



AUTHENTIC **G**

A diverse collection of offerings in Columbia SC

8 MUST-TRY MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCES

1 EXPLORE THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA IN COLUMBIA SC

Reconstructed: A Journey Through the Reconstruction Era in Columbia, SC

Curated with the assistance of Historic Columbia, highlights eight locations and 10 trailblazers of the post-Civil War period to provide a new perspective to residents and visitors on how the past has shaped our modern nation. Through this tour, you will explore the history of the places and people significant to Reconstruction, while also becoming familiar with the advancements made by Black citizens prior to their rights being revoked under Jim Crow. Visitors and residents can pick up a copy of the trail guide at the Columbia SC Visitor's Center, Historic Columbia's Gift Shop at Robert Mills or learn more by visiting reconstructedcolumbiasc.com.



The Museum of the Reconstruction Era at the Woodrow Wilson Family Home

DID YOU KNOW?

Columbia is home to two Historically Black Colleges and Universities – Benedict College and Allen University.



Indie Grits Festival

2 ATTEND A FESTIVAL

Celebrate Columbia's vibrant cultures at special events throughout the year, starting with the springtime **Columbia International Festival**, showcasing dance, music and cuisine. **World Famous Hip-Hop Family Day** brings B-boy dance crews, DJs and positive music to Main Street for an all-ages celebration. **The South Carolina Juneteenth Freedom Festival** commemorates the 1865 emancipation of the last enslaved people in the United States through education, history and entertainment. In the summer, sample arepas, pupusas and paella, and move your feet to salsa and reggaeton at **Main Street Latin Festival**. Fall brings **Jubilee**, a celebration of black history, soul food and jazz music, as well as **Columbia Greek Festival**, where you can enjoy culinary specialties and traditional folk music.

3

EXPLORE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE

Visit the **Modjeska Monteith Simkins House**, a gathering place for human rights activists for nearly 60 years. Inside and spread across four rooms is the **An Advocate For The People** exhibit, a multimedia experience that documents Simkins' upbringing and career as a public health worker and state secretary of the South Carolina NAACP through the lens of the civil rights movement. See a sculptural interpretation of African-American history as you explore the 12 scenes of the **African-American History Monument** on the State House grounds. At the **Mann-Simons Site**, tour the historic house of former slaves Celia Mann and Ben Delane, who built a new life at this home in the mid-1800s, and stroll through the **Waverly Historic District**, where a community of African-American artists, professionals and social activists lived.

4

SEE NATIVE AMERICAN ARTIFACTS

Head over to nearby Cayce to visit the sites where Native Americans once lived along the Congaree River. Walk along the **Cayce Riverwalk** to explore the rural area, and then visit the **Cayce Historical Museum** to see Native American artifacts such as arrowheads of all shapes, sizes and colors, which have been discovered during archeological exploration.



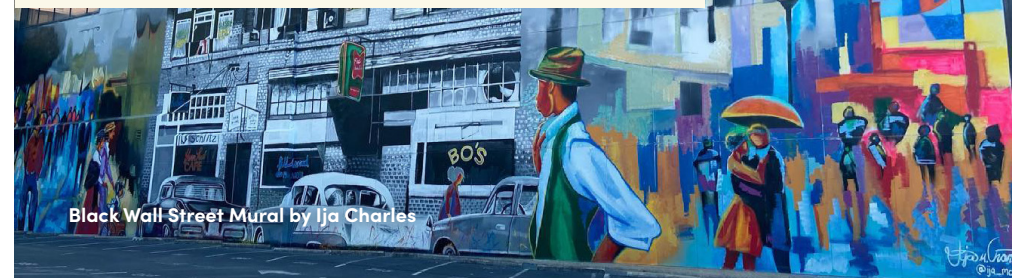
Chayz Lounge

5 BLACK-OWNED BITES

There are many delicious ways to support Black-owned businesses in Columbia SC. Head over to **The Toasty Hot Spot**, the newest breakfast and brunch spot in the city, for all of your morning favorites, or try **A Peace of Soul Vegan Kitchen** for vegan soul food that equally delights meat eaters. **Kiki's Chicken and Waffles** is a Columbia staple and a must-try, or head to **Goat's** for an inviting menu, wine and cocktails. And you just may find the best barbecue in the most unassuming places. **Big T's Bar-B-Que** offers old fashioned pit-cooked pork, beef and chicken and at **True BBQ**, you'll find everything from chopped BBQ to grilled pork chops and turkey wings. For music lovers, **Chayz Lounge** in West Columbia offers live jazz in an ideal atmosphere to wine, dine and unwind.

8 ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS

Take a visual walk through African American history, heritage and culture by visiting the **City of Columbia's Mural Project** sites. Located throughout the city, these murals depict the once thriving Black business district on Main Street, prominent Black citizens, activist Sarah Mae Flemming and pay homage to young African American students integrating schools in Columbia in the 1960's. Visit onecolumbiasc.com for listings of other cultural public art murals and artwork throughout the city.



Black Wall Street Mural by Ija Charles

6

SAVOR INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

Taste your way around the world when you experience flavorful international cuisines in the Columbia area, from Cantonese specialties like crispy roast duck at **Sun Ming Chinese Restaurant** to fresh slices of sashimi at **Camon Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar**. Eat with your hands as you scoop up simmered lamb and beef dishes with spongy injera bread at **Harambe Ethiopian Restaurant**. Enjoy Thai noodle dishes and spicy curry specialties at **Mai Thai Cuisine** and **Kao Thai Cuisine**, or upscale modern Korean cuisine at **929 Kitchen & Bar**. At **Real Mexico Restaurant Y Tienda**, dig into authentic Mexican dishes such as a cabeza taco or torta michoacana, or have an elevated Mexican restaurant experience at **Coa Agaveria Y Cocina**. Try Puerto Rican cuisine like sweet plantains and empanadas at **La Isla Bonita Restaurante**.

7

TAKE A TOUR

Commemorating the year 1963—the height of the American Civil Rights Movement—the **Columbia SC 63 Walking Tour** highlights important sites in Columbia where pivotal moments occurred in the fight for human rights, as ordinary citizens and community leaders joined forces to challenge segregation and injustice. Hop on a bus and tour **African American sites with Historic Columbia**. Comprised of several sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this tour features locations that illustrate important events and little-known facts about Columbia's African American community. Or tour the historic **Harriet Barber House**, built in 1880 by freed slaves who purchased the land in 1872. The Barber House is a part of the **Lower Richland Heritage Corridor**, which offers guided tours.



Columbia SC 63 Walking Tour

Chayz Lounge, Photo by Sean Rayford • Columbia SC 63 Walking Tour, Photo by Vagabond3 • Cover Artist: Jubilee, Photo by Historic Columbia • The Museum of the Reconstruction Era at the Woodrow Wilson Family Home, Photo by Historic Columbia • Black Wall Street Mural by Ija Charles, Photo by Jamie Mintick Lurke



DELICIOUS

SURE WE'VE GOT GRITS, BUT WE'VE ALSO GOT GRIT.

Tucked in the heart of South Carolina, you'll find a city that's equal parts urban and low-key. After enjoying dinner on a rooftop overlooking the river or picking up a pulled pork sandwich from a takeaway hutch, there's still room in this thriving metropolis to enjoy a diverse mix of art, culture, history and music - your way. Start your trip at ExperienceColumbiaSC.com

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