

2014 IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting

**Cape Romain National
Wildlife Refuge/Sewee
Visitors Center,
South Carolina
October 15-16, 2014**



Join us for this year's IMPROVE business meeting in the beautiful Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, located on the Atlantic coast. The meeting will take place at the Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, located 20 miles north of Charleston, SC.

Schedule:

Tuesday, October 14: Travel to Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

A room block has been reserved in Mount Pleasant at:

Homewood Suites Hilton
1998 Riviera Drive
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Wednesday, October 15: IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting (8:30am-5:40pm)

The IMPROVE Steering Committee Technical Session, will be held at:

Sewee Visitor Center
5821 Highway 17 North
Awendaw, SC

Group dinner reservations have been made at:

Crave Kitchen and Cocktails
1998 Riviera Drive
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464
(In Seaside Farms Shoppes, just across from the Homewood Suites Hilton).

Thursday, October 16: Continued IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting (8:30am-11:30pm)
12:30 Optional Cape Romain Boat tour and IMPROVE site tour

ARRIVAL AND TRANSPORTATION

If you are flying, the nearest large commercial flights arrive at Charleston International Airport, about 18 miles from Mount Pleasant, and 31 miles from the Sewee Visitors Center where we will meet. This airport is adjacent to the Air Force Base and shares its runways with them. You'll be in the center of town in the North Charleston area. Baggage claim is across from the rental car kiosks. You can rent from 6 different rental car companies at the Rental Car Pavilion. Contact the preferred firm by phone or online. Directly outside is the pick-up area for taxis, limousines, buses, or shuttles from local hotels.

Charleston International Airport Transportation Options:

- **Dorchester Bus:**

- You can reach Mount Pleasant easily from the Charleston Airport by taking the Dorchester Airport Bus to the Visitor's Center Downtown. The #40 picks up at the same stop. The Dorchester Road bus makes two stops at the Airport. **Note from the website: If you ask the people who handle the cabs they will send you to an inhospitable stop out at the end of the sidewalk without a bench in the sun.** However, there is a much nicer stop off to the left, under the canopy with a bench where the bus also stops. Make sure you wave for the bus as it comes through. The [schedule for the Dorchester Bus](http://www.ridecarta.com/) is available on the CARTA website (<http://www.ridecarta.com/>).

- **Yellow Cab Company:**

- (843)577-6565
- Minimum Taxi Charge: \$40

- **Rental Cars:**

Avis	(843)767-7031 (800)331-1212
Budget	(843)767-7051 (800)527-0700
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	(843)767-4557 (800)261-7331
Hertz	(843)767-4550 (800)654-3131
National	(843)767-3078 (800)227-7368

- **Shuttles:**

These companies will do airport/hotel pick-ups with advance reservation.

- **Mt. Pleasant Shuttle (843)971-4901**
- **Ride-It-Out Shuttle (843)849-7433**

LODGING

A block of 20 rooms is available at Government Lodging rates (\$150/night) at the Hilton Homewood Suites in **Mount Pleasant**. Reservations can be received by **Individual Call-In** and must be received by the hotel on or before **Monday, September 15th**. Reservations made after the cut-off date will be accepted based upon availability at the hotel's prevailing rate. The hotel offers a range of inclusive perks to help you feel right at home. Indulge in a hot full breakfast each morning and evening dinner and drinks Monday through Thursday. For more information about hotel amenities visit:

<http://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/south-carolina/homewood-suites-by-hilton-charleston-mt-pleasant-CHSHWHW/index.html>

Homewood Suites Hilton | 1998 Riviera Drive | Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 881-6950

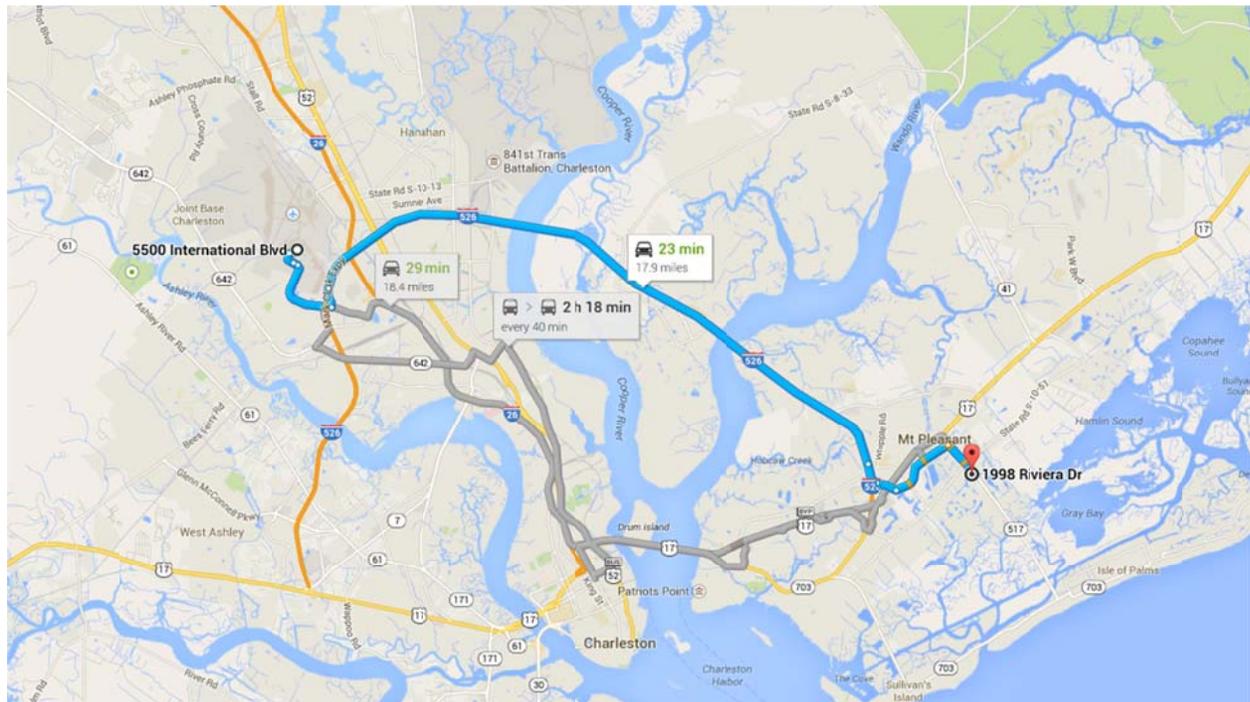
Directions from Charleston International Airport to Hilton Homewood Suites in Mount Pleasant:

Charleston International Airport 5500 International Boulevard Charleston, South Carolina 29418	Hilton Homewood Suites/Mt. Pleasant 1998 Riviera Drive Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464
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Exit airport and take I 526 East towards Mt. Pleasant. Exit onto Hwy 17 North. At the fourth light turn right onto Hwy 517. Take the third right onto Riviera Drive. Hotel is on the right.

Distance from Hotel: 12 mi.

Drive Time: 20 min.



DAYS 1 and 2: IMPROVE STEERING COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING

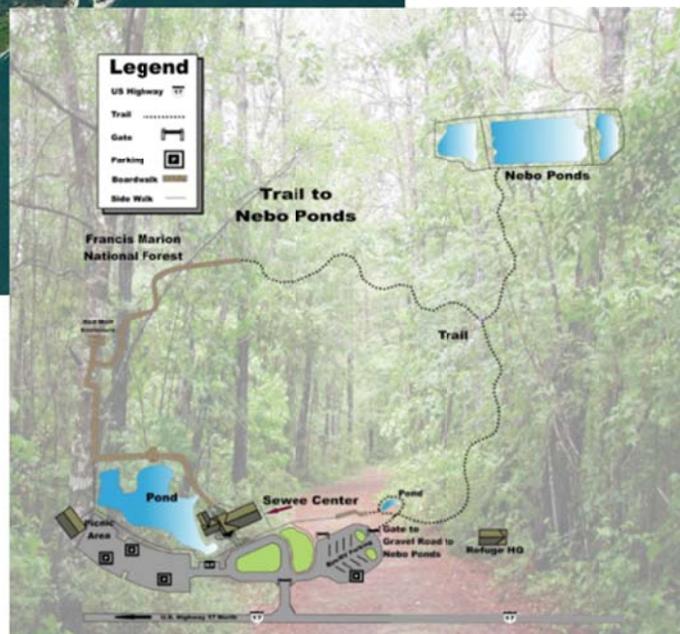
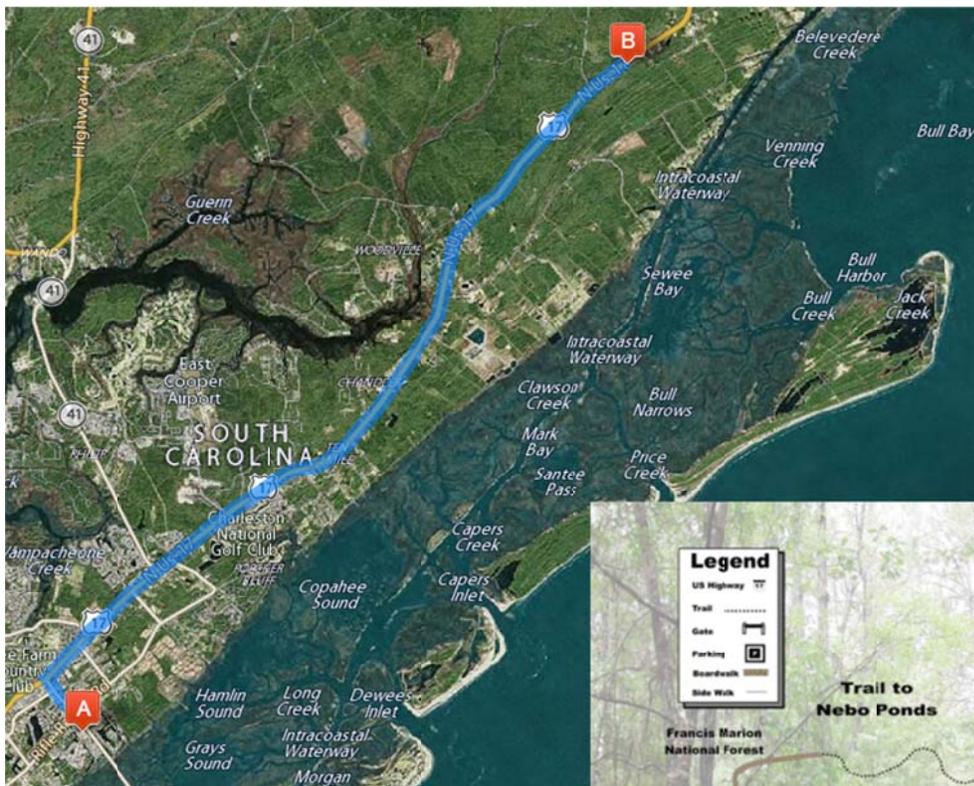
Wednesday, OCTOBER 15, 8:30am-5:40pm and

Thursday, October 16, 8:30am-11:30am

The IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting will be held at The Sewee Visitor & Environmental Education Center located at: 5821 Highway 17 North, Awendaw, SC (location "B" annotated on map below). A draft meeting agenda is attached.

Directions from Homewood Suites Hotel to Sewee Visitor Center

1. Proceed northeast on Riviera Drive
2. Turn left on Isle of Palms Conn/SC-517 (250 feet)
3. Turn right on N US-17--- 1.0 miles
4. Arrive at Sewee Visitor Center 14.2 miles



DAY 1: GROUP DINNER

Wednesday, OCTOBER 15, 6:30 PM

After Wednesday's meeting, you are encouraged to join us for a group dinner at Crave Kitchen & Cocktails. A dinner reservation has been made at:

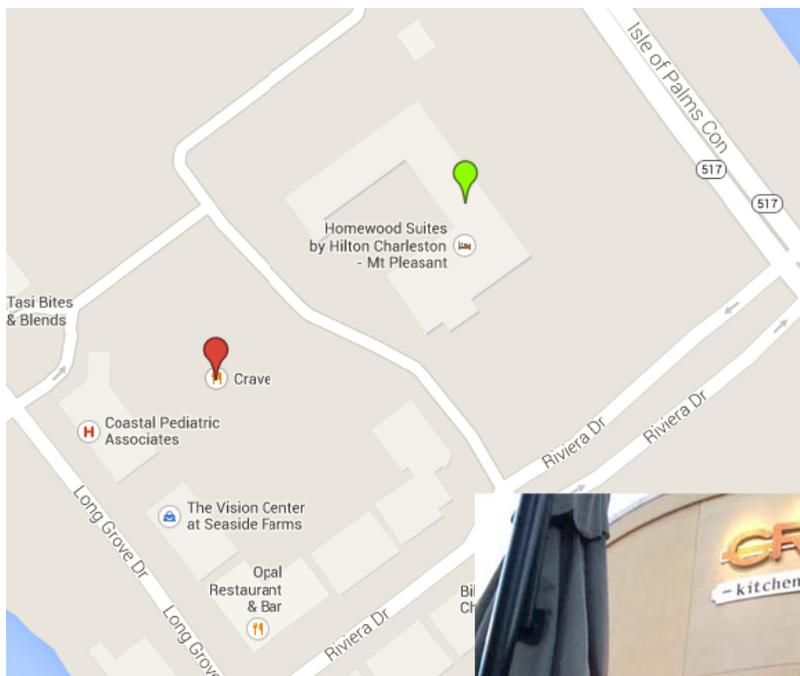
Crave Kitchen & Cocktails | 1968 Riviera Drive | Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

843-884-1177

Wednesday, October 15, 2014, 6:30PM

Menu available at: <http://www.cravekitchenandcocktails.com/>

Crave proudly serves an affordable Casual Fine Dining Experience. Chef Landen's Mac & Cheese has won the past four consecutive Charleston Mac Off's, was named most Life Changing in America 2013 by ESQUIRE Magazine, and is listed by Yahoo! Travel & Leisure as one of the Top 5 Mac 'N' Cheese's in the country. It is conveniently located just across the street from the Homewood Suites Hilton.



DAY 2: IMPROVE/NADP Site Tour and optional Cape Romain Boat Tour

Thursday, OCTOBER 16, 11:30am – 5pm

As most of the refuge is accessible only by boat, an optional boat tour will be scheduled after the IMPROVE/NADP site tour. The boat tour is \$40 per person, departing at 12:30pm and returning at 4pm. If you are interested in joining the group on the boat tour, register in advance with Coastal Expeditions at 843.884.7684 or visit www.coastalexpeditions.com.

The IMPROVE site is located near Garris Landing, where the Bull Island Ferry departs and returns. The NADP site is a short walk from the IMPROVE site. A tour of the sites will take place after the meeting adjourns and before the boat tour. It will also be possible to visit the sites after the boat tour.

GPS Address:

498 Bulls Island Road
Awendaw, South Carolina

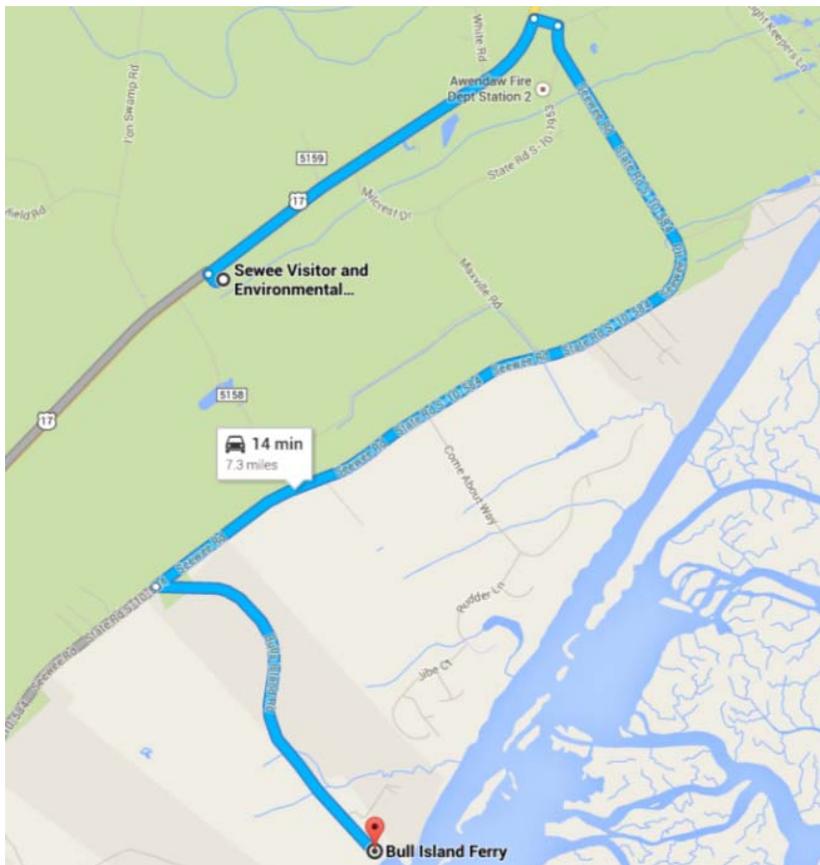
Directions from the Sewee Visitor Center to the Bull Island Ferry:

Turn right onto US-17 N (1.7 mi)

Turn right onto Doar Rd/State Rd S-10-432 (0.1 mi)

Take the 1st right onto Seewee Rd/State Rd S-10-584 (3.8 mi)

Sharp left onto Bulls Island Rd, destination will be on the left.



CAPE ROMAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



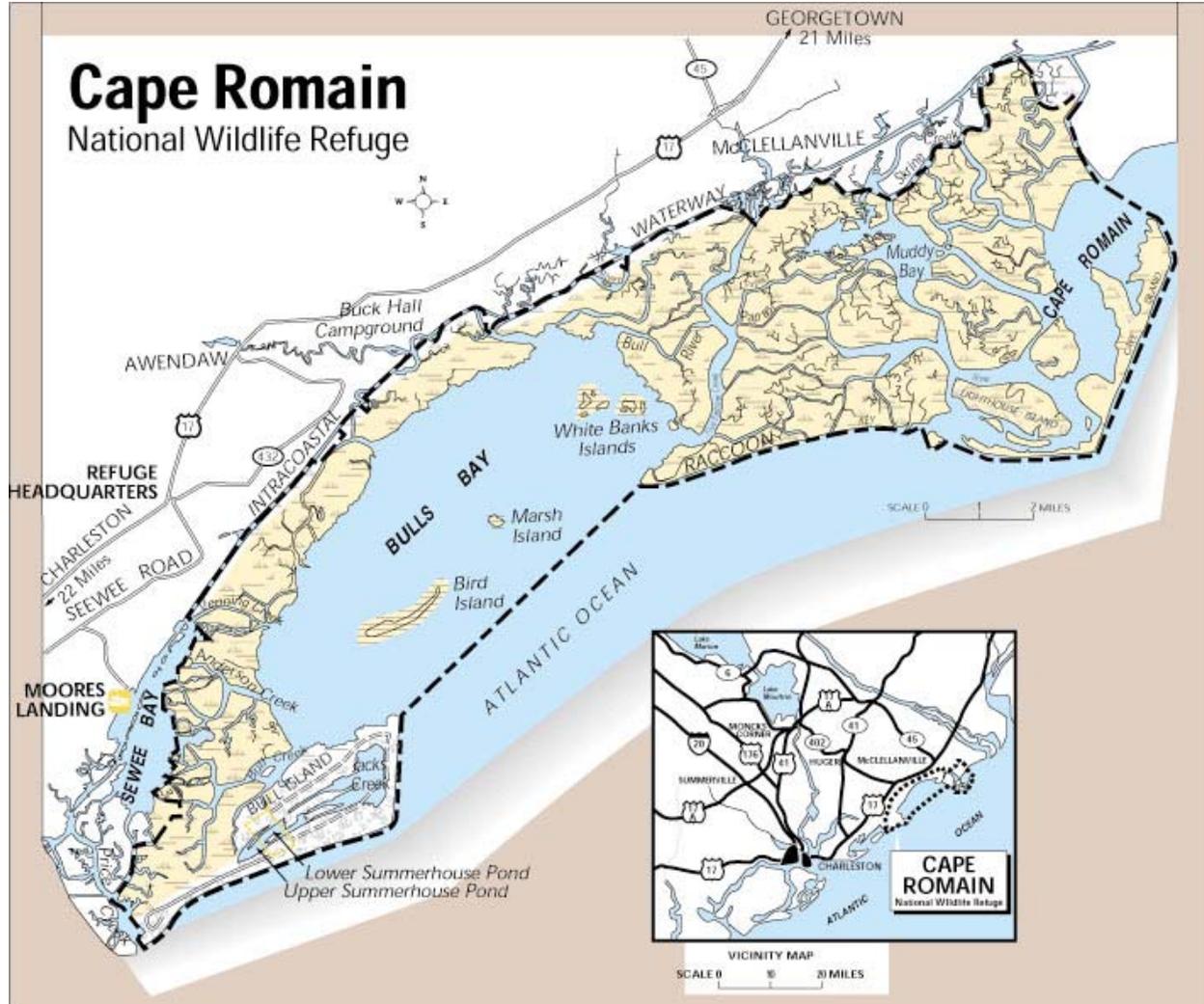
- Established in 1932 as a migratory bird refuge, Cape Romain's 66,287 acres encompass a 20-mile segment of the Atlantic coast and includes a fascinating expanse of barrier islands, salt marshes, intricate coastal waterways, long sandy beaches, fresh and brackish water impoundments, and maritime forest
- Points of interest include **Bulls Island**, **Cape Island**, and **Lighthouse Island** where two lighthouses, no longer operational, still stand. Bulls Island has been the scene of much historical activity.

Refuge Access

The refuge is open sunrise to sunset, seven days a week, year-round. Most of the refuge is only accessible by boat, and the only facilities accessible by automobile are the refuge office, Sewee Center, and Garris Landing. To provide public accessibility, the refuge contracts with a private company, Coastal Expeditions, Inc. to transport passengers from Garris Landing to Bulls Island. An optional group boat tour of Bull's Island will take place on the afternoon of October 16 (see Day 2 details above).

Cape Romain

National Wildlife Refuge



About Charleston/Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina



Weather:

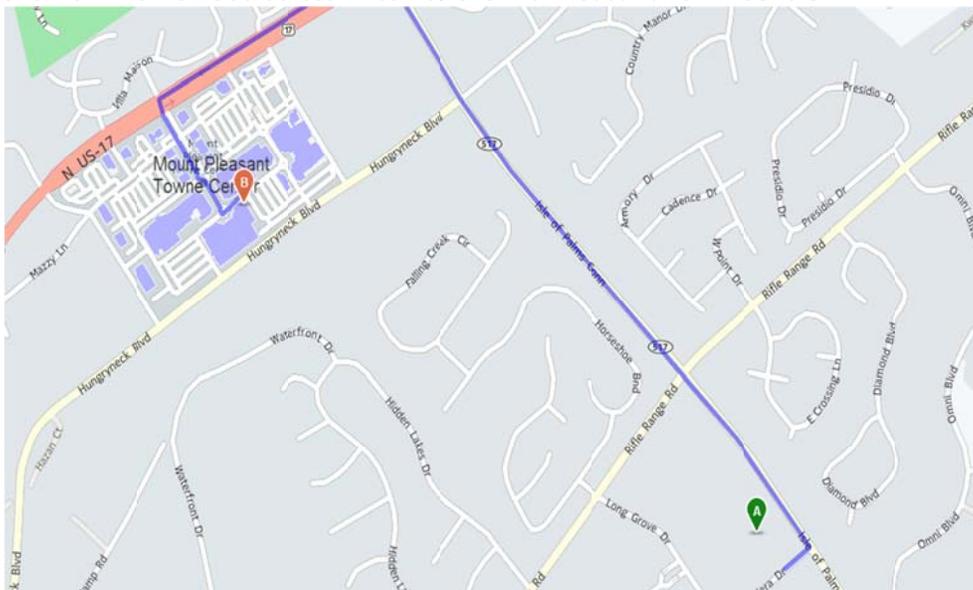
In October, the Charleston/Mount Pleasant area has mostly clear skies, with an average temperature of 72 during the day, and 52 at night. For more weather information about the area, go to <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g54171-s208/Charleston:South-Carolina:Weather.And.When.To.Go.html>

Things to do

Mt. Pleasant Towne Centre

- Mt. Pleasant Towne Centre voted "Charleston's Best Shopping Destination."
 - 60 shops and restaurants such as; Belk, Banana Republic, Ann Taylor and P.F. Chang's
 - 16-screen theatre, this open air center is minutes from the beaches and downtown Charleston.
 - Address: 1600 Palmetto Grande Drive, Mount Pleasant, SC

Directions from Homewood Suites Hilton to the Mt. Pleasant Town Centre



Historic Charleston City Market

- The market is a favorite for locals as well as visitors of Charleston.
- Individual vendors sell their products in open-aired buildings, creating a very historic feel.
- Covering up to four city blocks, the market has something for everyone, whether it be clothing, paintings, pottery or sweet treats.
- 188 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC
- Hours of operation: Monday - Sunday: Open at 9:30am Seasonal Night & Art Market: 6:30pm - 10:30pm, Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Mt. Pleasant/Charleston Area Maps



Peninsula Charleston



- LEGEND**
- Parking Garages
 - Parking Garages with Restrooms
 - Visitor Center
 - Airport
 - Public Beaches
 - Golf Courses
 - County Parks
 - Hospitals
 - Restrooms

RIDE THE TROLLEY FREE!

Downtown Area Shuttle (DASH)
*Routes subject to change.

- Trolley Stops
- RT 210 C of C/Aquarium
- RT 211 Meeting/King (King Street Shopping)
- RT 213 Lockwood/Calhoun (Medical University & The Citadel)

Charleston
 SOUTH CAROLINA
 2011 OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE MAP
 EXPLORECHARLESTON.COM



Ashley River

Cooper River

Directions:

- ↑ To North Charleston, Summerville
- ↑ To Magnolia Cemetery
- ↑ To 17 North - Mt. Pleasant, Isle of Palms, Sullivan's Island, To Boone Hall and Patriots Point
- ↑ To West Ashley, To 17 South, Middleton Place, Magnolia Plantation & Drayton Hall

Other Landmarks and Locations:

- The Citadel
- Hampton Park
- Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Ballpark
- Brittlebank Park
- VA Medical Center
- Medical University of SC Complex
- Roper Hospital
- City Marina
- Colonial Lake
- White Point Gardens
- The Battery
- Marion Square
- College of Charleston
- CVS Pharmacy
- Marion Square
- Charleston Co. Library
- Gaillard Auditorium
- Philip Simmons Garden
- SC Aquarium
- Aquarium Wharf
- Maritime Center
- Charleston Water Taxi
- Harris Teeter Grocery
- South Carolina State Ports Authority
- Cruise Ship Terminal
- Waterfront Park
- N Atlantic Wharf
- Mid Atlantic Wharf
- Gillion St
- Exchange St
- East Elliott St
- Boyces Wharf
- N Adgers Wharf
- S Adgers Wharf