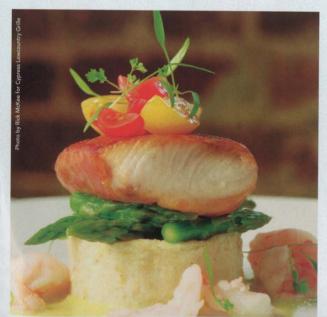
## Charleston Dishes It Up

By Patra Taylor

Visitors go to Charleston, S.C. for its beautiful beaches, world-class shopping venues, unique blend of history and culture, and phenomenal golf and other outdoor sporting activities. But they go back to Charleston for the food. Once visitors experience the dining in this gracious Southern city, Charleston becomes forever synonymous with food, glorious food, wonderful, succulent, delicious, magnificent food! Touting more fine dining establishments per capita than any other city in the Southeast, Charleston credits the eclectic tastes of Lowcountry cuisine for its coveted reputation as a world-renowned dining destination.

"Lowcountry cuisine" is defined, in part, by its fresh local seafood such as shrimp, crabs, oysters and a variety of fish, each prepared using an interesting blend of seasonings. Because nearby Johns Island serves as the backyard garden for local chefs, restaurants receive produce—squash, green beans, broccoli, spinach, okra, collards, onions, tomatoes, cucumbers, Brussels sprouts, asparagus, a number of different lettuces and a variety of herbs—right from the fields for a distinctive fresh-picked taste. And let's not forget rice, a staple of the region for centuries that still helps define this unique food style.

But Lowcountry cuisine is just the beginning of the dining options available in and around Charleston. American, French, Italian, Mediterranean, Mexican, Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cajun, Creole, and just about anything else hungry travelers can dream up is dished up in Charleston, from tangy mustard-based barbeque to the best darned hot dog to ever pass the lips. Not only does Charleston have what visitors want to eat, it also has many tasty delights they've probably never heard of...but won't soon forget.



Any of the following dining options would be a great place to start your tour for the taste buds:

82 Queen • (843) 723-7591

82 Queen St. • www.82queen.com

A W Shucks Seafood Restaurant • (843) 723-1151 35 Market St. • www.a-w-shucks.com

Blossom • (843) 722-9200

171 East Bay St. • www.magnolias-blossom-cypress.com

Blu Restaurant and Bar • (843) 588-6658 One Center St., Folly Beach • www.blufollybeach.com

Bocci's Italian Restaurant • (843) 720-2121 158 Church St. • www.boccis.com

The Buccaneer • (843) 805-5065

5 Faber St. • www.thebuccaneerrestaurant.com

Charleston Crab House • (843) 795-1963
James Island, Mt. Pleasant and Downtown Charleston
www.charlestoncrabhouse.com

Circa 1886 • (843) 853-7828 149 Wentworth St. • www.circa1886.com

Cypress Lowcountry Grille • (843) 727-0111 167 East Bay St. • www.magnolias-blossom-cypress.com

Fleet Landing • (843) 722-8100 186 Concord St. • www.fleetlanding.net

Halls Chophouse • (843) 727-0090 434 King St. • www.hallschophouse.com

Hank's Seafood Restaurant • (843) 723-3474 Church at Hayne St. • www.hanksseafood.com

Hyman's Seafood Company • (843) 723-6000 215 Meeting St. • www.hymanseafood.com

Jack's Cosmic Dogs • (843) 884-7677 Mount Pleasant and Folly Beach • www.alljack.net

Magnolias • (843) 577-7771 185 East Bay St. • www.magnolias-blossom-cypress.com

McCrady's • (843) 577-0025 2 Unity Alley • www.mccradysrestaurant.com

Oak Steakhouse • (843) 722-4220 17 Broad St. • www.oaksteakhouserestaurant.com

The Ocean Room • (843) 768-6253 One Sanctuary Beach Dr., Kiawah Island www.kiawahresort.com

O-Ku • (843) 737-0112 463 King St. • www.o-kusushi.com

Peninsula Grill • (843) 723-0700 112 N. Market St. • www.peninsulagrill.com

Queen Anne's Revenge • (843) 216-6868 160 B Fairchild St., Daniel Island • www.qarevenge.com

Saffire at the Charleston Marriott Hotel • (843) 723-3000 170 Lockwood Blvd. • www.marriott.com/chsmc

SpiritLine Dinner Cruise • 722-2628 360 Concord St., Suite 201 • www.spiritlinecruises.com

Tommy Condon's Irish Pub • (843) 577-3818 160 Church St. • www.tommycondons.com

Virginia's on King • (843) 735-5800 412 King St. • www.virginiasonking.com

Water's Edge • (843) 884-4074 1407 Shrimp Boat Lane, Mt. Pleasant www.waters-edge-restaurant.com

For more information about these Charleston restaurants, visit www.DiscoverCharleston.com.