

Charlottesville VA

Condensed from the University of Virginia's website, at <http://www.virginia.edu/visit/charlottesville> (accessed 8 October 2016)



Located in Central Virginia just 30 miles east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, [Charlottesville](#) pairs stunning natural beauty with a lively mix of arts, culture and history. In the span of a single day, you can go horseback riding, dine at a five-star restaurant and catch a concert at one of the many performance venues downtown. Charlottesville brings together the best of many worlds, offering the livability and community found in smaller cities with the amenities and cultural attractions of a metropolis.

And with a recently-expanded airport, downtown Amtrak station, and proximity to Interstate 64, this hidden gem is surprisingly easy to find.

Setting foot on UVA Grounds, visitors experience a deep sense of history and the magnificent beauty that surrounds the University. Constructed in 1817 to facilitate the exchange of ideas between students and faculty, the Academical Village—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—has inspired the design of universities ever since. The University's magnificent Lawn, original student rooms, faculty pavilions and—most importantly—the iconic Rotunda attract visitors from around the world. They also serve as powerful reminders of UVA's endless pursuit of

knowledge. Just beyond Grounds lies the Corner, a stretch of shops and restaurants spanning seven blocks on University Avenue. This popular destination offers students the chance to shop, grab a coffee, meet for lunch or just socialize.

A mile or so away, in downtown Charlottesville, lies the Downtown Mall. A pedestrian mall popular with visitors, students, families and locals, this outdoor promenade offers a variety of shops, restaurants, coffeehouses and performance venues that attract some of the nation's top musicians.



Surrounding Charlottesville is Albemarle County, 726 square miles home to an unusually rich variety of cultural, natural and historic attractions. Most notable among these is Monticello, the famous home designed by Thomas Jefferson, where he spent many years of his life living, working and writing. A mere six miles from UVA, this UNESCO World Heritage Site offers daily tours.

Albemarle County also hosts Ash Lawn-Highland, home of President James Monroe. It is home to some of Virginia's best wine country as well, making a sampling of its many scenic wineries difficult to resist. Just over the county line, in Orange, Virginia, Montpelier offers a glimpse into the life and work of President James Madison.



For further information on Charlottesville, visit the website of “Visit Charlottesville” (the local tourism promotion agency), at <https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/>.

And if that’s not enough, try the City of Charlottesville website, at <http://www.charlottesville.org/>.