

# CRMA Publisher's Roundtable

Twenty-First Digital + Peak Inbound Marketings' Guide to SEO for Audience Development





#### **MEET OUR TEAM:**

**MELISSA CHOWNING,** Founder and CEO Previously: *D Magazine, Portland Monthly, Seattle Met* 

**ASHLEY MULDER**, COO and Sr. Strategist Previously: *D Magazine, Hour Detroit* 

**CHELSEY SHOCKLEY,** Audience Strategist Previously: Neuro-Insight, *D Magazine* 

**NATALIE PASCHALL,** Audience Strategist Previously: Calise Partners

**LAUREN FRAPPIER**, Chief of Staff Previously: University of Oklahoma, *D Magazine* 

# **Peak Inbound Marketing**









#### **MEET OUR TEAM:**

**DON SECKLER, CEO & Chief Strategist** 

**TOM IRWIN**, Marketing Manager

**ANNA HARRIS,** Digital Marketing Analyst

# SEO

# (Search engine optimization)

(that thing I know I need. And think I understand. But not really.)

# 2,000,000,000,000

More than two trillion searches a year, billions daily

Google is use in over 90% of all searches (sorry, Bing)



Only 3-4% of your social followers are seeing your posts Social traffic for publishers is down around 40%

Practicing good SEO is creating your site and your content in a way that is easy for search engines to read and understand. Although there are hundreds of factors in the Google algorithm, we're focusing on 4 key factors:

- Super-fast site speed
- Clean and clear URL structure
- Some simple page titling and tagging
- Content that people are searching for



## **Super-fast site speed**

Two reasons:

1) Google likes it

if your site loads in 5 seconds, it is faster than approximately 25% of the web

approving approving approving approving approving approving approving approving approving the second second

if your site loads in 0.8 seconds, it is faster than approximately 94% of the web

Source: SemRush

# **Super-fast site speed**

Two reasons:

- 1) Google likes it
- 2) Your consumer likes it

1s to 3s increases the probability of a bounce by 32%

1s to 5s increases the probability of a bounce by 90%

1s to 6s increase the probability of a bounce by 106%

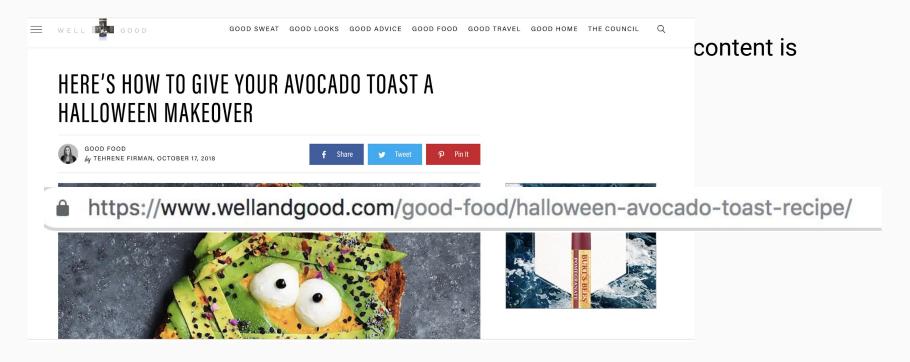
1s to 10s increases the probability of a bounce by 123%

Site Speed Test

Source: Google Research, 2017



#### Clean and clear URL structure:







www.afar.com

www.afar.com/travel-quides

www.afar.com/travel-guides/spain/guide

www.afar.com/travel-quides/spain/quide/where-to/eat

## What do you need in your URL?

- Structure (where am I?)
- Content description

## What don't you need in your URL?

- Dates
- Issue months
- Years



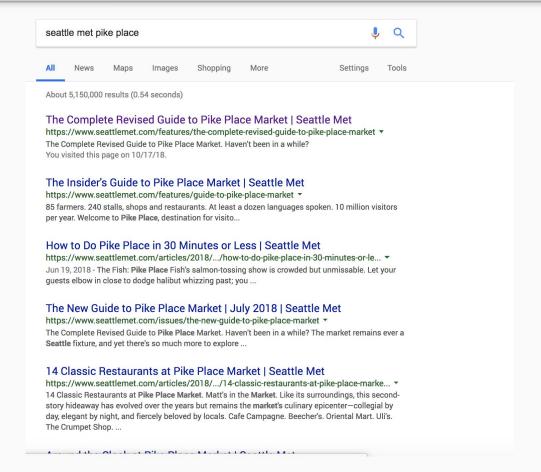
# Recycle!

- Top Doctors
- Restaurants
- Getaways
- Any recurring features
- URLs are like wine...



#### **URL Structure**





#### **URL Structure**



#### 19 Best Pike Place Market Restaurants to Eat at in 2018

https://www.savorseattletours.com > Blog ▼

Jan 8, 2018 - 19 Best Pike Place Market Restaurants to Eat at in 2018. A must try dish is the Chicken Fried Pork & Grits. Salmon Sinigang, Fried Salmon Collar & Rice. Follow the Pink Umbrella! Il Bistro is one of the most romantic restaurants in Pike Place Market. Try these Delicious sliders on the Gourmet Seattle Food Tour! ...

#### Where to Eat | Pike Place Market

mobile.pikeplacemarket.org/where-to-eat \*

The Market has a feast of restaurants, from diners to fine dining establishments and everything in between. Indulge in favorite regional dishes like clam chowder, ...

Restaurants · Bakery & Cafe · Take Out

#### A Beginner's Guide to Pike Place Market - Eater Seattle

https://seattle.eater.com/maps/pike-place-market-where-to-eat-seattle ▼
Jun 13, 2017 - Where to eat at Seattle's most enduring icon. ... A joy for tourists and locals alike, Pike
Place Market is a sprawling, confusing, vibrant collection ...

#### The 8 Best Things to Eat at Pike Place Market - TripSavvy

https://www.tripsavvy.com > ... → United States > Washington > Seattle > Restaurants ▼
Pike Place Market is more than a tourist attraction. It's a foodie paradise. Here are the 8 best things to eat at Seattle's biggest farmers market.

#### Pike Place Market's 50 Best Things to Eat & Drink - Thrillist

https://www.thrillist.com/eat/seattle/pike-place-market-best-things-to-eat-drink ▼
Sep 15, 2016 - We've done the hard work to bring you the 50 best things to eat and drink at the Pike
Place Market.

#### 10 Best Pike Place Market Restaurants (Seattle) - TripAdvisor

https://www.tripadvisor.com > United States > Washington (WA) > Seattle ▼
Pike Place Market Restaurants - Seattle, WA: See 19849 TripAdvisor traveler reviews of 19849 restaurants in Seattle Pike Place Market and search by cuisine, ...

#### 10 Best Lunch Restaurants in Pike Place Market (Seattle) - TripAdvisor

https://www.tripadvisor.com > ... > Washington (WA) > Seattle > Seattle Restaurants ▼

Rest Lunch Restaurants in Pike Place Market (Seattle): See 22769 TrinAdvisor traveler reviews of



#### Some simple page titling and tagging

| On-Page Elements | General Attributes | Link Metrics        | Markup          | Http Status  |                 |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Tag/Location     | Content            |                     |                 |  | # of Characters |
| URL              | https://www.w      | vellandgood.com/goo | d-food/hallow   | een-avocado-toast-recipe/                                  | 69              |
| Page Title       | How to make Hal    | loween avocado toas | t   Well+Good   |  | 47              |
| Meta Descr       | Want to put a fes  |                     | eakfast? Here's | how to make Halloween avocado toast, with a pumpkin hummus | 141             |
| Meta Keywords    | Not found          |                     |                 |  |                 |
| Н1               | Here's how to giv  | e your avocado toas | t a Halloween r | nakeover   | 58              |
|                  |                    | • • • •             |                 |  |                 |

#### 10 Top Trails For Hiking and Biking in Dallas - D Magazine

https://www.dmagazine.com/.../d.../10-top-trails-for-hiking-and-biking-in-dallas/ Dogwood Canyon. Located just south of the entrance to Cedar Hill State Park on FM 1382, this new, 270-acre preserve is already one of best hikes in the area. Dogwood Canyon was created when Kim and David Hurt, the founders of Wild Birds Unlimited, located this spot in the '90s.

### **Content People are Searching For:**

- You know those older articles that are always among the top viewed content on your website?
  - Swimming Holes
  - Beaches
  - Coolest companies
  - Best places to live
  - Weekend getaways
  - Best restaurants
  - X type of restaurants (outdoor, waterfront, italian)



This fundamentally shifts the way you should think about content production.



# Find your tent poles!



#### **Your Tent Pole Content**

- Find *your* pieces of content that:
  - Are highly searched
  - Are evergreen
  - You're ranking decently already
- Update them! (this the first impression of your future subscriber)
  - Content should be current and accurate
  - UX should be top-notch
  - Suggest other similar content
- Make them fast
- Ask for a second date (aka, email capture)



#### **How to Find Your Tent Pole Content**

- Using an SEO tool (like SEMRush) and identify all of your websites rankings and search volumes
- Pull out the pieces of content that are on page 1 or 2 that are searched more than 500x a month
- Use Google Analytics to see which ones are already bringing you traffic
- Tell your editors to update them/add to them

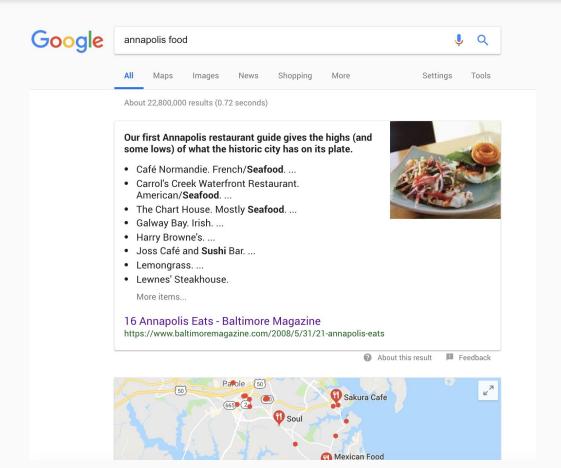
# Baltimore

### Content



|  | Keyword                                   | Pos. 💠       | Volume \$ | KD \$ | CPC (USD) \$ | URL                    | Traffic % \$ | Costs % \$ | Com. \$ | Results \$  | Trend                   | S |
|--|---|--------------|-----------|-------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------|---|
|  | good restaurants<br>in baltimore md       | <b>2</b> (2) | 10        | 61.38 | 0.70         | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.04    | 34,900,000  | علك                     |   |
|  | best colorist<br>baltimore                | <b>2</b> (2) | 90        | 38.06 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.05    | 153,000     | $\perp$                 |   |
|  | baltimore<br>magazine top<br>doctors 2016 | <b>2</b> (2) | 210       | 53.17 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagryland | 0.02         | 0.00       | 0.12    | -1          | No.                     |   |
|  | local ski resorts<br>maryland             | <b>2</b> (2) | 90        | 60.30 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagesorts | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.00    | 1,550,000   | k.                      |   |
|  | best crab in<br>baltimore inner<br>harbor | <b>2</b> (2) | 110       | 63.27 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagtimore | 0.01         | 0.00       | 0.02    | 354,000     | 4                       |   |
|  | bungee workout<br>class baltimore         | <b>2</b> (2) | 20        | 54.70 | 3.46         | www.baltimoremagn-2016 | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.57    | -           | Jila                    |   |
|  | fitness classes<br>baltimore              | <b>2</b> (2) | 20        | 44.97 | 2.60         | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.42    | 8,080,000   | <b>L</b> L              |   |
|  | annapolis food                            | <b>2</b> (2) | 1,300     | 68.43 | 1.65         | www.baltimoremags-eats | 0.14         | 0.19       | 0.03    | 21,700,000  |                         |   |
|  | top dentist in<br>maryland                | <b>2</b> (2) | 20        | 43.76 | 6.22         | www.baltimoremags-2018 | < 0.01       | 0.01       | 0.69    | 11,900,000  | Ц                       |   |
|  | are male or<br>female crabs<br>better     | <b>2</b> (2) | 30        | 52.83 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagbasics | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.00    | 11,000,000  | $\underline{A_{k_{0}}}$ |   |
|  | pizza places in baltimore                 | <b>2</b> (2) | 210       | 47.81 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagpizza  | 0.02         | 0.00       | 0.03    | 19,600,000  | dis.                    |   |
|  | best of baltimore 2017                    | <b>2</b> (2) | 480       | 60.49 | 0.76         | www.baltimoremags-2017 | 0.05         | 0.03       | 0.01    | 184,000,000 | 4                       |   |
|  | amy schumer<br>college                    | <b>2</b> (2) | 320       | 82.20 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagy-show | 0.03         | 0.00       | 0.00    | 9,400,000   | عل                      |   |
|  | hard shell crabs<br>baltimore             | <b>2</b> (2) | 30        | 58.81 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.43    | 249,000     | <u> </u>                |   |
|  | hair salons in baltimore county           | <b>2</b> (2) | 30        | 47.16 | 1.46         | www.baltimoremage-2013 | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.10    | 7,420,000   | للس                     |   |
|  | padonia station<br>restaurant             | <b>2</b> (2) | 20        | 72.03 | 0.00         | www.baltimoremagmonium | < 0.01       | 0.00       | 0.00    | -           | 4                       |   |





### Content



| Keyword                                      | Pos. 🔷        | Volume 🔷 | KD 🌲  | CPC (USD) 🜲 | URL                    | Traffic % 🜲 | Costs % 🜲 | Com. \$ |
|--|---------------|----------|-------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| home gyms<br>small spaces                    | 1 (3)         | 260      | 67.03 | 2.10        | www.baltimoremagspace  | 0.10        | 0.18      | 1.00    |
| <u>best gyms in</u><br><u>baltimore</u>      | <b>3</b> (3)  | 260      | 51.31 | 2.38        | www.baltimoremagtimore | 0.01        | 0.03      | 0.29    |
| g <u>yms in</u><br>baltimore                 | <b>6</b> (4)  | 2,400    | 51.13 | 2.99        | www.baltimoremagtimore | 0.10        | 0.25      | 0.18    |
| <u>gyme in</u><br><u>baltimore</u><br>county | <b>6</b> (14) | 10       | 50.57 | 3.89        | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.25    |
| gyms in<br>baltimore<br>county               | 7             | 10       | 50.57 | 3.89        | www.baltimoremags-2012 | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.25    |
| gyms in<br>baltimore                         | 7             | 2,400    | 51.13 | 2.99        | www.baltimoremags-2012 | 0.08        | 0.20      | 0.18    |
| gy <u>ms in</u><br>baltimore city            | <b>7</b> (7)  | 170      | 49.29 | 4.17        | www.baltimoremagtimore | < 0.01      | 0.01      | 0.14    |
| gy <u>ms in</u><br>baltimore md              | <b>7</b> (8)  | 390      | 50.49 | 3.05        | www.baltimoremagtimore | 0.01        | 0.03      | 0.19    |
| cheap gyms<br>in baltimore                   | <b>8</b> (19) | 10       | 57.06 | 3.79        | www.baltimoremags-2012 | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.66    |
| 24 hour gyms<br>baltimore                    | <b>9</b> (9)  | 20       | 54.43 | 2.55        | www.baltimoremags-2012 | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.48    |
| cheap gyms<br>in baltimore<br>md             | 9 (14)        | 30       | 57.96 | 0.00        | www.baltimoremags-2012 | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.86    |
|  |               |          |       |             |                        |             |           |         |





By Sydney Adamson, Olivia Amato, Lauren Bell, Mary Marek, Jess Mayhugh, and Gabriella
Souza - January 2017

#### Content



| Tag/Location     | Content  | # of Characters |
|------------------|--|-----------------|
| URL              | https://www.baltimoremagazine.com/2017/1/3/boutique-studios-combine-fitness-and-community-in-baltimore | 102             |
| Page Title       | Baltimore's Best Boutique Fitness Studios  | 41              |
| Meta Description | Specialty gyms offer a more personalized approach to exercise.   | 62              |
| Meta Keywords    | fitness, gyms, Exercise  | 23              |
| Н1               | Slim Gyms • Slim Gyms  | 21              |
| H2               | Want to live your best life? •   | 30              |







Into pilates? Rock climbing? Boxing? Free weights? Has Baltimore got a gym for you!

By Beth Arsenault, Jess Blumberg, Ken Iglehart, John Lewis, Suzanne Loudermilk, Amy Mulvihill, and Evan Serpick. Edited by Max Weiss.

Photography by Bryan Burris. - January 2012









Yes, we know it's January—month of those dreaded resolutions—and no, we're not trying to guilt trip you. (Okay, maybe just a little.) But seriously, there's no excuse not to join a local gym at this point. You say you have no time? There are plenty of 24-hour gyms in the region. Afraid to be around the body-beautiful people? There are lots of gyms that cater to an older, more laid-back, or even out-of-shape clientele. Think you can't afford the fees? At least two of our featured gyms are \$10 a month. Basically, whatever your particular version of a perfect gym might be, it's out there. Here are 18 great places to start.

#### **Bare Hills Racquet and Fitness Club**

1420 Clarkview Rd., 410-823-2500

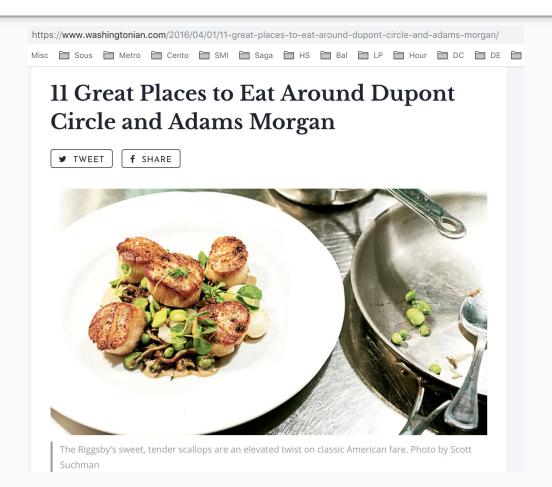
# Washingtonian

### Content



|  | Keyword                                 | Pos. 🔷         | Volume 💠 | KD \$ | CPC (USD) 🕏 | URL                    | Traffic % 🜲 | Costs % 🜲 | Com. \$ | Results \$ |
|--|---|----------------|----------|-------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|------------|
|  | dupont circle                           | <b>7</b> (7)   | 18,100   | 78.59 | 1.71        | www.washingtoniaircle/ | 0.10        | 0.12      | 0.07    | 41,400,000 |
|  | dupont circle<br>restaurants            | <b>6</b> (6)   | 14,800   | 69.07 | 1.45        | www.washingtoniaorgan/ | 0.10        | 0.10      | 0.01    | 6,120,000  |
|  | hotel                                   | <b>50</b> (49) | 14,800   | 80.63 | 2.91        | www.washingtoniaon-dc/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.27    | 6,610,000  |
|  | hotel dupont                            | <b>72</b> (72) | 6,600    | 82.79 | 1.22        | www.washingtoniaon-dc/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.25    | 23,100,000 |
|  | dupont<br>underground                   | 14             | 5,400    | 78.52 | 0.00        | www.washingtoniaround/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.00    | 7,340,000  |
|  | dupont circle<br>hotel<br>washington dc | <b>90</b> (64) | 5,400    | 78.27 | 4.20        | www.washingtoniaon-dc/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.30    | 4,930,000  |
|  | dupont circle<br>bars                   | <b>3</b> (3)   | 4,400    | 57.54 | 0.00        | www.washingtoniaorgan/ | 0.05        | 0.00      | 0.01    | 4,720,000  |
|  | dupont bars                             | <b>3</b> (3)   | 4,400    | 53.08 | 1.00        | www.washingtoniaorgan/ | 0.05        | 0.03      | 0.00    | 9,720,000  |
|  | dupont<br>restaurants                   | 4 (3)          | 4,400    | 69.99 | 2.99        | www.washingtoniaorgan/ | 0.04        | 0.09      | 0.00    | 11,600,000 |
|  | the dupont circle hotel                 | <b>56</b> (50) | 2,900    | 82.76 | 2.56        | www.washingtoniaon-dc/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.44    | 7,720,000  |
|  | cafe dupont                             | <b>16</b> (18) | 2,400    | 81.72 | 0.69        | www.washingtoniaircle/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.02    | 13,800,000 |
|  | restaurants<br>near dupont<br>circle    | <b>5</b> (4)   | 2,400    | 72.75 | 0.75        | www.washingtoniaorgan/ | 0.01        | 0.00      | 0.03    | 18,200,000 |
|  | dupont farmers<br>market                | <b>24</b> (29) | 2,400    | 65.57 | 0.00        | www.washingtoniarkets/ | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.00    | 4,730,000  |
|  | mission dupont                          | <b>5</b> (9)   | 1,900    | 72.71 | 0.63        | www.washingtoniamenu/  | < 0.01      | 0.00      | 0.00    | 24,400,000 |
|  | hotels near                             | 27 (40)        | 1 000    | 00.00 | 2 00        |                        | -0.01       | 0.00      | 0.46    | 0 000 000  |







#### Best Restaurants in Dupont Circle | OpenTable

https://www.opentable.com > ... > Washington, D.C. Area > District of Columbia ▼

Dupont Circle Diners' Choice Winners. Quick View Al Tiramisu. Italian | Dupont Circle, District of Columbia. Quick View The Palm Washington DC. Quick View i Ricchi. Quick View Rosemary's Thyme Bistro. Quick View AGORA. Quick View Iron Gate. Quick View Pesce Restaurant. Quick View Ruth's Chris Steak House - DC - ...

#### Where to Eat and Drink in Dupont Circle - Eater DC

https://dc.eater.com/maps/dupont-circle-restaurants-bars-dining-guide ▼

Dec 7, 2017 - Note: Restaurants on this map are listed geographically. The Riggsby. Copy Link. 1731 New Hampshire Ave NW. Zorba's Cafe. Copy Link. 1612 20th St NW. Hank's Oyster Bar (Multiple locations) Copy Link. 1624 Q St NW. Duke's Grocery. Copy Link. Little Serow. Copy Link. Komi. Copy Link. Sushi Taro. Copy Link. Nazca Mochica. ...

#### The Best Restaurants in Dupont Circle | Washington.org

https://washington.org/places-to-eat/dupont-circle-washington-dc ▼

Dupont Circle Dining Map. Sushi Taro1503 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20036. Komi1509 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20036. Little Serow1511 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20036. The Riggsby1731 New Hampshire Avenue NW Washington, DC 20009. Plume1200 16th Street NW Washington, DC 20036.

#### The 10 Best Restaurants Near The Dupont Circle - TripAdvisor

https://www.tripadvisor.com > ... > Washington DC > Washington DC Restaurants ▼

**Restaurants** near The **Dupont Circle**, Washington DC on TripAdvisor. Find traveler reviews and candid photos of **dining** near The **Dupont Circle** in Washington ...

#### The Best 10 Restaurants near Dupont Circle, Washington, DC - Last ...

https://www.velp.com → Washington, DC → Dupont Circle → Restaurants ▼

#### **Content**



| Tag/Location     | Content   | # of Character |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| URL              | https://www.washingtonian.com/2016/04/01/11-great-places-to-eat-around-dupont-circle-and-adams-morgan/  | 102            |
| Page Title       | 11 Great Places to Eat Around Dupont Circle and Adams Morgan   Washingtonian  | 76             |
| Meta Description | Beefsteak José Andrés wants you to eat your vegetables at his first fast-casual concept (there's also a location in Foggy Bottom). Diners can opt for | 149            |
| Meta Keywords    | Not found   |                |
| Н1               | 11 Great Places to Eat Around Dupont Circle and Adams Morgan  | 60             |
|                  |   |                |

https://www.washingtonian.com/2016/06/15/great-places-to-drink-dupont-circle-adams-morgan/https://www.washingtonian.com/2016/04/18/8-great-outdoor-patio-lunch-restaurants-around-dupont-circle/https://www.washingtonian.com/2015/02/20/how-to-spend-a-day-in-dupont-circle/



## **Combine Similar Content That's Not Ranking**

- Study showed average length of content on page one of Google 1,890 words\*
- Use layout and design to increase scannability
- Properly redirect old URLs to new longer content

# Case Studies

Phillymag.com and Downeast.com



# **Case Study: Things to Do in Philly**

| /ticket/2018/03/23/37-things-to-do-this-weekend-2/  | P | 1,496 |
|---|---|-------|
| /ticket/2018/01/26/47-things-to-do-this-weekend-2/  | P | 1,061 |
| /ticket/2018/02/09/19-things-to-do-this-weekend/    | P | 1,017 |
| /ticket/2018/09/08/beacon-new-york-things-to-do/    | P | 974   |
| /ticket/2018/09/08/rhinebeck-new-york-things-to-do/ | P | 939   |
| /ticket/2018/01/19/32-things-to-do-this-weekend/    | P | 933   |

# **Case Study: Things to Do in Philly**

/ticket/things-to-do-weekend-philadelphia/

- "Things to do" traffic was up 83% in Q3 over Q2

32,170

- "Things to do" traffic was up 961% over Q3 2017

# **Case Study: Things to Do in Maine**

| /30-things-august/            | (P  |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| /things-to-do-in-maine/photo/ | P   |
| /30-things-june/              | (P  |
| /march-2016-things-to-do/     | (P) |
| /things-carry/                | E)  |
| /31-things-july/              | ĘĐ  |



#### **Case Study: Things to Do in Maine**

https://downeast.com/things-to-do-in-maine/



- Search traffic up <u>33%</u> in (Q2/Q3 2017 vs. Q2/Q3 2018)
- "Things to Do" content page views up 360%

## **Lessons and Takeaways**

- Don't publish online like a print publisher
- Your reader comes first
- Identify your tent poles and turn them into quality entry pages
- You don't need more content. You need content published to be
- Make content decisions based on data

### **Lessons and Takeaways**

- Content discoverability is a key component to audience development
- If you haven't already embraced SEO as a part of your audience development strategy, start now.

# **THANK YOU!**