



Destination Downtown

FROM CONCERTS OF ALL MUSIC GENRES TO VISITS BY ACCLAIMED AUTHORS TO ONE OF OUR MANY SPECIAL EVENTS, THE DESTINATION IN SPARTANBURG IS DOWNTOWN.

Start the day with a cup of locally-roasted coffee from the [Little River Coffee Bar](#) and a fresh pastry or biscuit from [Cakehead Bakery](#), our award-winning local bakery. At the end of the day, head down the street and grab a pint of beer from our award-winning local brewer, [RJ Rockers](#).

Here, you can walk in the footsteps of legendary musicians on the [Hub City Music Trail](#) and then catch a concert at the [David Reid Theatre](#) or the [Showroom](#), two frequent hosts for musicians that are regulars on stages from New York to Nashville.

Home to the nationally renowned [Hub City Writers Project](#), [five college campuses](#), the \$40 million [Chapman Cultural Center](#), and a technology-focused [business accelerator](#), Downtown Spartanburg is at the center of creativity, learning and innovation.

And with more than 1,000 white-collar workers and dozens more in the service sector, our city remains ripe for investment. From renovated historic storefronts to build-to-suit property in Renaissance Park, Downtown Spartanburg is full of [opportunity](#).



Active Living in the City

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO REALIZE SPARTANBURG IS A CITY THAT LOVES ACTIVE LIVING.

Spend a little time on the [Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail](#) and you'll see walkers, joggers, bicyclists and rollerbladers. With the new [YMCA](#), [Skate Park](#), [Dog Park](#) and grocery store along the way, there is a lot of activity along this converted rail line. There is also a scavenger hunt for the kids that pays tribute to this trail's train heritage.

Known as [Bike Town](#), we're first in the state to earn recognition by the League of American Bicyclists as a Bicycle Friendly Community. Ride roads, trails, woods and mountains recreationally or with a club. If a casual ride is more your speed, take advantage of [B-cycle](#), the first bike-sharing program in the Southeast.

I love where we live.

WHEN WE DECIDED TO MOVE HERE, WE WANTED A TRADITIONAL HOME NEAR DOWNTOWN.

We wanted to be able to go for walks, know our neighbors and be a short bicycle ride to events downtown. We looked at [Hampton Heights](#), [Duncan Park](#) and [Converse Heights](#) and soon discovered a lot of our friends were already there.

The house we fell in love near an elementary school, close to the [Mary Black Rail Trail](#) and just a short bike ride to Morgan Square. We love the sidewalks, especially when we are trying to manage a dog and a stroller. And now that a [dog park](#) has opened on the Rail Trail, Saturday mornings are spent there. In the spring and fall we ride our bikes as a family to the [Farmer's Market](#) and to [Jazz on the Square](#).

Living in the city is very convenient. The new single-stream [recycling](#) bin picked up regularly. No more sorting and hauling away! Plus, [yard-waste](#) pick up that makes gardening less of a chore.

There have been a few surprises. Our home insurance cost went down when we moved.

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Our Schools

SPARTANBURG IS HOME TO SOME OF THE MOST HIGHLY RATED PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

[Spartanburg High School](#), in fact, was the first four-time National Blue Ribbon School, and today boasts more AP class offerings than any public high school in South Carolina. Meanwhile, [Pine Street Elementary School](#)'s arts-infused curriculum is considered a national model, and other schools provide opportunities, such as a [Montessori](#) program and a [Science, Technology and Mathematics](#) focused curriculum.

For more information about the two public school districts that serve City residents, visit spartanburg7.org or www.spartanburg6.k12.sc.us.



Seasonal Events

NO MATTER THE TIME OF YEAR, YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING HAPPENING DOWNTOWN.

When the weather warms up, it's time for outdoor music in Spartanburg. [Music on Main](#) happens on Thursdays, April-August, and features an eclectic line-up from Blues to Reggae, from Country to Beach. These free concerts are an after-work social gathering complete with food and adult beverages. Friday nights feature [live jazz](#) on Daniel Morgan Square. The whole family will enjoy these free concerts held by the fountain.



When the weather turns cool, it's time to strap on your skates. [Skating on the Square](#) is an open-air ice skating rink downtown. Once the rink is open, that means that [Dickens of a Christmas](#) is right around the corner. From horse-drawn carriage rides to the lighting of the giant Christmas tree, this Victorian-themed event is a magical way to start the holiday season.

Then there are the big festivals. [Spring Fling](#), in May, is one of the Upstate's largest outdoor street festivals. There's a professional bicycle race, lots of arts & crafts, a plethora of food, classic cars, live music and more. Red, White & Boom is the city's 4th of July event with patriotic music, food, kid's activities, and of course, a huge fireworks finale at the end of the celebration. The [Spartanburg International Festival](#) is held each fall with more than 8,000 people coming to celebrate and explore the world through food, music, dance, folk art and more. People from more than 70 countries reside in Spartanburg and more than 100 international businesses make Spartanburg their home.

These are just some of the events produced by the City of Spartanburg. You'll find plenty happening in Spartanburg.

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The nearby fire hydrant and the outstanding rating of the city's fire department contributed to that. We receive emails from the Neighborhood Association about safety concerns in the area. Our neighborhood has socials several times a year and even a parade for the kids on the 4th of July. We are delighted with our decision to move to the city of Spartanburg.

Joe Mullinax
Small Business Owner and Resident of Converse Heights

