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Last year, Charleston was flattered. This year, it's on top of the world.

Readers of Conde Nast Traveler not only named the Holy City the No. 1 tourist destination in the U.S. for the second year in a row, but also the top travel city on the planet.

"It was a giant surprise for us," said Helen Hill, executive director of the Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. "It's an honor to be in the Top 3, but to be No. 1 twice in the U.S. is unbelievable and to be named No. 1 city in the world, you can't do any better than that."

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