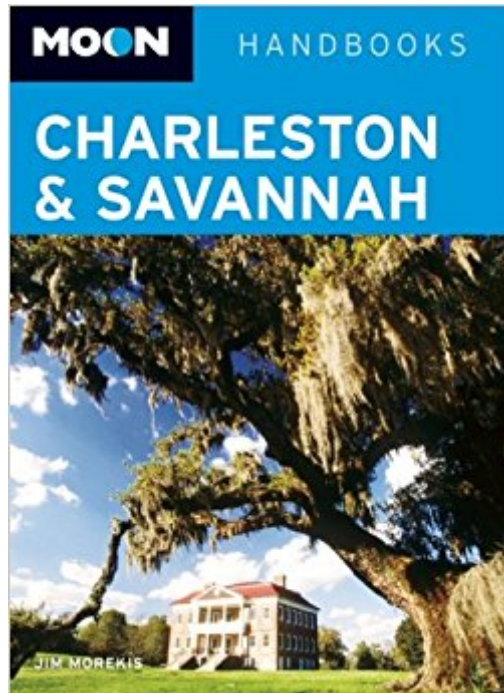




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Moon Charleston & Savannah (Moon Handbooks)



Synopsis

Connect Savannah Editor-in-Chief Jim Morekis shares the must-see sights and local secrets of Charleston and Savannah, from exploring the French Quarter to kayaking in the Golden Isles. Morekis includes unique trip strategies like Literary Lark[®]; following the life and work of authors Robert Louis Stevenson, Edgar Allen Poe, and John Berendt[®]; and his Kayaker[®]'s Paradise tour. Including expert advice on walking the squares of Savannah's Historic District and dining on she-crab soup in Beaufort, Moon Charleston & Savannah gives travelers the tools they need to create a more personal and memorable experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jim Morekis grew up in Savannah, and he's used to Charlestonians regarding his hometown as a wayward little sibling. As for the ongoing debate over which city is better, Jim calls it a tie: Charleston has better long-term planning, but Savannah has to-go cups (allowing anyone to explore the Historic District with a beer or cocktail in hand). As the longtime editor-in-chief of the weekly newspaper Connect Savannah, the University of Georgia graduate has written about and experienced pretty much every cultural happening in Savannah. Jim's favorite Carolina pastimes include relaxing on Edisto Island, climbing lighthouses on the Outer Banks, eating shrimp and grits in Charleston, playing miniature golf at Myrtle Beach, and walking through old cemeteries. When not busy writing, Jim enjoys spending time with his wife and daughters.

I just came back from vacation, 4 days in Savannah and about 8 days in Charleston (thank you Hurricane Sandy for a 3 day extension !!). In addition to the Moon Guide, I had the city guides from Frommers for both cities with me, and a slightly outdated (the most recent edition) of Lonely Planet, and the Explorer's Guide. The Moon edition in this case was the best as far as quality information and usability. The others were also helpful, but the author of the Moon edition just knew his cities the best. Believe me. I scoured all books for both cities while I was there. Enjoy both cities. Some out-of-the way, off-the-beaten-path excellent suggestions: Bonaventure Cemetery, Gullah (African American) history tour on Hilton Head Island, BrookGreen Gardens, tour of Dufuskie Island, the SS Hunley, Fort Sumter---well Fort Sumter isn't off the beaten path, but after seeing it and listening to the park ranger tell the story of how the Civil War started you'll be very glad you saw it. It's easy to miss Fort Sumter because it sits on a small island only reachable by a 30 minute ferry ride.

My wife and I just returned from five days vacationing in Savannah and found the guide quite helpful. The background/historical section is great. There also are inaccuracies which create complications. We wished to go on the tour at the First African Baptist Church, the oldest black church in the US. The guide says tours are Sun-Fri at 11 & 2. We went on Sunday afternoon, and were told by a church member that there are no tours on Sunday, as the congregation is worshipping, that tours are Tues-Sat. We returned on Tuesday at 2PM, to be told that the tours are at 11AM and 1PM on Tues and Thurs, and 11AM and 2PM on Wed, Fri and Sat. These hours are posted on the church office. We returned a third time on Wednesday at 2PM, and enjoyed the tour thoroughly. We spent a day on Tybee Island, kayaking. (Rented from Sea Kayaking of Georgia - they were great.) The dining section of the guide makes one recommendation on Tybee, Hunter House. The author goes on for a couple of paragraphs enthusiastically praising the owner, the chef, and the food. We went to the listed address, but the restaurant was not there. We asked a couple of locals, and found that it had closed several years ago. We ate at the Tybee Island Social Club, a low key and moderately priced restaurant with a nice wine selection and found the food satisfactory. We were interested in a specialty tour focusing on the African American experience in Savannah. The handbook has a listing for Negro Heritage Trail Tours and a phone number (912-234-8000). This is the King-Tisdell Foundation number, where a recorded voice comes on the line, and offers instructions and several prompts describing their activities. All the prompts lead to further recorded announcements (no live options), none of which concern Negro Heritage Trail Tours. At First African Baptist the tour guide provided us with contact information for Jamal, who is a fast talking, theatrical, treasure trove of information about Black history of Savannah and the coast. His tour was one of the

highlights of our trip. Jamal's number and web site: [...]Overall we found the book quite worthwhile, but were disappointed by the errata. Changes that have occurred since the first edition in 2002 that, for Savannah at least, are not reflected in the current edition. Phoning the listings to confirm the information would be prudent before going to a described activity.

Nice, seemingly pretty comprehensive travel guide for these two beautiful cities. Writing style is good and all information is made easily accessible and skimmable. Maps are also nicely done. Our trip was fairly short so we stuck to the cities and didn't see much of the country in between (unless you want to count Drayton Hall), so I can't speak much for the coverage of those places, but there appears to be quite thorough coverage of those areas as well. This guide was everything I needed it to be and the recommended restaurants that I visited were quite nice as well.

My family and I recently traveled to Hilton Head to visit some family members. We knew before we went that we were going to take advantage of HH's close proximity to both of these historic cities. I found this book on , downloaded to my Kindle Fire, and studied it for about a week before we headed to HH. It is an amazingly well-researched, well-written, and thorough guide to both cities. The author is obviously very well-acquainted with the areas discussed and gives lots of personal opinions that only someone who has "been there and done that" would know. VERY HANDY book. Bookmark those things you think you'd like to check out and prioritize (!) because there's no way you can see all there is to see, do all there is to do, and EAT all there is to eat in these two beautiful Southern cities! :)

I'm pleased with the book (great service from the seller), but Moon could consider a reissue. I really like the Moon guides and knew that the copyright date was a little old, but figured that most of the guide would be fine. Probably won't use it for things that might be more likely to change; eateries, costs, times...but it looks like a nice guidebook and covers the Charleston, Hilton Head, and Savannah region we're planning to visit in the Fall.

There is no doubt about it- we would have missed so much in Savannah if I had not taken the time to buy this book and highlight the key points in this book. Our trip was so memorable because of the great info we obtained in this guide book. There is so much very valuable info here that it is well worth every minute you spend reading and preparing for your trip. It will be far more special because of something you learn from this book. Maybe info about a quite little beach, place to eat or

a beautiful cemetery. Do yourself a favor and buy the Moon Handbooks before you travel and get ready to enjoy your trip.

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