CHARLESTON GARDENS

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For almost seven decades, the Historic Charleston Foundation has offered locals and visitors a chance to peek inside the private gardens of some of the country's most picturesque historic homes during its annual Festival of Homes & Gardens This tradition allows the public to stroll through the "secret gardens" full of blooming dogwood, redbud, and azalea that are usually hidden from the public behind intricately designed wrought iron gates. However, you don't have to wait for the festival to stroll around Charleston gardens! Here are some gardens locals choose to spend their weekends relaxing!

Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens

Boone Hall has also been recognized as the #1 Plantation in the Charleston Area by USA TODAY 10BEST and they are one of America's oldest still working farms.They offer an insight into Gullah Culture, House Tours, Slave History Presentations, Garden Tours, a Tropic Conservatory and more. Being America's most photographed Plantation & Garden, they are open every day for tours, including a diverse variety of special events and festivals presented by Boone Hall throughout the year.

The Gardens at Middleton Place

Middleton Place is America's Oldest Landscaped Gardens and home to a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Located along the Ashley River in Charleston, Middleton Place is a National Historic Landmark, historic home, research center, and historic plantation and stableyards. General Admission includes access to 65 acres of formal landscaped Gardens and a look at 18th and 19th century plantation life with exhibits, displays, and artisans.

Magnolia Plantation & Gardens

With your admission, explore 6 miles of walking and biking trails throughout our historic property. Walk the Audubon Swamp Garden, a serene and preserved portion of the Ashley River. Check out the Magnolia Blooms station and historic river walk. Don't miss the Wildlife Center, home to many native species and rescued animals. Step back in history with a guided Magnolia House tour, enjoy scenic views on the Nature Train Train tour, and gain perspective on the "From Slavery to Freedom" tour.

Charleston Tea Garden

Located on picturesque Wadmalaw Island, a few miles south of the city of Charleston, the Tea Garden offers a very educational tour of their tea factory. You get to walk the entire length of the tea production building where you can see all the equipment it takes to make tea. They're the only tea garden in North America where you can see hundreds of thousands of tea bushes stretching out acre after acre for almost as far as the eye can see.

The Battery & White Point Garden

An ideal place to take a shaded stroll, admire a waterfront view from a vast line of benches, or just soak up the local monuments and markers that honor the park's more distinctive moments, the White Point Garden, also known as Battery Park, is a must-see destination during any Charleston exploration.