

Surrounding Area

Seagrove pottery



Seagrove's pottery tradition dates back to the 18th century when pottery was essential to daily life. The Industrial Revolution and subsequent advances in food preparation diminished the need for utilitarian pottery as glass and tin became the materials of choice. Abolition eliminated the need for clay whiskey jugs. By the 1920's the Seagrove pottery tradition was almost non-existent when Jacques and Juliana Busbee of Raleigh began to encourage local potters to create artistic pieces which they sold in Greenwich Village, NY. The rest, as they say, is history. Today you can visit over 100 different potters within a short drive of the town of Seagrove some of whom are 8th and 9th generation potters. Pieces of Seagrove pottery can be seen in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC and have been given as gifts to heads of state around the globe. Enjoy a sunny day driving in rural North Carolina as you explore some of these potters. You are likely to find one throwing a pot on the potter's wheel and another removing fired pots from his kiln. But don't forget your VISA card; we promise you will not return home empty handed. (www.ncpotterycenter.com)

North Carolina Zoo



A short drive from Greensboro will bring you to the N. C. Zoo. With 1,371 acres, it is the largest "walk-through" natural-habitat zoo in the world, the first in the United States, and only one of two state-owned zoos in the United States. The N. C. Zoo has over 1100 animals from more than 250 species primarily representing Africa and North America. Be sure to wear your walking shoes! www.nczoo.org

Stock Car Auto Racing

The history of stock car racing in the US is near and dear to the hearts of many North Carolinians. Some claim that stock car racing got its start in NC. There is agreement that stock car racing in the United States had its origins in bootlegging during Prohibition. Bootleggers needed to distribute their illicit products, and they typically used small, fast vehicles to better evade the police. Many of the drivers would modify their cars for speed and handling, as well as increased cargo capacity, and some of them came to love the fast-paced driving down twisty mountain roads. This bootleg whiskey was made primarily in the Appalachian Mountains, and some point directly to Wilkes County, located a short drive west of Winston-Salem, as the birthplace of stock car racing.

Racing continues to be a big part of the sports scene in North Carolina from the prestigious Coca-Cola 600 NASCAR race run at the 1.5 mile Charlotte Motor Speedway (www.charlottemotorspeedway.com) to the ¼ mile track at Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, NASCAR'S longest running weekly race track. (www.bowmangrayeracing.com) Sprinkled across the state are various museums such as the North Carolina Auto Racing Hall of Fame in Mooresville (www.ncfrhof.com) and the Richard Petty Museum in Randleman, just a short drive south of Greensboro. (www.rpmmuseum.com)



Charlotte Motor Speedway



Bowman Gray Stadium

Wineries

The history of the wine industry in North Carolina has had its ups and downs. North Carolina's first commercial winery was founded in 1835 and by the 1850's North Carolina had 25 wineries, but the Civil War devastated the industry. The industry began to rebound in the 1890's and by 1904 two NC wines were the leading selling wines in the country. However, in 1909 the state enacted a prohibition on alcohol - and again the industry was devastated. Prohibition was repealed in 1933, but by that time NC farmers were heavily invested in tobacco. In 1947 the remaining NC wineries closed when their counties voted "dry", making the production and sale of alcohol illegal once again. Though a third devastating blow to the industry, some vineyards continued to produce grapes to meet out of state demand. In the next three decades legislation from the state capital not only permitted the production and sale of wine, but encouraged the growth of this industry. 1999 was a pivotal year when the Golden LEAF Foundation, created to help NC farmers transition from tobacco, gave farmers incentives to switch to growing grapes. The Yadkin Valley, just west of Winston-Salem, was designated the state's first American Viticultural Area. Today North Carolina boasts 90 wineries and is 7th in wine production in the US. Many of these wineries surround the Triad and welcome visitors. (www.visitncwines.com) One of the most popular to visit and tour is that of race car driver, Richard Childress. (www.childressvineyards.com)



North Carolina Transportation Museum

If you are a railroad buff, this is the place for you. But don't be surprised to see a few automobiles and aircraft as well. Located on the site of what was once Southern Railway Company's largest steam locomotive servicing facility, this museum is a great place for children who may climb into a caboose and ride the 100 foot turntable in front of the roundhouse. www.nctrans.org



Mt. Airy

Well I miss Mayberry
Sitting on the porch drinking ice cold Cherry Coke
Where everything is black & white
Picking on a Six String
Where people pass by and you call them by their first name
Watching the clouds roll by
bye bye lyrics from "Mayberry" by Rascal Flatts

If you would like to capture, if only for an afternoon, that slower pace of life, visit Mt. Airy, the birthplace of Andy Griffith and the inspiration for the town of Mayberry portrayed for eight seasons on TV in the "Andy Griffith Show" A stroll down the sidewalks of this quaint town nestled in the foothills will lead you to Floyd's Barbershop, Snappy Lunch, Opie's Candy Store and Barney's Restaurant. (<http://www.tvland.com/shows/andy-griffith-show>) Should you tire of the Mayberry nostalgia, Mt. Airy also offers a winery and microbrewery, an annual fiddlers convention, shag dancing to beach music, and dramatic performances at the Andy Griffith Playhouse. With visitors from every US state and around the world, it is clear that we all enjoy the lure of small town life. (www.visitmayberry.com)



High Point

As with Greensboro and Winston-Salem, High Point was also settled in the mid 1750's by Quaker and German immigrants. By the mid 1850's its location at the highest point of the North Carolina Railroad (hence the name of the city) where it intersected the Great Western Plank Road positioned it well for the delivery of raw materials like cotton and lumber. In the 20th century High Point was known for its textiles, bus, and yacht manufacturing, but its main claim to fame was as and still is the "Furniture Capital of the World." The semi-annual High Point Market is the largest furnishings industry trade show in the world. Approximately 12,000,000 square feet (1,100,000 m²) of showroom

space is used by 2300 exhibitors, in 188 separate buildings. Today High Point is home to over 50 retail furniture outlets, offering a variety of manufacturers with every style imaginable including Furnitureland South with over one million square feet of showroom space. In addition to furniture, while in High Point one can discover the wonder of miniatures as well as collectible and antique dolls at the Doll & Miniature Museum of High Point (www.dollandminiaturemuseum.org) or enjoy professional performances at the annual Shakespeare festival (www.ncshakes.org).



Lexington, the Barbeque Capital of the World

Lexington, a small town south of the Triad, is home to the Bob Timberlake Gallery which showcases the artist's original works, reproductions, and memorabilia. (www.bobtimberlake.com/lexington-gallery)

However, the most important reason to visit Lexington is to experience the Barbeque Capital of the World. First, you must understand that North Carolina barbeque is not the same menu item you find in Texas or other states in the US. Lexington style barbeque (also called Piedmont style or western barbeque) is made with pork shoulder cooked

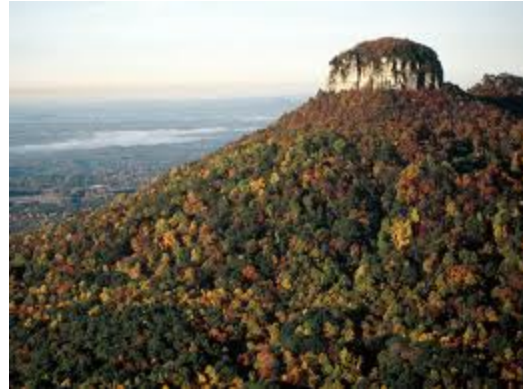


slowly over a hardwood fire, usually hickory wood. It is basted in a sauce (called "dip" locally) made with vinegar, ketchup, water, salt, pepper and other spices. (This is in contrast to "eastern" barbeque, served in the eastern part of the state, which omits the ketchup.) Any good barbeque meal or sandwich is accompanied by slaw. Again, there is an important distinction between the eastern and western parts of the state. In

Lexington, your barbeque meal will be served with "red" slaw which is a combination of cabbage, vinegar, ketchup and crushed/ground black pepper (as opposed to "white" slaw which is prepared with mayonnaise and no ketchup.) If you are unable to make it to Lexington, have no fear. There are plenty of barbeque restaurants in the Triad. Just don't leave North Carolina without a taste of *real* barbeque. (www.barbequefestival.com)

N. C. Mountains

In less than an hour you can be in the mountains of North Carolina enjoying cooler temperatures and beautiful views. Your challenge will be in deciding which one to visit. The list is almost endless, but some of those closest to the Triad include: Pilot Mountain which is known for its distinctive granite knob which rises 1,400 feet above the



Pilot Mountain

surrounding terrain. On a clear day it can be seen from downtown Winston-Salem. Hanging Rock, with its waterfalls, hiking trails, and a lake, is the perfect destination for a picnic. Stone Mountain, known for its dome of exposed granite that rises 600 feet, offers the state's best rock climbing. Mount Mitchell, at 6,684 feet above sea level, is the highest point in the U. S. east of the Mississippi River. Grandfather Mountain, known for its hanging bridge, is not for the faint of heart. Regardless of your choice, you will not regret a day spent in the N. C. Mountains.



Stone Mountain

www.visitnc.com/journeys/highlights/nc-mountains



Grandfather Mountain