



DISCOVER GREENVILLE, SC

South Carolina's Best Kept Secret!

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, roughly halfway between Atlanta and Charlotte, the city of Greenville, South Carolina has experienced an urban revitalization, garnering national recognition and praise. Last year it earned a coveted spot on The New York Times' "52 Places to Go in 2017."

It all began in the late 1990s when the city unveiled plans to reveal a 40-foot natural waterfall that was completely obscured by a concrete overpass. The proposal to demolish the existing bridge and create a public garden surrounding the falls was met with plenty of skepticism, but the mayor pushed the plan forward, sparking a complete transformation of the all but forgotten downtown.

Abandoned warehouses were suddenly reimagined as locally owned restaurants and craft pubs,

while empty storefronts filled with eclectic shops and boutiques. The result is a thriving, walkable business district, punctuated by vibrant public art and special events throughout the year.

Whether you visit Greenville to simply soak up its Southern charm, or to take advantage of one of the 300 "event days" each year - from visual and performing arts to outdoor sports and recreation - there's something for everyone.

"Visitors can't believe the culinary offerings or the amazing cultural amenities that a city of our size has to offer; they're shocked by the public art and beautiful outdoor experiences. They're impressed by the walkability and the genuine friendliness by strangers on the street," adds Taryn Scher of VisitGreenvilleSC. "People visit not really knowing what to expect and having little or no expectations at all and they leave in love with our destination and everything it has to offer."



Dennis Haysbert, an American film and television actor, at the BMW Charity Pro-Am with fans. He is best known for appearances in commercials for Allstate Insurance. **Credit:** BMW Charity Pro-Am



Military tribute and massed bands celebration at Gallabree, Greenville's Scottish Games. **Credit:** Gallabree/Craig A. Lee

HERE'S A LOOK AT MAY'S EVENTS:

Artisphere:

May 11-13 (FREE Admission)

Category: Visual and Performing Arts

Location: Main Street in downtown Greenville

Website: Artisphere.org

Each spring, Artisphere welcomes tens of thousands of visitors and residents to downtown Greenville for a three-day, outdoor celebration of the arts that highlights the area's rich international and multicultural influences.

"Greenville's arts community has expanded in both depth and diversity (in the last 10 years) because of the importance the community places on the arts and quality of life," explains Kerry Murphy, executive director of Artisphere. "Residents come back year after year because we keep it fresh and relevant. Visitors come because, as Greenville has garnered a reputation as a cultural tourist attraction, they want to check out the community's premier arts celebration and get a glimpse of what the community's cultural scene is like year round."

Jury-selected regional, national, and international artists take over Main Street, where art lovers can peruse and purchase original works in a range of mediums, before enjoying a live performance or indulging in one of the festival's unique culinary arts experiences. Kidsphere provides a space for budding artists to engage in hands-on art and craft experiences suitable for all ages.

2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNnex Corporation: May 17-20 (Tickets range from \$10 - \$250 depending on selected options)

Category: Golf Tournament

Location: Thornblade Club, Cliffs Valley, and Furman University Golf Club

Website: BMWCharityGolf.com

The BMW Charity Pro-Am is the only golf tournament on the Web.com Tour where amateur golfers are paired with celebrities for a four day "better ball" tournament, played on three separate award-winning courses:

Thornblade Club, Furman University Golf Club and The Cliffs Valley. Hosted and presented by SYNnex Corporation, last year the tournament raised a total of \$631,495 for local charities. Whether you join a team or prefer a spectator's seat, it's always a surprise to see what celebrities join the games. Last year, Andy Buckley, Actor (*Odd Mom Out*), Chris Barron, of the Spin Doctors and comedian Larry the Cable Guy were just a few of the famous faces spotted on the green.

Gallabree—The Greenville Scottish Games:

May 25 & 26 (FREE Admission to Parade and Concert; Games Day requires a ticket - \$10-\$20)

Category: Scottish Celebration

Location: Main Street in downtown Greenville and Furman University

Website: Gallabree.com

Greenville has one of the largest concentrations of Scottish and Scot-Irish immigrants in the country. So when a few locals of Scottish heritage got together with members of the City of Greenville Pipes & Drums band to celebrate their common Scottish roots, Gallabree was born.

"GSG is truly unique because it takes place during the Memorial Day weekend and we produce a Military Salute that pays tribute to our armed forces and those of our greatest allies - Scotland and the UK," explains Jay Spivey, marketing director for Greenville Scottish Games. "Massed pipe bands, a flyover, Scotland and US flags being parachuted onto the main field, SC Army National Guard Band, Royal Highland Fusilier Honor Guard (active duty British Army unit from Scotland), a 21-gun salute by Marines and a dedication [this year] to the 100 year anniversary of the end of World War One."

The event kicks off Friday night with a parade down Main Street followed by a day of spirited competitions, Celtic jams and various contests of strength, agility and guile, plus a British car show sure to please any auto enthusiasts.



Crowd appreciating a painting at Artisphere. **Credit:** Firewater Photography/Kris Decker

WHERE TO STAY:

**Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville
Golf Resort and Conference Center**
670 Verdae Boulevard
Greenville, SC 29607 | **864-676-9090**

The Westin Poinsett Greenville
120 South Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601 | **864-421-9700**

Courtyard by Marriott Greenville Downtown
50 West Broad St
Greenville, SC 29601 | **864-451-5700**

Hyatt Place Greenville/Haywood
40 West Orchard Park Drive
Greenville, SC 29615 | **864-232-3000**

La Quinta Inn & Suites Greenville Haywood
65 West Orchard Park Dr
Greenville, SC 29615 | **864-233-8018**

Residence Inn by Marriott - Greenville Airport
120 Milestone Way
Greenville, SC 29615 | **864-627-0001**

Comfort Inn - Haywood Mall
246 Congaree Road
Greenville, SC 29607 | **864-288-1200**

GETTING THERE

DRIVE: 5.5 hour trip: Take I-40 E to I-26 E

FLY: 3-hour flight (including 1 stop in Charlotte or Atlanta) on Delta or American Airlines

For more information or to plan your trip, go to:
VisitGreenvilleSC.com



50 Best Places to Travel (In The World) in 2018

- Travel + Leisure

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