

# 40



## Lowcountry Luxuries

*How do you define “luxury”? Perhaps it’s an occasional indulgence, or a unique experience, or even something exceptionally comforting. Curious to know the Charleston-centric response, we queried our Facebook fans for their favorite Lowcountry indulgences—large or small, expensive or priceless—and these are the results. Look for their quotes throughout this roundup of things (listed in no particular order) that make us fantastically lucky to live here*

*Above: Ring, rose-cut three-carat diamond in 22K gold, by Sarah Amos; see No. 5, “Local handmade jewelry,” page 99.*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY [PLUFF MUD] PIPER MONK & COURTESY OF [RING] SARAH AMOS



*Pluff mud in all its pungent glory; see No. 2, “The smell of pluff mud,” page 99.*

**Watch a Video:** Witness a kayak being freed from pluff mud at [charlestonmag.com](http://charlestonmag.com).



## 1. Access to a beach house

Most of us live within easy driving distance of a variety of beaches, but true luxury is not having to make the commute to Sullivan's or Folly, especially in the traffic-clogged throws of tourist season. Whether you claim your own digs on one of our barrier islands, have friends with an open-door policy, or plunk down the funds for a weekly rental, it's pretty darn wonderful to walk out the door and take a stroll on the beach, anytime you like.

Front beach Folly as storm clouds roll in

## 2. THE SMELL OF PLUFF MUD (FROM PAGE 97)

"PLUFF MUD. IT IS THE MOTHER SAUCE OF ALL THINGS LOWCOUNTRY. A FECUND BASE FROM WHICH THE BOUNTY OF THE MARSH SPRINGS FORTH TO GENERATE THE ECOSYSTEM THAT MAKES THIS PLACE UNIQUE. IT EMITS A FRAGRANCE DESCRIBED AS EITHER REPULSIVE OR NOSTALGIC DEPENDING ON YOUR POINT OF VIEW."

—Buff Ross, from "Odes to the Lowcountry," February 2014

## 4. Folbot Canoes

Surrounded as we are by water, wouldn't it be great to keep a kayak at the ready, say stowed in your trunk, for a spontaneous park-the-car-and-hop-in-the-creek paddle? Well, for a cool \$1,100, a folding canoe manufactured right here in North Charleston can be yours. Folbot, an 82-year-old company based in town since the 1950s, produces 10 styles of aluminum-frame boats (covered in durable fabric) that collapse into backpacks for loads as light as 24 pounds.

"A Folbot canoe that would fit in my Mini." —Jamee Thomas Haley



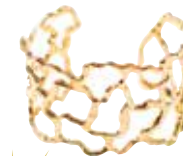
## 3. Barn Jams at Awendaw Green

One of the Lowcountry's most magical musical venues is hidden away on Highway 17 North, sprawling pond-side beneath pine trees and oaks. Every Wednesday night, folks from all walks of life gather at Awendaw Green, toting kids, dogs, and coolers of beer to catch five or so acts. Just hand your \$5 donation over to the friendly gatekeeper; line up for a made-to-order wood-fired pizza; and snag a chair, picnic table, or even swing for one of the most authentically cool experiences around.

The lineup's announced at [awendawgreen.com](http://awendawgreen.com) a few weeks ahead, but it's more fun to watch founder Eddie White's weekly video update on Facebook.

Watch a Video: Check out Awendaw Green at [charlestonmag.com](http://charlestonmag.com).

CHRISTINA JERVEY



ANGELA HALL



KATE DAVIS



PEYTON WILLIAM



SARAH AMOS



## 5. Local handmade jewelry

A wearable work of art handmade right here at home? It doesn't get more luxe than that. We're fortunate to have myriad jewelry designers in Charleston, whose styles range from Sarah Amos' classic 22K gold pieces with precious and semiprecious stones to Kate Davis' casually refined beach-chic accessories to Christina Jervej's organic forms in sterling silver, 14K gold, and 14K gold plate. Love vintage? Deirdre Zahl's Candy Shop Vintage has you covered. Prefer a little edge? Angela Hall's sophisticated contemporary works and IV&G's "Instinct" and "Judith" lines are beautifully rebellious. Take your pick among the variety of styles and price points, or go for the ultimate indulgence, a custom piece designed just for you.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY [BEACH] PIPER MONK & [AWENDAW GREEN .3] ABBY MURPHY & [COURTESY OF [KAYAK] FOLBOT & [JEWELRY .5] THE DESIGNERS