The South's Best Small Towns 2022

By Southern Living Editors Updated on June 15, 2022



PHOTO: PETER FRANK EDWARDS

There's nothing quite like a small town. With sidewalks to meander, smiling faces to greet, and local shops to browse, it's obvious what gives these cozy communities their appeal—and keeps people visiting year after year. Although the South's best small towns may seem quaint at first glance (or too quiet to keep you entertained for a whole weekend), you needn't be worried about filling the hours. These places are reinventing themselves all the time while still preserving what makes them unique. In our favorite storybook

20 **2. Williamsburg, Virginia**



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No visit here is complete without spending time at Colonial Williamsburg, a living history museum where you can peek into the America of centuries past. But what's happening in contemporary Williamsburg is just as interesting. It's an active community with a respectable roster of things to do and places to explore. Don't miss sandwiches at The Cheese Shop; the boutiques and taprooms at Merchants Square; and brews from Precarious Beer Project, Amber Ox Public House, and The Virginia Beer Company.

Visitor center: 101 Visitor Center Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185, visitwilliamsburg.com