

AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA:
A Place Like No Other



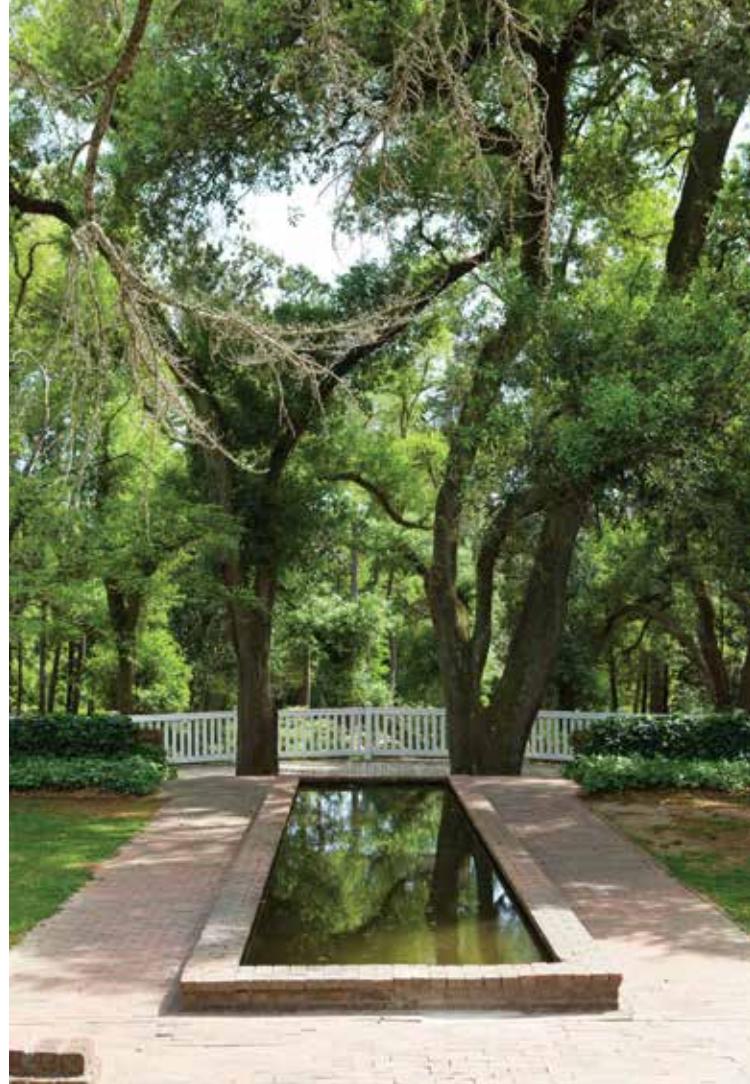
Quintessential Southern charm takes center stage in the streets of Aiken, South Carolina. Famous for its equestrian culture, this Southern oasis also boasts a thriving arts community, unique history, and one of the nation's largest urban forests, making it a perfect getaway for the whole family. Embrace all the city has to offer with a historic trolley tour and discover the beauty of Aiken under the iconic oak canopies.



Aiken Center for the Arts, located downtown, is a favorite place to shop and discover new national and regional artists. (Opposite) Located in Hopelands Gardens the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum is a great place to get acquainted with the rich tradition of racing and Aiken's integral role in the sport.



As Seen In
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Historically, Aiken became a tourist destination in the early 1800s for visitors who traveled to spend their summers in a place that offered a relief from the heat and sickness (mostly malaria) of other regions. After the Civil War, Aiken began to attract the north's rich and somewhat famous, who were lured to the area by the opportunities for equestrian sports, thus establishing Aiken's celebrated Winter Colony. Today, a quaint downtown is peppered with local boutiques and delicious eateries. And while Aiken enjoys a small town charm, there is no short supply of entertainment—especially when it comes to horses. From polo matches and steeplechase to this year's 101st Aiken Horse Show, you'll have plenty of opportunities to satisfy your love for sport, history, and horses in Aiken this spring. 🐾

TEXT BY KATIE WOOD
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Enjoy your stay in Aiken at The Willcox Hotel. Walk the shady, oak-vaulted streets past clapboard cottages and rambling mansions, and step back in time as this grand Winter Colony resort greets you warmly with its historic white-pillared glory.

Spring Events

STEEPLECHASE

March 25, 2017
Aikensteeplechase.com

PACERS AND POLO

April 1, 2017
Aikenpolo.org

101ST AIKEN HORSE SHOW

March 31–April 2, 2017
Aikenhorshow.com

CLASSIC MASTERS HORSE SHOW

April 19–30, 2017
Psjshows.com

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

May 12–13, 2017
AikenBluegrassFestival.org

What to Do

AIKEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

aikencenterforthearts.org

AIKEN TRAIN MUSEUM

aikenrailroaddepot.org

AIKEN TROLLEY TOURS

803-644-1907

HITCHCOCK WOODS

hitchcockwoods.org

HOPELANDS GARDENS

803-642-7650



Where to Eat

AIKEN BREWING COMPANY

aikenbrewingcompany.com

BETSY'S ON THE CORNER

betsysonthecorner.com

MALIA'S

maliasrestaurant.com

PRIME STEAK & LOBSTER

primesteakhouseaiken.com

THE STABLES RESTAURANT

atrosehillestate.com

rosehillestate.com

Where to Stay

THE WILLCOX HOTEL

thewillcox.com