

Discover Greenville, S.C.

The Ultimate Girls' Getaway in Greenville

When was the last time you escaped town with just your gal pals? (Going to brunch on the other side of the river doesn't count.) You don't need to travel far to disconnect from the stressors of daily life and create a memorable getaway. That change of location offers you the opportunity to share unique experiences with your friends and free your mind of the responsibilities of home life.

This spring, hop a short flight south for a girls' weekend full of fun activities in Greenville, South Carolina; a city recognized in *Country Living's* top 10 "Under-the-Radar Southern Towns for Girlfriend Getaways." Greenville boasts delicious brunch spots, whimsical streets and an array of stores and boutiques. Best of all, its small-town Southern charm makes for a pleasant reminder that you've escaped Washington for a weekend.

We took the headache and hassle out of trip planning by crafting three themed itineraries, each with a main highlight of the day, to help guide your girls' getaway this spring.

The Relaxing Getaway

Friday

Take it easy during your first night in Greenville by enjoying a leisurely dinner on the rooftop patio at SIP Whiskey & Wine Bar. Sit back and toast your girlfriends while noshing on flavorful small plates like tuna carpaccio and mini pork belly tacos.

Saturday

Start the first full day of your vacation by bonding with your girls at Magnolia Scents by Design. During a 45-minute class, you'll make your own soy candle using the fragrance of your choice. There are two open group classes every Saturday, as well as the option to book a private class for 6+ people.



GIFTS FOR SALE AT MAGNOLIA SCENTS BY DESIGN.

Since the handcrafted candles need two hours to cool, head down to Falls Park on the Reedy to take in the beauty of nature while you wait. Stop by Spill the Beans to treat yourself to an ice cream or, if the calming candle fragrances leave you feeling a little too relaxed, order a gourmet coffee for a pick-me-up.

Sunday

Find your ohm with your friends during a 2-hour Goat + Yoga class at Split Creek Farm in Anderson, just 30 minutes outside of Greenville. You'll start the class alongside young, playful goats, and then pause your practice to enjoy a meditative walk through the farm. Afterward, you'll resume guided yoga, but this time surrounded by adult goats. The playful session concludes with a palate-pleasing tasting of goat cheese, yogurt and fudge - all made fresh at the farm.



GREENVILLE'S MAIN STREET

Monday

Before you head home, enjoy a stress-relieving massage at River Falls Spa in downtown Greenville. Its specialty services include the River Relaxation Massage, which uses a gentle touch for a calming experience, and the River Rapids Massage, described by the Spa as being "for the overworked, overstressed or highly active individual." Those who can't decide which experience to have may want to opt for the River Falls Signature Massage, which uses a variety of modalities, including warm stones and deep-tissue therapy.

The Active Getaway

Friday

If your squad is the type that can't sit still, then there is plenty to love about Greenville.

Plan to arrive in the early afternoon, drop your bags at your hotel and put on comfortable shoes. Downtown Greenville is a walkable area, and exploring a new town with your feet is the best way to learn your way around and get your bearings. Along the way, you'll discover charming and classy boutiques like Augusta Twenty and Cone & Coleman Collection.

A definite must is to stop at Beija-Flor Jeans on Main Street. The designer jeans at this shop were created by women, for women, and named the "World's Best Jeans" by *O, The Oprah Magazine*. When in Rome, right?!

Saturday

Gather with the girls at Aerie Lane, a fantastic DIY studio that inspires and empowers crafters to create Instagram-worthy custom decor for their home, from rustic centerpieces to wooden farmhouse signs. Attend an open workshop, request a private event for just you and your girls, or take advantage of the DIY Craft Bar to create something special from one of the custom project kits.

Cap your night off at UP on the Roof. The dinner menu includes vegetarian-friendly options like curry grilled seitan and havarti grilled cheese, as well as a variety of unique eats like smoked pork poutine and roasted duck quesadilla. After dinner, enjoy your rooftop view of the Reedy River while sipping on UP's signature handcrafted bottled cocktails.



BIKING ON THE GHS SWAMP RABBIT TRAIL

Sunday

Get out into nature by cycling along the Reedy River on the Greenville Health System (GHS) Swamp Rabbit Trail. Local bike shop Pedal Chic, which had its grand re-opening at a new location in March 2018, is the first to be geared toward women cyclists. Rent a 7- or 21-speed bike, which includes a helmet, bike lock and water bottle holder. The GHS Swamp Rabbit Trail runs for 21 miles from Greenville to Travelers Rest. You can download helpful maps at greenvillerec.com/ghs-swamp-rabbit-trail that pinpoint places of interest, restroom locations and other noteworthy spots along the trail.

Monday

If you spent the previous day biking 21 miles, you may want to give your feet a rest. However, if you still want to see more of what the city has to offer, join one of Greenville Glides' Segway tours. A knowledgeable guide will lead you and your friends on a 1.5- or 2-hour tour through the downtown area to the historic West End, and answer any questions you have along the way.



MARY'S AT FALLS COTTAGE

The Culinary Getaway

Friday

Foodies will fall head over heels for Greenville's restaurant scene. The city has been recognized by *Zagat* as an under-the-radar Southern food destination for both its Southern and international cuisines.

For your first night in town, you'll need to roll up your sleeves before you have your cake and eat it too - but it's so worth it! At Cakes by U, the perfect bonding opportunity for a girls' getaway is embodied in an event called Frost & Sip. Here, you can decorate your own 5" or 8" double-layer cake while sipping on the BYOB wine bottle of your choice. This company holds the honor of being the first of its kind in the country!

Saturday

Begin your introduction to the local food scene by allowing a knowledgeable insider from Greenville Culinary Tours to lead you around town. During their tours, you and your girlfriends will taste the best grub Greenville has to offer. Nosh on top dishes during the "At The Chef's Table Tour" (Tuesdays and Saturdays), chow down at top BBQ joints during the "Greenville BBQ Trail Tour" (Saturdays) or indulge early on in the day by joining the "Greenville Breakfast Tour" (Tuesdays and Thursdays).

For lunch time, head over to Brick Street Café for a relaxed meal. This eclectically decorated spot offers the perfect indulgences for a girls' weekend. Order the Baked Brie Plate, Ultimate Grilled Cheese or Mr. Pad's Fried Oyster Po' Boy. But if you go to Brick Street Café, you must follow rule #1: save room for cake. The Café is said to have the best cakes in Greenville, and you should be sure to find out for yourself. If you're there at 12:07 pm, you'll get to experience the daily cake walk!

Sunday

Head to Mary's at Falls Cottage for breakfast or brunch, where you can dine outdoors on a lovely stone patio. Try the Southern Breakfast Bowl or Grilled Pimiento Cheese BLT as you take in views of Falls Park on the Reedy.

In the evening, give your digestive system a short break by heading to the Peace Center in downtown Greenville. This isn't a food-related experience, but you can enjoy an evening of culture by attending a concert, Broadway series show, dance performance, comedic act and more. See what the Center's event calendar has on offer at peacecenter.org.



TD STAGE AT THE PEACE CENTER

Monday

Husk, which made its debut late last year by James Beard and Emmy award-winning chef Sean Brock, is the perfect last stop for a final taste of locally sourced ingredients. The menu changes frequently depending on what is in season and available, but has featured cornmeal-fried chicken skins, shrimp and grits, cured meats and an Appalachian cornbread skillet. The food at Husk will leave the perfect lasting impression on your taste buds.

Enjoying Spring in Greenville

Here are a few spring-related activities that you can insert into your getaway itinerary:

- ✓ Grab a filled picnic basket at Caviar & Bananas and enjoy an outdoor picnic with your girlfriends at Falls Park on the Reedy.
- ✓ Lace up your sneakers and get lost in nature by hiking at one of three nearby parks (Caesars Head, Jones Gap or Paris Mountain State Parks).
- ✓ Sit outside and enjoy the warm weather while indulging in homemade gelato at Luna Rosa Gelato Café, right off Main Street.
- ✓ Stretch your legs with a morning jog or bike ride on the GHS Swamp Rabbit Trail.
- ✓ Stop at Falls Park, the 32-acre nature lover's and gardener's paradise, to smell the gorgeous flowers along the Reedy River.
- ✓ Visit downtown Greenville's farmers' market (TD Saturday Market) May-October for a hot-out-of-the-oven muffin or in-season fresh fruits and veggies every Saturday morning on Main Street.



ENJOYING SOME R&R

Where to Stay:

Hyatt Regency Greenville
220 N Main St, Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 235-1234

Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville Downtown RiverPlace
250 RiverPlace, Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 263-4800

Candlewood Suites Greenville
25 Green Heron Rd, Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 281-1000

Hampton Inn & Suites Greenville Downtown @ RiverPlace
171 RiverPlace, Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 271-8700

Home2 Suites by Hilton Greenville Downtown
350 N Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 626-3700

Hilton Garden Inn Greenville
108 Carolina Point Pkwy., Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 284-0111

Courtyard by Marriott - Greenville - Haywood Mall
70 Orchard Park Drive, Greenville, SC 29615
(864) 234-0300

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