

# ADVENTURING THE

## OLDE *English* DISTRICT



**Welcome to the Olde English District, where the puppies are adorable, the peaches are juicy, and the peppers are hot.**

Located in north-central South Carolina, also known as the OED, this district spans seven counties: Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Union, and York. The region is rich in history, with its name being derived from its first English settlement in the mid-1770s and many stories of music, wars, and civil rights movements in the intervening time. Even with the OED's deep roots, this modern region now offers opportunities for fresh culinary, outdoor, and agritourism destinations throughout the counties.



[OldeEnglishDistrict.com](http://OldeEnglishDistrict.com)

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## JOURNEYS WORTH SAVORING

In the tapestry of South Carolina's culinary landscape is a wave of innovation reshaping old favorites and honoring history. Kounter Dining in Rock Hill is a reimagined local landmark resulting from the culinary passion of Chef Rob Masone, one of South Carolina's three 2023 Chef Ambassadors. It serves up unique fare such as Chicken + Waffles Sushi. Innovative dishes can also be found at FM Eatery in Fort Mill, part of the Flipside Restaurant Group brought to life by 2017 Chef Ambassador Amy Fortes and her husband, Chef Jon Fortes. Sample flavors of locally grown ingredients sitting lakeside at The Retreat on Lake Wateree, have an elegant afternoon tea at Laura's Tea Room at the converted town mercantile in Ridgeway, or order a traditional barbeque plate at Union, SC's Midway BBQ, the "hash & chicken stew capital of the world."

## LOCAL FLAVORS & FRESH EXPERIENCES

The real Southern peach king isn't Georgia, but rather South Carolina, with the OED housing some of the fruit's star-powered family-owned and operated farms. Major players like Black's Peaches, Bush-N-Vine, Cotton Hills Farm, and McLeod Farms offer visitors a chance to savor the flavors of the region by picking out fresh produce, jams and preserves, dairy, and meats from these agricultural operations.



## GREAT OLDE OUTDOORS

The OED is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts offering abundant opportunities for recreation, ecological tourism and wildlife observation. The region is home to nine state parks and state historic sites, each offering unique attractions for visitors. Cheraw State Park, South Carolina's first state park, includes an 18-hole championship golf course that weaves through piney woodlands, leading visitors to the 360-acre Lake Juniper, where fishing, kayaking, and canoeing are available. Landsford Canal State Park, located along the Catawba River, is home to preserved remnants of a historic canal system. Here, park activities include fishing in the Catawba River and witnessing the largest stand of the Southeast's rocky shoals spider lily species during their peak bloom in May and June.

## HISTORIC ADVENTURES

The OED is the site of many notable moments in American history, tracing back centuries, including a presence in the American Revolutionary War and the Civil Rights Movement. History buffs can learn about these events' historical and cultural impacts by visiting battlefield sites and museums, including the Battle of Camden site, Historic Brattonsville, and the Revolutionary War Visitor Center. In Rock Hill, Kounter Dining is located where the Friendship 9 sit-in protest was held in 1961 and is now honored in the current establishment. Music enthusiasts will want to venture to the Dizzy Gillespie Homesite Park that commemorates the "King of Jazz" at the property where the icon was born. In Lancaster, the Native American Studies Center offers insight into South Carolina's Native American culture and showcases the largest collection of Catawba Indian pottery in the country.



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