Travel to Edgefield! Our town is the definition of Southern charm. We are rich with history, pottery, museums, and more. See the history of Edgefield through our numerous historical sites in town.

Experience the artisans at work. Visit Old Edgefield Pottery and learn about Dave Drake, the enslaved potter who has placed Edgefield on the map. Observe our blacksmith and award winning woodcarver. Tour our museums: The National Wild Turkey Federation, the Discovery Center and Oakley Park (Red Shirt Shrine) Museum. Finally, stop in our locally owned shops and restaurants. The shops have unique souvenirs and the food is always delicious.

I invite you to Explore Edgefield, the true “Gateway to Southern History.”

If you cannot come in person, visit us on Facebook, Edgefield, South Carolina or our website, www.exploreedgefield.com. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

W. Ken Durham
Mayor of Edgefield
Edgefield is located in the “backcountry” of South Carolina. It was a lush wilderness, full of wild turkeys and thick with forestland. Once the colonies were formed, some people found their way here as early as 1685 to take advantage of lucrative trading with Native Americans, hunting, and cattle droving.

Settlers quickly surged into Edgefield, some hearing about the ideal landscape and others traveling down the Great Wagon Road to escape the French & Indian War in the north. But as colonists and pioneers moved in, so did the outlaws.

It was an uncertain and unruly time, with little to no governance and regulation. Edgefield was the backdrop for both the Cherokee War and the American Revolution, which only added to the chaos and pitted neighbor against neighbor.

Though many Southern towns were established with this unstable foundation, Edgefield continued to garner a reputation for violence until well after the Civil War. Duels and family feuds played out on the streets to the point where it has been said that blood covered every inch of Courthouse square.

“Edgewood was said to resemble that you were in Edgewood. But so careful were they that in a fight no peddler had ever been killed in an Edgewood fight. They shot straight and hit the man they shot at. Their fights were purely personal affairs, and outsiders were generally safe.”

Paladian of South Carolina by James Henry Rice, reprinted from the Edgefield Advertiser, date unknown.
Edgefield is perhaps most famous for politics, pottery and peaches. Edgefield was a political hotspot, and the home of ten South Carolina Governors who served in between 1816 and 1951. Today, Edgefield’s favorite sons and their contributions to South Carolina are commemorated with statuary on the town square and several of their former homes are available for tour.

Pottery has been a staple in this area since 1810, when Almer Landrum developed the Pottersville area of Edgefield. Pottersville grew into a successful commercial stoneware business, and the Edgefield style of pottery became known for its safe and waterproof alkaline glaze. Edgefield pottery is now world famous, and much sought after for collectors, particularly work done by “Dave the Slave Potter,” who was enslaved by Almer Landrum and inscribed dates and poetry in his (usually very large) pottery.

No matter which way you drive to get to Edgefield, you will soon know why Edgefield is famous for its peaches. Peach trees line almost every highway and rural road, and they make for an especially scenic drive when they bloom each spring.

This brief history is only a small taste of Edgefield’s colorful, intriguing, and sometimes scandalous past. Come see for yourself and we guarantee you’ll find out that Edgefield truly is the Gateway to Southern History!
Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto passed through the South Carolina backcountry.

The English colony of Charles Towne was established.

The population of South Carolina was 5,000 with most living within a few miles of Charles Towne.

Stevens Creek Area is named after a cow drover by the name of John Stevens.

Settlers first trickled into the area of what was to become the Old Ninety Six District.

French and Indian War. A large migration begins from northern colonies down the Great Wagon Road into South Carolina.

The Cherokee ceded an estimated forty thousand acres to South Carolina.

The Cherokee War terrorized the sparsely settled backcountry.

The Regulator Movement began in order to suppress lawlessness in the backcountry.

The District of Ninety Six is created and a Circuit Court System is established.

American Revolution. Royal grants ceased.

Counties of Edgefield, Abbeville, Newberry, Laurens, Union and Spartanburg were carved out of the Old Ninety Six District and a “public kic” of Edgefield was identified.

Whether you are here for the day or a week, Edgefield is full of fun travel ideas no matter how big your group or diverse your interests. Almost all of our attractions are within walking distance of each other, and many restaurants have special group rates. Make sure to check out our listings for all the choices of where to go, but we’ve also included a tour itinerary as a great example of a day trip for a large group!

GROUP TOUR CONTACT: TOMPKINS LIBRARY
803.637.4010 / Oedgs85@gmail.com
A DAY IN EDGEFIELD

Group tours come from far and wide to experience Edgefield at its finest. Here is one small example of what you could experience in just one day!

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY THEATRE COMPANY & DISCOVERY CENTER**

Park here for the day and browse the exhibits to get a quick introduction to the history of Edgefield County. Make sure to check out Strom Thurmond’s relics, pottery made by Dave the Slave Pottery and ask for an events schedule... the building is also the local theatre by night!

**OLD EDGEFIELD POTTERY**

Take a short walk to Old Edgefield Pottery to watch a demonstration of clay being formed into Edgefield pottery just like they did centuries ago. The master potter will also tell you all about Edgefield’s deep roots in pottery and show you his impressive collection of antique pottery.

**LUNCH**

It’s another short walk to the restaurant of your choice. There’s a full bar and menu at the Old Edgefield Grill (you can even sit in the Strom Thurmond room), sandwiches, soups & specials at Park Row and Delectible Delight, southern buffet at Bob’s Cafe, and hotdogs and burgers at the Billiard Parlor. There’s also Pleasant Acres, a historic B&B that will also cater for groups under 20 people. Make sure to call ahead if you want a set menu for your group!

**COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

Walk off lunch and browse the locally-owned shops and boutiques on Courthouse Square. From antiques at The House Next Door to historical research at Tompkins Library and moonshine at Carolina Moon Distillery, there’s something for everyone!

**OAKLEY PARK**

Tour Oakley Park, which was built in 1835 and is one of the oldest existing homes in Edgefield. It was the home of Martin Witherspoon Gary, a former Confederate Major-General who made Oakley Park his headquarters for the Red Shirt movement. The home is fully furnished with family heirlooms and antiques.

**A FRESH FAREWELL**

Stop by one of our roadside stands for the freshest produce around. Try Sara’s for peach ice cream and Cook’s for their boiled peanuts!
in the church include the stained glass windows. This is the oldest church building now standing in Edgefield, completed in 1835. A Victorian church tower was added in 1886, the upper portion of which was replaced by the present steeple in 1951. Significant memorials include the home of Captain James Miller, a wealthy planter and captain of the Edgefield Battalion, who was killed during the American Revolution. There is a cemetery directly behind the building.

EDGEFIELD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
212 Church Street / 803.637.4027
First known as the Edgefield Village Baptist Church, this congregation has been worshipping at this site since 1823. One church was torn down, and another burned. Construction on the current church building began in 1914. Willowbrook Cemetery adjoins the churchyard.

WILLOWBROOK CEMETERY
212 Church Street / For guided tours call 803.637.4010
This is the 2nd most historic cemetery in SC and is overflowing with “residents” who carved their place in local, state and national history. The oldest marked grave here belongs to Piger Lanhood, who died in 1820. There are also soldiers from every major war fought in the United States here and four out of the ten Edgefield Governors (Francis W. Pickens, John Gary Evans, John C. Sheppard and J. Strom Thurmond).

EDGEFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
409 Norris Street / 803.637.6139
The present sanctuary was built in 1891 to replace the former frame structure, though it was restored in 1982 after a fire damaged some of the building. However, Methodism in Edgefield started long before this building, back when services were held in the original Court House in the 1790s (near the current location of the Plantation House Hotel).

MAGNOLIA DALE
320 Norris Street / 803.637.2333
This home was built on the site of the very first residence in Edgefield, dating approximately to 1762. The present house was built circa 1843 and eventually became the home of James Hammond Tillman, a Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina. Tillman became the home of James Hammond Tillman, a Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina. Tillman became known for his support for the Edgefield Grammar School and a firey Confederate politician and father of the Red Shirt movement. The Tillman family home is now a public museum and Red Shirt shrine, managed and operated by the Daughters of the Confederacy.

EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER
117 Courthouse Square / 803.637.3540
Established in 1876, The Edgefield Advertiser is the longest continuing newspaper in South Carolina. Make sure you stop by to say hello, and you might just find yourself in next week’s edition!

COURTHOUSE SQUARE
Courthouse Square is the heart of downtown Edgefield and has changed little in function or appearance and charm in over 225 years. Several monuments have been erected, including a statue of Senator J. Strom Thurmond, the longest serving Senator in U.S. history. There is also an obelisk in memory of Confederate soldiers in Edgefield, a memorial erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and a stone to the ten Governors and five Lieutenant Governors that were once natives or residents of Edgefield.

EDGEFIELD TRADING COMPANY
123 Courthouse Square / www.edgefieldgeneralsstore.com
Located on the opposite corner across from the Courthouse, the history wall details Edgefield’s history from local Native American tribes to the 21st information panels.

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPUTION
362 Siler Street / 803.637.8248
Construction of this church began in 1836, using granite from a local quarry and Irish stonemasons. It was designed by John Randolph Niernschick, the architect of the State House in Columbia. Wide plank-loomed boards and wooden pegs from the doors with the original lock. The cemetery behind the church holds about 100 graves, including a number of Confederate soldiers.

CARNOOSE ANTIQUES
On the shelves: Antiques
203 Main Street

ESCAPE DAY SPA & SALON
On the shelves: Gifts, Home Decor, Ornaments, Etc.
304 Main Street

STILL MAGNOLIA
On the shelves: Outdoor gear, framed art, guns, hunting supplies & clothing
302 Jeter Street / 803.637.6248

THE TURKEY SHOPPE
301 Main Street

THE EDGEFIELD GENERAL STORE
102 Courthouse Square / www.edgefieldgeneralsstore.com
On the shelves: Consignments, antiques & collectibles

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
224 Courthouse Square / 803.637.4804
The present courthouse was built in 1839. Although it was not designed by Robert Mills, it was certainly inspired by him as it was designed and constructed by his longtime protégé, Charles Beck. The courthouse was the site of many conflicts, duels, shootouts and even murders. Notice the chimneys, which are an indicator of the courthouse (they are no longer there). Groups can tour the interior by appointment when court is not in session. Artifacts from the courtroom are also on display at the Tompkins Library.
The Tompkins Library is the official visitors center of Edgefield and is operated by the Edgefield Civic League. The center provides maps, books, souvenirs & information about businesses, services and activities in Edgefield. The library is also the headquarters for the Old Edgefield Genealogical Society and the SC Genealogical Society, where visitors can do research on the history of the area.

This facility is state-of-the-art and contains some of the oldest and best preserved records in SC, including the most complete collection of county records next to Charleston. A vast range of documents are available for research, dating from when the county was first incorporated.

This traditional wood-burning kiln is similar to those used here over 200 years ago. The Edgefield Pottery tradition continues here today using the same clay that brought potters to this region so long ago. The kiln is an extension of the Old Edgefield Pottery studio, and hosts firings several times a year.

Ike Carpenter is a recipient of the SC Folk Heritage Award. He is a beloved character of Edgefield who whittles his woodwork and tells tales of the history of Edgefield County.

Jane Bois handcrafts stoneware pottery in her studio and shop, where each piece comes out perfect for celebrating, entertaining, collecting & enjoying. Jane’s most famous pieces include ornaments, plates, serving dishes and more. Special orders available.

The working studio for Master Potter Justin Guy, Old Edgefield Pottery is a working studio that continues the 200 year old tradition of making Edgefield Pottery. Here you can watch clay turned on the wheel and browse pots fired straight from the local Groundhog Kiln.

Firing and molding of local ironwork, right before your eyes!

Young potters are still at work here in Edgefield, and here the pottery center offers their locally made items and special programs. The pottery is open to the public Tuesdays-Fridays 9-5 and Saturdays 9-1. Also on campus is the start of the Ten Governor’s Rail Trail.
SLADE LAKE
Waterworks Road
Amenities: Fishing, Ten Governors Rail Trail

TEN GOVERNORS RAIL TRAIL
506 Main Street
Amenities: .9-mile paved trail, history on Edgefield’s Governors, fishing
dock

PLEASANT LANE ACRES B&B
318 Pleasant Lane Road / 803.637.2001
Amenities: Historic home, countryside, home-cooking, catering

THE EDGEFIELD INN
702 Augusta Road, Edgefield / 803.637.2000
Amenities: Close to historic downtown, exercise room, free wi-fi, continental breakfast

PINE RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB
425 Pine Ridge Road / 803.637.3570
Amenities: Semi-private, 18-holes, bar & grill, pro shop

SUMTER NATIONAL FOREST HEADQUARTERS
810 Buncombe Street / 803.637.5396
Amenities: 120,000 acres, Sumter National Forest, primitive camping, fishing, hunting, hiking

FARMS & MARKETS

EDGEFIELD FARMERS MARKET
Main Street / 803.637.9536
Every Saturday April - November

HICKORY HILL FARM
7 Hickory Hill Lane / 803.637.8444
On the farm: Whole milk and chocolate milk, hormone free & non-
homogenized

OLE EDGEFIELD BUTCHER SHOP
715 Augusta Road / 803.636.6858
On the farm: Meat market, fresh produce, specialty items

SARA’S ROADSIDE STAND
5150 Edgefield Road, Trenton
On the farm: Fresh produce, specialty items, and ice cream

THE EDGEFIELD INN
702 Augusta Road, Edgefield / 803.637.2000
Amenities: Close to historic downtown, exercise room, free wi-fi, continental breakfast

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THE RABBIT PATCH
259 Bauskett Street, Edgefield / 803.637.1223
On the shelves: Gifts

DIANA’S CURIO SHOP
607 Gray Street, Edgefield / 803.637.3005
Unique Collectibles

OUTDOOR RECREATION

HICKORY HILL FARM
7 Hickory Hill Lane / 803.637.8444
On the farm: Whole milk and chocolate milk, hormone free & non-
homogenized

OLE EDGEFIELD BUTCHER SHOP
715 Augusta Road / 803.636.6858
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Unique Collectibles

ADDITIONAL DINING

HUBBLE HOUSE
761 Augusta Road, Edgefield
EL GUERRERO
725 Augusta Road, Edgefield
MCDONALDS
714 Augusta Road, Edgefield
CB’S BBQ
312 Augusta Road, Edgefield
NO. 1 CHINA
785 Augusta Road, Edgefield
PIZZA HUT
735 Augusta Road, Edgefield
SUBWAY
607 S Carolina 23, Edgefield

ADDITIONAL SHOPPING

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259 Bauskett Street, Edgefield / 803.637.1223
On the shelves: Gifts

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607 Gray Street, Edgefield / 803.637.3005
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THE RABBIT PATCH
259 Bauskett Street, Edgefield / 803.637.1223
On the shelves: Gifts

DIANA’S CURIO SHOP
607 Gray Street, Edgefield / 803.637.3005
Unique Collectibles

NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
& WINCHESTER MUSEUM
770 Augusta Road / 803.637.3106
Amenities: Museum, outdoor education center, nature trails, wetland
habitat side & pavilion, archery

ADDITIONAL DINING

HUBBLE HOUSE
761 Augusta Road, Edgefield
EL GUERRERO
725 Augusta Road, Edgefield
MCDONALDS
714 Augusta Road, Edgefield
CB’S BBQ
312 Augusta Road, Edgefield
NO. 1 CHINA
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