CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Charlotte is on trend for fall with Instagrammable new foodie options, festival moments worthy of sharing with #charlottesgotalot and a celebration of the Queen City's history of firsts (hello, peanut butter crackers). The city was even recently named one of the most popular cities to live in America by Domino. How is that for trendy?

But even with all the skyscrapers, hotels and new breweries to add to its repertoire, Charlotte still celebrates its longstanding traditions. For fall, you'll find some well-known chefs doing new things in the QC, a festival season with both new offerings and well-established events, and a royal welcome for the city's big 2-5-0.

NEW CULINARY MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Charlotte's taste for new and innovative culinary concepts continues to attract big-name restaurateurs. Well-known chefs and owners like William Dissen (Asheville's The Market Place), Craig Deil (Charleston's Cypress), Gary Crunkleton (Chapel Hill's The Crunkleton), Ford Fry (Atlanta's Superica) and Paul Verica (Waxhaw's Heritage Food + Drink) have all set up shop here.

FALL INTO FESTIVAL SEASON

Festivals reign supreme during the fall months in Charlotte and for good reason: Slightly crisp temperatures with lots of sunshine are perfect for spending time outdoors for long days of celebrations. And while the change of season is one reason to rejoice, Charlotte has become home to a diverse landscape of cultures and people, with great traditions and talents worthy of planning a trip around the festivities. Longstanding favorites like Charlotte Pride, Festival of India and Yiasou Greek Festival attract locals and travelers alike.

CHARLOTTE CELEBRATES 250th ANNIVERSARY

Incorporated on Dec. 3, 1768, Charlotte — the largest city in the Carolinas — is celebrating its 250th anniversary through 2018-19. While many think of Charlotte as a brand new city, it is also a destination full of hidden history. And when it comes to being No. 1, Charlotte proudly lays claim to many firsts, including mainstream innovations like orange traffic barrels, the patent for air conditioning, peanut butter crackers and computer-linked ATMs. But before these modern-day marvels, Charlotte was also making history in its formative years.

Find more details on what's new in Charlotte **here**.

About the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority:

The Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority (CRVA) works to deliver experiences that uniquely enrich the lives of our visitors and residents. Through leadership in destination development, marketing and venue management expertise, the CRVA leads efforts to maximize the region's economic potential through visitor spending, creating jobs and opportunities for the community. Brands supported by the CRVA include the Charlotte Convention Center, Spectrum Center, Bojangles' Coliseum, Ovens Auditorium, NASCAR Hall of Fame, Charlotte Regional Film Commission and Visit Charlotte in conjunction with the region's destination marketing brand. For more information, visit **charlottesgotalot.com**.

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