



Visit the Charleston Tea Plantation and Learn How Tea is Made at America's Only Tea Garden

Overview

Given the growing popularity of tea in the U.S., and our increasing interest in consuming foods and beverages produced on our own soil, the Charleston Tea Plantation is a must-see destination for everyone. Located on Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina, just 25 minutes from beautiful and historic Charleston, this is America's only working Tea Garden. The Plantation boasts 127 lush acres of tea bushes and a state of the art tea processing facility with a birds-eye-view of the tea production process from raw plant to finished tea product.

In addition to observing the tea production process from the air-conditioned 125 foot window gallery, visitors can enjoy an adventurous and educational Trolley Ride, which tours the grounds while telling the story of the Plantation and its ongoing effort to produce American grown tea. Those looking for a more relaxing day can simply kick back in rocking chairs on the Plantation porch and drink in the amazing views of the live oaks and the tea gardens. They also can sample and purchase the variety of teas produced at the Plantation from the *Gift Shoppe*.

The *American Classic Tea* line, naturally produced at the Plantation with no pesticides or fungicides, is the only tea grown in the USA.

History of Plantation

Home to several hundred thousand tea bushes that are descendants of bushes brought over from China and India during the 1800s, the Charleston Tea Plantation was established in 1888 in Summerville, South Carolina. It was a major national producer of black tea until 1915, after which it sat derelict for 45 years. Lipton purchased the plantation in 1960, moved it to its current location on Wadmalaw Island and maintained it until 1987, when Bill Hall and a partner purchased it and created the *American Classic Tea* brand.

Purchased and restored by the Bigelow Tea company in 2003, The Charleston Tea Plantation has become a thriving tea garden that produces six varieties of *American Classic Tea*. It's a must-see destination for countless guests hailing from the Charleston, South Carolina region as well as around the world.

The Plantation has something for everyone, from tea enthusiasts, nature lovers and historians, to horticulturists, families or anyone looking for a peaceful get-away.

About Bigelow Tea

Bigelow Tea is a family owned and operated company which has produced quality teas for more than 60 years. Today the Bigelow Tea line includes more than 80 varieties of flavored, traditional, green, organic, herbal and decaffeinated teas and iced teas – including America's number one specialty tea flavor, "Constant Comment®".

Contact

For more information, to arrange for a tour of the Charleston Tea Plantation or an interview with David Bigelow, owner and co-chair of RC Bigelow, Inc., or Bill Hall, plantation manager and creator of *American Classic Tea*, please contact Melissa McAllister at 646-483-7780 or mamcall68@aol.com.