INSIDER’S GUIDE TO

charleston

Charleston Open Source is a people-powered movement bringing together local developers, designers, entrepreneurs, and tech leaders to share all that’s amazing about living and working in Charleston | SC | USA. It’s a how-to guide – a means to help you find your spot, make a connection, and land the tech job that fits you best. You can work anywhere. You should work here.

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BE PART OF A COMMUNITY WITH A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF MOMENTUM.
The Charleston metro is home, workplace and inspiration to more than 745,000 voices, talents, passions and ideas. Fast emerging as the next tech hub for smart, creative professionals – here it’s all about balancing your life and your livelihood. Charleston is a great place to do business, to innovate, to get inspired and be successful.

“best city in america” six years running
CONDE NAST TRAVELER

a “best city for technology jobs” FORBES

#1 mid-sized metro for millennials
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

CHARLESTON’S ECONOMY IS STRONG, DIVERSIFIED AND RAPIDLY EXPANDING:

4.5X
Employment growing faster than U.S. average

21%
Advanced industries employment growth outpacing U.S. (14%)

3X
Regional population growing faster than U.S. average

open source
charlestonopensource.com
YOU’LL BE IN GOOD COMPANY HERE.

The Charleston region is one of the fastest growing mid-size U.S. metros for software industries and occupations. This market offers a supportive and strong entrepreneurial network, skilled talent pool, numerous colleges and technical schools, startup incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, code camps, code education programs, user groups, meetups and other invaluable resources.

With such a vibrant IT community, there’s never a shortage of work or opportunities to collaborate. And the business community creates an environment of support. It’s welcoming. We want you to succeed.

- home to a larger percentage of employment in IT-related businesses than Austin or Raleigh
- #11 in the U.S. for high-tech GDP growth
- #1 mid-sized metro for IT job growth
- #20 for advanced industries employment

WAYS TO PLAY

- Charleston Battery Soccer
- Charleston Fashion Week
- Charleston Food Truck Rodeo
- Charleston International Film Festival
- Charleston Meetups
- Charleston Wine & Food Festival
- Cooper River Bridge Run
- High Water Festival
- Riverdogs Baseball
- Southeastern Wildlife Exposition
- Spoleto Festival USA
- Stingrays Hockey
- Volvo Car Open

CHARLESTON’S LIFESTYLE IS WORLD CLASS.

Ranked among the nation’s “Best Places to Live” by Outside magazine, Charleston boasts 90 miles of coastline, acres of freshwater lakes and rivers, and a temperate, sub-tropical climate. Our multi-billion dollar tourism industry attracts nearly 5 million visitors annually, resulting in an internationally-acclaimed culinary scene, a thriving retail center, plus world-class festivals, events and professional sports. Visit the Charleston CVB for a searchable event calendar.

People vacation here. You get to live here and enjoy cultural, entertainment and recreational opportunities rarely found in a metro this size.

Charleston is home to a growing number of craft breweries, distilleries, and the annual “must attend” celebration of experimental beers, Brewvival, called the “birthplace of the next big thing in craft” by Fortune magazine.

The Charleston region offers a year-round supply of fresh, local foods from farmers’ markets and local purveyors. Check out the Farm Fresh Food Guide by Lowcountry Local First for a full list.

Charlestonians take pride in protecting the environment and living a green lifestyle. The Go Green Charleston Local Guide provides a comprehensive list of sustainable options. See for yourself why Charleston is home, workplace and inspiration to nearly three quarters of a million people who are globally connected through trade, technology and travel — and locally engaged to craft a legacy for the future. View the video at charlestonopensource.com.