

MBA Optional Networking Activities

Belmond Charleston Place

It has been said that Charleston is a city to be savored. From the heady fragrances of jasmine and tea olive to the serendipitous pleasure of discovering the city's hidden treasures. In the heart of this cultured and historic downtown is Belmond Charleston Place, an extraordinary hotel that blends old-world style and modern offerings in one of the most adored locations in the world – a city of islands and rivers, of art festivals and gardens of bloom, and much more.

A wide-range of activities is available for attendees through the Belmond Charleston Place. MBA Optional Activities below have been arranged for the convenience of our attendees and spouses/guests. Fees for MBA Optional Activities must be paid to MBA in advance and are non-refundable. Substitutions are permitted. Minimums and maximums may apply.

Sunday, June 4

MBA Welcoming Reception

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Price: Complimentary for attendees and registered spouses/guests

Join us for our opening event where you will be instantly transported to a magical, timeless place in the heart of historic downtown Charleston. Dress is casual.

Monday, June 5

Spouse and Guest Meet and Greet Charleston “Silver Lady” Dawn Evers Corley

9:30 – 11:00 am

Price: Complimentary for registered spouses/guests

Dawn Evers Corley is a native Charlestonian. She perfected her expertise on silver in antique and silver shops on King Street in downtown Charleston. In those twenty plus years, she has become a much sought after lecturer having given presentations and lectures to US presidents, foreign heads of state and dignitaries as well as many corporate and Fortune 500 groups ; The Family Circle Cup, Norfolk Southern, Southern Living to name a few. She has taught extensively and is a former fellow with Charleston Antiques School. She is considered an expert in fine jewelry. In fact, Dawn was the assessor and appraiser of the jewelry that was discovered in the raising of the USS Hunley from the Charleston harbor. She has given thousands of interactive, hands-on lectures through the years. Her presentation includes a "hand's on" format with hundreds of rare pieces to examine and learn from. Each piece is a link to a time period and a culture that produced it- most pieces are museum quality; many being made by Dawn's Southern ancestors. This unique opportunity to hold a piece of history in your hand should not be missed.)

MBA Convention Golf Tournament

1:00 pm – Shotgun Start

Price: \$225 per person

An MBA tradition, this year's tournament is on the **Wild Dunes Links Course**. Located on the northeast tip of the Isle of Palms, Wild Dunes is a unique barrier island resort golf facility ten miles from downtown historic Charleston. The Links Course is Tom Fazio designed, and has been consistently ranked in the top 25 courses in the United States since its inception in 1977 and is a par 72 course, measuring 6,722 yards in length. *Price includes greens fees, cart, gratuities, box lunch, refreshments, transportation and, of course, tournament prizes!*

Savor the Flavors of Charleston

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Price: \$60 per person

A Culinary Walking Tour: Come join us as we walk, talk and taste our way through Charleston. This 2 ½ hour Charleston culinary tour will immerse you in the history and culture of the Lowcountry. You will discover how our unique cuisine has evolved over the past 300+ years while sampling delicious specialties from local eateries, markets, bakeries, restaurants, and culinary landmarks.

Boone Hall Tour

1:30 – 5:30 pm

Price: \$150 per person

Before 1700, Major John Boone purchased his plantation on what was then called Wapeckercoon Creek. The Major was active in the politics of the day, and his family would continue to play an important role in the government of the colony and state. One daughter, Sara, was the grandmother of Edward and John Rutledge. Major John Boone, a son of South Carolina's first settlers, received the land as a grant in 1681 from the Lords Proprietors. Boone Hall was originally a cotton plantation containing over 17,000 acres, but brick and tile were also manufactured on the plantation, and these bricks are now part of the mansion walks, gin house, slave cabins, garden walls, and many of Charleston's oldest and most historic buildings. Note the plantation's famous half-mile Avenue of Oaks, planted in 1743. The plantation has been used in the filming of the movies "North and South," "Love and War," "Forrest Gump," and "Queen". The bus will ascend slowly up the 53 Live Oak tree-lined Avenue of Oaks until it reaches the front gates. Guests will disembark for a tour of the house, followed by a stroll through the historic slave quarters, then an eventual spiritual performance by authentic Gullah performers at the Gullah Theater. *Price includes transportation.*

Charleston Carriage Tour

Monday, June 5 - 2:00 – 3:00 pm; and Tuesday, June 6 - 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Price: \$35 per person

Depart Charleston Place for a wonderful private tour of Charleston's Historic District in a horse-drawn carriage. During your carriage tour you may see any number of the "Port City's" major landmarks; the Battery, White Point Gardens, Rainbow Row and Charleston's oldest church, St. Michael's (circa 1752). During the carriage ride your guide will regale you with Charleston folklore and "insiders' " stories. After an hour, the carriage will return to your destination. *Note: The carriage tour is also being offered again on Tuesday, June 6.*

Tuesday, June 6

Sweet Grass Basket Making Class

9:30 – 11:30 am

Price: \$125 per person

Sweetgrass basket making has been part of the Charleston community for more than 300 years. Brought to this area by slaves who came from West Africa, sweetgrass basket-making is a traditional art form which has been passed on from generation to generation. Today, it is one of the oldest art forms of African origin in the United States. Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, an old village and modern suburb on the north side of Charleston Harbor, enjoys the distinction of being the only place where this particular type of basketry is practiced. In this workshop, artist, sweetgrass artisan, will display a variety of her own personal artwork- her hand-crafted sweetgrass baskets. She will also lay out a series of "starter" sweetgrass baskets so that guests may join her and learn how to weave these masterpieces. The artisan will speak casually on the incredible art form, its history, and the Gullah people's passion to continue the legacy.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

1:30 – 4:30 pm

Price: \$75 per person

Enjoy a walking tour of Charleston's magnificent Historic District with your own private guide. On a walking tour of Charleston, you will visit many historic landmarks and exquisite gardens. The restored Nathaniel Russel House is a superb example of Adams architecture. The Heyward-Washington house was built in 1772 by rice planter Daniel Heyward as a townhouse for his son, Thomas Heyward, Jr. The city rented it for George Washington's use during the President's week-long Charleston stay, May 1791. The Battery is a landmark defensive seawall and promenade in Charleston, South Carolina. Named for a civil-war coastal defense artillery battery at the site, it stretches along the lower shores of the Charleston peninsula, bordered by the Ashley and Cooper Rivers, which meet here to form Charleston harbor. Historically, it has been understood to extend from the beginning of the seawall at the site of the former Omar Shrine Temple (40-44 East Bay Street) to the intersection of what is now Murray Boulevard and King Street. The higher part of the promenade, paralleling East Battery, as the street is known south of Water Street, to the intersection of Murray Boulevard, is known as High Battery. Fort Sumter is visible from the Cooper River side (High Battery) and from the point, as are Castle Pinckney, the World War II aircraft carrier USS Yorktown (CV-10), Fort Moultrie, and Sullivan's Island.

Fort Sumter Tour

2:30 – 5:30 pm

Price: \$140 per person

Arrive at Liberty Square and board a Fort Sumter tour boat. It will take you to historic Fort Sumter in the center of Charleston Harbor, where the Civil War began. The Fort is a National Monument, maintained by the National Park Services. Located in Charleston's Harbor, it is only accessible by boat. Fort Sumter features an excellent museum containing priceless Civil War exhibits. The 2 hour 15 minute tour consists of approximately 1 hour at Fort Sumter, then a 1 hour and 15 minute cruise around Charleston's historic harbor. During the harbor cruise portion of your tour, you'll enjoy the panoramic view of the Atlantic Ocean and entrance to Charleston Harbor, where Charlestonians are fond of saying, "The Ashley and the Cooper Rivers meet to give birth to the Atlantic Ocean." Includes round-trip transportation to Liberty Square or Patriots Point and a private guide. *Price includes transportation.*

Chairman's Night of Celebration

5:30 pm – 10:00 pm

Price: Complimentary for attendees and registered spouses/guests

We'll close out the Maryland Bankers Convention at The Riviera, located just across the street from the hotel, originally opened in 1939 as a movie theater, now an Art Deco, which combines the best of the past and present, with a rooftop terrace overlooking King and Market Streets. The Riviera is now listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

NOTE: Make Reservations Early!

Dining, Activities, Golf and Spa

You are encouraged to book any dining arrangements (especially larger parties), golf tee times, spa reservations, etc., prior to arrival. Please call 843-722-4900 in advance.

If you have any questions, please contact the Maryland Bankers Association:

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