

Take the Fall (Lowcountry style)

Written by

Tuesday, 26 October 2010 13:45



The Backyard Tourist has a list of suggestions to help you make the most of the season

Southerners have an inborn appreciation of the autumnal equinox. Those of us who can still recollect a time before the ubiquity of “conditioned air” appreciate the change of seasons even more. This is why some of us are good churchgoers: by the middle of July we are all aware of what Hell must be like. Fall means the end of summer’s stifling tyranny, a time when our primary occupation is staying cool and moving as little as possible. By the end of August we are practically motionless.

Then one morning the thick, murky haze is gone, replaced with a shade of blue unseen for what seems an eternity. The sun is a little brighter, everything appears somehow clearer. The beached armadas of summer partiers dwindle on the rivers’ sandbars, thinned by a slight nip in the air and a corresponding plunge in water temperature. The scent of the marsh at low tide is clean and heady as the vivid green begins to gradually drain from the savannahs of spartina grass. Each gust of breeze brings with it a shower of leaves and talk turns to football and weekend oyster roasts.

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applied to the path, the ground is now a mix of dirt and gravel, and the path is now a mix of dirt and gravel.



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