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By Jan Ross

When you are strolling around the scenic, lovely and perfectly landscaped grounds of the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina you might find yourself turning up your nose just the slightest bit.

Don't worry: you are on the velvet-green, manicured lawn of the largest single family dwelling in the world. You have the right to act just the slightest bit snotty.

But once you come down off your high horse and realize that your entire apartment could fit into the entryway of the Biltmore Estate or that your garden is never in a million years going to look that good, it's time to see the rest of Asheville. The fun part. The easy going part. The part where you and I are going to feel a whole lot more comfortable.

Or at least me. Maybe your house strongly resembles the Biltmore Estate and you really are there for gardening tips.

Whatever. Pretty much anyone is going to feel at home in a place where students with dreads and tie-dyed t-shirts mingle downtown with tourists, hikers, secretaries on their lunch break and entertainers in folk costumes heading to the park on main street for an afternoon performance.

A place where dogs are everywhere, trotting at the heels of half the residents of Asheville or sprawling in the shade of all the restaurant terraces. Locals and tourists alike carefully step over wagging tails and big paws and give each other a smile as they settle in to order lunch at places with names like The Tupelo Honey Café. Order the biscuits. You will NOT be sorry.

This is the perfect place for the 2nd annual festival called Shamboozle Fest.

[And can I just add that I made the unfortunate mistake of researching Shamboozle on the Google Machine which came up with some pretty dicey definitions, that I will not share here but you can research yourself. Go ahead. You know you want to.]

It's ok, those definitions actually have nothing to do with the music/food/fun festival that is taking place in the hills of Asheville on September 29, 2012 so forget them but don't forget this festival which is a seriously good time.

With four live bands, food from some great local vendors and tons of activities for everyone in the family - all at the Pisgah Brewing Company – how can you go wrong?

When you are ready to see more of the town, head to the Asheville Visitor Center for a trolley tour with Grayline Trolley Tours of Asheville. Tickets are available at the visitor center, the trolleys run every half hour, and your ticket is good for two days of hop on/hop off touring -a great way to see any destination! We were amazed to see so many beautiful homes throughout Asheville and learn all about the history of this wonderful mountain location. So, enjoy Asheville. And enjoy Shamboozle. The fest. Not those other definitions. Forget those. Seriously. If you can.

Shamboozle Fest, Asheville SC

Saturday, September 29 2012

Pigsah Brewing Co., Asheville NC

Entrance: \$22 adults, free for under 12s

Planning on staying the night? DealAngel hotel results for Asheville, NC on September 29th.