seabird, Bespoke Coffee & Dry Goods, and the boardwalk along the Cape Fear River. However, its location at the edge of a residential neighborhood means its backdrop is quieter than the activity a couple blocks to the north. The hotel itself doubles as a neighborhood hangout with an outdoor yard and firepits surrounding the Gazebo Bar, where guests mingle with locals over tiki-inspired cocktails.



### THE FOOD SCENE

**The Dram Yard**, while part of the hotel, draws a solid crowd of locals, particularly during aperitivo hour and dinner, plus a rollicking brunch on weekends. The day-to-night space acts like a coffee cafe in the mornings, with pastries and light bites, and reopens in the evening for appetizers, dinner, and drinks. The menu celebrates Southern coastal flavors influenced with elements of Italian, Vietnamese, and Thai cuisine. Outside, the open-air **Gazebo Bar**

runs a small-but-mighty operation with a steady flow of craft cocktails, including nonalcoholic options, plus wine and domestic beer.



### THE DIGS

Each room has its own entrance from an outside balcony and porch. It's like stepping into a well-designed studio, with king-size beds outfitted in Bellino Fine Linens, pastel-tiled vanity walls, marble-accented bathrooms, and mid-century modern armchairs and sofas arranged throughout the rooms. Creature comforts like an Apple TV, Victrola Bluetooth speakers, gourmet refreshments, and cozy waffle-weave robes give each room a touch of home. Plus, the welcoming pet policy means you can bring your favorite companions with you, free of additional charge.

