

# Ashley River Road

The Ashley River Road passes by three national historic landmarks -- Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, Drayton Hall and Middleton Place -- as it traverses a National Register Historic District that traces the history of European and African settlement, commerce and industry from their colonial origins to the present.



Length: 11 miles / 17.6 km

Time 25 minutes to drive the to byway or two days to visit

Allow: places along the way.

## Local Information

**Charleston Visitor Reception Center**

843-853-8000

## Visitor Services

### Fees



There are no fees to drive the byway.

### Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities



The Ashley River Road is currently available for use by bicycle and pedestrian travel. While such use is not prohibited, the conditions are not ideal.

### Camping



There are places to camp along this byway.

### Food



There are places to buy food along this byway.

### Gasoline



Gasoline is available.

### Information



There is an authoritative information center along this byway.

### Lodging



There is overnight lodging along this byway.



### **Retail**

Stop in Charleston to collect souvenirs and mementos of your trip to this historic and scenic South.

### **Special Considerations**

Although this byway is only eleven miles long, it has a variety of features that will be of interest to travelers.

### **Seasons**

#### Best Time to Drive

Spring and early summer, but since South Carolina has such a great climate, you can travel this area almost anytime of the year.

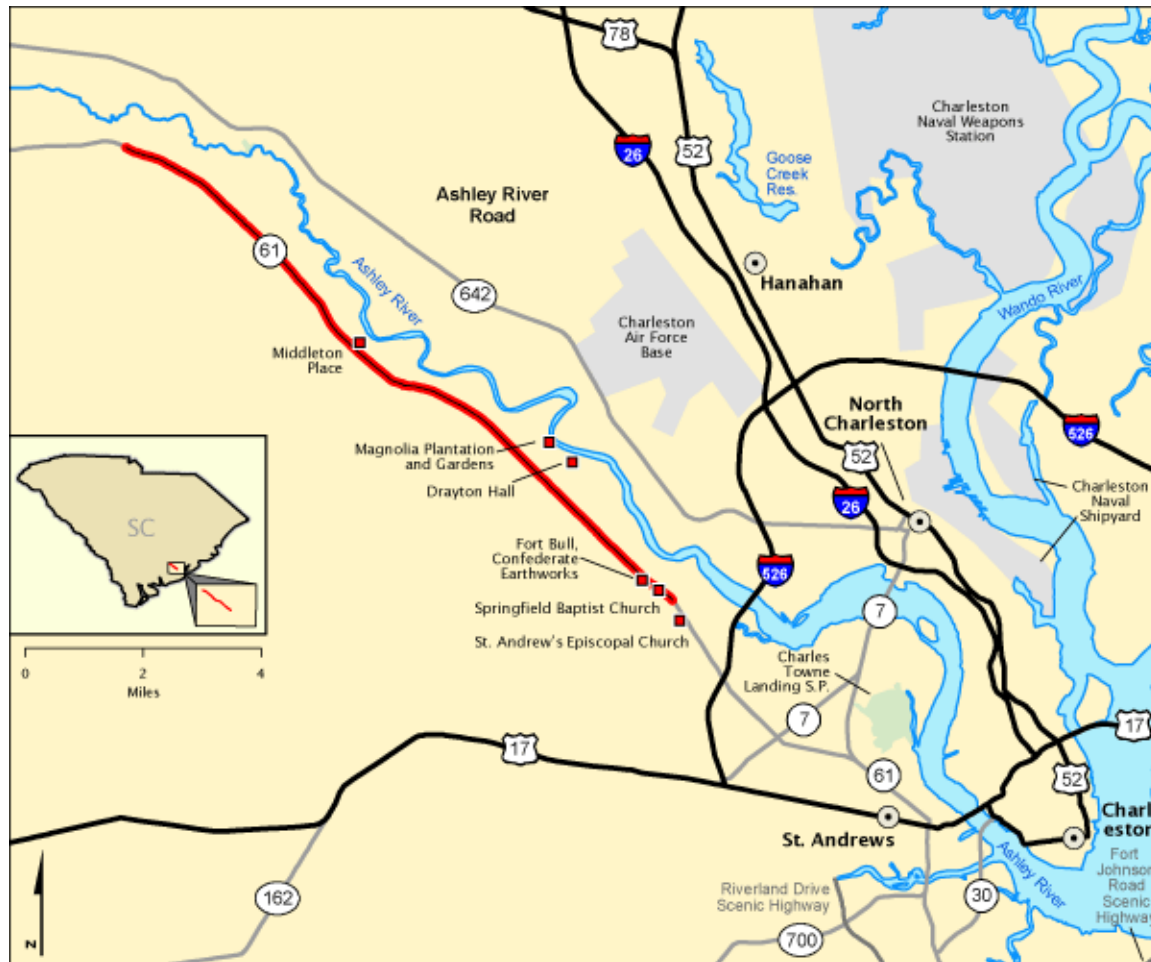
#### Fall

Fall is a great time of the year to travel the byway.

#### High Season

Springtime

## Map and Directions



### Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

### Driving Directions

- The byway begins at milepost 5.84 (Charleston County) in Church Creek.
- Follow SC Highway 61 for 11 miles.
- The byway ends at milepost 15.75 (Dorchester County) near SC 165.

### Getting to the Byway

#### *From Columbia to Ashley River Road*

- Take I-26 southeast to Summerville.

## Ashley River Road

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- Get on US-17 and go southwest to Carolina Ave.
- Follow Carolina Ave south to Bacons Bridge Rd.
- Continue south on Bacons Bridge Rd. to SC-61 where the byway begins.

### *From Charleston to Ashley River Road*

- Take Calhoun St. west across the Ashley River.
- Get on SC-61 and go northwest past Pierpont where the byway begins.

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## Road Trip: Ashley River Road Itinerary

**Departure:** Charleston, South Carolina

**Destination:** Middleton Place, South Carolina

**Time to allow:** 1 day

For history buffs, nature lovers, or couples looking for a romantic getaway, the Ashley River Road offers hidden treasures beyond gracious gates. Read through this suggested itinerary to maximize your experience.

### Day 1

- **Start: Charleston**



**Suggested time at this stop:**

5 hours

One of the most historic cities in the country, downtown Charleston features beautiful restored homes and shops, manicured parks, and an ocean view.

- **Stop 2: Drayton Hall**



**From previous stop:** 25 minutes / 13 mi (20.8 km)

**Directions:** From downtown Charleston, take Highway 17 south across the Ashley River, and follow the signs to Highway 61. Follow Highway 61 north for approximately 8 miles. Watch for the "Historical Plantations and Gardens" signs and the Drayton Hall signs. Drayton Hall will be on your right.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 2 hours

Drayton Hall is the only pre-Revolutionary plantation house remaining on the historic Ashley River Road. This National Historic Landmark is the oldest and the finest surviving example of Georgian Palladian architecture in the South. Take a tour of the grounds, sipped spiced cider, or visit the African -American cemetery, left in it's original state.

- **Stop 3: Magnolia Plantation and Gardens**



**From previous stop:** 10 minutes / 2.5 mi (4.0 km)

**Directions:** Continue north along the Ashley River Road.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 5 hours

With gardens a plenty, carriage rides, a plantation house, bicycles for rent, and the Audobon Swamp Garden, Magnolia Plantation and Gardens will keep visitors happily occupied for hours.

- **End: Middleton Place**



**From previous stop:** 15 minutes / 5 mi (8.0 km)

**Directions:** Continue north on Ashley River Road.

Visit this Old South Plantation and take one of the African American focus tours, or during the holiday seasons, join in a tradition turkey dinner or take a candlelight tour of the houses in the area.

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## Totals for Day 1

**Total Distance Traveled:** 20.5 miles / 32.8 km

**Total Travel Time:** 50 minutes

**Total Stopping Time:** 12 hours