



50 THINGS TO DO AND SEE IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

The best hotels, shopping, things to do and cocktails to try in one of our favorite Southern cities.

Charleston, which is known for the many church steeples that dot its skyline, is experiencing a boom in more areas than one: restaurants, boutique hotels, bars, distilleries, retail, tech—and we've even tasted the smoky evidence of a very localized BBQ boom. Fortunately, all this booming hasn't rattled the foundation on which this southern port city sits. You'll still find oodles of that world-famous charm and access to the historic sites, dating clear back to colonial times, that make this city so culturally rich.

Here, spiritual experiences have been had over bourbon craft cocktails, antique aficionados have discovered utopia on King Street, small miracles (also called oysters) have been found in Ace Basin half shells, and former dessert abstainers have seen the light over 12-layer slices of coconut cake. And that's not even why they call it the Holy City. Because Charleston has so many epic experiences, we're starting you off with 50 places and activities—both old and new—that just might make your traveling heart go boom.

8 *The Dewberry*



You'll see plenty of antebellum-era digs around this town, but for a chic portal into midcentury Charleston, there's **The Dewberry**. The former 1960s federal building (commissioned by JFK) is decked in cherry and mahogany wood, throwback Poul Kjaerholm sofas and works by 1950s abstract artist William Halsey. Be sure to grab a Manhattan at the brass bar followed by oysters at the in-house brasserie, Henrietta's. You can even snag a souvenir, like a vintage flask, crystal decanter or a pair of earrings, just off the lobby at Fieldshop.