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South Carolina



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ROAD South Carolina TRIPS

Ideally, you'll take several days to enjoy the personality and hospitality of those living in the unique communities of the Lowcountry of the Carolinas. Maybe it's the pungent smell from salty marshes that casts a spell, or a sugary buzz from the lemon-filled sweet tea, but there's an undeniable draw that makes you want to linger on porches after twilight.





01 



04 



02 



05 



03 



06 



01
CHARLESTON
TO SAINT HELENA ISLAND, SC

88.9 miles: 2 hours, 7 minutes
Leaving the elegance of Charleston behind, you're soon in the scenic heart of Lowcountry. Stately oaks frame the road. The songs of tree frogs fill the air.

02
SAINT HELENA ISLAND, SC
TO SAVANNAH, GA

69.0 miles: 1 hour, 51 minutes
Savannah, with its antebellum homes, shady squares, cobblestone waterfront and moss-hung oaks—is thick with Southern Gothic atmosphere.

03
CHARLESTON
TO MYRTLE BEACH, SC

111.0 miles: 2 hours, 39 minutes
As you leave the historic and colorful city of Charleston, ride through the lush Francis Marion National Forest to the north.

04
MYRTLE BEACH, SC
TO WILMINGTON, NC

78.0 miles: 1 hour, 50 minutes
Myrtle Beach is marked by the tourist kitsch—a mini golf course and billboards with giant crabs hawking buffets.

05
ASHLEY CROSSING LANE
TO MAGNOLIA PLANTATION RD, SC

7.4 miles: 0 hours, 23 minutes
With all the beautiful scenery, plan to bring lunch to this stop—circa 1738 Drayton Hall.

06
MAGNOLIA PLANTATION ROAD
TO O'SULLIVAN LANE, SC

8.7 miles: 0 hours, 16 minutes
If stately old homes are your thing, then tour both Magnolia Plantation and Gardens and Middleton Place.

For a complete list of itineraries and details

 visit aaa.com/roadtrips



Table Rock State Park / © iStockphoto.com / Kruck20

Despite the ravages of the Revolutionary and Civil wars, postwar economic chaos and two *really* big natural disasters, resilience has kept South Carolinians going. And what exactly is it that has inspired residents to fight so dearly for their beloved state?

Could it be the Grand Strand's sun, sea and surf? The area's amusements and sumptuous seafood are an added bonus.

Or perhaps it's romantic Charleston, offering reflections of centuries past with restored homes, lush gardens, museums and galleries, and landmark local restaurants.

And quaint old harbor cities such as Beaufort and the barrier islands tempt with their lighthouses, shrimp trawlers and miles of Atlantic beaches.

Adventure seekers and nature lovers enjoy exploring the mountainous Upstate with its rivers, forests and waterfalls. The cascades of Whitewater Falls (actually two separate waterfalls) coolly divide the Carolinas, especially scenic when their curtains of water are enhanced by brilliant fall foliage.

Fresh produce and indigenous foods give you a true taste of the Carolinas. Spring in the Upstate brings sweet-smelling peach and apple blossoms that yield the bountiful fruit harvested and sold at roadside stands in the fall. Try the homemade preserves and apple cider, and be sure to take home a bag of locally milled grits or cornmeal.

As the foothills descend to the coastal plains of the

South Carolina

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Charleston	29

Lowcountry, forests, marshes and moss-draped oaks give way to resort islands and white-sand beaches. Oysters, blue crabs and shrimp are gathered fresh daily on the Sea Islands, where some of the natives still speak Gullah, a lyrical mixture of English and African languages.

Preserving Their Heritage

Folk arts and crafts abound throughout the state. The handicrafts that survive have been passed down for generations. Essentially utilitarian although nonetheless beautiful, items are still made by hand the old-fashioned way—with pride.

Upstate potters in Edgefield and Pickens have been making their wares by the traditional method—hand-thrown on a potter's wheel—since the 1800s. Shaping and trimming the clay by hand as it spins, they fashion pots, vases and bowls.

It shouldn't be a surprise that South Carolina craftspeople excel in the fiber arts. After all, their ancestors—cotton growers and developers of some of our country's first textile mills—were the pioneers who weaved the future of this trade. A spirit of heritage is reflected in handwoven baskets, fashioned from pine



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

needles, sweetgrass and rush strips. The Lowcountry coast is the place to go for Pawleys Island hammocks, those corded creations turned out by local artisans.

Indeed, the people of the Palmetto State take all preservation seriously, carefully refurbishing houses, churches, battlefields and cemeteries to their former dignity while retaining the historic integrity of the period. Old St. David's Episcopal Church in Cheraw withstood the Revolution, yet today its handsome steeple and white clapboard exterior make it look like a vintage postcard scene.

Some superb examples of historic preservation also are found in Camden. Here you can tour restored dwellings—from dovetailed log cabins to spacious mansions—and recall the craftsmanship of former times.

Recreation

A perfect blend of sun, sand and surf is waiting for you at the state's beaches and resorts. Parasailing, surfing and swimming lure ocean lovers to Hilton Head Island, Myrtle Beach and the Sea Islands along the Grand Strand.

Boating and diving enthusiasts should head for Beaufort or Port Royal. Both towns have plenty of marinas and boat ramps that make outings easy. And with Spanish explorers in the area as long ago as 1514, shipwrecks are hidden in the Intracoastal Waterway and the numerous saltwater creeks and rivers that wind between the islands.

With water all around, the coast also is a great place to do some saltwater fishing for amberjack, barracuda, grouper and mackerel. Bottom fishing for sea bass, porgy and flounder is especially good at Fripp Island Reef and Hilton Head Reef. Saltwater and freshwater licenses are required and are available at tackle shops.

South Carolina's tidal shorelines make crabbing and shrimping favorite activities. Edisto Island provides countless coves that should prove bountiful. The Sea Islands also are prime spots for harvesting oysters.

Canoeing, kayaking or rafting the Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River, famed for its role in the movie "Deliverance," are quests for the adventuresome. This Upstate river races past Sumter National Forest before slicing a boundary between South Carolina and Georgia.

Upstate mountains, with their rolling blue horizon, embrace forests, rivers and waterfalls. One of the high

spots, literally and figuratively, is Caesars Head State Park. At 3,208 feet, it crowns the Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area. About a mile north is a trail to Raven Cliff Falls.

True hikers explore Foothills Trail, winding for 77 miles over the ridges from Table Rock to Oconee State Park. Don't let the modest term "foothills" fool you, though. This is a real wilderness experience in rugged mountain country. Croft State Park near Spartanburg is another good place for roughing it. Cherokee Path, a woody trail that makes a northwest diagonal from Charleston to Keowee, provides scenic solitude.

The word "golf" is practically synonymous with South Carolina. Superb courses and a mild climate let you enjoy the links almost year-round. Hilton Head, home of the RBC Heritage golf tournament, offers courses designed by Pete Dye, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Robert Trent Jones Sr. and other top players. And of course there is Myrtle Beach, with well over 100 courses.

Charleston / © iStockphoto.com / MargaretW



GOOD FACTS TO KNOW

ABOUT THE STATE

POPULATION: 5,118,425.

AREA: 32,020 square miles; ranks 40th.

CAPITAL: Columbia.

HIGHEST POINT: 3,560 ft., Sassafras Mountain.

LOWEST POINT: Sea level, Atlantic Ocean.

TIME ZONE(S): Eastern. DST.

GAMBLING

MINIMUM AGE FOR GAMBLING: Contact the facility for information.

REGULATIONS

TEEN DRIVING LAWS: No more than 2 passengers under age 21 are permitted (family members and students to and from school are exempt) unless accompanied by a licensed adult. Driving is not permitted 6 p.m.-6 a.m. (EST); 8 p.m.-6 a.m. (EDT) unless accompanied by a licensed adult. The minimum age for an unrestricted driver's license is 16 years and 6 months. For more information about South Carolina driver's license regulations phone (803) 896-5000.

SEAT BELT/CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS: Seat belts are required for driver and all passengers age 8 and over. Children under age 2 must be in a rear-facing child passenger restraint system; children ages 2-3 must be in a forward-facing child passenger restraint system; and children ages 4-7 or at least 57 inches tall must be in a booster seat. AAA recommends the use of seat belts and appropriate child restraints for the driver and all passengers.

CELLPHONE RESTRICTIONS: Text messaging is prohibited for all drivers.

HELMETS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS: Required for drivers and passengers under 21.

RADAR DETECTORS: Permitted.

MOVE OVER LAW: Driver is required to slow down and vacate the lane nearest stopped police, fire and rescue vehicles using audible or flashing signals. Law also requires driver to move over for tow truck drivers and recovery vehicles assisting motorists on the side of the road.

FIREARMS LAWS: Vary by state or county. Contact South Carolina Law Enforcement, Regulatory Services Dept., P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, SC 29221; phone (803) 896-7015.

HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS: Jan. 1 • Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. (3rd Mon.) • Washington's Birthday/Presidents Day, Feb. (3rd Mon.) • Confederate Memorial Day, May 10 • Memorial Day, May (last Mon.) • July 4 • Labor Day, Sept. (1st Mon.) • Veterans Day, Nov. 11 • Thanksgiving (and day after) • Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) • Christmas (Dec. 25) • day after Christmas (Dec. 26).

MONEY

TAXES: South Carolina sales tax is 6 percent, with local options for cities and counties to levy additional increments. There is an admissions tax of 5 percent on most amusements and a 7 percent accommodations tax.

VISITOR INFORMATION

INFORMATION CENTERS: State welcome centers can be found on US 17 near Little River • I-85S near Blacksburg • I-26E near Landrum • I-85N near Fair Play • I-20E near North Augusta • I-95S near Hamer • I-95S near Santee • I-95N near Hardeeville • and I-77S near Fort Mill. Open daily 9-5 (also 5-6, Memorial Day-Labor Day). Closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR VISITORS:

South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
1205 Pendleton St.
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-1700
(803) 734-0156

NATIONAL FOREST INFORMATION:

U.S. Forest Service
4931 Broad River Rd.
Columbia, SC 29212-3530
(803) 561-4000
(877) 444-6777 (reservations)

FISHING & HUNTING:

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
1000 Assembly St.
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-3886



VIRGINIA

TENNESSEE

NORTH CAROLINA



South Carolina

Orientation



Recreation Areas Chart

Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



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CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	NATURE PROGRAMS	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
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NATIONAL PARKS (See place listings.)

Congaree 26,000 acres in central South Carolina

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NATIONAL FORESTS (See place listings.)

Francis Marion 259,000 acres in southeast South Carolina on the coastal plain n. of Charleston. Bird-watching, hunting, white-water rafting; rifle ranges.

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Sumter 371,000 acres in western South Carolina. Bird-watching, hunting, white-water rafting; equestrian trails, OHV (off-highway vehicle) trails, rifle ranges, waterfalls.

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Santee 15,000 acres just n.w. off I-95 exit 102 to 2125 Fort Watson Rd. in Summerton. Bird-watching, hunting, wildlife viewing.

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ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

J. Strom Thurmond Lake 70,000 acres via US 221 in Clarks Hill near the Georgia border. Water skiing; aquarium.

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Richard B. Russell Lake 26,650 acres 1 mi. w. of Calhoun Falls on SR 72.

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STATE

Aiken 1,067 acres 5 mi. n. of Windsor on State Park Rd.

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Andrew Jackson 360 acres 8 mi. n. of Lancaster on US 521. Historic. Amphitheater, museum.

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Baker Creek 1,305 acres 4 mi. s.w. of McCormick via US 378, then just n. on Huguenot Pkwy. Lakefront pavilion.

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Recreation Areas Chart

Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds

CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	NATURE PROGRAMS	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
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Barnwell 307 acres 7 mi. n.e. of Barnwell on SR 3.													
Calhoun Falls 318 acres 2 mi. n. of Calhoun Falls on SR 81, then just w. on Calhoun Falls State Park Rd. Tennis; nature trail.													
Cheraw 7,361 acres 4 mi. s. of Cheraw, mostly w. of US 52. Historic. Golf (18 holes); boardwalk.													
Chester 523 acres 3 mi. s.w. of Chester off SR 72/121. Disc golf.													
Colleton 35 acres 11 mi. n. of Walterboro, just w. off US 15. Canoeing, kayaking.													
Croft 7,054 acres about 6 mi. s.e. of Spartanburg off SR 56. Equestrian facilities.													
Devils Fork 622 acres about 6.5 mi. n.e. of Salem, off SR 11. Scenic.													
Dreher Island 348 acres 10 mi. s.w. of Chapin off US 76.													
Edisto Beach 1,255 acres 5 mi. s. of Edisto Island off SR 174. Shelling.													
Givhans Ferry 988 acres 16 mi. w. of Summerville off SR 61.													
Goodale 763 acres 2 mi. n.e. of Camden off US 1. Canoe trail.													
Hamilton Branch 731 acres 12 mi. s.e. of McCormick off US 221.													
Hickory Knob 1,091 acres 8 mi. s.w. of McCormick off US 378. Archery, golf (18 holes), skeet shooting, tennis.													



Recreation Areas Chart

Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds

CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	NATURE PROGRAMS	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
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Hunting Island 5,000 acres 18 mi. s.e. of Beaufort on US 21. Wildlife viewing; lighthouse complex.													
Huntington Beach 2,500 acres 3 mi. s. on US 17 at 16148 Ocean Hwy. in Murrells Inlet. Historic. Bird-watching.													
Keowee-Toxaway 1,000 acres 6 mi. s.w. of Sunset on SR 11 at Lake Keowee.													
Kings Mountain 7,000 acres off SR 161 in Blacksburg. Historic. Canoeing, kayaking; playground.													
Lake Greenwood 914 acres 17 mi. e. of Greenwood on SR 702. Museum.													
Lake Hartwell 680 acres in Fair Play off I-85 exit 1, then .5 mi. n. on SR 11.													
Lake Warren 440 acres s.w. of Hampton off SR 363 or US 601.													
Lake Wateree 238 acres about 17 mi. e. of Winnsboro, off US 21.													
Landsford Canal 448 acres about 14 mi. n.w. of Lancaster off US 21. Historic.													
Lee 2,839 acres 7 mi. e. of Bishopville off I-20. Horse trails.													
Little Pee Dee 835 acres about 10 mi. s.e. of Dillon off SR 57.													
Myrtle Beach 312 acres about 5 mi. s. of Myrtle Beach on US 17 Bus. Rte.													
Oconee 1,165 acres about 10 mi. n.w. of Walhalla off SR 107. Self-guiding automobile tour.													



Recreation Areas Chart

Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds

CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	NATURE PROGRAMS	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
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Paris Mountain 1,540 acres 6 mi. n. of Greenville on State Park Rd.													
Poinsett 1,000 acres about 8 mi. s. of Wedgefield, off SR 261.													
Rivers Bridge 390 acres 9 mi. s.w. of Ehrhardt off SR 641. Historic. Ranger-guided tours.													
Sadlers Creek 395 acres about 2.5 mi. n.w. of jct. US 29 and SR 187.													
Santee 2,500 acres 3 mi. n.w. of Santee off SR 6. Bird-watching, tennis; playground.													
Sesquicentennial 1,400 acres 12 mi. n.e. of Columbia off US 1.													
Table Rock 3,083 acres 13.8 mi. n. of Pickens off SR 11. Scenic.													
Woods Bay 1,590 acres about 3 mi. w. of Olanta, off US 301. Boardwalk, canoe rental.													
OTHER													
Anne Springs Close Greenway 2,100 acres at 1604 US 21 Bypass in Fort Mill. Geocaching; historic buildings, interpretive programs, recreation complex.													
James Island County Park 643 acres about 6 mi. s. of Charleston off SR 171. Disc golf, volleyball; climbing facility, kayak and pedal boat rental, playground, water park (seasonal).													
Lake Murray 50,000 acres 9 mi. w. of Columbia.													
Lake Robinson 2,250 acres 6 mi. n.w. of Hartsville off SR 151.													



Recreation Areas Chart

Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds

CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	NATURE PROGRAMS	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
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Lake Wylie 12,455 acres just w. of I-77 in Fort Mill. Water skiing.													
Lynches River 676 acres 13 mi. s.w. of Florence on US 52. Archery range, nature center, splash pad.													
Mile Creek Park 155 acres about 6 mi. n.w. of Six Mile on SR 133.													
Palmetto Islands County Park 943 acres at 444 Needlerush Pkwy. in Mount Pleasant. Playground.													
Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary 600+ acres just e. of I-95 exit 53 in Walterboro. Canoeing, kayaking.													



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Help AAA keep our roadside techs safe. When driving, put away your phone and focus on the road ahead. Something so simple will mean the world to our roadside techs and those who love them.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AIKEN

• Hotels p. 21

Describing Aiken as horse country is an understatement considering the large role equestrians have played in the area's heritage and in the current makeup of the city. During the 1830s a railroad was blazed between Charleston and Hamburg, and it included a stop in Aiken. Thanks to this new form of transportation, Aiken began welcoming more people coming to escape summer heat and malaria threats elsewhere and to reap the health benefits of its mild climate, pine-scented dry air and spring water.

After the Civil War, though, it drew wealthy Northerners less for health reasons and more for the outdoor recreation—especially equestrian activities—they could indulge in during the winter. The area these winter transplants claimed came to be called the Winter Colony, and three residential districts began to grow. Polo and horse racing became popular, and 8,000-acre Hitchcock Woods was developed as a recreational haven for Winter Colonists. Dozens of historic residences are still around; pick up the Aiken self-guiding tour brochure from the visitor center (113 Laurens St. S.W.) so you can read about their history and drive by some of them to admire from afar.

A dedication to all things equestrian still persists—from the horse drawings on street signs to the annual Aiken Triple Crown. To get a feel for just how strong a presence horses have here, navigate some of the horse district (roughly between Whiskey and Powerhouse roads and Grace and Knox avenues; consult the self-guiding tour brochure). This area still has dirt roads to cater to the horses. Speed limits are kept very low; drivers must yield to riders and carriages. Walkers, joggers and drivers should request permission before passing so they don't startle the horses. Polo fields, tracks and early 20th-century estates comprise the scenery.

Dressage, driving, eventing, foxhunting, jumping, polo and show hunting events are held in the area, and the public is welcomed at most of them. Polo is played at Whitney Field (on Mead Avenue between Sumter and Magnolia streets in the horse district) on Sunday afternoons April through May and September to mid-November. The Aiken Triple Crown in March—consisting of flat racing the first weekend, steeplechasing the next and polo the third—and the Aiken Fall Steeplechase in late October are popular annual events. The spring steeplechase can draw nearly 30,000 spectators, and parking is often a problem. Contact the Aiken Steeplechase Association for more event details; phone (803) 648-9641 or (888) 648-9641. For additional information about the local horse community and equestrian events, consult *The Aiken Horse*, a free bimonthly newspaper available at local businesses, equestrian events and at the chamber of commerce.

Hitchcock Woods today has 2,100 acres and stands adjacent to much of Aiken's urban setting. Equestrian and hiking trails are available; for more information phone (803) 642-0528.

Aiken County Visitor Center: 133 Laurens St. N.W., Suite 103, Aiken, SC 29801. **Phone:** (803) 642-7557.

Self-guiding tours: A brochure with a map and information about nearly 100 historic properties, including houses, city buildings, churches and polo fields, is available from the visitor center. A portion of the tour goes through the horse district.

Shopping: Historic downtown Aiken features about two dozen boutiques and antique shops; additional stores can be found in the outskirts.

A farmers market is held on Williamsburg Road between Park and Richland avenues Mon.-Sat. 7-4:30 (or until vendors sell out) from early spring to late fall.



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HAMPTON INN BY HILTON AIKEN

BOOK NOW

803/648-2525



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 100 Tamil Dr 29803.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HILTON GARDEN INN AIKEN **BOOK NOW** 803/641-4220



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 350 Eastgate Dr 29803.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES AIKEN **BOOK NOW** 803/508-7700



Hotel. **Address:** 2897 Whiskey Rd 29803.

 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT AIKEN **BOOK NOW** 803/641-7373



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1008 Monterey Dr 29803.

ANDERSON

• Hotels p. 22

Anderson is nicknamed “Electric City” because of its early innovation with electric power. A statue of engineer William Church Whitner, who experimented with electricity, stands at the corner of W. Whitner and Main streets in front of the Anderson County Courthouse. Just east of the courthouse, at Generator Park, you can see the historic generator Whitner had operated at the Portman Shoals Power Plant.

Visit Anderson: 110 Federal St., Suite 8, Anderson, SC 29625. **Phone:** (864) 716-3660 or (877) 282-4650.

SPLIT CREEK FARM is at 3806 Centerville Rd. The herd includes about 350 goats, and the farm is also home to chickens, dogs, pigs, rabbits, a donkey and a mustang. The owners of this dairy farm willingly share insights into what life is like at their small working farm. On guided tours visitors will learn about goat breeds, herding and guard dogs and have an opportunity to sample the goat milk, cheeses, yogurt and fudge produced here. Items are usually available for sampling for drop-in visitors, too.

Since most of the tour is outdoors, attire may get dirty; dress accordingly. **Time:** Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (864) 287-3921.  

 COMFORT SUITES ANDERSON/CLEMSON **BOOK NOW** 864/622-1200



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 118 Interstate Blvd 29621. **Facility:** 60 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** limited exercise equipment. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.




COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON ANDERSON **BOOK NOW** 864/622-2200


AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 116 Interstate Blvd 29621. **Facility:** 55 units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ANDERSON CLEMSON **BOOK NOW** 864/332-9000


AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 117 Interstate Blvd 29621.


HAMPTON INN BY HILTON ANDERSON/ALLIANCE BUSINESS PARK **BOOK NOW** 864/760-1000


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 411 Alliance Pkwy 29621.


HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 864/226-3312


Hotel. **Address:** 107 Interstate Blvd 29621.


HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ANDERSON DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/540-0930


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 315 S Main St 29624.


RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ANDERSON CLEMSON **BOOK NOW** 864/280-8180


AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 109 Interstate Blvd 29621.



24 BEAUFORT, SC

BEAUFORT

• Hotels p. 24

A picturesque old port town, Beaufort (BEW-fort) retains the atmosphere of an earlier day. Its many pre-Revolutionary War and antebellum houses surrounded by quiet gardens stand along narrow oak-canopied streets. The oldest is the 1717 Thomas Hepworth House at Port Republic and New streets. Another old building is the Beaufort Arsenal, which now houses the visitor center.

Established by charter from the Lords Proprietors in 1711, Beaufort is the second oldest town in the state. Its history dates to Spanish exploration in 1520 and attempted settlements on nearby Parris Island by French Huguenots in 1562 and the Spanish in 1566 and 1577. Areas of early settlement have been the focus of several archeological digs.

In March 1863 the Beaufort National Cemetery was established. Today the remains of more than 7,500 Civil War soldiers as well as those of 6,500 other servicemen killed in action in subsequent wars are interred there. It is the final resting place of Marine Corps Pfc. Ralph H. Johnson, who posthumously received the Congressional Medal of Honor for service as a reconnaissance scout in Vietnam. The cemetery is surrounded by a brick wall, with the entrance at 1601 Boundary St.

Moviemakers have made their mark on Beaufort. “The Big Chill,” “The Great Santini” and the blockbuster “Forrest Gump” are three of the movies that have been filmed in the city.

Facing the Intracoastal Waterway, Beaufort has one of the best natural harbors on the Atlantic coast. The Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, on the Beaufort River off

Bay Street, includes a marina, pavilion and amphitheater. Also in the area is Lady’s Island, across the Beaufort River.

Given its proximity to Port Royal and Parris Island’s Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Beaufort is where many relatives and friends stay during graduation time.

Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce Tourism Division & Visitor Center: 713 Craven St., P.O. Box 910, Beaufort, SC 29901. **Phone:** (843) 525-8500 or (800) 638-3525.

Self-guiding tours: Maps for walking tours of the historic district are available from the visitor center.

Shopping: Bay Street is the place to go for shopping. While several other streets also have retail establishments, Bay has the biggest collection of them. Fordham Market (701 Bay St.) has more than two dozen vendors selling artwork, clothing, gifts and handmade items.

GRAY LINE OF BEAUFORT provides free pickup from Beaufort lodgings. Guides comment on architecture, history, Hollywood film sites and other topics during the tours. Highlights include the 2-hour Beaufort City Walking Tour, the 1.25-hour Beaufort City Tour of the historic district which includes antebellum houses and churches with a guide discussing the area during the Civil War as well as Beaufort’s film history, and the 3-hour Spirit of Old Beaufort Heritage Tour that explores the Gullah and Geechee cultures of South Carolina’s islands. **Phone:** (843) 473-7107. **GT**

 ANCHORAGE 1770 INN **BOOK NOW** 843/525-1770

 Country Inn. **Address:** 1103 Bay St 29902.

 THE BEAUFORT INN **BOOK NOW** 843/379-4667

 Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 809 Port Republic St 29902.

 **AAA Diamonds are now Inspected Clean: [AAA.com/diamonds](https://www.aaa.com/diamonds)**

 Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA BEST WESTERN SEA ISLAND INN **BOOK NOW** 843/522-2090



Motel. **Address:** 1015 Bay St 29902. **Facility:** 43 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room.



AAA COMFORT SUITES NEAR MCAS BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/379-9400



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 131 Big John Rd 29906. **Facility:** 70 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA THE CUTHBERT HOUSE INN **BOOK NOW** 843/521-1315



Classic Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 1203 Bay St 29902.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/986-0600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2342 Boundary St 29902.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/379-9800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1500 Queen St 29902.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/379-4663



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 3658 Trask Pkwy 29906.

 THE RHETT HOUSE INN **BOOK NOW** 843/524-9030



Classic Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 1009 Craven St 29902.

 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/379-1124



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2227 Boundary St 29902.

 TRU BY HILTON-BEAUFORT **BOOK NOW** 843/379-5511



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 3664 Trask Pkwy 29903.

BLUFFTON

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Bluffton was named for its location overlooking the May River. With giant moss-draped oaks, small stores, antebellum houses and quaint country churches, the historic district has managed to retain its small-town charm despite the changing pace as nearby Hilton Head Island grew into a booming tourist destination. The highway that connects the island to the mainland runs through the outskirts of Bluffton.

The wooden, Gothic-style Church of the Cross, on Calhoun Street, was built in 1857 and has survived the onslaught of Union soldiers, hurricanes and modern development.

May River Excursions, 81 Calhoun St., provides water taxi service to and from Daufuskie Island; phone (843) 304-2878 for reservations.

Bluffton Visitor Center: 70 Boundary St., P.O. Box 742, Bluffton, SC 29910. **Phone:** (843) 757-6293.

Shopping: Charming Old Town Bluffton—centered between Boundary and Heyward streets and Bluffton Parkway and Bridge Street—is a good place for a casual afternoon of window-shopping. The historic district offers antique shops, locally owned boutiques, art galleries and cafés.

More than 60 apparel, home and specialty stores, including Coach, DKNY Donna Karan New York, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren and Seiko, comprise Tanger Outlet Center, which is off I-95 exit 8 then about 15 miles east on US 278. The centers are at 1256 Fording Island Rd. and 1414 Fording Island Rd.

 CANDLEWOOD SUITES BLUFFTON-HILTON HEAD **BOOK NOW** 843/705-9600



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 5 Young Clyde Ct 29909.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON-BLUFFTON **BOOK NOW** 843/705-9000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 29 William Pope Dr 29909.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES BLUFFTON/HILTON HEAD AREA **BOOK NOW** 843/757-2002



Hotel. **Address:** 35 Bluffton Rd 29910.

 MONTAGE PALMETTO BLUFF **BOOK NOW** 843/706-6500



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 477 Mount Pelia Rd 29910.

WHERE TO EAT

 RIVER HOUSE RESTAURANT 843/897-5928



Steak Seafood Fine Dining. **Address:** 1 Village Park Square 29910.

BLYTHEWOOD

• Hotels p. 27

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON-BLYTHEWOOD SC **BOOK NOW** 803/683-7704



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 92 Creech Rd 29016.

CAMDEN

• Hotels p. 28

Camden, the oldest inland town in the state, has roots dating to the 1730s, and Irish Quakers arrived in the early 1750s. The town was called Fredericksburg and Pine Tree Hill before being changed in 1768 to honor Lord Camden, a friend of the Colonies.

More than a dozen Revolutionary War battles, including the Battle of Camden and the Battle of Hobkirk Hill, were

fought within 30 miles of Camden. On May 8, 1781, the British evacuated Camden after burning most of it.

Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 502 DeKalb St., was designed in 1822 by Robert Mills, the architect of the Washington Monument. A granite monument in front of the church is dedicated to Baron DeKalb, a Revolutionary War soldier of Austrian descent killed in the Battle of Camden. The cornerstone was laid by the Marquis de Lafayette in 1825. Another memorial, Monument Square at Broad and Laurens streets, honors Camden's six Confederate generals.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

28 CAMDEN — CAYCE, SC

Springdale Race Course hosts two steeplechases; the Carolina Cup and the Colonial Cup are held in early April. Camden's polo field and 200 miles of bridle paths and country roads also lure equestrians.

Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce: 607 S. Broad St., P.O. Box 605, Camden, SC 29020. **Phone:** (803) 432-2525.

Self-guiding tours: A booklet detailing a driving tour past 63 historic sites, some of which are open to the public, is available from Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site, Camden Archives and Museum (*see attraction listings*) and the chamber of commerce for a cost of \$5.

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON CAMDEN **BOOK NOW** 803/272-0600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 122 Wall St 29020.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES CAMDEN **BOOK NOW** 803/424-5000



Hotel. **Address:** 419 Sumter Hwy 29020.

CAYCE

• Hotels p. 28

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA CAYCE **BOOK NOW** 803/794-7033



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1125 Fort Congaree Trail 29033.



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Charleston

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Then & Now

Charleston can be summed up in two words: classic elegance. It's easy to imagine a bygone era, with fashionably dressed ladies carrying parasols, arm-in-arm with well-heeled gents, promenading along The Battery. Today, tourists snapping photos, families resting on benches and residents walking dogs take their place. The same grand mansions overlooking the waterfront continue to proudly hold court, withstanding the test of time.

In the Charleston City Market, folks shop for trinkets, spices and housewares, just as they did in the early 1800s. The area of Broad and Spring streets on King Street also delights shoppers. This is where to find fine European antiques, unique apparel or a novel by best-selling author and onetime Charleston resident Sue Monk Kidd.

Charleston is for the romantic—not for the lover of skyscrapers and subways but of horse-drawn buggies and

cobblestone lanes. In a sense, the natural barriers of the Ashley and Cooper rivers preserved Charleston's character by isolating it. Change was slow to come.

Charlestonians take pride in their history, and you'll find them well-versed on the subject. They'll point you to fun places to go and historic sites where you can gain a sense of the town's storied past. Capture the essence of Colonial life by visiting Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site, where English settlers came ashore in 1670. Explore Fort Moultrie, where American troops emerged victorious over the British forces in a brutal, 9-hour battle during the Revolutionary War. Board a tour boat and sail out to Fort Sumter, where the first shot of the Civil War rang out in 1861.

In addition to war, Charleston has endured destructive natural disasters. Although the great earthquake of 1886 lasted only about a minute, nary a building escaped cracks, damage or outright collapse, coupled with a significant loss of life. Hurricane Hugo struck in 1989, damaging the majority of the city's treasured historic homes

Rainbow Row / © iStockphoto.com / RiverNorthPhotography

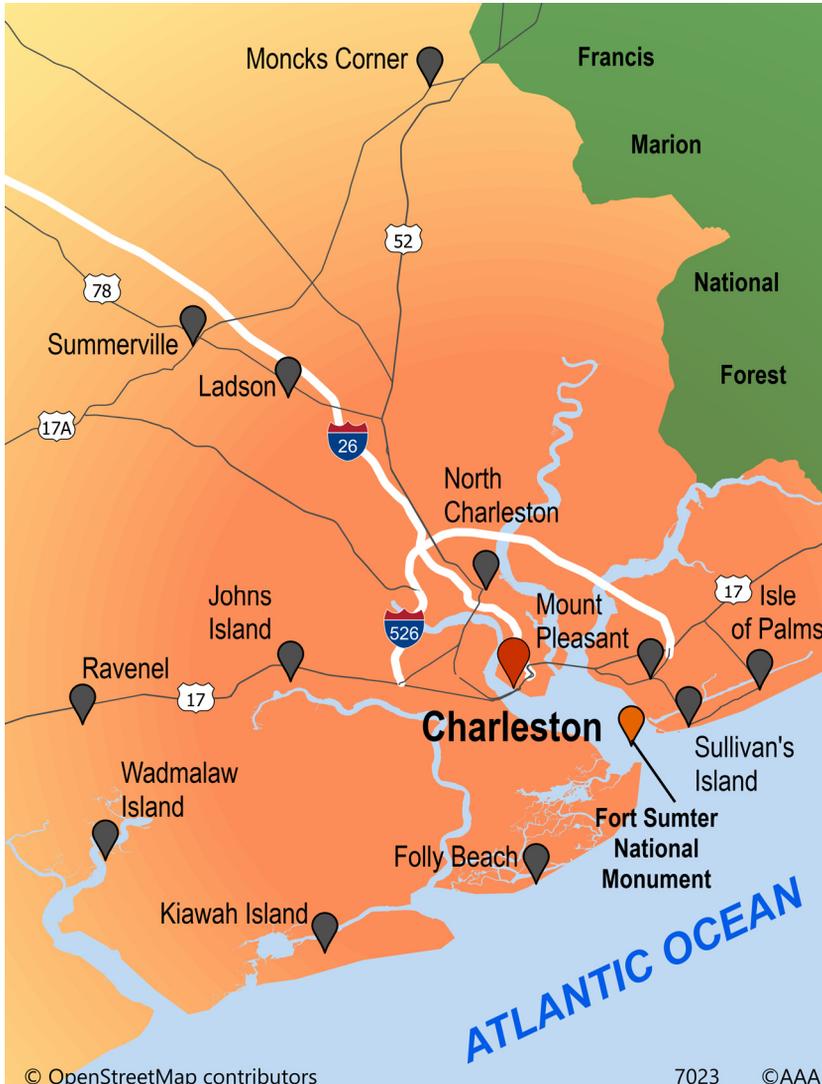


Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.



Destination Charleston

This map shows cities in the Charleston vicinity where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants. Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



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FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE CITY

POP: 130,113 • **ELEV:** 10 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: The 9 percent sales tax rate in Charleston consists of 6 percent South Carolina state sales tax, 1 percent Charleston tax and 2 percent special tax. There is no applicable county tax. There is an admissions tax of 5 percent on most amusements and a 2 percent accommodations tax.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (843) 577-7434

HOSPITALS: Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital, (843) 402-1000 • MUSC (Medical University of South Carolina), (843) 792-2300 • and Roper Hospital, (843) 724-2000.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau: 375 Meeting St., Charleston, SC 29403. **Phone:** (800) 868, 8118.

Self-guiding tour maps, brochures, performance schedules and information about events and other things to do are available.

and pounding the adjacent coastal areas. Yet, as you'll witness today, the historic destination has rebounded well.

Preservation efforts are taken seriously in Charleston, as reflected in the immaculately restored structures in the historic district. An intriguing mix of styles is represented, including Colonial, Georgian, Adamesque, Greek Revival and Italian Renaissance Revival. Interestingly, it's not high-rises that dot the city's skyline but steeples. Charleston has earned the nickname of "Holy City" thanks to an impressive assortment of churches—from St. Michael's Church, where President George Washington worshipped, to St. John's Lutheran Church, whose design is attributed to prominent Charleston architect Frederick Wesner, to Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, aka "Mother Emanuel," the oldest AME church in the Southern United States.

As you stroll throughout the historic area, you'll happen upon several architecturally significant pockets. There's the French Quarter, site of the 1859 Old Slave Mart (now

The center is open daily 8:30-5 (also 5-5:30 during DST); phone (843) 853-8000 or (800) 868-8118.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: Most major airlines serve Charleston International Airport (CHS), 12 miles west on I-526.

RENTAL CARS: Hertz, (843) 767-4554 or (800) 654-3131, is at the airport and offers discounts to AAA members.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: The Amtrak train station, (800) 872-7245, is at 4565 Gaynor Ave. in North Charleston.

BUSES: Service is provided by Southeastern Stages and Greyhound Lines Inc., (843) 744-4247 or (800) 231-2222, at 4565 Gaynor Ave.

TAXIS: Cab companies include Safety Cab, (843) 722-4066 • and Yellow Cab, (843) 577-6565. The fare is \$5 for all trips that pick up and drop off on the peninsula. A \$2 surcharge is added for each additional passenger. Outside of the peninsula, the fare for the first 2 miles is \$4 and 35c for each succeeding one-fifth mile. A \$1 surcharge is added for each additional passenger. Cabs must be ordered by phone.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Bus service is provided by Charleston Area Regional Transit Authority (CARTA); phone (843) 724-7420 for information about routes and schedules.

an African American history museum) and the 1736 Dock Street Theatre, reputedly where American theater was launched. It's also home to the Gothic Revival French Huguenot Church, organized in 1681 by refugees escaping religious persecution in France.

On East Bay Street you'll pass Rainbow Row, a collection of houses colored in pretty pastels. Although Cabbage Row, 89-91 Church St., is now mostly inhabited by boutiques, it served as the inspiration for DuBose Heyward's novel "Porgy" and the Gershwin opera "Porgy and Bess."

Charlestonians deserve bragging rights when it comes to gardening—the elaborate medleys of shrubs and flowers you'll see adorning yards and other plots of land are nothing short of magnificent. And any trip to Charleston should include a tour of one of the plantations on Ashley River Road—these sites have been featured in movies and television shows seeking to capture the culture of the antebellum era.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

While Charleston upholds its traditions, it also has managed to keep up with the times. One of the South's key cultural centers, the city hosts the Spoleto Festival USA, a 17-day tribute to the performing arts. The Charleston Symphony Orchestra keeps Charlestonians classically entertained the rest of the time, as do a plethora of acting companies. Culinarily speaking, Charleston has made a name for itself in the genre of Lowcountry cuisine. Don't leave town without sampling such delights as she-crab soup, shrimp and grits, hoppin' John and Huguenot torte at different restaurants.

Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

- Before you set out to explore the old walled city, start your vacation by visiting  **Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site** (1500 Old Towne Rd.), the location of the original 1670 settlement, and learn how Charleston became one of America's most prosperous colonies.
- During an afternoon jaunt through **The Battery** (1 E. Battery St.), see how Charleston's elite lived at the  **Heyward-Washington House** (87 Church St.),  **Edmondston-Alston House** (21 E. Battery),  **Williams Mansion** (16 Meeting St.) or



Heyward-Washington House / © flickr / CC0 / Warren LeMay

 **Nathaniel Russell House** (51 Meeting St.), four elegant **historic houses** that offer tours.

- Set aside part of your trip to ponder the plantations, where enslaved workers toiled, and their impact. Visit the Ashley River plantations— **Magnolia Plantation and Gardens** (3550 Ashley River Rd.), **Drayton Hall** (3380 Ashley River Rd.) and  **Middleton Place** (4300 Ashley River Rd.)—as well as  **Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens** (1235 Long Point Rd. in Mount Pleasant), beside the Wando River.
- Pick one of the most popular things for couples to do in Charleston: Go sightseeing Charleston-style. **Palmetto Carriage Works** (8 Guignard St.) offers **horse-drawn carriage rides** at a leisurely, clippity-clop pace.
- Walk on the wild side through cypress-and-tupelo black-water swamps at  **Cypress Gardens** (3030 Cypress Gardens Rd. in Moncks Corner).
- View native flora and fauna from a flat-bottomed boat or a well-marked nature trail and learn about swamp-loving amphibians, fish and reptiles in the “Swamparium.”
- When in the Lowcountry, eat **shrimp and grits** at least once. Most local restaurants serve an interpretation of this concoction of shellfish in a creamy sauce piled atop a mound of grits.
- Discover Charleston's many **African American heritage attractions**, from plantations, churches and cemeteries to the **Old Slave Mart Museum** (6 Chalmers St.).
- Select a sweetgrass basket for your Lowcountry souvenir. Gullah women practice traditional African basket-making skills and sell their creations on sidewalks near **Marion Square** (337 Meeting St.) and in the open-air sheds at **Charleston City Market** (188 Meeting St.).
- Travel via a scenic **boat cruise** to  **Fort Sumter National Monument**, a brick fortification on an island at the entrance to Charleston Harbor. Here, Confederate forces under the command of Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard discharged the opening shots of the Civil War on April 12, 1861. The Confederates blitzed the stronghold for 34 straight hours until the Union surrendered it; when it was regained 4 years later, its 50-foot-tall, 5-foot-thick brick barriers had basically been reduced to smithereens.
- Find out how long you can keep the credit card holstered when you're browsing the upscale shops, local restaurants and other fun things to do between Broad and Spring streets on **King Street**, Charleston's premier downtown shopping destination.



- Befriend a green moray eel at the  **South Carolina Aquarium** (100 Aquarium Wharf). It's one of the few fish on the planet that can swim both forward and backward.
- Trace Charleston's cultural development at  **The Gibbes Museum of Art** (135 Meeting St.) as you admire paintings, photographs and sculpture representative of the Colonial, Charleston Renaissance and Contemporary periods.
- Dare to delve into the city's sinister, scandalous and supernatural side on a ghost tour, one of the delightfully darker things to do offered by **Bulldog Tours, Old Charleston Walking Tours or Tour Charleston LLC** (see *Sightseeing* p. 46).

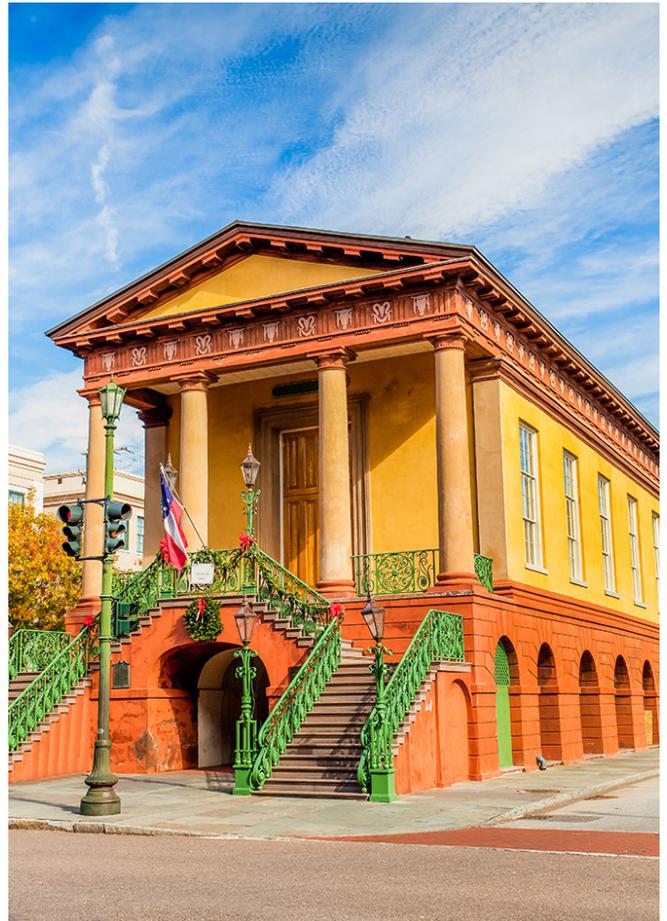
Charleston 1-day Itinerary

AAA editors suggest these activities for a great short vacation experience. Those staying in the area for a longer visit can access a 3-day itinerary at AAA.com/TripCanvas.

- Sip a cup of joe and munch on a chocolate-stuffed croissant or jam-slathered baguette at **Gaulart & Malicet Cafe Restaurant** (98 Broad St.). Not a morning person? This lively bistro, dubbed "Fast and French" by locals, will give you that zing you're looking for. Don't fret over the carbs—you'll burn off every last *petit déjeuner* calorie during the trek you're about to make through The Battery.
- The intersection of Broad and Meeting streets, a block east, is known as The Four Corners of Law—buildings on each corner symbolize religious, federal, state and municipal law. Be awed by the stunning stained glass windows, embellished interior and 186-foot-tall steeple of  **St. Michael's Church** (71 Broad St.), on the southeast corner. Take a seat in pew No. 43, "The Governor's Pew," and fix your eyes on the lofty pulpit—this is the same view President George Washington and Gen. Robert E. Lee had when they worshipped here centuries ago.
- You'll pass a number of eye-catching historic homes as you head east on St. Michael's Alley, south on Church Street, southeast on Water Street, south on E. Battery Street and then west on S. Battery Street. Stop and snap some photos (or—if you have the time—take a guided tour) of the grandiose  **Heyward-Washington House** (87 Church St.) or the  **Edmondston-Alston House** (21 E. Battery St.); both allow a glimpse into the past lives of Charleston's most prominent residents. The former dates to 1772 and was named for George Washington, who visited in 1791. Built circa 1825, the latter boasts verandas that afford striking views of the

harbor.

- Pass by 35-room Italianate  **Williams Mansion** (16 Meeting St.). Do you feel an odd sense of familiarity as you glimpse what reputedly is Charleston's largest residence? If so, it's probably because you've seen the television miniseries "North and South" or the movie "The Notebook"—parts of both were filmed here. (**Note:** Tours are suspended at press time; phone ahead.)
- As you make your way north on Meeting Street, whip out the camera once again to capture the stately Federal-style  **Nathaniel Russell House** (51 Meeting St.). Bordered by lush gardens, the 1808 townhouse is best known for its self-supporting mahogany staircase that spirals up three levels.
- Now that you've managed to work *off* your breakfast and work *up* a lunch appetite, treat your taste buds to



Charleston City Market / © iStockphoto.com / Pgiam



Lowcountry cuisine at **82 Queen Restaurant** (82 Queen St.). Unwind inside this restored late 1600s house; or if it's a particularly nice day, soak in the flavors, sights and scents of the South in the garden courtyard. Keep things scrumptiously simple by pairing a cup of she-crab soup with a sandwich, or kick it up a notch with the barbecued shrimp and grits or the jambalaya.

- You'll want to take a piece of Charleston home with you, so head over to North and South Market streets for souvenir browsing at bustling **Charleston City Market** (188 Meeting St.). From handwoven baskets (observing the so-called "basket ladies" at work can be mesmerizing) to touristy tees to Southern spices, there's something within the arts-and-crafts stalls and charming boutiques for everyone.
- There's no better way to spend dinnertime in Charleston than to be wined, dined and entertained at one of downtown's finest restaurants (bear in mind that booking early at *any* downtown hot spot is always a good idea). As you sway to the tunes of a live jazz ensemble, choose from four categories—Pure, Lush, Southern and Cosmopolitan—of ever-changing dishes (think caviar, lobster, tenderloin) and more than 1,300 wines at the chic but comfy **Charleston Grill** (at 224 King St. in **The Charleston Place** hotel). Just so you know, skipping dessert is out of the question, thanks to the dangerously delectable offerings like rice pudding fritters and honey ginger cake.

Top Picks for Kids

Under 13

- Geared toward kids ages 10 and under, the **Children's Museum of the Lowcountry** (25 Ann St.) features several galleries full of fun and engaging exhibits. At this exciting family destination, youngsters can create masterpieces in The Art Room or fill a cart with faux produce in a play market.
- The  **South Carolina Aquarium** (100 Aquarium Wharf) is probably best suited for grade-schoolers, though, in our opinion, you're never too old for a staring contest with a nurse or sand tiger shark, especially when you're on vacation. Pint-size visitors will love being able to handle sea creatures like horseshoe crabs and sea urchins at the Touch Tank area. The centerpiece of the waterfront attraction—the two-story, 385,000-gallon Great Ocean Tank—is teeming with several species of fish and also houses green moray eels and a loggerhead sea turtle named Caretta.
- Running alongside the Cooper River, **Waterfront Park** (1 Vendue) is one of the city's loveliest urban

greenspaces. Pack a picnic basket with food from one of the many local restaurants or just relax and take in the parade of sailboats and ships navigating Charleston Harbor. Besides plenty of grass for kids to run around on, the 12-acre park boasts two fountains, one of which is inspired by—a *pineapple!* Wading is permitted in both fountains.

- A **water taxi** is an enjoyable way to travel locally. Consider a side trip to **Mount Pleasant**, which is across the Cooper River from downtown Charleston. During the quick trip, the 'rents can take in views of the cable-stayed Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge while the brood keeps on the lookout for playful dolphins. Alternatively, the family can take a round trip with Daniel Island Ferry from Waterfront Park to Daniel Island Dock, 101 River Landing Dr., at The Waterfront.



Waterfront Park / © iStockphoto.com / DaveAlan



Teens

- Most teens will want to pick up a few vacation keepsakes from your trip before heading home. In this town, the best place to shop for distinctive souvenirs and handcrafted merchandise is the historic **Charleston City Market** (188 Meeting St.), where vendors sell everything from charm bracelets to hand-painted iPhone cases.
- Alternatively, take an afternoon **horse-drawn carriage ride** through downtown. Some operators are **Charleston Carriage Works** (20 Anson St.), **Old South Carriage Co.** (14 Anson St.) and **Palmetto Carriage Works** (8 Guignard St.).
- One of the most fun things to do with teenagers is a **ghost tour** of Charleston, the oldest city in South Carolina. Paranormal experiences abound at local institutions like **Poogan's Porch** (72 Queen St.), an elegant Lowcountry restaurant said to be haunted by a spinster schoolteacher, and the phantom-friendly **Dock Street Theatre** (135 Church St.). Several tour companies operate in the vicinity.

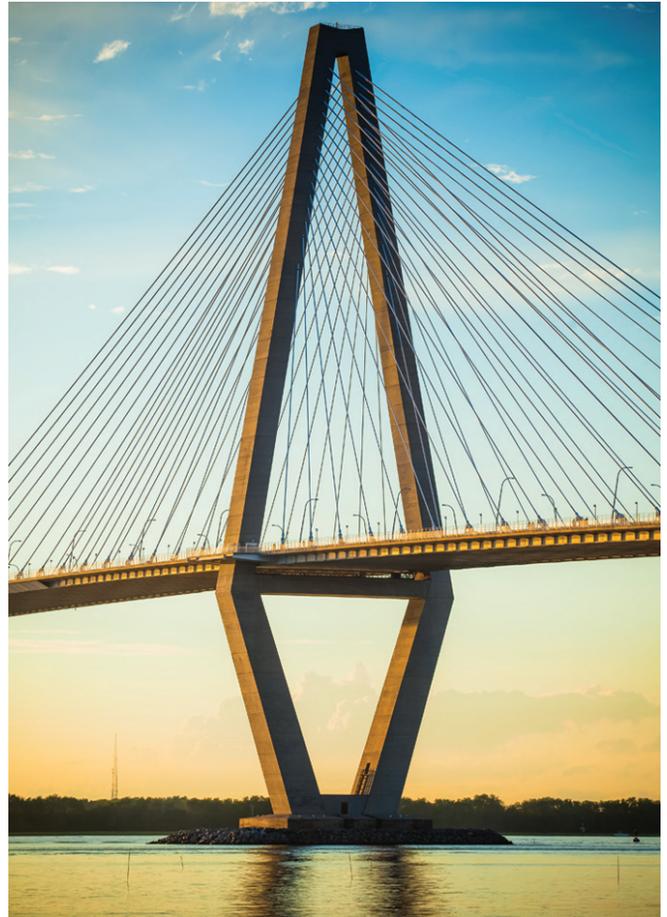
All Ages

- It's probably a no-brainer, but when you travel with a mix of toddlers, tweens and teenagers, hit **the beach!** Enjoy a leisurely day of sand castle art and water play on Isle of Palms, a 7-mile-long barrier island less than 15 miles east of Charleston. Or, get some sun at top-rated Beachwalker Park (8 Beachwalker Dr. on Kiawah Island).
- There's a little something for everyone at **Magnolia Plantation and Gardens** (3550 Ashley River Rd.). In addition to themed gardens and historic structures, the 500-acre estate boasts bicycle trails as well as various guided tour options, such as boat and train tours.
- Are you searching for some educational things to do on a trip? At **Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum** (40 Patriots Point Rd. in Mount Pleasant), the main draw is the USS *Yorktown*; built during World War II, the 872-foot-long aircraft carrier draws young military buffs with interactive displays, weapons and vintage war planes.
- Nearby **Mount Pleasant Memorial Waterfront Park**, 99 Harry Hallman Blvd., offers a playground, sculptures along paths and a pier, containing a café and gift shop along its 1,250-foot stretch. On a pleasant evening, it's where to enjoy a view of Charleston Harbor.

Arriving

By Car

The major approach from the north and south is US 17, which angles into the city proper over the Arthur Ravenel



Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge / © iStockphoto.com / halbergman

Jr. Bridge from the north and the Ashley River bridges from the south. US 17 cuts directly across the heart of Charleston and provides easy access to all parts of the city. US 17 links with I-526 to bypass the city.

I-26 approaches from the west, terminating at US 17 near the center of Charleston. It provides a link with several important routes, including I-95, another major north-south highway.

SR 61 is a scenic approach paralleling the Ashley River on the west and giving access to several historic plantations. Other important approaches include US 52, which parallels I-26 immediately west of Charleston; SR 41, which traverses the Lowcountry to the north and terminates at US 17 northeast of the city; and US 701, also from the north, which merges with US 17 and terminates in Charleston.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Getting Around

Street System

Crowded as they are onto a narrow peninsula, most Charleston streets are parallel or perpendicular, and many are narrow or one-way. While a rough grid is evident, the angle of the grid shifts along the dividing line of Beaufain and Hasell streets in the lower part of town.

Several major north-south streets traverse the city. King Street (US 78), one-way heading south below Calhoun Street, and Meeting Street (US 52), a two-way street one block east, run through downtown and the historic districts. E. Bay Street (US 52A) branches off from Meeting Street in the north and winds down the east side, becoming E. Battery Street and then Murray Boulevard as it swings around The Battery. Ashley and Rutledge avenues, a block apart and going one way north and south

respectively, connect with the western end of Murray Boulevard.

Major east-west streets that cross all of the above thoroughfares south of the US 17 artery include Calhoun and Broad streets, both going two ways, and Tradd Street, one way eastbound. The speed limit is 30 mph unless otherwise posted.

Unless otherwise posted, a right turn on red and a left turn from a one-way street onto a one-way street are permitted after a complete stop.

Parking

Metered parking can be found on downtown streets, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Downtown meters also accommodate SmartCards, available for purchase from the Charleston Visitor Center at 375 Meeting St. or the Revenue Collections Parking Division office at 180 Lockwood Blvd. SmartCards serve as an alternate form of payment for parking meters. Patrons pay a one-time fee of \$5 for the card and can then purchase and charge meter time onto the card. After-hours metered spaces are free as well as on Sundays and official city holidays. Parking garages also are available throughout the area. Parking fees are \$2 per hour (the maximum daily fee is \$18) and may be paid in cash or with a credit card.

Shopping

Charleston delights with its intriguing mix of open-air markets and charming boutiques. Shoppers will not go home empty-handed from a trip, and that proudly acquired antique or sweetgrass basket will likely be a conversation piece for years to come.

Meeting Street, above Broad Street, offers a few fun places to go that shoppers should definitely peek into. This is where you will find **The Shops of Historic Charleston Foundation** (108 Meeting St.), which tantalizes souvenir seekers with books on the city's culture and architecture, high-quality reproduction mahogany furnishings, jewelry or even a historically accurate paint color featured in a 19th-century property.

But, most importantly, Meeting Street leads to a shopping destination that has been satisfying retail whims since the early 1800s, the **Charleston City Market**. Touristy yet fun, this colorful cornucopia of open-sided buildings, boutiques and craft booths was deeded to the city by the owners, who stipulated that it always must remain a public market. The Greek Revival-style **Market Hall** serves as the proud centerpiece, with an enormous portico and stately columns—vendors are tucked within open-air “sheds” at the hall's rear. This is a fantastic place to shop for spices and other local food items as well as arts and crafts, jewelry and clothing. Gullah women, locally referred to as “basket ladies,” present beautiful yet



Antique Row / © iStockphoto.com / LeeTorrens



functional Lowcountry creations expertly woven by hand, a skill passed down by their antebellum-era descendants—you can observe them busily weaving.

If you're after a more elegant, refined things to do, head to small yet upscale **The Shops at Charleston Place** (205 Meeting St.), where upper-crust retailers like Gucci and Louis Vuitton hold court alongside mid-range options.

The renovated cotton warehouses on **East Bay Street**, bordering the waterfront at the market's east end between Market and Broad streets, hold many treasures ripe for exploration. Along this stretch of East Bay you'll also encounter local restaurants and numerous art galleries. One of these art galleries, W. Andre Allen Contemporary Art Gallery, notes on a sign that art appreciation is free but warns "the products contained inside...cause excitement, joy and happiness."

As you stroll along **Church Street** south of the Charleston City Market during your vacation, you'll be immersed in French Quarter charm as you happen across a hodgepodge of stores sporting trendy clothing, collectibles and knickknacks. On Church south of Broad, a little off the beaten path, look for eclectic galleries and shops scattered here and there, including those nestled in **Cabbage Row/Catfish Row** (89-91 Church St.). The section of Broad Street in the historic area also houses some high-end galleries and worthy retailers.

When it comes to retail mania, **King Street** packs a diverse punch—it's everything a downtown shopping area ought to be, with exquisite home furnishings, all the best-loved chains and a mini antique district. **Upper King Street**, roughly from Marion Square to Mary Street, is considered a design district of sorts, with shops touting cutting-edge furniture, home decor and funky jewelry; fashionable places to eat and happening nightspots lend a bohemian feel to the scene.

The area of King Street extending down to Broad is known as **Lower King Street**, a target-rich environment inhabited by hip boutiques, art galleries and locally owned specialty stores sandwiched between popular chains. Antique hounds may discover a showpiece they can't live without along **Antique Row**, the portion of Lower King between Beaufain and Queen streets. A standout is **Geo. C. Birlant & Co.** (191 King St.), purveyor of English antiques and crafter of the reproduction benches lining the Charleston Battery.

By no means are antique finds restricted to the area along Lower King Street. As you might guess, individual dealers dot the Charleston map in numbers too numerous to list. Those willing to travel outside the historic district should consider visiting **17 South Antiques** (4 Avondale Ave.). You'll have a good time roaming through



Lowcountry Oyster Festival / © iStockphoto.com / Stieglitz

Charleston Auction House (311 Huger St.), where undiscovered trinkets may await those willing to roll up their sleeves and dig a little.

If you'd like to wander through a mall, the Charleston vicinity has a few to choose from. **Citadel Mall** (2070 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.) and **Northwoods Mall** (2150 Northwoods Blvd. in North Charleston) both house the usual assortment of specialty retailers. Neighboring Mount Pleasant offers **Mount Pleasant Towne Centre** (1218 Belk Dr.), where a medley of shops resides in a picturesque village. Bargain hunters might choose to explore **Tanger Outlet Center** (4840 Tanger Outlet Blvd. in North Charleston), for savings on designer fashions, sporting goods and more.

Nightlife

Planning to enjoy the nightlife during vacation? Folks in Charleston like to live it up, but they also appreciate



laid-back casual spots where they can sip a libation and chat with friends. Nighttime entertainment options are mainly concentrated in the **downtown historic district**, and they run the gamut from live music venues to refined restaurant bars to cozy little neighborhood pubs. Clubs providing entertainment may include cover charges; to avoid surprises, phone ahead and confirm prices, opening hours, scheduled acts and dress codes.

Those in search of live music can find fun things to do at the **Music Farm**, 32 Ann St. This revamped train station hosts a variety of musical styles, so you might encounter college kids or a 30 to 40ish crowd depending on the talent, which can range from alternative to country; phone (843) 577-6969. There's nothing like a healthy dose of Irish tunes to get your adrenaline going, and families, couples—you name it—all join in the merriment and sing along at **Tommy Condon's Irish Pub**, 160 Church St., (843) 577-3818. While you're at it, order up an authentic Irish coffee or ale.

Whether flying solo on a trip or looking for romantic things for couples to do, jazz enthusiasts in the know head to the upscale yet casually comfortable lounge at the **Charleston Grill** on King Street. It's a special place to have a cocktail and relish the sounds of the restaurant's talented performers; phone (843) 577-4522.

Charlestonians enjoy lingering over an inventive cocktail and socializing in classy lounges and local restaurants. **First Shot Lounge**, tucked inside Meeting Street's The Mills House Charleston, Curio Collection by Hilton, is named for the first shot fired during the Civil War. Touches like a grand piano and a view of the pretty courtyard contribute to an aura of understated Southern elegance; phone (843) 577-2400. At the swanky **Peninsula Grill Champagne Bar**, adjacent to the Planters Inn on Market Street, mostly middle-aged connoisseurs of bubbly indulge in intriguing appetizers along with their Dom Pérignon or other champagnes by the glass or bottle; phone (843) 723-0700. For an inspiring view of Charleston Harbor and the historic district—or to catch a glorious sunset—head up to **The Rooftop**, a cocktail bar at The Vendue (19 Vendue Range St.) offering live music, decent bar food and an affable wait staff to boot. Phone (843) 577-7970.

Plenty of laid-back digs entice those seeking more casual things to do in Charleston. A hodgepodge of locals, tourists and young professionals throw darts, watch their favorite sports teams on the tube, and order up brews and pub grub at **The Griffon**, a friendly neighborhood English-style tavern at 18 Vendue Range; phone (843) 723-1700.

Big Events

Food festivals centered on local cuisine are a universal favorite. **Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens** in Mount

Pleasant makes a lovely backdrop for one of the area's most anticipated annual foodie events. The **Lowcountry Oyster Festival** takes place in late January (imagine all-you-can-eat bivalves by the bucket served with cocktail sauce and crackers). In early March, sample the city's best at the **Charleston Wine + Food Festival**, where chefs from local restaurants, caterers, and food and wine enthusiasts gather; more than 100 demonstrations take place in the Culinary Village in **Marion Square**. Beer, cocktails, spirits and food also are showcased at dining events and seminars throughout Charleston. Oysters make a comeback in March at the **Shuckin' in the Park Oyster Roast** held at **Old Santee Canal Park** in Moncks Corner.

Since 1983, one of the nation's premier wildlife art shows has called Charleston home. Art celebrates nature at the **Southeastern Wildlife Exposition**, held annually on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday preceding Presidents Day. Preservation and conservation are the underlying themes of this 3-day event featuring paintings, drawings, photography and carvings by renowned wildlife artists. Falcon flights and canine retriever demonstrations, live animal shows, wildlife exhibits and educational programs covering topics of global interest are additional offerings.

For more than a month beginning in mid-March, Charlestonians demonstrate the true meaning of Southern hospitality as they open the doors of their gracious homes to the public during the **Festival of Houses and Gardens**, one of the many fun things to do in Charleston. Sponsored by the Historic Charleston Foundation, the tours coincide with the annual spring color explosion and feature some 150 homes and gardens. **The Fall Tours**, a series of evening walks hosted by the Preservation Society of Charleston, offers another opportunity to peek inside private residences. Held in October, this event introduces participants to homes with significant architecture, interesting history and lovely gated gardens in various historic neighborhoods.

In late April, shrimp boats parade one-by-one past clergy to receive a sprinkling of holy water during the annual **Blessing of the Fleet and Seafood Festival** in Mount Pleasant. Festivities honoring the shrimping industry kick off with live entertainment, maritime exhibits, and an arts and crafts show; attendees also won't have to worry about where to eat with shrimp-eating contests and a bountiful sampler of seafood dishes prepared by local restaurants.

From late May through early June, **Spoletto Festival USA** fills Charleston's historic theaters, churches and outdoor spaces with more than 135 performances by world-renowned artists and emerging performers in opera, theater, dance, chamber, symphonic, choral, bluegrass and jazz music. **Piccolo Spoleto Festival**, which runs



concurrently with Spoleto Festival USA, offers many of the same fun things to do but focuses on talent from the southeastern United States. **North Charleston Arts Festival** salutes the visual and performing arts in early May with exhibits of fine art, photography, sculpture; a full lineup of concerts and musical performances; a gem and mineral show; and arts and crafts.

MOJA Arts Festival, from late September to early October, celebrates the rich contributions of the African American and Caribbean cultures through visual arts, gospel, music, poetry, storytelling, food and much more. The Swahili word “moja” means one, an appropriate name for a festival promoting harmony among the Low-country’s diverse population. Gullah singers, dancers, musicians, folklorists, artists and historians celebrate their African heritage during the **Sweetgrass Cultural Arts Festival**, held in Mount Pleasant in early June.

The **Holiday Parade of Boats** takes place in **Charleston Harbor** in early December. **Holiday Festival of Lights**, starting in early November and running through New Year’s Day, turns **James Island County Park** into a sparkling wonderland; travel the 3-mile route in your car or ride a train. On the first day of the Christmas season, the mayor lights the tree, and a month of festivities begins. On the second day of—you get the idea. The lineup of holiday citywide events truly is something to sing about. Included are hospitality tours, parades, concerts, pageants, plays, wine galas, and the list goes on and on. Charleston in its holiday finery owes a debt of gratitude to native son Joel Poinsett, who, while acting as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico in the early 1800s, imported the first poinsettia plants to this country on his return trip to Charleston.

Sports & Rec

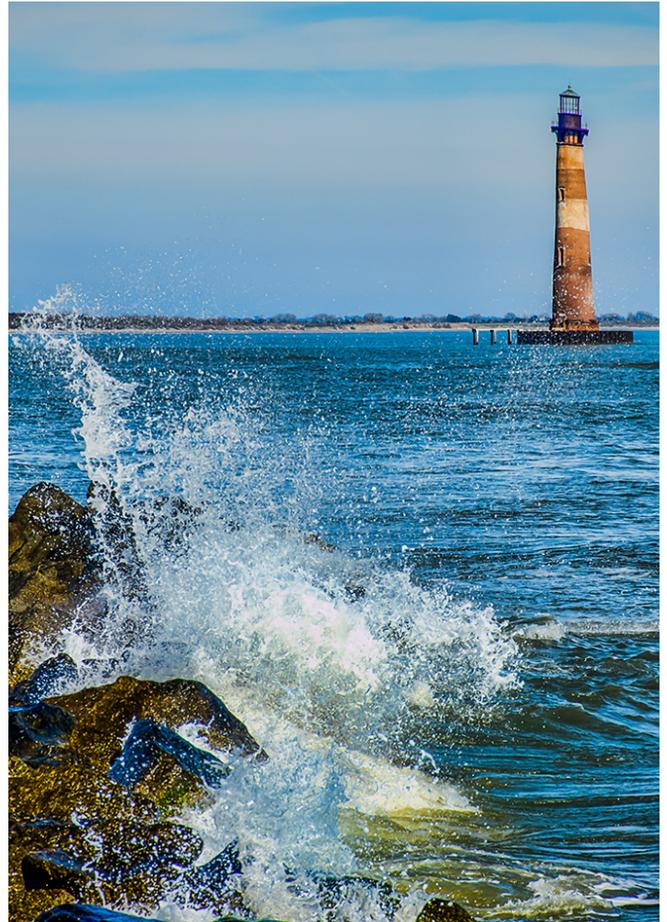
While recreational facilities within the historic district of Charleston are limited, the surrounding area offers ample choices for the outdoors enthusiast. Nearby state and county parks and the **Francis Marion National Forest** (see *place listing p. 91*) provide a variety of activities such as **picnicking, boating and hiking** and are only a few minutes’ to an hour’s drive away. **Camping** is permitted at Francis Marion National Forest, **Givhans Ferry and Edisto Beach state parks**, and **James Island County Park** (see *Recreation Areas Chart*).

The barrier islands that line the coast are the focus of much of Charleston’s recreational activity. Once favored as a summer retreat from the threat of yellow fever, many of these islands now sport major resorts. **Isle of Palms** and **Sullivan’s Island**, east of Charleston, and **Edisto Island, Folly Island** and **Kiawah Island**, south of the city, all have fine beaches for **swimming, sailing and surfing**.

The area is popular for both **freshwater and saltwater fishing** as well as **crabbing**. Some of the best fishing is in estuarine creeks. Surf fishing is permitted on many beaches. For information about fishing regulations contact the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources’ Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries office; phone (803) 734-3886.

Golf can be played at a number of 18-hole courses: **Charleston Municipal Golf Course**, (843) 795-6517, and **Shadowmoss Golf & Country Club**, (843) 212-7316, in Charleston; **Turtle Point Golf Course**, (800) 576-1570, on Kiawah Island; **Patriots Point Links**, (843) 881-0042, in Mount Pleasant; and **Wild Dunes**, (843) 886-2164, on Isle of Palms.

Baseball fans can watch the New York Yankees’ minor league team, the **Charleston RiverDogs**, in action at **Joseph P. Riley Jr. Park**, 360 Fishburne St.; phone (843)



Folly Island / © iStockphoto.com / gatorin3c



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577-3647. Charleston also is home to the **Charleston Battery soccer** team, a USL PRO team that plays at **MUSC Health Stadium**, 1990 Daniel Island Dr.; phone (843) 971-4625.

For a quiet stroll in an urban setting, Charleston has several city parks, including **White Point Garden** on The Battery, **Waterfront Park** along the Cooper River, and **Colonial Lake** at Broad and Rutledge streets. Many of the parks have trails for **bicycling**. Rentals are available at **The Bicycle Shoppe** at 280 Meeting St.; phone (843) 722-8168.

Performing Arts

Charleston's cultural heritage goes back a long way, and consequently there are many fun things to do during a trip to this vibrant destination. By the late 1730s the city had a music society and the **Dock Street Theatre**, said to be the first building in the Colonies designed solely for theatrical performances. Today **Charleston Stage** performs at Dock Street Theatre (see attraction listing p. 41) at Church and Queen streets, and there are good nearby restaurants if you're wondering where to eat before a show.

Inspired by Europe's great opera houses, the **Gaillard Center**, 95 Calhoun St., features an orchestra level, three balcony tiers and box seats; phone (843) 724-5212 to see if there's a performance during your vacation. The **Charleston Symphony Orchestra** performs here; phone (843) 723-7528. The 2,300-seat **Performing Arts Center** in the **Charleston Area Convention Center** complex, 5001 Coliseum Dr. in North Charleston, offers concerts and a variety of theatrical productions with a decent selection of local restaurants nearby if you're looking for places to eat beforehand; phone (843) 202-2787.

INSIDER INFO:

Charleston Heritage Passport

Charleston Heritage Passport offers savings to those who plan to travel to several of Charleston's historic and cultural attractions during a vacation. Valid for 7 days from purchase, the passport covers the price of admission to eight fun places to go: Aiken-Rhett House, Charleston Museum, Drayton Hall, Edmondston-Alston House, The Gibbes Museum of Art, Heyward-Washington House, Joseph Manigault House, Middleton Place (gardens and stable yard only) and Nathaniel Russell House.

The passport may not be combined with any other discount at a destination and is not valid for admission during special events.

If you're interested in using this method to check items off your list of things to do, you can purchase the passport at the Charleston Visitor Center, 375 Meeting St., for \$72.95. A 3-day pass is available for \$62.95, and a 2-day

pass is available for \$52.95. For more information phone (843) 853-8000 or (800) 774-0006.



Explore Things To Do,
visit AAA.com/tripcanvas

THE BATTERY is at 1 E. Battery St. on Battery Point at the waterfront. The East, or High Battery, faces the Cooper River and Charleston Harbor, where some of the settlement's earliest fortifications were. White Point Garden, planted with palmettos and live oaks, contains cannons, war relics and a monument to the defenders of Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter. Many walking, motorized and carriage tours include The Battery on their itineraries. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 853-8000 for the Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

CHARLESTON MUSEUM, 360 Meeting St. at jct. John St., was established in 1773 and, although housed in a modern facility, is considered the nation's oldest museum. Focusing on Charleston and the Lowcountry, the museum houses displays about natural history, archeology, ornithology, decorative arts and cultural history. A children's room contains interactive exhibits and activities. A replica of *H.L. Hunley* is displayed outside the museum. The Joseph Manigault and Heyward-Washington houses (see attraction listings) are museum sites as well.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-2996.



CHARLES TOWNE LANDING STATE HISTORIC SITE is just n. of jct. SRs 61 and 171 at 1500 Old Towne Rd. (SR 171). The 1670 site of the state's first permanent English settlement is part of a 664-acre park in which early earthworks and a palisade have been reconstructed. Visitors can see a Native American ceremonial center; an African American graveyard; a replica of a 17th-century trading vessel and of a servant's living quarters; and a crop garden containing cotton, sugar cane and other cash crops.

The park's archeological digs and cannon firings are fun to watch. Interactive exhibits in the visitor center and museum showcase settlement life and the establishment of the new colony.

The grounds offer 7 miles of trails and boardwalks. Two of the trails are paved. The History Trail features an accompanying self-guiding audio tour. Visitors can walk the Animal Forest Trail to view animal species known to the first settlers; on-site are black bears, bison, deer, otters,



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

puma, bobcats and a red wolf. Waring's Garden Trail includes azaleas, camellias and live oaks; the route allows a peek at the 1840s Legare-Waring house, which is only open for group events. The remaining trails are unpaved and bicycling is permitted.

Pets on a leash are permitted except for in the Animal Forest area. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 852-4200.   

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF THE LOWCOUNTRY is at 25 Ann St. between Meeting and King sts. Designed for children under age 10 and their families, the museum houses several interactive exhibits, including a pirate ship, art room and a pretend market with groceries. Through hands-on experiences, the museum allows children to explore the arts, sciences and humanities. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 853-8962. 

THE CITADEL MUSEUM is on the third floor of Daniel Library at 171 Moultrie St., on the Citadel campus; the entrance is on the south side of the library building. Military, academic, social and athletic aspects of cadet life are featured through exhibits tracing the history of the college from 1842 to the present. Next to the library is Summerall Chapel, which was designed in the spirit of 14th-century Gothic architecture.

A cadet dress parade takes place on the campus most Fridays at 3:45 during the school year. **Phone:** (843) 953-6846.

 **DOCK STREET THEATRE**, 135 Church St. at jct. Queen St., opened in 1736. It is said to be America's first building designed for theatrical performances. At that time the theater's location was on Dock Street, but shortly after its opening the street name was changed to Queen Street. The building is believed to have been destroyed by fire in 1740.

The Planter's Hotel was built on the site in 1809 and was a rendezvous for the gentry; the drink Planter's Punch is said to have originated there. In the mid-1930s the hotel was remodeled into the new Dock Street Theatre as a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project.

Charleston Stage is the theater company in residence; frequent performances are staged in the theater and foyer. **Phone:** (843) 577-7183 for the box office, or (843) 577-5967 for Charleston Stage Company information.

 **EDMONDSTON-ALSTON HOUSE** overlooks Charleston Harbor at 21 E. Battery St. The house was built in the late Federal style about 1825 by Charles Edmondston, a wealthy merchant. After losing much of his fortune during the Great Panic of 1837, Edmondston sold the house in 1838 to Charles Alston.



Dock Street Theatre / © flickr / CC0 / Warren LeMay

Charles Alston made additions, including a third-floor piazza and a rooftop parapet, to transform the house into the Greek Revival style. The house is furnished with Alston family possessions, including books, documents, portraits, engravings, furniture, silver and porcelain. It also contains elaborate and unconventional woodwork.

Two Confederate generals visited the house in 1861: Gen. P.T. Beauregard witnessed Fort Sumter's bombardment from here on April 12 and Gen. Robert E. Lee boarded on Dec. 11 when a fire threatened his hotel.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-7171. 

FORT MOULTRIE—see Fort Sumter National Monument p. 91.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.



THE GIBBES MUSEUM OF ART, 135 Meeting St., houses one of the foremost collections of American art from the 18th century to the present. The museum is recognized among the oldest art organizations in the U.S. and includes more than 10,000 works in its permanent collection. The region's rich cultural heritage is depicted through paintings, sculpture, engravings, photographs, miniature portraits and other art objects. Artists represented throughout the museum include Jonathan Green, Childe Hassam, Alfred Hutton, Henrietta Johnston, Alice Ravenel Huger Smith, Thomas Sully, Anna Heyward Taylor and Benjamin West.

The Gibbes hosts annual special exhibitions that connect Charleston to the wider world of artists and museums. The museum also regularly presents lectures, events and classes.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-2706. **GT**



HEYWARD-WASHINGTON HOUSE is at 87 Church St. The 1772 Georgian-style brick house was built by prominent rice planter Daniel Heyward for his son Thomas Heyward Jr., an artillery officer in South Carolina's militia during the American Revolution and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The house was also named for George Washington, who was a guest during his visit to Charleston in May 1791.

Most of the furnishings are from Charleston. Guided house tours are offered. Guests may take self-guiding tours through the 1740s kitchen building and the gardens behind the main house. The formal garden showcases plants representative of those that would have been used in Charleston in the late 1700s.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-2996. **GT**



HUGUENOT CHURCH (French Protestant), 136 Church St., is the last remaining independent Huguenot church in the nation. The first church on the site was erected in 1687 and the second was built in 1800. The present Gothic Revival building was designed by local architect Edward Brickell White and completed in 1845; it includes buttresses, arched windows and decorative details typical of the architectural style. Atypical is the use of iron instead of carved stone for the detail work.

For 150 years services were conducted in French, but English is now used. A French liturgy service is held each year in the spring. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-4385. **GT**

JOSEPH MANIGAULT HOUSE, 350 Meeting St., was designed by Gabriel Manigault for his brother Joseph, a wealthy rice planter, and built in 1803. A notable house of

the Federal style, it has fine examples of furniture made in Charleston, England and France. Some of the rooms have been restored and showcase original color schemes. A grand staircase leads to the second floor and a hidden stairway connects the second and third floors.

Visitors can tour the gardens on their own. Interpretive signs designate the location of such outbuildings as slave quarters and the stable that no longer exist. Each December, the Garden Club of Charleston decorates the house with plant varieties that would have been found in the area in the early 1800s.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 722-2996. **GT**

KARPELES MANUSCRIPT MUSEUM, 68 Spring St., is housed in the large 1856 St. James Methodist Church, which was built in the Greek Revival style and modeled after the Temple of Jupiter in Rome. The building once served as a Confederate hospital and medical storehouse during the Civil War before the Union army attacked the city.

Displays of original historic documents representative of a variety of disciplines, including art, politics, religion and science, change every four months. Translations are provided for non-English works. There also is a permanent photography exhibit about the construction of the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 853-4651.

MACE BROWN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY is on the second floor of the School of Sciences and Mathematics Building at the College of Charleston, 202 Calhoun St. The museum's collection features fossils and skeletons of such creatures as a T-rex, cave bear, saber-toothed tiger and mastodon. A megalodon shark jaw also is on display. The fossils exhibited are primarily from South Carolina. College of Charleston student paleontologists serve as docents.

Parking can be challenging. Use public parking garages to avoid being towed from one of the residential streets. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 953-5589 or (843) 953-5592.



NATHANIEL RUSSELL HOUSE at 51 Meeting St., was completed in 1808 for Nathaniel Russell, a wealthy merchant. Set in a spacious garden, the house is a fine example of Federal architecture. Notable features include a freestanding staircase that spirals up three floors as well as oval drawing rooms and ornate interior detailing. Period furnishings include works by Charleston craftsmen. Colors and decorative features within the elaborate home have been restored to their early 19th-century splendor and reflect the Russells' lavish lifestyle.





Nathaniel Russell House / © flickr / CC BY SA / James Willamor

Information is provided about the enslaved African Americans who lived on the property and their daily lives, as well as Russell's involvement in the international slave trade.

In 1857 Gov. Robert Francis Withers Allston bought the house, which his family owned until 1869. The following year the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy purchased the house; these Catholic nuns ran a girls' school until 1901. The house belonged to the group until 1908, when a family moved into the home. Today, the Historic Charleston Foundation maintains the structure.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 723-1623. **GT**

THE OLD EXCHANGE AND PROVOST DUNGEON, 122 E. Bay St. at jct. Broad St., was built by the British in 1771

as the Royal Exchange and Customs House for the prosperous city of Charles Towne. It was in the Great Hall that South Carolina ratified the Constitution in 1788 and entertained President George Washington in 1791. In the cellar where the British imprisoned prominent Patriots during the American Revolution, costumed docents relate events important to early Charles Towne and the fledgling nation. Additional historical exhibits can be seen throughout other parts of the building.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 727-2165 or (888) 763-0448.

SAINT MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH is between Meeting and King sts. at 93 Hasell St. Established in 1789, this is reputed to be the oldest parish in the southeastern United States. The church, dating from 1839, contains religious paintings and stained glass windows. The graveyard is a treasury of Charleston's Catholic history. **Note:** Mass is celebrated Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. **Phone:** (843) 722-7696 or (843) 724-8395.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH is at 71 Broad St. at jct. Meeting St. Begun in 1751, St. Michael's was the second Anglican church in Charleston. Designed after the 1720s St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in London, it is considered a notable architectural achievement. Adorned with a Palladian Doric portico, the steeple rises 186 feet above the street. The clock in the tower has marked the time since 1764, but the minute hand wasn't added until 1849. President George Washington attended the church on May 8, 1791, and Gen. Robert E. Lee visited during the early 1860s.

The richly ornamental interior includes box pews and the original pulpit. The church office occupies the home once owned by William Ward Burrows, a first commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, and later by Thomas Hall, the city's first postmaster. An old cemetery on the grounds contains the graves of John Rutledge and Gen. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, both signers of the Constitution. The only parts of the church not open to visitors is the balcony and the steeple. **Note:** Phone ahead for guided tours by appointment. **Phone:** (843) 723-0603. **GT**



SOUTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM, 100 Aquarium Wharf, features observation decks with viewing scopes overlooking Charleston Harbor and the Cooper River. Free-flying birds inhabit the open-air aviary in the Mountain Forest Gallery, which includes indigenous plant life, river otters and stocked streams. The Piedmont Gallery explores the hill country's estuaries, reservoirs and aquatic species. The Saltmarsh Aviary features birds, diamondback terrapins, marine life and plants found in salt marsh tidal creeks.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Kids Coast is an interactive exhibit that simulates water filtration through hands-on activities. The Coast Gallery includes aquatic life that can be found in the city's harbor, and the Ocean Gallery's two-story, 385,000-gallon tank is home to hundreds of sea animals. Snakes, turtles, alligators, frogs and fish live in the waters of the Coastal Plain Gallery, and the Touch Tank exhibit is filled with sea stars, horseshoe crabs and small sharks.

In the Sea Turtle Care Center™, sick and injured sea turtles receive treatments and rehabilitative care; they are released back into the ocean once they are given a clean bill of health. Guests are invited to learn more about the sea turtle patients and their rehabilitative care through the hospital located on the first floor of the aquarium.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 577-3474 or (800) 722-6455.  

WARING HISTORICAL LIBRARY, 175 Ashley Ave. on the Medical University of South Carolina campus, contains a large collection of medical books, some of which date back to the 1500s. There are prints, photographs, oral histories and more than 1,000 medical artifacts in this 1894 building. **Time:** Allow 20 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 792-2288.

Macaulay Museum of Dental History is on Ashley Ave. on the Medical University of South Carolina campus, adjacent to the Waring Historical Library at 175 Ashley Ave. South Carolina's history of dentistry is portrayed through artifacts, including dental chairs, manual drills, x-ray equipment and sets of teeth and dentures. The museum highlights the evolution of dentistry with period office settings and exhibits about dental practice, education and professionalism.

Note: Visitors must check in at the Waring Historical Library before proceeding to the museum. **Time:** Allow 15 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 792-2288. 

 **WILLIAMS MANSION** is 1 blk. n. of The Battery at 16 Meeting St. The 35-room Italianate house was built in 1876 for businessman George Walton Williams. After his death in 1903, it was turned over to his daughter Sarah and her husband, Patrick Calhoun (grandson of Vice President John C. Calhoun), for whom the mansion was named until recently. The house has been used in filming various productions, including "The Notebook" and the television miniseries "North and South," which was based on author John Jakes' Civil War trilogy.

Thirty-minute tours include two of the three floors; visitors can view the rooms from the wide hallways as the guide describes their history and furnishings. The vast collections of antiques belong to the current owner and

are not original to the house but reflect the type of furnishings found in many Victorian mansions, especially those of the Gilded Age. There is American, Asian and European furniture from the 17th- through 19th centuries as well as international pieces of art from the 16th- through 19th centuries. Visitors can tour the Japanese koi and English gardens before and after the house tour.

A 90-minute grand tour, which includes the entire house, is available by appointment. **Note:** At time of publication the mansion was closed with no scheduled opening date; phone ahead for updates. **Phone:** (843) 722-8205. 

Gardens and Nearby Points of Interest



BOONE HALL PLANTATION & GARDENS—see Mount Pleasant p. 120.

DRAYTON HALL, 3380 Ashley River Rd., was founded in 1738 by John Drayton, a member of the Privy Council of the royal governor; the mansion remained in the family for seven generations. It is America's oldest unrestored plantation house open to the public and its earliest example of fully executed Palladian architecture. Never modernized with electric lighting, plumbing or central heating, the main house is unfurnished, allowing the beauty of the architectural details to become the focus for visitors.

The Steven and Laura Gates exhibit gallery, the Ben and Cindy Lenhardt Courtyard Garden, as well as the interactive program "Connections: From Africa to America," are included with a grounds and exhibits pass. Visitors can see an 18th-century African American cemetery, one of the oldest documented African American cemeteries in the nation still in use, and take a stroll along the historic grounds and nature walks at their own pace.

Note: The entrance gate closes at 3:30 and the exit gate closes at 5. **Phone:** (843) 769-2600.  



 **MAGNOLIA PLANTATION AND GARDENS** is at 3550 Ashley River Rd. (SR 61). This 500-acre estate was acquired in 1676 by the Drayton family, whose heirs still own and manage it. The informal 60-acre garden, one of America's oldest, dates from around 1680 and contains 900 varieties of camellias, 250 types of azaleas and hundreds of other flowering species that provide year-round color while complementing the natural beauty of the surroundings.

There is an orientation theater, and the grounds include a petting zoo; a pasture with miniature horses; a horticultural maze; bicycle and nature trails; and biblical, herb and tropical gardens. The 45-minute From Slavery to Freedom tour featuring restored slave cabins reflecting different eras throughout the plantation's history, from slavery to the Civil Rights Movement should be reserved at time of ticket purchase. For an additional fee visitors



can take the boat and tram tours, plantation house tours and self-guiding tours of Audubon Swamp Garden (*see attraction listings*).

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 571-1266.



Audubon Swamp Garden, at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens at 3550 Ashley River Rd. (SR 61), encompasses 60 acres of black-water cypress and tupelo swamp accessible by boardwalks, bridges and dikes, with opportunities for viewing waterfowl, alligators and other wildlife as well as hundreds of species of blooming plants.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 571-1266 or (800) 367-3517. **GT**

Magnolia Plantation House is at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens at 3550 Ashley River Rd. (SR 61). Built in the Greek Revival style, it depicts life since the Civil War. Displays include Early American antiques and rare botanical and ornithological prints and books. The present house is a combination of a pre-Revolutionary summer house that was disassembled and rebuilt on the charred brick foundation of a burned house and a late 19th-century addition.

Phone: (843) 571-1266 or (800) 367-3517. **GT**

Nature Boat is at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens at 3550 Ashley River Rd. (SR 61). The narrated pontoon boat ride through a 125-acre pre-Civil War rice field, now a waterfowl refuge, emphasizes Ashley River history and the rice culture. Wildlife can be seen during the 45-minute tour, and alligator sightings are common.

Phone: (843) 571-1266 or (800) 367-3517. **GT**

Nature Train is at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens at 3550 Ashley River Rd. (SR 61). The narrated 45-minute tour of the outskirts of the plantation and its wildlife refuges focuses on plantation and natural history. Alligator sightings are quite common.

Phone: (843) 571-1266 or (800) 367-3517. **GT**



MIDDLETON PLACE is on SR 61, 14 mi. n.w. of jct. US 17 at 4300 Ashley River Rd. The oldest landscaped gardens in America were begun in 1741 by Henry Middleton, later president of the First Continental Congress. The family's stewardship over Middleton Place has lasted nearly 300 years. Azaleas bloom in the spring, magnolias and roses in the early summer, crape myrtles and perennials through the summer and fall, and camellias during the winter.

Demonstrations of spinning, weaving, blacksmithing, pottery, corn grinding and cow milking are given in the Plantation Stableyards where interpreters practice the

trades skilled enslaved people would have performed in the 18th- and 19th centuries. African American life is interpreted on the Beyond the Fields Walking Tour, which visits a freedman's cabin, chapel and cemetery, among other stops throughout the plantation. A horse-drawn carriage tour and house tour are available for additional fees.

Phone: (843) 556-6020. **GT II**

Middleton Place House, on Middleton Place Plantation at 4300 Ashley River Rd., was built in 1755. The house originally served as a guest wing and plantation office, then became the Middleton family residence when the main house burned during the Civil War. It contains family furniture, paintings, books and silver. A silk copy of the Declaration of Independence was found among the personal mementos of Henry Middleton's son Arthur, a signer of the document.



Middleton Place / © iStockphoto.com / visionsofmaine



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Interior photography is not permitted. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 556-6020 or (800) 782-3608. **GT**

Sightseeing

Before sightseeing on Charleston vacation, park your car. Trying to negotiate the narrow streets while sightseeing is difficult, and your trip will be much more interesting if you move at a leisurely pace. So, follow one of the AAA Walking Tours or take a guided carriage, boat, bus, van or trolley tour.

A good place to begin your exploration is at the Charleston Visitor Center, 375 Meeting St. located in downtown Charleston in Deans Warehouse in the National Historic Landmark District. Self-guiding tour maps and brochures also are available.

Two of the most prominent features of this historic destination are the two major architectural styles: the double house and the single house. The front doors of the double house face the street, with one room to each side. The typical single house is only one room wide with the narrow gable end turned toward the street. To one side is a door that opens onto a porch, and gardens or courtyards are beside or behind the house.

No one knows why there are so many single houses in Charleston, but past speculation, which is now often discounted, claimed that the design might have been prompted by taxes levied according to how many feet of a house faced the street. Similar houses were built during the 18th- and early 19th centuries in New Orleans for this reason. The more likely explanation is that this design made the most of summer breezes and blocked the interior from the most intense sun during the day.

Visitors will see plenty of both as they travel about town.

Many of Charleston's old houses have solid shutters on the first floor windows and louvered shutters on the windows of the floors above. The solid shutters helped keep the noise and dirt from entering the early houses, which had walls that rose from the edge of the street.

A leisurely stroll should be on any list of things to do; perhaps the most common sight in Charleston is not a thing, but a color. Charleston green, such an extremely dark shade that it is almost black, is seen on everything from shutters to front doors to piazza trim. The color is said to have been devised during Reconstruction, when only black paint was available in quantity. Residents mixed in a small amount of yellow pigment and were able to use colored paint.

Boat Tours

SAVE **CHARLESTON HARBOR TOURS** departs from the Charleston Maritime Center at 10 Wharfside St. The 1.5-hour narrated sightseeing cruise aboard the 1920s-style steamer *Carolina Belle* includes such sights as the

Battery; the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge; forts Sumter, Moultrie and Johnson; port facilities; and many of Charleston's fine waterfront houses and churches.

Phone: (843) 722-1112, or (888) 224-5037 for reservations. **GT** **TI**

FORT SUMTER TOURS departs from 340 Concord St. at Liberty Square (next to South Carolina Aquarium) and from Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Mount Pleasant. The cruise consists of a 75-minute narrated tour of Charleston Harbor and a 1-hour tour of Fort Sumter National Monument (see *place attraction listing p. 91*). Interpretive exhibits are offered at the Fort Sumter Visitor Education Center in Liberty Square. National Park Service rangers are available at the fort to answer questions.

Note: The 3:30 tour from Patriots Point makes a brief stop at Liberty Square, after the fort tour, and lasts about 3 hours. **Phone:** (843) 722-2628 or (800) 789-3678. **GT**

SANDLAPPER WATER TOURS departs from the Charleston Maritime Center at 10 Wharfside St. Visitors can view the local wildlife and spend some time on the beach at a barrier island while on the 2-hour Nature tour. Stories about such past topics as wars, pirates, ships and seamen are shared on the 90-minute Haunted Harbor Ghost tour. Two-hour Sunset tours also are available.

Phone: (843) 849-8687. **GT** **TI**

Bus and Carriage Tours

Motorized tours cater to weekend visitors seeking a quick overview of city architecture, culture and history or to those with plenty of time to explore Charleston's surroundings and historic plantations.

Routes for horse-drawn carriage tours are selected randomly; therefore, each company cannot guarantee which sites will be included on any trip since the guide doesn't find out until right before the tour departs. Rest assured, you'll learn about all sorts of fun places to go so that you'll know what to do when you're exploring the city on your own.

ADVENTURE SIGHTSEEING TOURS departs from the Charleston Visitor Center at 375 Meeting St.; pickup from downtown lodgings is available. Various bus tours visit the city's major points of interest, including military sites, architectural landmarks, historic neighborhoods and gardens.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 762-0088 or (800) 722-5394. **GT**

CHARLESTON CARRIAGE WORKS, downtown between N. Market and Pinckney sts. at 20 Anson St., offers 1-hour narrated horse-drawn carriage rides through the



city's oldest residential district. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 779-1279. **GT**

GULLAH TOURS departs from the Charleston Visitor Center at 375 Meeting St. Tours aboard a 25-passenger bus take visitors by historic Charleston sites associated with African American history, including Cabbage Row/Catfish Row, the Old Slave Mart, Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, and places where the Underground Railroad was in operation. The tour guide shares lessons in the Gullah language.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. If traffic is heavy, tours can last 2 hours. **Phone:** (843) 763-7551. **GT**

OLD SOUTH CARRIAGE CO., 14 Anson St., offers 1-hour tours of some 30 blocks in historic Charleston in surrey carriages. **Phone:** (843) 723-9712. **GT**

PALMETTO CARRIAGE WORKS, departing from the red barn at 8 Guignard St., offers 1-hour mule-drawn and horse-drawn carriage excursions through historic Charleston. **Phone:** (843) 853-6125. **GT**

Guided Walking Tours

ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOURS OF CHARLESTON, departing from the Meeting Street Inn at 173 Meeting St., provides 2-hour guided tours. The 18th-century tour of the original walled city emphasizes Georgian architecture. The 19th-century tour of Meeting Street and The Battery features Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian architecture. Tours include private houses and gardens as well as some public buildings and churches. A 3-day "Georgian Weekend" tour also is available.

Phone: (843) 893-2327. **GT**

BULLDOG TOURS is at 18 Anson St. The 90-minute Charleston Ghost & Dungeon, the 90-minute Charleston Ghost & Graveyard and the 45-minute Haunted Jail walking tours explore the city's haunted history. The 90-minute Dark Side of Charleston walking tour includes historical narration of some of the city's dark and scandalous tales. Culinary tours also are offered.

Due to the content in the Dark Side of Charleston Tour, ages 0-18 are not permitted. The Haunted Jail tour departs from the jail, but tickets must be purchased from the tour office. **Phone:** (843) 722-8687. **GT**

CHARLESTON FOOTPRINTS departs from 108 Meeting St. at jct. Chalmers St. at the Historic Charleston Foundation gift shop. Informative 2-hour walking tours of the city are given by a Charleston native and cover roughly 16-18 blocks through The Battery, French Quarter, South of

Broad and historic districts. Sights along the route include historic architecture, alleys, churches, cemeteries, gardens, historic parks and monuments, and the guide offers personal anecdotes and insights into the city's colorful history. Private tours are available by appointment.

The tour route may vary. **Phone:** (843) 478-4718. **GT**

CHARLESTON HISTORY TOURS depart from Washington Square Park (behind City Hall at 80 Broad St.) and explore architecture, mansions, Rainbow Row, High Battery, mysterious graveyards, and colorful gardens and parks. Revolutionary and Civil War sites, secret passageways, cobblestone streets, slave culture and local traditions also are featured. Camera or smartphone? Photo tips are included.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 901-9283. **GT**

CHARLESTON PIRATE TOURS departs from various locations, depending on the tour; the Original Charleston Pirate Tour departs from The Powder Magazine at 79 Cumberland St. On the 2-hour-long Original Charleston Pirate Tour, a guide in period pirate attire highlights the city's connections to such swashbucklers as Blackbeard and Anne Bonny as he leads you through the historic French Quarter and the waterfront area on foot. A parrot named Capt. Bob accompanies your guide on most morning and afternoon tours (weather permitting). Other narrated tours, including the evening Pirate and Ghost Tour, daytime Ghost Tour, Charleston History Highlights Tour and Children's Treasure Hunt Tour, also are offered.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 442-7299. **GT**

SAVE CHARLESTON SOLE tours depart from behind The Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon at 122 E. Bay St. A Charleston native shares his knowledge and passion for the historic city. Sights along the route through the Walled City portion include The Old Exchange building, St. Michael's Church, Four Corners of Law, Rainbow Row, antebellum mansions, and The Battery along the waterfront. Topics for discussion include the city's battles, earthquakes, fires and residents.

Tours may last longer than 2 hours depending on crowd interaction. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 364-8272. **GT**

CHARLESTON STROLLS leaves from 115 Meeting St. (Mills House Charleston, Curio Collection by Hilton). Guided 2-hour walking tours of the historic district showcase Rainbow Row, Antebellum mansions, the waterfront Battery, and Revolutionary and Civil War sites. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 766-2080. **GT**



OLD CHARLESTON WALKING TOURS departs from 80 Broad St. in Washington Square Park. In addition to the 2-hour History and Homes walking tour offering an overview of the city, several other themed tours, including the Civil War & Slavery tour and evening ghost tours, are offered.

Many tours depart at the same time and from the same general location; verify you are in the correct group when you arrive. **Phone:** (843) 568-0473. **GT**

TOMMY DEW'S WALKING HISTORY TOUR departs from Market Hall at 188 Meeting St. at jct. Market St. The History Walk highlights architecture, gardens, graveyards and churches. **Time:** Allow 1 hour, 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 853-8687. **GT**

TOUR CHARLESTON LLC is at 160 King St.; guided tours depart from the headquarters located inside Buxton Books. The Ghosts of Charleston I tour features entertaining stories of spirits and explores the Unitarian Church graveyard. Charleston's deep cultural history is uncovered on the Lost Stories of Black Charleston tour. The Very Charleston tour explores the city's most unique aspects in culture and architecture. The Short History of Charleston tour tells the story of Charleston's role in American history from colonization through the Civil Rights Movement.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 723-1670. **GT**

AAA Walking Tours

Exploring Charleston on foot allows you to peek into hidden gardens and walk through churchyards and parks and along cobblestone streets. A city ordinance stating that nothing older than 75 years may be torn down has preserved a city full of meticulously restored buildings, churches and houses, each with its own tale. Plaques from the Preservation Society of Charleston attest to the year in which the owner restored the building to its original state as well as interesting facts about the property and past residents.

Each walking tour will take 2-3 hours, allowing for a leisurely pace and stops for photography and plaque reading. The best way to see the city is to combine the walking tours with stops at the attractions along the way. Names of sites listed in the Attractions section are printed in bold type. Even if you don't tour a listed site, reading the listing when you reach that point will make the tour more interesting.

The Battery

Park just north of Broad Street on Meeting Street, and walk a few steps south toward the intersection of Meeting

and Broad. This intersection is known as The Four Corners of Law—buildings on each corner represent municipal, state, federal and religious law. **City Hall**, said to be the second oldest in the country, is on your left on the northeast corner; the northwest corner is occupied by Charleston County Courthouse; the southwest corner houses the U.S. Post Office and Federal Court; and the large white church on the southeast corner is **St. Michael's Church**. The church has an interesting history: During the Revolutionary War, its steeple was used as a target for British ship gunners, and the lead roof was melted to make bullets. Enter the church to see the cedar pews—used by George Washington and Gen. Robert E. Lee—and read the tombstones in its churchyard, where you'll find the graves of John Rutledge and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, two signers of the Constitution.

In front of the post office and church you'll likely see ladies weaving and selling sweetgrass baskets. An African craft, basket making has been practiced throughout the Lowcountry since the 18th century; artisans use indigenous materials—sweetgrass, pine needles, bulrush and strips of palmetto-tree frond—to create the baskets.

Continue south on Meeting past St. Michael's Alley. On your left, the two-story building with the white columns is South Carolina Society Hall, which houses the fraternal and benevolent organization founded by French Huguenots in 1737. The Adamesque building was built in 1804; its portico, columns, dual staircase and iron filigreed railings were added in 1825. Glance up to see the Palladian window at the top of the portico.

To the right at 69 Meeting St. is the three-and-a-half story Adamesque Poyas-Mordecai House, built circa 1788. This is a good (albeit large) example of a single house—meaning that the house is a single room wide. Many Charleston houses were built in this style to make the most of bay breezes in summer. When the front and back doors or windows were open, the breeze would pass through the house and cool it. Note the front door, called a privacy door. It grants access to the porch (called a piazza by Charlestonians), rather than the main house, allowing residents to relax on the porch without interruption from neighbors. The main entrance is off the piazza. In summers past, piazzas served as outdoor living and sleeping spaces and would protect a house's interior from the most intense daytime sun. If the gate is open, peek into the manicured garden fronting the Poyas-Mordecai House's piazzas.

The large bolts on the side of the house are called earthquake bolts—you'll notice them on houses all over the historic district. Charleston sits on the Woodstock Fault in the Middleton Place-Summerville Seismic Zone, and on Aug. 31, 1886, the earth shook with an estimated magnitude of 7 (equivalent to 6 or 7 on today's Richter



scale). Two-thirds of the city's brick buildings were either damaged or destroyed. To save those with large cracks, long rods were inserted completely through the buildings and connected in the middle with a turnbuckle in order to draw the walls into a more upright position.

Walk past Ropemaker's Lane to Tradd Street. On the northwest corner of Tradd and Meeting is the 1750 Branford-Horry House, a fine example of a double house (two rooms wide). The piazza, built over the sidewalk, was added in 1830. Iron railings on the second floor have the same pattern as those at the South Carolina Society Hall.

Turn left and walk down Tradd, a street chock-full of historic properties, many with Preservation Society of Charleston markers. Now that you can recognize single and double houses, practice picking them out among the architectural gems here. Note the shutters; historically, first-floor shutters were solid in order to minimize noise, smells, dust and sunlight. The upper stories were equipped with louvered shutters to catch the refreshing breezes. The narrow lane, gas lamps and hidden gardens make Tradd—which runs the width of the peninsula—one of Charleston's prettiest streets. By looking to the west, you can see the Ashley River, while the Cooper River is visible to the east. The distance from river to river is approximately 1 mile.

When offered for sale in 1770, the advertisement for 61 Tradd St. boasted that it was “new built.” The single house at 60 Tradd St. was built in 1732 by shipbuilder George Ducat for his daughter and her new husband; he also built 56 Tradd St. (made of brick and Bermuda stone) and bequeathed it to his grandson in 1751. The three-and-a-half story brick house at 54 Tradd St. was built circa 1740; the balcony, rescued from a building on State Street, was added in the 1920s. Note the tenement at 51-53 Tradd St.

Take a quick detour onto Church Street by turning left. The three-story brick double house on your left at 87 Church St. is the **Heyward-Washington House**. Note the hitching posts and stone carriage step (which looks like a cement block) out front. A formal garden (behind the house) is impressive, and the interior features a mantel and four pieces of furniture attributed to Thomas Elfe, a Colonial cabinetmaker. Just a few steps farther, on your left at 89-91 Church St., is Cabbage Row—it's the three-story, gray stucco tenement. Residents gave the building its name by displaying vegetables for sale on the windowsills. You might wonder why a red “Catfish Row” sign dangles out front. In 1924, DuBose Heyward wrote the novel “Porgy,” using the tenement as a model for the fictional Catfish Row. The book served as the basis for George Gershwin's opera “Porgy and Bess.” If you can whistle, now might be a good time for a tune—“summertime, and the livin' is easy.”

Built in 1805 by a merchant, 92 Church St. has served as the rectory of St. Philip's Church since 1908. The middle window on the first level was originally a door; this indicates that it was once a business. (If you look, you'll easily find other houses on this block that were once businesses.) Also notice the boot scrapers in front. Colorful Victorian houses at 93-99 Church St. were built around 1906-07.

Retrace your steps to Tradd Street and continue south on Church Street. On your right at 71 Church St. is the Robert Brewton House. Built in 1721, it is reputedly the oldest single house in the city. Note the quoins (square cornerstones) projecting from the building; the wrought-iron balcony; the key blocks over the windows; and the cornice, which is made from shaped bricks. An 18th-century-style garden is in the rear.

Next door at 69 Church St. is the Richard Capers House, a notable Georgian double house that differs from others in this period because the windows on the third floor are the same height as those on the lower two stories. The house has had various owners and occupants dating from the mid-1700s, including Jacob Motte, who served for 27 years as the Public Treasurer (local banker). Since there were no banks at the time, the Public Treasurer personally held and distributed governmental funds. We assume he also kept busy with his 19 children. Peek into the garden to the left of the house.

A few steps ahead and across the street at 56, 58 and 60 Church St. are three wood frame houses known as the James Veree Houses, named after the local carpenter who built them. First Baptist Church, the large white building with wide columns and an iron fence, is on the right at 61 Church St. The church, dedicated in 1822, is said to be home to the oldest Baptist congregation in South Carolina and is decidedly Greek in style—note the Doric portico and pediment—yet the arches are Roman and the columns are Tuscan. During the Revolutionary War, the building was overtaken by British troops and used to store provisions.

Scared of ghosts? Then walk quickly past the early Georgian Thomas Rose House, 59 Church St.—the ghost of Dr. Joseph Brown Ladd, mortally wounded in a duel in 1786, is said to roam the halls. Continue to the Joseph Ball House, 53 Church St., where there is a great view of the two-story piazza.

Now walk a few steps to Water Street, named after Vanderhorst Creek, which once ran here but was filled after the American Revolution. Thus far along your tour, you have been exploring the section of Charleston known as the walled city. From 1690-1720 Charleston was enclosed to protect it from French, Spanish and Native American invaders as well as pirates. The walls extended from Cumberland to Water streets (north-south) and from East Bay



to Meeting streets (east-west). The earthen fortifications to the north, south and west were gradually dismantled beginning in the early 1730s, but the brick harbor wall was maintained until after the Revolution. However, an invisible boundary still exists: Most of the city's cobblestone streets and narrow alleys can be found within or very near the original walled city.

As you cross Water Street, look left (east) toward **The Battery** for a lovely view. Then continue south on Church Street. The second house on your right at 41 Church St. is the A.W. Todd House, built in 1909; notice the garage entrance through the base of the chimney. Next door is the George Eveleigh House, at 39 Church St., brick with white columns. When the home was built in 1743, the creek was present—the mooring posts in front of the house date from this time. The house itself has an asymmetrical floor plan, which is unusual for this time period, and was rumored to have a secret staircase. Its original lot extended to Meeting Street, where the owner also built 34 Meeting St.

Continue walking south along Church Street for one block to Atlantic Street, then turn left. More single houses line Atlantic. Peek down Zig Zag Alley (on your left). When you reach East Battery Street, cross the street and climb the stairs to the elevated walkway running along the water. You are now in the area known as the High Battery. In 1755, the earth wall was held together with sticks and topped with grass, and wooden platforms along the top supported guns. In 1787 work began to extend East Bay Street south to create East Battery Street (the use of cannons here during the War of 1812 is purported to have given East Battery its name). After improvements were made to the wall—for example, using ships' ballast instead of mud—a granite wall was completed in 1820. Building along East Battery was possible after the wall's completion—the majority of the mansions were constructed 1820-50.

The elevated walkway overlooks Charleston Harbor, where the first shot of the Civil War was fired April 12, 1861, at Fort Sumter. During the bombardment that ensued, only one house along East Battery Street was destroyed; it sat at the corner of Atlantic and East Battery streets (a large pink Victorian house occupies the property now). Stroll along the walkway, enjoying the breeze and the antebellum mansions. Notice the **Edmondston-Alston House**, (the fourth house from Atlantic at 21 E. Battery St.), built in 1825 by merchant Charles Edmondston. Greek Revival elements were added by Charles Alston after his father, William, purchased the house in 1838; the roof parapet displays his family's coat of arms. General Beauregard watched the bombardment of Fort Sumter from the second-floor piazza.

When the Italian villa-style house at 19 E. Battery St. was built in 1920, it was one of the most expensive houses in Charleston. You can probably understand why. Look at the porte cochere (porch roof projecting over the driveway) at the William Ravenel House, 13 E. Battery St.; it runs underneath a gigantic drawing room rather than fronting it. This design enabled the huge house to be squeezed onto a relatively narrow lot.

Built in 1838, the brick Greek Revival William Roper House, at 9 E. Battery St., was the first on this section of the High Battery. Its huge white portico and Ionic columns can be seen from the harbor. Initials on the front door belong to Rudolph Siegling, publisher of the *News and Courier*, who purchased the house in 1877. Two details to look for are the earthquake bolts (covered by decorative plaques in the shape of lions' heads) and the ropelike trim around the front door. What you can't see is a 500-pound piece of cannon, said to be lodged in the attic since the Confederate evacuation in 1865, when a gun blew up at the corner of East Battery and South Battery streets.

The hot pink house at 5 E. Battery St. was built in 1847 by John Ravenel (if the name sounds familiar, it's because his brother built the house at 13 E. Battery St.). After being hit by the 1886 earthquake, it was rebuilt by a later owner, who added Victorian Italianate features popular at the time. The house remained in the hands of the Ravenel family until 1953. At the corner of East Battery and South Battery streets is the Louis Desaussure House, also damaged during the evacuation in February 1865; during repairs, a portion of the same gun was found in the upper section of this house.

To your right is White Point Garden, named for the immense mound of oyster shells and white sand that covered the area in the city's early days. Continue along the elevated walkway to the bend, where a plaque set in the pavement points out the position of the harbor's forts: Sumter, Moultrie, Castle Pinckney and Johnson. Confederate forces first fired on Fort Sumter from Fort Johnson. Just past the bend on Murray Boulevard you will see stairs; descend the stairs here and cross Murray Boulevard, entering the park. Once a low, marshy area, the public garden was transformed and first enjoyed by residents in 1837. The live oaks that you see were planted in 1863; under their branches you'll find monuments, a gazebo and cannons that were part of Fort Sumter's "three-gun battery."

Cross the park to South Battery Street near Church Street and marvel at more manors, built mostly by bankers and merchants. Head west to Meeting Street. At the corner of Meeting and South Battery streets is a large Victorian house built around 1892 by Martha and Waring Carrington. When the couple married in 1890, Martha's father, wealthy merchant George Williams, gave them a



\$75,000 check to use toward their first home. Not to be outdone, the groom's parents supposedly sent the couple on a 2-year tour of Europe. Two stained glass windows by Louis Comfort Tiffany were a gift from Waring to Martha to celebrate the couple's fifth wedding anniversary. The house is now a bed and breakfast called Two Meeting Street Inn. Turn right onto Meeting, heading north.

On your left at 7 Meeting St. is the Josiah Smith House, built of wood and brick, with a hipped roof and cupola. When the city fell into British hands in 1780, Smith, a rich merchant, was arrested and exiled to St. Augustine, Florida, returning to Charleston after the Revolution. A few houses farther at 11 Meeting St. is an 1850 pink Italianate house, which is covered with stucco scored to look like stone (this was a cheaper process than importing actual stone).

John Edwards, another exile, built 15 Meeting St. Aside from the brick basement, the rest of the house is cypress; the facade also is cut to resemble stone, and the portico is embellished with Corinthian columns and a double staircase. George W. Williams Jr., later purchased this house, formerly known as the Calhoun Mansion. His father owned the 1876 **Williams Mansion**, which is the huge brick mansion across the street. (Recall, "Dad Williams" is the same banker who built 2 Meeting St. for his daughter). This 24,000-square-foot mansion, the city's largest building constructed as a single-family residence, contains 35 rooms (each with a fireplace), 14-foot-tall ceilings, a hand-carved 75-foot-tall staircase, and a ballroom with an elaborate skylight. The exterior also features cypress carved to look like stone.

Next door, at 18 Meeting St., is the Thomas Heyward House, a three-story Adamesque single house built around 1803 by Nathaniel Heyward for his brother Thomas Heyward Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Cross Atlantic Street and note the three single houses on the left (23-27 Meeting St.), built 1750-88. Across the street at 26 Meeting St. is a formal, Regency-style house displaying three types of columns on its piazza: Doric columns are on the ground floor, the second story has Ionic columns and the top level is graced with Corinthian columns. The Isaac Motte House, another classic single house at 30 Meeting St., reputedly was occupied by German Hessian mercenaries during the British occupation; it is rumored that men hid in the fireplace to avoid being evacuated with the British following the Revolutionary War.

Continue past Water Street to the **Nathaniel Russell House**, at 51 Meeting St. Completed in 1808, the most impressive feature of this Federal structure is a free-flying mahogany staircase, which spirals up three floors. Notice the NR monogram on the front wrought-iron balcony. A few steps farther, at 53 Meeting St., is the First Scots

Presbyterian Church. The present building, erected in 1814, employs twin towers topping the column-lined portico. Look at the stained glass window over the main door—displayed is the Church of Scotland's seal.

You are now a few steps away from Tradd Street, where you turned off of Meeting Street. Continue north on Meeting for about two blocks to Broad Street, which is where you began your tour.

The Walled City

Park at the lot on Cumberland Street between Meeting and Church streets. Four walls enclosed Charleston for protection against unwanted visitors during most of the time the settlement was owned by the English. This was called the Lords Proprietors period, after the eight noblemen who were granted joint ownership of what is now North and South Carolina. The fortification sheltered the area from Cumberland Street south to Water Street and from Meeting Street (near where you parked) east to East Bay Street (fronting the Cooper River). The riverside structure was a single wall, but the other three blockades consisted of double barriers separated by a moat; the city was accessed by two drawbridges at the intersection of Meeting and Broad streets, and wharves extended from East Bay Street. The following walking tour explores this area. To get your bearings, walk to the southeast corner of Meeting and Cumberland streets—the northwest corner of the walled city—where there is a plaque showing a map of the original city plan.

Now head east on Cumberland by turning right. It is believed that the stucco house on the right at 83 Cumberland St. was the first brick house erected in the city and that Chief Justice Nicholas Trott lived here. Some surmise that 83 is the kitchen to the original building at 85 Cumberland St., based on the location of the chimney.

Walk a few steps to the **Powder Magazine** at 79 Cumberland St. This structure, said to be the only surviving building from the Lords Proprietors period and the oldest public building in South Carolina, was Charleston's main storage facility for munitions and gunpowder. Note the steep hip roof, gables, brick vaulting and pan tiles on the roof. Although replaced by a new building in the mid-1700s, it was still used during the American Revolution, and it is rumored that paintings of George I were stored here for safekeeping during the war.

It's hard to miss the church with the giant steeple in the middle of Church Street. This is St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Three Tuscan porticoes grace the structure, built 1835-38 to replace an earlier church building that burned. Following the blaze, the city wanted to widen Church Street at the expense of the steeple and porticoes. Members of the congregation argued that the steeple was surely more beautiful than a street. The compromise is



what you see here: St. Philip's was moved a bit to the east, and the street curves around it.

The church took an active part in the Civil War. The English Renaissance-style steeple was used as a line-of-sight target during the Federal attack on Charleston—the church purportedly was hit 16 times. In addition, its bells were melted for cannons; the bells were not replaced until July 4, 1976.

Church Street divides St. Philip's burial sites; a churchyard surrounds the building, and across the street is the West Cemetery. Walk through the West Cemetery to see the burial plots, which, according to legend, were reserved for strangers and other transient whites. However, some famous South Carolina residents were later buried there, including John C. Calhoun (secretary of war and vice president of the United States) and DuBose Heyward (author of the novel "Porgy"). Charles Pinckney (a signer of the Constitution) and Edward Rutledge (a signer of the Declaration of Independence) are buried in the churchyard across the street. Ornate gates protecting this churchyard are said to be among the oldest wrought iron-work in the city.

Continue to 143 and 141 Church St. These two tenements were built about 1740 by a Huguenot merchant. The house at 143 is a double tenement (two rooms wide), while 141 is a single tenement (you guessed it—one room wide). Both buildings are largely constructed of Bermuda stone.

Across Queen Street on the left-hand side of Church Street is the Gothic Revival French **Huguenot Church**, built in 1845. Details—such as the buttresses, pointed-arch windows and spires topped with finials—are typical of this style, but the cast iron accents are unusual and add interest. The windows are original. The house next to the church, 136 Church St., served as the church rectory until 1871. It has classic features of a single house—it is a single room wide, and the front door, called a privacy door, opens onto the veranda (called a piazza by Charlestonians) rather than into the main house. Another good example of a single house is the white clapboard dwelling at 132 Church St. Note the solid shutters, boot scraper and carriage step out front.

Now is a good time to notice the street signs, which point out that you are in Charleston's French Quarter, named for the French Huguenots who settled in this area.

A light blue filigreed balcony embellishes **Dock Street Theatre**, located on the site of America's first building specifically constructed for theatrical performances (the original building was likely destroyed by fire in 1740). The main portion of the current building was built in 1809 and housed Planter's Hotel; the balcony was added in the mid-1800s. Remodeled into a new theater as a Works

Progress Administration project in the 1930s, the building took the name of the original theater (Queen Street was once called Dock Street due to the presence of a creek and a large dock).

Stroll to Chalmers Street and turn left. This is the city's longest remaining cobblestone street, paved in 1760 with creek stones brought from Europe as ships' ballast. On the right at 17 Chalmers St. is the Pink House, which served as a tavern in Colonial days. Constructed of Bermuda stone (a coral limestone) about 1712, its most interesting feature is the gambrel roof, made of clay tiles, called thigh tiles because the clay was shaped over workers' thighs.

The brick and stone Gothic and Romanesque Revival building with three arches and octagon-shaped pillars at 8 Chalmers St. was the German Fire Steam Engine Co., in use 1851-88. The fire department was one of many created after a fire swept through this area in 1838, damaging St. Philip's Church and other structures. Next door is the **Old Slave Mart Museum**—once an open-ended shed, part of a complex with a yard and "barracoon" (slave jail)—where slaves were displayed and sold. It opened after a city ordinance in the mid-1800s prohibited the sale of slaves north of the Exchange Building because of the disturbance caused on East Bay Street. This mart was in use for a short time, as the slave trade was halted by the defeat of the Confederacy in the Civil War.

Continue to State Street and turn right. On the left (set back from the street) is a tiny two-story brick South Carolina National Bank building, which once housed one of the earliest branches of the Bank of America. A newer, three-story bank building is next door.

Across the street at 7 State St. you'll find a white, two-story Classic Revival building that was home to the Union Insurance Building, established about 1807. Look at the pediment to see the company's seal. Each insurance company had its own fire engine company, and residents would display a plaque on their house (similar to the seal) to show which company held their insurance. Although all fire companies would respond when a house caught fire, only the fire company whose plaque was displayed would be expected to fight the blaze.

Turn left onto Broad Street, logically named because it was once the broadest street in Charles Towne. It is still one of the city's main business streets, and residents jokingly refer to locations as SOB (South of Broad) or SNOB (Slightly North of Broad). Head to the **Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon**, the large Palladian-style building with the cupola at the end of the street. Since Charles Towne was a port and royal colony, this large exchange and customs house was completed in 1771 to manage trade activities. Once located adjacent to the Cooper River (the



bay was later filled in, extending it east for two blocks), the exchange was where merchant ships docked and paid tariffs. Many historical events took place in the exchange's Great Hall. The yellow "don't tread on me" flag flying out front was designed in Charles Towne by Col. Christopher Gadsden. In the dungeon—created to store goods, but later used as a prison by the British during the occupation of 1780-82—you can see a portion of the original battery that surrounded the city.

On the north side of the Old Exchange, across Gillon Street, you can see another section of the original wall; it contains earthquake bolts and fronts a parking lot, facing East Bay Street.

Walk south along East Bay Street. The streets to your left are named for the warehouses and wharves that once stood there, before the bay was filled in. Catch a glimpse of the river by peering down one of these streets.

At Elliot Street, look back at the row of houses numbered 79-107. Known as Rainbow Row, these colorful stucco houses are said to be the longest cluster of intact Georgian houses in the United States and are a favorite subject of artists. They were built 1723-40 by merchants who operated shops on the first floor and lived in the upper stories, reached by staircases from an inner courtyard. Once slums, they received the nickname in the 1930s when the facades were painted in pastel shades. Note the ropelike trim on one of the houses, which is the sign of a merchant—the thicker the rope, the richer the merchant.

Continue down East Bay Street to Tradd Street (opposite cobblestone Adgers Street) and turn right. Quaint Tradd Street runs the width of the peninsula—looking ahead, you can see all the way to the Ashley River, Charleston's west boundary. In 1778 a fire destroyed the portion of Tradd Street from Church Street east toward the Cooper River; many homes here have been rebuilt. Markers, bestowed by the Preservation Society of Charleston, detail their history. Stroll along Tradd, reading the markers and peeking in the walled gardens as you pass.

The double tenements at 5 and 7 Tradd St. were built in the early 1700s. Destroyed by fire in 1740 and 1778, they were rebuilt both times according to the same plan. Notice the numerous earthquake bolts. At 14 Tradd St. you can see a fire plaque that shows the fire company to which the resident subscribed.

Continue to Church Street and turn right. On the left at 87 Church St. is the **Heyward-Washington House**, built in 1772 by Daniel Heyward for his son, Thomas Heyward Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence. George Washington stayed here on his tour of the city in 1791.

Two doors down, at 89-91 Church St., is Cabbage Row, nicknamed because its residents once displayed vegetables for sale on the windowsills. The tenement provided inspiration for DuBose Heyward when he wrote the novel "Porgy"—characters in the book live at Catfish Row. The story, which later was the basis for George Gershwin's opera "Porgy and Bess," is set in a slum during the 1920s, and its main character, Porgy, was modeled after a Charleston resident named Samuel Smalls. The author lived at 76 Church St.

Built in 1805 by a merchant, 92 Church St. has served as the rectory of St. Philip's Church since 1908. The middle window on the first level was originally a door; this indicates that it was a business. Also notice the boot scrapers in front. Embellished single houses at 93-99 Church St. were built around 1910.

Continue on Church Street to St. Michael's Alley (opposite Elliott Street), turn left and walk down the alley to Meeting Street. As you walk, watch for cars; the last section of the alley is quite narrow. At 8 St. Michael's Alley is a Palladian-style building with brown shutters. Note the star-shaped earthquake bolts.

Once at Meeting Street, turn right, heading toward the large white church. Ahead you'll probably see women weaving baskets. An African craft, basket making has been practiced throughout the Lowcountry since the 18th century. Harvested from local marshes and swamps, sweetgrass is used as the basis for the baskets.

Stop at the corner of Broad and Meeting streets. You are now at the intersection known as the Four Corners of Law, because the buildings on each corner represent religious, municipal, state and federal law. The large white church to your right is **St. Michael's Church**. **City Hall**, said to be the second oldest in the country, is on the northeast corner. The northwest corner is occupied by Charleston County Courthouse; and to your left, on the southwest corner, is the U.S. Post Office and Federal Court. The church's most notable features are the giant portico and 186-foot-tall steeple, which was painted black during the American Revolution in an attempt to mask it from British ship gunners; instead, it became an easier target. City Hall, erected about 1800 in the Adamesque style, served as a branch of the first Bank of the United States. Inside, a gallery contains portraits of historical figures, including one of George Washington.

Since the Charleston County Courthouse was first built in 1753 to serve as the capitol for the colony of South Carolina, it has been modified several times. It is said that the Declaration of Independence was read from its second-story balcony overlooking Meeting Street. The U.S. Post Office and Federal Court building was constructed in 1896 in the Renaissance Revival style—



54 CHARLESTON — DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON, SC

featuring local gray granite, a rustic base and quoins, balconies with heavy balustrades and large double doors—in an effort to mimic an Italian palace.

Cross Broad Street and walk to the wrought-iron fence on the right that encloses **Washington Square**. The small, oak-draped plot features a monument to the Confederate military, among others. After exploring the park's brick paths, continue north on Meeting. Just past the park is the Fireproof Building—it's the large Palladian-style building with a Doric portico and double staircase at 100 Meeting St. Created to safely house public records, it is so solid that it suffered little damage in the 1886 earthquake. The South Carolina Historical Society occupies the building. Inside, an oval hall contains a stone staircase lit by an overhead cupola.

At Chalmers Street, look to the left to see Hibernian Hall, the white building with large Ionic columns. It was built in 1840 as a meeting place for the Hibernian Society, an Irish benevolent organization. Gilded harps are found in the panel over the front door and on the iron gates. A stone from Northern Ireland's Giant's Causeway, a world heritage site in County Antrim, also is in the portico. When the Mills House Hotel, 115 Meeting St., (now Mills House Charleston, Curio Collection by Hilton) was originally constructed in 1853, it offered running water, among other amenities. Many famous people have stayed here, including Gen. Robert E. Lee in 1861, when a fire ravaged the street. It is rumored that hotel staff saved the building from destruction by hanging wet blankets from the windows.

Continue past Queen Street. **The Gibbes Museum of Art**, 135 Meeting St., houses an impressive collection of miniatures as well as other notable works. The stunning Beaux Arts-style building is constructed of local granite and limestone and the red tile roof accents a large dome. A few steps farther, at 141 Meeting St., is a white Palladian-style building built about 1876 for the Charleston Gas Light Company.

Continue along Meeting, looking across the street to locate the Romanesque Circular Congregational Church at 150 Meeting St. Settlers of Charles Towne dissenting from the Church of England—English Congregationalists, Scottish and Irish Presbyterians and French Huguenots—founded the independent church about 1681. The first church building, in the Pantheon style, was called the White Meeting House, which gave the street its name. Various changes were made to the structure until it burned in the fire of 1861, but the ruins stood until the 1886 earthquake, after which the Romanesque building you see was built, using the same bricks. Despite the name, the church is shaped more like a cloverleaf than a proper circle. The graveyard is said to be the oldest in the city; headstones date from 1690.

The next street is Cumberland. At this point, you can turn right to go to your car, or, if you'd like to shop, cross Meeting Street and walk down Horlbeck Alley to King Street for antique shops, boutiques and clothing stores. You also can cross Cumberland Street and walk up Meeting Street to Market Street, where restaurants surround the market.

DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON

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 20 SOUTH BATTERY **BOOK NOW** 843/727-3100



Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 20 S Battery St 29401.

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Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 40 Pinckney St 29401. **Facility:** The Inn is located in two separate buildings near the downtown market and at the horse-drawn carriage pickup point. Rooms vary in size and all are furnished in a traditional, elegant style. 41 units. 2-4 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA **ANSONBOROUGH INN** **BOOK NOW** 843/723-1655



Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 21 Hasell St 29401. **Facility:** Original wood beams and exposed brick walls give the inn an inviting warmth. A rooftop terrace overlooks the waterfront and downtown. Sophisticated, large rooms offer ample seating and plush beds. 45 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA **THE CHARLESTON PLACE** **BOOK NOW** 843/722-4900



Hotel. **Address:** 205 Meeting St 29401. **Facility:** You won't want to leave your luxurious room—decked out with soft linens, Italian marble tile baths and thoughtful tech features—unless it's to pamper yourself in the hotel's European-style spa. 433 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 3 restaurants, also, Charleston Grill, see separate listing, entertainment. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, steamroom, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



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Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 125 Calhoun St 29401. **Facility:** 176 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** boarding pass kiosk.



AAA THE ELLIOTT HOUSE INN **BOOK NOW** 843/518-6500



Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 78 Queen St 29401.

AAA EMELINE **BOOK NOW** 843/577-2644



Hotel. **Address:** 181 Church St 29401. **Facility:** Guest rooms at this property feature tasteful, upgraded appointments, all with plush king beds. Most rooms provide separate sleeping and sitting areas, but standard hotel rooms are available as well. 212 units, some two bedrooms. 2-5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA FRANCIS MARION HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/722-0600



Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 387 King St 29403. *(See ad p. 57.)*





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AAA FULTON LANE INN **BOOK NOW** 843/720-2600


Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 202 King St 29401. **Facility:** Some of the spacious rooms are appointed with luxurious jacuzzi tubs and canopied beds draped with hand-strung netting while others enjoy cathedral ceilings and a fireplace. 45 units, some kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and street. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes.


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Boutique Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 55 Wentworth St 29401. **Facility:** Rooms are eclectic yet elegant and feature plush, comfortable furniture and spacious bathrooms. The hotel is adorned with original artwork throughout and the rooftop patio is a major highlight. 50 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA HARBOURVIEW INN **BOOK NOW** 843/853-8439



Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 2 Vendue Range 29401. **Facility:** Overlooking the harbor, this historic district inn is beautifully decorated in a contemporary style. Many rooms offer water views, some have balconies and operational fireplaces. 52 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** bicycles. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



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SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 415 Meeting St 29403.

AAA HOTEL BENNETT **BOOK NOW** 843/990-5400



Hotel. **Address:** 404 King St 29403. **Facility:** Nestled along Marion Square on King Street, this hotel radiates luxury. Featuring local art and custom furniture throughout the lobby and rooms, your stay will surely be a memorable one. 179 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 3 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** cabanas, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA HYATT HOUSE CHARLESTON-HISTORIC DISTRICT **BOOK NOW** 843/414-4900



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Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 560 King St 29403. **Facility:** 113 units, some efficiencies. 9 stories, interior corridors. **Bath:** shower only. **Parking:** valet and street only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.





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Hotel. **Address:** 560 King St 29403. **Facility:** 191 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet and street only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



JOHN RUTLEDGE HOUSE INN

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Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 116 Broad St 29401. **Facility:** The main house offers large, well-decorated rooms with ornate woodwork. More modest units reside in the adjacent carriage houses, which provide guests more privacy and separate street access. 19 units. 2-4 stories (no elevator), interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes.



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Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 198 King St 29401. **Facility:** The renovated 1853 property features three sunlit courtyards and cozy parlor. Each guest room features wood floors, area rugs, comfortable seating and updated baths. Some rooms have fireplaces. 41 units. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and street. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes.



AAA THE LIMITED HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/718-2327



Hotel. Address: 425 Meeting St 29403. **Facility:** 120 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA THE LINDY RENAISSANCE CHARLESTON HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/534-0300



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Hotel. Address: 68 Wentworth St 29401. **Facility:** The beautifully appointed property offers several room styles for guests; upper-floor Charleston rooms offer city views, while terrace rooms have patios, larger executive rooms and two-room suites. 167 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA THE MILLS HOUSE CHARLESTON, CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON **BOOK NOW** 843/577-2400



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Historic Hotel. Address: 115 Meeting St 29401. **Facility:** The historic hotel offers updated rooms in several floor plans. Corner rooms have more windows featuring views of Charleston. Several rooms have balconies. Those by the pool may be a little noisy. 218 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet and street only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** cabanas, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA THE PALMETTO HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/832-3604


Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 194 E Bay St 29401. **Facility:** Offering the perfect mix of southern charm and modern amenities, the spacious rooms feature plush king beds, custom furnishings and luxurious walk-in showers. 45 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Bath:** shower only. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** bicycles. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.


AAA PLANTERS INN **BOOK NOW** 843/722-2345


Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 112 N Market St 29401. **Facility:** The service-oriented inn, dating from 1844, features large rooms lavishly decorated in antique furnishings and period reproductions. The combination of luxury and convenience distinguishes this hotel. 64 units. 4 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** Peninsula Grill, see separate listing. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.


AAA THE RESTORATION **BOOK NOW** 843/518-5100


Boutique Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 75 Wentworth St 29401. **Facility:** Located in the heart of downtown, these large, luxury units feature 500- to 2,500-square-foot floor plans with high-end appointments throughout. Extended-stay condos and large suites are available. 54 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, kitchens and condominiums. 3-7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation.




THE RYDER HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/723-7451


Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 237 Meeting St 29401. **Facility:** The historic district hotel stands out with its mix of coastal and MCM decor and a trendy terrace pool and bar. Modern, minimalist rooms come in various sizes, all with large smart TVs and comfy beds. 91 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



THE SPECTATOR HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/724-4326


Boutique Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 67 State St 29401. **Facility:** Step into the Roaring Twenties at this beautiful mix of then and now. You'll relish special touches like a complimentary arrival cocktail, plush lobby decor, contemporary rooms and upscale amenities. 41 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** bicycles. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



THE VENDUE **BOOK NOW** 843/577-7970


Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 19 Vendue Range 29401.

WHERE TO EAT


CHARLESTON GRILL 843/577-4522


New American Fine Dining. **Address:** 224 King St 29401.


CIRCA 1886 843/853-7828


New Southern Fine Dining. **Expert Advice:** *Historic.* The elegant dining spot resides in the carriage house tucked behind the stately Wentworth Mansion. The beautifully redone building now is an opulent space with French doors that open to velvet booths, a stone fireplace and romantic candlelight. The chef's fine, upscale Southern cuisine changes with the season to incorporate only the freshest ingredients. A representative dish is pan seared grouper in tomato lemongrass broth. **Features:** full bar. **Reservations:** suggested. **Address:** 149 Wentworth St 29401. **Parking:** on-site and street. D



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

64 DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON — CHARLESTON, SC

 HALL'S CHOPHOUSE 843/727-0090



Traditional Steak Seafood Fine Dining. **Address:** 434 King St 29403.

 PENINSULA GRILL 843/723-0700



Regional American Fine Dining. **Address:** 112 N Market St 29401.

 SORELLE 843/974-1575



Southern Italian Fine Dining. **Address:** 88 Broad St 29401.

CHARLESTON

• Hotels p. 64

 BEST WESTERN CHARLESTON INN **BOOK NOW** 843/571-6100



Motel. **Address:** 1540 Savannah Hwy 29407. **Facility:** 87 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 CAMBRIA HOTEL CHARLESTON RIVERVIEW **BOOK NOW** 843/766-4322



CAMBRIA
hotels **AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 84 Ripley Point Dr 29407. **Facility:** 126 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry, area transportation.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 CHARLESTON MARRIOTT **BOOK NOW** 843/723-3000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 170 Lockwood Blvd 29403.

 COMFORT SUITES WEST ASHLEY **BOOK NOW** 843/769-9850



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 2080 Savannah Hwy 29407. **Facility:** 100 units, some efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON WATERFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/722-7229



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 35 Lockwood Dr 29401.

 HAMPTON INN & SUITES CHARLESTON/WEST ASHLEY **BOOK NOW** 843/573-1200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 678 Citadel Haven Dr 29414.

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON DANIEL ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/216-6555



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 160 Fairchild St 29492.

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Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.



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AAA HILTON CLUB LIBERTY PLACE CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/974-3300

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 475 E Bay St 29403. **Facility:** This beautiful property offers standard rooms along with spacious one- to two-bedroom, full-featured suites. Many attractions, shopping and restaurants are within walking distance. 97 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.


AAA HILTON GARDEN INN CHARLESTON
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 843/637-4074

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 45 Lockwood Dr 29401. **Location:** Waterfront. **Facility:** 141 units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.


AAA HOLIDAY INN CHARLESTON-RIVERVIEW **BOOK NOW** 843/556-7100


Hotel. **Address:** 301 Savannah Hwy 29407. **Facility:** 179 units. 14 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.


AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CHARLESTON DOWNTOWN -
WESTEDGE **BOOK NOW** 843/722-4000

Hotel. **Address:** 250 Spring St 29403.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CHARLESTON US HWY 17 & I 526 **BOOK NOW** 843/402-8300
 **THREE DIAMOND**
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Hotel. **Address:** 1943 Savannah Hwy 29407.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON CHARLESTON DANIEL ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/981-5800
 **THREE DIAMOND**
 INSPECTED  CLEAN **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 120 Fairchild St 29492.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON CHARLESTON WEST ASHLEY **BOOK NOW** 843/571-2955
 **THREE DIAMOND**
 INSPECTED  CLEAN **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1963 Savannah Hwy 29407.

 THE LOUREL **BOOK NOW** 843/872-9600
 **FOUR DIAMOND**
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Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 61 State St 29401.

 MOXY CHARLESTON DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 843/620-8300



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Hotel. **Address:** 547 Meeting St 29403. **Facility:** 131 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm.

Activities: bicycles, exercise room.



 RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON
 DOWNTOWN/RIVERVIEW **BOOK NOW** 843/571-7979



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 90 Ripley Point Dr 29407.

 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON
DOWNTOWN/RIVERVIEW **BOOK NOW** 843/571-1711



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 98 Ripley Point Dr 29407.

 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON-WEST
ASHLEY **BOOK NOW** 843/806-2020



TOWNEPLACE SUITES **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

MARRIOTT

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 805 Orleans Rd 29407.

Facility: 112 efficiencies, some kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors.

Pool: outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



CHERAW

Settled before 1750 and formally laid out in 1768, the town officially was named Cheraw in 1820 after a local Native American tribe. Its position at the navigational head of the Great Pee Dee River made Cheraw an important trade center that grew proportionally with increased river traffic, particularly during the cotton era.

Gen. William T. Sherman's Union troops occupied Cheraw during the Civil War and were so taken by its charming atmosphere that they spared it from destruction. More than 50 antebellum houses and buildings and many late 19th- and early 20th-century structures can be found in the historic district, which encompasses 213 acres in the center of town. The original town green and parish church, Old St. David's, still grace Cheraw.

Local history exhibits and a tribute to native son Dizzy Gillespie are displayed at the Lyceum Museum on Market Street. A large bronze statue on the town green pays further homage to the late jazz musician. Keys to the museum and Old St. David's Church can be picked up at the Greater Cheraw Chamber of Commerce, 221 Market St.

With more than 7,000 acres, Cheraw State Park on US 52 provides numerous opportunities for outdoor activity. Amenities include an 18-hole golf course and equestrian campsites. *See Recreation Areas Chart.*

Cheraw Office of Tourism: 200 Market St. (in Town Hall), Cheraw, SC 29520. **Phone:** (843) 537-8425 or (888) 537-0014.

Self-guiding tours: A brochure detailing a tour of the historic district and information about the Historic Cheraw cellphone tour are available at the office of tourism.

CLEMSON

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Clemson was known as Calhoun when incorporated in 1892, then renamed in the 1940s. Land titles can be traced to relatives of John C. Calhoun, supporting one theory about the origin of the town name.

By the 1893 opening of the military-style Clemson Agricultural College, now Clemson University, Calhoun already had established itself as one of Pickens County's most important towns, boasting a railroad depot, cotton mill and general store as well as several boarding houses. Clemson's Old Calhoun District features historic buildings.

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY, 11 mi. w. of I-85 exit 19B on US 76 at 109 Daniel Dr., was established in 1889 as a scientific college on the former plantation of John C. Calhoun, a prominent statesman and U.S. vice president, senator and secretary of state. Maps and information for tours of the 1,400-acre campus can be obtained at the visitor center on Daniel Drive next to the Alumni Center.

Phone: (864) 656-4789. 

Bob Campbell Geology Museum, 140 Discovery Ln. (formerly named 103 Garden Tr.) in the South Carolina



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Botanical Garden at Clemson University, contains 10,000 minerals, fossils and gemstones from South Carolina and around the world. A replica of a saber-toothed cat skeleton is displayed. A darkened showroom features a collection of fluorescent rocks. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (864) 656-4600.  

Fort Hill: National Historic Landmark is at 520 Fort Hill St. at jct. Calhoun Dr. at Clemson University, land acquired by John C. Calhoun during his first term as U.S. vice president to John Quincy Adams and occupied while vice president to Andrew Jackson. His son-in-law, Thomas G. Clemson, founded the university that now occupies the former plantation. Many original furnishings belonging to Calhoun and Clemson families interpret the house museum and the lives of the planters and enslaved workers. **Phone:** (864) 656-2475. 

Lee Gallery, in Lee Hall on the w. side of the Clemson University campus between Perimeter Rd. and S. Palmetto Blvd. at 323 Fernow St., displays works by leading artists and craftspeople as well as works by art and architecture students and faculty. **Phone:** (864) 656-3883.

Robert Muldrow Cooper Library is at the center of the Clemson University campus off S. Palmetto Blvd. at jct.

Fernow St. The James F. Byrnes Room and Edgar A. Brown Room on the main floor exhibit collections of papers, furniture and other memorabilia pertaining to these two 20th-century statesmen. Changing exhibits are presented in the lobby. **Phone:** (864) 656-3027.

South Carolina Botanical Garden, on the e. side of the Clemson University campus off Perimeter Rd. at 102 Garden Tr., is a 295-acre garden with an arboretum; gristmill; greenhouse; pagoda; and the Pioneer Complex, which has exhibits labeled in Braille. The garden contains 2,200 varieties of plants, including one of the largest shrub collections in the eastern United States. The wildflower, fern and bog gardens contain species native to the state. Education programs, a sculpture collection and hiking trails are also available. **Phone:** (864) 656-3405. 

Strom Thurmond Institute, at 230 Kappa St. at Clemson University, contains papers and memorabilia documenting the life and career of U.S. Sen. James Strom Thurmond. Also featured are a rare book collection and documents from such important political leaders as John C. Calhoun; the university archives; and manuscript collections, the focus of which is primarily South Carolina. Changing exhibits are presented. **Phone:** (864) 656-4700.

 **BEST WESTERN PLUS CLEMSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE**

CENTER **BOOK NOW** 864/986-6200



Hotel. Address: 1310 Tiger Blvd 29631. **Facility:** 148 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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 **COMFORT INN & SUITES CLEMSON UNIVERSITY AREA** **BOOK NOW** 864/653-3600



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Hotel. **Address:** 1305 Tiger Blvd 29631. **Facility:** 121 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 **COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CLEMSON** **BOOK NOW** 864/654-8833



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 201 Canoy Ln 29631.

 **DAYS INN BY WYNDHAM CLEMSON** **BOOK NOW** 864/653-4111



Hotel. **Address:** 1387 Tiger Blvd 29631.

 **HAMPTON INN BY HILTON CLEMSON-UNIVERSITY AREA** **BOOK NOW** 864/653-7744



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 851 Tiger Blvd (US 76/123) 29631.

 **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES** **BOOK NOW** 864/654-9410



Hotel. **Address:** 1381 Tiger Blvd 29631.

 **INN AT PATRICK SQUARE** **BOOK NOW** 864/643-0600



Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 115 Market St 29631.

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THE JAMES F. MARTIN INN AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY **BOOK NOW** 864/654-9020


Hotel. **Address:** 240 Madren Center Dr 29634. **Location:** Located on golf course. **Facility:** 89 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, regulation golf, tennis, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



CLINTON

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HAMPTON INN & SUITES CLINTON **BOOK NOW** 864/938-1040


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 201 E Corporate Center Dr 29325.

COLUMBIA

• Hotels p. 75

Originally settled on the opposite bank of the Congaree River, Columbia was created and designated South Carolina's capital by a 1786 act of the legislature, which moved the seat of government from Charleston. On Dec. 17, 1860, a convention met to draw up the Ordinance of Secession, but because of a smallpox epidemic the convention moved to Charleston, where the ordinance was signed.

Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman entered Columbia on Feb. 17, 1865, and set a fire the same night that destroyed three-fourths of the city, including every house on Main Street except that of the French consul. The university, public buildings and statehouse also were spared. The South Carolina Governor's Mansion, the surviving structure of a destroyed military school, is open by appointment; phone (803) 737-1710.

Chartered in 1801, the University of South Carolina plays a prominent role in Columbia. The original campus of the university, known as the Horseshoe, contains 10 restored buildings dating to the early 19th century; the buildings are currently used for classrooms, offices and living quarters. The visitor center has displays and interactive

exhibits about the university's history and campus. It's located in the McKissick Museum (*see attraction listing*), which is at the top of the Horseshoe. Campus tours are available; phone (803) 777-0169 or (800) 922-9755 for schedule and other information.

Segra Park is home to a South Atlantic League minor league baseball team, the Columbia Fireflies.

Experience Columbia SC: 1010 Lincoln St., Columbia, SC 29202. **Phone:** (803) 545-0000 or (800) 264-4884.

Self-guiding tours: Brochures for self-guiding walking tours of various historic neighborhoods and sites can be picked up from the visitor center and from the Robert Mills House museum shop.

Shopping: Columbia offers three specialty shopping districts. In the Five Points district there are nearly three dozen shops, many of which are on Harden Street and Saluda Avenue. Congaree Vista, a former industrial and warehouse district, is now a 1,200-acre historic district filled with shops and art galleries. Many of the old buildings now house these new establishments. The Doors of Devine features upscale shops along Devine Street. All three districts also include restaurants, and Five Points and Congaree Vista are entertainment and nightlife hubs, too.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

74 COLUMBIA, SC

For the basics, turn to Columbia Place (7201 Two Notch Rd.), with Macy's. Columbiana Centre (100 Columbiana Cir.), offers Belk and Dillard's. Village at Sandhill (481 Towncenter Pl.) has JCPenney along with an array of other mall stores.

EDVENTURE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM is .7 mi. s.w. at 211 Gervais St. This 92,000-square-foot museum features an array of interactive exhibits, learning laboratories and activities designed for ages 1-12. "EDDIE," a four-story interactive human body experience, and more than 350 other hands-on exhibits explore science, health, the environment and technology. Special features include an outdoor climbing structure, a TV news station, Tinker Tech (an area for inventions of all kinds) and a seasonal butterfly exhibit.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (803) 779-3100.



HISTORIC COLUMBIA HOUSE TOURS depart from the Robert Mills House, 1616 Blanding St. Guided 45-minute tours—of multiple 19th- and 20th-century houses in downtown Columbia—address architecture, the planter class and enslaved African Americans. Historic houses include the Robert Mills House, Hampton-Preston Mansion and Gardens, Mann-Simons Site, and Woodrow Wilson Family Home. From mid-November through late December, Holiday Tours through the houses feature period decorations and stories about past holiday traditions.

Note: Tickets for each house are issued at the Robert Mills House; the tour guide then escorts the group. Socially distanced outdoor tours are available. **Phone:** (803) 252-1770. **GT**



Hampton-Preston Mansion and Gardens is at 1615 Blanding St.; tours depart from Robert Mills House and Gardens at 1616 Blanding St. The home was built in 1818 for wealthy merchant Ainsley Hall and purchased by Gen. Wade Hampton I in 1823. Upon Hampton's 1835 death his daughter and son-in-law, John Preston, took the house and doubled its size with an 1850 addition.

Over the years the house, now restored, served as Union Army Headquarters, two separate women's colleges and a convent. An exhibit in the raised basement explores urban slavery and the property's many uses.

The eight rooms open to tours reflect several styles from the Federal to postbellum periods. The guided tour includes the entire main floor—two hallways, three parlors, and dining room—and two third-floor bedrooms, one of which is set up as a 1920s dorm room from when Chicora College occupied the house. The furnishings include family silver and portraits (including some of their

Thoroughbreds) and furniture made in South Carolina as well as English crystal and dinnerware from Wade Hampton II's nearby Millwood Plantation.

The grounds include the Fountain Garden, the formal Welcome Garden with plantings of clipped boxwood hedges designed in the English style and the Henry Michael Powell Memorial Garden with a gazebo.

Tickets are issued at Robert Mills House and Gardens. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 252-1770. **GT**

Mann-Simons Site is at 1403 Richland St.; tours depart from Robert Mills House and Gardens at 1616 Blanding St. Commercial and domestic establishments owned and operated by several generations of an African American family (circa 1843-1970) once occupied the property. Only one of the houses remains; it contains exhibits about the family and the site. The Outdoor Museum on the site's grounds includes ghost structures representing the buildings that once stood on the property paired with interactive wayside signage.

Tickets are issued at Robert Mills House and Gardens. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 252-1770. **GT**

Robert Mills House and Gardens, 1616 Blanding St., was designed by architect Robert Mills and houses a decorative arts collection. The 1823 house features formal English gardens and rooms furnished in the Regency style. Mills, the first federal architect of the United States, served seven presidents. His many notable designs include the Washington Monument and the U.S. Treasury Building in Washington, D.C.

Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 252-1770. **GT**

Woodrow Wilson Family Home is at 1705 Hampton St. The 1871 residence was home to Joseph and Jeannie Wilson and their four children, including their 14-year-old son, Thomas Woodrow Wilson (Tommy), during the Reconstruction era. Wilson went on to become the 28th president of the United States (1913-21). The main floor includes an entry hall, formal parlor, smaller parlor, dining room, service areas and Dr. Wilson's study and the upstairs consists of bedrooms. The rooms mostly are presented as exhibits related to the Wilson family and the Reconstruction era (citizenship, religion, education, family life, domestic roles, power and politics in food production) rather than as period rooms.

The grounds feature gardens—herb, vegetable, perennial, rose, fruit tree—as well as a small vineyard and represent the types of gardens that would have been



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

common in the 1870s for homes similar to the Wilson home.

Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 252-1770. 



RIVERBANKS ZOO AND GARDEN, 500 Wildlife Pkwy., is home to more than 2,000 animals representing more than 350 species from around the world. Highlights include the African Plains, home to giraffes, zebras and ostriches; the Ndoki Forest, home to gorillas, elephants and meerkats; Koala Knockabout; the Birdhouse at Riverbanks; and Riverbanks Farm.

The Aquarium-Reptile Complex encompasses four display galleries: South Carolina; the Desert; the Tropics; and the Ocean, which features a 55,000-gallon Pacific coral reef tank. There are daily animal demonstrations, including the Wings of the South Bird Show; giraffe and lorikeet feedings; pony rides; the Wild Adventures rock wall; the Endangered Species carousel; Spot & Stripes Railroad; ziplines; and Sky-High Safari, a 4-story ropes challenge course.

Located along the Lower Saluda River, the Botanical Garden's 70 acres showcase more than 4,300 species of native and exotic plants. The garden is planted for year-round interest and can be accessed via tram or the Woodlands Walkway.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (803) 779-8717.



RIVERFRONT PARK AND HISTORIC COLUMBIA CANAL, 312 Laurel St., centers on the city's original waterworks and hydroelectric plant. A walkway leads to the Columbia Canal. The 1824 canal was an essential means of transportation prior to the railroad. It then became a major source of hydroelectric power. The park features several brick buildings, vintage-style lighting fixtures and wrought-iron fencing. Recreation includes biking, hiking and fishing. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 545-3100.  

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFEDERATE RELIC ROOM & MILITARY MUSEUM, 301 Gervais St. in the former Columbia Mills building, contains a collection of military relics

reflecting state military history from the Revolutionary War to the present, particularly the Civil War period. Flags, uniforms and weapons are among the displayed items.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (803) 737-8095. 



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE, 1100 Gervais St., was constructed 1855-1907 and features a copper dome, original marble floors, cast-iron stairs and balcony supports, stained glass windows and portraits of notable statesmen. Six bronze stars on the exterior walls mark the spots struck by Gen. William T. Sherman's Union Army cannonballs during the Civil War.

The 18-acre capitol complex encompasses landscaped grounds appointed with 25 monuments, including statues of George Washington, Civil War general Wade Hampton, and Sen. Strom Thurmond; a replica of the Liberty Bell; and a memorial to African American history. A self-guiding tour brochure is available. Guided tours begin with a 15-minute film about the building's history and architecture.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (803) 734-2430. 



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM, 301 Gervais St., is in the former Columbia Mills building. Built in 1894, the structure was one of the first totally electric textile mills in the world. Today this facility has four floors of hands-on exhibits, displays and items chronicling state history, industry and transportation as well as science and technology and natural history. The Lipscomb Art Gallery offers changing exhibits.

The cultural history exhibits showcase some 14,000 years of area history. The natural history exhibits feature dinosaur fossils and dioramas depicting the state's major habitats. Highlights include a 43-foot-long model of an extinct giant white shark and a life-size mastodon reconstruction. The Windows to the New Worlds facility includes an observatory, a planetarium and a 4-D theater. Four galleries feature changing exhibits.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (803) 898-4921.



ALOFT COLUMBIA DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 803/445-1900



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 823 Lady St 29201.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA ALOFT COLUMBIA HARBISON **BOOK NOW** 803/407-6166



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 217 Lanneau Ct 29212.

AAA BEST WESTERN EXECUTIVE INN & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 803/561-9027



Hotel. **Address:** 1720 Bush River Rd 29210. **Facility:** 69 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room.



AAA CAMBRIA HOTEL COLUMBIA DOWNTOWN THE VISTA **BOOK NOW** 803/728-3355



CAMBRIA hotels **AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 1000 Lady St 29201. **Facility:** 144 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Amenities:** *Some:* safes. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA COLUMBIA MARRIOTT **BOOK NOW** 803/771-7000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 1200 Hampton St 29201. **Facility:** 300 units. 14 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA NORTHEAST **BOOK NOW** 803/736-3600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 111 Gateway Corporate Blvd 29203.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN AT USC **BOOK NOW** 803/799-7800



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 630 Assembly St 29201.

 DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA NORTHEAST **BOOK NOW** 803/736-5600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 8105 Two Notch Rd 29223.

 FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA
DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 803/744-4000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 501 Taylor St 29201.

 FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA
NORTHEAST **BOOK NOW** 803/760-1700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 120 Blarney Dr 29223.

 GRADUATE BY HILTON COLUMBIA, SC **BOOK NOW** 803/779-7779



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 1619 Pendleton St 29201.

 HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON-COLUMBIA KILLIAN RD **BOOK NOW** 803/999-1800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1310 Roberts's Branch Pkwy 29223.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HAMPTON INN & SUITES COLUMBIA-SE FT. JACKSON **BOOK NOW** 803/217-3999

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 201 E Exchange Blvd 29209.

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON COLUMBIA I-20/CLEMSON FRONTAGE ROAD **BOOK NOW** 803/788-4901

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1021 Clemson Frontage Rd 29229.

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON COLUMBIA NORTHEAST-FORT JACKSON AREA **BOOK NOW** 803/865-8000

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1551 Barbara Dr 29223.

 HAMPTON INN COLUMBIA-DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT **BOOK NOW** 803/231-2000

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 822 Gervais St 29201.

 HILTON COLUMBIA CENTER **BOOK NOW** 803/744-7800

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

 **Hilton** HOTELS & RESORTS Hotel. **Address:** 924 Senate St 29201. **Facility:** 222 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.

SAVE    CALL    **BIZ** **HS**      / SOME UNITS 



 HOLIDAY INN COLUMBIA DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 803/205-4950

 Hotel. **Address:** 1233 Washington St 29201.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS AND SUITES DOWNTOWN VISTA **BOOK NOW** 803/683-7500
 Hotel. **Address:** 901 Washington St 29201.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS COLUMBIA NE - FORT JACKSON **BOOK NOW** 803/699-9333
 Hotel. **Address:** 8300 Two Notch Rd 29223.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES COLUMBIA-FORT JACKSON **BOOK NOW** 803/695-1111
 Hotel. **Address:** 7329 Garners Ferry Rd 29209.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES COLUMBIA I-20 AT CLEMSON RD **BOOK NOW** 803/419-3558
 Hotel. **Address:** 1011 Clemson Frontage Rd 29229.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON COLUMBIA/HARBISON **BOOK NOW** 803/766-0600
 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 550 Columbiana Dr 29212.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON COLUMBIA SOUTHEAST FORT JACKSON **BOOK NOW** 803/881-9700
 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 7340 Garners Ferry Rd 29209.

 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON-COLUMBIA, SC **BOOK NOW** 803/239-4663
 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 230 Greystone Blvd 29210.

 HOTEL TRUNDLE **BOOK NOW** 803/722-5000


Historic Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 1224 Taylor St 29201.

 **HYATT PLACE COLUMBIA/DOWNTOWN/THE VISTA** **BOOK NOW** 803/978-2013


 **HYATT PLACE**® **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 819 Gervais St 29201. **Facility:** 130 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.


 MICROTEL INN AND SUITES BY WYNDHAM COLUMBIA/FORT JACKSON

N **BOOK NOW** 803/736-3237



Hotel. **Address:** 1520 Barbara Dr 29223.

 RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA NORTHEAST **BOOK NOW** 803/788-8850


AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2320 Legrand Rd 29223.

 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA NEAR FORT

JACKSON **BOOK NOW** 803/704-1600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 170 E Exchange Blvd 29209.

 STAYBRIDGE SUITES COLUMBIA **BOOK NOW** 803/451-5900


Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1913 Huger St 29201.



 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA
NORTHWEST/HARBISON **BOOK NOW** 803/749-7552



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 438 Columbiana Dr 29212.

 TRU BY HILTON COLUMBIA GREYSTONE **BOOK NOW** 803/756-4140



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 185 Stoneridge Dr 29210.

CONGAREE NATIONAL PARK

Elevations in the park range from 75 ft. to 136 ft.
Refer to AAA maps for additional elevation information.

Situated along the Congaree and Wateree rivers, approximately 3 miles southeast of Hopkins off SR 48 (Bluff Rd.), following signs, Congaree National Park encompasses nearly 26,000 acres and is the largest intact tract of old-growth bottomland forest in North America. The park, a sanctuary for diverse flora and fauna, is characterized by giant hardwoods and towering pines and comprises one of the highest canopies in the world and some of the tallest trees in the eastern United States.

Over the centuries, the prehistoric forest has survived several significant challenges. From their arrival around 1700 and continuing through 1860, the European settlers attempted to make the land suitable for planting and grazing. Despite the settlers' best efforts, agricultural activity was prevented due to intermittent flooding, but the latter allowed for soil renewal and enabled the forest's trees to thrive. Bald cypress, in particular, became a target for logging, and by 1905 much of the area had been acquired for logging purposes. Within 10 years, poor accessibility by land and the forest's perpetual dampness had suspended operations, leaving the forest predominantly untouched.

In 1969 private landowners considered resuming logging operations. The reaction was an effective campaign launched by a group of South Carolinian environmentalists and concerned individuals who banded together to protect the floodplain. In 1976 Congress established Congaree Swamp National Monument.

The force of Hurricane Hugo in September 1989 resulted in the park losing several national champion trees

but the hurricane also proved to be a catalyst for new forest growth. Fallen trees have served as shelter for many species of organisms and standing dead trees provided new homes for a variety of plant and animal species. The Congaree Swamp National Monument was designated a national park in November 2003.

Recreational opportunities include picnicking, hiking, fishing, primitive camping, canoeing, kayaking, bird-watching, ranger-guided interpretive walks and canoe tours, nature study, and environmental education programs. Free 3-hour ranger-guided canoe tours take place on some weekends throughout the year and are ideal for beginners. More information about the park's activities is available at the visitor center.

Visitors may experience the park by way of six walking trails. The elevated 2.4-mile boardwalk loop moves from primeval swamp to massive pines and hardwood forests. The 2.1-mile Bluff Trail, near the visitor center, traverses a young loblolly pine forest. The 6.6-mile Oakridge Trail and the 4.4-mile Weston Trail pass through old-growth forests. At a length of 10 miles, the River Trail leads to the Congaree River. The 11.7-mile Kingsnake Trail to remote areas is likely to yield sightings of deer, opossums, raccoons and varied bird species, including barred owls. A marked wilderness canoe trail is on Cedar Creek, home to river otters.

Park open daily 24 hours. Visitor center daily 9-5; closed federal holidays. For further information phone (803) 776-4396. *See Recreation Areas Chart.*

CONWAY

- **Hotels p. 82**
- **Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94**

Two constants have shaped the history of Conway—the Waccamaw River and the live oak trees that grace its



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

82 CONWAY — COWPENS NB, SC

streets. One of the oldest towns in South Carolina, Conway was created in 1734 and originally named Kingston, in honor of Great Britain's King George II. After the Revolutionary War its name was changed to Conwayborough after Gen. Robert Conway. The name was shortened to Conway in 1883.

The town prospered in the 1820s as a busy port on the Waccamaw River. Its current city hall, formerly the Horry (pronounced O-ree) County courthouse, was built 1824-25. The structure, at the corner of Main Street and Third Avenue, was designed by Robert Mills, the architect of the Washington Monument.

The historic river town has preserved much of its past, including many centuries-old live oaks, some named after prominent citizens. The moss-draped trees, now protected by an ordinance, are so revered that traffic has been rerouted around them.

Conway Chamber of Commerce: 203 Main St., Conway, SC 29526. **Phone:** (843) 248-2273.

Self-guiding tours: Copies of the "Conway Historic Trail Map," which lists 39 of the city's historic sites, significant

buildings and distinctive homes, and "A Guide to Conway's Live Oaks," a walking tour describing many of the oaks the town has preserved since the 1780s, are available at the chamber of commerce.

L.W. PAUL LIVING HISTORY FARM, 2279 Harris Shortcut Rd., is a re-creation depicting a one-horse family farm from the first half of the 20th century. Farmhands give tours of the operational 17-acre farm, which includes animals, a blacksmith shop, church/meeting hall, farmhouse, gristmill, sawmill, smokehouse, stables, syrup mill, tobacco curing house, woodworking area and a visitor center. The guides describe each building's function as well as the historic tools and equipment.

On special-event Saturdays, demonstrations in various disciplines—including churning butter, making lye soap, milking a cow, harvesting crops, plowing, curing meat, preserving vegetables and making syrup—are given and visitors are invited to participate. Special events are held throughout the year.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 365-3596 (farm), or (843) 915-5320 (museum).  

 FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT COASTAL CAROLINA

CONWAY **BOOK NOW** 843/331-3141



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

 **Hotel. Address:** 2061 US-501 29526.

COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Encompassing 845 acres, Cowpens National Battlefield is 9 miles northwest of Gaffney and 18 miles northeast of Spartanburg, .2 miles east of the junction of SRs 11 and 110 at 4001 Chesnee Hwy. At the battlefield Patriots commanded by Gen. Daniel Morgan outfought a more experienced British force under Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton during the Revolutionary War.

After the Battle of Kings Mountain in 1780 British Gen. Charles Cornwallis chose to remain in South Carolina. Gen. Nathanael Greene, commissioned to reorganize the American forces, sent Morgan to divert Cornwallis' attention from the bulk of the American forces. Morgan threatened Ninety Six, where there was a British fort, so Cornwallis dispatched Tarleton to meet him.

When the two forces clashed at the cow pens on Jan. 17, 1781, the British infantry and dragoons outnumbered the Colonials, comprising Continental forces from Maryland and Delaware and militia units from the Carolinas, Georgia and Virginia.

Morgan, a brilliant strategist, divided his troops into three consecutive lines; the first two were meant to engage and slow the enemy, then fall back, leaving the brunt of the fighting to the more seasoned troops in the rear. The plan worked. Within an hour the Colonials sent the British regulars into a disorderly retreat. Morgan's losses were light; Tarleton's amounted to about 75 percent of his command.

Sites of major action are marked by exhibits along a 1.2-mile walking trail and a 3-mile automobile tour road. A restored 1828 log cabin also is beside the road.

The visitor center exhibits a lighted map tracing troop movements during the battle as well as oil paintings and weapons. An audiovisual presentation, "Cowpens: A Battle Remembered," lasts about 20 minutes and is shown hourly. Picnicking is permitted until 4:30. Allow 1 hour minimum. Battlefield and visitor center open daily 9-5. Closed Jan. 1, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Free. Phone (864) 461-2828.

DARLINGTON

The rich farmland surrounding Darlington produces some of the largest tobacco crops in the state. The city was the site of the Darlington War of 1894, a brief citizens' revolt against harsh liquor regulations, which permitted private homes to be searched without a warrant. Gov. B.R. Tillman sent the state militia to restore peace.

Today, revving engines shatter the peace at Darlington Raceway (*see attraction listing*), the home of major stock car races.

Greater Darlington Chamber of Commerce: 38 Public Sq., Darlington, SC 29532. **Phone:** (843) 393-2641.

DARLINGTON RACEWAY is at 1301 Harry Byrd Hwy. The track dubbed "Too Tough to Tame" opened in 1950 with the Southern 500, which has since become its signature annual event. The culmination of local businessman Harold Brasington's dreams and labor, Darlington Raceway is a 1.366-mile egg-shaped oval; the lopsided west end was so configured to avoid destroying a neighboring landowner's fish pond.

Darlington's facilities include two towers, state-of-the-art grandstands and a pit road wide enough for the full lineup. Unless there is a special event, visitors can go to Gate 39A to have a look. The raceway gets a lot of attention

Labor Day weekend when it hosts a NASCAR XFINITY Series event as well as a NASCAR Cup Series event. **Phone:** (843) 395-8900 for information, (843) 395-8806, or (866) 459-7223 for race ticket information. 

Darlington Raceway Stock Car Museum & NMPA Hall of Fame is at Darlington Raceway at 1301 Harry Byrd Hwy. The facility displays stock cars, trophies and racing-related items. There are interactive exhibits, and a theater shows racing highlight clips. **Phone:** (843) 395-8821.

DAUFUSKIE ISLAND

Daufuskie Island can be reached via a ferry boarded from Broad Creek Marina at 18 Simmons Rd. in Hilton Head Island. The captain fills the 10-mile trip with local history stories, and the scenery includes waterfront mansions and possibly dolphins and sea birds. Visitors can also reach the island by water taxi (May River Excursions, 81 Calhoun St. in Bluffton) and personal watercraft; a public boat ramp is at Intracoastal Waterway Marker 29.

Upon arrival, pick up a golf cart and map to begin a self-guiding tour. The dirt roads pass historical structures and cemeteries, and there is also access to a beach with a historic lighthouse; drive slowly and allow 2 hours to complete the route since some are spaced fairly far apart. A 2-hour guided tour on a school bus also is offered. Phone (843) 342-8687 for the ferry and (843) 304-2878 for the water taxi.

DUNCAN

• Hotels p. 83



HAMPTON INN & SUITES GREENVILLE/DUNCAN

BOOK NOW

864/486-8100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 108 Spartangreen Blvd 29334. **Facility:** 133 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest**

Services: valet and coin laundry.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 864/486-9191



Hotel. **Address:** 275 Frontage Rd 29334.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON DUNCAN **BOOK NOW** 864/249-7144



HOME2
SUITES BY HILTON

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 104 Spartangreen Blvd 29334. **Facility:** 118 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



EDGEFIELD

JOANNE T. RAINSFORD DISCOVERY CENTER is at 405 Main St. Exhibits relating to the local history of Edgefield County are displayed in a restored 1840s farmhouse that has been relocated from Trenton. Topics showcased include natural history, early settlement, the Revolutionary and Civil wars and the history of cotton in the state. An extensive exhibit about Strom Thurmond includes personal memorabilia.

The center also houses a community theater company.

Phone: (803) 637-3833. **GT**

FLORENCE

See also Latta p. 117

• Hotels p. 85

The Great Pee Dee River allowed Florence to become a transportation hub, and in 1853 the area became an important junction of two rail lines. During the Civil War Florence had one of the South's largest prisoner of war camps. Many of the captured Union soldiers succumbed to disease and war injuries and were buried in the Florence National Cemetery, 1 mile east of US 301S on National Cemetery Road. Florena Budwin, believed to be the first woman buried in a national cemetery, is interred here.

The 12-mile Beauty Trail is lined with marked gardens that begin to bloom in late March and early April; azaleas, camellias and roses are some of the flowers that grow along this route that includes historic neighborhoods and Timrod Park. Freedom Florence Recreation Complex, 1515 Freedom Blvd., has a gymnastics center and offers fishing, picnicking and a trail for jogging, walking and biking. The Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center, 1060 N. Cashua Dr., has 24 hard and six clay courts; the facility is free and open daily.

Florence Center, 3300 W. Radio Dr., is a large-scale convention, entertainment and exhibition facility; phone (843) 679-9417. Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center, downtown at 201 S. Dargan St., holds a variety of music and theater events; phone (843) 661-1720.

Florence Convention and Visitors Bureau: 3290 W. Radio Dr., Florence, SC 29501. **Phone:** (843) 664-0330 or (800) 325-9005.

Shopping: Magnolia Mall (2701 David H. McLeod Blvd.) offers Belk as an anchor as well as dozens of stores and services. Pee Dee State Farmers Market (2513 W. Lucas St.) offers fresh produce, plants, garden accessories and specialty food items Monday through Saturday. Young Plantations Outlet (2005 Babar Ln.) specializes in flavored pecans and other local food products.



AAA ALOFT FLORENCE **BOOK NOW** 843/432-3200



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 820 Woody Jones Blvd 29501.

AAA BEST WESTERN INN FLORENCE **BOOK NOW** 843/678-9292



Motel. **Address:** 1808 W Lucas St 29501. **Location:** Located near active railroad tracks. **Facility:** 74 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor.



AAA COMFORT INN & SUITES FLORENCE **BOOK NOW** 843/702-3300



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 527 Woody Jones Blvd 29501. **Facility:** 89 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA COMFORT SUITES FLORENCE I-95 **BOOK NOW** 843/662-5295



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 2120 W Lucas St 29501. **Location:** Located near active railroad tracks. **Facility:** 77 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry.





FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT - FLORENCE I-20

BOOK NOW

843/665-4488



Fairfield

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 501 Woody Jones Blvd 29501. **Facility:** 86 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES - FLORENCE CENTER

BOOK NOW

843/629-9900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 3000 W Radio Dr 29501. **Location:** Adjacent to Florence Center. **Facility:** 82 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES FLORENCE NORTH/I-95

BOOK NOW

843/662-7000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 1735 Stokes Rd 29501. **Location:** Located near active railroad tracks. **Facility:** 136 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



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AAA HILTON GARDEN INN FLORENCE **BOOK NOW** 843/432-3001



Hilton Garden Inn **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 2671 Hospitality Blvd 29501. **Facility:** 186 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES FLORENCE I-95 & I-20 CIVIC CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/432-1500



Hotel. **Address:** 3440 W Radio Dr 29501. **Facility:** 87 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES HWY 327 **BOOK NOW** 843/629-9779



Hotel. **Address:** 2101 Florence Harlee Blvd 29506.

AAA HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON FLORENCE, SC **BOOK NOW** 843/664-9008



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 900 Woody Jones Blvd 29501.

AAA HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON FLORENCE **BOOK NOW** 843/407-1600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 3450 W Radio Dr 29501.

AAA **HYATT PLACE FLORENCE DOWNTOWN** **BOOK NOW** 843/519-9900



HYATT PLACE **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Hotel. **Address:** 100 E Evans St 29505. **Facility:** 103 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA **RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FLORENCE** **BOOK NOW** 843/468-2800



Residence INN. **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2660 Hospitality Blvd 29501. **Facility:** 94 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA **SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT FLORENCE** **BOOK NOW** 843/317-9050



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2670 Hospitality Blvd 29501.

AAA **STAYBRIDGE SUITES FLORENCE CENTER** **BOOK NOW** 843/519-5200



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 150 Westpark Dr 29501.

AAA **TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT FLORENCE** **BOOK NOW** 843/407-9400



TOWNEPLACE SUITES **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2650 Hospitality Blvd 29501. **Facility:** 89 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



FOLLY BEACH

- Hotels p. 89
- Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

 TIDES FOLLY BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/588-6464



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1 Center St 29439.

 WATER'S EDGE INN **BOOK NOW** 843/588-9800



Boutique Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 79 W 2nd St 29439.

FORT MILL

- Hotels p. 89

 BEST WESTERN CAROWINDS **BOOK NOW** 803/548-8400



Hotel. **Address:** 3675 Foothills Way 29708. **Facility:** 52 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 CAMBRIA HOTEL FORT MILL **BOOK NOW** 803/578-9960



CAMBRIA hotels **AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 340 Amistead Ave 29708. **Facility:** 127 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 **COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CHARLOTTE FORT MILL** **BOOK NOW** 803/548-0156



COURTYARD **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 1385 Broadcloth St 29715. **Facility:** 129 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

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 **HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON FORT MILL** **BOOK NOW** 803/578-2600

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 Hotel. **Address:** 1520 Carolina Place Dr 29708.

 **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES** **BOOK NOW** 803/802-0300

 **THREE DIAMOND**
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Hotel. **Address:** 1655 Carolina Place Dr 29708.

 **HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON FORT MILL** **BOOK NOW** 803/547-1111

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 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1840 Coltharp Rd 29708.

 **QUALITY INN AT THE PARK** **BOOK NOW** 803/548-0100

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Hotel. **Address:** 3560 Lakemont Blvd 29708.

 **TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT MILL AT CAROWINDS BLVD** **BOOK NOW** 803/650-6625

 **THREE DIAMOND**
INSPECTED  CLEAN™

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 3519 Lakemont Blvd 29708.

 TRU BY HILTON FORT MILL **BOOK NOW** 803/228-9175



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 120 Crisanto Ave 29715.

 **FORT SUMTER NATIONAL MONUMENT**
• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

Fort Sumter, a brick fortification built 1829-60 on a man-made island in Charleston Harbor, is accessible only by boat (*see Boat Tours p. 46*). On April 12, 1861, Confederate troops directed the opening shots of the Civil War against Fort Sumter, and after a 34-hour bombardment, the small Union garrison surrendered.

Confederate forces occupied the fort until February 1865, successfully defying the blockade and foiling Federal attempts to capture Charleston, which remained a major port of the Confederacy. The fort contains some large cannons, and projectiles fired during the war still are embedded in the thick walls. A museum displays relics. National Park Service rangers present history talks.

Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. Tours depart daily from Liberty Square, 340 Concord St. next to the South Carolina Aquarium and from Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Mount Pleasant. Visitors should arrive 30 minutes prior to departure. Phone ahead to confirm schedule. Phone (843) 883-3123 for fort information, or (843) 722-2628 or (800) 789-3678 for boat tour information.

FORT MOULTRIE is on Sullivan’s Island (*see place listing p. 163*) at 1214 Middle St., reached via US 17 and SR 703. A military post for more than 170 years, the fort was the site of one of the first American victories of the Revolutionary War. The outnumbered Colonial garrison withstood bombardment by the British navy, whose shells were absorbed by the spongy palmetto log and sand defenses. Less than a century later the fort played a role during the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter.

A visitor center houses exhibits and shows a 20-minute film. **Time:** Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 883-3123. 

FORT SUMTER TOURS—see Charleston (Boat Tours) p. 46.

FRANCIS MARION NATIONAL FOREST
• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

Elevations in the forest range from sea level to 50 ft. Refer to AAA maps for additional elevation information.

North of Charleston, Francis Marion National Forest covers 259,000 acres of low flatlands; coastal sand areas; black swamp waters; moss-hung oaks; pines; and little lakes, or Carolina Bays, thought to be water-filled meteorite impact depressions. The land had been heavily logged and was in poor condition when it was purchased from private owners in the 1930s. The newly created forest was named for the Revolutionary War general who engaged British troops in many skirmishes and battles in the area and then took refuge in the deep swamps, thus earning the nickname Swamp Fox. Much of the restoration performed over the succeeding 5 decades was undone by Hurricane Hugo in 1989, when more than 1 billion board feet of timber was destroyed.

Home to varied wildlife, the forest is a primary habitat of the red-cockaded woodpecker and of the swallow-tailed kite. The Sewee Visitors Center in Awendaw off Hwy. 17, offers an interpretive and environmental educational experience. Maps of the forest and Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Refuges are available.

For additional information contact the Forest Supervisor’s Office, 4931 Broad River Rd., Columbia, SC 29212. Phone (803) 561-4000. *See Recreation Areas Chart.*

GARDEN CITY BEACH
• Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94

The pier at Garden City Beach, a popular gathering place and site of laid-back pursuits, is considered one of the area’s prime fishing locations. Anglers can rent fishing gear (or bring their own) and cast a line off the ocean side of the pier, while families can delight in some old-fashioned entertainment at the beachside arcade. Live bands perform here during summer evenings, creating a lively atmosphere appropriate for all ages.



GEORGETOWN

- **Hotels p. 92**
- **Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94**

The mid-19th-century export seat of the great Carolina Gold rice empire, Georgetown developed into an important shipping port thanks to its deepwater harbor. Some of the town's early 18th-century buildings are still in use and can be seen on a walk or ride along the historic district's oak-shaded streets. To delve deeper into Georgetown's history and natural environment, take a guided tour or explore one of its museums. Complete your visit with a dining and shopping experience on Front Street.

Georgetown County Tourism Management Commission: 531 Front St., Georgetown, SC 29442. **Phone:** (843) 546-8436.

Self-guiding tours: Maps detailing walking and driving tours past historic sites are available from the chamber of commerce.

Shopping: In Georgetown, some of the best places to swipe your credit card are found on lantern-lit Front Street, which runs parallel to the Harborwalk in the town's compact historic district. Pretty pastel-colored buildings house an eclectic mix of retailers specializing in art, antiques, men's and women's apparel, books, home decor, jewelry, gifts and more. On Saturdays from April through October, pick up some locally grown fruits and veggies at the farmers market in nearby East Bay Park, on the south end of E. Bay Street.

HOBCAW BARONY, 22 Hobcaw Rd., is a 16,000-acre wildlife refuge owned by the Belle W. Baruch Foundation and operated as a research, conservation and education facility. Staff-guided tours and programs are offered year-round and include the plantations, former rice fields, forests, marshes and swamps. Audiovisual presentations, field studies, walks and focus tours are available at specific times as public programs. The Discovery Center museum features exhibits about area history, enslaved labor, the Bernard Baruch family, environmental research, a 1,200-gallon saltwater aquarium, and local flora and fauna.

Note: Access to the grounds is by guided tour only. Inquire about weather policies and accessibility of seasonal

programs and hikes; comfortable shoes, water, sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended. Strollers and car seats are not permitted on buses. **Time:** Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 546-4623. **GT**

KAMINSKI HOUSE MUSEUM is at 1003 Front St. Built in the 1760s, the house contains American and European furnishings from the 17th through the 20th centuries. Docent-led guided tours also include the Stewart-Parker House, built around 1740. **Phone:** (843) 546-7706. **GT**

LOWCOUNTRY BOAT TOURS departs from 701 Front St. at jct. Screven St. behind the Town Clock. A 3-hour Plantation River, 4-hour Lighthouse Shell Island and 2-hour Harbor tours are given aboard a pontoon boat. On the Lighthouse Shell Island tour, visitors can disembark at a barrier island and spend an hour on the beach.

Phone: (843) 477-0287. **GT**

PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH CHURCH (Episcopal), 300 Broad St. at Highmarket St., dates from 1735. Colonists as well as Revolutionary and Confederate soldiers are buried at the site. **Phone:** (843) 546-4358.

RICE MUSEUM, 633 Front St. at jct. Screven St., chronicles the history of the rice industry in the United States with maps, dioramas, photographs and artifacts. A maritime exhibit features the restored Browns Ferry vessel, a 50-foot river freighter that sunk in the Black River around 1730. The museum also has a cross-section scale model of a rice mill and an art gallery. **Phone:** (843) 546-7423.

ROVER TOURS departs from 735 Front St. The narrated 3-hour Shelling and Lighthouse Cruise stops at a barrier island near the Georgetown Lighthouse, part of the Tom Yawkey Wildlife Preserve. **Note:** The lighthouse is not open to the public. **Phone:** (843) 546-8822. **GT**

SWAMP FOX TOURS departs from 814 Front St. Bus and jeep-pulled tram tours provide historical information while showcasing the town's historic churches, graveyards, homes and the waterfront. Specialized tours, including plantation tours, also are available. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 527-1112 or (843) 450-8433. **GT**



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON GEORGETOWN MARINA

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843/545-5000



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Hotel. Address: 420 Marina Dr 29440.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

THE GRAND STRAND

Showers are welcome on The Grand Strand's award-winning golf courses only when accolades rain down. The sport's greatest players and architects have helped make Myrtle Beach and surrounds one of the nation's top golfing resorts, where there's plenty of things to see. Esteemed course designer Robert Trent Jones Sr. created The Dunes and Waterway Hills. Arnold Palmer laid out King's North at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club, while Jack Nicklaus transformed the former rice fields of Pawleys Plantation in Pawleys Island into one of the Lowcountry's most beautiful upscale membership courses. And with a signature course at Barefoot Resort and a local restaurant at Barefoot Landing, Greg Norman may have scored a double eagle.

Promoters brag that The Grand Strand has more golf courses per-capita than any destination in the world. Development as a golfing destination began as early as the 1920s with Pine Lakes Golf Club in Myrtle Beach, today a stronghold of traditional golf with its classic fairways, antebellum clubhouse and kilt-wearing attendants. Course designer Robert White hailed from St. Andrews, Scotland, and served as the first president of the Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA).

Even miniature golf is big here with plenty of places to go. Would you believe there are at least 50 places to putt, each with an eye-catching theme and things to do with kids? If you break for putting greens, look for life-size dinosaurs, towering volcanoes and pirate ship replicas conspicuously placed along the major thoroughfares. You can't miss them.

Music capital. Branson East. Grandiose nicknames capture the scope of The Strand's entertainment scene, and particularly its connections to the music industry. Alabama, one of country music's all-time-great bands, got its start playing in the 1970s at The Bowrey, a honkey tonk country bar still open today and recently ranked in the top 10 of honkey tonk bars in the country. Shagging became an East Coast dance craze and thing for couples to do in the 1950s, while at the same time introducing a regional music genre later coined beach music. As superstars, Alabama wrote "Dancin', Shaggin' on the Boulevard," a tribute to their early years here. The group also established Alabama Theatre, one of The Strand's premiere performance venues, in North Myrtle Beach.

If longevity is a measure of success in the entertainment business, one of Myrtle Beach's most popular performance venues bears witness. The Carolina Opry, ongoing

in The Calvin Gilmore Theater since 1986, is The Strand's granddaddy of variety shows and a fun thing to do with friends. Conceived by Missouri-born singer, entrepreneur and Grand Ole Opry performer Calvin Gilmore, the revue combines dance and comedy with gamut-running music styles.

Dolly's double and Elvis, Rod, Garth, Elton, Britney, Cher and other celebrity impersonators light up the Legends in Concert stage in Myrtle Beach, while the House of Blues in North Myrtle Beach regularly brings in the real deal—headliners of rock, jazz and blues. With live entertainment as a menu staple, Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville, at Broadway at the Beach in Myrtle Beach, is right at home in this coastal resort.

Of course, the beach remains the superstar of The Grand Strand. With 60 miles of coastline for a theater, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Not on the wide, cottage-dappled shores of the northern strand; nor in the shadows of high-rise hotels and condos in Myrtle Beach proper; nor beside grassy inlets, fishing villages and cooling maritime forests on the less-populated southern strand. Visitors staying at off-beach lodgings will really appreciate the plethora of public parking lots all along Ocean Boulevard.

A beach just isn't worth its salt air if it doesn't have a boardwalk, souvenir shops, swimwear boutiques, arcades, neon signs, open-air bars and at least one hot dog dive that's where to eat. Suffice it to say that Myrtle Beach's worthiness is secure—for now—in the historic district of Ocean Boulevard between 9th and 21st avenues. Noticeably absent from the familiar beachscape is the old Pavilion Amusement Park, at one time the epicenter of adventurous things to do. To the dismay of many, it was dismantled after the 2006 season dubbed "The Last Ride." Nevertheless, those with fond memories of Myrtle Beach's most popular landmark can still pick up farewell-season T-shirts, postcards and other memorabilia, or better yet, visit a scaled-down version of Pavilion Park in the southeast corner of Broadway at the Beach.

Wherever you stay or play on The Grand Strand will be within minutes of one of eight fishing piers. Some of the most popular destinations are the 2nd Avenue Pier in Myrtle Beach's historic district; The Pier at Garden City, with rental fishing equipment and an arcade for kids; and Cherry Grove Pier in North Myrtle Beach, the only one with a raised observation deck.





The Grand Strand

This map shows cities in The Grand Strand where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants. Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



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GREENVILLE

• Hotels p. 95

The Blue Ridge Mountains, visible from Greenville, present a compelling lure to many. By the early 19th century the region had become a summer resort for Low-country planters escaping the coastal heat and malaria. The town they built, Pleasantburg, soon was incorporated into Greenville as mills were erected to exploit the falls of the Reedy River in the heart of the community.

Despite the ravages of the Civil War, the city recovered. Greenville soon became known as the textile center of the world as many mills relocated from the Northeast. Falls Park on the Reedy preserves the site of the city's first settlement and the succession of mills that once stood there. The park offers gardens, waterfalls, picnic sites and several paths along the river.

During the Civil War Greenville was an important hospital center for Confederate soldiers. The city supports the Shriners Hospital for Children, which is one of the most modern hospitals of its kind; guided tours are available by phoning (864) 255-7863 between 10 and 3.

Performances by the Greenville Symphony Orchestra as well as ballet, chorale and theater groups are staged at the Peace Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Main St.; phone (864) 467-3000. The cultural and entertainment complex also includes an outdoor amphitheater and pavilion overlooking the Reedy River. The Greenville Little Theatre, established in 1926, presents six plays each year in the Charles E. Daniel Theatre, 444 College St.; phone (864) 233-6238.

Greenville has more than 60 city parks, including Cleveland Park, home to the Greenville Zoo (*see attraction listing*). Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway, northwest of Greenville, is lined with still lakes, greenery and historic sites.

Fluor Field at the West End is designed to resemble Boston's Fenway Park. The home team is the Greenville Drive, Class A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. Just like at

Fenway, fans are treated to Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" at each game.

Shoeless Joe Jackson fans will want to stop by Shoeless Joe Jackson Plaza, at the intersection of South Main and Augusta streets, for a photo of the bronze statue of Jackson. White Sox fans: make sure you check out the statue's base, which is made of bricks from the old Comiskey Park in Chicago where Jackson played.

Nearby at 356 Field St. is the Shoeless Joe Jackson Museum and Baseball Library, the former home of Joe (1888-1951) and Kate Jackson; it was moved from 3 miles away to this site in 2006. The seven-room brick home, which displays artifacts, photographs and other items of interest, is open Saturdays 10-2 or by appointment. Phone (864) 346-4867. Jackson and his wife are buried at Woodlawn Memorial Park on US 29 (Wade Hampton Blvd.). The flat headstone is in Section V; the baseball memorabilia should give it away.

Visit Greenville S.C.: 206 S. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601. **Phone:** (864) 233-0461 or (800) 717-0023.

Shopping: Belk, Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's are among the 100 stores at Haywood Mall (700 Haywood Rd.). Tree-lined Main Street, in downtown, features antique shops and specialty stores.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF THE UPSTATE, 300 College St., offers three floors of interactive exhibits. Focusing on the arts and humanities, science, finance, nutrition and the environment, hands-on displays include Fun and Games with STEM-inspired exhibits, Grandma Betty's Farm, Light Waves Ahead and Children's Hospital. Activities like scavenger hunts and story-time sessions also are available. **Phone:** (864) 233-7755. 

GREENVILLE ZOO is w. off I-385 exit 42 to 150 Cleveland Park Dr. in Cleveland Park, following signs. Fourteen landscaped acres feature outdoor habitats with primates, a red panda, giraffes and exotic cats. The reptile exhibit houses a 75-pound python. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (864) 467-4300.   



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW

864/720-2950



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Hotel. **Address:** 315 S Main St 29601.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA ALOFT GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/297-6100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 5 N Laurens St 29601. **Facility:** A hip and vibrant decor creates a minimalist style at this hotel. Amenities include comfortable bedding and modern technologies. The property is conveniently located near the fun downtown area. 144 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA CAMBRIA HOTEL GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/800-5900



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 135 Carolina Point Pkwy 29607. **Facility:** 126 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.



AAA COMFORT SUITES GREENVILLE AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/728-5051



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 1371 Garlington Rd 29615. **Facility:** 93 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/451-5700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 50 W Broad St 29601.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-GREENVILLE HAYWOOD MALL **BOOK NOW** 864/234-0300



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 70 Orchard Park Dr 29615.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE MAULDIN **BOOK NOW** 864/281-7887



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 100 Millport Cir 29607.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG
AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/213-9009



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 115 The Parkway 29615.

 CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/297-6300



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 851 Congaree Rd 29607.

 DRURY INN & SUITES-GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/288-4401



Hotel. **Address:** 10 Carolina Point Pkwy 29607.

 EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON GOLF RESORT HOTEL & CONFERENCE
CENTER **BOOK NOW** 864/676-9090



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 670 Verdae Blvd 29607.

 EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN
RIVERPLACE **BOOK NOW** 864/263-4800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 250 Riverplace 29601.



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COLLECTION **BOOK NOW** 864/520-5300



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HOTELS

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 44 E Camperdown Way 29601. **Location:** Waterfront.

Facility: The statement hotel is adorned with impressive details throughout public spaces, and overlooks the Reedy River in Falls Park. Upscale rooms feature Nespresso coffee makers, robes, and large smart TVs. 187 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES GREENVILLE AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/263-5555



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 128 The Parkway 29615.

AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES GREENVILLE RIVERPLACE **BOOK NOW** 864/271-8700



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 171 RiverPlace 29601.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON GREENVILLE I-385 AT WOODRUFF
RD **BOOK NOW** 864/213-8200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 15 Park Woodruff Dr 29607.

AAA HAMPTON INN GREENVILLE I-385 HAYWOOD MALL **BOOK NOW** 864/516-2400



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 255 Congaree Rd 29607.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/284-0111



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 108 Carolina Point Pkwy 29605.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.


HILTON GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/232-4747


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 45 W Orchard Park Dr 29615. **Facility:** 256 units. 2-9 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Activities:** exercise room.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/678-8000


Hotel. **Address:** 407 N Main St 29601.


HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES-I-85 & WOODRUFF RD **BOOK NOW** 864/678-5555


Hotel. **Address:** 1036 Woodruff Rd 29607.


HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON DOWNTOWN GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/626-3700


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 350 N Main St 29601.


HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON GREENVILLE AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/288-0000


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 20 Beacon Dr 29615.


HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/900-2380


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 950 S Main St 29601.



AAA HOTEL HARTNESS **BOOK NOW** 864/686-8900



Hotel. **Address:** 120 Halston Ave 29615.

AAA HYATT PLACE GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/720-2700



HYATT PLACE **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Hotel. **Address:** 128 E Broad St 29601. **Facility:** 130 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA HYATT PLACE GREENVILLE/HAYWOOD **BOOK NOW** 864/232-3000



HYATT PLACE **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 40 W Orchard Park Dr 29615. **Facility:** 126 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA HYATT REGENCY GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/235-1234



HYATT REGENCY **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 220 N Main St 29601. **Facility:** 327 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet and street only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



-  MARRIOTT GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/297-0300
 **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Hotel. **Address:** 1 Parkway E 29615.
-  MICROTEL INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM GREENVILLE/WOODRUFF RD **BOOK NOW** 864/297-3811
 Hotel. **Address:** 1024 Woodruff Rd 29607.
-  MIDTOWN SUITES GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/568-5901
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 11 Ketron Ct 29607.
-  PETTIGRU PLACE BED & BREAKFAST **BOOK NOW** 864/242-4529
 Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 302 Pettigru St 29601.
-  RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/297-5000
 **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 80 Carolina Point Pkwy 29607.
-  RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/720-2900
 **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 200 E Washington St 29601.
-  SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT-GREENVILLE DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 864/720-2901
 **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
 Hotel. **Address:** 200 E Washington St 29601.
-  STAYBRIDGE SUITES GREENVILLE/WOODRUFF RD **BOOK NOW** 864/288-4448
 Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 31 Market Point Dr 29607.



 TRU BY HILTON GREENVILLE WOODRUFF ROAD **BOOK NOW** 864/203-3600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 122 Carolina Point Pkwy 29605.

 THE WESTIN POINSETT, GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/421-9700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Classic Historic Hotel. **Address:** 120 S Main St 29601.

 WINGATE BY WYNDHAM GREENVILLE AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/281-1281



Hotel. **Address:** 33 Beacon Dr 29615.

GREENWOOD

Named in 1824 for a local plantation, Greenwood became the seat of its namesake county in 1897. Cotton growing and textile manufacturing contributed to early growth.

Held in June, the South Carolina Festival of Flowers offers garden tours, topiary displays and horticultural learning opportunities as well as kid-friendly activities, arts and crafts, and live bluegrass music.

Greenwood Regional Tourism and Visitors Bureau:
120 Main St., P.O. Box 40, Greenwood, SC 29648.
Phone: (864) 953-2466 or (866) 493-8474.

GREER

• Hotels p. 102

BMW ZENTRUM is off I-85 exit 60, then w. to 1400 SR 101S, following signs. Displays highlight BMW achievements and products, including aircraft engines, motorcycles, formula racing cars, art cars and vehicles created for movies. A 15-minute video provides a factory tour as seen from the car's point of view and follows the creation of the models built at the adjacent BMW Manufacturing Co. Guided tours of the factory also are offered except during new model production; headsets and safety glasses are provided.

Note: High- and open-heeled or open-toed shoes are not permitted on factory tours. Cameras are not allowed in the factory. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (888) 868-7269 for tour reservations. **GT** **TI**

 COMFORT INN & SUITES GREER - GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/877-0076



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

 Hotel. **Address:** 1315 W Wade Hampton Blvd 29650. **Facility:** 64 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES GREENVILLE
AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 864/213-9331



Hotel. **Address:** 2681 Dry Pocket Rd 29650.

 MAINSTAY SUITES-GREENVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/987-5566



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2671 Dry Pocket Rd 29650.

HARDEEVILLE

• Hotels p. 103

SAVANNAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is one part of the Savannah Coastal Refuge Complex, which extends from Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge near Hilton Head Island, S.C., to Wolf Island National Wildlife Refuge near Darien, Ga.; a visitor center is at 694 Beech Hill Ln. in Hardeeville, S.C. Freshwater marshes, tidal rivers and forests provide sanctuary for waterfowl, deer, turkey and bobcats. Many of the freshwater impoundments were originally created as plantation rice fields. The sur-

rounding dikes and earthen berms create good trails for hiking and wildlife viewing.

Bird-watching is best October through April. On the South Carolina side is the Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive, a scenic 4-mile route off SR 170. The refuge visitor center, on US 17 6 miles north of downtown Savannah and 7 miles south of Hardeeville, has a museum-quality exhibit hall where an 11-minute video about the refuge is shown. Various interpretive programs and special events are conducted throughout the year. Pets (including horses) are not permitted on refuge grounds. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 784-2468.

 FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT HARDEEVILLE I-95

NORTH **BOOK NOW** 843/784-7777



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 254 Brooks Willis Dr 29927.

 HAMPTON INN HARDEEVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/784-2100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 104 Brooks Willis Dr 29927.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 843/784-2800



Hotel. **Address:** 145 Independence Blvd 29927.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

HARTSVILLE• **Hotels p. 104**

Built on the plantation of Thomas Edward Hart, Hartsville grew into an active trading center largely through the efforts of the Coker family. Arriving in the mid-19th century, Maj. James Lide Coker established several businesses, constructed a railroad and founded Coker College, a 4-year liberal arts college with an enrollment of

more than 1,150. David Coker, an agricultural expert who bred superior strains of cotton and other crops, also contributed to the town's prosperity.

Today less than one percent of Hartsville's population is engaged in agriculture. The town accommodates several major manufacturers, including the international headquarters for a consumer and industrial packaging manufacturer.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES HARTSVILLE

BOOK NOW

843/332-2128



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!



Hotel. Address: 203 E Carolina Ave 29550.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND• **Hotels p. 105**

Recreational opportunities and natural wonders distinguish this destination. Hilton Head Island, located off the southern coast of South Carolina, borders one of the East Coast's remaining major unpolluted marine estuaries. It is the largest island between New Jersey and Florida, measuring 12 miles in length and up to 5 miles in width. The island was named after Capt. William Hilton, an Englishman who sailed into Port Royal Sound in 1663 and wrote about the island's green headlands.

Around 3,800 years ago, indigenous people occupied the island. Beginning in 1526, Spanish, French, and English colonists attempted to settle the area despite raids. English plantations became established by the mid-18th century, and until the Civil War, when Union troops used the island as a base to block Confederate ports, they prospered, growing indigo, rice and sea island cotton.

With the island essentially left to nature, the formerly enslaved African and Gullah population developed a culture based on hunting, fishing and agricultural pursuits. Ruins of historic plantations and forts can still be seen, including Baynard Ruins, a once prosperous sea island cotton plantation. From the intersection of SRs 336 and 462, you can see the tomb of Thomas Heyward Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Near the tomb, some historical information is displayed. The ruins of his Old House Plantation, destroyed by Union soldiers in 1864, are nearby but on private property and are not open to the public.

The bridge to the mainland was completed in 1956, and the island developed into an all-year resort. Outdoor enthusiasts in particular will find lots of things to do in Hilton Head. There are two dozen championship golf courses, more than 300 tennis courts, riding stables, bicycle trails

and marinas among the facilities. Coligny Beach is a popular Hilton Head beach. Plenty of recreational opportunities and amenities can also be found at Hilton Head Island hotels and resorts. The RBC Heritage golf tournament is held in April at Harbour Town Links.

The Audubon Newhall Preserve, the Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge and the Sea Pines Forest Preserve in Hilton Head are all wildlife and waterfowl habitats. Daily sightseeing cruises can include Calibogue Sound, around the island and to Daufuskie Island (*see place listing p. 83*), where many old Gullah traditions are observed.

During the summer, loggerhead sea turtles come ashore to lay their eggs, and the hatchlings emerge and make their way to the ocean about two months later. Because the process is dependent on their ability to distinguish between natural light and darkness, Hilton Head Island streets and some commercial signage are dimly lit at night, if at all. Artificial light sources can cause the turtles to become disoriented. If you're unfamiliar with the area, it's a good idea to get a sense of the street layout before driving at night. Aside from aiding in the conservation of sea turtles, the extreme nighttime darkness also improves stargazing opportunities.

Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce and Visitor & Convention Bureau: 1 Chamber of Commerce Dr., Hilton Head Island, SC, 29928-3573. **Phone:** (843) 785-3673 or (800) 523-3373.

Shopping: Coligny Plaza (1 N. Forest Beach Dr.) has about 60 specialty shops, services and food places. Nearly a dozen boutiques and restaurants can be found at Main Street Village (1500 Main St.), Sea Turtle Marketplace (430 William Hilton Pkwy.) and Shelter Cove Harbour Shops (1 Harbourside Ln.). Shelter Cove Towne



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

Centre (40 Shelter Cove Ln.), anchored by Belk, is a mixed-use development with specialty stores, restaurants and residences. The lovely waterside location also includes a park with a concert pavilion and a playground. The Shops at Sea Pines Center (71 Lighthouse Rd.) offers stores, restaurants and services, as well as a farmers market (open seasonally). Call (843) 363-5699.

verses tidal marshlands; sights include birds and dolphins. The 2-hour Dolphin Watch/Disappearing Island Tour includes wildlife viewing from the Calibogue Sound and Daufuskie shoreline as well as beachcombing and an environmental discussion at Daufuskie Island. Sailboat rentals are available for those with previous experience.

All Dolphin Watch tours can take a maximum of six passengers. **Phone:** (843) 671-3344. **GT**

COMMANDER ZODIAC departs from 232 S. Sea Pines Dr. at South Beach Marina in Sea Pines Resort on the southern end of the island. The 1-hour Dolphin Watch includes the Calibogue Sound and Daufuskie shoreline; birds, dolphins and other marine wildlife can be seen. The 1.5-hour Dolphin Watch/Saltmarsh Discovery Tour tra-

GULLAH HERITAGE TRAIL TOURS departs from Coastal Discovery Museum at 70 Honey Horn Dr. Gullah tour guides share firsthand accounts of Gullah traditions on 2-hour narrated bus tours through ten family-based neighborhoods. Topics discussed include food, family life, folklore and language. **Phone:** (843) 681-7066. **GT**



THE BEACH HOUSE RESORT

BOOK NOW

843/785-5126



Hotel. **Address:** 1 S Forest Beach Dr 29928. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** 202 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT HILTON HEAD ISLAND

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843/802-2180



COURTYARD **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 79 Pope Ave 29928. **Facility:** 115 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



DISNEY'S HILTON HEAD ISLAND RESORT

BOOK NOW

843/341-4150



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 22 Harbourside Ln 29928.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/842-3100



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 36 S Forest Beach Dr 29928.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON - HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/681-7900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: One Dillon Rd 29926. **Location:** Adjacent to airport.

Facility: 122 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA HILTON BEACHFRONT RESORT & SPA HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/686-8400



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Resort Hotel. Address: One Hotel Cir 29928. **Location:** Oceanfront.

Facility: A spacious ocean resort with plush seaside or island-view rooms, the property offers numerous activities as well as several areas for

lounging. The full-service spa is popular with guests. 513 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes.

Dining: 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs in season, bicycles, game room, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



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AAA HILTON GARDEN INN HILTON HEAD **BOOK NOW** 843/837-8111



Hilton
Garden Inn

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Hotel. **Address:** 1575 Fording Island Rd 29926. **Facility:** 104 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB OCEAN OAK RESORT HILTON HEAD **BOOK NOW** 843/342-8400



Hilton
Grand Vacations

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Resort Condominium. **Address:** 41 S Forest Beach Dr 29928.

Location: Oceanfront. **Facility:** This upscale extended stay property features large two-bedroom suites with full kitchens and balconies. The oceanfront pool and expansive lawns are some of the amenity highlights. 116 condominiums. 7 stories, exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs, lawn sports, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/842-6662



Hotel. **Address:** 2 Tanglewood Dr 29928.

AAA HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/802-2700



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 836 William Hilton Pkwy 29928.



AAA THE INN & CLUB AT HARBOUR TOWN **BOOK NOW** 843/363-8100


Hotel. **Address:** 7 Lighthouse Ln 29928. **Location:** Harbour Town Golf Links. **Facility:** Bordered by the famous Harbour Town golf links and a large racquet club, this upscale, full-service hotel exudes a luxurious ambience. Public areas are reminiscent of a private English clubhouse. 60 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, marina, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation.


AAA OMNI HILTON HEAD OCEANFRONT RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/842-8000


Resort Hotel. **Address:** 23 Ocean Ln 29928. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** This lushly landscaped resort offers spacious studio suites with luxury appointments, mini-kitchens and a balcony. Two-room oceanfront king suites are also available. 323 units. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.

(See ad p. 109.)


AAA PALMERA INN AND SUITES **BOOK NOW** 843/686-5700


Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 12 Park Ln 29928.

AAA SONESTA RESORT HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/842-2400


Resort Hotel. **Address:** 140 Shipyard Dr 29928. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** The property offers spacious, renovated rooms with balconies, most of which are overlooking the pool or a lagoon. Attractive, lushly landscaped public areas add to the tropical ambience. 340 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs in season, bicycles, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



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AAA SPARK BY HILTON - HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/715-4116



spark
by Hilton™

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Motel. Address: 11 Lemoyne Ave 29928. **Location:** Located in a residential area. **Facility:** 63 units. 3 stories, exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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AAA SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT HILTON HEAD ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/802-8200

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SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1 Marina Dr 29928.

AAA THE WESTIN HILTON HEAD ISLAND RESORT & SPA **BOOK NOW** 843/681-4000



WESTIN
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AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: Two Grasslawn Ave 29928. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** Lush gardens add interest to this property, which offers spacious rooms with private patios providing resort, pool or ocean views. Large open suites and rooms with bunk beds are also available. 420 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation. *(See ad p. 111.)*



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2 GRASSLAWN AVENUE, HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC · 843.681.4000



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RESORT & SPA

IRMO

• Hotels p. 112



HYATT PLACE COLUMBIA/HARBISON

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HYATT PLACE

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. **Address:** 1130 Kinley Rd 29063. **Facility:** 127 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA

NORTHWEST/HARBISON

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Residence INN

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 944 Lake Murray Blvd 29063. **Facility:** 100 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



ISLE OF PALMS

• Hotels p. 113

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

Just across the IOP Connector Bridge about 20 minutes from Charleston, Isle of Palms is a 7-mile-long and 1-mile-wide barrier island, where stately beach homes punctuate lovely stretches of white sand and marsh creek. While still considered to be laid-back by modern standards, the town is a bit more commercial than neighboring Sullivan's Island, with shopping centers and a grocery store.

The main attraction here is the beaches, and the city offers more than 50 paths for public access. Visitors can park on any road right-of-way that doesn't display a "no parking" sign, and beachfront restroom facilities and a boardwalk area are nice conveniences for the casual day tripper in for a round of sunbathing or some crabbing and shrimping along the shore. Cyclists may opt to take a ride

along one of the many bike paths that snake throughout the island.

Those interested in chartering an inshore or offshore fishing excursion should head to the marina, where it's also possible to arrange an ecotour of one of the nearby uninhabited islands. Golfers can play a round at Wild Dunes Resort on the island's north end, where two 18-hole Tom Fazio courses—the Harbor and the Links—challenge all ability levels.

BARRIER ISLAND ECOTOURS departs from Isle of Palms Marina, n. off SR 703 to 50 41st Ave. A narrated 3.5-hour excursion to Capers Island features wildlife sightings in salt-marsh tidal creeks and opportunities for shelling, bird-watching and island exploration. During the cruise, nets and habitat traps are pulled to give passengers a close look at marine creatures. Sunset cruises and crabbing clinics also are available.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 886-5000.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA THE BOARDWALK INN AT WILD DUNES RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/886-6000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Boutique Resort Hotel. **Address:** 5757 Palm Blvd 29451. **Facility:** Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway, this resort hotel features large upscale rooms and two-room suites. Some rooms have balconies. A world-class golf course is on site. 93 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor. **Activities:** cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, trails, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Destination Hotels.



AAA THE PALMS OCEANFRONT HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/886-3003



Hotel. **Address:** 1126 Ocean Blvd 29451.

AAA RESIDENCE AT SWEETGRASS AT WILD DUNES RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/886-6000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Vacation Rental Hotel. **Address:** 5757 Palm Blvd 29451. **Facility:** Located in a gated community, this multifaceted condo complex offers standard studios and one- to three-bedroom units with 400- to 3,000-square-feet of living space. 144 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms and kitchens. 3-5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, trails, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Destination Hotels.



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THE SWEETGRASS INN AT WILD DUNES RESORT

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**AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 5757 Palm Blvd 29451. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** Located within an oceanfront resort, this grandiose beach retreat offers a variety of comfortable rooms, most of which have a balcony. Guests will enjoy the plush bedding, robes and Nespresso coffee. 153 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, trails, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Destination Hotels.

**JOHNS ISLAND**

- Hotels p. 114
- Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30



ANDELL INN/RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON KIAWAH

ISLAND

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843/793-6050

**AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!****SAVE** Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 300 Farm Lake View Rd 29455.**KIAWAH ISLAND**

- Hotels p. 114 • Restaurants p. 115
- Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

Amiable Kiawah Island invites you to slow down and relax for a spell. This barrier island is about 25 miles southwest of Charleston, separated from the mainland by the Kiawah River. Kiawah has an ambience that beckons—cobblestone lanes, clumps of cabbage palms, live oaks festooned with Spanish moss, 10 miles of wide oceanfront beach. And five championship courses make it one of South Carolina's premier golf destinations.

Kiawah Beachwalker Park, 8 Beachwalker Dr. at the island's western end, offers the only public beach on Kiawah. In addition to a flat, open stretch of sandy beach, facilities include a boardwalk, changing area and grills for picnicking; beach chair and umbrella rentals are available seasonally. Hours also vary by season and an annual park pass is available; phone (843) 768-2395.

Shopping: Freshfields Village (165 Village Green Ln.), a pedestrian-friendly, town center-style shopping center, is home to such casual clothing stores as Leggiadro, Lilly Pulitzer, Tommy Bahama and Vineyard Vines.



KIAWAH ISLAND GOLF RESORT - VILLAS & HOMES

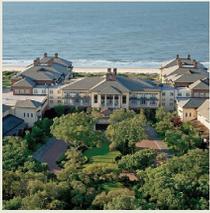
BOOK NOW

843/768-2121

Resort Condominium. **Address:** 5480 Sea Forest Dr 29455.

Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA THE SANCTUARY AT KIAWAH ISLAND GOLF RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/768-6000



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 1 Sanctuary Beach Dr 29455. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** The opulent hotel is the crown jewel of this world-class golf resort. Spacious accommodations feature elegant, plush beds, marble bathrooms and garden or ocean views. An enchanting stay awaits you. 255 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants, also, The Ocean Room, see separate listing. **Pool:** heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, motor boats, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Preferred Hotels & Resorts.



WHERE TO EAT

AAA THE OCEAN ROOM 843/768-6000



Steak Seafood Fine Dining. **Expert Advice:** Enveloped in plush leather and dark mahogany with relaxing views of the Atlantic Ocean, the signature restaurant at this AAA Five Diamond resort offers an unforgettable fine dining experience. The à la carte main menu offers several specialty cuts of prime USDA beef as well as a few seafood, chicken and vegetarian selections. The menu changes occasionally to ensure fresh seasonal ingredients from local farms and ranches but always provides a diverse selection to please all palates. **Features:** full bar. **Reservations:** required. Semiformal attire. **Address:** One Sanctuary Beach Dr 29455. **Parking:** on-site and valet.



KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

South of the town of Kings Mountain, N.C., off I-85, is Kings Mountain National Military Park, one of the largest military parks in the United States. Spreading across York and Cherokee counties in South Carolina, this 3,950-acre area is a spur of the Kings Mountain Range. Battlefield Ridge, about 600 yards long, is a narrow hogback 60 feet above the surrounding valleys.

After several years of hostilities, only one Southern region remained undisturbed by the Revolutionary War—the southern Appalachians. That tenuous peace soon came to an end as British troops under Gen. Charles Cornwallis occupied vast areas of North and South Carolina.

In September 1780 Maj. Patrick Ferguson raided a mountain town. The threatened backwoodsmen joined

forces with Whigs from Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina and converged on Kings Mountain, where Ferguson was camped. Although outnumbered by the trained Loyalists, the mountain men advanced steadily against repeated bayonet charges and took the summit. Ferguson, who had threatened to lay their country waste with fire and sword, was killed.

The park is the southern terminus of the 330-mile Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, which traces the Patriot army's assembly route from Abingdon, Va. Access to the trail primarily is by motor vehicles, but there are some hiking segments. In the park stand the United States Monument, Centennial Monument and other memorial markers. A self-guiding trail leads to significant battlefield sites. The visitor center offers exhibits, a film and a diorama of the battle as well as information about

116 KINGS MOUNTAIN NMP — LANCASTER, SC

the national historic trail. Allow 1 hour minimum. Daily 9-5 (also Sat.-Sun. 5-6, Memorial Day-Labor Day). Closed

Jan. 1, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Free. Phone (864) 936-7921.

LADSON

- Hotels p. 116
- Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30



BEST WESTERN MAGNOLIA INN & SUITES

BOOK NOW

843/553-8888



Hotel. **Address:** 747 Treeland Dr 29456. **Facility:** 61 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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DAYS INN BY WYNDHAM LADSON SUMMERVILLE

CHARLESTON

BOOK NOW

843/797-1214



Hotel. **Address:** 119 Gateway Ave 29456. **Facility:** 63 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



BIZ



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LANCASTER

Settled in the early 1800s, Lancaster became the center of trade for the surrounding mill villages. Instrumental in the city's growth was a series of canals built on the Catawba-Wateree River during the 1820s. The locks made the waterway navigable despite its treacherous

shoals and falls. A section of locks at Landsford Canal State Park (see *Recreation Areas Chart*), about 15 miles northwest off US 21 and SR 330, has been restored.

Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce: 453 Colonial Ave., P.O. Box 430, Lancaster, SC 29721. **Phone:** (803) 283-4105.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

LATTA

See also Florence p. 84

• Hotels p. 117

**ABINGDON MANOR** **BOOK NOW** 843/752-5090Classic Historic Country Inn. **Address:** 307 Church St 29565.**LEXINGTON**

• Hotels p. 117

Formed in 1785, Lexington was named for the Massachusetts town where the first battle of the Revolutionary War was fought. However, this Lexington was not as quick to embrace the Patriot cause. The area's population, largely of German descent, was loyal to England's German king George III and his Lutheran queen, Charlotte Sophia. The settlers finally did join their fellow colonists late in the war.

Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitors Center: 311 W. Main St., P.O. Box 44, Lexington, SC 29072. **Phone:** (803) 359-6113.

LEXINGTON COUNTY MUSEUM COMPLEX is at 231 Fox St. Three dozen historical structures from 1770-1865 have been moved to this 7-acre site and depict the spartan lifestyle of the area. In addition to the county's oldest documented house, a hen house, pigeon house, cotton gin, carriage house, smokehouse, one-room schoolhouse, barns and corncribs are some of the structures included. Slave quarters and a 19th-century garden also are on the grounds.

The buildings house collections of quilts, coverlets, Native American artifacts and farm tools and equipment. Furnishings were constructed by local craftspeople in the 18th- and 19th centuries. Guides dressed in period attire describe the history and function of each building. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (803) 359-8369. **GT**

**BEST WESTERN PLUS LEXINGTON** **BOOK NOW** 803/356-8300

Hotel. **Address:** 601 Columbia (US 378) Ave 29072. **Facility:** 71 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.

**HAMPTON INN & SUITES LEXINGTON** **BOOK NOW** 803/722-5800

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 4751 Sunset Blvd 29072.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 803/996-2000



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 325 W Main St 29072.

 WINGATE BY WYNDHAM COLUMBIA/LEXINGTON **BOOK NOW** 803/957-5000



Hotel. **Address:** 108 Saluda Pointe Ct 29072.

LITTLE RIVER

• Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94

In earlier centuries, Little River, Horry County's oldest settlement, attracted all sorts of adventurers—even pirates and bootleggers. Legend tells of Edward Teach, aka "Blackbeard," as well as Anne Bonny and William "Captain" Kidd coming ashore here.

Little River has since evolved into a recreational wonderland. As a popular destination for those seeking water-based excitement, the small fishing village is a great spot from which to secure a deep-sea fishing charter or to rent boats or Jet Skis.

Not surprisingly, two events held in the town pay tribute to the bounty of fresh seafood hauled into its historic riverfront. Although live music, arts and crafts are presented at the Blue Crab Festival in May, the delicious crustacean is the star at the food booths. You'll enjoy similar festivities at October's Little River ShrimpFest, an opportunity to savor shrimp and other local seafood.

Shopping: Little River is home to some great souvenir stores. Pirate Treasure House (4472 Mineola Ave.) stocks

fun nautical items, art by Richard Deegan and other great gift items. Little River Mini Mall (11470 US 17) offers fresh-cut soap, clothing, vintage furniture and collectibles, and trendy decor. Its assortment of vendor booths guarantees a fun shopping excursion.

LONG CREEK

Long Creek is surrounded by the Andrew Pickens District of Sumter National Forest (*see place listing p. 167*). White-water enthusiasts frequent the nearby Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River, where the motion picture "Deliverance" was filmed.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

White-water Rafting

- **Wildwater Ltd.** is 1 mi. n. of US 76 at 1251 Academy Rd. in the Long Creek Academy Bldg. A zipline course also is offered. **Phone:** (864) 647-9587 or (800) 451-9972.

MANNING

• Hotels p. 118

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MANNING **BOOK NOW** 803/505-4800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2822 Paxville Hwy 29102.



MONCKS CORNER

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30



CYPRESS GARDENS, 3030 Cypress Gardens Rd., encompasses more than 170 acres of parkland in a setting of giant cypress trees growing out of a black-water swamp. Azaleas, camellias and daffodils seen from well-marked paths provide an unforgettable picture. Peak bloom occurs in March and April. The gardens and swamp once were part of Dean Hall, a prosperous early 18th-century rice plantation.

Animal sightings, like flora, vary by season, but wildlife viewing may include alligators, bald eagles, hawks, herons, otters and wood ducks. Bateaux—flat-bottomed boats—allow visitors to explore the swamp with a guide or on their own. The Heritage Room traces the history of Dean Hall Plantation and Cypress Gardens. Exhibits interpreted by archeologists who excavated the former slave quarters highlight the lives of enslaved Africans in the 1800s. A 24,000-gallon freshwater “swamparium” and an enclosed butterfly house also are on the grounds. About 3.5 miles of walking trails are available.

More than a dozen movies and television programs have been filmed on the grounds, including “Cold Mountain,” “North and South,” “The Notebook,” “The Patriot” and “Swamp Thing.” Attraction staff can point out where certain scenes were shot.

Phone: (843) 553-0515.

MEPKIN ABBEY is at 1098 Mepkin Abbey Rd., following signs. This was once Mepkin Plantation, home to Revolutionary patriot and politician Henry Laurens, whose contributions include serving as president of the Continental Congress 1777-78. The serene terraced gardens and oak-strewn grounds overlooking the Cooper River are now home to Trappist monks. Visitors may walk through the public gardens on their own. Tours of the monastery (closed to the public except for the tours) are given on most days. Guided tours of the church and monastery include an explanation of monastic life and the history of the abbey.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 761-8509.



OLD SANTEE CANAL PARK is 1 mi. e. off US 52 bypass at 900 Stony Landing Rd. The canal was constructed between the Santee and Cooper rivers in 1800 to flow goods from the Upstate to Charleston Harbor. Within 50 years, the railroad had replaced the waterway for shipping, and most of the canal route is now covered by Lake Moultrie. The park preserves the canal's southern terminus.

An interpretive center highlights the history and workings of the canal through a scale model and archeological finds; wildlife displays focus on natural beauty. The Berkeley Museum traces regional history from early Native American cultures to such 20th-century accomplishments as rural electrification. A special exhibit details the life of the elusive Revolutionary War hero Gen. Francis Marion (the Swamp Fox). Four miles of nature trails and boardwalks with observation decks allow visitors to view the bald cypress swamp, marl bluffs and resident wildlife that includes alligators, great blue herons and wood ducks.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 899-5200, or (843) 899-5101 for the museum.

MOUNTAIN REST

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

White-water Rafting

• **Nantahala Outdoor Center** is 10.1 mi. e. on US 76, then 2.5 mi. n. to 851-A Chattooga Ridge Rd. **Phone:** (800) 232-7238.

MOUNT PLEASANT

• **Hotels p. 120**

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

The Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge spans the Cooper River, linking downtown Charleston and Mount Pleasant. Continuing north along US 17, you'll happen across roadside stands displaying native sweetgrass baskets, a traditional art form begun in the Mount Pleasant community more than 300 years ago. Slaves brought to the area from West Africa have passed the skill from generation to generation and today their descendants sell these well-crafted works.

The town's commercial hub was born on Pitt Street, an area known as the “old village.” Today a few specialty shops continue to lure visitors, who stop in at the Pitt Street Pharmacy to indulge themselves at the old-fashioned soda fountain. The Old Village Post House, now a restaurant and lodging, was built in the late 1880s by German immigrants and served as a wayside inn and grocery store among other things. This historic core, bordered by charmingly renovated antebellum and colonial homes, is a nice setting for a peaceful stroll.

Shem Creek Park is a favorite gathering spot for watching glorious sunsets over Charleston Harbor. Several restaurants, offering fresh seafood and Lowcountry



120 MOUNT PLEASANT, SC

cuisine, feature outdoor decks overlooking the picturesque waterway, perfect for al fresco dining accented by a scene of drifting shrimp boats and squawking sea birds. The place heats up at night, with several establishments providing live bands and other entertainment.

If you want to try your hand at fishing or crabbing, head to Palmetto Islands County Park (see *Recreation Areas Chart*), 444 Needlerush Pkwy. In a tropical setting with nature trails and bike paths, the park has a tidal creek fishing and crabbing dock as well as a 50-foot observation tower. On Tuesdays from mid-April to mid-October, the Mount Pleasant Farmers Market on Coleman Boulevard offers fresh produce, flowers, baked goods and food vendors along with live music; festivities last from 3:30 p.m. until dusk.



BOONE HALL PLANTATION & GARDENS, 1235

Long Point Rd., traces its history to a 1681 land grant to Maj. John Boone. Primarily a cotton plantation, it also produced bricks and tiles. The current mansion, built in 1936 to resemble an antebellum house, contains plantation-made bricks as well as woodwork and flooring from an earlier house. Costumed docents lead tours of the first floor, which is furnished with antiques.

The Black History in America exhibit, which is presented throughout eight brick slave cabins, showcases African American history with such mediums as artifacts, furnishings, photos, narratives, sweetgrass demonstrations and audiovisual presentations. A presentation about Gullah culture is offered in a theater atmosphere outside the ninth slave cabin. The original circular smokehouse, a dock house built on the foundation of the original cotton dock, a stable built in the 1940s and a butterfly pavilion also can be seen.



THE BEACH CLUB AT CHARLESTON HARBOR RESORT &

MARINA **BOOK NOW** 843/856-0028



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 20 Patriots Point Rd 29464.

Formal gardens with antique roses, camellias and azaleas grace the grounds. An in-depth coach tour of the former cotton fields, pecan groves, wetlands and working produce farm is available. A half-mile arched entry is lined with moss-covered oaks, the first of which were planted in 1743 by John Boone's son.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 884-4371.
GT **¶**

CHARLES PINCKNEY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE is at 1254 Long Point Rd. This 28-acre site, once part of Charles Pinckney's 715-acre plantation known as Sneec Farm, examines Pinckney's major role in the framing of the U.S. Constitution. The visitor center, in an 1828 farmhouse, has exhibits about Pinckney, the Constitution, Lowcountry plantation life, enslaved labor and Gullah culture. **Phone:** (843) 881-5516.



PATRIOTS POINT NAVAL AND MARITIME MUSEUM, 40 Patriots Point Rd., is dominated by the USS *Yorktown*, an Essex class aircraft carrier that served in World War II and Vietnam. On board is the Medal of Honor Museum, showcasing individuals who have received the highest military honor.

Twenty-eight historic aircraft are displayed, and visitors can tour the ship's bridge, hangar bay, flight deck and other areas. Visitors can tour the destroyer *Laffey*, nicknamed the "Ship That Would Not Die" for surviving a concentrated Japanese kamikaze attack during World War II. The complex includes the Vietnam Naval Support Base Camp replica and the Cold War Submarine Memorial.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 884-2727.
GT **¶**



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Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA BEST WESTERN PATRIOTS POINT **BOOK NOW** 843/971-7070



Hotel. **Address:** 259 McGrath Darby Blvd 29464. **Facility:** 70 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor.



AAA CAMBRIA HOTEL MOUNT PLEASANT - CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/849-9677



CAMBRIA hotels **AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1472 US Hwy 17 N 29466. **Facility:** 112 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA CANDLEWOOD SUITES MOUNT PLEASANT-CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/972-6106



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 400 McGrath Darby Blvd 29464.

AAA COMFORT INN & SUITES AT PATRIOTS POINT **BOOK NOW** 843/606-6363



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 196 Patriots Point Rd 29464. **Facility:** 103 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.




COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON MT. PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/284-0900


COURTYARD **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 1251 Woodland Ave 29464. **Facility:** 130 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



DOUBLETREE BY HILTON CHARLESTON MOUNT PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/352-5100


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1330 Stuart Engals Blvd 29464.


EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON CHARLESTON HARBOR **BOOK NOW** 843/981-5700


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 100 Ferry Wharf Rd 29464.


HAMPTON INN & SUITES ISLE OF PALMS CONNECTOR **BOOK NOW** 843/856-3900


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1104 Isle of Palms Connector 29464.


HAMPTON INN BY HILTON PATRIOTS POINT **BOOK NOW** 843/881-3300


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 255 Sessions Way 29464.


HARBORSIDE AT CHARLESTON HARBOR RESORT & MARINA **BOOK NOW** 843/856-0028


Resort Hotel. **Address:** 20 Patriots Point Rd 29464.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN CHARLESTON/MT. PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/606-4600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 300 Wingo Way 29464.

AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES CHARLESTON-MOUNT PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/375-2600



Hotel. **Address:** 350 Johnnie Dodds Blvd 29464. **Facility:** 116 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES MOUNT PLEASANT NE **BOOK NOW** 843/216-0000



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1104 Stockade Ln 29466.

AAA HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON MOUNT PLEASANT CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/971-6800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1650 James Nelson Rd 29464.

AAA HOTEL INDIGO MOUNT PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/884-6000



Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd 29464. **Facility:** Located next to the Arthur Ravenel Bridge, the hotel offers comfortable rooms with contemporary decor and a large, resort style pool. Room types vary on size, seating and beds. 158 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** bicycles, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA **HYATT HOUSE CHARLESTON/MOUNT PLEASANT** **BOOK NOW** 843/388-6277



HYATT house **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1430 Midtown Ave 29464. **Facility:** 128 units, some efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED CLEAN

SAVE CALL    **BIZ** **HS**      / **SOME UNITS** 

AAA **HYATT PLACE MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNE CENTRE** **BOOK NOW** 843/473-3105



HYATT PLACE **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Hotel. **Address:** 1600 Palmetto Grande Dr 29464. **Facility:** 92 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED CLEAN

SAVE    **BIZ**     / **SOME UNITS** 

AAA **RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON MT. PLEASANT** **BOOK NOW** 843/881-1599



Residence INN **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1116 Isle of Palms Connector 29464. **Facility:** 90 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED CLEAN

SAVE  CALL    **BIZ** **HS**      / **SOME UNITS** 

AAA **SHEM CREEK INN** **BOOK NOW** 843/881-1000



APPROVED
INSPECTED CLEAN

Boutique Hotel. **Address:** 1401 Shrimp Boat Ln 29464.

 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON-MT.
PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/284-5250



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 245 Magrath Darby Blvd 29464.

 STAYBRIDGE SUITES CHARLESTON/MOUNT PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/216-5400
Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 251 Sessions Way 29464.



 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON MOUNT
PLEASANT **BOOK NOW** 843/936-5555



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1350 Stuart Engals Blvd 29464.

 TRU BY HILTON MT PLEASANT CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/936-5900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1651 Midtown Ave 29464.

MURRELLS INLET

- **Hotels p. 126**
- **Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94**

A quaint fishing village often referred to as the “seafood capital of South Carolina,” Murrells Inlet is just the right amount of “laid-back.” According to legend, the marshland community was named for Capt. Murrell, a pirate who used the inlet as a base for his forays along the Atlantic coast. Today the area is known for its seafood treasures, including oysters, crabs, clams and shrimp.

Although you may choose to fritter away the hours by strolling the area’s beaches or watching the fishing boats haul in their catch, there’s plenty of fun to be had in Murrells Inlet, which boasts some of the best dining and nightlife on the Strand. The adventurous can hop on a Jet Ski or zip around on a power boat, while those in relaxation mode may opt to find a spot on the scenic Marsh Walk. The .5-mile-long boardwalk is the perfect place from which to admire a stunning Carolina sunset.

Boat owners show their patriotism by decorating their vessels for the Murrells Inlet 4th of July Boat Parade and

Fireworks Display. Spectators view these decked-out crafts as they promenade along the salt marshes past such points as the Marsh Walk and Crazy Sister Marina. This themed procession starts in the morning, and fireworks light up the sky after dark.

Shopping: Inlet Square Mall, at the junction of US 17 bypass and US 17 Bus. Rte., includes Belk and Stein Mart. At the Lazy Gator, a gift shop on US 17, you can pick up souvenirs running the gamut from sea shells and homemade fudge to nautical items, apparel and home decor.

Nightlife: The Marsh Walk is nightlife central in Murrells Inlet—while the wooden boardwalk meanders past the tidal creek, the opposite side beckons passersby with an array of bars and restaurants, many of which are family friendly. And several of the establishments on the walk have docking available for boating patrons.

You can listen to local acts at Dead Dog Saloon on the waterfront, and if you feel like dancing, just head to the back patio bar. You can also relax in the resident hammock, supported by a huge live oak tree protruding from the deck’s center.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

126 MURRELLS INLET, SC

You'll likely be drawn in by the cute, vibrantly painted Bubba's Love Shak. Its haphazard design and colorful hanging lights scream "fun," and it is. Bubba's presents live music most nights, including reggae on Sundays. Nab a spot on the heated enclosed deck, or sit outside and watch the parade go by. At Creek Ratz, just a stone's throw away, happy hour specials satisfy those content to gaze at the water and watch the fishing boats arrive. Plus, an arsenal of TVs allows sports fans to keep track of their favorite teams. A kiddie corner entertains little ones, while parents can enjoy the band du jour.



BROOKGREEN GARDENS, 1931 Brookgreen Dr., encompasses more than 9,000 acres that were formerly antebellum rice plantations. More than 2,000 sculptures by 19th-century and contemporary American artists are showcased in landscaped settings and garden rooms of the 35-acre Archer and Anna Hyatt Huntington Sculpture Garden, and three interior galleries.

A stroll through the gardens is a series of snapshots befitting the storybook South, from massive live oaks festooned with curtains of Spanish moss to the seasonal bursts of color provided by flowering trees, shrubs and perennials. More than 2,000 plant species are used in the landscape; many bloom throughout the year. Depending on when you visit, you'll see—among many other plantings—masses of azaleas and dogwood and weeping cherry trees in full bloom (spring); a profusion of lilies, calladiums, and huge, saucer-shaped white flowers on the magnolia trees (summer), and chrysanthemums and Confederate roses (fall). Needless to say, the photo opportunities here are endless. The Enchanted Storybook Forest, containing a collection of playhouses based on classic children's stories, encourages reading and interaction with nature.

Visitors can explore a wildlife preserve in a boat or an overland vehicle, or by walking a nature trail that contains history and animal exhibits. The Lowcountry Zoo features such native wildlife as deer, foxes and otters, while the domestic animals of the plantation exhibit include

chickens, cows, horses, sheep and turkeys. A 3,000-square-foot butterfly house is home to hundreds of live butterflies, tropical plants and water features. Programs are given daily.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 235-6000 or (800) 849-1931.

Creek Excursions departs from 1931 Brookgreen Dr. at Brookgreen Gardens. These 1-hour narrated waterway tours are offered aboard a 48-foot pontoon boat. Tickets must be purchased at least 10 minutes before the tour begins. **Phone:** (843) 235-6000.

Trekker Excursions, departing from 1931 Brookgreen Dr. at Brookgreen Gardens, takes visitors in a safari-type vehicle to seldom-traveled areas of the plantation. A narrator highlights natural and historical points of interest. Tickets must be purchased at least 10 minutes before the tour begins. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 235-6000.

HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK, 3 mi. s. on US 17 at 16148 Ocean Hwy., offers nearly 2,500 acres of natural habitat as well as camping and recreational facilities. The park features nature trails, beach areas, a saltwater marsh and a freshwater lagoon. Observation decks afford opportunities to view native wildlife, including shorebirds and alligators. Daily nature study programs are offered March through October. *Atalaya* (see attraction listing), a 1930s house, is within the park. See *Recreation Areas Chart*.

Phone: (843) 237-4440.

Atalaya is at 16148 Ocean Hwy. within Huntington Beach State Park. *Atalaya* is the Spanish term for "watchtower." Constructed in a square, the 1930s house features a large open inner courtyard. *Atalaya* is the former winter home of famed sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington and her husband, businessman and scholar Archer Huntington. **Phone:** (843) 237-4440.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MURRELLS INLET

BOOK NOW

843/651-6687



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!



Hotel. **Address:** 512 Courtfield Dr 29576.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

MYRTLE BEACH

- **Hotels p. 129**
- **Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94**

Envisioning a year-round golfing resort on 65,000 acres of undeveloped oceanfront property, John T. Woodside built a luxury hotel and had a Scottish golf course architect build the area's first course in 1927. The Depression waylaid Woodside's plans for further development, and he eventually sold out. The venerable golf club, later re-named Pine Lakes, is now the centerpiece of Myrtle Beach golfing.

More courses were added over the years, and by the late 1970s The Grand Strand had become a premiere golfing destination. Simultaneously, the beaches emerged as a favorite East Coast summertime getaway for middle-class Americans. Today, the area attracts vacationers from all over the country and annually courts thousands of returning Canadian visitors with its signature Canadian-American Days Festival in March.

Resort hotels and high-rise condominiums, palatial theaters, and a smorgasbord of pay-one-price buffet restaurants have replaced most of the mom-and-pop hotels, dance pavilions and greasy spoons of old Myrtle Beach. But you can still stroll on the boardwalk, chow down on a foot-long chili dog, buy kitschy souvenirs, feed coins to arcade games or dangle a line from a fishing pier in the historic district of Ocean Boulevard, where the iconic Pavilion Amusement Park lit up starry summer nights until its closure in 2006.

The 1.2-mile Boardwalk and Promenade is a staple of the area. It runs between the 2nd Avenue and 14th Avenue piers in three sections, affording numerous ocean views. The middle section lies among shops and attractions while the adjoining sections have a more laid-back feel.

With the Gulf Stream pacing only 40 miles offshore, the temperate climate is perfect for water-oriented recreation. A day at the beach might include parasailing, swimming, snorkeling, shelling, riding on a banana boat or doing nothing at all. You can fish in the surf (ages 16 and older will need a license) or from three piers (no license required), or maybe charter a deep-sea fishing boat.

Musical variety shows figure prominently in Myrtle Beach's live entertainment offerings. Equally entertaining for all ages is Broadway at the Beach, a 350-acre village with shops, amusements, nightclubs, restaurants, attractions and a BigD—Large Format Digital Experience theater. Also in the complex is The Pavilion Park. Ten rides from Myrtle Beach's former Pavilion Amusement Park have been relocated here. A plaque at each ride details its

history for curious fans. Carnival-style thrill rides and an arcade also are offered; phone (843) 839-0303.

Mealtime options are dizzying, with the highest concentration of establishments lining US 17 bypass, or Restaurant Row. While theater-size, pay-one-price seafood buffet restaurants are extremely popular, the discriminating diner can still find a cozy table for two, gourmet fare and a wine list behind less pretentious facades.

If you're around in mid-November you may want to consider attending the Dickens Christmas Show and Festivals at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Offerings include Victorian teas, tours, themed exhibits, performances, and vendors in period attire selling arts and crafts.

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce: 1200 N. Oak St., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. **Phone:** (843) 626-7444 for voice and TTY or (800) 356-3016.

Shopping: One-stop shopping, dining and entertainment complexes such as Broadway at the Beach on US 17 bypass can turn an ordinary shopping excursion into a day-long event. And every imaginable amenity on 350 acres ensures that you do just that. You'll encounter an interesting mix of shops and experiences as you follow a boardwalk through a series of themed villages overlooking a lake. Surprise the kids with a teddy-making session at Build-A-Bear Workshop, or entertain aspiring magicians with the hilarious bag of tricks at Broadway Magic. For rock 'n' roll merchandise, head into the pyramid-shaped **SAVE** Hard Rock Cafe. Broadway features nearly 3 dozen restaurants and eateries as well as numerous attractions, amusements and nightspots. Oh, and lots of seagulls.

The Market Common (4017 Deville St.) is a new urban village, the first of its kind in Myrtle Beach. Central to this luxury lifestyle community is a charming block of upscale shops including Tommy Bahama, White House/Black Market, Anthropologie and Chico's; there's also a Barnes & Noble bookstore and several fine-dining restaurants.

Finding two Tanger Outlets with nearly 200 stores combined within a few miles of each other is just too good to be true. Each mall has in common its share of the name brands Tanger bargain shoppers have come to expect—Aerosoles, Brooks Brothers, Jones New York and OshKosh B'gosh, for example; however, many other sought-after brands are available only at one location. Before you begin a shopping spree, inquire about special offers and center-wide coupon books available at customer service stations at both the US 17 and US 501 Tanger Outlets.

More than 100 shops and three major department stores make Coastal Grand Mall (2000 Coastal Grand Cir.) the largest conventional shopping mall on The Grand Strand—and in the state. The Myrtle Beach Mall, at the



intersection of US 17 and SR 22, includes an assortment of nationally recognized chains along with an adjacent Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World. Locally owned specialty shops touting fashion, artworks and gifts can be found at Rainbow Harbor Shopping Center on North Kings Highway.

A big neon sign on Ocean Boulevard just north of 9th Avenue points across the street to the Gay Dolphin Gift Cove. This multilevel emporium has a staggering array of gifts, collectibles, beachwear, shells, postcards, kitschy gifts and stuff that has nothing to do with beaches. You have to go, if only to brag that you've been to Myrtle Beach's oldest souvenir shop. Be sure to exit through the back door to the boardwalk.

Nightlife: The partying begins long before sunset at beach hangouts such as Ocean Annie's Beach Bar, at the Sands Ocean Club Resort on Ocean Boulevard. Live beach music, killer margaritas and balmy breezes inspire camaraderie on the large ocean-side deck. This is a fun place to chill out with locals and repeat resort guests. Phone (843) 449-6461.

For an amazing panorama, try the Pier View Open Air Bar on the 2nd Avenue Pier, where you can relish cooling sea breezes and gaze at the ocean while sipping a margarita or another refreshing libation. Phone (843) 445-7437. Beer aficionados will appreciate the bounty of brews at Dagwood's Deli (400 Mr. Joe White Ave.), where locals cheer on their favorite sports teams in a cozy cranny similar to an English pub. Phone (843) 828-4600.

Open since 1944, The Bowery (110 9th Ave. N.) is a Myrtle Beach institution. Country band Alabama got its start here in the 1970s as the house band. The cash-only bar offers live music nightly and also boasts a patio with ocean views. Phone (843) 626-3445.

With three clubs under one roof, 2001 Nightclub (920 Lake Arrowhead Rd.) appeals to all ages. The cover charge gets you into Next Level for live and DJ-spun R&B, oldies, soul, funk and beach music in a relaxed atmosphere. Lounge seating, the hottest contemporary sounds and video-screen walls projecting what's happening on the dance floor take Club Touch, on the second floor, to the next level in clubbing. The Stage presents local and regional talent with a variety of acts including blues, rock and country; this is also the place to experience air-band karaoke, where patrons can grab guitars and jam to whatever tune moves them. Phone (843) 449-9434.

By day, Celebrity Square at Broadway at the Beach (1325 Celebrity Cir.) is a quiet watering hole, a nice place to plop down for a daiquiri at Fat Tuesday; phone (843) 444-3255. After dark, neon lights and pulsing music from several trendy clubs battle for club goers' patronage while

transforming the quadrangle into Myrtle Beach's go-to entertainment district. Pay the cover charge at one of four Celebrations clubs and get free admission to the other three. Dress up or go casual, but honor the liberal code if you want to get in. Latin and hip-hop music infuses Club Boca: Celebrations with a South Beach vibe. A house band regularly belts the blues, oldies and pop music—in other words, something for everyone—at Froggy Bottomz, while Top 40 hits spun by dueling DJs enliven Malibu's Surf Bar; phone (843) 444-3500.

There's more high energy and a lighted dance floor reminiscent of "Saturday Night Fever" in Revolutions, a retro dance club also on the square; phone (843) 444-8032. If you'd rather sing than dance the night away at Broadway at the Beach, duck into Crocodile Rocks and watch dueling piano players work the crowd; phone (843) 444-2096.

Those in search of some laughs can find them at Carolina Comedy Club, which brings the biggest names in comedy to Broadway at the Beach; phone (843) 839-2565.

THE CALVIN GILMORE THEATER, jct. US 17 and US 17 bypass at 8901 N. Kings Hwy., is a 2,000-seat theater presenting five shows. The Carolina Opry features a wide variety of music, comedy and dance. Time Warp showcases the music and culture of the 1960s, '70s and '80s. Thunder and Light is a mix of clogging, magic, dance and laser lights. The Myrtle Beach Performing Arts series presents speakers, comedians and concerts throughout the year. The Carolina Opry Christmas Special celebrates the holiday season with a blend of new and classic songs along with dance and comedy.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 913-4000 or (800) 843-6779.

FAMILY KINGDOM AMUSEMENT PARK, 300 S. Ocean Blvd., will make you think you've traveled several decades back in time with its old-school rides and games. Highlights of this seaside park include the Swamp Fox, a scream-inducing 2,400-foot wooden roller coaster; a 1923 carousel with elaborate prancing horses; and a 100-foot Ferris wheel with exhilarating views of the ocean.

In all, the park has 38 rides. It also features carnival and arcade games as well as fried fare like corn dogs and funnel cakes. Adding to the revelry are magicians, clowns, stilt walkers and other entertainers. Splashes, a water park, offers slides, flumes, a lazy river and children's play areas.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 626-3447.



LEGENDS IN CONCERT, 2925 Hollywood Dr. at Broadway at the Beach, presents tribute artists who re-create stage performances of such legendary stars as Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, The Blues Brothers, Marilyn Monroe, Lady Gaga, Cher, Steven Tyler and Tina Turner. Each show features five tributes, and after the performances guests can meet the singers for autographs. Performers change quarterly. The high-energy production is complemented by a live band, dazzling dancers and lighting and video effects.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 238-7827 or (800) 960-7469. 

PIRATES VOYAGE, 8907 N. Kings Hwy., is a swashbuckling adventure accompanied by a gut-busting four-course feast. The dinner show stars Blackbeard and his quartermaster, Calico Jack, as they lead the Crimson and Sapphire crews in battle. Stunning mermaids and such trained animals as dogs, exotic birds and sea lions complete the show. Acrobatics that take place aboard two battling pirate ships, as well as in the air and in the 15-foot lagoon, will keep kids *oohing* and *arghing* throughout the dynamic evening performance. Be sure to get there early for the Pirates Village pre-show experience, when the agile performers interact with the crowd and get everyone amped up for the main event.

Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 497-9700 or (800) 433-4401. 

RIPLEY'S AQUARIUM is at 1110 Celebrity Cir. in the Broadway at the Beach complex at jct. US 17 and 29th Ave. N. Visitors can walk through an underwater tunnel to view sharks, moray eels, great barracuda and a giant octopus. A touch tank displays horseshoe crabs, and a freshwater tank exhibits red-bellied piranhas. Hourly dive shows are presented. The aquarium also features interactive computer exhibits.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 916-0888 or (800) 734-8888. 

RIPLEY'S HAUNTED ADVENTURE is at 913 N. Ocean Blvd. Costumed characters and special effects create a scary haunted-house experience. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (843) 916-0888.

SKYWHEEL MYRTLE BEACH, at the Boardwalk and Promenade at 1110 N. Ocean Blvd., dominates the skyline. At nearly 200 feet tall, this observation wheel offers a fantastic view of the Atlantic Ocean and the Grand Strand from 42 enclosed, climate-controlled gondolas, each of which seats six. Rides last 8-10 minutes and offer three rotations for multiple viewpoints. Views of the vicinity are obviously hindered after dark, but a nighttime light show created by a dazzling LED lighting system that can display over 16 million colors is offered each evening.

The ride is at a very modest speed. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 839-9200. 

WHEELS OF YESTERYEAR is at 413 Hospitality Ln. The facility features more than 50 classic American cars and trucks that have had their interiors and exteriors restored to their original condition. Some of the vehicles are rotated in and out each January in order to showcase others from the owners' collection of more than 100 vehicles. The museum also features automobile memorabilia, photos, signs, old gas pumps and other related items.

Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 903-4774.

WONDERWORKS, 1313 Celebrity Cir. at Broadway at the Beach, has an eye-catching exterior that makes the building appear to be upside down. Illusions, mind games and physical challenges await inside. More than 100 interactive exhibits include the opportunity to experience what it's like to withstand Category 1 hurricane-force wind, operate space shuttle controls, design and ride your own roller coaster, defy gravity in an inversion tunnel and attempt a ropes challenge course.

Some activities have height and weight restrictions and require closed shoes. **Time:** Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 626-9962. 



ANDERSON OCEAN CLUB AND SPA **BOOK NOW** 843/213-5340



Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 2600 N Ocean Blvd 29577.



THE BREAKERS RESORT HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/626-5000



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 2104 N Ocean Blvd 29577.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

 THE CARIBBEAN RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/448-7181



Resort Condominium. **Address:** 3000 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 CAROLINIAN BEACH RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/448-6861



Hotel. **Address:** 2506 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 CORAL BEACH RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/448-8421



Resort Hotel. **Address:** 1105 S Ocean Blvd 29577.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-MYRTLE BEACH BROADWAY **BOOK NOW** 843/445-6333



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1351 21st Ave N 29577.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MYRTLE BEACH OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/999-0096



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2006 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 DAYTON HOUSE RESORT, BW SIGNATURE COLLECTION **BOOK NOW** 843/448-2441



Hotel. **Address:** 2400 N Ocean Blvd 29577.



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AAA **DOUBLETREE RESORT BY HILTON MYRTLE BEACH**
OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/315-7100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 3200 S Ocean Blvd 29577. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** The standard rooms and two-room suites are contemporary and comfortable. Ocean-view and partial-ocean view rooms are available with a balcony. Enjoy the wide selection of services and amenities. 214 units. 2-6 stories, exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** beach on-site, miniature golf, recreation programs in summer, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA **DUNES VILLAGE RESORT** **BOOK NOW** 843/449-5275



Resort Condominium. Address: 5300 N Ocean Blvd 29577. **Location:** Oceanfront. Located in a quiet residential area. **Facility:** In the northern area of town, this resort features ocean views from most of its rooms in both towers. Studios and 1- to 4-bedroom units are available, each with a consistent contemporary decor package. 495 kitchen units, some two and three bedrooms. 14 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, playground, picnic facilities, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA **FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT MYRTLE BEACH BROADWAY AT THE BEACH** **BOOK NOW** 843/444-8097



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 3150 Oleander Dr 29577.

AAA **FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON MYRTLE BEACH** **BOOK NOW** 843/236-1000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 101 Fantasy Harbour Blvd 29579.

AAA **GRANDE SHORES OCEAN RESORT CONDOMINIUMS** **BOOK NOW** 843/692-2397



Resort Condominium. Address: 201 77th Ave N 29572.

AAA GRANDE SHORES OCEAN RESORT HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 843/692-2397



Hotel. **Address:** 201 77th Ave N 29572. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** 97 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 6 stories, exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES MYRTLE BEACH/OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/946-6400



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1801 S Ocean Blvd 29577.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON BROADWAY AT THE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/916-0600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 1140 Celebrity Cir 29577.

AAA HAMPTON INN WEST **BOOK NOW** 843/236-0045



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 4551 US 501 29579.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN MYRTLE BEACH/COASTAL GRAND MALL **BOOK NOW** 843/839-1200



Hilton Garden Inn **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 2383 Coastal Grand Cir 29577. **Facility:** 112 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB ANDERSON OCEAN MYRTLE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/213-5340



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 2600 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB OCEAN 22 MYRTLE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/848-0022



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Resort Condominium. **Address:** 2200 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB OCEAN ENCLAVE MYRTLE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/848-1600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Resort Condominium. **Address:** 1600 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 HOLIDAY PAVILION RESORT ON THE BOARDWALK **BOOK NOW** 843/913-5805



Hotel. **Address:** 1200 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON MYRTLE BEACH COASTAL GRAND MALL **BOOK NOW** 843/353-4554



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 302 Seaboard St 29577.

 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON MYRTLE BEACH OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/848-4700



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 520 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

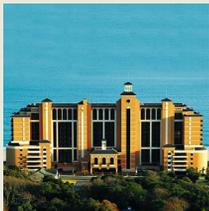
 HORIZON AT 77TH BY GRANDE SHORES **BOOK NOW** 843/692-2397



Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 215 77th Ave N 29572.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.


ISLAND VISTA **BOOK NOW** 843/449-6406


Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 6000 N Ocean Blvd 29577. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** This property features standard rooms and one- to four-bedroom units decorated in a tropical British West Indies motif. All units have ocean views and offer a high degree of comfort and amenities. 150 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, kitchens and condominiums. 13 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs in season, exercise room, massage. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.



LA QUINTA BY WYNDHAM MYRTLE BEACH AT 48TH AVENUE **BOOK NOW** 843/449-5231


Hotel. **Address:** 4709 N Kings Hwy 29577.


LA QUINTA INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM MYRTLE BEACH BROADWAY AREA **BOOK NOW** 843/916-8801


Hotel. **Address:** 1561 21st Ave N 29577.


MARINA INN AT GRANDE DUNES **BOOK NOW** 843/913-1333


Resort Hotel. **Address:** 8121 Amalfi Pl 29572. **Location:** Waterfront. **Facility:** Next to the Intracoastal Waterway, on the north side of Myrtle Beach, this high-rise, Mediterranean-style marina and golf resort features spacious hotel rooms as well as one- to four-bedroom condos. 198 units, some condominiums. 6-12 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, regulation golf, tennis, bicycles, exercise room, massage. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.



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Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA MYRTLE BEACH MARRIOTT RESORT & SPA AT GRANDE
 DUNES **BOOK NOW** 843/449-8880



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 8400 Costa Verde Dr 29572. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** Stylish rooms include your choice of a king or two queen beds with upscale bedding and a spacious desk. Many rooms have a Juliet balcony, some rooms have a full walk out balcony. 405 units, some two bedrooms. 15 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs in summer, game room, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



AAA RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MYRTLE BEACH OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/492-9000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2605 S Ocean Blvd 29577.

AAA THE SANDBAR HOTEL MYRTLE BEACH, TRADEMARK COLLECTION BY WYNDHAM **BOOK NOW** 843/448-1461



Hotel. **Address:** 1804 S Ocean Blvd 29577.

AAA SHERATON BROADWAY RESORT VILLAS **BOOK NOW** 843/916-8855



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Condominium. **Address:** 3301 Robert M Grissom Pkwy 29577. **Facility:** This property features manicured grounds and well-equipped recreational facilities as well as one- and two-bedroom guest units in 19 separate buildings on a gated campus. 460 condominiums. 4 stories, exterior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, playground, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.



 SHERATON MYRTLE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/918-5000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2101 N Oak St 29577.

 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT MYRTLE BEACH OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 843/999-0098



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2006 N Ocean Blvd 29577.

THE ELLIE BEACH RESORT MYRTLE BEACH, TAPESTRY BY HILTON **BOOK NOW** 843/315-7100

fyi Not evaluated. **Address:** 3200 S Ocean Blvd 29577. Facilities, services, and décor characterize a mid-scale property. *(See ad p. 137.)*

MYRTLE BEACH (NORTHERN)

- Hotels p. 136
- Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94

 BEST WESTERN PLUS MYRTLE BEACH @INTRACOASTAL **BOOK NOW** 843/213-1440



Hotel. **Address:** 9551 N Kings Hwy 29572. **Location:** Opposite Galleria Shopping Center. **Facility:** 90 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON MYRTLE BEACH OCEANFRONT RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/449-0006

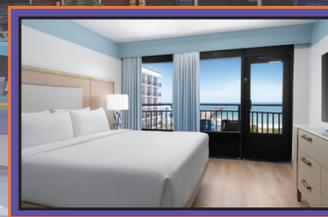


AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Resort Hotel. **Address:** 9800 Queensway Blvd 29572.



Discover our new oceanfront property in Myrtle Beach, conveniently located just steps from the beach and less than 10 minutes from Myrtle Beach International Airport. Enjoy a wide range of amenities, including four outdoor pools, two indoor pools, and multiple on-site restaurants and bars for dining and relaxation. We're also just five minutes from shopping and dining at Market Common and six miles from the lively entertainment at Broadway at the Beach. Spend your days lounging by the pool, savoring delicious meals, relaxing on the beach, or experiencing the thrill of fishing at our Springmaid Pier.



The Ellie Beach Resort Myrtle Beach, Tapestry by Hilton

3200 South Ocean Boulevard | Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577



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 FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT MYRTLE BEACH NORTH **BOOK NOW** 843/361-8000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 10231 N Kings Hwy 29572.

 HILTON MYRTLE BEACH RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/449-5000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Resort Hotel. **Address:** 10000 Beach Club Dr 29572.

NEWBERRY

• Hotels p. 138

NEWBERRY OPERA HOUSE is downtown at 1201 McKibben St. This structure, inspired by French Gothic architecture, was built in 1881 as a multipurpose facility. The upper floor was designated for performance space while the ground floor housed a fire station, police station, courthouse and other city offices. The building has since

been restored and even enlarged. More than 250 dance, musical and theater performances are given throughout the year. Guided tours are offered, but access to the stage and backstage areas may not be available depending on the performance schedule.

Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 276-6264. **GT**

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 803/321-3955



Hotel. **Address:** 121 Truman Ave 29108.

NINETY SIX

Settled along a Native American trading route, Ninety Six was named for its distance in miles from the Cherokee village of Keowee in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Patriots and Tories fought the first land battle of the Revolutionary War in the South here in November 1775.

Ninety Six Chamber of Commerce: 97 Main St. E., Ninety Six, SC 29666. **Phone:** (864) 543-2047.

NINETY SIX NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE is at 1103 SR 248. Two Revolutionary War battles occurred on this site, one in 1775 and the other in 1781, when Patriot general Nathanael Greene laid siege to a force of some 550 British Loyalists entrenched near the village of Ninety Six. Visitors can explore the earthworks, old roadbeds, traces of the village, a reconstructed stockade fort and an early log cabin along a mile-long trail. The visitor center houses a museum and a theater presenting a 20-minute video about the history of the site.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (864) 543-4068. **AT**

NORTH AUGUSTA

• Hotels p. 139

ARTS & HERITAGE CENTER OF NORTH AUGUSTA, 100 Georgia Ave., displays art and history exhibits. Artwork is created by local artisans and rotates every 2 months. Kiosks, videos, audio narratives and interpretive panels recount local history, including insights into Native American early settlements and the Revolutionary and Civil wars. Exhibits profile rivers, railroads and crossroads, and an HO-scale diorama displays the city's prominent buildings.

Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (803) 441-4380. **GT**



 LOOKAWAY INN **BOOK NOW** 803/426-1030



Historic Bed & Breakfast. **Address:** 103 W Forest Ave 29841.

 TRU BY HILTON NORTH AUGUSTA **BOOK NOW** 803/844-1001



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 190 Austin Graybill Rd 29860.

NORTH CHARLESTON

- Hotels p. 139
- Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

Shopping: Bargains can be found in dozens of stores at Tanger Outlet Center (4840 Tanger Outlet Blvd.). Anchors at Northwoods Mall (2150 Northwoods Blvd.) include Belk, Dillard’s and JCPenney.

NORTH CHARLESTON FIRE MUSEUM is at 4975 Centre Pointe Dr. The facility features a collection of antique firefighting memorabilia, including 18 antique and new trucks. Interactive exhibits educate the public about fire safety and prevention as well as how to react in a fire. Charleston’s fire history also is shared. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 740-5550. **GT**

 ALOFT CHARLESTON AIRPORT & CONVENTION CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/566-7300



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 4875 Tanger Outlet Blvd 29418.

 BEST WESTERN AIRPORT INN & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 843/574-0911



Hotel. **Address:** 2470 Prospect St 29406. **Facility:** 74 cottages. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 CANDLEWOOD SUITES CHARLESTON-NORTHWOODS **BOOK NOW** 843/797-3535



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2177 Northwoods Blvd 29406.

 COMFORT INN & SUITES NORTH CHARLESTON AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 843/725-4700

 **AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 4715 Saul White Blvd 29418.

 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON-NORTH CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/572-7490

 **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 7465 Northside Dr 29420.

 CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/744-4422

 Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 4831 N Tanger Outlet Blvd 29418.

 DOUBLETREE BY HILTON CHARLESTON - CONVENTION CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/576-0300

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

 Hotel. **Address:** 5264 International Blvd 29418. **Facility:** 142 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.

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 DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL & SUITES CHARLESTON AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 843/518-6200

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 7401 Northwoods Blvd 29406.

AAA FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON NORTH/UNIVERSITY

AREA **BOOK NOW** 843/414-2700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2600 Elm Center Rd 29406.

AAA FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION

CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/300-3100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 4841 Tanger Outlet Blvd 29418.

AAA FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON NORTH/ASHLEY

PHOSPHATE **BOOK NOW** 843/725-5400



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2540 N Forest Dr 29420.

AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES CHARLESTON AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 843/990-5100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3020 W Montague Ave 29418. **Facility:** 139 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.



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AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES NORTH CHARLESTON/UNIVERSITY
 BLVD **BOOK NOW** 843/735-7500



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 2688 Fernwood Dr 29406. **Facility:** 115 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON CHARLESTON NORTH **BOOK NOW** 843/820-2030



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 7424 Northside Dr 29420.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN-CHARLESTON AIRPORT & CONVENTION CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/308-9330



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 5265 International Blvd 29418. **Location:** Adjacent to North Charleston Coliseum & Performing Arts Center. **Facility:** 169 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ASHLEY PHOSPHATE **BOOK NOW** 843/553-1600



Hotel. **Address:** 7670 Northwoods Blvd 29406.



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AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES-CHARLESTON AIRPORT & CONVENTION CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/554-2100



Hotel. **Address:** 3025 W Montague Ave 29418. **Facility:** 127 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.



AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES CHARLESTON - NORTH **BOOK NOW** 843/569-3200



Hotel. **Address:** 2435 Elms Center Rd 29406.

AAA HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION CENTER, SC **BOOK NOW** 843/744-4202



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 3401 W Montague Ave 29418. **Location:** Across from North Charleston Coliseum & Performing Arts Center. **Facility:** 122 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON NORTH CHARLESTON UNIVERSITY BLVD **BOOK NOW** 843/806-3212



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 9341 Blue House Rd 29406.

 **HOMewood SUITES BY HILTON CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION CENTER** **BOOK NOW** 843/735-5000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 5048 International Blvd 29418.

 **HOMewood SUITES BY HILTON NORTH CHARLESTON** **BOOK NOW** 843/990-5300



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 7399 Northwoods Blvd 29406.

 **HYATT PLACE CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION CENTER** **BOOK NOW** 843/302-8600



 **HYATT PLACE** **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 3234 W Montague Ave 29418. **Location:** Adjacent to North Charleston Coliseum & Performing Arts Center. **Facility:** 127 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 **HYATT PLACE NORTH CHARLESTON** **BOOK NOW** 843/735-7100



 **HYATT PLACE** **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!**

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 7331 Mazyck Rd 29406. **Facility:** 113 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 **NORTH CHARLESTON MARRIOTT** **BOOK NOW** 843/747-1900



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 4770 Goer Dr 29406.

AAA RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 843/266-3434



Residence INN. **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 5035 International Blvd 29418. **Facility:** 150 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



AAA RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON NORTH ASHLEY
PHOSPHATE **BOOK NOW** 843/300-3636



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 7457 Northside Dr 29420.

AAA SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON AIRPORT & CONVENTION
CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/666-0156



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 3454 W Montague Ave 29418.

AAA STAYBRIDGE SUITES NORTH CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/377-4600



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 7329 Mazyck Rd 29406.

AAA TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON AIRPORT/CONVENTION
CENTER **BOOK NOW** 843/990-7777



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 5001 Fashion Ave 29418.

 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON-NORTH
CHARLESTON **BOOK NOW** 843/990-5710



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 7535 Northside Dr 29420.

 TRU BY HILTON CHARLESTON AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 843/266-0235



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 3331 W Montague Ave 29418. **Facility:** 118 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room.



 WINGATE BY WYNDHAM CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY **BOOK NOW** 843/553-4444



Hotel. **Address:** 9280 University Blvd 29406.

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH

- Hotels p. 147
- Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94

Dubbed the “quiet alternative” to the heavily developed beach community just to the south, North Myrtle Beach is not without its share of high-rise condominiums and resorts. Still, it is possible to drive along Ocean Boulevard and enjoy unencumbered views of the dunes, the wide beach and, ultimately, the sea. Ample public parking ensures easy access for visitors staying at off-beach lodgings.

The town is hailed as the cradle of shag dancing. Proclaimed the official state dance in 1984, the shag originated in beach pavilions and juke joints along the East Coast in the 1950s as teens adapted swing-style dances to emerging rhythm and blues music. Although shag dancing is not a freestyle response to the beat, its characteristic smooth moves and seemingly effortless fancy footwork have come to embody the carefree attitude of seaside living. Old and not-so-old dance clubs radiate from the intersection of Main Street and Ocean Boulevard.

North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce: 1521 US 17 S., North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582. **Phone:** (843) 281-2662 or (877) 332-2662.

Shopping: With its central lake, weathered boardwalks, floating pedestrian bridges and cottage-style clapboard structures, Barefoot Landing, on US 17 running along the Intracoastal Waterway, has the look and feel of a coastal village. Popular retailers such as Chico’s, Tango Bay Clothing Company and White House/Black Market stand out among more than 80 boutique-style specialty shops. Expect the unexpected, like the Carolina Vineyards Winery store and tasting room.

Kids will beg to ride the carousel, play in the mist at the Coca-Cola Cool Zone and toss purchased fish food to puckering carp. Those inclined toward sugary treats will be tempted at Wee-R-Sweetz, a candy shop known for its creative taffy selections. There are numerous restaurants and attractions on the boardwalk and in freestanding buildings surrounding this multifaceted entertainment complex, which also includes a House of Blues. Barefoot Landing closes with a fireworks show on Monday nights during summer months.

Along Main Street in the Ocean Drive Beach area, you’ll spot touristy bargain beachwear shops and local boutiques selling jewelry, gifts, clothing and home decor.

Nightlife: Paneled walls with beach murals, contest memorabilia and photos of shag dance champions say it



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

all: Fat Harold's Beach Club (212 Main St.) is shag-dance central, and has been for decades. The casual atmosphere recalls a time when the fast-dance craze evolved in East Coast beach pavilions. You can almost hear the shish of sand as you watch light-footed shaggers shuffle across Fat Harold's wooden dance floor. Like the music, the mostly middle-age crowd is laid-back. Other popular shag clubs within walking distance include Duck's Beach Club (229 Main St.) and OD Arcade & Lounge (100 S. Ocean Blvd.). Phone (843) 249-5779 for Fat Harold's, (843) 663-3858 for Duck's Beach Club or (843) 249-6460 for OD Arcade & Lounge.

ALABAMA THEATRE, 4750 US 17S at Barefoot Landing, features One—The Show, a Las Vegas-style revue with nonstop singing, dancing and comedy. During the holiday season, The South's Grandest Christmas Show is performed. Concert series featuring visiting performers also are offered.

Phone: (843) 272-1111 or (800) 342-2262.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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• **Inlet Point Plantation** is at 5800 SR 236 (Little River Neck Rd.). Other activities also are offered. **Phone:** (843) 249-2989.

AAA AVISTA RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/417-2993



Resort Condominium. **Address:** 300 N Ocean Blvd 29582. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** This high-rise property offers a large fitness room, a lounge, restaurant and well-equipped one-, two and three-bedroom units. 326 condominiums. 17 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs, exercise room, massage. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA CLUB WYNDHAM OCEAN BOULEVARD **BOOK NOW** 843/281-3300



Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 410 S Ocean Blvd 29582.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON HARBOURGATE **BOOK NOW** 843/249-1997



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2112 Little River Neck Rd 29582.

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AAA NORTH BEACH RESORT & VILLAS **BOOK NOW** 843/315-2520



Resort Condominium. **Address:** 719 N Beach Blvd 29582. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** This gated community is comprised of two oceanfront high-rise condo towers and a tidy neighborhood of upscale houses. Units range from one to seven bedrooms, and all are spacious and nicely decorated. 446 units, some houses and condominiums. 2-19 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry, area transportation. *(See ad p. 149.)*



AAA PRINCE RESORT AT THE CHERRY GROVE PIER **BOOK NOW** 843/417-2996



Resort Condominium. **Address:** 3500 N Ocean Blvd 29582. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** Located at the Cherry Grove Pier, the resort is comprised of two separate high-rise buildings, one on the beach and the other across the street. 230 condominiums, some two and three bedrooms. 18 stories, exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, fishing, recreation programs in season, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.



AAA SEASIDE INN RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/417-2997



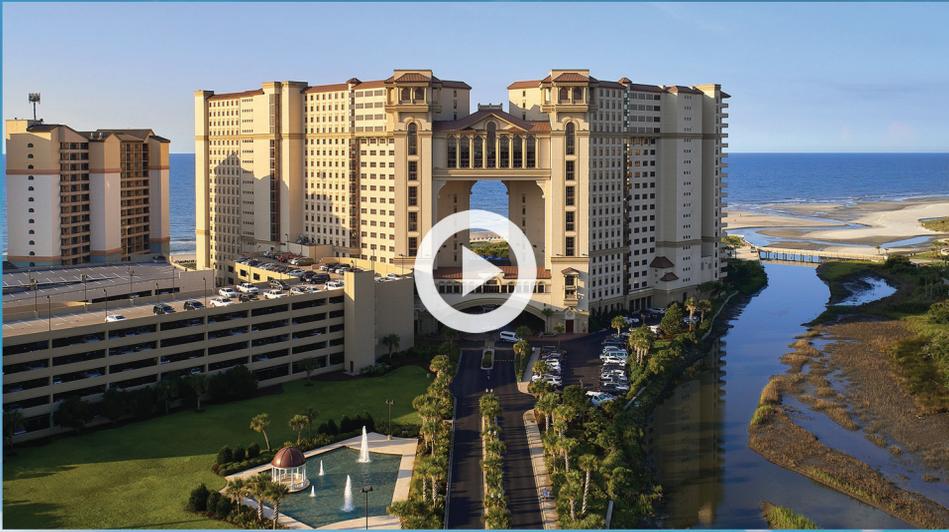
Vacation Rental Condominium. **Address:** 2301 S Ocean Blvd 29582. **Location:** Oceanfront. **Facility:** Each unit at this facility features a private balcony with sweeping views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Carolina coast. Corner units provide especially grand views from the living/dining area. 69 condominiums. 14 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor, heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs in summer, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary laundry.



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NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29582

150 ORANGEBURG, SC

ORANGEBURG

• Hotels p. 150

Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce: 155 Riverside Dr., P.O. Box 328, Orangeburg, SC 29116. **Phone:** (803) 534-6821 or (800) 545-6153.



COMFORT INN & SUITES ORANGEBURG **BOOK NOW** 803/515-9700



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 746 Citadel Rd 29118. **Facility:** 69 units, some efficiencies. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT ORANGEBURG **BOOK NOW** 803/533-0014



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 663 Citadel Rd 29118.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON ORANGEBURG **BOOK NOW** 803/937-5800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 749 Citadel Rd 29118.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORANGEBURG **BOOK NOW** 803/809-0111



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 675 Citadel Rd 29118.



TRU BY HILTON ORANGEBURG **BOOK NOW** 803/813-8000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 739 Citadel Rd 29118.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

PAWLEYS ISLAND

- Hotels p. 151
- Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94

Prior to the Civil War, Pawleys Island served as a summer hamlet for wealthy rice planters in search of cooling ocean breezes. The beach community remains remarkably untouched, a laid-back spot with shabby-chic “cottages” and unspoiled coastline perfect for casting a line or strolling. The golfing here rarely disappoints. And when it comes to shopping and cuisine, there’s a smorgasbord of one-of-a-kind boutiques and restaurants along US 17 (Ocean Highway). A Pawleys Island hammock, a sturdy cotton creation created by riverboat captain Joshua John Ward in 1889, may be the perfect keepsake to remind visitors of the relaxing pace of this Lowcountry resort.

Shopping: Pawleys Island and the Litchfield Beach area (just north of Pawleys Island) are dotted with upscale boutiques and galleries along Ocean Highway (US 17) selling

unique items. The handwoven hammocks that the island is known for can be purchased at The Original Hammock Shop in the Hammock Shops Village (10880 Ocean Hwy.). The retail village also contains quaint eateries and several other specialty stores selling jewelry, clothes and gifts. The Village Shops, adjacent to Hammock Shops Village, and the Island Shops across the street both present a handful of businesses in brightly painted clapboard structures.

Nightlife: When the sun goes down, the island entertains by way of cozy bistros that frequently offer live entertainment. The Island Bar & Grill, in the Village Shops at 10744 Ocean Hwy., has an outdoor deck where you can sip a drink while enjoying occasional karaoke and live bands; phone (843) 235-3399. Local musical talent playing blues or rock is typically on the roster at Pawleys Island Tavern on Ocean Highway from Thursday through Sunday; phone (843) 237-8465. Quigley’s Pint & Plate (257 Willbrook Blvd.) serves beers crafted at its on-site brewery, with a daily happy hour and other drink specials; phone (843) 237-7010.

 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON PAWLEYS ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 843/235-2000

 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

 Hotel. **Address:** 150 Willbrook Blvd 29585.

 LITCHFIELD BEACH & GOLF RESORT **BOOK NOW** 843/237-3000

 Resort Condominium. **Address:** 14276 Ocean Hwy 29585.

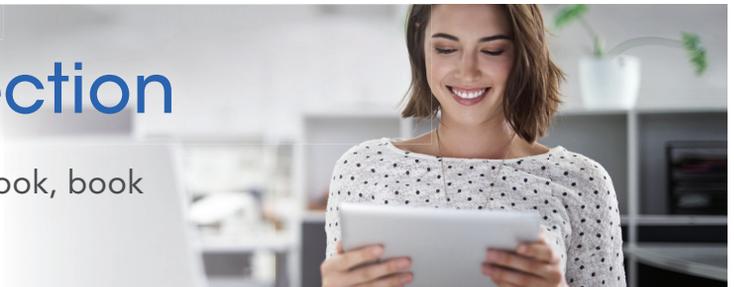
 THE OCEANFRONT LITCHFIELD INN **BOOK NOW** 843/237-4211

 Hotel. **Address:** 1 Norris Dr 29585.

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152 PIEDMONT, SC

PIEDMONT

• Hotels p. 152



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864/552-1420



Hotel. **Address:** 70 Kalyns Way 29673. **Facility:** 60 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



COMFORT SUITES GREENVILLE SOUTH

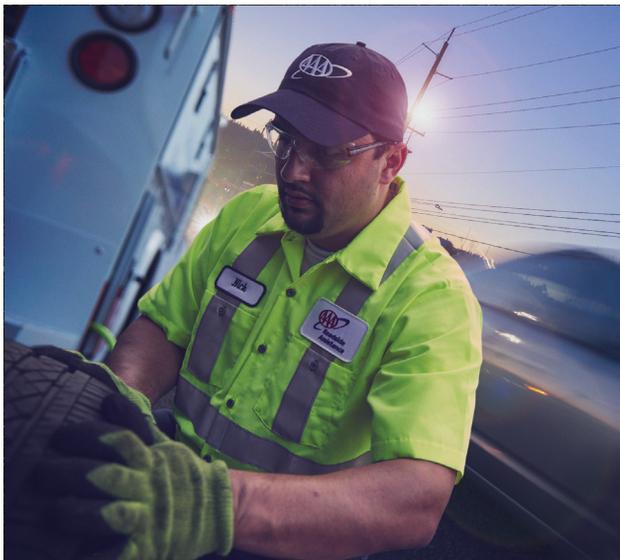
BOOK NOW

864/832-9542



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 10 Kalyns Way 29673. **Facility:** 82 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

RAVENEL

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

CAW CAW INTERPRETIVE CENTER is at 5200 Savannah Hwy. This 654-acre site within the Caw Caw Swamp contains remnants of 18th- and 19th-century rice plantations. Original earthen dikes and canals illustrate how the swampland was drained for cultivation. Now a wildlife sanctuary, the site provides a diverse habitat for more than 350 animal species. A 6-mile interpretive trail winds through forests, swamp and marshes. Interpretive exhibits are included, and birding specialists offer bird walks twice a week.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 762-8015.



RIDGELAND

Ridgeland traces its origins to the railroad, which came through present-day Jasper County in the mid-1800s. The town, then known as Gopher Hill, had just begun to prosper when Union soldiers torched much of the region during the Civil War. By the early 1900s its location on US 17, the main route between New York City and Miami, put the town back on the map, but it was the arrival of I-95 that established it as a major travel service center.

Jasper County Chamber of Commerce: 403 Russell St., P.O. Box 1267, Ridgeland, SC 29936-0910. **Phone:** (843) 726-8126.

ROCK HILL

• Hotels p. 153

The name Rock Hill is derived from the white flint rock encountered during the construction of the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad. Not much more than a

sprawling country crossroad for several decades following 1852, Rock Hill finally blossomed into an industrial town with the spread of cotton mills in the Upstate and the development of hydroelectric power on the Catawba River.

In 1895 Rock Hill obtained Winthrop College from Columbia, where it had been founded in 1886. Today Winthrop University offers an art gallery, a golf course and a lake for public enjoyment.

Several outdoor activities are available in the community. Glencairn Garden, at Charlotte Avenue and Edgemont and Crest streets, is a manicured 11-acre city park with water features, a lily pond, winding paths, a children's garden and a garden honoring veterans. Azaleas, dogwoods and wisteria reach their peak in mid-April; tulips bloom a bit later in the spring, annuals throughout the summer. Phone (803) 329-5620. Another place to enjoy the outdoors is the 3.35-mile Riverwalk: Piedmont Medical Center Trail (575 Herrons Ferry Rd.), where you can stroll, bike or launch a kayak or canoe at the Catawba River; phone (803) 326-0085 for more information.

In April Rock Hill hosts the 10-day Come-See-Me Festival, which features art exhibitions, road races, concerts, fireworks, a parade and international food.

Rock Hill/York County Convention and Visitors Bureau: 130 E. Main St., P.O. Box 11377, Rock Hill, SC 29730. **Phone:** (803) 329-5200 or (888) 702-1320.

Shopping: Rock Hill Galleria (2301 Dave Lyle Blvd.) offers Belk as well as an assortment of national retailers.

MUSEUM OF YORK COUNTY, w. on SR 161 from I-77 exit 82C, then n. to 4621 Mount Gallant Rd., highlights the natural history of the Carolina Piedmont and its connections to the rest of the world. A planetarium and a nature trail are available. Also displayed are works by artist Vernon Grant. **Phone:** (803) 329-2121.



CAMBRIA HOTEL ROCK HILL - UNIVERSITY CENTER

BOOK NOW

803/324-0004



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 354 Technology Center Way 29730. **Location:** Adjacent to Rock Hill Sports & Event Center. **Facility:** 110 units, some efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** hot tub, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

AAA COMFORT INN & SUITES ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/329-7400



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 973 Corporate Blvd 29730. **Facility:** 65 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA COMFORT SUITES ROCK HILL, MANCHESTER MEADOWS AREA **BOOK NOW** 803/326-3300



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 1323 Old Springdale Rd 29730. **Facility:** 71 units, some efficiencies. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/325-2700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 578 Galleria Blvd 29730.

AAA HAMPTON INN ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/325-1100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2111 Tabor Dr 29730.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/325-2800



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 650 Tinsley Way 29730.

 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 803/630-8452



Hotel. **Address:** 680 Tinsley Way 29730.

 HOLIDAY INN ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/323-1900



Hotel. **Address:** 503 Galleria Blvd 29730.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/980-6000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1285 Old Springdale Rd 29730.

Facility: 105 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated indoor.

Activities: exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



 LA QUINTA INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM **BOOK NOW** 803/817-7500



Hotel. **Address:** 1235 Springdale Rd 29730.



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 STAYBRIDGE SUITES ROCK HILL, AN IHG HOTEL **BOOK NOW** 803/329-0000



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 493 Galleria Blvd 29730.

 TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/327-0700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2135 Tabor Dr 29730.

 TRU BY HILTON - ROCK HILL **BOOK NOW** 803/366-2200



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 800 Galleria Blvd 29730.

ROEBUCK

 **WALNUT GROVE PLANTATION** is at 1200 Otts Shoals Rd. The house on this 18th-century plantation was built in 1765 for Charles and Mary Moore. It is furnished with pre-1810 antiques. The kitchen building displays 18th-century utensils made from wood, wrought iron and tin as well as earthenware. Other outbuildings include a blacksmith shop, school, doctor's office, smokehouse and barns. An herb garden and nature trail also are on the grounds. Guided house tours are given; visitors can stroll the grounds on their own.

A family cemetery on the property includes at least 146 graves, including those of Charles and Mary, other relatives and friends, enslaved men and women, and Revolutionary War soldiers. Kate Moore Barry, the oldest Moore daughter, is interred here. She acted as a spy and scout during the war and is considered a heroine.

Note: The house is currently undergoing restoration, but guided tours are still available. **Phone:** (864) 576-6546.



ST. HELENA ISLAND

GULLAH-N-GEECHIE MAHN TOURS departs from 16 Penn Center Cir. E. These educational and entertaining Gullah tours focus on the history and cultural connections to Africa. Some of the stops include Penn Center Historic

District, Brick Baptist Church, cotton plantations and religious praise houses. Bits of the Gullah language are used throughout the narration.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (843) 838-7516.
GT

PENN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT is at 16 Penn Center Cir. W. The campus, dedicated to preserving Sea Island history and culture, consists of historic buildings that once were part of Penn School, which was founded in 1862 to educate formerly enslaved African Americans. The site has also been used as a training and meeting facility for Civil Rights workers in the 1960s and for agricultural training for the Peace Corps in the 1970s and 1980s. The grounds include York W. Bailey Museum (*see attraction listing*), nature trails and nearly two dozen buildings.

Campus maps of the historic district are available at the museum. **Phone:** (843) 838-2432.

York W. Bailey Museum, in the Penn Center Historic District at 16 Penn Center Cir. W., depicts the culture and history of the Sea Islands' African American population since the Civil War. A 20-minute video and a permanent exhibit, Education for Freedom, details the history of Penn Center, which was founded as Penn School in 1862 to provide formal education and settlement assistance to former slaves.

Campus maps of the Penn Center Historic District are available. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 838-2474.



SANTEE
• Hotels p. 157

 **FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT SANTEE** **BOOK NOW** 803/854-7070



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Hotel. **Address:** 9074 Old Hwy Number 6 29142. **Location:** Across from public golf course. **Facility:** 91 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry. *(See ad p. 158.)*

SAVE CALL    **BIZ**      / **SOME UNITS** 

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Hotel. **Address:** 9060 Old Number Six Hwy 29142. **Location:** Across from public golf course. **Facility:** 81 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry. *(See ad p. 159.)*

SAVE CALL    **BIZ** **HS**      / **SOME UNITS** 

 **THREE DIAMOND**
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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 263 Britain St 29142.

SENECA
• Hotels p. 160

 **WORLD OF ENERGY**, 7812 Rochester Hwy., is Duke Energy's information center. Next to Oconee Nuclear Station, the center contains interactive exhibits that illustrate the use of water, coal and uranium in creating energy. Exhibits demonstrate hydroelectricity and how local waterways interact to produce electricity. A re-created mine shows how energy stored in coal is eventually converted into electricity. A fission chamber helps explain how nuclear energy is made.

Displays chart the story of power from lightning to light bulbs and describe energy conservation programs for the home. The center also has specimens of local fish in indoor ponds and aquariums, a cold-water habitat and children's video games concerning electricity.

The building is on Lake Keowee, and from the peninsula visitors can enjoy the scenic vista. The grounds include a fishing pier, a .25-mile nature trail with wildlife viewing opportunities, and a butterfly garden; butterflies can usually only be seen from May to mid-September. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (864) 885-4600 or (800) 777-1004. 

 Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

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Hotel. **Address:** 511 Hwy 123 Bypass 29678. **Facility:** 58 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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Hotel. **Address:** 800 Bypass 123 29678.



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Motel. **Address:** 226 Hi-Tech Rd 29678.



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Hotel. **Address:** 13050 Clemson Blvd 29678.

SIMPSONVILLE

• Hotels p. 160



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT GREENVILLE

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THREE DIAMOND

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Hotel. **Address:** 3821 Grandview Dr 29681.



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 HAMPTON INN BY HILTON SIMPSONVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/963-9292



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 3934 Grandview Dr 29680.

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SIMPSONVILLE **BOOK NOW** 864/962-3228



Hotel. **Address:** 642 Fairview Rd 29680.

SPARTANBURG

• Hotels p. 161

One of the South's leading textile-manufacturing cities, Spartanburg also is one of the world's largest peach shipping centers. Peach orchards and packing sheds can be visited June through August. The city was named for the Spartan Regiment, which represented it during the Revolutionary War. A statue honoring Gen. Daniel Morgan, the hero of the Battle of Cowpens, stands in Morgan Square.

Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau: 105 N. Pine St., Spartanburg, SC 29302. **Phone:** (864) 594-5000.



CHAPMAN CULTURAL CENTER, 200 E. St. John St., is home to nine organizations that represent the arts and culture of the community. Among them are the Spartanburg County Regional History Museum, Spartanburg Art Museum and Spartanburg Science Center. A

500-seat theater, where visitors can watch performances by Ballet Spartanburg, Spartanburg Little Theatre and Spartanburg Repertory Company, also is located here. Concerts, dance and educational seminars are held throughout the year.

The history museum chronicles the area's history through archives, clothing, dolls, fine art, photographs, postcards and toys. The art museum features artwork from around the world. The science center explores an array of topics, including animals, astronomy, electricity, fossils, geology and the human body. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (864) 542-2787.

HATCHER GARDEN AND WOODLAND PRESERVE, at 820 John B. White Sr. Blvd., serves as a public place for inspiration, enjoyment and education through the study of nature. The 12-acre woodland preserve presents native plants and flowers, flowing water and ponds, wildlife viewing, and paved paths for wheelchair access. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (864) 574-7724. 

 AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT SPARTANBURG **BOOK NOW** 864/585-8900



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 225 W Main St 29306.



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AAA BEST WESTERN SPARTANBURG NORTHWEST **BOOK NOW** 864/585-2400



Hotel. **Address:** 110 Mobile Dr 29303. **Facility:** 104 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



AAA FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON SPARTANBURG **BOOK NOW** 864/707-4700



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Hotel. **Address:** 9027 Fairforest Rd 29301. **Facility:** 200 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Bath:** shower only. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** heated indoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry.



AAA HILTON GARDEN INN SPARTANBURG **BOOK NOW** 864/913-1200



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 805 Spartan Blvd 29301.

AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES I-26 & US 29 AT WESTGATE MALL **BOOK NOW** 864/699-7777



Hotel. **Address:** 895 Spartan Blvd 29301.

AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES SPARTANBURG-NORTH **BOOK NOW** 864/504-3333



Hotel. **Address:** 161 Sha Ln 29307.

 RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT SPARTANBURG WESTGATE **BOOK NOW** 864/754-4445



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SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 109 Residence Dr 29301.

 SPARTANBURG MARRIOTT **BOOK NOW** 864/596-1211



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Hotel. **Address:** 299 N Church St 29306. **Facility:** 247 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Dining:** 3 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** sauna, steamroom, exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry.



SULLIVAN'S ISLAND

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30

North of Charleston Harbor just over the Ben Sawyer Bridge, funky yet upscale Sullivan's Island maintains a refreshing, small-town feel. Many of the beach houses—in a hodgepodge of architectural styles—date from the early 1900s, when Charleston's wealthy homeowners built here to escape the city's stifling summer humidity and enjoy the island's cooling sea breezes.

Middle Street is the hub of activity. Brightly painted buildings house pubs and restaurants with outdoor seating, where residents and tourists alike relax and watch the parade go by. The community is mostly residential, with no hotels or motels and a beachfront without commercial development. Beaches, accessible by several marked paths, are maintained in their natural state, and therefore have no facilities—if you want to avoid the crowds, this is where to come. Parking is permitted along the side streets.

It's hard to believe that this laid-back hamlet is the location of Fort Moultrie (see *Fort Sumter National Monument*

p. 91), where American troops first triumphed over the British forces during the Revolution. In fact, Edgar Allan Poe was stationed at the fort from 1827 to 1828, and he showcased Sullivan's Island as a setting in his story "The Gold Bug" (the town library bears his name). Other writers inspired by the stark beauty of this stretch of Carolina coastline include Pat Conroy, who penned "Beach Music," and Dorothea Benton Frank, author of "Sullivan's Island."

Numerous shipwrecks have been discovered off the coast of Sullivan's Island, including several Civil War blockade runners. The *H.L. Hunley*, a vessel operated by the Confederacy, was recovered in August 2000 more than 3.5 miles off the coast. The first submarine to sink an enemy warship, it mysteriously disappeared soon after completing its 1864 mission. The vessel can be toured on weekends.

The Sullivan's Island Lighthouse, 163 feet tall and slender, isn't what you would expect in the traditional sense; after all, it is said to be the only U.S. lighthouse outfitted with an elevator. The unusual modern structure is situated north of the harbor's entrance at the island's southern tip.

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Please refer to pages 8-9 for Inspected Clean details.

SUMMERTON

SANTEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, just n.w. off I-95 exit 102 to 2125 Fort Watson Rd., is an approximately 15,000-acre sanctuary for migratory waterfowl and songbirds. The refuge consists of four non-contiguous areas, each with hiking and biking paths. Wildlife exhibits are offered at the visitor center, which features an observation deck overlooking Scott's Lake. Mounted binoculars on the deck also afford views of the Santee Indian Burial Mound. A small plaque points out the location where Fort Watson, which was built by the British in the Revolutionary War, once stood.

The Cuddo Unit is home to a 7.5-mile Wildlife Drive, which traverses through open field, upland forests, bottomland swamps, and freshwater wetlands.

Picnicking and canoeing are permitted, hunting is allowed in refuge-designated seasons, and fishing is available year-round in designated areas; phone for more

information. See *Recreation Areas Chart*. **Phone:** (803) 478-2217.  

SUMMERVILLE

- **Hotels p. 164**
- **Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30**

Summerville was settled by coastal dwellers who moved inland in the summer to escape malaria. By the early 1890s the town became a popular health and winter resort. Much of its charm is derived from the natural beauty of its rambling streets, which wind around numerous pine trees protected by an ordinance prohibiting their removal. Azaleas, camellias and wisteria line the streets and provide seasonal blooms.

Summerville Visitor Center: 402 N. Main St., Summerville, SC 29483. **Phone:** (843) 873-8535.

 **AVID HOTEL SUMMERVILLE** **BOOK NOW** 843/594-9302



Hotel. **Address:** 301 Holiday Dr 29483.

 **CAMBRIA HOTEL SUMMERVILLE - CHARLESTON** **BOOK NOW** 854/888-2800



CAMBRIA
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Hotel. **Address:** 405 Sigma Dr 29486. **Facility:** 95 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



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Hotel. **Address:** 1005 Jockey Ct 29483. **Facility:** 83 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/285-8338



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SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1510 Rose Dr 29483.

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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 121 Holiday Dr 29483.

 HILTON GARDEN INN SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/832-1304



 **AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Hotel. **Address:** 406 Sigma Dr 29486. **Facility:** 157 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/873-8900



Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 1657 N Main St 29483.

 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/970-7182



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SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 221 Hospitality Dr 29483.

 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/832-1304



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 406 Sigma Dr 29486.

 RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CHARLESTON SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/285-9716



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 1528 N Main St 29483.



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 STAYBRIDGE SUITES CHARLESTON - SUMMERVILLE **BOOK NOW** 843/594-9000



Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 225 Holiday Dr 29483.

SUMTER
• Hotels p. 166

Founded in 1785, Sumter was named for Gen. Thomas Sumter, a Revolutionary War hero and statesman. The British, impressed by Sumter's daring hit-and-run warfare, nicknamed him the Gamecock of the Revolution. Settled by a refined citizenry from surrounding plantations, the town developed a reputation as a cultural center. The arrival of road shows packed the old opera house, which now houses the city hall; for information about occasional productions, phone (803) 436-2616.

Sumter is one of the state's leading lumber and agricultural areas. Further bolstering the city's economy are textile mills; chemical plants; foundries; and the Palmetto Pigeon Plant, reputed to be the world's largest squab farm. Just west of Sumter is Shaw Air Force Base, home to the F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter crews.

The Sumter Iris Festival, one of the state's oldest festivals, is held over Memorial Day weekend at Swan Lake Iris Gardens (*see attraction listing this page*) to celebrate the peak blooming season.

Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce: 32 E. Calhoun St., Sumter, SC 29150. **Phone:** (803) 775-1231.

SUMTER COUNTY GALLERY OF ART, 200 Hasel St., features changing exhibits of traditional and contemporary artwork in a variety of media and styles. Classes and courses are offered. **Phone:** (803) 775-0543.

SWAN LAKE IRIS GARDENS is at 822 W. Liberty St. The eight species of swans from around the world are the dominant feature in the park. The 150 acres of lawns, landscaped gardens, lakes and pinewoods are known for a beautiful collection of Japanese irises, which bloom in mid-May. **Phone:** (803) 436-2640 or (800) 688-4748.



 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES SUMTER **BOOK NOW** 803/469-4444



Hotel. **Address:** 2490 Broad St 29150.

 HYATT PLACE SUMTER/DOWNTOWN **BOOK NOW** 803/774-8100



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Hotel. **Address:** 18 N Main St 29150. **Facility:** 93 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** complimentary and valet laundry.



 SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT SUMTER **BOOK NOW** 803/469-6000



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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 2645 Broad St 29150.

 TRU BY HILTON SUMTER **BOOK NOW** 803/469-9800



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SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 2607 Broad St 29150.

SUMTER NATIONAL FOREST

Elevations in the forest range from 150 ft. in the Enoree region to 3,500 ft. at Fork Mountain. Refer to AAA maps for additional elevation information.

Divided into three separate units in northwestern South Carolina, Sumter National Forest offers a variety of scenery within its nearly 371,000 acres. The foothills of the southern Appalachians, the Piedmont's rolling terrain and the upper reaches of the Savannah River are enhanced by dogwoods, sourwoods and azaleas. A particularly scenic route is the 12-mile stretch of SR 107 that runs through the forest. The Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River offers 31 miles of white-water rapids for canoeing or rafting. Guided white-water rafting trips can be arranged with operators based in Long Creek (*see place listing p. 118*).

Activities vary per district but include bird-watching, fishing, hunting and swimming. Facilities include campgrounds, picnic areas and rifle ranges as well as nature,

hiking, biking, canoeing and horse trails. For additional information contact the Forest Supervisor's Office, 4931 Broad River Rd., Columbia, SC 29212. Phone (803) 561-4000. *See Recreation Areas Chart.*

SURFSIDE BEACH

- **Hotels p. 167**
- **Part of The Grand Strand area— see map p. 94**

Surfside Beach's 2 miles of pristine sand can be reached from most cross streets off Ocean Boulevard. A fishing pier extends into the ocean at Surfside Drive.

Kicking off the holiday season in mid-December, the Christmas Parade is a fun affair for the whole family. Kids will have a blast cheering on the floats adorned in festive trimmings as they putter down Ocean Boulevard. Santa usually brings up the rear.

 HOLIDAY INN OCEANFRONT AT SURFSIDE BEACH **BOOK NOW** 843/238-5601



Hotel. **Address:** 1601 N Ocean Blvd 29575.

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TRAVELERS REST

• Hotels p. 168



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON TRAVELERS REST

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SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 593 Roe Center Ct 29690.

WADMALAW ISLAND

• Part of Charleston area— see map p. 30



SAVE

CHARLESTON TEA GARDEN is at 6617

Maybank Hwy. A 12-minute factory tour introduces visitors to how tea is made from tea leaves. A window 125 feet in length allows visitors to look down and observe factory equipment, and footage of the manufacturing process is shown on large screens.

A 40-minute trolley tour of the 127-acre farm features narration by William Barclay Hall, founder of American Classic Tea. The guide also shares information about the plantation and local history. Visitors get to see some of the more than 320 varieties of tea plants as well as the greenhouse. The island's sub-tropical climate and sandy soil, along with an average 52-inch annual rainfall, create ideal conditions for growing tea plants. The harvest season is May through October.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 559-0383. **GT** **FA**

WALTERBORO

• Hotels p. 169

Walterboro Army Airfield Memorial Park, on the grounds of Lowcountry Regional Airport, has a monument to the

Tuskegee Airmen who trained at Walterboro Army Airfield during World War II. A 1933 beacon used during the war is also on the grounds.

Walterboro Welcome Center: 1273 Sniders Hwy., Walterboro, SC 29488. **Phone:** (843) 538-4353.

BEDON-LUCAS HOUSE MUSEUM is at 205 Church St. This 1820 Federal raised cottage was built high off the ground so its occupants could avoid mosquitoes but also benefit from summer breezes. The Clarence Lucas family bought the house from Richard Bedon, the first known occupant, late in the century and made renovations reflecting Victorian style. The house, which includes a piazza, is furnished with antiques. The separate kitchen house displays kitchen artifacts from other Colleton County homes.

Time: Allow 20 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (843) 549-9633. **GT**

COLLETON MUSEUM, 506 E. Washington St., showcases various aspects of local history, including a tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen who trained at the Walterboro base. Artifacts relating to domestic and military life are displayed and a natural history exhibit features animals found in the nearby ACE Basin. Space also is dedicated to rotating exhibits. A farmers market adjoins the museum building. **Phone:** (843) 549-2303. **FI**

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Hotel. **Address:** 97 Downs Ln 29488. **Facility:** 96 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room.



AAA HAMPTON INN & SUITES WALTERBORO **BOOK NOW** 843/358-2300



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. **Address:** 129 Cane Branch Rd 29488.

AAA HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES **BOOK NOW** 843/538-2700



Hotel. **Address:** 1834 Sniders Hwy 29488.

WEST COLUMBIA
• Hotels p. 169

Shopping: Old Mill Antique Mall (310 State St.) is home to some 75 antiques dealers. Also in West Columbia is the

South Carolina State Farmers Market (3483 Charleston Hwy.), which is open daily. In addition to offering staples like produce, flowers and plants, it features restaurants, a bakery and an exhibition kitchen.

AAA HILTON GARDEN INN COLUMBIA AIRPORT **BOOK NOW** 803/391-4000



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SAVE Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 110 McSwain Dr 29169.

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AAA RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA WEST/LEXINGTON **BOOK NOW** 803/661-6910



Residence INN. **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 122 Mathias Rd 29169. **Location:** Lexington Medical Center. **Facility:** 108 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



AAA TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT COLUMBIA WEST/LEXINGTON **BOOK NOW** 803/935-9050



TOWNEPLACE SUITES **AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!**
MARRIOTT

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 2915 Sunset Blvd 29169. **Facility:** 111 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet and coin laundry.



YEMASSEE

• Hotels p. 170

Lowcountry & Resort Islands Tourism Commission: 1
Lowcountry Ln., P.O. Box 615, Yemassee, SC 29945.
Phone: (843) 717-3090 or (800) 528-6870.

AAA HAMPTON INN BY HILTON YEMASSEE/POINT SOUTH **BOOK NOW** 843/379-5226



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. **Address:** 139 Frampton Dr 29945. **Facility:** 80 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. **Guest Services:** coin laundry.



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 Camping facilities

 Recreational activities

 Picnicking allowed

 Designates an attraction of exceptional interest and quality. **AAA GEM** — a *Great Experience for Members*®.