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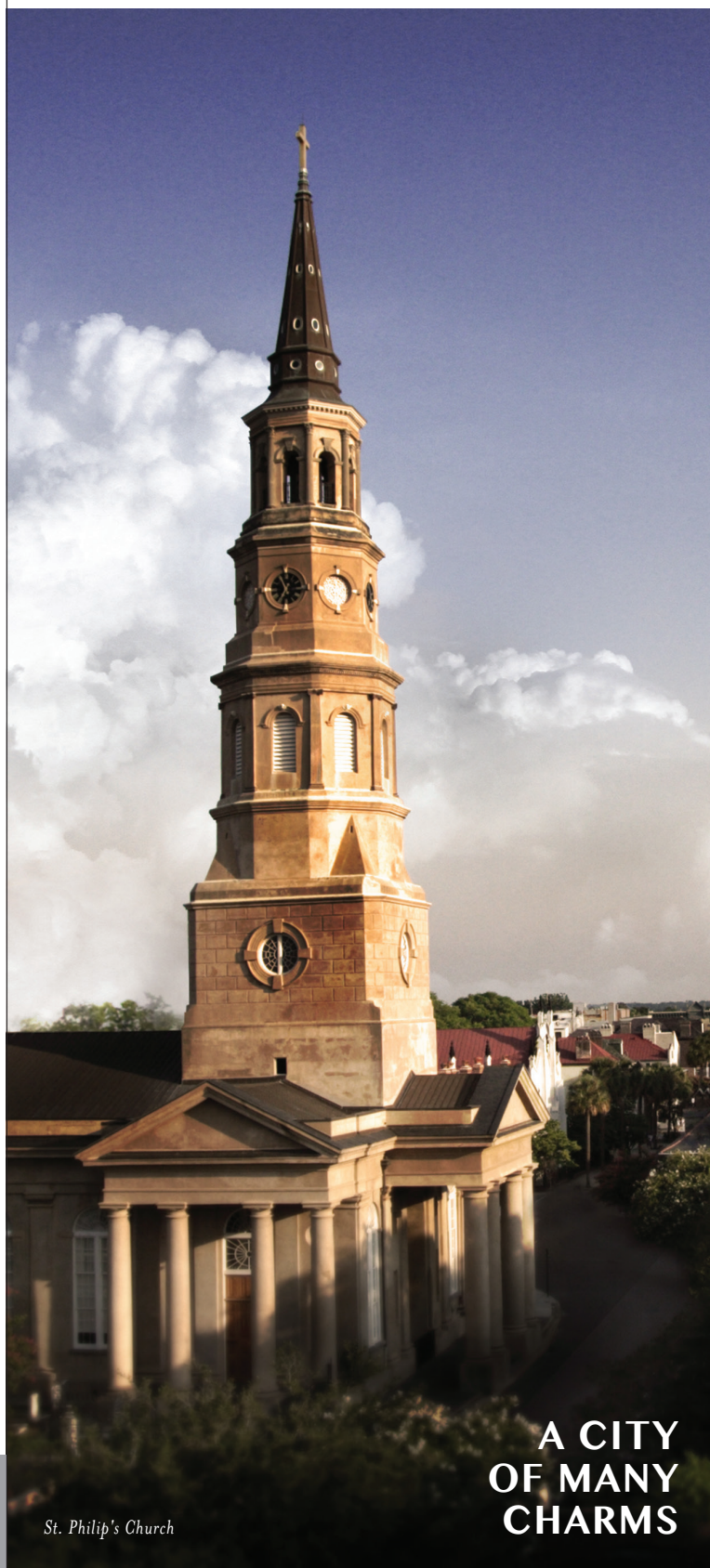
THE BELLE OF THE SOUTH



With its acclaimed restaurants, soul-stirring landscapes, vibrant culture, and exquisitely preserved Antebellum wonders, **CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**, exudes a gravitational pull for travelers as the one American South city they absolutely, positively must visit.

Aiken - Rhett House

CHARLESTON, S.C.



St. Philip's Church

A CITY OF MANY CHARMS



The Ordinary

ICONIC FLAVORS

Born of pristine local waters, an oyster's briny kiss is served at scores of noted restaurants across the city.



Chef Mike Lata

CELEBRATED TASTEMAKERS

An energized community of chefs and purveyors cater to Charleston's breadth of acclaimed restaurants.



Harbor Sail

SERENE SEASIDE ENCLAVE

An idyllic place with a leisurely-paced lifestyle, Charleston is known for its balmy breezes and veil of hazy, golden light.

SOUTHERN CHARM

SPLENDIDLY MADE

The area is home to a coterie of designers who capture the essence of Charleston style with their jewelry, clothing, and home decor collections.

Dress the part with lovely pieces from *Croghan's Jewel Box*, *Troubadour Clothing* and *Candy Shop Vintage*.



Details: [Pinterest.com/ExploreGHS](https://www.pinterest.com/exploreGHS)



The Old Village Post House

CHARLESTON has fixed coordinates. You may locate it on a map, where it has appeared for the past 343 years. Yet, this beguiling place truly exists somewhere else entirely—it abides in the hearts and minds of those who have strolled the tree-lined streets of this jewel box city.

Lulled by perfumed air and a languid pace, Charleston is an unexpectedly seductive place. The city gazes at the Atlantic Ocean amid a saltmarsh palate rich in straw-ruffled and cerulean hues. A heady aroma of secret gardens winks at briny sea breezes. Locals lovingly call it the Lowcountry, an idyllic place that etches its imprint on visitors.

One of America's most architecturally significant destinations, Charleston's chronology is evident at every turn. Cobblestone streets and copper carriage lanterns wear the polish of several centuries, a burnished roadmap through time.

At the very heart of Charleston is a genteel community known for its warm hospitality. A friendly nod and a sincere 'welcome' await.



Croghan's Jewel Box

SHOP, SIP & SEE



For more than 300 years, Charleston's evocative beauty has inspired painters, playwrights, poets and musicians.



Local Art

In 1934, George Gershwin decamped to the bohemian wilds of Folly Beach, a small windswept island near Charleston. For the Brooklyn-born composer accustomed to the bright lights of Broadway and flocks of adoring fans, the lolling Lowcountry lifestyle was like functioning in outer space.

Gershwin arrived by train at the invitation of Charlestonian DuBose Heyward, author of the novel *Porgy*, and they spent the summer setting the tale of Charleston's "Catfish Row" to music.

The pair absorbed the joyous bedlam of church revivals and dulcet tones of Gullah spirituals, which Gershwin melded into the *Porgy and Bess* score.



Sounds of Charleston

Toast Charleston's pretty skyline (dotted with church steeples, not skyscrapers) with a cocktail under the stars at *The Pavilion Bar*, *Stars Rooftop* and *Rooftop at The Vendue*.

Other popular spots include *Prohibition*, *Cocktail Club*, *Husk*, *Victor Social Club*, *Royal American* and *Bay Street Biergarten*.



Husk Bar

Watch *Summertime*, the hauntingly beautiful aria from *Porgy and Bess* come to life at

CHARLESTONONLY.COM

DINE

Since its founding in 1670, Charleston has enjoyed a well-earned reputation for setting sumptuous tables laden with unique Lowcountry cuisine. Today, dozens of noted restaurants, including *Circa 1886*, *FIG*, *Charleston Grill*, *The MacIntosh*, *Husk*, *Cypress*, *Slightly North of Broad*, and *Peninsula Grill*, showcase fresh seafood, local produce, and heirloom recipes to create sophisticated interpretations of classic southern dishes.

EAT, MEET & MINGLE

Experience a side dish of kismet when seated with impromptu dining companions at a lively community table, like the ones found at *Butcher & Bee*, *Coast*, *Cru Cafe*, *Edmund's Oast*, *Hall's Chophouse*, and *Hank's Seafood Restaurant*.

Hank's Seafood Restaurant

PLAY

A photograph of a path covered in red flower petals, leading through a grove of trees with red berries in the foreground. The path is made of light-colored gravel or sand, and the surrounding trees have dark green leaves and clusters of bright red berries. The scene is captured in a cinematic style with soft lighting.

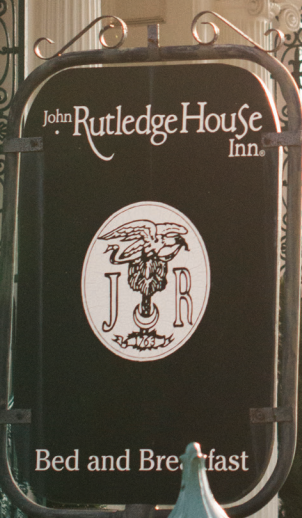
Like the dazzling blue-green-gold plumage of a peacock, sprawling 17th century plantations fan out across Charleston. The groves of azaleas and camellias at *Magnolia Plantation* are among the largest collections in the nation. At nearby *Middleton Place*, the sixty-five acres of parterres and verdant terraces are among America's oldest landscaped gardens. The austere grandeur of *Drayton Hall* is a glorious example of Georgian Palladian architecture. The allée of grand oaks at *Boone Hall* delights fans of *The Notebook*, which filmed scenes at the picturesque plantation.

Middleton Place

STAY

Luxuriate amid the Old World splendor of handsome antiques and heirloom silver at a historic inn. Or, tuck into a boutique property located a short stroll from shops and restaurants. Charleston's acclaimed hotels cater to travelers who desire the finest experiences imaginable.

In 2014, CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER gave Readers' Choice Awards to ten local hotels, including *John Rutledge House Inn*, *Wentworth Mansion*, *French Quarter Inn*, *Belmond Charleston Place*, *HarbourView Inn*, *Market Pavilion Hotel*, *Restoration on King*, *Mills House Wyndham Grand*, *The Sanctuary*, and *Planters Inn*.



VISIT CHARLESTON. EXPLORE & SHARE.



Explore the Historic District



WANT INSIDER TIPS on ways to experience Charleston like a local?

For travel itineraries, chef profiles, special features, beautiful videos, and photographs of the area's many charms, visit *Charlestonly.com*.

Charleston
SOUTH CAROLINA

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