



City of Charlottesville  
Office of the Mayor  
City Hall

P.O. Box 911 – Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Telephone 434.970.3113  
Facsimile 434.970.3890  
[www.charlottesville.org](http://www.charlottesville.org)

Welcome to Charlottesville, Virginia!

On behalf of the Charlottesville community, I am pleased to welcome you to our beautiful City. I hope that you find your stay with us enjoyable and leave understanding why the City was recently voted as the best place to live in America by *Frommer's Cities Ranked and Rated*. Charlottesville is consistently rated by national magazines as one of the top places to live, retire and visit in the United States. We have tremendous educational resources, exceptional health care facilities, a wide array of recreational activities, diverse cultural entertainment, and urban amenities, all within a pastoral framework surrounded by the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and Virginia's growing wine country.

The City of Charlottesville sits in the heart of Albemarle County and has a growing population of over 40,000. As the center of commerce for Central Virginia with a combined population of nearly 250,000, area businesses draw employees from a diverse and skilled workforce.

While you are in town I hope that you visit the downtown pedestrian mall, one of the most successful in the nation with ten historic city blocks providing a lively experience for all ages. The mall features The Charlottesville Pavilion and the newly renovated Paramount Theater, featuring international and nationally acclaimed performing artists, along with a convention facility, cinemas, an indoor ice-skating rink and over 70 outstanding restaurants. The Virginia Discovery Museum provides interactive exhibits for children and adults to enjoy together. For the shoppers in your group, be sure to see the Barracks Road Shopping Center where you will find a wide variety of local and national retail shops.

Tourism plays an important role in our City's economy, much of which is based on its rich historical legacy and exceptional scenic beauty. On a nearby mountain sits Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson. Ash Lawn-Highland, home of James Monroe, is just a few miles away and features beautiful gardens and furnishings. Close by is James Madison's Montpelier which has been renovated and is now open to the public. The recently restored Court Square pays tribute to the focal point of colonial life and plays host to several events annually, including the Thanksgiving Festival.

Charlottesville is also home to The University of Virginia, founded in 1819 by Thomas Jefferson. The University has long been considered one of the top public institutions of higher learning in the nation. Take a ride on the City's free trolley and visit the beautiful grounds while you are here.

I know that you will enjoy the warmth and charm of the Charlottesville community, and I hope that you will return again and again.