

 MAY 14, 2015

LEISURE TRAVEL

T&C Travel Guide: The Best of Charleston, South Carolina

From where to stay, dine, and soak up all that Southern sunshine. This is your ultimate guide to Charleston.



by LOGAN SYKES



JOE VAUGHN

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Where to stay.



Belmond Charleston Place (above)

Known simply as 'Charleston Place' to locals, this hotel is the epitome of Southern comfort. From a premiere spa to the perfect downtown locale (not to mention the three in-house restaurants and carriage rides available to guests), this deluxe quarters' endless accommodations make it more home-away-from-home than hotel.

205 Meeting Street, (843) 722-4900

Zero George

This boutique hotel might just be the sweetest stay, ever. With less than two dozen studios and suites, the inn-like George Street building dates back to the 19th Century and houses the perfect balance of historic charm and modern elegance. If you're looking for a low-key spot that's high on serenity and low on background noise, this is the place for you. (And we highly recommend spending at least one evening of your stay relaxing in the courtyard.)

0 George Street, (843) 817-7900

JOE VAUGHN

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Where to shop.



Candy Shop Vintage

This store covers all your jewelry needs—all of them. This is where you'll find the chunky necklaces and statement earrings you've been eyeing on ladies in passing on King Street. It's also where you'll fall in love with the store's own vintage-inspired line and select pieces that can be found in places like Henri Bendel and shows like *Mad Men*. Candy shop Vintage has every style imaginable and is the perfect pastel store in all of Charleston (as seen above).

9 Cannon Street

Hampden Clothing

If you want to be the most stylish lady in the Holy City, this is where you're finding your wardrobe. Owner Stacy Smallwood has the store's perfectly curated selections down to a science, and a great one. Expect to find brands like Alexander Wang, Tibi, Thakoon, and Rebecca Taylor. Also expect to want everything.

314 King St, (843) 724-6373

Mac & Murphy

This shop is answering our **handwritten** prayers. Mac & Murphy is producing the stationery, invites, and greeting cards (and then some) of your dreams. Dainty and dreamy (from cards with sweet Southern sass to those that are just plain sweet), this shop has countless thoughtful-yet-quippy options for every occasion, including one-of-a-kind handmade wedding suites.

74.5 Cannon Street, (843) 576-4394

CLAY AUSTIN

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Where to eat.



Cannon Green (above)

Cannon Green is an enchanting restaurant that brings great flavor and ambiance to the dining experience. The menu changes season to

≡ **TOWN&COUNTRY**

:na is also known to



103 Spring St, (843) 817-7311

Leon's Oyster Shop

Leon's is where you'll find the classic fare the South is known and loved for. The fried chicken is a go-to for diners of the auto shop-turned restaurant that features perfectly mis-matched decor from church benches to metal lawn chairs and paintings of R&B singers. And don't forget the oysters, served three ways: raw, char-grilled, and Rockefeller-style (with spinach, pernod, and fresh herbs).

698 King St, (843) 531-6500

Callie's Hot Little Biscuit

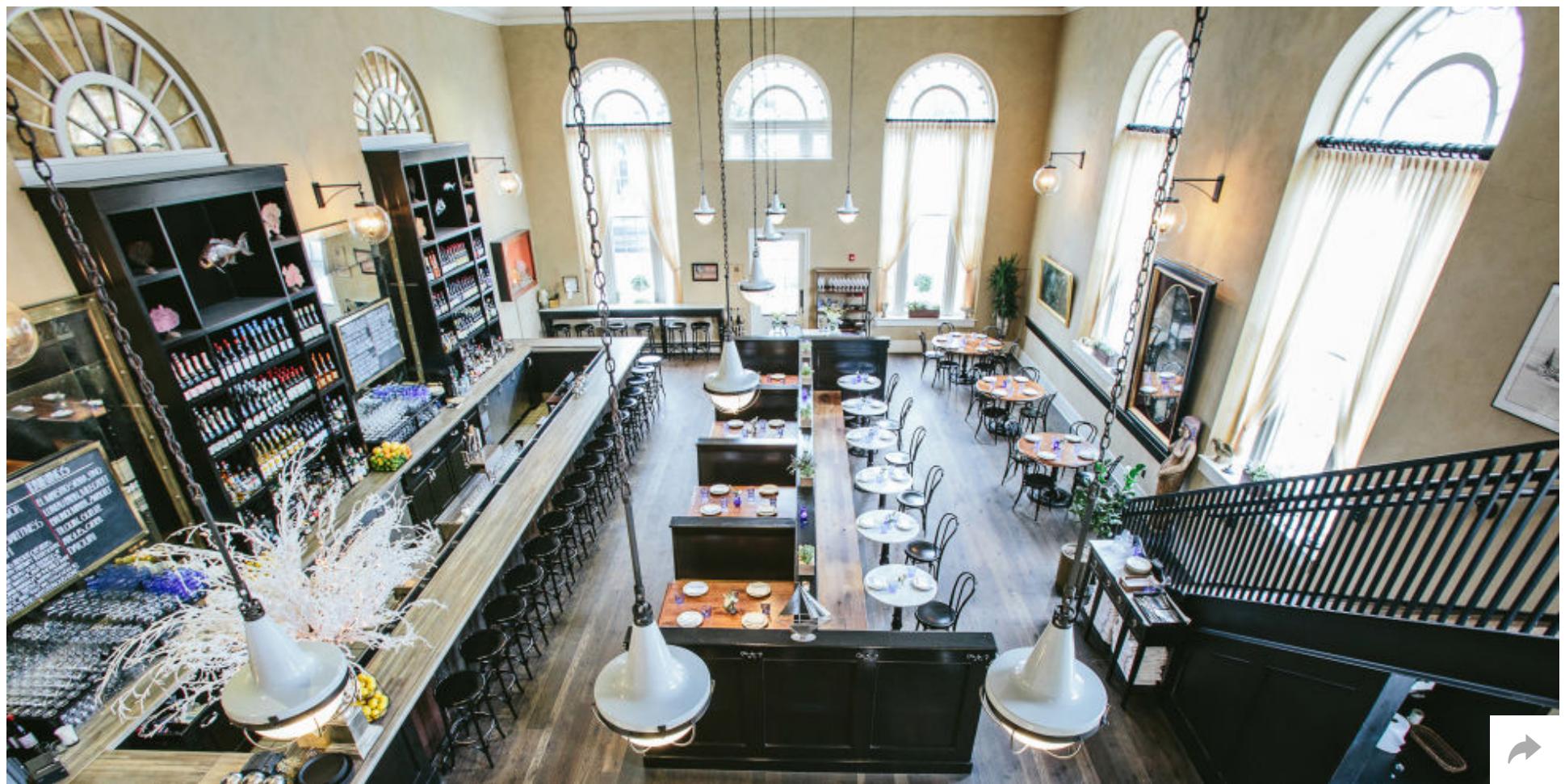
~~Callie's Hot Little Biscuit~~ *Heaven on Earth* is *the* breakfast spot you need to head to while in Charleston. A small shop with big flavor, HLB cooks up countless biscuits and breakfast sandwiches daily to the delight of its dedicated customers (who tend to form a line out the door no matter the day). Callie's is even open late-night for those craving a cinnamon biscuit come 2am. Dreams do come true.

476 King St, (843) 737-5159

ELISA BRICKER

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Where to drink.



The Ordinary (above)

Anything but ordinary. This seafood hall and oyster bar used to be a bank and has since become the place where folks gather for good food, good drinks, and the best oyster shooters around.

544 King St, (843) 414-7060

Bin 152

For a quieter evening featuring wine and cheese, head to Bin 152. Here you'll come across dozens of vino and cheese pairings as well as antiques and artwork that are constantly changing and always up for purchase.

152 King St, (843) 577-7359

Saint Alban

For all your daytime libations, Saint Alban provides the best cup of coffee in the city in the quaintest of mom-and-pop shops. Come and go or park in a seat outside and take in the passersby.

710 King St

ANDREW CEBULKA

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Where to sightsee.



Charleston City Market

Get a taste of everything local, from the city's signature sweetgrass baskets to other artisan products like candles repurposed from wine bottles, unique artwork, and more. If you want a real feel for all things Charleston-made, this is your stop.

188 Meeting Street, (843) 937-0920

The Battery

Whether on bike, by carriage, or on foot, the homes and waterfront of this landmark make for endless photo opportunities and the perfect place to watch the sunset.

East Battery Street at Murray Blvd

Charleston's Farmers Market

Held every Saturday (weather permitting) from April to November in Marion Square, the city's farmers market brings out the whole community for more local goods, games, and live entertainment for the whole family and visitors of all ages. This weekly gesture revives the idea of community and is a must to experience.

329 Meeting Street, (843) 724-7305

Rainbow Row

The biggest grouping of Georgian row homes in the U.S. and the most colorful residences you'll ever see. Visit and instantly fall in love.

Elliott Street

GETTY



Aiken Rhett House (above)

Originally home to the Rhett family, the Aiken Rhett House has since become a museum and great attraction for visitors. One of the most impressive Charleston residences, the home's vast grounds and historic architecture date back to the early 19th Century.

48 Elizabeth Street, 843-723-1623

[Walking Tour](#)

The two-hour tours can vary in their destinations but take visitors through the town's various major locales and landmarks including historic sites and architectural favorites from Charleston Harbor to White Point Garden. Paul Trouche is known for giving the *best* walking tours in the city.

108 Meeting Street, 843-478-4718

[Magnolia Plantation](#)

Just outside the city, Magnolia Plantation offers one of the country's most beautiful gardens and scenic atmospheres. Walk the gardens, take a boat tour, or ride the nature train and see the zoo!

3550 Ashley River Road, (800) 367-3517

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