



MADE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

By Angela Yates

South Carolina Culinary Traditions

What could be better than receiving a box full of authentic Southern foods? South Carolina native Amanda Dew Manning and her husband, Rober, don't think there is anything better. The pair owns Carolina FoodPros, a company that helps preserve and promote South Carolina's culinary heritage through distinctive gift boxes, culinary tours and seminars.

After years of working in food and nutrition, the Mannings returned to South Carolina to open a business that would reflect their love of Southern cuisine. Soon after, they began Carolina FoodPros. Their South Carolina Culinary Tradition gift boxes come brimming with specialties, like American Classic Tea, stone-ground grits and benne seed wafers, all guaranteed to be first-quality products produced within the state.

Carolina FoodPros also offers culinary tours and seminars from their home base in Charleston. On these exclusive tours, foodies get a behind the scenes look at local foods and meet chefs, bakers, artisan food producers and farmers. The tours are a great way to get a real taste of the Palmetto State, sampling fare from famous restaurants, specialty shops and more.

Find out more....

877-SC TASTE (877-728-2783)
www.carolinafoodpros.com

Kudzu Crafts

Nancy Basket sees potential in everything—even in the most unlikely of places. Over the past 15 years she's made use of a plant that most consider a menace. Native to China, kudzu is a climbing, semi-woody perennial vine that's prevalent across the Southeast. Brought to the US from Japan in the 1700s, kudzu had very few traditional uses. But Basket has found ways to make the most of this plentiful vine that grows 12 inches every single day.

A Native American artisan, Basket takes her name from her Cherokee grandmother, and loves sharing her heritage through art and stories. From her home in Walhalla, SC,

Basket runs Kudzu Kabin Designs, and while she uses many traditional basket-weaving materials, she's recognized for her sturdy kudzu vine baskets and kudzu paper art. Basket has been featured in various magazines, and in 1993 her work was purchased for use in the movies *Last of the Mohicans* and *Young Indiana Jones*. I guess you could say Basket's work is spreading as fast as kudzu. Well, almost.

Find out more....

864-718-8864

www.nancybasket.com

Felice Designs: One-of-a-Kind Jewelry

Anyone who knows Charleston knows that King Street is the shopping mecca of the South. The buildings that line the narrow street are from another time, but the merchandise that fills them is perfectly in sync with the hottest fashions of today--especially the hand-made glass jewelry of Felice Designs.

When you walk into Felice Viguerie Killian's shop, Felice Designs, you know you've made an extraordinary find. The white shelves that line the crisp blue walls are adorned with colorful baubles of hand-blown glass. Necklaces. Bracelets. Earrings. They're all there, shining under the soft light of her quaint shop. Walk to the back of the shop, and you'll see Felice, working diligently with a propane torch, using extra care as she fashions jewelry that carries her name.

Felice's love of jewelry began in her hometown of New Orleans. During high school, teachers and classmates fawned over the beautiful bulky jewelry she fashioned out of seed beads. She even sold her merchandise in local shops. It was during those years that Felice Designs was born.

Her lines range from the fun and flirty Carmen Miranda Collection, with beautiful clusters of brightly colored beads, to the more formal Millennium Collection, which consists of delicate gold and silver beadwork adorned with beautiful pearls. Felice also offers custom-made jewelry for weddings and other special occasions. Prices range from the low \$100s to thousands of dollars for more complex designs.

The wide array of prices and styles assures that no matter your budget or taste, you're sure to find something you like in this artist's repertoire of work. So next time you're in Charleston perusing the great shops downtown, make sure you stop by Felice Designs. You're sure to find something you like.

Find out more...

843-853-3354

www.felicedesigns.com

www.DiscoverSouthCarolina.com