

**SUMMERVILLE, SC**

# **TRAIL GUIDE**

## **Sweet Tea Edition**

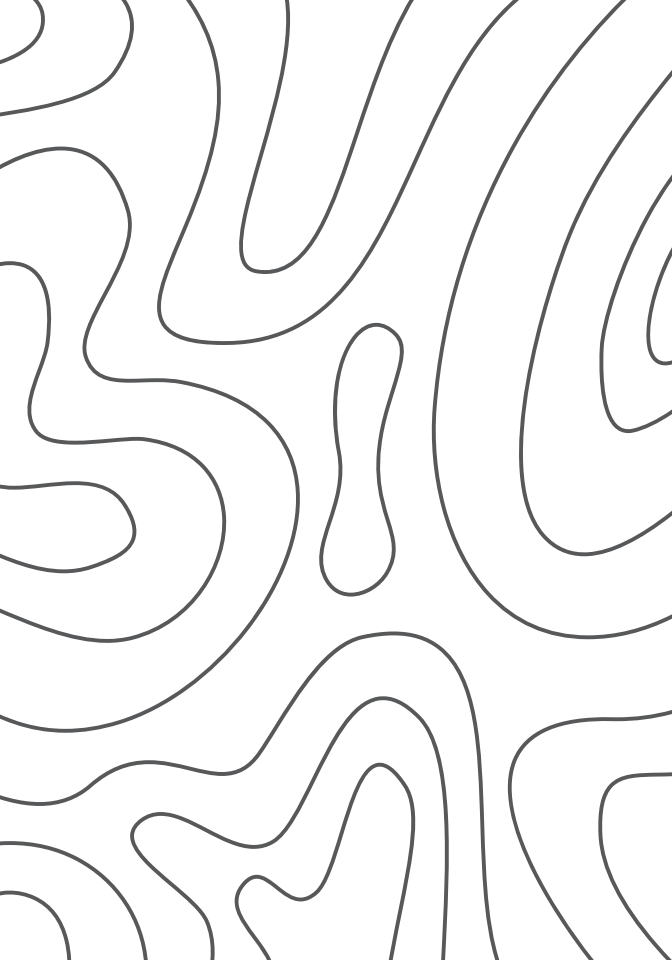
A comprehensive guide to Summerville, South Carolina's  
World Famous Sweet Tea Trail

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Dr. Charles Shepard 33.0186° N, 80.1756° W Pinehurst Plantation



**MADE IN U.S.A.**



# **WITH THIS PASSPORT AS YOUR GUIDE,**

**experience the historic and bold flavors  
that prevail in the Town of Summerville  
and earn unique prizes along the way!**

The background of the page is filled with a complex, abstract pattern of thin, brown, wavy lines. These lines form various organic shapes, including loops, swirls, and elongated curves, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall effect is reminiscent of a topographical map or a fluid, organic texture.

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Visit the local stops along the South Carolina Sweet Tea Trail and get your trail guide stamped when you make your purchases.
- Stop and see us at the Summerville Visitor Center to show us your stamps, and we'll reward you with the awesome prize(s) you earned!
- Earning four stamps will get you a special Sweet Tea Trail decal sticker. With eight stamps, you will receive an exclusive Tea Trail tea towel. At twelve stamps, you will receive the Official Birth Place of Sweet Tea T-shirt! A fully-stamped book will get you all of these prizes!

Keep your passport with you at all times, and make sure to ask for the stamp after your purchase! Purchases do not have to be sweet tea related.

Summerville Visitor Center  
402 N Main St, Summerville, SC 29483  
visitsummerville.com  
(843) 873-8535

# Summerville, South Carolina Birthplace of Sweet Tea



## **(1) The Beginning**

The tea plant first made its U.S. landing in Summerville in the late 1700s when French explorer and botanist, Andre Michaux, planted tea near Charleston at Middleton Place Plantation.



## **(2) The US Government**

In 1884, almost ten years after two failed attempts to grow tea, (first in Greenville, SC, and then in Georgetown, SC), the federal government became interested in this new tea experiment in

the South. An experimental governmental tea farm was established in Summerville.



## **(3) Dr. Shepard**

Four years after the government's Southern tea experiment, a wealthy and scientific philanthropist named Dr. Charles Shepard acquired 600 acres of the Newington Plantation property and established the Pinehurst Tea Plantation not far from the government's farm, again in Summerville, South Carolina. He cultivated about 100 acres and built

a factory to manufacture and package the tea.

■  
**(4) The World's Fair**

Dr. Shepard won the public's favor at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, where his tea won first prize. President Theodore Roosevelt visited Shepard to see the tea-making operation during a trip to the Pine Forest Inn.

■  
**(5) Lipton**

Dr. Shepard's plantation thrived until his death in 1915, after which it lay abandoned until 1960. That was when the Lipton Company bought the property. Lipton salvaged the remaining plants and used them to open a research facility on Wadmalaw Island.

■  
**(6) Charleston Tea Garden**

In 1987, William B. Hall, an expert third-generation tea taster trained in London, purchased the tea farm

from Lipton to establish the 127 acre Charleston Tea Garden. In 2003, Bigelow Tea Co. purchased the farm and partnered with Hall. The tea from the Charleston Tea Garden, derivatives of Dr. Shepard's *Camellia sinensis*, earned the honor of the Official White House Tea and the Official Hospitality Beverage of South Carolina.

■  
**(7) World Record**

The Town of Summerville made its way into the record book by setting the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest (Sweet) Iced Tea on National Iced Tea Day in 2016. Known as "Mason," the tea container stands over 15 feet tall and can hold up to 2,524 gallons of sweet tea.

**Remember to use  
#sweetteatrail while on  
your adventure through  
Summerville.**

**[www.visitsummerville.com/sweet-tea-trail](http://www.visitsummerville.com/sweet-tea-trail)**





**Antiques &  
Artisans Village**619 Old Trolley Road  
843-900-5386

Mon-Sat 10am-6 pm

Sun 1pm-5:30pm

**Antiques  
& Artisans  
Village**

Award-winning mall with over 150 vendors & consignors. Antiques, local artisans' creations, oddities & curiosities, gifts, fossils, Southern "stuff," jewelry, DIY products, & militaria. Teas from Charleston Tea Garden, teapots, teacups, sweet tea candy. A Fun Place to Shop.

**The Axe Joint**

120 S. Main Street

Tues-Thurs: 4pm-10pm

Friday: 4pm-12am

Saturday: 11am-12am

Sunday: 2pm-6pm

(843) 285-8549



Summerville's 1st Axe throwing range. Private lanes and drinks with friends makes this a great outing in the heart of downtown. You must try the Sweet Tea Twisted-sicle, co-branded with Cindy's Twisted Spirits.





**The Azalea  
Bar & Garden**  
219 S. Cedar St.  
Summerville, SC  
(843) 771-2008



THE  
AZALEA  
BAR & GARDEN

Inspired by the signature style of Azalea Magazine, AB&G features craft cocktails, specialty curated wine, a selection of local craft beers, and a menu of special Southern favorites. The bar's historic location and unique urban garden offer uptown sophistication, just around the corner.



**Bakers BBQ**  
807 Central Avenue  
Thurs-Sat: 11am-7pm  
(843) 875-4469



Baker's is a Summerville hometown original! The award winning low & slow Smoked Pork, Ribs & Brisket are accented with Sweet Tea and Baker's Sweet Tea Pecan Pie is a recipe all their own.





Summerville, SC



**Birthplace of  
Sweet Tea Mural**

402 N Main St.  
Summerville, SC  
(843) 873-8535



Local Artist Kevin Morrissey created our bigger than life Sweet Tea Mural on the Visitor Center in cooperation with the Summerville Chamber of Commerce. Snap a selfie and share pics on social media with us @VisitSummerville using #BirthplaceofSweetTea for your stamp and a chance to be featured.



**Carolina Ale House**

191 Sigma Dr.  
Summerville, SC  
Mon-Sun 11am-2am  
(843) 471-1970



Welcome to Carolina Ale House, your place for Food, Sports and Fun. Try a locally-made Firefly Sweet Tea Vodka cocktail or Southern Belle Sangria and you have the perfect combination.







1. Hotels
2. Summerville Visitors Center
3. Summerville Museum
4. Historic Downtown
5. MASON the Record Breaking Sweet Tea
6. James F. Dean Theatre
7. Azalea Park
8. Linwood Gardens
9. Sawmill Branch Bike Trail
10. Colonial Dorchester State Park
11. Historic Plantations
12. Charleston Tea Plantation



*Summerville*  
SOUTH CAROLINA



## Coastal Coffee Roasters

108 E 3rd N St.

Mon-Fri: 7am-2pm

Sat: 7am-5pm

Sun: Closed

(843) 376-4559



Fresh, organic and locally roasted Coastal Coffee Roasters is also home to an in-house café. The large selection of fresh teas make this best cup of coffee on the sweet tea trail a must do.



## Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site

300 State Park Rd.

9am-6pm: Daylight Saving Time

9am-5pm: Remainder of the year



The remarkably preserved archaeological remains give visitors a peek into the early history of colonial SC. Stand below the towering remains of the brick bell tower, catch a glimpse of a log wharf during low tide or view the fort made of an oyster-shell concrete called tabby. (Use the Ultimate Outsider stamp located on the backside of the information kiosk in the main parking lot for your Trail Guide stamp.)





### **Cotton Down South**

206 W. Richardson Ave.  
Tues-Sat 10am-5pm  
(843) 285-8292



What can be better than Sweet Tea and Jesus?  
Take a look at their best selling dough bowl and complete sweet tea product line available at the adorable little yellow cottage with white picket fence, just off downtown.



### **Cuppa Manna**

100 S Main Street  
Mon-Sat: 7am-7pm  
Sun: Closed  
(843) 900-5840



This corner café provides a vast menu full of baked pastries, specialty drinks, and a relaxing environment to work or unwind. Ask your barista for their Ginger Peach Sweet Tea.



**Eva's On Main**

129 S Main Street  
Tue-Sun: 9am-3pm  
843-873-5081



Southern hospitality served on a plate; one of Summerville's staples located in the heart of Hutchinson Square. Open for breakfast, lunch and weekend brunch, Eva's is the legacy of a simply southern mom-and-pop restaurant, serving a locally sourced farm to table menu. Check out Eva's made from scratch Signature Sweet Tea Vinaigrette or the occasional Sweet Tea Infused Dessert.

**Everything Chic**

126 S Main Street  
Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm  
Sunday on a whim  
(843) 879-2099



Everything Chic is full of Southern charm and offers a variety of fun, unique, and timeless items. Grab a sweet tea related gift with candles, hand towels, soap and all occasion cards.







Summerville, SC



### **Five Loaves Cafe**

214 N. Cedar Street

Mon-Fri 11am-9pm

Sat: 10am-3pm 4:30pm-9pm

Sun: 10am-3pm 4:30pm-8pm

(843) 804-9410



Located in a beautiful historic home nestled under the oaks you'll experience the perfect Southern dining experience. Be sure to try their award winning "Summerville Vibe"- which starts with the famous Firefly Sweet Tea Vodka.



### **FLY Modern Apparel**

114 E Richardson Ave.

Mon-Fri: 10am-7pm

Sat: 9am-6pm

(843) 225-3661



**F L Y**  
MODERN APPAREL

FLY Modern Apparel is a contemporary boutique located with its sister shops, Mod and Sole, in the heart of downtown Summerville. Our staff will assist you with Fly's amazing selection of modern clothing, shoes, handbags, accessories and more. Pick up a Sweet Tea tee shirt while you're there!





### Four Green Fields

117-A Central Avenue  
 Mon-Sat: 10am-5pm  
 Sun: Noon-4pm  
 (843) 261-7680



Step into Four Green Fields and expect the “heart” of Summerville; let Jill or Robin guide you to picking out the best gift or specialty item that is locally crafted and true southern culture. Grab one of many Sweet Tea items for the perfect take home souvenir gifts.



### French Mercantile

211 W Richardson Ave  
 Tues-Sat: 11am-5pm  
 (843) 494-3229



The French Mercantile is the hidden gem of the Low Country. You'll find vintage style tea towels to go along with your sweet southern tea, as well as European & Cottage style home decor & gifts. We have a unique selection of authentic European bread boards, French market baskets, sustainable kitchen products, architectural salvage, and so much more.





### **Hanebrink Jewelers**

112 S Main Street  
Tue-Sat: 11:00am-5pm  
(843) 970-8088



This charming veteran-owned jewelry store in the heart of downtown Summerville prides itself on service to its customers and community. Get your authentic replica of one tea leaf from the Charleston Tea Plantation's Spring crop which is derived from the original Summerville Tea Plants.



### **The Icehouse**

104 E. Doty Ave.  
Tues-Thurs: 11am-9pm  
Fri-Sat: 11am-10pm  
(843) 261-0360



The Icehouse brings you eclectic, farm-to-table, Southern fare, with a love and passion for the finest ingredients and flavors to tempt your taste buds. Check out their sweet tea infused desserts and house-made sweet tea vinaigrette.



**Katie Mae's**

140a W. Richardson Ave.  
Summerville, SC  
(843) 771-3375



Katie Mae's has new arrivals weekly and there is always something sweet for the home. Painted furniture that has new life, antiques, refurbished, and beautiful home décor!

**Lowcountry Olive Oil**

103D S Main St  
Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm  
(843)695-8327



USAF Veterans Jason and Laurie Benjamin have been handcrafting uniquely flavored olive oils and vinegars for over 10 years. Stop by for a taste of their Peach Tea Balsamic Vinegar or Summerville Blend Olive Oil. In addition to over 65 flavored oils and vinegars, Lowcountry Olive Oil also features dozens of locally handmade gifts and packaged gourmet foods.





Summerville, SC

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### **Maggie Rose**

130 S Main St.  
Summerville, SC  
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm  
Sat 10am-6pm  
(843) 871-6745



maggie rose  
SOUTHERN BOUTIQUE

A Southern ladies' boutique of simple elegance offering apparel, jewelry, handbags, unique accessories and more!



### **Main Street Reads**

115 S Main St.  
(843) 875-5171  
Mon-Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 10am-4pm  
MainStreetReads.com



Local and adorable, Summerville's #1 indie bookstore is in the heart of downtown, across from Hutchinson Square. Their wonderful selections include sweet tea favorites like Baptized in Sweet Tea, Sweet Tea at Sunrise and Sweet Tea for the Soul, as well as a selection of literary teas and literary tea chocolates!





## Mason-The World's Largest Sweet Tea

200 S Main St.  
(843) 873-8535



Stop by anytime day or night and visit Mason-The World's Largest Sweet Tea. Mason stands over 15 feet tall and can hold up to 2,524 gallons of Sweet Tea. Take a picture and tag us: @VisitSummerville with #GWRmason



## Montreux Bar & Grill

127 W Richardson Ave.  
Mon-Sun 11am-2am  
(843) 261-1200



Montreux's historic location and outside patio and bar are a must visit when in Summerville. Award winning bar/restaurant for 14 years. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Our Saturday and Sunday brunches are a must! Games for the entire family. Check out our Facebook or web page for Live music scheduling. Parking across the street in the free parking garage.





Summerville, SC



### **Nailed It DIY Studio**

116 S Main St.

Thurs-Fri: 12pm-8pm

Sat: 10am-8pm

Sun: 12pm-5pm

(843) 377-5448



Right in the heart of downtown you can buy or make your own... Sweet Tea Related signs, door mats and tea towels for purchase and for customers to make. Setup a SWEET class and enjoy being creative with friends, or stop by for one of a kind shopping.



### **Nina Belle's Boutique**

114 W. Doty Avenue

(843) 991-6080

Tue-Fri: 10am-6pm

Sat: 10am-4pm



Nina Belle's has a host of reasonably-priced and adorable boutique items in addition to Tea Shirts, glasses and aprons. They also offer a deliciously fragrant sweet tea candle.





### **People Places & Quilts**

129 W Richardson Ave.  
Mon-Fri: 10-5:30  
Sat: 10am-5pm  
(843) 871-8872



Voted one of the Top Ten Quilt Stores in the Nation with a wide variety of fabrics, including an iced tea print. Located in historic downtown, the shop welcomes you with helpful staff and true Southern Hospitality.



### **Piazza Home**

127 Central Avenue  
Mon-Fri: 10am-5pm  
Sat: 10am-3pm  
(843) 873-8015



P / A Z Z A  
H O M E

Experience Summerville's finest collection of home décor, gifts and accessories. Piazza Home is a "visual feast" according to our customers. Check out their Sweet Tea Trail Kitchen Towels, Sweet Tea Trail Coasters, Sweet Tea Trail Canvas Print, SC Etched Ice Tea Glasses.







## Public Works

### Art Center

135 W Richardson Ave

Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm

Third Thursdays:

Open until 8:30pm

(843) 900-3225



Located in the old town Post Office, the art center features three galleries with ever-changing exhibitions, art camps and classes for all ages, working artist studios, special events, and is free and open to everyone. Don't miss the sweet tea-themed items in the on-site gift shop!



## Selfie Addict Studio

127 South Main Street

Thurs: 5pm-9pm

Fri-Sat: 12pm-10pm

(843) 900-3899



Summerville's first and only selfie studio offering 20+ interactive spaces to create one-of-a-kind photos with family and friends, including a large sweet tea and a Summerville inspired mural. Come in for a 30-minute session for your stamp!





### **Simply Country Chic Boutique**

138 South Main Street  
(843) 285-5933  
Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm



Simply Country Chic is here to help you look great no matter what you have going on in life. They can provide you with a unique, personalized, and tailored shopping experience filled with generosity, kindness, and of course an everlasting friendship. Check out their sweet tea hand poured soy candles.



### **Summerville Antique Gallery**

901 N Main St.  
(843) 873-4926  
Mon-Fri 10am - 6pm  
Sat 10am-5pm  
Sun 1pm-4pm



SUMMERVILLE  
ANTIQUE GALLERY



110 booths of antiques and uniques! Check out their special collection of vintage and antique teapots and teacups.





**Summerville  
Country Club**

400 Country Club Blvd.  
(843) 873-2210  
Sun-Sat 7am-6pm



Legend has it that Dr. Shepard introduced Bermuda grass on the grounds of the tea farm where the now public Summerville Country Club resides. Get Tea-ed off on 18 holes on some of the first grass-covered greens.



**Summerville Museum  
and Research Center**

100 East Doty Avenue  
Thurs-Sat: 10am-4pm  
(843) 875-9666



Travel back to the very beginnings of our roots, or, in this case, our tea leaves, via the Summerville Museum. Learn about the tremendous impact that the town of Summerville had on the history of the low country and the state of South Carolina as a whole.





### **The Timrod Library of Summerville**

217 Central Avenue  
(843) 871-4600  
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm  
Sat 10-2pm



Stop in this turn-of-the-century library and use the old-fashioned card catalog to find the featured "Sweet Read." Take home a complimentary list of recommended titles to



### **Vintage Vibes on Main Street**

200 N Main Street  
Mon-Sat: 10:30am-5pm  
Sunday: 1pm-4pm  
(843) 879-9529



Don't be fooled by our small store front! We offer over 6000 square feet of wonderful items for you & your home including a vast variety of furniture, gifts, decor, and fashions! You'll also find some awesome works from local artisans, and of course, Low Country Benne Wafers & Charleston Sweet Teas! Come on by where you "Enter as a customer and Leave as a friend!"





Summerville, SC



### **Winchester Spa**

105 S Cedar St, Suite G

Mon-Thur: 9am-7pm

Fri-Sat: 9am-5pm

1st & 3rd Sunday 10am-3pm

843-875-4588



The Winchester Spa and Salon is a local, family-owned, luxury wellness and beauty facility in the heart of Summerville. This upscale facility offers a variety of award-winning hair, skin, body, and nail treatments with top-tier products and experienced staff. Indulge in a Sweet Tea Special! [thewinchesterspa.com](http://thewinchesterspa.com)



### **Summerville Festivals**

Flowertown Festival

Sweet Tea Festival

Hold My Tea Bar Crawl

Summerville Porch Stroll

Christmas Tree Lighting

Other \_\_\_\_\_



Snap a photo and tag us on social media @VisitSummerville, and use #visitsummerville at one of these festivals/events for a stamp at the Summerville Visitor Center.



\_\_\_\_\_

This space is available for a new location on the Sweet Tea Trail.





Remember to use **#sweetteatrail** while on your adventure through Summerville.



[www.visitsummerville.com/sweet-tea-trail](http://www.visitsummerville.com/sweet-tea-trail)

The Sweet Tea Trail is designed to help you explore the wonderment of Summerville. The trail will guide you through the five districts of the town, offering uniquely Southern dining, shopping, historical, and cultural experiences.

3rd Edition



  
*Summerville*  
SOUTH CAROLINA