Charlottesville

Fun Facts

• 45,593 people in Charlottesville city (US Census)
• Ranked Top 10 “Best College Towns” (US News)
• Charlottesville is ranked 14th in number of restaurants per capita in the United States. (NBC 29)
• “Brainiest City” in the US (CityLab.com-Luminosity Study)
• Charlottesville has been home to three past presidents- Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe.
• Famous graduates include Tina Fey, Katie Couric, Larry Sabato, Charles T. Pepper (for whom the soft drink Dr. Pepper is named after), Georgia O’Keeffe, Woodrow Wilson, Tiki Barber, and Edgar Allen Poe.

The City

Located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains and home to the University of Virginia as well as Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello, Charlottesville has something to offer for everyone. The City of Charlottesville is independent of any county or political subdivision and conveniently located near many restaurants, parks, vineyards, hiking trails, and music venues.

Things to Do

Charlottesville is a great college town for many reasons. Whether you love the outdoors, are an avid foodie, or love the arts, you will find many things to do in Charlottesville all year long! For the outdoorsy folk, Charlottesville has numerous trails and hikes both right in the city and nearby. In addition to hikes of all different levels (Old Rag, Humpback Rock, Crabtree Falls, etc.), when the weather warms up, there are swimming holes, such as Blue Hole and Sugar Hollow, along with Schuyler Quarry where one can relax and cool off. Other activities include picking fruit Carter’s Mountain Orchard or Chile’s Orchard to name a few.

Along with offering many outdoor activities, Charlottesville offers delicious restaurants that serve all types of food. Although there are some chain restaurants nearby, Charlottesville has hundreds of unique restaurants with delicious foods of all ethnicities and cultures, many including all-organic and local food! Charlottesville is also home to dozens of vineyards that not only offer scenic views but also tasty local wines. When in Charlottesville, make sure to check out The Corner, a hotspot of UVa students located right behind the University, but also be sure to take a trip to the Downtown Mall, home to various restaurants, music venues, and shopping. Additionally, on Saturday mornings from April to December, Charlottesville City Market sets up shop on the Downtown Mall and local vendors come to sell their goods.

Although a fairly small town, Charlottesville has several concert halls ranging in size and shape. Three are located on the Downtown Mall—the Pavillion (an outdoor venue), Jefferson Hall, and the Paramount Theater—and the larger arena, home to the UVa Basketball team is John Paul Jones Arena located on Emmet Street. Artists of all different genres and popularity play in Charlottesville each year so you are sure to have your pick in arts and entertainment!