



Best Burger in New Jersey - Krug's Tavern Tops the List



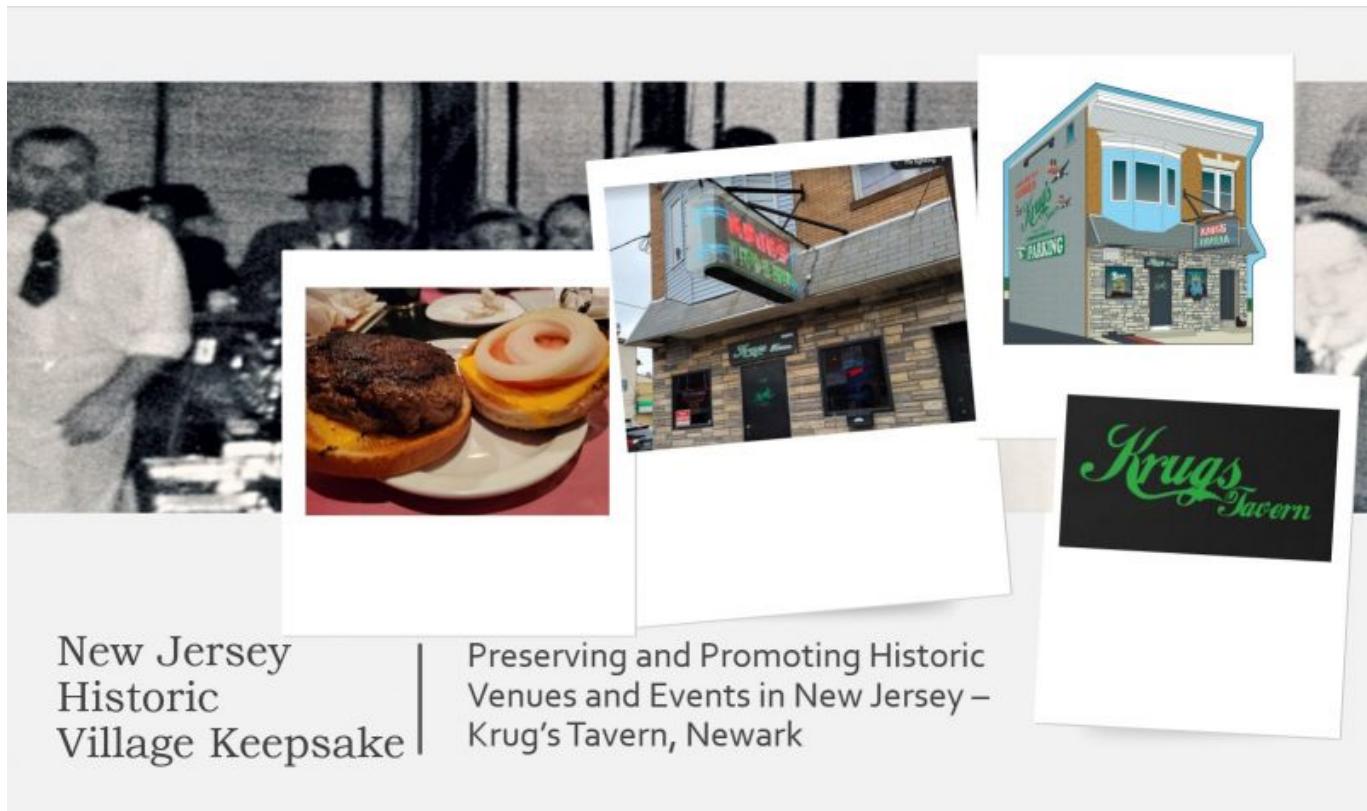
## **Best Burger in New Jersey - Krug's Tavern Tops the List**

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### **Krug's Tavern Hits the Spot Down Neck**

NEWSFLASH: A NEW WOODEN KEEPSAKE HONORS NEWARK'S KRUG'S TAVERN



## New Jersey Historic Village Keepsake

Preserving and Promoting Historic  
Venues and Events in New Jersey –  
Krug's Tavern, Newark

Find out how you can get one of these limited edition [Krug's Tavern collectibles](#) - [Click Here](#)

### **Serving up great food and spirits with a friendly laid back attitude.**

Ready to take a step back in a time when life was simple and the neighborhood had a friendly, active pulse. We're heading to the Ironbound section of Newark for a sound ole-fashioned neighborhood watering hole that's also serving up some great food. Grab a chrome bar stool, stare at a Yankee repeat from the night before, and begin to hear and smell the meat sizzling on the flattop. Order a 12 ounce draft in a perfectly curved pilsner glass and kick back and enjoy a few hours inside one of the most fabulous neighborhood hangouts on the planet. About a mile southeast of Penn Station and the Pru Center across the Passaic River, time stands still on Down Neck at Krug's Tavern.



Located at the Corner of Wilson Avenue and Napoleon Street in the Ironbound section of Newark, New Jersey

With its legendary local tavern style, Krug's has been situated in the Ironbound section of Newark since 1938. Frank Krug has been serving up the goods for over 70 years. While most people think of the area for great Portuguese food, Krug's and their flat top grill have been delivering incredible portions of burgers, cheesesteaks, and Italian hot dogs. But it's the signature hot shrimp and calamari that keep bringing 'em back time and time again.



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Local police, long shore man, and firefighters who support the fabric and infrastructure of Newark continue to call Krug's their home away from home. It doesn't matter where you came from, so long as you're ready to have a good time. We were lucky enough to be introduced to Krug's by Ken McShea, a legendary retired Newark motorcycle cop #806 and former Vailsburg resident who happens to also be my father-in-law. "This guy has certainly put some time in and around the inner workings of Newark and knows a few things about where to eat when Down Neck".



During the 1984 presidential campaign, GW Bush visited Krug's in Newark.

Historic Krug's Tavern is run by Ellen LaMotta, her brother-in-law Frank and her sister-in-law Susan. Ellen LaMotta is the widow of Gary LaMotta, Frank Krug's grandson. The family is related to Jake LaMotta, the middleweight champion boxer of the '40s and '50s portrayed by Robert DeNiro in the 1980 movie "Raging Bull." The fighter has visited the bar. There's even a photo above the bar with George H.W. Bush who made a stopover during the 1984 presidential campaign.

## Old Time Favorites

The signature Krug's shrimp is undoubtedly my first on the recommendation list. A big oval porcelain plate served with slightly smaller than jumbo shrimp, deep fried first, and then served on a plate with three choices of homemade

marinara sauce: mild, medium, and hot. If you like spicy foods that your body will remember the next day, then definitely try the hot. Fresh buttered bread, cold pickles, and a backup glass of cold beer are recommended. Jumbo burgers, Italian hot dogs, and oversized cheesesteaks are also heavyweights on the menu. All three are big-time items where the bread takes the backseat to the meat and toppings. The burger weighs in at about 12 ounces (3/4 pound), which is three times the size of the wimpy McDonald's quarter-pounder. With cheese or without, it's definitely a two-hander!



Retired Newark PD Motorcycle Legend #806 Ken McShea enjoys a few laughs whenever he's back at Krug's.

Don't let the exterior of this place fool you. You need to dig to find this place, and you certainly need to know your way around Newark. But it's also in Ironbound, south of the tracks, and you don't need to have a security detail if you're testing the area for the first time. Don't listen to the dopes from the suburbs. This is the inner city at its best, serving great food at a great price with a down-home, family-friendly atmosphere. Check Krug's out for lunch sometime. Just don't be surprised if you're still in the same stool six hours later, ordering dinner.



## About the Area

Down Neck," or simply "the Neck," gets its name because of the way the Passaic



Jimmy Piontek, bartender and flat top master, serves it up the way he's done it for years. We heard Jimmy retired on 11/5/2018.

River curved to form what looked like a neck. Today, the neighborhood is sometimes referred to as "Little Portugal" owing to its large Portuguese community. The Ironbound is part of Newark's East Ward and is directly east of Penn Station and downtown Newark, and south and west of the river. The name "Ironbound" is said to have originated from the many forges and foundries that were found in this area during the latter half of the 19th century.

A half dozen tables each with four seats are available adjacent to the bar, while a back room behind the jukebox and pool table is available for events. So whether it's the fried shrimp with spicy hot homemade marinara, the 3/4 pound burger, or just a place to take in some local flavor, nothing beats Krug's Tavern.

## Now the Food

It's not like I like to bring a camera everywhere I go, but I felt that you had to see just how much great food you get when you're dropping in down at Krug's. Whether it's the Italian hot dog, the hot spicy shrimp, or the 12 oz burger (see below), you're not going to go wrong!





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The fried shrimp & hot sauce. Unbeatable.



#1 in New Jersey in our opinion. The Krug's Burger.

I mean, c'mon - you're not hungry now?

## Hours/Directions

Hours: 11:30 a.m. - 12 a.m. 7 days a week  
Corner of Wilson Avenue and Napoleon Street  
Free parking is available in the back. [View Directions/ Map](#)

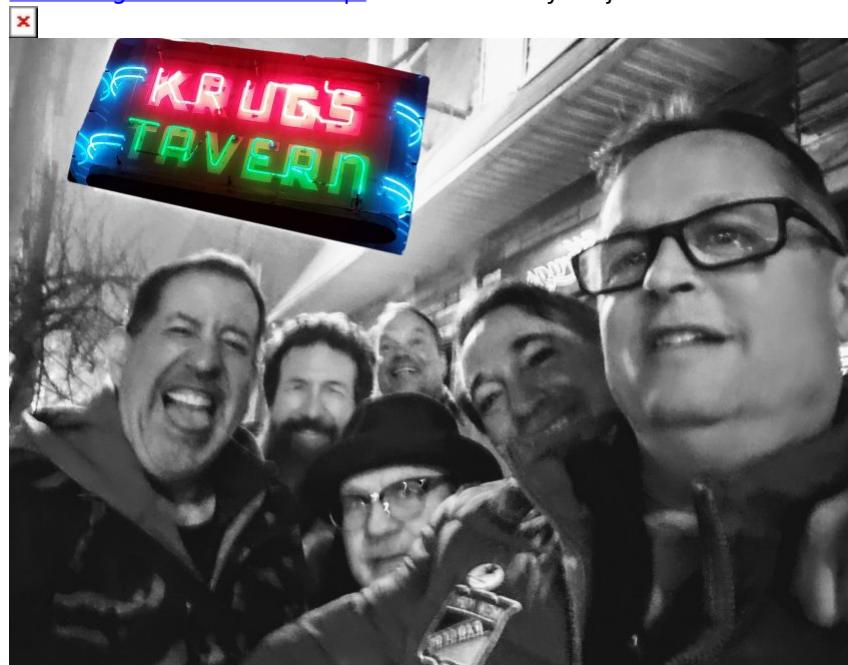


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Krug's Tavern has also made it on the Best Burgers in America for delivering on all fronts when pushing out beef on a bun.



[Best Burgers in America Map](#) Mr Local History Project



We have a crew that comes by all the time! #lovekrugstavern - Dec.12,2020



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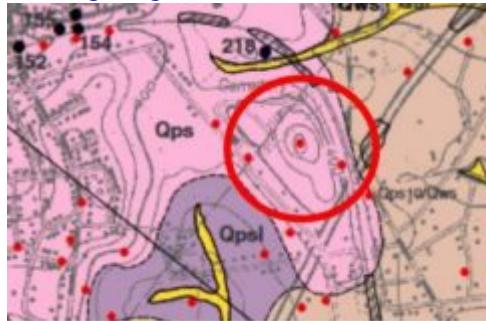
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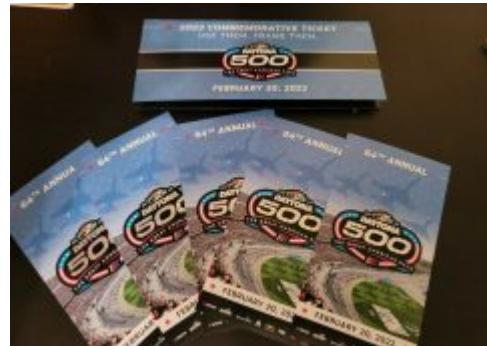


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