

# LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

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For those who don't have to spend all of their day in meetings or have the opportunity for fun before or after their event, the Columbia Metropolitan Area offers a wealth of attractions. Here is a sampling.

### CAYCE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Chronicling the history of the first European settlement in the Midlands of South Carolina, the museum interprets the agricultural, social and cultural heritage of the area.

### COLUMBIA FILM SOCIETY/ NICKELODEON THEATRE

Contemporary art films from United States and international filmmakers.

### COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART

The largest fine art museum in South Carolina, featuring a world-class collection of American and European fine and decorative art.

### CONGAREE NATIONAL PARK

Among the country's newly designated parks, the Congaree National Park offers hiking, bird watching, canoeing, kayaking, nature study and picnicking. A ranger is available for interpretive walks and canoe tours.

### EDVENTURE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Columbia's newest museum, EdVenture has 67,000 square feet of entertaining, educational exhibits, many of them hands-on, for children and the young at heart.

### FINLAY PARK

Take a break on the open fields of Finlay Park. The park has a walking path and a cascading fountain flowing down landscaped terraces and hosts several events throughout the year.

### FRANKIE'S FUN PARK

With three miniature golf courses, three go-cart tracks, bumper boats, batting cages, laser tag and more than 150 arcade games, what's not to like about Frankie's?

### GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Home to more than 30 governors and their families through the years, the Governor's Mansion is open for tours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

### NIGHTLIFE

Enjoy a night on the town in the heart of Columbia, The Vista. The Vista has trendy shops, art galleries, locally-owned restaurants, cafes, pubs and night clubs all within walking distance of each other.

### RIVERBANKS ZOO AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

More than 2,000 animals in natural habitats are on display, including gorillas, koalas and elephants. The zoo also includes the ARC, an amphibian, fish and reptile complex and a 70-acre garden with woodlands, formal gardens, historical ruins and visitor facilities.

### RIVERFRONT PARK AND THREE RIVERS GREENWAY

Columbia is known as the Riverbanks Region. Find out why by taking a walk along the rivers that flow through town. Enjoy a picnic, a jog or, during the summer, a show at the amphitheater.

### SESQUICENTENIAL STATE PARK

Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, this 1,419 acre park has a beautiful 30-acre lake surrounded by trails and picnic areas. It also features a 2-acre, fenced-in 'off-leash' dog park and interpretive nature programs.

### SHOPPING

The Harbison Boulevard shopping district is located just two exits north of The Meeting Place on Interstate 26. From department stores to specialty boutiques, fine dining to fast food, you will find everything you want here.

### SOUTH CAROLINA CONFEDERATE RELIC ROOM AND MUSEUM

Established in 1895, the museum memorializes the service of South Carolinians who fought in defense of the state during the War Between the States.

### SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HALL OF FAME

Exhibits on historical and contemporary law enforcement.

### SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE

Construction of the State House began in 1855 and withstood General Sherman's march through Columbia in 1865, during which most of the city was destroyed. Today six bronze stars mark the impact of shells from Union cannons. The building was finally completed in 1907.

### SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

Located in an old cotton mill, the State Museum has four stories of permanent and traveling exhibits on art, history, science and natural history related to South Carolina.

### SPORTING EVENTS

No matter the season, there's always a game going on in Columbia, from USC Gamecock football, basketball and baseball to hockey.

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S HISTORIC HORSESHOE

Established in 1801, the University has retained its original campus in what is known as the Horseshoe. Enjoy a picnic among the live oaks, a walk along the brick pathways or a pick-up game of Frisbee with students.

If you would like directions or contact information for any of these attractions, please do not hesitate in asking.