

WELCOME TO CHARLESTON

**#1 CITY IN
THE WORLD**
Travel + Leisure

**#1 FRIENDLIEST
CITY IN THE
WORLD**
Conde Nast Traveler

**BEST PLACE
TO LIVE**
*US News and World
Report*



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CHARLESTON AT A GLANCE

There is plenty to discover in Charleston, as this city is rich in history with famous landmarks and museums. If you are interested in the Civil War, then you should head to **Fort Sumter**, as this is where the first shot of the war was fired. You will find more history at **Battery Park**, which is also a picturesque area with the river on one side and beautiful Southern mansions.

Other must-see spots in Charleston include the **South Carolina Aquarium**, great for families with its 4D theater and an albino alligator. The **Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia** offers visual and performing arts along with science exhibits. Charleston also hosts numerous events and festivals throughout the year.



There are also a number of beach towns to explore. The **Isle of Palms** is one such beach town that is perfect for a stroll along the beach. Other beach towns include **Sullivan's Island** and **Folly Beach**.



If you love shopping, visit **Charleston City Market** for handmade baskets, southern spices, and more! The **Charleston Farmers Market at Marion Square (April-December)** offers fresh produce, textiles, and handmade goods. For more boutiques and mainstream stores, head over to **King Street!**

LOCATIONS AND EVENTS IN CHARLESTON



Downtown

Visitors will find themselves spending most of their time in downtown Charleston as most of the city's historic attractions can be found there.

South of Broad

This residential area of Charleston features historic mansions and churches. Be sure to visit the Nathaniel Russell House and Edmondston-Alston House. The Battery, at the southern edge, offers stunning views of the city and Charleston Harbor.

North of Broad

This area is considered Charleston's historic district, home to many Civil War attractions. You'll find charming cobblestone streets, elegant homes, and beautiful gardens. It also offers a variety of hotels, restaurants, and excellent shopping!



Mount Pleasant

While Mount Pleasant doesn't have major tourist attractions, it's still worth a visit! The Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens, featured in *The Notebook*, is located here. The area also offers excellent restaurants, charming local shops, and picturesque homes, including the beautiful I'On neighborhood, known for its classic Southern architecture and scenic streets.

Daniel Island

Offers a unique blend of outdoor recreation, scenic waterfront views, and a vibrant community!

James Island

Perfect for a laid-back getaway, with its beautiful parks, and scenic waterfront views!

Johns Island

Known for their serene rural charm, rich history, and natural beauty, including the Angel Oak Tree!



Isle of Palms

Known for its family-friendly atmosphere, and abundant outdoor activities like boating, fishing, and beach volleyball.

Folly Beach

Vibrant destination known for its surf-friendly waves, picturesque lighthouse, and lively beach town vibe!



Sullivan's Island

Charming coastal retreat, offering historic sites like Fort Moultrie, and fantastic local restaurants!



West Ashley

The perfect mix of suburban comfort and natural beauty, with attractions like the Magnolia Plantation & scenic waterways!





Park Circle

Park Circle is a neighborhood filled with eclectic eateries, charming parks, and a vibrant arts scene, offering a unique blend of local culture and community spirit.

Summerville

Charming town known for its picturesque historic district, beautiful gardens, and the renowned "Flowertown" Festival.

Goose Creek

Offers a mix of suburban tranquility, scenic parks, and close proximity to Charleston's attractions, making it a great spot for friends and family!



Hanahan

Hanahan offers a peaceful suburban vibe with great parks, waterfront views along the Cooper River, and a family-friendly atmosphere just a short drive from downtown Charleston. The city is also home to several recreational activities, including walking trails, sports complexes, and easy access to nearby nature reserves!



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Browse through [SCIWAY](#) to see what you can get involved in once you're settled in! There truly is something for everyone. Just a few examples here:

- **Charleston Young Professionals (CYP)**
- **Leadership Charleston**
- **SC Business Professionals**
- **SC Health Organizations**
- **South Carolina Policy Council**
- **South Carolina Women in Leadership**
- **Reach out and Read Carolinas**
- **South Carolina Humanities**
- **South Carolina Art Alliance**



QUICK FACTS

- **Population**: 836,039 Residents in the Charleston Region & 413,024 Residents in Charleston County
- **Workforce**: 408,909 Workers in the Charleston Region & 220,077 Workers in Charleston County
- **Median Household Income**: \$68,000 in the Charleston Region & \$64,022 in Charleston County
- **Cost of Living Index Level**: 101.4 for the Charleston Region
- **Gross Regional Product**: \$51.1 Billion for the Charleston Region & \$34.5 Billion for Charleston County

TOP REGIONAL INDUSTRY – SECTORS (BY EMPLOYMENT) 2021 JOBS



- **Government (NAICS – 90):** 80,798 Jobs
- **Retail Trade (NAICS 44):** 43,248 Jobs
- **Accommodation and Food Service (NAICS 72):** 37,669 Jobs
- **Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62):** 37,171 Jobs
- **Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services (NAICS 54):** 30,198 Jobs
- **Manufacturing (NAICS 31):** 29,176 Jobs
- **Construction (NAICS 23):** 24,229 Jobs
- **Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation (NAICS 56):** 23,793 Jobs
- **Other Services (Except Public Administration (NAICS 81):** 20,726 Jobs
- **Transportation and Warehousing (NAICS 48):** 15,742 Jobs



CLIMATE DATA

- Nestled alongside the Ashley and Cooper rivers as they flow into the Atlantic Ocean, Charleston enjoys a subtropical climate—with mild winters and warm, sunny summers. On average, July is our warmest month, January is our coldest, and August gets the most rainfall.
- **Average Temperature by Season**
 - Spring average temperatures: 58° F (14.4° C) to 72° F (22.2° C)
 - Summer average temperatures: 78° F (25.6° C) to 82° F (27.8° C)
 - Autumn average temperatures: 58° F (14.4° C) to 76° F (24.4° C)



KEY INDUSTRIES IN CHARLESTON

- **Aerospace**
 - Jobs (2020) – 5,148 (336% above the national average)
 - Leading employers: Boeing, AMT Senior, TIGHITCO, Safran
- **Automotive**
 - Jobs (2020) – 4,151 (141% above the national average)
 - Leading Employers: Mercedes-Benz Vans, Cummins Turbo, Volvo, Knapheide
- **Defense**
 - Leading Employers: BoomTown, Blue Acorn, CACI, SPAWAR, CodeLynx
- **Tech**
 - Charleston is routinely included on lists of the “Next Silicon Valleys” and has emerged as a desirable location for a wide range of technology-based companies and workers
 - Homegrown successes like Blackbaud, Phish Labs, and Benefitfocus, along with satellite operations of Google, Infosys, and other international firms show the growth potential of locating in the Charleston area.
- **Life Sciences**
 - With the Medical University of South Carolina, 35 pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, and over 50 research and development labs, Charleston has become a hub for bio-science and medical research.
- **Logistics**
 - SC Ports Authority, Charleston International Airport, United States Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZs)
- **Maritime**
 - The Port of Charleston is a major maritime hub in SC that supports many industries, including automotive, aerospace, manufacturing, and agriculture.
 - Leading Employers: Carver Maritime, Dominion Energy Innovation Center, CCMC, Charleston’s Rigging and Marine Hardware Inc., Detyens Shipyards



REAL ESTATE & PROPERTY TAX DATA

At 0.56 percent, South Carolina has one of the lowest mean effective tax rates for owner-occupied housing in the nation.

The current assessment ratios for the state of South Carolina are as follows:

- Primary Residences – 4 percent fair market value
- Other Real Estate – 6 percent fair market value
- Personal Property (some motor vehicles, watercraft, aircraft, business personal property) – 10.5 percent fair market value
- Commercial Boats – 5 percent fair market value
- Primary-Residence Boats – 4 percent fair market value
- Agricultural Property (Privately owned) – 4 percent fair market value
- Agricultural Property (Corporate-owned) – 6 percent use value
- Manufacturing & Utility Property – 10.5 percent fair market value
- Railroad, Airline, & Pipeline Property – 9.5 percent fair market value



WORKFORCE DATA

- **183,649:** Charleston-North Charleston has 183,649 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 165,386
- **40,000:** Students enrolled in area colleges and universities
- **66,324:** Charleston-North Charleston, SC has 66,324 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 44,900
- **31,000+:** Potential candidates in the region's workforce system
- **Charleston's Future Workforce Pipeline:**
 - More than 40,000 students are enrolled in area colleges and universities.
 - Nearly 15,000 high school students are enrolled in high school career academies.
 - 30 new residents move to the region each day.