

# Discover Charlotte: Your Key To Its Lifestyles

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Charlotte has made its association with America's drive for independence a permanent, visible part of its identity as a city. Although the historic structures most visitors expect to see are no longer standing in the inner city, they are encountered at likely and unlikely places—Independence Square, Independence Boulevard, Freedom Drive, Freedom Park, Revolution Park, to mention a few. In a later struggle, the last meeting of the Confederate Cabinet took place in a building once located at 122 South Tryon Street. Where the Post Office Building now stands, there was once a genuine U. S. Mint.

These evidences of a rich history are tucked away among gleaming new skyscrapers. Charlotte has become an excitingly modern, rapidly growing and changing city, one of the South's busiest retail and distribution centers. You'll find startling new architecture, freeway systems, and an innovative intellectual and cultural environment. Not only the Queen City by virtue of having been named for a real live queen, Charlotte is also the Queen City in its lifestyles.

If you hate fighting your way through the throngs of people on an inner city's overcrowded streets, you'll be delighted to find yourself in a city of overstreet walkways. Spanning four major uptown streets, these enclosed glass walkways make shopping and dining in Charlotte both convenient and pleasant. On a rainy day, visitors have access to all the attractions of big city living without ever stepping outside on the streets. That is particularly prized by those staying at the RADISSON PLAZA, a complex adjacent to the CIVIC CENTER and right on INDEPENDENCE SQUARE. Overstreet walkways connect the RADISSON with the CIVIC CENTER, BELK STORES, IVEY'S and the SOUTHERN NATIONAL CENTER. If you stay at the RADISSON, you'll need no guide to the many shops and restaurants in the Shopping Mall and the Overstreet Mall in the SOUTHERN NATIONAL CENTER. If not, you may find these suggestions helpful.

## Eating Uptown

PROMENADES, an indoor sidewalk cafe type restaurant, may be reached by taking the escalator to the second floor of the RADISSON lobby. For \$3 to \$6 you can dine or have breakfast in a luxurious setting. Next door is the elegant REFLECTIONS restaurant, for a more expensive flare where you can splurge. And then there's the BAR POMODORO completing the trio, offering a super buffet for just \$3.25, excluding drinks.

Those pressed for time may want to grab a quick lunch at TASO's, a Greek restaurant with an exceptionally delicious and inexpensive menu. It's

located down the corridor from the first floor lobby, along with other inexpensive eating places. There is LEO'S, for sandwiches and fancier fare, fine wines and informality.

In the Overstreet Mall, you can have a quick lunch of bagels and cream cheese or egg salad and a fine cup of coffee or tea at the COFFEE GRINDER. Close to it, you'll also find a SKINNY DIP yogurt emporium with fancy toppings and one of the poshest McDONALD'S you'll ever see. In the RADISSON end of the Overstreet, there's the YOGURT CULTURE where, in addition to yogurt and toppings, they offer a salad bar. If you have the "munchies", ANNIE'S APPLE has home-baked cookies and wines, cheeses, and apples to take along. There is also a Burger King on the Square.

In addition to these places in and around the RADISSON PLAZA MALL, there are other restaurants accessible through the overstreet walkways. In IVEY'S, reached by crosswalk through BELK'S, you'll find two fine places to eat. In the TULIP TERRACE, 4th floor, you can get a variety of delicious meals without spending more than \$3 to \$5. Everything from fruit or crisp green salads with tasty dressings to meat courses and soups and outstanding pastries which will pique your appetite if it needs piquing. If the informal environment suits you better, you can go below street level to ARTHUR'S for such items as hoagies, pastrami sandwiches, etc. with beer or wine or less potent drinks.

There are two cafeterias in BELK'S (both by Barclay) — TOP O' TRYON on the 6th floor, near the Men's and Furniture Sections, reached by elevator only; and DOWN UNDER, below street level in the Book Department section, reached from 5th Street. A full meal will usually cost as much as you'd pay in the TULIP TERRACE, but there is no tipping. *Lunch only.*

If you want out, you'll find several good restaurants not far from the Square. If it's "high" cuisine that turns you on, saunter up to the 29th floor of the Jefferson-First Union Tower, two blocks south on Tryon Street (the tall building at the back of the open plaza with the big white light globes and trees in containers of ivy). Take the elevators at the south end of the Tower, as the others will not take you all the way up. SLUG'S TOWER SUITE, the restaurant there, has fine lunch and dinner menus, along with the elegant surroundings, and a view.

SULLIVAN'S is another fine restaurant that is within walking distance of the Square. Go to 2nd Street West, walk about a block and a half off Tryon Street on 2nd and you're at 215 W. 2nd. Or you can walk through the LATTA ARCADE BUILDING (entrance at 320 S. Tryon). In addition to a lot of interesting shops, you will also discover another good restaurant called the FRENCH QUARTER. In this same building (LATTA ARCADE) you will find THE SUBWAY featuring take-out sandwiches such as submarine on both hoagie rolls and syrian (pita) bread.

Walking two blocks down West Trade, there is KOFINA'S with a selection of dely foods. If you are near the Main Library around lunch time, you might swing into the SPIRIT SQUARE arts complex and eat at the PEWTER ROSE. In addition to daily specials, they serve good burger, excellent salads and cold plates plus nice iced tea.

## **Food Far Out and Not Too Far Out**

Suppose you're free for the evening (or maybe not pressed for time at lunch). Make a selection from these outstanding restaurants and really live it

up. Many have live entertainment and of course mixed drinks. Some also have disco dancing.

JOSH'S, at 224 East Boulevard (just a quick turn off of South Tryon Street and two stoplights, you're there) is an old two-story house converted to a unique restaurant, with a specialty of stuffed potatoes (ham or roast beef spuds, spud au vin, vegetarian spud, or kraut spud). Also featured are hot gourmet sandwiches, beer and wine. It's generally slightly crowded, but if you don't mind rubbing elbows, it's great.

If your appetite is more international, there are many fine restaurants featuring food from other cultures. For Chinese, try the MANDALA, 300 E. Stonewall Street (across from Young Ford Motor Company); PEKING PALACE, 511 E. Boulevard, telephone 377-6300; HOUSE OF JUNG, 1812 Montford Dr. (off of Park Road going towards SOUTH PARK SHOPPING CENTER); DRAGON INN, 1400 East Morehead; and the GREAT WALL OF CHINA, which many consider the best Chinese restaurant in Charlotte. It is located on Montford Drive also. A reservation is a must here.

For Italian food, MANGIONE'S is *amore*, at 1524 East Boulevard, featuring homemade sausage, pastries, and pasta by the owners. When was the last time you enjoyed Saltimbocca alla Romana, or Lombardine alla Retroniana? You can get both there. Better call for reservations: 334-4417. Up Morehead, you can eat at THE OPEN KITCHEN which has a vast menu including some Greek and of course, Italian offerings.

In the Charlottetown Mall, you will find two excellent restaurants, SIDNEY'S and THE STUDIO, which offer fine food and entertainment in the evening.

Other fine restaurants are scattered throughout the city. THE SAUCY CREPE in the fashionable Villa Square shopping area on Providence Road is fast becoming a local favorite, as is BENEDICTINES in the FOXCROFT EAST SHOPPING CENTER beyond the SOUTH PARK area.

Far out East Independence, you can have seafood at the SANDPIPER or Mexican food at PEDRO'S. Also on Independence, close to the Coliseum, there's NAKATO for Japanese food cooked at your table. SLUG'S on Independence serves excellent prime ribs along with an extensive salad bar. Call for reservations, 537-1521.

Many out-of-towners have eaten at the EPICUREAN over the years. If you haven't, this might be the time to try it, plus it is fairly close in on East Boulevard. Also close by is the fine restaurant, THE MARKER, in the Sheraton with excellent selections for lunch and dinner. And, if you don't see what you want mentioned here, ask the Arrangements Committee.

## Disco and Not Quite

If you believe in John Travolta, you can disco with the best at these exciting hideaways:

BAR POMODORO, in the RADISSON PLAZA, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Saturday—\$1 cover charge, and no one under 21 admitted.

CANDLELIGHT STEAKHOUSE, 2121 East Independence Boulevard, dancing (top forty) with Boyce Roberts and band, from 6 p.m. till midnight Wednesday and Saturday.

THE STUDIO, Charlottetown Mall, 11 a.m. till 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

**MARKER LOUNGE**, in the Sheraton Center, 555 South McDowell Street, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Entertainment 9 p.m. No cover charge.

For Jazz, try the **DOUBLE DOOR INN**, 218 East Independence Boulevard, 11 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Charge (depending on entertainers) is from \$1.50 to \$2.00.

All of these were selected because there is no membership fee required.

### **Libraries, Bookstores, and What Else Is There?**

You will want to stroll in beautiful **MARSHALL PARK**, with its lake and fountain and elevated crosswalks from which you can get one of the best views of Charlotte's skyline. It's about half way between the Civic Center and Charlottetown Mall, on South McDowell Street. Two blocks north of the Square, at 310 North Tryon Street and 6th Street, is the **PUBLIC LIBRARY**, with its neighbor, **SPIRIT SQUARE**, the uptown Center for the Arts. **SPIRIT SQUARE** is in the old **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDING**. Also in this area, you will find **AREQUIPA PARK**, next to the **LIBRARY**, named after Charlotte's Sister City in Peru. At night, the lights in the fountain pool produce the effect of hot lava flowing from a volcano.

Some of the bookstores that you might find interesting are: **GREAT EXPECTATIONS BOOKSHOP** in the Latta Arcade; **B. DALTON** in the Charlottetown Mall; **INTIMATE BOOKSHOP**, at South Park and Charlotte-town Mall; and the **BLACK FOREST**, at 715 Providence Rd., which is owned by our own Fannie Blackwelder.

If the restoration of old houses interests you, take a walk over into the 4th Ward Section, where a large number of elegant old homes from Charlotte's early history, are being purchased and restored as residences. Just go north on Tryon Street till you reach 9th Street, and enter the area behind the **MANGER INN**.

**EASTLAND MALL** and **SOUTH PARK**, Charlotte's two largest indoor shopping malls, feature everything you'd expect to find in a large shopping center.

If all these directions are confusing, don't let it bother you for a minute. Just stop in at the **PUBLIC LIBRARY** and pick up a copy of "BY HOOF AND HUB." This is a tour guide to Charlotte, with street maps to guide you wherever you wish to go or have to go. And above all, enjoy your discovery of Charlotte.