



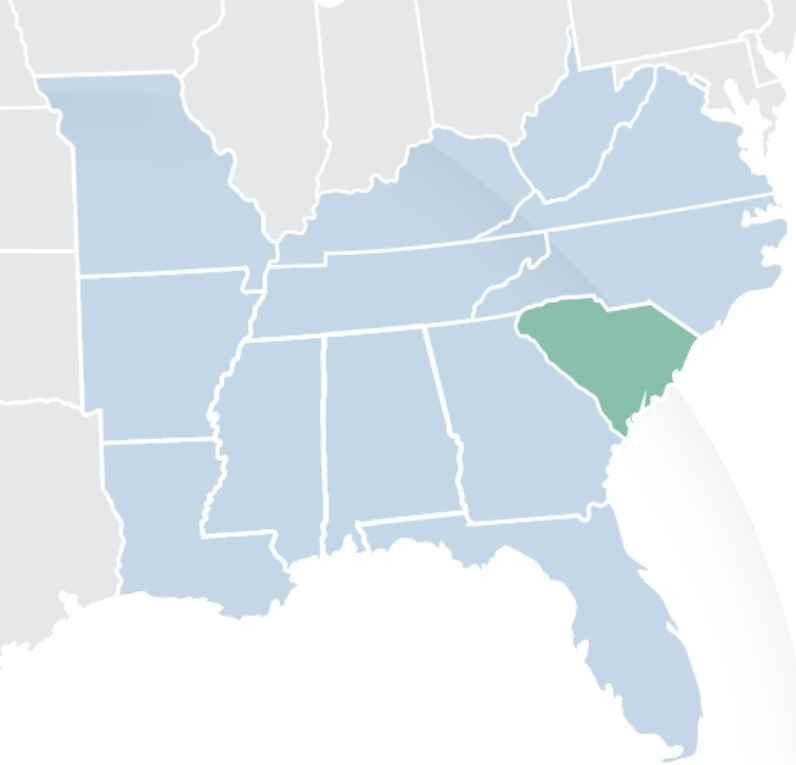
SOUTH CAROLINA

In 2022, domestic and international visitors to South Carolina spent **\$17.2 billion**, according to research from the U.S. Travel Association. These numbers are substantial but they don't tell the whole story. Communities across South Carolina are promoting their cultural, natural, and historic assets to tell their stories, deliver remarkable travel experiences, and drive economic vitality.

The key segments that make tourism an engine of growth for South Carolina include:

National Park Service: There are **8** national parks in South Carolina:

- Charles Pinckney National Historic Site
- Congaree National Park
- Cowpens National Battlefield
- Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie
- Kings Mountain National Military Park
- Ninety Six National Historic Site
- Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (runs across NC, SC, TN, VA)
- Reconstruction Era National Historical Park



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In 2022, **1.2 million** park visitors spent an estimated **\$72.7 million** in South Carolina's gateway communities supporting a total of **959** jobs with a payroll of **\$31 million**, according to the *National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report*.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Recreation: USACE is one of the nation's leading providers of outdoor recreation. In South Carolina, it manages **3** lakes:

- Hartwell Lake
- J. Strom Thurmond Lake
- Richard B. Russell Lake

On these waterways, USACE maintains:

- **224** recreation areas
- **1,606** picnic sites
- **861** camping sites
- **90** playgrounds
- **92** swimming areas
- **12** trails
- **156** trail miles
- **16** fishing docks and piers
- **201** boat ramps
- **2,873** marina slips



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In 2022, these natural and recreation sites attracted **12.8 million** visitors, who spent **\$633.8 million** in South Carolina's gateway communities, supporting a total of **3,900** jobs with a payroll of **\$135.3 million**.

U.S. Forest Service: There are **2** national forests in South Carolina:

- Francis Marion
- Sumter

These forests provide clean air and water, preserve cultural resources and conserve lands for the enjoyment of present and future generations, and support the economies of gateway communities through recreation, timber, energy, and minerals. According to U.S. Forest Service research, these forests annually contribute **\$110.8 million** to South Carolina's GDP and support **1,560** jobs with a payroll of **\$69.7 million**.

South Carolina also showcases its cultural, historic, and scenic resources and shares its unique contribution to the American story through three congressionally-designated National Heritage Areas:

- Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor (runs across FL, GA, NC, SC)
- South Carolina National Heritage Corridor
- Southern Campaign of the American Revolution National Heritage Corridor (runs across NC, SC)