



**HOT
List**
TRAVEL

Flightgeist //

Charleston South Carolina

WHY NOW: With James Beard award-winning chefs at the helm, this sleepy Southern town is waking up hungry—and drawing tourists and foodies alike.

After years of flying under the radar as a quaint coastal town, Charleston is making waves in the food world as exciting spots such as **Husk Restaurant** and **Cypress** reinterpret Southern fare. Chefs are working with local fishermen and farmers to choose the best local ingredients—“not to be snooty, but because they know that’s what makes food better,” explains John LaVerne of **Culinary Tours of Charleston**. Explore the city’s food scene at upcoming events such as the **Lowcountry Oyster Festival** (January 27) and the **BB&T Charleston Wine + Food Festival** (February 28 to March 3), both of which will showcase the area’s historic “lowcountry” cuisine—a blend of Native American, British, French Huguenot and African American culinary traditions—as well as old-school Charleston recipes recreated with a twist (think egg rolls with collard greens). Or hook up with Culinary Tours and taste your way through the narrow streets of the French Quarter and several of the city’s culinary landmarks on its Savor the Flavors Tour. Among the treats you’ll encounter on the restaurant crawl: tomato pie at local treasure **Dixie Supply Bakery & Café** and cheese biscuits from **Jim ‘N Nick’s Bar-B-Q**. Save room for seafood at James Beard award-winning chef Mike Lata’s newly opened oyster bar, **The Ordinary**, housed in an old bank. huskrestaurant.com, magnolias-blossom-cypress.com, charlestonrestaurantassociation.com/lowcountry-oyster-festival, charlestonwineandfood.com, culinarytoursofcharleston.com, dixiecafcharleston.com, jimnicks.com, eattheordinary.com —Cassie Shortleeve



Cypress restaurant in Charleston



Quotable //
Ellen DeGeneres on
Life Goals

“I never could have imagined that my life would end up this way. I didn’t think I’d end up having my own show, I didn’t think I’d end up being in movies, I didn’t think I’d have a talk show, I didn’t think that I would be a CoverGirl. I just thought that I’d be a closeted gay comedian wearing parachute pants. I guess what I’m saying is aim low.”

—From DeGeneres’ acceptance speech for the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor, awarded to the comedy icon late last year at The Kennedy Center

Andaz Amsterdam Prinsengracht

Located in the former public library on the Prinsengracht—Prince Canal in the dynamic Jordaan district, this 122-room hotel features exquisite Dutch décor and a restaurant with farm-to-table fare. hyatt.com



Hôtel de Glace

A boutique hotel made of snow and ice, the Québec masterpiece includes an ice chapel and ice bar. Open January through March. hoteldeglac-canada.com



Le Méridien Bali Jimbaran

Opening this month, this luxurious Indonesian hotel offers breathtaking views of the lagoon. starwoodhotels.com

Bus drivers sometimes give their wooden cabs a unique nickname

Miscellanea //

Travelers in Colombia may notice festive-looking buses, or *chivas*, cruising along the streets of Medellín and nearby rural roads. These eye-catching vehicles sport historical scenes and brightly colored designs on their outer shells and take locals and visitors around town, sometimes even serving as party buses.

