

# Aiken County Visitors Guide



*Betsy Wilson-Mahoney*



# WELCOME!



Aiken County is your home away from home. Our cultural traditions and communities blend effortlessly into a small town feeling you just don't come across often. Local folk welcome visitors and new residents graciously from across the globe. You'll feel great about being here right from the start.

Exciting outdoor activities are the norm: golfing, hiking, birding, equestrian disciplines, tennis, swimming, boating, camping, biking, fishing, rowing, racing and so much more. Arts and entertainment take center stage year-round through theater, musicals, and visual arts. The nightlife and local cuisine are equally enticing. You'll be hard pressed in selecting a favorite restaurant since all are so good!

Our incredible history, heritage and the rumored southern hospitality is as real as sweet tea. We're down to earth. We cherish our pastoral farmlands, magnificent trees and comfortable weather. The sheer beauty of charming towns will convince you to make Aiken County your favorite get-a-way.

## Where is Aiken County?

Aiken County is simple to find! We're nestled along the scenic Savannah River along the western border of South Carolina.

Our unique communities range from the waterfront, to lush green farmland, city living and active equestrian acreage.

Aiken County is part of the Aiken-Augusta Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with a population of more than 500,000 and a workforce of more than 245,000.

Aiken County covers more than 1,000 square miles. It is one of the largest geographical counties in South Carolina and has a population of more than 165,000.

The Savannah River Site (two counties, 310 square miles), the area's largest employer, has been responsible for bringing thousands of highly skilled and educated employees and their families to the area. More than 17 multinational companies operate in the two counties, bringing a cosmopolitan feel to the community.



# INFORMATION



**AikenCountyVC**



**Aikencountyvisitorcenter**



**aikencountytourist**



**aikencounty**

## **Aiken County Visitors Center**

133 Laurens Street, NW, Aiken, SC 29801

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

(803) 642-7557 • [www.discoveraikencounty.com](http://www.discoveraikencounty.com)

Our specialists will help you plan your visit according to your interests and time. Include historical sites, museums, theater, art galleries, trails, gardens, state parks, lakes, historic homes, rivers, farmers markets, antique stores, equestrian activities, and recreational facilities in your travels.

## **ADDITIONAL VISITOR AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

### **Aiken Downtown Development Association**

208-A The Alley, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 649-2221, [aikendda.us](http://aikendda.us)

### **South Carolina Welcome Center**

I-20 SC/GA Border  
North Augusta, SC 29841  
(803) 279-6756  
[www.discoverouthcarolina.com](http://www.discoverouthcarolina.com)

### **Thoroughbred Country**

PO Box 850, Aiken, SC 29802  
(888) 834-1654  
[www.tbredcountry.org](http://www.tbredcountry.org)

### **Aiken Chamber of Commerce**

121 Richland Ave., E, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 641-1111  
[www.aikenchamber.net](http://www.aikenchamber.net)

### **N. Augusta Chamber Of Commerce**

406 West Ave.  
North Augusta, SC 29841  
(803) 279-2323  
[www.northaugustachamber.org](http://www.northaugustachamber.org)

### **Midland Valley Chamber of Commerce**

PO Box 310, Langley, SC 29834  
(803) 593-3030

## **Tour the Aiken Visitors Center and Train Museum**

406 Park Ave., SE

Tuesday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

[www.visitaikensc.com](http://www.visitaikensc.com)

1-888-AikenSC or 803.293.7846



# INFORMATION

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## LIBRARIES

[www.abbe-lib.org](http://www.abbe-lib.org)

### Aiken County

314 Chesterfield St., Aiken  
(803) 642-2020

### Greg Humphries Rare Book Library

Park St., Wagener  
(803) 564-5902. *Open by appointment only, no handicapped access available.*

### Jackson

106 Main St., Jackson  
(803) 471-3811

### Midland Valley

9 Hillside Rd., Bath  
(803) 593-7379

### Nancy Carson

135 Edgefield Rd., North Augusta  
(803) 279-5767

### New Ellenton

407 Main St., New Ellenton  
(803) 652-5407

### Nancy Bonnette

204 Park St., Wagener

## US POSTAL OFFICE

307 Laurens St. NW, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 649-9211. [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)  
*Check website for other locations.*

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

**Ask A Nurse.** (706) 737-8423

### Doctors Care

1029 York St., NE, Aiken, SC 29081  
(803) 648-4119.  
[www.doctorscare.com](http://www.doctorscare.com)  
*Check website for other locations.*

### Aiken Regional Medical Center

302 University Pkwy., Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 641-5000.  
[www.aikenregional.com](http://www.aikenregional.com)

### Aiken County Emergency Services

621 York St., Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 642-1624.  
[www.aikencountysc.gov](http://www.aikencountysc.gov)

### Poison Control

1-800-222-1222. [www.aapcc.org](http://www.aapcc.org)

### Aiken County Sheriff's Department

420 Hampton Ave., NE, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 642-1761.  
[www.aikencountysheriff.org](http://www.aikencountysheriff.org)

## TRANSPORTATION

### SC Express

2818 Columbia Hwy., N, Aiken, SC 29805  
(803)648-9977

### Aiken Taxi Transport

310 Beaufort St., NE, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 642-9910

### Best Friend Express

159 Morgan St., NW, Aiken, SC 29803  
(803) 648-6493.  
[www.bestfriendexpress.com](http://www.bestfriendexpress.com)

### Enterprise Rent-A-Car

3915 Richland Ave., W, Aiken, SC 29801  
(803) 641-0135.  
[www.enterprise.com/en/home.html](http://www.enterprise.com/en/home.html)

### Magnolia Chauffer & Livery

137 Sweet Gum Ln., Aiken, SC 29803  
(803) 220-4600.  
[www.magnolialivery.com](http://www.magnolialivery.com)

## FLYING

### Aiken Airport

129 Aviation Dr., Aiken, SC 29805  
(803) 648-7803. [aikenaviation.com](http://aikenaviation.com)

### Augusta Regional Airport

1501 Aviation Way, Augusta, GA 30906. (706) 798-3236.  
Delta (800) 221-1212  
US Airways (800) 428-4322  
[www.flyaug.com](http://www.flyaug.com)



# INFORMATION



## POPULATION

Aiken .....	30,937
Burnettown.....	2,673
Jackson .....	1,737
New Ellenton .....	2,146
North Augusta .....	22,932
Perry .....	240
Salley .....	427
Wagener .....	824
Windsor .....	82
Monetta .....	243
Aiken County .....	167,458

## DRIVING:

- Atlanta, GA 170 miles
- Charlotte, NC 145 miles
- Charleston, SC 130 miles
- Columbia, SC 50 miles
- Greenville, SC 115 miles
- Savannah, GA 125 miles

## PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

\$25,602

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$44,534

## ROUNDBABOUTS

Roundabouts have been installed to transition the one-way traffic across the broad boulevards. Aikenites are used to this tricky maneuvering, but visitors, while they appreciate the beauty of the parkways, often are confused. Just remember, you can go through the round roundabouts after stopping to yield. **Do not go through if the roundabout is a square.**

## EDUCATION

Education is a key element in Aiken County. Aiken County is the 5th largest school district in South Carolina. Approximately 25,000 students are taught in 20 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, 7 high schools, 3 charter schools and 1 career and technology center, and through adult education programs. The Aiken County Career and Technology Center has attracted millions of dollars in local industry scholarships.

### Aiken Technical College

2276 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
Graniteville. (803) 593-9231.  
[www.atc.edu](http://www.atc.edu)

### University of South Carolina Aiken

471 University Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 648-6851 [www.usca.edu](http://www.usca.edu)





# HISTORY



Pete Peters

## The Aiken Love Story

Captain William W. Williams, a cotton merchant from Charleston, built the first frame house of its kind in this part of the country in 1820. On the corner of Ray Lane and York Street, Chinaberry is the only surviving landmark preceding the town. Capt. Williams, Mr. W. Aiken and several others created the South Carolina Railway and Canal Company.

The railroad began in Hamburg (North Augusta) on the banks of the Savannah River. Cotton was loaded into boxcars there, and then transported to the Charleston seaport for shipping to Europe. Capt. Williams wanted the railroad to come to his cotton fields, instead of dealing with transporting it to Hamburg.

Alfred Dexter, a young, Harvard-educated surveyor, had already concluded that the rail should be laid 15 miles south of the Captain's fields. Dexter recalculated the rail toward the captain's fields, but, it was impossible for the train to negotiate the 500 ft. grade between his field and Warrentville. To add to the frustration, Dexter met and fell in love with the captain's daughter, Miss Sara. He begged the captain for his daughter's hand in marriage, to which Capt. Williams replied, "No railroad for me, young man, no wife for you!" Dexter went back to the drawing board with the help of his assistant, C.O. Pascalis. Together, they designed a stationary engine with a winch situated on the crest of the hill where Park Ave. curves into Hayne Ave. today. This allowed trains to negotiate the steep grade. The

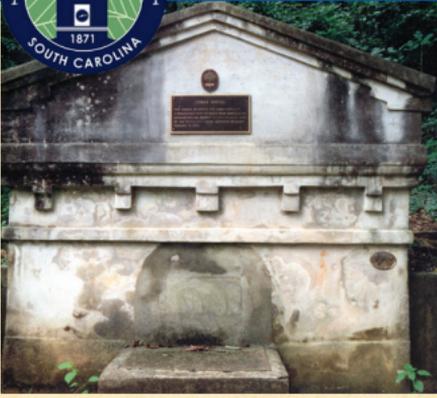
stationary engine pulled trains up and down the slope on a cable over a windlass so they could make their way safely between stops. Coming within 100 yds. of the Captain's home. The 136-mile journey from Charleston to Hamburg was the first successful scheduled railroad service in America and the world's longest railroad. It was completed in 1833. Dexter married his love in 1834. Dexter and Pascalis began creating a geometric street map and plotted the new town with expansive, 150 ft. wide boulevards. This would allow wagons pulled by as many as six horses to turn around easily. They envisioned parkways planted with seasonal flowers and shrubs at the centers of the boulevards. Aiken was chartered in 1835 and named in honor of the president of the railroad, William Aiken, who had been killed in an accident before the project was completed.

## The Best Friend

Many refer to the 'Best Friend' as the locomotive that rolled into this area from Charleston, SC. In fact, tragedy struck the "Best Friend" when a careless fireman caused an explosion that killed himself and destroyed the locomotive. The "Phoenix" was built from parts of the "Best Friend" and joined five other locomotives based in Charleston. The locomotives followed the path of the Creek/Chickasaw Indians from Hamburg (North Augusta) to Charleston. Merchants continued referencing the railway as the "Best Friend" because it enabled them to transport cotton, tobacco, and flour to the Charleston port.



# HISTORY



## Coker Spring

Coker Spring is a fresh water spring formed by a "junction" where the water table intersects the ground surface. Coker Spring served the first Native American people. The road that ran in front of the spring was part of the "Old Tory Trail." It branched off the larger Pine Log Road, and British troops used the trail and the spring traveling between Fort Moore in Beech Island and Fort Grandby, near Columbia. Around the Civil War time, a girls' school was close by, which gave young men incentive to stop often for a sip. It was also a regular stagecoach stop. Train passengers disembarked here to catch the stagecoach to the coast. Women used the water to wash their laundry. This is located on Coker Springs Road.

## The Winter Colony

During the 1800's Aiken became a popular health resort for coastal residents wishing to escape malaria and yellow fever. Rice and indigo planters found the dry pine-scented air good for breathing ailments. Wealthy northerners began visiting during the harsh winters and the area was transformed into The Winter Colony. It was a place to let loose, away from the New York society columnists! The Winter Colonists brought their horses to Aiken to extend their equestrian activities throughout the year. Riding, racing, foxhunting and polo were among the top favorites. The colonists also enjoyed tennis and golf longer in the south. Today every equestrian discipline is found in Aiken. Polo, the "game of kings," has been played on Aiken's Whitney Field continuously since 1882. Grandiose cottages were enjoyed by the Vanderbilts, the Whitneys, the Iselins, the Astors, the Rutherfords, the Hitchcocks, and more elite. Cottages were defined as homes with more than twenty rooms.



## Aiken County Historical Museum

433 Newberry St., SW, Aiken

Tuesday - Saturday 10 am-5 pm • Sunday - 2 pm-5 pm • (803) 642-2015

The museum is named Banksia after the Banksia Rose, which grace the brick wall near the entrance. It is actually two houses joined together with the older section dating back to 1840. The large brick portion was built in 1931 as a Winter Colony home by Willis Irvin for Mr. Richard Howe, who married into the Deering family. His initials are above the door. The grand home, with 32 rooms, fifteen bathrooms and one ballroom, has been a boarding

house, a college campus and a public library. Permanent exhibits include Aiken County history, the story of Ellenton, education, ecology, and the Winter Colony. Throughout the year, there are at least ten additional special exhibits. The 3.5 acre lot has an actual one room schoolhouse, circa 1890's, and the Ergle log cabin from the early 1800's. A working watering trough and a 1800's heliometer are also located on the property.



# HISTORY

## Founders of Aiken County

Three African American men, Prince Rivers, Samuel Lee and Charles Hayne are credited as founders of Aiken County. In 1865, Gen. Joseph Wheeler and the Confederate Army fought off Gen. Kilpatrick on February 11th in downtown Aiken. Hailed as one of the last Confederate victories, the Battle of Aiken saved the Graniteville mills, Aiken, SC and Augusta, GA from destruction. In 1871, portions of Orangeburg, Edgefield, Lexington and Barnwell Counties were taken to create Aiken County. It is the only county created during reconstruction.

## Jackson

Once known as Silverton, was named for George Twig Jackson, an executive of the Charleston & Western Carolina Railroad Company. The town is located just outside the Savannah River Site and still has the natural beauty and wildlife that attracted the pioneer families.

## Monetta

Located at the junction of two Native American trails. A legend says that a chief's daughter, Monetta, is buried near the center of town at the site of the old railroad depot. In the 1920's and 30's Monetta was known as the Asparagus center of the world. Peaches were introduced in the 40's and have become increasingly popular, lining almost every street in town.

## Salley

Salley was settled as "John's Town" in 1735 by three Swiss-German families given land grants from King George II. The 1787 Revolutionary War 'Battle of Dean's Bridge' took place in Salley resulting in 17 Tories buried in an unmarked grave.

## Wagener

Dates back to the 1800's when the early settlement was known as Pinder Town. It was later known as Guntersville or Gunter's Crossroad after the large number of North Carolinian settlers named Gunter.



These men helped make up Company I of the 20th SC Infantry, which was part of Kershaw's Brigade during the Civil War. The town was then named after George Wagener, a huge supporter of the railroad.

## South Carolina Conestoga Bicentennial Wagon House

In 1977, the town of Wagener received the official SC Conestoga wagon that participated in the 1976 Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania. This is not just any wagon. This wagon represented the entire state of South Carolina in the Wagon Train Pilgrimage. The wagon is available to be viewed in a special built Wagon House in downtown Wagener at the corner of Hwy. 39 and Park Street.

## Beech Island Agricultural Museum

144 Old Jackson Hwy., Beech Island. (706) 833-3651. Open Thursday and Friday from 1-4pm and by appointment. [www.beechislandhistory.org](http://www.beechislandhistory.org)





# HISTORY



## North Augusta

North Augusta rests along the Savannah River and is filled with antebellum homes lining downtown streets and grandiose homes along the riverfront. Two towns, Campbell Town (1770) and Hamburg (1827) preceded the city. James Jackson purchased 5,000+ acres in 1890 to develop North Augusta. In 1902, he added a flamboyant resort, The Hampton Terrace Hotel, which burned down in 1916.

## Hamburg

This largely forgotten town was founded in 1821 by Henry Shultz. Situated along the banks of the Savannah River, Hamburg was a thriving river port and trading center for cotton and tobacco becoming the most important interior port in South Carolina. During the Civil War, Hamburg was inhabited by freed African Americans. Several of the town's leaders were instrumental in the formation of Aiken County in 1871. The town never recovered after the Hamburg Massacre that took place in 1876. The great Augusta flood of 1929 finally destroyed the town.

Art, Colonial History, Folklore, The Garden at North Augusta, Special Events and more. It is all here waiting for you at The Living History Park in North Augusta, SC.

Funding assistance provided by Aiken County through accommodations tax funds



[www.colonialtimes.us](http://www.colonialtimes.us)



# HISTORY

## Ellenton

The town of Ellenton was founded during the late 1800's along the Upper Three Runs Creek near the Savannah River. In the early 1950's, the U.S. Government bought thousands of acres of land along the Savannah River for an atomic energy plant, now called the Savannah River Site. Although some villages totally disappeared, the town of Ellenton literally was moved and became New Ellenton.

## Savannah River Site

The face of the world changed with the construction of the "bomb plant," the Savannah River Site, during the 50's. Located in both Aiken and Barnwell Counties, the facility produced tritium and plutonium. Today, the 310 square mile facility no longer produces nuclear materials, but plays a vital role in defense waste management, energy research, and nonproliferation. It is also home to one of the nation's premier applied science laboratories, the Savannah River National Laboratory. This lab focuses on energy security, environmental technologies and homeland securities. A new MOX (Mixed Oxide Fuels) facility will soon be converting used weapons grade plutonium into fuel for use in commercial power plants.

## SRS Museum

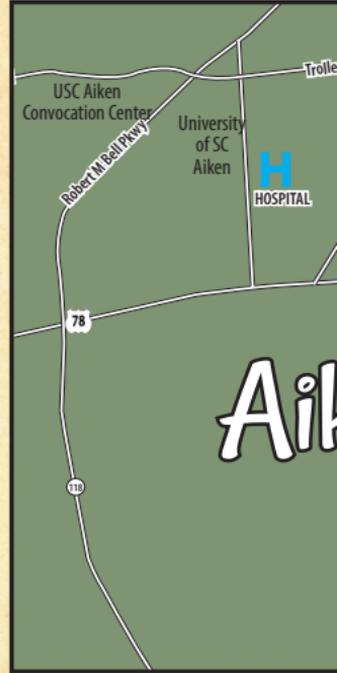
224 Laurens St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 648-1437. Learn what contributions the Site has made and continues to make to the CSRA. Open 1st and 3rd Fridays and Saturdays of the month from 12-4pm. [www.srsheritage.org](http://www.srsheritage.org)



Savannah River Site Heritage Foundation

## Graniteville

This historic little town started by William Gregg was first inhabited by the Westo Tribe and from them came the name Horse Creek. Later it became one of the world's model industrial villages. Graniteville furnished material for southern military purposes during the Civil War which enraged Union General Sherman, and he ordered the mills destroyed. In 1845 the original Graniteville Mill was the first cotton mill in the South. Buildings were constructed of blue granite, which gave the town its name.

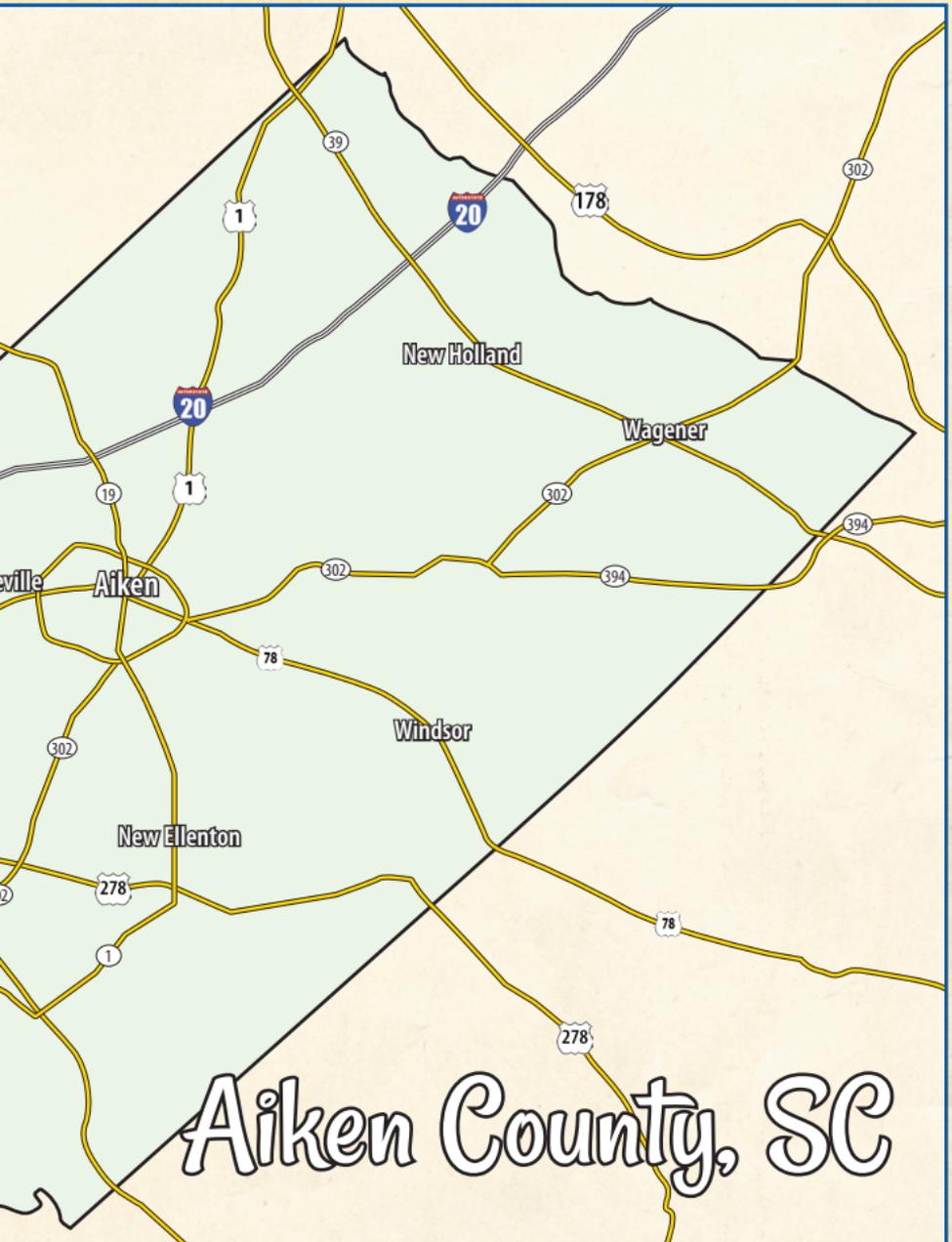




# MAPS



Aiken, SC



Aiken County, SC



# HISTORY



**Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site**

**181 Redcliffe Rd., Beech Island (803) 827-1473**

*Grounds open Daily 9 am-6 pm*

[www.southcarolinaparks.com/redcliffe](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/redcliffe)

Redcliffe is the former home of South Carolina Governor James Henry Hammond, three generations of his descendants and several African-American families such as the Henley family who lived at the site for multiple generations from 1857 - 1975. In 1973 the grounds, buildings and a collection of over 4,000 artifacts were donated to the people of South Carolina by the first owner's great-grandson, John Shaw Billings, a former managing editor of Time, Life and Fortune magazines.

Situated on a height overlooking the Savannah River Valley, the historic estate still contains four original buildings including two circa 1857 slave cabins, the circa 1859 plantation mansion and a stable built in the early 20th century. Visitors to the park will learn the origins of the infamous phrase "Cotton is King," discover

the struggle of the estate's families to adjust to changing economic and social conditions, immerse themselves in the rich collection of family papers and enjoy the beautiful landscape and vistas of the historic estate.

In addition to daily guided tours of the slave cabin and mansion (call ahead for tour times), special programs are also held throughout the year on a variety of topics. Special programs may include The African-American Experience (various topics), Redcliffe AFTER Dark (nighttime tour), Redcliffe's Rooftop Talks, Behind the Scenes tours, Scandals & Gossip, Christmas in the Quarters and more. Check the park's website for program dates and times, as well as daily tour times.

## **Beech Island**

Occupying a bluff overlooking the Savannah River Valley, the rural community of Beech Island has a history that stretches back over 300 years to 1685. The area includes prehistoric, Native American, colonial, antebellum and 20th century historic sites within its borders. Sites of interest in Beech Island include Silver Bluff Audubon Wildlife Center & Sanctuary, the Beech Island Historical Society, the final home of famed singer James Brown and Redcliffe Plantation SHS.





# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## **Aiken Center For The Arts**

122 Laurens St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 641-9094. A variety of artists display works for sale year-round in the gallery store. The center hosts events throughout the year and offers instruction in a variety of mediums for all ages. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm.  
[www.aikencenterforthearts.org](http://www.aikencenterforthearts.org)

## **Arts & Heritage Center of North Augusta**

100 Georgia Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 441-4380. The Center is dedicated to the exhibition of regional arts and history with exhibits rotating every three months.  
[www.artsandheritagecenter.com](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.com)

## **Etherredge Center**

471 University Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 641-3305. Located on the campus of the University of South Carolina-Aiken. A variety of University and community events are presented throughout the year.  
[www.etherredge.usca.edu](http://www.etherredge.usca.edu)

## **URS Center For The Performing Arts**

126 Newberry St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 648-1438. Home to the Aiken Community Playhouse and the Aiken Performing Arts Group. The theater seats approximately 300. Featuring comedy, drama, musical plays, national and international

professional shows throughout the year. Box office hours are M-F 9am-4pm, closed 12:00pm-1:00pm.  
[www.aikenplayhouse.us](http://www.aikenplayhouse.us)



## **USCA Convocation Center**

375 Robert Bell Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 643-6900. This state of the art facility with the capacity ranging from 500 to 4300 patrons is located on the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus. Family oriented events, athletic events, trade shows, and nationally renowned concerts and performers throughout the year.  
[www.uscatix.com](http://www.uscatix.com)

## **DuPont Planetarium**

471 University Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 641-3654. Located on the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus. Conducts K-12 school programs, general-interest level programs for the public, specialized programs for university classes, and private shows for parties and other events. Call for reservations.  
[www.rpsec.usca.edu/planetarium](http://www.rpsec.usca.edu/planetarium)



## **The Big Mo Drive-In Theater**

5822 Columbia Hwy., N, Monetta. (803) 685-7949

The re-opening in 1999 of this 1951 theater revived the unique tradition of one of America's lost forms of entertainment. Open Friday-Sunday, March-November at dusk. Double features, cash only. [www.thebigmo.com](http://www.thebigmo.com)



# ACCOMMODATIONS

## HOTELS

### **American Hearth Inn**

3935 Richland Ave., W, Aiken.  
(803) 642-5828. 33 Rooms, golf packages available, Wi-Fi, located outside of downtown Aiken.

### **Country Inn and Suites**

3270 Whiskey Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 649-4024. 100 non-smoking rooms, outdoor pool, continental breakfast, fitness room, microwave, free Internet, mini-fridge, guest laundry. [www.countryinns.com](http://www.countryinns.com)

### **Days Inn**

2654 Columbia Hwy., I-20 Exit 22, Aiken. (803) 642-5692. 78 rooms. Continental breakfast, high speed internet access, pool, refrigerator, microwave. Pet friendly. [www.daysinn.com](http://www.daysinn.com)

### **Deluxe Inn**

1919 Edgefield Hwy., I-20 Exit 18, Aiken. (803) 642-2840.  
34 rooms. Continental breakfast.

### **Guest Inn**

110 Frontage Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 502-0000. 112 rooms in a low-rise hotel offering free breakfast, parking, and Wi-Fi plus event space and pool. Pet friendly.

### **Quality Inn**

110 E Frontage Rd., I-20, Exit 22, Aiken. (803) 502-0900. Continental breakfast, high speed Internet, refrigerator, microwave. Pet friendly.

## BED & BREAKFASTS

### **Annie's Inn**

3080 Charleston Hwy., Montmorenci.  
(803) 649-6836. Antebellum farmhouse and six guest cottages. Complimentary breakfast and newlywed packages. Corporate or long term stay. Catering to the equestrian crowd for over 20 years. [www.anniesinnbnb.com](http://www.anniesinnbnb.com)

### **Claridge House Bed & Breakfast**

162 Lee St., N, Wagener.  
(803) 564-8777. Offering 4 spacious rooms for lodging with a full breakfast. Also available are custom weekend packages. [www.claridgehousebb.com](http://www.claridgehousebb.com)



### **General Elliott Inn**

929 New Bridge Rd., Ridge Spring.  
(803) 522-1226. Offering horse boarding and Bed and Breakfast services with the traveling horseman in mind. [www.magnoliashad.com](http://www.magnoliashad.com)

### **Magnolia Shadows**

595 Engineer Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 522-1226. Lovely historic Inn with a front balcony and back veranda. Offers pastures and stalls for horse boarding and layovers. Restaurant and wine tasting coming soon! [www.magnoliashadows.com](http://www.magnoliashadows.com)

*This is not a full listing of accommodations.*





# TOURS

## Tailored Tours of Aiken

Marty Bailey (803) 295-3870.  
The three most requested tours are: Historic Aiken, Aiken and a Plantation, and a walking Haunted Aiken Tour.  
[www.tailoredtoursofaiken.com](http://www.tailoredtoursofaiken.com)  
[tailoredtoursofaiken@yahoo.com](mailto:tailoredtoursofaiken@yahoo.com)



## SRS Tours

301 Gateway Dr., Aiken.  
(803) 725-6211. Each tour starts with an overview presentation about SRS and a safety briefing. Free of charge. To register, visit:  
[www.srs.gov/general/tour/public.htm](http://www.srs.gov/general/tour/public.htm). Participants must be 18 years of age or older and citizens of the United States.

## Beech Island Historical Tour

144 Old Jackson Hwy., Beech Island.  
(803) 867-3600.  
[bdbartley@comcast.net](mailto:bdbartley@comcast.net) or visit  
[www.beechislandhistory.org](http://www.beechislandhistory.org)

## Carolina Aviation of Aiken

125 Aviation Blvd., Aiken.  
(803) 502-1007. Discovery flights and sightseeing tours by appointment.  
[www.carolinaaviation.net](http://www.carolinaaviation.net)

## Redcliffe Plantation House Tours

181 Redcliffe Rd., Beech Island.  
(803) 827-1473.  
Grounds open daily 9am - 6pm and house tours are at 11am, 1pm, and 3pm. If school groups are scheduled on a day when we offer tours, the 11am tour will not be held. Please contact the park in advance if you are planning on attending an 11am tour.  
[www.southcarolinaparks.com/redcliffe](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/redcliffe)

## Ellenton Heritage Trail

(803) 226-0116.  
A 45 minute walking tour through former town of Ellenton. Call to schedule a tour.

## Aiken Ghost Tours

(803) 270-0773. 90 minute guided haunted history walking tour of Downtown Aiken, about 1 mile long. Tours begin at sundown, and are seasonal or by appointment. Group tours available.  
[kentcubbage@yahoo.com](mailto:kentcubbage@yahoo.com)

## Patriot Riverboat Tours

Riverwalk Marina at 1 5th St., Augusta, Ga. (803) 730-9739.  
One hour narrated tours and two hour sunset tours March-November on the Savannah River. Private charters available.  
[cvbradshaw@windstream.net](mailto:cvbradshaw@windstream.net)  
[www.patriottourboat.net](http://www.patriottourboat.net)

## Historic Trolley Tours

406 Park Ave., SE, Aiken.  
(803) 644-1907. Enjoy this two hour guided tour aboard our Trolley (bus depending on weather). Reservations recommended. Tickets sold through the Aiken Visitors Center and Train Museum.

## Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary Tour

4542 Silver Bluff Rd., Jackson.  
(803) 471-0291. Offering a one to two hour walking and/or driving tour of the sanctuary. Subjects of interest include intro to birds and other wildlife of the area, land management and conservation/education activities that take place and the rich history of the park. Call for reservations and pricing.



# OUTDOOR

## HERITAGE PRESERVES AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

*Miles of trails await you at seven Heritage Preserves, which are open for public use one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.*



Courtesy Michael Small SCDNR

**Aiken Gopher Tortoise HP/WMA**  
Wagener. Lat 33.505 Long -81.413.  
The 1,622 acre preserve is home to the rare and state-listed endangered gopher tortoise. Limited horseback riding, no motorized vehicles.

**Ditch Pond HP/WMA**  
Williston. Lat 33.415 Long -81.472.  
The 296 acre preserve with a Carolina bay, elliptically shaped, wet depressions ranging from one acre to over 1,000. Archery hunting for deer and gun hunting for small game is allowed.

**Janet Harrison High Pond HP**  
Monetta. Lat 33.821 Long -81.588  
A Carolina bay trail, the high pond vegetative community, and populations of several rare plant species are protected in this 30.11 acre preserve.

**Bear Branch HP**  
Aiken. Lat 33.672 Long -81.799.  
A 173-acre tract in northern Aiken County. Prearranged tours only. B.F. Landrum began making pottery here in 1848.

**Gopher Branch HP**  
Aiken. Lat 33.661 Long -81.793.  
Rev. J. Landrum's home and alkaline glaze stoneware pottery. "Dave," a slave potter of some renown, worked for Landrum and his son-in-law Lewis Miles. Prearranged tours only.

HP - (803) 734-3893  
WMA- (803) 734-3886  
Maps- [www.dnr.sc.gov](http://www.dnr.sc.gov)

**Savannah River Bluffs HP**  
North Augusta. Lat. 33.526 Long -81.061. The 83.84-acre site has 1,076 feet of river frontage on one of the few remaining river shoals of the Savannah River.

**Henderson HP/WMA**  
Aiken. Lat 33.415 Long -81.742.  
A 1.4 mile hiking trail guides visitors through this 417 acre habitat. About 2 miles north of Aiken.

**Crackerneck WMA**  
Jackson. Lat 33.286 Long -81.781. A 10,600-acre WMA and Ecological Reserve owned by the U. S. Department of Energy, and managed by the SCDNR. Deer, turkey, waterfowl, small game, and fishing. Open during designated dates and times and must sign in.

**Silver Bluff Audubon Center & Sanctuary**  
4542 Silver Bluff Rd., Jackson. (803) 471-0291. The 3,400 acre wildlife sanctuary is a National Audubon Society property with a varied habitat of forests, fields, lakes, ponds and streams, and trails nestled along 4 miles of the Savannah River. It is a favorite destination for birding with over 200 species and wildflowers. Educational programs focus on forest and land management. Call ahead for current hours.





# OUTDOOR

## **Boyd Observatory**

340 Boyd Pond Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-0314. This private research facility at Aiken County's Boyd Pond Park accommodates groups of 12. Open on the first and third Saturday of the month (weather permitting), to expose all visitors to basic astronomy begins at sundown. Free program. Reservations are recommended.  
[www.boydobservatory.org](http://www.boydobservatory.org)

## **HUNTING**



Courtesy South Carolina Wildlife

## **Carolina Star Gun & Hunt Club**

371 Cedar Branch Rd., Windsor.  
(803) 649-0878. A variety of shooting sports activities, can accommodate special functions with 234 acres. Hunting, sporting clays, trap shooting. [www.carolinastar.com](http://www.carolinastar.com)

## **Cowden Plantation Farms/ Hunting**

383 Brown Rd., Jackson.  
(803) 471-3616. Over 10,000 acres of deer, hog, turkey, duck, dove, quail, bass, bluegill and farm catfish. Appointment required. Accommodations available.  
[www.jarrettrifles.com](http://www.jarrettrifles.com)

## **FISHING**

### **Savannah River**

Enjoy the beauty of the Savannah River at these fantastic fishing spots. The river boasts perch, largemouth bass, crappie, catfish, redbreast, and bream.

### **Jackson Landing, Jackson.**

Take Jackson Rd. to Fisher Rd., then to Landing Rd. Hard surface ramp, handicap accessible dock, fishing area, gravel parking.

### **Silver Bluff Landing, Jackson.**

Silver Bluff Rd. to Bluff Landing Rd. Small craft access.

### **Riverview Park Boat Ramp.**

North Augusta. Hammonds Ferry Rd, Hard surface ramp, dock, paved parking and two fishing piers.

### **S. Edisto River**

This beautiful black river is a winner for bream, largemouth bass, catfish, pinfish, and eel.

### **Aiken State Park**

1145 State Park Rd., Windsor,  
(803) 649-2857. 3 lakes and the Edisto River await your hook!

### **Davis Bridge Landing**

Off SC 4 on Veterans Rd. between Salley and White Pond. Small craft access, parking and fishing areas.

### **Highway 21 Landing**

SC 21. Ramp, gravel parking.

### **Keadle's Bridge**

At Road 22 bridge. Hard surface ramp, parking.

### **Rocky Springs**

Off New Holland Rd.  
(302) between Couchton and N. Holland. Small craft boat ramp, parking area and fishing area from bank.

### **Boyd Pond**

340 Boyd Pond Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-0314. This 30 acre pond is equipped with fishing pier and boat ramp.

### **Langley Pond**

113 Langley Dam Rd., Burnetttown.  
(803) 642-7559. Fishing area, hard surface ramp. Dawn till dusk, closed for special events.

SC Dept. of Natural Resources • Info (803) 734-3886 • Reports (800) 922-5431

License by Phone: 1 (866) 714-3611

License Online: [www.dnr.sc.gov/purchase.html](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/purchase.html)



# PARKS & RECREATION



## **Langley Pond Park**

113 Langley Dam Rd., Burnetown. (803) 642-7559. Langley Pond Park has an Olympic size rowing course with six fully buoyed lanes making it perfect for competition and training. The pond has a boat ramp, championship level disc golf course, equestrian and walking trail, swim area, concession stand, large picnic shelter, grills, bathhouse, playground, open greenspace and a sandy beach for sunbathing. Inclusive playground and Finish Line Tower coming soon. Pond is temporarily closed until early 2020 due to dam and spillway replacement, but the remainder of the park is open. Several regattas, tournaments, trail runs and other events take place annually. Park is free to the public.

## **Boyd Pond Park**

340 Boyd Pond Rd., Aiken. (803) 642-0314. 210 acre park that was the former SRS employee recreation facility. It is heavily wooded creating a cool canopy with four ball fields, two soccer fields, two miles of hiking trails, over nine miles of mountain bike trails, 18 hole disc golf course, six shelters, picnic areas, playground, restrooms, and a 30 acre fishing pond with a 300ft boardwalk. A boat ramp is also available to the public free of charge (no gas motors permitted). Amphitheater coming soon.

## **Harrison-Caver Park**

4181 Augusta Rd., Clearwater. (803) 593-4698. 39 acre park with a rentable community center, playground, outdoor basketball court, two recently resurfaced tennis courts, half-mile walking track, picnic tables with grills, three softball fields, and a multi-purpose field. The Horse Creek Water Trail exit point is located here.

## **Aiken County Recreation Center**

917 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Graniteville. (803) 663-6142. Situated on 6 acres with two basketball courts, a playground, recently renovated public pool, walking trail, covered picnic area, and a community center building. The park is open from dawn to dusk and available for rent.

## **Roy Warner Park**

6201 Roy Warner Park Ln., Wagener. (803) 564-6149. Ball fields, basketball court, playground, concessions, and community center. Recent renovations include a football field, concession stand, and bathroom facility. Rentable facility.

## **Courtney Center**

49 Roy St., Wagener. (803) 564-5211. Community building with senior citizens activities, exercise room, sewing room, air hockey table, and meal site for Council on Aging. Computer room with laptops and Wi-Fi. Rentable facility.



# PARKS & RECREATION



## Horse Creek Water Trail (803) 642-7559

One of the newest attractions along a prominent Native American site, the 9 mile nature lovers retreat winds through the Horse Creek Valley. Native Americans built villages along the creek which was also used to rest and water their horses. Access by kayak or canoe in Graniteville or Langley Pond. Exit at Harrison Caver Park. Temporarily closed for maintenance, call for questions. [www.discoveraikencounty.com](http://www.discoveraikencounty.com)

### **Belvedere Dixie Youth**

410 Hazel St., North Augusta. Ball fields, batting cage, concession stand, and playground.

### **Ernest Weaver Park**

131 Weaver St., Aiken. Facilities include a playground, covered picnic shelter, a softball field, and a basketball court.

### **Gloverville Park**

226 Pine St., Gloverville. Ball fields, playground, gazebo and picnic area.

### **Herb Marshall Park**

120 H & H St., North Augusta. Ball fields and an exercise fitness track.

### **Johnny Wood Park**

109 Swathmore Ave., North Augusta. Softball field and playground.

### **Lollar Park**

520 Urquhart St., Beech Island. Playground, field, picnic area.

### **Spann Hammond Park**

124 Spann Hammond Rd., Beech Island. Pond, fishing dock, walking trail, covered picnic shelters, benches and swings.

### **Spider Web Park**

813 Williston Rd., Beech Island. Basketball court, playground and picnic area.

### **Thomas Park**

117 Johnson Rd., Belvedere. Lighted tennis court, basketball court, playground area, and a picnic area.

### **White Pond Community Center**

321 White Pond Rd., Williston. Playground and community center. Rentable facility.

### **Citizens Park**

1060 Banks Mill Rd., Aiken. (803) 642-7760. Five multipurpose athletic fields. [www.cityofaikensc.gov](http://www.cityofaikensc.gov)

### **Gregg Park**

113 Trolley Line Rd., Graniteville. (803) 663-7552. [www.greggparkonline.com](http://www.greggparkonline.com)

### **Gregg Park Dixie Youth Field**

1470 Gregg Hwy., Graniteville. (803) 663-9363.

### **Willie Whaley Park**

193 Carline Rd., Warrentonville. (803) 593-2676. Ball fields, multipurpose field, playground.

**Aiken County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism  
(803) 642-7559**



# PARKS & RECREATION



## Boeckh Park

508 Front St., North Augusta.  
(803) 441-4300. Covered open air pavilion located along the riverfront extension of the Greenway Trail and near Hammonds Ferry subdivision. Open fire pit and limited seating.  
[www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net)

## Generations Park

Columbia Hwy., N, Aiken.  
(803) 642-7631. Phase 1 of this newly opened passive play park is complete. Open space and playground equipment designed for older kids.

## VETERANS PARKS



## H.O. Weeks Center

1700 Whiskey Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-7630. Gymnasium, racquetball, aerobics room, handicap-accessible playground, basketball courts, tennis center, a walking trail, ceramics and shelters.  
[www.cityofaikensc.gov](http://www.cityofaikensc.gov)

## Riverview Park

100 Riverview Park Dr., North Augusta. (803) 441-4310. Baseball and soccer fields, tennis courts, covered shelters, playground, walking trail, horseshoe pits, boat landing, basketball and racquetball courts, disc golf and activity center.  
[www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net)

## Smith Hazel

400 Kershaw St., NE, Aiken.  
(803) 642-7634.  
[www.cityofaikensc.gov](http://www.cityofaikensc.gov)

## Hopelands Gardens

135 Dupree Place, Aiken.  
(803) 642-7650. Open 10 am till sunset. This 14 acre park was the former estate of Mr. and Mrs Oliver Iselin. [www.cityofaikensc.gov](http://www.cityofaikensc.gov)

## Brick Pond Park

88 Georgia Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 441-4300. 40 Acre restored wetland, storm water treatment system and public nature park. Walking trails, picnic tables and waterfalls. [www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net)

## Aiken County Veterans Memorial Park

1435 Richland Ave., E., Aiken. Made possible through the efforts of the Veterans Coalition, honoring Veterans of the past, present, and the future.

## Horse Creek Valley Veterans Park

US Hwy. 421, Bath. Paved walkways, lighting, granite benches, picnic tables and a gazebo. Inscribed with 900 veterans' names from World War I to the present of the Valley area.

## Wade Hampton Veterans Park

302 Georgia Ave., North Augusta. Dedicated in memory of Civil War General Wade Hampton. Monuments are in formation of the American Flag and dedicated to vets of every war the USA has participated in since the Revolution.



# PARKS & RECREATION



## Aiken State Park

1145 State Park Rd., Windsor. (803) 649-2857

Nestled along the South Edisto River in an outdoor-lover's paradise. A 1.7-mile canoe and kayak trail winds down the South Fork of the Edisto River. Minimal park fee. [www.southcarolinaparks.com/aiken](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/aiken)

During the Great Depression, in the 1930's an African American detachment of the Civilian Conservation Corps built the park. Their work can still be seen in some of the remaining structures as well as interpretive signage.

The 1,067-acre park offers picnicking, biking, camping, fishing, boating, hiking, birding, geocaching and a swimming area. A three mile loop, Jungle Trail, is a great hike and a playground is on the park site too. Several geocaches are located on the park. For more information and location of these caches visit the official geocaching website. Horseshoe pits are available at the park for visitors to use. Rustic Tent Sites in a cabin like area are available for visitors to reserve for a fee.

The park is a combination of a river swamp, bottomland hardwood forest and dry sandhill pine forest; the latter provides evidence of an era when the sea reached this far inland.

The park also has a four acre lake, fed by artesian wells. These naturally occurring underground water sources are under sufficient pressure to maintain a constant flow of water. In addition to the lake, artesian water gushes up throughout fountains located through the park. Minimal admission fee. A small selection of souvenir items can be purchased in the park office. Firewood and fishing worms are also available for purchase. Pets are allowed in most outdoor areas provided they are kept under physical restraint or on a leash no longer than six feet.

### *Primitive Group Camping*

An area along the bank of the South Fork of the Edisto River is equipped with picnic tables, fire rings and a privy. This area is reserved for groups. Reservations and pricing, call (803) 649-2857.



# PARKS & RECREATION



## Canoe/Kayak Rentals

Available at the following times:  
Thursday through Sunday at 10am,  
12pm and 3pm. Please meet at the  
park office. Call for pricing  
(803) 649-2857.

## CAMPING & RV SITES

### Aiken RV Park

2424 Columbia Hwy., N, Aiken.  
(803) 226-0850. Full-service RV park.  
Full hookups; 30 & 50 amps, level  
concrete runners, washerette, hot  
ceramic showers, free Wi-Fi and  
laundry. Open year-round.  
[www.aikenrv.com](http://www.aikenrv.com)

### Crossroads Mobile Home Community

569 Crossroads Park Dr., Aiken.  
(803) 642-5702. Exclusive RV section  
with large lots, landscaping, paved  
streets and parking, street lights and  
patios w/accent lights. Pets welcome  
with some restrictions.  
[www.jensencommunities.com](http://www.jensencommunities.com)

### Pine Acres Campground

205 Duke Dr., (corner Duke Dr &  
Columbia Hwy N), Aiken.  
(803) 648-5715. Full hook-ups  
with 30 and 50 amp service. Pull  
thru sites. Open year-round. WiFi,  
bathhouse, and laundry room. Pets  
allowed.

## DISC GOLF

### Langley Pond Disc Golf Park

113 Langley Dam Rd., Burnetown.  
(803) 642-7559. Aiken County's  
only championship level disc golf  
course. Spectacular water holes,  
varying terrain, challenging pin  
locations, and towering hardwoods  
are abound on this unique course.  
Consistently ranked top 10  
worldwide due to the challenging  
layout, beautiful views, and world-  
class design.

Two practice pins and full driving  
range are located near the parking  
area, and each hole features 2 tee  
pads for amateur and experienced  
players. Free to play and open from  
dawn to dusk.

[www.aikencountyprt.com](http://www.aikencountyprt.com)



### Boyd Pond Park

340 Boyd Pond Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-0314. Recently installed  
18-hole course. Features turf tee  
pads, practice basket, picnic area,  
and a course designed for all skill  
levels of play. Picnic tables, benches,  
and grills are spread throughout  
the park, which offer great views of  
Boyd Pond and the beautiful natural  
environment around it.  
[www.aikencountyprt.com](http://www.aikencountyprt.com)



### Hippodrome

5540 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
North Augusta. (803) 278-4785.  
Open daily 7am until dark.  
[www.northaugustahippodrome.com](http://www.northaugustahippodrome.com)



# PARKS & RECREATION



Dell Purifoy Full Speed Photography

## DRAG RACING

### Carolina Dragway, Inc.

302 Dragstrip Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 471-2285. Sanctioned by the International Hot Rod Association and is one of two 1/4 mile dragstrips in South Carolina.  
[www.carolinadragway.com](http://www.carolinadragway.com)

## CHALLENGE COURSE

### Gravatt Adventure & Discovery Center

1006 Camp Gravatt Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 648-1817. Challenge course designed to develop leadership skills and increase self-esteem and confidence. Fantastic for company retreats. [www.campgravatt.org](http://www.campgravatt.org)

## BOWLING

### Northside Lanes

1745 Georgia Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 279-1948.  
[www.northsidelanes.com](http://www.northsidelanes.com)

## MINI-GOLF

### Hole-N-One Family Fun Center

3197 Whiskey Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 643-1715. An 18 hole mini-golf course, arcade games, and batting cages with automatic pitching machines. [www.holenoneaiken.com](http://www.holenoneaiken.com)

## CLIMBING WALL

Price Ave., Aiken. (803) 642-7631.  
Must register, pay fees at the H. O. Weeks Center across the street. All equipment provided.



## SRP PARK

187 Railroad Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 349-9467. Home of the Augusta GreenJackets Minor League Baseball located in Riverside Village. Entertainment venue that holds concerts and other events scheduled throughout the year.  
[www.greenjacketsbaseball.com](http://www.greenjacketsbaseball.com)



# PARKS & RECREATION



## GOLF

### **Aiken Family Golf Range**

1685 Columbia Hwy. N., Aiken.  
(803) 508-5635. Driving range,  
lessons available.  
[www.aikengolfrange.com](http://www.aikengolfrange.com)

### **The Aiken Golf Club**

555 Highland Park Ave., Aiken.  
(803) 649-6029. 18 holes, par 70.  
Built in 1912, designed by Donald  
Ross and J. R. Inglis.  
[www.aikengolfclub.net](http://www.aikengolfclub.net)

### **Cedar Creek Golf Club**

2555 Club Dr., Aiken. (803) 648-4206.  
18 holes, par 72. Designed by Arthur  
Hills. [www.cedarcreek.net](http://www.cedarcreek.net)

### **Midland Valley Golf Club**

Hwy 1, 1515 Midland Dr.,  
Graniteville. (803) 663-7332.  
27 championship holes, par 71.  
Designed by Ellis Maples.  
[www.playmidlandvalley.com](http://www.playmidlandvalley.com)

### **Mount Vintage Plantation & Golf Club**

375 Mt. Vintage Plantation Dr.,  
North Augusta. (803) 279-5422.  
18 holes, Par 72 Designed by Tom  
Jackson.  
[www.mountvintagegolf.com](http://www.mountvintagegolf.com)

### **The River Golf Club**

307 Riverside Blvd., North Augusta.  
(803) 202-0110. 18 holes, Par 71.  
Designed by Jim Fazio.  
[www.rivergolfclub.com](http://www.rivergolfclub.com)

### **Houndslake Country Club**

901 Houndslake Dr., Aiken.  
(803) 648-6805. Semi-private 27-hole  
championship golf course designed  
in 1974 by Joe Lee. Call for public  
access information.  
[www.houndslakeecc.com](http://www.houndslakeecc.com)

## DRIVING RANGE

### **Carolina Springs Practice Facility**

1301 Womrath Rd., North Augusta.  
(803) 279-9803. Driving range,  
bermuda tees, expert club repair  
and refinishing.



## SWIMMING

### **Aiken County Rec Center**

917 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
Graniteville. (803) 663-6142.  
Open for summer, lifeguards on  
duty. Minimal fee.

### **Aiken State Park**

1145 State Park Rd., Windsor.  
(803) 642-2857. Natural swim area,  
no lifeguards. Park fees apply.

### **Richardson's Lake**

919 Richardson Lake Rd., Warrentonville.  
(803) 663-3600. Natural swim area,  
May-September, lifeguards on duty.  
Admission fee.

### **Smith Hazel Pool**

400 Kershaw St. NE, Aiken.  
(803) 642-7634. Public pool opens  
Memorial Day weekend, lifeguards  
on duty. Minimal admission fees  
apply.

### **Family Y Pool**

621 Trolley Line Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 349-8080. Special rates for out  
of town guest.  
[www.thefamilyy.org](http://www.thefamilyy.org)



# PARKS & RECREATION



## HIKING, BIKING, and WALKING

### **Aiken State Park**

1145 State Park Rd., Windsor.  
(803) 649-2857. Open year-round, 3-mile loop through wetlands and forest. Leashed pets ok. Enter park, turn left. Trailhead is to the right of the playground.

### **Boyd Pond Park**

340 Boyd Pond Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-0314. 2 mile walking trail and over 9 mile mountain bike trail in a 210 acre park with 30 acre pond.

### **Aiken County Recreation Center**

917 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Graniteville. (803) 663-6142. Mostly shaded .365 mile paved walking track with slight elevation changes meandering through the back portion of the Rec Center and along the Sand River. Three laps equals 1.1 mile.

### **Carolina Bay Nature Reserve**

180 Price Ave., Aiken.  
(803) 642-7630. Open year-round dawn to dusk.

### **Odell Weeks Center**

1700 Whiskey Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-7630. A flat, lit, paved 1-mile oval path. Bicycles or motorized vehicles are not permitted.

### **Hitchcock Woods**

430 South Boundary Ave., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 642-0528. A 2,100 acre natural forest, with 70-miles of trails. The Hitchcock Foundation encourages passive recreation to preserve the integrity and tranquility of the forest. There are seven entrances along the perimeter. Motorized vehicles or bicycles are not allowed. Open 365 days from dawn till dusk.

### **Langley Pond Loop Trail**

113 Langley Dam Rd., Burnettsville.  
(803) 642-7559. This trail was developed in partnership with the GAIT Foundation. Accessible by foot or horseback (No bicycles), the wooded trail is 2.8 miles winding through a canopy of lush woods accessible only at Langley Pond Park. Leashed pets allowed.



### **Brick Pond Park**

88 Georgia Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 441-4300. Open year-round from dawn until dusk.

### **North Augusta Greenway**

101 Riverview Park Dr., North Augusta. (803) 441-4300. Paved trail for walking, hiking, and bicycling. The main trail is over 7 miles long, with several more miles of trails branching off.

### **Redcliffe Plantation**

181 Redcliffe Rd., Beech Island.  
(803) 827-1473. 1/4 mile trail. Trail head at bottom right corner of field in front of home. Leashed pets ok.

### **Sparkleberry at The Bishop Gravatt Center**

1006 Camp Gravatt Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 648-1817. Year-round, dawn to dusk M-F. Register at office for this 2-mile trail. Pets must remain on leashes. Restrooms are available in the dining facility.



# SPACES TO RENT

## **AECOM Center for Performing Arts/Aiken Playhouse**

126 Newberry St., Aiken.  
(803) 648-1438  
www.aikenplayhouse.us

## **Aiken Brewing Co.**

140 Laurens St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 502-0707  
www.aikenbrewingcompany.com

## **Aiken Chamber of Commerce**

121 Richland Ave., E, Aiken.  
(803) 641-1111  
www.aikenchamber.net

## **Aiken Center for the Arts**

122 Laurens St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 641-9094  
www.aikencenterforthearts.org

## **Aiken County Historical Museum**

433 Newberry St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 642-2015  
www.aikenmuseum.us

## **Aiken Electric Co-op**

2790 Wagener Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 649-6245  
www.aikenco-op.org

## **Aiken Municipal Auditorium**

215 The Alley, Aiken. (803) 642-7654  
www.cityofaikensc.gov

## **Aiken Tech**

2276 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
Graniteville. (803) 508-7632  
www.atc.edu

## **Citizens Park Conference Center**

640 Old Airport Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 226-0504  
www.citizensparkkocc.com

## **Cumberland Village Clubhouse**

3070 Wise Creek Lane, Aiken.  
(803) 643-0073  
www.marrinson.com/index.php/  
independent-living/cumberland-  
village

## **Etherredge Center**

471 University Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 641-3327  
www.etherredge.usca.edu

## **Gravatt Camp**

**and Conference Center**  
1006 Camp Gravatt Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 648-1817  
www.campgravatt.org

## **Highfields Events Center**

198 Gaston Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 649-3505  
www.psjshows.com/contact.html

## **The Hippodrome**

5540 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
North Augusta. (803) 278-4785  
www.northaugustahippodrome.com

## **Horse Creek Banquet Hall**

1897 Jefferson Davis Hwy.,  
Warrenville. (803) 593-5900  
www.bobbysbbq.com/  
HorseCreekBanquetHall.html

## **Newberry Hall**

117 Newberry St., SW, Aiken.  
(803) 641-7087  
www.newberryhall.com

## **North Augusta Community Center**

495 Brookside Ave.,  
North Augusta. (803) 441-4290  
www.northaugusta.net/community/  
facility-rentals/community-center

## **Palmetto Terrace Ballroom**

100 Georgia Ave., North Augusta.  
(803) 441-4350  
www.northaugusta.net/community/  
facility-rentals/community-center

## **The River Golf Club**

307 Riverside Blvd., North Augusta.  
(803) 202-0110  
www.rivergolfclub.com

## **Rye Patch Reception Center and Guest Cottage**

100 Berrie Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 642-7650  
www.visitaikensc.com

## **Savannah River Research Campus**

227 Gateway Dr., Aiken.  
(803) 652-7772  
asmith@aikencountysc.gov  
www.aikencountysc.gov

## **USC Aiken Conference Center**

471 University Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 641-3587. www.usca.edu

## **USC Aiken Convocation Center**

375 Robert Bell Pkwy., Aiken.  
(803) 643-6900. www.uscatix.com

## **Woodside Country Club**

1000 Woodside Plantation Dr., Aiken.  
(803) 649-3383 ext. 242  
www.clubcorp.com/clubs/wood-  
side-plantation-country-club



# ANNUAL EVENTS

## Antiques in the Heart of Aiken

(803) 641-9094. The 1st weekend in February at the Aiken Center for the Arts. Offers one of the South's finest Antiques experience.  
[www.aikencenterforthearts.org](http://www.aikencenterforthearts.org)

## Battle of Aiken

(803) 642-2500. Powell Pond Rd, off I-20. The weekend after President's Day. Calvary horses, cannons and reenactors bring the history of the Civil War to life.  
[www.battleofaiken.org](http://www.battleofaiken.org)



## Aiken Triple Crown

Last 3 Saturdays in March. First race is the Trials where Thoroughbreds compete in flat races at the Aiken Training Track. The Steeplechase is the second with a big tent party and horses jumping hurdles at Aiken Horse Park. The third leg is the Polo match. Proceeds aid the community and community charities.

## Polo Matches

(803) 642-3611. September through Mid-November. Aiken Polo Club.  
[www.aikenpolo.org](http://www.aikenpolo.org)

## Aiken Horse Show

(803) 642-0528. 1st weekend in April in Hitchcock Woods. Whether you are an equestrian, outdoor enthusiast, history buff, or simply appreciate rich new experiences-this is something for you!  
[www.aikenhorseshow.org](http://www.aikenhorseshow.org)

## Horses and Courses

(803) 642-7631. Tuesday of Masters Week in April held Downtown. Businesses stay open late and artists and vendors line the streets.  
[www.visitaiken.com/calendar](http://www.visitaiken.com/calendar)

## Under the Crown & Colonial Trades Fair

Third weekend in April at Living History Park, North Augusta. This juried, invitational show features high quality art, music and food all weekend. 18th century entertainment.  
[www.colonialtimes.us](http://www.colonialtimes.us)

## Aiken Bluegrass Festival

(803) 640-9287. Aiken Fairgrounds. Second weekend in May. Regionally and Nationally acclaimed bluegrass artists for a two-day gathering in a family-friendly environment. Activities for the younger crowd, food and other vendors available.  
[www.AikenBlueGrassFestival.org](http://www.AikenBlueGrassFestival.org)



Eric Rayburn Photography

## Hopelands Summer Concerts

(803) 642-7631. An outdoor series, April - June at Hopelands Gardens. Mondays at 7pm. Picnics welcome!  
[www.aikenis.com](http://www.aikenis.com)

## Music in the Park

(803) 442-7588. At Maude Edenfield Park, 426 Brookside Park, North Augusta. May through June. 7pm on Thursdays. [www.naartscouncil.org](http://www.naartscouncil.org)

## Wagons to Wagener

(803) 564-3412. Last weekend in June in downtown Wagener. Parade, carnival rides, street dancing, music and food.  
[www.wageneresc.com](http://www.wageneresc.com)

## Nike Peach Jam

(803) 441-4311. Held in July at Riverview Park in North Augusta. This Championship event is the culmination of national tournaments with the top qualifiers vying for the Peach Jam title. The very best 16 and 17 year old basketball players participate with most of the Division

This is a partial listing. Please call ahead for actual dates and times. Visit our online calendar at [www.discoveraikencounty.com/events](http://www.discoveraikencounty.com/events)



# ANNUAL EVENTS

I basketball coaches in attendance. Admission fees apply, the public is invited to attend.

## **Aiken's Makin'**

(803) 641-1111. 2nd full weekend in September in Downtown Aiken. Display and sale of juried arts and crafts. [www.aikensmakin.net](http://www.aikensmakin.net)

## **Oktoberfest at Stable View Farm**

(803) 522-0067. Last weekend in September. Aiken's first FEI event that will run 1\*, 2\*, and 3\* divisions. [www.stableviewfarm.com](http://www.stableviewfarm.com)

## **Sassafras Festival**

(803) 593-2676. First Saturday in October at Sassafras Park. Augusta Rd., Burnetown. Arts, crafts, food vendors, and other entertainment. Fun for the whole family. [www.burnetown.com/sassafras-festival](http://www.burnetown.com/sassafras-festival)

## **Western Carolina State Fair**

(803) 648-8955. October at the Aiken Fairgrounds. Rides, entertainment and food. [www.westerncarolinastatefair.com](http://www.westerncarolinastatefair.com)

## **A Taste of Wine and Art**

(803) 641-9094. October at the Aiken Center for the Arts. Vast array of wines from around the world and signature dishes from the areas finest restaurant. [www.aikendda.us](http://www.aikendda.us)

## **Fall Steeplechase**

(803) 648-9641. Aiken Horse Park, October. Family friendly event also includes stick horse races for kids, costume contest, and more. [www.aikensteeplechase.com](http://www.aikensteeplechase.com)

## **Jack-O-Lantern Jubilee**

(803) 441-4311. Family-oriented festival in Downtown North Augusta in October. Live entertainment, variety of food and craft vendors, car show, corn hole tournament, amusement rides and more.

## **Hook and Cook Festival**

(803) 471-2228. 3rd Saturday in

October. 106 Main St., Jackson. Features a fishing tournament, barbecue cook-off, car show, craft vendors, and family-friendly entertainment and events. [www.jackson-sc.gov/hook-and-cook](http://www.jackson-sc.gov/hook-and-cook)

## **Colonial Times**

### **"A Day To Remember"**

(803) 279-7560. The 3rd weekend in October at the Living History Park. Colonial life is recreated through demos, exhibits, blacksmithing, smokehouse, musket firing and more. [www.colonialtimes.us](http://www.colonialtimes.us)

## **Annual Quilt Show**

(803) 642-2015. November at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Textile artists from Aiken County compete in this juried show. Lectures, demos and classes. [www.aikenmuseum.us](http://www.aikenmuseum.us)

## **Blessing of the Hounds**

(803) 642-0528. Held at the Memorial Gate in Hitchcock Woods. Ceremony blessing the foxhounds, which officially kicks off Aiken's hunt season. Thanksgiving Day. [www.hitchcockwoods.org](http://www.hitchcockwoods.org)

## **Chitlin' Strut**

(803) 258-3485. Saturday after Thanksgiving at Salley Civic Center and Fairgrounds. The unusual Southern cuisine of chitlins' is on the table! Carnival rides, crafts, parade, car show and there's even a Hawg Calling Contest to top it off! [www.chitlinstrut.com](http://www.chitlinstrut.com)

## **Christmas in Hopelands**

(803) 642-7631. December at Hopelands Gardens, Aiken. Beautifully decorated and lit gardens during the holiday season. [www.visitaikensc.com](http://www.visitaikensc.com)

## **Night of 1,000 Lights**

(803) 649-2221. Downtown Aiken. 2nd weekend in December. Sponsoring businesses stay open late, food, festivities and even Santa's elves will be in town. [www.aikendda.us](http://www.aikendda.us)

Events, attractions, prices, dates, and times in this guide are subject to change.



# EQUESTRIAN



Courtesy of Pete Peters

## EQUESTRIAN DISTRICT

East of Whiskey Rd. and north of South Boundary lies quiet dirt roads lined with equestrian fencing, training farms, horse crossings, polo fields, and racing tracks. Speed limit is 15 mph. Please be considerate and use extreme caution while in this area. Peak season for equestrian training is November-March.

### EVENTING

#### **Aiken Horse Park**

At the intersection of Audubon Dr. and Powderhouse Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 648-9641. 66 acres in historic Aiken where Steeplechase and other events are held year-round.  
[www.aikenhorsepark.org](http://www.aikenhorsepark.org)

#### **The Vista Schooling and Event Center**

859 Old Tory Trail, Aiken.  
(803) 262-5263. Offers large and small dressage arenas, derby stadium jumping arenas, and cross-country schooling.  
[www.schoolthevista.com](http://www.schoolthevista.com)

#### **Full Gallop Farm**

3828 Wagener Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 215-6590. Hosts events and provides lessons.  
[www.fullgallopfarm.com](http://www.fullgallopfarm.com)

#### **Paradise Farm**

4069 Wagener Rd., Aiken.  
(803) 640-4918. 110 Acre facility for eventing, fox hunting training, dressage, and show jumping. Open for competitions or by appointment.  
[www.paradisefarmaiken.com](http://www.paradisefarmaiken.com)

#### **Radway Eventing**

3077 Tomcat Ln., Aiken.  
(239) 464-0534. Offers lessons to children and adults of all levels including mentally and physically challenged adults and children.

(803) 642-7557

Eventing and horse training also offered.

[www.radwayeventing.com](http://www.radwayeventing.com)

#### **Sporting Days Farm**

3549 Charleston Hwy., Aiken.  
(803) 648-0100. 140 acres with Dressage Court, Grand Prix size show ring, and 5 levels of XC Course jumps with many trails. Open for competitions and practice days by appointment.  
[www.SportingDaysFarm.com](http://www.SportingDaysFarm.com)

#### **Stable View, Inc.**

117 Stable Dr., Aiken.  
(484) 356-3173. 160 Acres with covered arena, outdoor arena, cross-country course, and schooling cross-country area. Hours 9am-5pm.  
[www.stableviewfarm.com](http://www.stableviewfarm.com)

### HUNTER/JUMPER

#### **Highfields Event Center**

118 Gaston St., NE, Aiken.  
(803) 649-3505. 68 acre event facility open to public for events or by appointment. Hours 9am-3pm. Closed Mondays after weekend events.  
[www.psjshows.com](http://www.psjshows.com)

### POLO

#### **Aiken Polo Club**

(803) 643-3611.  
[www.aikenpoloclub.org](http://www.aikenpoloclub.org)



# EQUESTRIAN

## **Wagener Polo Club**

(561) 719-3318.

[www.wagenerpoloclub.com](http://www.wagenerpoloclub.com)

## **New Bridge Polo & Country Club**

862 New Bridge Rd., Aiken.

(803) 648-3699.

[www.newbridgepolo.com](http://www.newbridgepolo.com)

## **Fire Star Polo Club**

3289 Camp Rawls Rd., Wagener.

(631) 457-9630.

[ken@flatoutfarmpolo.com](mailto:ken@flatoutfarmpolo.com)

Polo experiences, including private polo lessons and group clinics.

Minimum 6 people.

[www.flatoutfarm.com](http://www.flatoutfarm.com)

## **Overbrook Farms**

2030 Gallop Hill Ln., Wagener.

(803) 646-8350. Offers a chance to try polo in a beginner friendly relaxed game.

[www.overbrookaikens.com](http://www.overbrookaikens.com)

## **Powderhouse Field**

950 Powderhouse Rd., Aiken.

(803) 644-7706. Tournament games and practice location for Aiken Polo Club. [www.aikenpoloclub.org](http://www.aikenpoloclub.org)

## **Whitney Field**

Mead Ave., Aiken.

(803) 643-3611. Field for Aiken Polo Club. September through November and March through mid June.

[www.aikenpoloclub.org](http://www.aikenpoloclub.org)

## **RACING & STEEPLECHASE**

### **Aiken Training Track**

538 Two Notch Rd., SE, Aiken.

(803) 648-4631. Historic Thoroughbred training facility home to annual events.

[www.aikentrainingtrack.com](http://www.aikentrainingtrack.com)

### **McGhee's Mile**

620 Banks Mill Rd., Aiken.

(803) 617-8511. 77 acre training center that hosts harness racing in March.

### **Palmetto Training Center**

4201 Shiloh Church Rd., Aiken.

(706) 394-9737. Offers riding lessons, trail rides and shows. Call for appointment.

[www.palmettotrainingcenter.com](http://www.palmettotrainingcenter.com)

## **DRIVING**

### **Katydid Farm**

359 State Park Rd., Windsor.

(803) 295-6785. Home to Katydid Combined Driving Event in October. Call for appointment.

[www.katydidfarm.com](http://www.katydidfarm.com)

### **Shepherd's Purse**

254 Whittle Pond Rd., Williston.

(540) 454-1092. Provides training for professional carriage driving, clinics, and shows.

## **SPECIALTY**

### **Aiken Horsemanship Academy**

(803) 761-4342. Open by appointment only 9-3pm, closed July-August. Clinics, courses, lessons, horse training offered. Focusing on adult education to empower and give knowledge to the owner.

[www.julierobins.com](http://www.julierobins.com)

### **Aiken Equine Rescue**

532 Glenwood Dr., Aiken.

(803) 643-1850. A non-profit organization on 80 acres that rescues and cares for unwanted horses. Cases range from neglect and abuse to "repurposing" off-the-track thoroughbreds until they are all re-homed. Visitors welcome for tours Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm. Closed on holidays.

[www.aikenequinerescue.com](http://www.aikenequinerescue.com)

### **Blue Ribbon Equine Rescue**

2820 Old 96 Indian Trl., Wagener.

(803) 564-6414. A non-profit organization that is home to old and injured horses. Some are available for adoption. Call for tours.

[www.blueribbonequinerescue.com](http://www.blueribbonequinerescue.com)

### **Palmetto Stables**

410 Kirby Dr., North Augusta.

(803) 439-3022. Specializing in beginner lessons, western and english. 25 acres with riding rings, jumps, private stalls, and tack room available. Offers boarding, petting farm, riding lessons, activities and events. [www.palmettostables.net](http://www.palmettostables.net)



# EQUESTRIAN



## **The Hippodrome**

5540 Jefferson Davis Hwy., North Augusta. (706) 823-3325. Open air equestrian arena and stables on 32 acres. Hosts more than 30 equine events annually, including barrel horse racing, team penning, cutting horse competitions and open benefit horse shows. [northaugustahippodrome.com](http://northaugustahippodrome.com)

## **The Track Kitchen**

420 Mead Ave., Aiken. People from all elements of Aiken's thriving horse community flock to the Track Kitchen for an inexpensive square-meals breakfast of hot cakes or eggs, sided by ham or bacon. Open for breakfast Fall through Spring.

## **EQUESTRIAN TRAILS**

### **Hitchcock Woods**

Laurens St. SW at South Boundary Ave., SW, Aiken. (803) 642-0528. [www.hitchcockwoods.org](http://www.hitchcockwoods.org)

### **Langley Pond Loop Trail**

113 Langley Dam Rd., Burnetown. (803) 642-7559. 2.8 mile equestrian trail. [www.aikencountyprrt.com](http://www.aikencountyprrt.com)

## **FOX HUNTING**

### **Aiken Hounds Drag Hunt**

(803) 643-DRAG. A historic drag hunt that has hunted in Hitchcock Woods from the time of the Hitchcocks. From October through March, the Aiken Hounds hunt every Tuesday and Saturday. Visitors may not bring dogs into the woods during these times. [www.hitchcockwoods.org](http://www.hitchcockwoods.org)

### **Whiskey Road Fox Hounds**

[whiskeyroadhounds@gmail.com](mailto:whiskeyroadhounds@gmail.com). Live hunting on horseback in open land. October-March, Thursdays and Sundays 10am. [www.whiskeyroadfoxhounds.com](http://www.whiskeyroadfoxhounds.com)

## **HORSEBACK RIDING AND INSTRUCTION**

### **Ashbrooke Equestrian Center**

61 Three Runs Plantation Dr., Aiken. (803) 439-2494. Horseback riding instructions for adults and children, beginner through advanced. Active lesson program and Summer camps for children. Participates in local shows.

### **Devonwood Farm**

215 Woodward Dr., Aiken. (803) 502-1000. Offers riding lessons for adults and children and Summer camps for children. [www.devonwoodfarms.com](http://www.devonwoodfarms.com)

### **Rebel Ranch Horse Tours**

(803) 640-2765. Guided trail rides and basic horsemanship lessons through Hitchcock Woods and surrounding woodlands. [www.rebelranchhorsetours.com](http://www.rebelranchhorsetours.com).

## **RESOURCES**

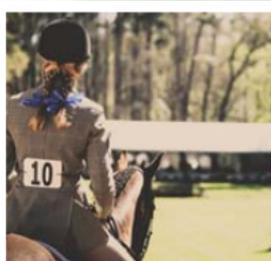
### **Aiken County Historical Museum**

435 Newberry St., SW, Aiken. (803) 642-2015. Exhibits include history of how the Winter Colony became an equestrian community. [www.aikenmuseum.us](http://www.aikenmuseum.us)

### **Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame**

135 Dupree Pl., Aiken. (803) 642-7631. Museum showcasing Aiken's contributions to the thoroughbred industry from 1900 to present. Check website for hours of operation. [www.aikenracinghalloffame.com](http://www.aikenracinghalloffame.com).

# Bringing You *Home.*



Photos Courtesy of MooseProFoto mooseprofoto.com

*Welcome to Aiken.* Year after year, Meybohm Realtors proves to be the one source in our area for all of your real estate needs from start to finish.

We remain the market leader in the CSRA by providing an unparalleled real estate experience for each and every customer. On behalf of Meybohm Realtors, **Welcome!**

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