

SOUTH CAROLINA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

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Leader Training Guide

Day Tripping in South Carolina

Objective: It is said that those who play together stay together. Fellowship is an important part of our FCL organization. This lesson is written to provide our members with some potential day trips, while learning and sharing thoughts and ideas together. Hopefully, it will stimulate conversation amongst members who will share their secret/unknown places of enjoyment with each other.

Lesson Overview/Introduction: South Carolina has a rich history which offers many opportunities for "places to go and things to see". The possibilities are too numerous to include all within this lesson.

Lesson: When looking for places to visit or to have lunch when travelling, asking the local people works well. They know the best places to eat and can usually guide you to the out of the way, not tourist traps, places of interest.

When planning a trip, whether it be local or extended travel, I go to magazine articles. Usually, as I read articles of interest, I save them in a box entitled "Bucket List". My favorite resource for places within SC, is Southern Living magazine. A trip to your library to review old magazines would be beneficial. Or, as you are reading magazines in your dentist or doctor's office and find an article of interest, write down the info or take a picture with your cell phone.

Other magazines that are helpful are: Country, National Geographic Traveler, and photography magazines. Reading articles written by readers has awarded me with many unique places to visit. Your local tourist office would also be helpful and of course there's the internet

Keep in mind that many places will offer discounts to seniors and or groups. Discounts may also be offered with the following cards: AAA, AARP, Golden Age Pass, Military ID, or by purchasing a season pass for State & Federal Parks.

When leaving home always assure you have: a picture ID, name address & phone number of emergency contact person, list of prescribed medication to include that of which you are allergic & a list of food allergies.. Always let your loved one or someone close to you know where you are going and approximate time you will return home.

Following are some suggested Day Trips within South Carolina.

Catchment area for Central District

Sumter: Swan Lake and Iris Garden 822 West Liberty Street, Sumter. The only public park in the country, home to all eight known species of swan, including the considered to be rare, Trumpet Swan. You will stroll through Iris gardens that contain approximately 120 varieties of the more than 200 Japanese Irises. Don't forget to seek out the Butterfly and Chocolate gardens. The gardens have boardwalks, easy to walk trails, benches for resting and places to enjoy a picnic lunch. Best time to enjoy: mid May-June or Memorial Day weekend for the flower festival with arts, crafts, food & live music. Open daily, all year, from 7:30 am to Dusk, Admission is free. For more info-questions {803}436-2640, or 800-688-4748 or www.sumtertourism.com

Catchment area for Coastal District

Georgetown Historic District: Georgetown is a charming little town sandwiched between Charleston & Myrtle Beach, whose historic district offers a lot with its architectural features & museums. The clock tower is considered to be the most obvious architectural feature and is also home to the Rice Museum, which is located on the second floor of the attached tower,633 Front St.,(843) 546- 7423. Admission: \$7 Adults, \$5 Seniors, Group rates are available. Hours Mon-Sat. 10:00-4:30. For more information http/www.ricemuseum.com or call the above Tel.#. Also try checking out the: Maritime Museum, 729 Front St. (843) 520-0111. Admission: free, Mon.-Sat. 11:00-5:00 & Gullah Museum (presentations of the Gullah Culture & History of the Heritage Corridor) 123 King St. (843) 527-1851. Admission: free, Sunday- Saturday 11:00-5:00.

For further information contact the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center,531 Front St. Phone:(843) 546-8436. If you let them know you are coming they will put together a bag of information to include a map of the area. Park in their parking lot and begin your tour. I am told that there are benches for resting along the way.

Lunch Recommendation: Thomas Cafe: 703 Front St., (843)546-7776 Daily specials @\$8.50, lunch begins @ 11:00, or **Five Rivers Tavern** 815 Front St. (843)833-8181. Prices begin @ \$8.00.Seafood prices vary, beginning @ \$10.00 Open: Mon-Fri. only.

Catchment area for Foothills District

Columbia: One Eared Cow Glass, Inc in the Congaree Vista area, 1102 Huger Street, Columbia. Watch the artists make hand blown items with molten glass. No fee if you drop in during studio hours, Mon. & Tue; Thurs & Friday 9:30-12:00 & 1:30-4:00, (803) 254-2444. Their finished, one of a kind products are for sale in the gallery. During your visit ask about the classes they offer twice a year.

They have their own large parking lot. Check them out @ www.oneearedcow.com

You may also wish to visit the Carol Sanders Gallery at 922 Gervais Street.

The Thursday before Thanksgiving is the Vista Lights event, a candlelight evening to browse the galleries and shops. Appetizers, snacks and music are a part of this event.

Lunch recommendation: Jason's Deli, 823 Gervais St. A great place to grab a sandwich or salad. Menu offers Gluten free, vegetarian sandwiches or a build your own creation & free ice cream with your meal. *Prices range from* \$6.00-\$11.00. Open Monday-Sunday 10:00-10:00. (803)540-1973 jasonsdeli.com

Newberry: Orchid lover? Then **Carter & Homes Orchids** 629 Mendenhall Rd. Newberry, 3.4 miles south of historic downtown Newberry, is for you. It's a world renowned Orchid Farm & Lab & considered one of SC's cultural & historic treasures. Greenhouses,(18) display many varieties, which include, rare and limited items. Fee \$6.00. You will be given a coupon toward a wide variety of foliage plants or \$6.00 discount off the price of a larger plant or orchid. For a tour (9:00-10:30 & 1:00-3:00) call (803) 276-0579 one week in advance. For more info.orchids@carterandholmes.com

Lunch Recommendations: The Grill on Main 1212 Main St., 2.6 miles from Carter & Holmes, (803)276-8332 Open 11:30-2:30, Burgers to steak & homemade desserts under \$10.00. Or, for a relaxing picnic lunch, try Wells Japanese Garden Park, with its excellent structures that represent historical Japan. Located 1608 Lindsay St. behind Newberry City Hall. Convenient parking across the street. Restrooms in City Hall.

Pickens: Hagood Mill historic site located just off hwy.178 at 138 Hagood Mill Rd. Gristmill, log cabins, blacksmith shop, cotton gin, moonshine still, nature trails. Open Wed.-Sat 10:00-4:00. **Best time to go:** Third Saturday each month for special activities such as: **Sept.19th**, State Fiddling Championship; **Oct.17th**, Storytelling Festival; **Nov. 21st**, Native American Festival; **Dec.19th**, Ed Harrison Memorial Celtic Christmas. Admission Free, plenty of parking (fee may apply),food available or bring picnic lunch. Bring a lawn chair.

For additional information on third Saturday events and events in Pickens go to: www.visitpickenscounty.com and choose calendar of events (For Hagood Mill call (864) 898-2936).

SUGGESTION FOR RESEARCH ON YOUR OWN

Boykin, SC: The Broom Place: 84 Boykin Mill Rd. Colorful handmade brooms made on 100 year old equipment (803) 425-0933 then, visit the **Boykin Mill** 73 Boykin Mill Rd. www.boykinmillfarms.com

Charleston, SC: The Powder Magazine 79 Cumberland St. (843) 722-9350 (Nat'l Historic Landmark with history of early "Charles Towne") www.powdermag.org

Cheraw, SC: Dizzy Gillespie Statue on the Town Green, then Birthplace Park 337 Huger St. (843) 537- 8425. www.cheraw.com

Clemson: Botanical Garden east side of the University. Main entrance off Perimeter Rd between Hwy 76 and Cherry Rd. http://www.clemson.edu/public/scbg/visiting or visitor services 864-656-3405, then mosey over to Clemson Homemade Ice Cream @ Hendrix Student Center at 55 Exchange Shop (864-656-2155) http://www.clemson.edu/icecream/

Murrells Inlet: Huntington Beach State Park (fee \$5 adult \$3.25 SC Senior) home to **Atalaya**, former winter mansion/home of Anna & Archer Huntington (fee) (843) 237-4440. Across the street **Brookgreen** (figurative sculpture) **Gardens** (fee, discount for groups of 15 or more). (843) 235-6000

Union: Three Horse Milling Co. 3257 River Rd. where they use three Haflinger draft horses to grind their cornmeal & grits. For a demonstration call Tim or Sandra @ (864) 427-9964. Check them out on Facebook. Also visit the **Union County Museum** (864)429-5081 and/or **Rose Hill Mansion** (864)427-5966. **The Inn at Merridun** tour & luncheon for groups of 8 or more. For arrangements call (864) 426-7052. www.merridun.com

Walhalla: Stumphouse Tunnel where Clemson Blue Cheese was cured in the 1950's. While there, checkout the **Issaqueena Falls**. A breathtaking waterfall cascading into smaller falls. Go to "Roadside America Stumphouse Tunnel" for further info.

Lesson Summary: This is just a small sampling of what is available within our state. As suggested above, word of mouth, magazine articles and the internet are means of discovering unique places. Sharing your finds and adventures with others helps to educate members and friends. Making pictures and sharing helps to cement the true picture of what you have enjoyed and may entice others to partake.

Suggested Activities: Before visiting, make contact to insure information is current. Form a group, carpool, assign someone to make unposed action photographs to share. Send article with photos to Pat Breznay for News & Views, post on FCL Facebook, share your experience at your District & Council meetings, and with neighbors and friends.

Having a picnic lunch? For extra fun plan a "Grab Bag Picnic". (put all lunches together & just grab a bag. Then try to figure whose lunch you are eating). Make sure no one has any food allergies.

Suggested Materials: Bottled water, solid comfortable shoes, hat with visor, sunscreen or clothing to protect you from the sun, camera, GPS or written directions.

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Sources/References: Most of the above information was gleamed from articles in Southern Living Magazine & by telephone contact to the establishments. Additional info was gathered from "discoversouthcarolina.com" and on Facebook "Only in South Carolina" as well as Roadside America.com.