

Learn about the best North Carolina and South Carolina adventures, destinations, attractions and communities. Visit and explore!

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October 25, 2018 Below: I want to live here; Picture perfect; Fabulous flora; Southern aristocracy; Affordable play; Take a tour; Stay in tonight; Shop till you drop; Resolved; and The outdoor life; What a prize

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Take a Road Trip to Asheville



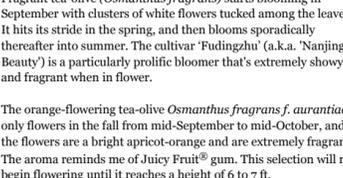
So much to do and enjoy in this, one of America's favorite towns. Asheville knows how to put on a party any time of the year. You'll always find folks strolling the downtown or one of many unique neighborhoods. In summer, the weekly drumming circle beckons after dinner.

Around the holidays, the town is particularly festive. A little bohemian, a lot eclectic, and always tasty. And, there's a reason it's called Beer City USA. Asheville claims more breweries per capita than any other U.S. city, and you can enjoy about 100 different local beers. (We wouldn't recommend that kind of brew adventure, unless you have lots of free time and need to put on a few, but you can pick and choose and have lots of fun in the process.)

May we share more insider tips to help you plan a fabulous getaway? [More.](#)

Photo courtesy [ExploresAsheville.com](#)

Carolina Grown



Joining summer's exit are many people who feel that the gardening season is over – there's nothing left to enjoy in the garden but impending fall color. That's not true at all. One group of broadleaf evergreens that permeates the air at this time of year with their floral fragrances are the tea-olives or *osmanthus*.

These magnificent evergreen shrubs or small multi-stemmed trees perfume the air with oranges, cinnamon, and many more scents that give us a reason to come outside to smell the flowers.

Fragrant tea-olive (*Osmanthus fragrans*) starts blooming in September with clusters of white flowers tucked among the leaves. It hits its stride in the spring, and then blooms sporadically thereafter into summer. The cultivar 'Fudingzhu' (a.k.a. 'Nanjing's Beauty') is a particularly prolific bloomer that's extremely showy and fragrant when in flower.

The orange-flowering tea-olive *Osmanthus fragrans f. aurantiacus* and the flowers are in the fall from mid-September to mid-October, and the flowers are a bright apricot-orange and are extremely fragrant. The aroma reminds me of Juicy Fruit® gum. This selection will not begin flowering until it reaches a height of 6 to 7 ft.

Both of these tea-olives are adapted to sun or shade and have few, if any, pest problems. Use them with other broadleaf evergreens in mixed borders, screens, or as hedges. You'll find their floral display to be a visual and olfactory treat.

Visit your favorite garden center or nursery now. Let your palette decide which variety deserves to be in your landscape.

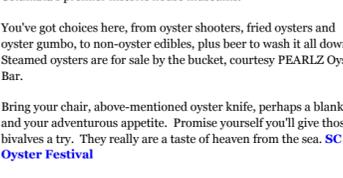
Discover 50 luscious and lovely plants.

Learn more about Carolina gardening from Dr. Polomski's new book, *Carolinas Month by Month Gardening*.

Available wherever books are sold.

Photo by Robert F. Polomski, Ph.D

Fly through the Trees with the Greatest of Ease



It's not for elite athletes only, although a bit of fitness will certainly come in handy. Ziplines are all the rage these days and with good reason. You get a traditional bird's eye view, an exhilarating rush, and a good time with bragging rights.

The Chattooga Ridge Canopy Tours is in the upper, western area of South Carolina. This is apple country and outdoors country. On any given weekend you'll see bicycles, rafters, and folks generally out having a good time. Zip-lining is another option.

The sites from above are amazing. And don't let a fear of heights hold you back. I quivered through my first zipline and discovered that the rush of adrenalin and bird's eye views were worth my angst. You'll be trained before you ever leave terra firma!

If you've got the time, consider staying on the property, in a cabin or a yurt. It's quite simply a beautiful experience.

More about the fun of [ziplining in western SC.](#)

Check out [more adventures](#) in 50+ Carolina destinations, with almost 100 ways to go play.

Photo credit: [Chattooga Ridge Canopy Tours](#)

Slurp One for Me

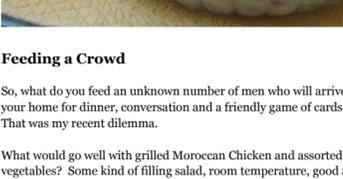


Grab your **oyster knife** (we've got a great option if you've got just a tiny bit of best-of-everything in your soul), and head for the historic grounds of Columbia's premier historic house museums.

You've got choices here, to non-oyster eaters, fresh oysters and oyster gumbo, to those who prefer oysters, plus beer to wash it all down. Steamed oysters are for sale by the bucket, courtesy PEARLZ Oyster Bar.

Bring your chair, above-mentioned oyster knife, perhaps a blanket, and your adventurous appetite. Promise yourself you'll give those bivalves a try. They really are a taste of heaven from the sea. [SC Oyster Festival](#)

Carolina Creatives



Wooden Souls "How did you get that out of a tree?"

Todd Sanders still enjoys woodworking as a hobby, but a quick look at his website reveals that almost every bowl on display has been sold. No worries. And although he loves black walnut, his red oak and black cherry pieces are museum-worthy, too.

What we like about him (in addition to his talent) is his use of materials that have fallen or been cleared for a purpose other than woodworking. In short, no trees are harmed to feed his creative passion. We're partial to the pieces with hints of turquoise. That touch of sparkle simply seals the deal for us!

Woodworking excellence.
More: Art, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, textiles, photography.

They're #1



Sanderling Resort Recognized As The South's #1 Resort

In *Condé Nast Traveler's 2018 Readers' Choice Awards*

Sanderling Resort, the idyllic destination among the shores of the South Carolina's Outer Banks has been named the top resort in the North by the readers of Condé Nast Traveler in the magazine's 31st annual Readers' Choice Awards.

Set on 13 acres that span the Atlantic Ocean and the serene Currituck Sound, Sanderling is the Outer Banks only full-service resort. The treasured destination recently completed a multi-phase reimagination, complete with 120 all new guestrooms, five sprawling vacation homes and dramatic expansions to signature venues including its over-water gazebo and pavilion.

Fresh culinary leadership with artisanal specialties, excursions and activities with a distinct sense of place and award-winning spa therapies mark a new chapter while the enduring hallmarks of southern hospitality, relaxed luxury and charming warmth, remain.

For more information, please visit [www.sanderling-resort.com](#).

Carolina Cuisine



Feeding a Crowd

So, what do you feed an unknown number of men who will arrive at your home for dinner, conversation and a friendly game of cards? That was my recent dilemma.

What would go well with grilled Moroccan Chicken and assorted vegetables? Some kind of filling salad, room temperature, good as leftovers. (Have you noticed that people don't RSVP anymore?)

Fifteen minutes of intensive Internet research led me to some ideas, and so I combined ingredients and created **Orange Rice Salad**. Ah, perfect! It doubles, or even triples with ease and tastes even better the next day. And add your own creative touch. Have a pea-loving family member? Add some top quality tiny cooked peas or another favorite taste. This one works in so many ways. Try it for a crowd, or the family.

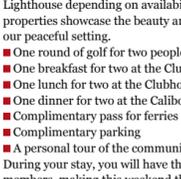
Enjoy Our Tasty Collection of [Carolina Recipes](#): [Breads](#) | [Beverages](#) | [Breakfast](#) | [Appetizers](#) | [Sides & Salads](#) | [Soup](#) | [Seafood](#) | [Meat and Poultry](#) | [Desserts](#)

Photo: Katherine O. Pettit

NewsWorthy



Your First Time



Have you ever seen a waterfall up close and personal? The sound and spray get to you first, because everyone's seen images (although real life viewing is best). It's a package deal you'll never forget and with more than 350 of them, North Carolina is one of the most rewarding states for falling water. [Check 'em out.](#)

Photo courtesy [The Cooves Mountain River Club](#)

Get the Guide.



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Best Costumes Ever!

- Killer Bees
 - Eclectic Oldtimers
 - The Handmaid from the Tale
 - Disney Characters
 - Made-up concoctions like a sheep in wolf's clothing
- What are you wearing – **share** if you dare!



- [Let's Take a Road Trip](#)
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The Island Lifestyle

Haig Point: The Discovery Experience

This island community speaks for itself during a three-day, two-night visit. Included:

- Accommodations at the Strachan Mansion or the 1873 Lighthouse depending on availability. These historic properties showcase the beauty and elegance of the south in our peaceful setting.
- One round of golf for two people on our Rees Jones course
- One breakfast for two at the Clubhouse
- One lunch for two at the Clubhouse
- One dinner for two at the Calibogue Club
- Complimentary pass for ferries and water taxis
- Complimentary parking
- A personal tour of the community

During your stay, you will have the chance to meet other members, making this weekend the perfect chance to ask questions and learn about living on the island. <https://haigpoint.com/lifestyle/discovery>



Put Tryon Resort on your Bucket List (and now's the time)

Fall is upon us, and Tryon Resort is an ideal location to come and enjoy this vibrant season in Western North Carolina.

Schedule a tee time at the Cleghorn Golf & Sports Club to play the beautifully-designed George Cobb course, head over to the Cleghorn Gun Club to test your aim, catch a Grand Prix show jumping competition and stay onsite at

Tryon International Equestrian Center (TIEC), or sit back and relax lakeside at the Lodge on Lake Lure while enjoying a delicious meal at the Tretopps Restaurant. There are golf tournaments, activities for all interests, and you may see a wedding while you're visiting.

[Tryon Resort](#) offers something for everyone.

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