



5 coffee stops to keep you warm

Alchemy Coffee Shoppe

Adored by locals, this java stop is best known for its creative drink "The Alchemist," a decadent blend of chocolate, cayenne pepper, cinnamon and whipped cream. Try it, a mocha or any of the other espresso or brewed coffee drinks alongside the house specialty of oatmeal cream pie. 11 Magnolia Rd.; 843-637-3555

City Lights Coffee

Specialty coffees are expertly prepared at this cool and relaxed hang-out. We adore the personal French-press coffees, but the overwhelming best seller is the ice-cold coffee milkshake. Friendly folks give the place an inviting, neighborly vibe. 141 Market St.; 843-853-7067

Hope & Union

This is what every neighborhood coffee shop aspires to be: a simple, relaxing space where you can feel right at home while sipping on some top-quality java. Coffee drinks at this cozy place are all hand-crafted by the cup. 199 St. Philip St.; 843-922-1023; www.hopeandunioncoffee.com

Kudu Coffee House

This African-themed coffee shop's popular drink is the original "Shakarati," a mix of espresso, honey, raw sugar and half-and-half shaken with ice and strained into a glass to prevent further dilution. Of course if you prefer a traditional cappuccino, that's fine, too. 4 Vanderhorst St.; 843-853-7186; www.kuducharleston.com

Caviar & Bananas

A favorite eatery with locals and tourists alike, this gourmet market and café offers an impressive selection of organic coffees and tea. Top selling drinks are chai tea lattes and iced lattes. 51 George St., 843-577-7757 and 188 Meeting St., 843.722.6465; www.caviarandbananas.com