

# Explore: A Cooler Walk in the City

Even on the sunniest days downtown, it's possible to get a break from the rays. Follow garden paths. Stop for a cool drink. Pop into a gallery. Or wake early and explore before the city's brick and bluestone heats up. Here's a suggested route, with destinations and diversions, for the shade-seeking pedestrian. Note: this stroll can add up to nearly three miles if you explore side streets



Start

End

**5.** Cross the street to the newly renovated **Gibbes Museum of Art** (135 Meeting St.). There's free public access to the first floor of the Beaux Arts building, including studios, a café, gift shop, and back garden.

**6.** Head behind the Gibbes toward King Street and the **Charleston Library Society** (164 King St.) Stop in to check out the exhibit of New Yorker cartoons on display through June 13; it's free.

**7.** Cross King and go through the recessed wrought-iron gate, then follow the shaded path between buildings to the wonderfully wild garden and **cemetery of the Unitarian Church** (4 Archdale St.) beside St. John's Lutheran Church.

**8.** Exit the Gateway Walk and continue south on Archdale to Queen Street, then head south on Legare Street.

**4.** Turn right on Meeting Street and explore the grounds and circa-1695 **graveyard of Circular Congregational Church**.

**9.** Take a left on Broad Street and stop in at the artist-founded **Gaulart & Malicet Café** (aka Fast & French at 98 Broad St.) for a coffee, Perrier, or glass of wine.

**10.** Cross Meeting and relax under the oak canopy of Washington Square (80 Broad St.) next to Charleston City Hall.

**3.** Just north of Queen, enter the **Gateway Walk** across from St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Established by the Garden Club of Charleston in 1930, the mostly shaded path features 10 iron gates and creates a pedestrian thoroughway across three blocks. Note: the second gate at the back of St. Philip's West Cemetery is always locked, so route back to Queen Street and turn right.

**1.** Start on Cumberland Street between Church and State streets and follow the pedestrian-only, brick-lined **Philadelphia Alley** to Queen Street.

**2.** Just south of Queen at Church Street, peek through the windows into the circa-1809 **Dock Street Theatre** (135 Church St.), or step inside, if it's open.

**11.** Exit left on Broad Street and turn right on Church. Explore **South of Broad** past galleries and shops into the residential area, perhaps stealing a glimpse into gorgeous private gardens and stepping down narrow **Longitude Lane** and **Stoll's Alley**.

**12.** Follow Church Street to its end and finish your outing by enjoying some Charleston Harbor breezes and views at **White Point Garden**.

= PHOTO-OP STOP



CHARLESTON HARBOR