



SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Kick up your feet at The Dewberry, where Southern charm is reimaged. Grab a cocktail at the hotel's rooftop bar The Citrus Club for one of the best views in the city.



HISTORY LESSONS

Get immersed in lowcountry history and Gullah culture with a visit to the Charleston Museum, the Old Slave Mart Museum or the Aiken-Rhett House Museum.



GARDEN VIEWING

Soak in the essential landscapes of Charleston with a visit to Boone Hall Plantation.

Explore and Eat in Charleston

Piggybacking daytime excursions with unforgettable meals.

BY CATHERINE TRIFILETTI

Certain destinations are so easy to write about that it's actually difficult. Charleston, S.C. is one of them. If you have never immersed yourself in the charm of the lowcountry then you have surely seen images of its quintessential landscapes dotted with colorful architecture and accented by verdant palm trees. Its proud residents are eager to share their city's good vibes and complex history. Whether you're lounging on the beach, bouncing around Charleston's many breweries or absorbing culture at any number of historical landmarks, the recently opened **The Dewberry** (334 Meeting St./ rooms starting at \$299), is a chic and convenient option to rest your head after a long day roaming and nosing.

BEACH & TACOS

Though downtown Charleston is surrounded by waterways, it is always wise to make time for a day trip to **Folly Beach** or **Sullivan's Island** to get the classic oceanside experience.

Before making yourself at home on Folly's sandy sprawl, stop at **Bert's Market** (202 East Ashley Ave.) to load up on quirky local beers for beach sips. When hunger strikes, pull up a wooden stool at outdoor haunt **Chico Feo** (122 East Ashley Ave.), across from Bert's. The name, which translates to "ugly man," should give you an idea of its formality level. Order Mahi tacos and Cuban beans and rice.

BEER & PIZZA

With more than 30 craft breweries and counting, Charleston has become a hotbed for sud-making, especially in the once dilapidated "Neck" neighborhood. Start with **Munkle Brewing Co.** (1513 Meeting Street Rd.), where the owners are perfecting the monastic tradition of brewing ales. On select days you can grab inventive artisan pizzas from **First Name Basis'** custom teardrop camper. Continue on to **The Hold by Revelry Brewing** (36 Romney St.) sour house—a stone's

throw from Revelry's popular original outpost. While in the area, make a stop at the famous **Bertha's Kitchen** (2332 Meeting Street Rd.) where you can only hope your styrofoam plate doesn't break under generous helpings of collards, fried pork chops, dirty rice and buttery cornbread.

STEPS & SEAFOOD

Give yourself a full morning or afternoon simply walking down the city's main drag, **King Street**, with no agenda or itinerary. Allow time to be lured into boutiques (**Ro Sham Beaux**) and galleries (**Ann Long Fine Art**). At the end of the strip at the edge of the peninsula, get lost in the residential streets of **The Battery**, where towering antebellum mansions provide endless charm. For dinner, a reservation at **The Ordinary** (544 King St.) is a must. The old-bank turned American seafood brasserie has an epic locally sourced shellfish tower. Nightcap at nearby **Cocktail Club** (479 King St.). **WL**

GET THERE

Daily flights from Reagan National are offered by American Airlines. Flight time is an hour and a half. For road trippers, expect about eight hours behind the wheel and a straight shot down I-95.