



## Contact '26 schedule

### Tuesday, March 3

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

- **Airport shuttle service from Charleston International Airport (CHS) to hotel**  
*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

### Wednesday, March 4

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

- **Airport shuttle service from Charleston International Airport (CHS) to hotel**  
*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- **Sponsor exhibitor set-up**  
Azalea Prefunction

8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

- **Executive Committee Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting & Working Lunch**  
Magnolia AB  
*Sponsored by Badger Coaches, Inc.*

1:45 – 4:30 p.m.

- **Registration & NTA Information Desk open**  
Azalea Prefunction

4:30 p.m.

- **Transportation to Reception & Icebreaker**  
*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*  
Depart from conference center entrance

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

- **Happy Hour Harbor Cruise**  
with SpiritLine Cruises  
*Sponsored by Aramark*

7 – 9 p.m.

- **Icebreaker**  
USS Yorktown  
*Sponsored by Explore Charleston & Patriots Point*

8, 8:30, and 9 p.m.

- **Shuttle service from Icebreaker to Hilton Garden Inn**  
*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

Thursday, March 5

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- **Registration & NTA Information Desk open**  
Azalea Prefunction

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

- **Breakfast**  
Azalea BC  
*Sponsored by Circle Wisconsin*

9:30 – noon

- **Morning Coffee & Tea**  
Azalea Prefunction  
*Sponsored by Ottawa Tourism*

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

- **Opening General Session: The Power of Unity Behind Great Experiences**  
Speaker: Chris Singleton

Azalea A

*Sponsored by IMGlobal*

11 a.m. – noon

- **“AI for Tour Operators: Having a Strategic Plan to Optimize Your Business”**

Speaker: Dan Flores, Satisfi Labs

Azalea A

- **“Mastering the Art of the Close”**

Speaker: Andrea Ross

Magnolia AB

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

- **Luncheon**

Azalea BC

*Sponsored by Tulsa Regional Tourism*

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

- **“The Legal Realities of Managing Your People, Your Customers, and Your Travel Partners”**

Speaker: Jeff Ment, The Ment Law Group

Azalea A

- **“2026 Travel Trends: Opportunities for the Taking”**

Speaker: Michelle Stark, Red Sage Communications

Magnolia AB

2:30 – 5 p.m.

- **Afternoon refreshments**

Azalea Prefunction

*Sponsored by A Closer Look Tours*

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

- **“Make it Work(able): 3 Principles to Get Teams to Work Together”**

Speaker: Jon Yarian

Azalea A

4 – 5 p.m.

- **BizNet**

Facilitator: Bob Rouse, NTA

Azalea BC

*Sponsored by Sight & Sound Theatres and Delta Air Lines*

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.

- **Networking Reception (All attendees)**

Azalea Prefunction

*Sponsored by SoIN Tourism*

- **Dine-around**

6:45 p.m.

- **Dinner with Friends**

Note: Dinner is self-pay with limited seating. You must sign up in advance.

Friday, March 6

7 a.m.

- **5K Run/Walk**

Fundraiser for NTA's Advocacy Fund

Depart from Hilton Garden Inn Lobby

*Sponsored by Wyoming Office of Tourism*

8:15 – 9:15 a.m.

- **Grab & Go Breakfast**

Azalea Prefunction

9 – 9:20 a.m.

- **Mindful Wellness Session**

Speaker: Heather Davis

Azalea A

9:15 – 11 a.m.

- **Morning Coffee & Tea**

Azalea Prefunction

*Sponsored by Ottawa Tourism*

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

- **“The Transformative Power of Travel”**

Speaker: Sucheta Rawal  
Azalea A

11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- **Sightseeing Tours**

Depart from conference center entrance

*Sponsored by Explore Charleston*

*Transportation provided by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

6 – 6:45 p.m.

- **Tour Operator Reception**

The Lodge & Back Patio

7 – 8:30 p.m.

- **Tour Operator Networking Dinner**

Azalea BC

*Sponsored by Centaur Systems, Inc. and Discover Carbon County*

- **Dinner with Brooke: Tour Supplier/DMO Dine-around**

Note: Dinner is self-pay with limited seating. You must sign up in advance.

8:45 – 10 p.m.

- **NightCap**

Featuring: Todd Probus

Magnolia AB

*Sponsored by Visit Anchorage*

## **Saturday, March 7**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

- **Breakfast**

Azalea BC

9:30 a.m. – noon

- **Morning Coffee & Tea**  
Azalea Prefunction  
*Sponsored by Ottawa Tourism*

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

- **“From Foodie to Changemaker: The Next Wave of Culinary Travel”**  
Speaker: Sucheta Rawal  
Azalea A
- **“From Intention to Action: Operationalizing Meaningful Travel for Tour Operators”**  
Speakers: Greg Takehara, Tourism Cares; and Christina Werner, Custom Holidays  
Magnolia AB

11 a.m. – noon

- **Spotlight session: All-attendee Power Hour**  
Moderators: Catherine Prather, NTA, and Monique van Dijk-Seppola, Scandinavia Tours  
Azalea A  
*Sponsored by Trip Mate*

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

- **Saturday Luncheon**  
Azalea BC

2 – 5 p.m.

- **Educational Outings (All attendees)**  
Depart from conference center entrance  
*Sponsored by Explore Charleston*  
*Transportation provided by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

6 p.m.

- **Depart for Closing Event**  
Depart from conference center entrance  
*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

6:30 – 9 p.m.

- **Closing Event**

Magnolia Plantation

*Sponsored by Explore Charleston & Magnolia Plantation*

8, 8:30, and 9 p.m.

- **Shuttle service from Closing Event to hotel**

*Sponsored by Explore Charleston and Motor Coach Family of Brands*

### **Sunday, March 8**

4 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- **Airport shuttle service to Charleston International Airport (CHS) from hotel**

Depart from conference center entrance

*Sponsored by Motor Coach Family of Brands*

8:30 a.m.

- **Post-Contact Fam to Beaufort departs**

Depart from conference center entrance