

2010 Greenville/Upstate 4-Day Itinerary

Greenville is ideally located for outdoor fun and exploration, situated on the edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Waterfalls, lakes and forests abound, but there's also a lot to do in town. Greenville itself is a thriving, pedestrian- and family-friendly town with a remarkable downtown full of trendy dining and cultural attractions, plus outstanding parks. And all around it are charming small towns with plenty to offer on their own.

Here's a sample itinerary for the Greenville and Upstate area. For more recommendations, visit www.DiscoverSouthCarolina.com, www.greenvillecvb.com, www.pendletondistrict.org, www.DiscoverUpcountry.com or www.scmountainlakes.com.

Day 1: Downtown Greenville – the shops, restaurants, museums and Falls Park.

Day 2: BMW's Zentrum, Campbell's Covered Bridge, the Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Highway along the Blue Ridge.

Day 3: Small town charms – Pickens, Pendleton, Walhalla and more – Isaquena Falls and Stumphouse Tunnel.

Day 4: Rivers and waterfalls.

Details, Details ...

So where does the fun begin? Whether you begin downtown Greenville or in one of the small towns nearby, one thing for sure is you'll have fun. Here are a few suggestions for exploring Greenville. Be sure to check online or by phone with your specific destination to verify days and hours of operations before making final plans.

Day 1: Downtown Greenville is a sight to behold: Take a walk down revived Main Street, a pedestrian-friendly central business district that has won national acclaim. [Dining](#) and shopping choices abound. Make sure to visit picturesque [Falls Park](#) on the Reedy River and a walk over the unique, 300-foot cantilevered Liberty Bridge. Check out the stellar collections at the Greenville County Museum of Art, Bob Jones University's Museum & Gallery, Upcountry History Museum and The Children's Museum of the Upstate. They're all on one campus called [Heritage Green](#).

Day 2: Begin the day by checking out the classic old cars and the future of automotive technology at the [Zentrum](#), the museum at the BMW North American manufacturing plant in Greer. Then head north on S.C. 14 and check out South Carolina's only covered bridge – [Campbell's Covered Bridge](#) – before driving along the Blue Ridge Escarpment and checking out the sights on the [Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Highway](#) (S.C. 11). Highlights include the overlook at 3,300-foot [Caesars Head State Park](#), the visitors center and great trails for hiking and picnicking at [Table Rock State Park](#), the [Duke](#)

[Power World of Energy](#) on Lake Keowee and [Devils Fork State Park](#) on picturesque Lake Jocassee.

Day 3: South Carolina's Upstate is full of small towns of particular charm and hospitality. For instance, there's [Pickens](#) with its museum in a 1902 jail and nearby [Hagood Mill](#), a 19th century water-powered grist mill that operates to this day. [Walhalla](#) hangs tightly to its German heritage and also has a particularly nice museum – the Oconee Heritage Center – along with great places to eat and shop, and it's close to Isaqueena Falls and the unique 1,600-foot [Stumphouse Tunnel](#) into the side of the mountain of the same name. Highlights also include [Seneca](#) with its Ram Cat Alley, a collection of about 20 historical buildings full of antique shops, unique boutiques and cafes. A good final destination would be Clemson, home of [Clemson University](#). Highlights there, besides the handsome university on Lake Hartwell, include the 300-acre [South Carolina Botanical Garden](#) and the [Bob Campbell Geology Museum](#) with its collection of more than 10,000 rocks, fossils and artifacts. History lovers also would enjoy the antebellum [Ashtabula and Woodburn homes](#).

Day 4: Let fast-moving water be the theme of your final day of this Upstate adventure. How about a whitewater trip down the [Chattooga River](#)? The less adventurous can just take a stroll along its access points to enjoy its scenic beauty. Then there are waterfalls. The sharp change in elevation along the Blue Ridge escarpment creates a lot of those. Some beauties include 60-foot Station Cove Falls, an easy hike out of [Oconee Station State Historic Site](#), and the state's tallest, 400-foot [Raven Cliff Falls](#) at Caesars Head State Park. On the state line, there's South Carolina's 200 feet of [Whitewater Falls](#), which together with the North Carolina section make up the highest series of falls east of the Mississippi. (Here's a great link to [waterfall trails](#) all through the Upstate.)

Where to stay, what to eat ...

The Upstate is full of charming little inns, trendy and traditional eateries and camping and traditional hotel and motel options. For recommendations, visit www.DiscoverSouthCarolina.com, www.greenvillecvb.com, www.pendletondistrict.org, www.DiscoverUpcountry.com or www.scmountainlakes.com.