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COLUMBIA, SC ITINERARY

Tips provided by Connor Tapp, editor of SB Nation's South Carolina blog, Garnet and Black Attack (www.garnetandblackattack.com).

Unique traditions to experience on game weekend

- Head into the stadium at least an hour early so you can get to your seat and watch the team take the field to the theme of 2001.
- Toward the end of the game, make your way over toward the student section for the post-game playing of the alma mater with the players and coaches.

Best local hangout/restaurant to watch the game

- Pawley's Front Porch
- The Loose Cockaboose. Located right near the stadium, you'll likely get free food and drinks if you go during the game.

What to wear to the tailgate/game

- Jeans, garnet shirt. Some (not including me) choose to do the pleated khakis, polo shirt, croakies thing.
- It's a noon game, so a hat might be a good idea.

Must-sees at the tailgate

- Tailgating is split between the Fairgrounds and the newly-constructed Gamecock Park. Both are large open spaces located just outside the stadium.
- The Gamecock Walk (2.5 hours before kickoff at The Gamecock Park)

The food/drink must-have at the game

- Cromer's Boiled Peanuts
- Hot Dog

Best shops to purchase team merchandise

- Addams University Bookstore
- The Russell House

Favorite part of the campus

- The Horseshoe
- The Russell House Student Union (featuring on-campus Chick-fil-a)

Other insider tips and hidden gems in Columbia

- Get dinner at Hunter-Gatherer and then go across the street to the Nickelodeon to catch an indie film, you big hipster you.
- Visit Cool Beans on College Street for great coffee and a laid back atmosphere.
- The Vista (generally, Gervais Street, west of Assembly) is the place to go for nightlife. The Flying Saucer has a great drink selection, and The Whig is the hip, divey place in town.