

Updated 5/19/23

Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau  
Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Hillsborough, NC  
[www.visitchapelhill.org](http://www.visitchapelhill.org)  
(919) 245-4320



## 2023 MAJOR ANNUAL EVENTS

### January

**January 15-22 Martin Luther King Jr Day Weeklong Celebration**, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill. Sponsor: UNC Diversity and Inclusion at <https://diversity.unc.edu/programs/mlk/> (919) 962-6962.

### February

**February is Black History Month – Carrboro Events** <https://townofcarrboro.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2338>  
More events to come

**February 10-11. 2nd annual Chapel Hill Black Film Festival** at the Varsity Theatre.  
<https://argylerebelfilms.com/>

**February 16-18. 46th Annual Carolina Jazz Festival**, Locations on the UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; Sponsor UNC Department of Music (919) 962-1039 <http://music.unc.edu/jazzfest>

### March

**March 11. North Carolina High School Basketball Championships**, Dean Smith Center Chapel Hill; North Carolina High School Athletic Association (919) 240-7401. NCHSAA state championship basketball games (both men and women). Tickets to be announced. <https://gofan.co/app/school/NC1661> **Games at Smith Center:** 12:00 pm; – 2:30 pm; 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm Classifications to and opponents TBA.

**March 12. Carrboro Kite Fly**, Hank Anderson Park in Carrboro, off Hwy 54 West. Free 1 pm – 3 pm. Welcome spring and bring your own kite. If raining, event will be cancelled. <http://carrbororec.org>

**March 18. Hillsborough Arts at Spring Equinox.** Join the Hillsborough Arts Council at local artist & HAC Board Member, Ali Givens', Hillsborough home for their first Spring Equinox, a fundraiser and party, celebrating Hillsborough Arts. <https://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/> More information to come.

**March 19. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St.  
<https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**March 25. Revolutionary War Living History Day.** With live reenactors, dancers, historic tours, interactive activities, and collaborative events throughout town, Revolutionary War Living History Day focuses on Hillsborough's unique role in the American Revolution, recalling the occupation of Hillsborough by British General Lord Charles Cornwallis and his 1,900-man army on February 20th, 1781. Activities are at Visitors Center, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, the Orange County Historical Museum, the Burwell School Historic Site, and Eagle Lodge. Sponsored by the Alliance for Historic

Hillsborough, 10 am – 4 pm. (919) 732-7741. <https://www.historichillsborough.org/revolutionary-war-living-history-day>

**March 25. Community Egg Hunt at Central Recreation Center Field in Hillsborough.** This giant egg hunt has three separate age group hunt areas: 0-4-years-old, 5-8-years-old, and 9-12-years-old. There will be plenty of eggs for everyone so please bring a basket to collect your eggs! The event also includes Bunny Photos, inflatables, crafts and face painting. 1 pm – 4 pm. Pre-registration required by Friday March 17. Field behind Central Recreation Center, 302 West Tryon Street, Hillsborough. \$5 per household. <http://www.orangecountync.gov/recreation>

**March 25-26. Tarheel Antiques Festival.** The festival features antique vendors, auctions and appraisals. Located at the historic Barn at Lloyd's Dairy centrally located between the Triangle and Triad regions of North Carolina at the merge of Interstate 40 & 85. \$7 weekend pass. March 25 Main Day: 9 am – 5 pm - Festival opens to the public featuring antique and craft vendors, auctions, appraisal and Christmas themed activities and entertainment. March 26 Grande Finale Day: 9 am – 5 pm. Second day of antiques, crafters and vendors. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 923-3988 or (919) 732-7322 [www.tarheelantiquesfestival.com](http://www.tarheelantiquesfestival.com)

## **April**

**April 1. Moorefields Annual Spring Wildflower Hike.** 2 pm. The hike will explore the ridges and bottomlands near Seven Mile Creek, one of Orange County's most significant and undisturbed natural areas. We will be led by Milo Pyne, an N.C. State-trained botanist, retired senior regional ecologist for NatureServe, and an expert on Piedmont wildflowers. At the hike, a \$5 donation is suggested. Moorefields is located at 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. For more information, call (919) 732-4384 or write to [bjacobsfc@gmail.com](mailto:bjacobsfc@gmail.com) or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

**April 1. UNC Science Expo,** UNC Campus at Morehead Planetarium & Science Center, Chapel Hill, 11am - 4pm. Morehead Planetarium, in partnership with the students and faculty at UNC, celebrate science with our community — as a part of the [North Carolina Science Festival](#). This annual celebration of science features more than 100 hands-on activities and science demonstrations lead by STEM students, researchers, and practitioners from UNC-Chapel Hill. [www.ncsciencefestival.org](http://www.ncsciencefestival.org) (919) 843-7959. <https://moreheadplanetarium.org/program/expo/>

**April 1. Carrboro Community Egg Hunt Celebration.** Recreation & Parks Department sponsors a spring celebration for children ages 2-10. Free activities including a GIANT Egg Hunt for three age groups and fun for the whole family. Hank Anderson Community Park off of Hwy 54 West. Noon – 2 pm. <http://carrbororec.org>

**April 1. EASTER EGGstravagnaza** at Homestead Aquatic Center. 3 pm – 5 pm. Come dive for Easter Eggs. At the end of the event, trade the eggs in for a special Easter themed prize. Registration is \$5 per person. Take a photo with the Easter Bunny. 300 Aquatic Drive. Ages 1-7. (919) 968-2784. [www.chapelhillparks.org](http://www.chapelhillparks.org)

**April 1. EGG-STREME Hunt at Chapel Hill Community Center.** 8 pm – 9 pm. Gather your friends, bring a flashlight and search for eggs and prizes in the dark at 120 S. Estes Drive. Ages 7 – 14. Costs \$8 - \$10. (919) 968-2784. [www.chapelhillparks.org](http://www.chapelhillparks.org)

**April 2. 32<sup>nd</sup> Bi-annual Carrboro CD and Record Show.** 42 tables of new and used CDs, vinyl records and music memorabilia. Free admission. Carrboro Century Center, 100 N. Greensboro Street, Carrboro. Contact 919-260-0661 [gerrycw51@gmail.com](mailto:gerrycw51@gmail.com) and [www.musicalroots.net](http://www.musicalroots.net) (second show in Fall)

**April 7. Fridays on the Front Porch** at The Carolina Inn begins for 2023. Every Friday evening 5 pm – 8 pm through October 27 enjoy live music, food trucks & beverage specials, and comfortable seating on the shady front porch and lawn of the beautiful, historic Carolina Inn. (919-918-2777). [www.carolinainn.com](http://www.carolinainn.com)

**April 8. Carrboro Flashlight Egg Hunt.** Recreation, Parks & Cultural Resources Department sponsors a spring celebration for youth ages 11 – 14. Bring your own flashlight and hunt for special golden eggs in the dark. Prizes. Bring your own bag or basket to collect. Wilson Park. Registration at 7:45 pm; Rules & info at 8:10 p m and hunt begins at 8:20 pm. <http://carrbororec.org>

**April 15. UNC's Spring Football Game** at 3 pm. Admission is free and several events are planned for fans of all ages. The Spring Game features a Fan Fest around the Bell Tower. The Fan Fest will start at 1 p.m. and remain open until 2:30 p.m. It included interactive games for kids, the Bell Tower climb, music and more! Public Parking Bell Tower Deck (ADA Parking), Bowles Lot, Cardinal Deck, Craige Deck, Jackson Deck and Manning Lot. Visit <https://goheels.com/news/2023/4/3/football-spring-game-presented-by-wegmans-set-for-april-15-at-3-pm.aspx>

**April 15. The ArtsCenter Annual Imagine More Gala.** Info call (919) 929-2787. 6 pm at Haw River Ballroom. [www.artscenterlive.org](http://www.artscenterlive.org) <https://e.givesmart.com/events/mwo/>

**April 16. Carrboro Open Streets.** Noon – 4 pm. The event is held annually in April on Weaver Street. The community is invited to dance, do yoga, ride their bikes, climb a rock wall, make smoothies on a bike blender, and participate in many other activities in a public space that not many ever thought of as a place to partake in recreation. (919) 918-7392 <http://www.ci.carrboro.nc.us/745/Carrboro-Open-Streets>

**April 16. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St. <https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**April 22. The 16th Annual Tar Heel 10 Miler and Fleet Feet 4 Mile Run.** Run takes you on a beautiful tour of Chapel Hill. Event starts at 7:45 AM on the UNC campus Start Line: 199 South Rd Dr, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, near the UNC Bell Tower and Finish Line: 104 Stadium Drive near Kenan Stadium Gate 2. <https://capstoneraces.com/tar-heel-10-miler/>

**April 22. Masquerade Gala.** The Annual Burwell School Gala and Auction returns. Details to come. Celebrate 60 years of the Historic Hillsborough Commission. Ticket details to come. Call (919)732-7451 or email [director@burwellschool.org](mailto:director@burwellschool.org). Burwell School, 319 N. Churton Street, Hillsborough, [www.burwellschool.org](http://www.burwellschool.org)

**April 22-23. Piedmont Farm Tour.** Orange, Chatham, Person and Alamance counties; Tour various farms throughout the area from 2 pm – 6 pm, both days. Carolina Farm Stewardship Association (919) 542-2402. Cost: \$30 per car for ALL FARMS if purchased in advance, \$35 per car for ALL FARMS if purchased during the tour, and \$10 per car per farm the day of the tour. (All proceeds benefit CFSA) <https://www.carolinafarmstewards.org/pft/>

**April 29. Fields of Funk Beer Festival.** Coordinated by Steel String Brewery at Pluck Farm at 6901 NC Hwy 54 West, Mebane in western Orange County. Times and details to come.  
<https://www.facebook.com/PluckFarmNC/>

**April 29. River Park Concert** returns after a three year hiatus on April 29, 2023. The event opens at 12pm, music will begin at 12:30 and wrap up around 8:00pm. [www.riverparkconcert.com](http://www.riverparkconcert.com). Entrance to the park at the River Arch is 228 S. Churton Street. There will be 4 bands, local beer, food, art vendors, live mural painting, and community mural. It is completely free to attend. Additionally, On April 28, there is a private sustainer event that helps keep River Park free for the community and also supports WHUP FM. The event includes food, drinks, and a live performance from Joseph Terrell - lead singer of Mipso. A portion of all ticket sales will be donated to WHUP FM, our nonprofit partner for the 2023 event. Sustainer tickets are \$150. <https://www.trianglemusicalliance.com/sustainer>

**April 27-28, 2024. Chapel Hill Spring Garden Tour** with the theme Tucked Away Treasures. Mark your calendar. More information soon. <https://chapelhillgardenclub.net/>

## **May**

**May 5 - 7. VIETRI's Spring Warehouse Sale.** 9 am – 4 pm. The VIETRI Warehouse Sale is a semi-annual sale at our Outlet Store in Hillsborough, NC. Additional discounts are offered on discontinued, slightly flawed, and one-of-a-kind Italian handcrafted dinnerware, glassware, flatware, home décor, and more! Located at 343 Elizabeth Brady Road in Hillsborough, NC, Phone at (919) 245-4181. Warehouse Sale Details: <https://vietrioutlet.com/pages/vietri-warehouse-sale> Also a Fall Version.

**May 5 – June 23. Freight Train Blues Concert Series.** Each spring the Music Makers and the Town of Carrboro present eight free root music concerts at the Carrboro Town Commons on Fridays from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Beer and food available for purchase. <https://musicmaker.org/freight-train-blues-concert-series/>

**May 6. Hillsborough 2023 Spring Garden Tour,** Hillsborough Garden Club biennial event rain or shine features some of Hillsborough's most inspirational gardens, with the theme "Untamed. Unexpected. Unbelievable!" 13 gorgeous gardens for you to explore 9 am – 3 pm. Some of the gardens are free-flowing masses of beautiful flowers, shrubs and trees...Untamed. All of the gardens are hidden gems...Unexpected. And ALL of the gardens are just beautiful.....Unbelievable! Tickets are \$30-35.  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hillsborough-garden-tour-2023-tickets-523699147247>

**May 6. 2023 Wild Bird Walk with Helen Kalevas.** This fun hike, an introductory Bird Identification for all ages will explore both woods and open fields, so bring binoculars and wear shoes appropriate to cover uneven terrain. Helen Kalevas, has a Master of Science Degree in Biology with emphasis on Avian Ecology. She has over 20 years of experience in university level teaching and research in ornithology and bird ecology, including bird diet and endangered species, from Arizona to North Carolina. 8 am. Rain date May 7. At the hike, a \$5 donation is suggested. Moorefields is located at 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. Call (919) 732-4384 or email [bjacobsfc@gmail.com](mailto:bjacobsfc@gmail.com) or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

**May 6-7, 13 The 28th Annual Art in the Garden Sculpture Exhibition** is a unique once yearly event and one of the finest outdoor sculpture exhibitions in the triangle region of North Carolina. The event is held at the private residence of artists Tinka Jordy and Mark Donley just six miles away from downtown Hillsborough. Saturday hours 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 12 pm – 5 pm.

**May 7. Arts on the Market.** 12pm – 4 pm. Arts on Market is a bi-annual celebration and shopping event featuring hand-crafted art and gifts made by regional artists, artisans, bakers, and makers. Market Street, Chapel Hill. Shop for <https://www.southernvillage.com/arts-on-market>

**May 7. Carrboro Day,** 1-5 pm. Carrboro Town Commons. A day of music, art, games, poetry, food, and celebration! Enjoy old Carrboro stories and photos, poetry readings, music and dancing, interactive field games, crafts, family activities and more! Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department (919) 918-7364, [www.carrboroday.com](http://www.carrboroday.com)

**May 13. Youth Fishing Rodeo** (ages 3-15), Blackwood Farm Park 4215 NC 86, Hillsborough; Sponsored by the area's Orange County Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation; Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department and Orange County Cooperative Extension. Pre-registration required by May 10. The Fishing Rodeo is an annual community event intended to expose children to the joy of fishing. Bring your own pole or borrow one of ours (limited availability). Bait worms will be provided. Live bait only. Prizes will be awarded and free hot dog lunch. <http://www.orangecountync.gov/recreation>

**May 14. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St. <https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**May 14. UNC Spring Commencement,** 9 am in Kenan Stadium, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill. Bryan Stevenson, renowned public interest lawyer and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, will deliver the keynote address at Carolina's Class of 2023 Spring Commencement. [UNC Office of Special Projects](http://unc.edu/special-projects), (919) 962-0045. <http://commencement.unc.edu/>

**May 20. Carolina Moonlight Garden Party.** 6 pm – 9 pm. Dress in your best floral attire and join us for live music by UNC student musicians, an opening reception sponsored by Mother Earth Brewing, dinner on-site amongst the native wildflowers, and a spirited fundraiser benefitting the Garden's plant conservation work. North Carolina Botanical Garden 100 Old Mason Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27517. <https://ncbg.unc.edu/event/carolina-moonlight-garden-party/>

**May 20-21. Ixtapa Fest.** Free Two-Day Concert under the Sycamore Tree at Hillsborough's El Restaurante Ixtapa 162 Exchange Park Lane. Restaurant's food available. Four acts on Saturday begin at 12:30 pm, with six acts playing on Sunday starting at Noon. Rain Date is May 28. [http://ixtapa.homestead.com/Ixtapa-Fest-23.html?\\_id=1682184326421](http://ixtapa.homestead.com/Ixtapa-Fest-23.html?_id=1682184326421). Read more in The News of Orange [https://www.newsfororange.com/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/article\\_53aee378-f46d-11ed-a3ff-57209408a533.html](https://www.newsfororange.com/arts_and_entertainment/article_53aee378-f46d-11ed-a3ff-57209408a533.html)

**May 4, 2024. Battle of the Blues Polo Match.** Teams representing the Blue Devils and Tar Heels. This year's event has the added bonus for visitors to also attend our Kentucky Derby watch party. The event is presented by the Triangle Polo Club and the Barn at Lloyd's Dairy featuring the Sport of Kings. Reserve a VIP tent or park next to the field for a great tailgating experience. Bring a ball to toss between chukkers. At half-time kids can try hitting a polo ball on foot while adults can participate in the traditional stomping of the divots. Ticket sales will open April 1. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 732-7322. <https://www.battleofthebluespolo.com/> **2023 Event Cancelled. Mark your calendar for 2024.**

**June**

**June 1. Lavender Oaks Farm Lavender season.** Our lavender begins blooming in late May. June is peak for the best blooms and opening day and u-pick begins June 1, 2023. 3833 Millard Whitley Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516. <https://lavenderoaks.farm/>

#### **June. Small Town Pride Events**

**Pride Month in Carrboro** <https://www.carrboronc.gov/2706/Pride-Month>

**June 3. Pride Promenade** is a march from Peace & Justice Plaza to 140 West Franklin Street for music, food and more 2 pm – 4 pm <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/pride-promenade/>

**June 4. Lavender Festival at Lavender Oaks Farm.** Lavender Festival 1 pm – 4 pm at Lavender Oaks Farm in Chapel Hill. U-Pick Lavender Live Music Lavender Food & Drinks, Lavender Boutique Open, Venue Tours. Tickets \$50 Adult and \$30 children (age 6-12) (5 and under Free). Tickets available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lavender-festival-2023-tickets-564978424677>

**June 13. North Carolina Symphony** on the Southern Village Green is part of the Concerts in Your Community Series. Concert is free. Bring a blanket or chair. 7:30 pm. <https://www.ncsymphony.org/events/580/concerts-in-your-community/>

**June 16-18. 2023 Efland Seafood Festival.** The event raises money for NC Veterans and provides a hospitality fair with seafood provided by Performance Foods, organized in part through the Hillsborough Sports Fishing Club. Food, music, and entertainment including carnival rides, games, face painting, cornhole tournament, balloon animals, fire performers. Admission is free. Friday 3 pm – 10, Saturday 10 am – 10 pm, Sunday 1 pm – 9 pm. Efland Ruritan Grounds, 3009 Forrest Avenue, Efland, North Carolina 27243, United States <https://eflandseafoodfestival.com/>

**June 17. Juneteenth Celebration** Come be a part of the Chapel Hill Juneteenth Celebration! Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. Hargraves Community Center, 216 N. Roberson St, Chapel Hill [www.chapelhillarts.org](http://www.chapelhillarts.org)

**June 24. Historic Hillsborough Excursion Day** from 10 am – 4 pm. The Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, together with Hillsborough's local historic sites, is hosting the return of Historic Hillsborough Excursion Day. The Alexander Dickson House, the Burwell School, the Orange County Historical Museum, Ayr Mount, the Occaneechi Village, and more, are coming together to showcase Hillsborough's historic significance. This will be a day full of reenactments, exhibits, tours, and family-friendly fun. More details to come. <https://historichillsborough.org/>

#### **July**

**Carrboro July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration**, Weaver Street Lawn (9:30 am – 11 am) and Carrboro Town Commons (10:30am – 4 pm); Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department, (919) 918-7364. People's Parade at 10:50 am. [www.townofcarrboro.org](http://www.townofcarrboro.org)

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Efland Parade** Lineup at 9:00 starts at 10:00. Starts at Lloyds Carwash and ends at Ruritan club. [www.eflandruritanclub.com](http://www.eflandruritanclub.com)

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Caldwell Parade.** 11 am. At about 10 a.m. we join the town marchers at the Caldwell Fire House. The parade starts moving at 10:50 with veterans leading the parade. We will stop at the NC 57 and Guess Rd. intersection to wait for the 11 a.m. official start.

**Old Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.** From 1pm – 3pm on the lawn at the Horace Williams House, 610 E Rosemary St, Chapel Hill enjoy FREE ice cream, lemonade, and patriotic music performed by the Village Band. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, family and friends. [www.preservationchapelhill.org](http://www.preservationchapelhill.org)

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks.** Fireworks in Southern Village Community Park. Event opens at 7 pm with fireworks at 9 pm. Chapel Hill Community Arts & Culture. (919) 968-2828.  
<https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/fireworks/>

**July 14 – August 12. NEW EVENT - Uproar Festival of Public Art.** The Orange County Arts Commission (OCAC) announces Uproar Festival of Public Art which will showcase 60 large-scale, bold works of art throughout the downtown areas of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough. Cash prizes will be awarded to Southeastern artists chosen by both the public and a jury panel of experts. <https://uproarfestnc.com/>  
<https://artsorange.org/new-uproar-festival-of-public-art-first-experience-of-its-kind-in-north-carolina-to-feature-60-large-scale-works-in-chapel-hill-carrboro-and-hillsborough/>

**July 20, 27, August 10 & 17. Movies Under the Stars** at 8 pm at Forest Theatre between Boundary Street and Country Club Road. Family friendly movies. Info to come. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/festivals-events/>

## August

**August 4 –September 17 in Chapel Hill, NC. 23rd Annual Forest Theatre Summer Giant Puppet Show.** Theme *Where Our Spirits Reside*. Paperhand Puppet Intervention <http://paperhand.org/> Shows Fri-Sun and Labor Day, Forest Theatre on the UNC Campus, 123 S. Boundary Street (919) 923-1857. Ticket sales begin June 1.

**August 11-12. Tarheel Dog Day Festival.** Join us for the celebration of our best friends and puppy love... The festival will feature demonstrations, vendors and interactive exhibits. We also plan to break a Guinness Book of Worlds Record so stay tuned. 1001 Bushy Cook Road, Efland NC 27243  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1039874676719158>

## September

**September 15-16. Hog Day.** Friday 6 pm – 10 pm and Saturday 10 am – 6 pm. River Park, 114 E. Margaret Lane, Downtown Hillsborough. Live music, local handmade crafts and gifts; local food vendors, classic car show, children's area, 5K Run, Pigs on Parade Art Project and BBQ cookoff contest with lots of BBQ to enjoy. [www.hogday.org](http://www.hogday.org).

**September 16. New Live at Legion Community Concert.** 1714 Legion Road, Chapel Hill, 3 pm – 6 pm. Bring your blankets and chairs and join us for the\*new\* Live at Legion community concert. The event is free and all ages. Check back for the lineup of musical acts. Food and drink beverages will be available for purchase. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/live-at-legion/>

**September 17. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St.  
<https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**September 17 - December 3. 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sculpture in the Garden.** Preview party then Exhibit on display up to two months. North Carolina Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill. Annual display of works of 50 North

Carolina artists displaying their one-of-a kind sculptures placed amid the native wildflowers and shrubs to delight garden visitors. (919) 962-0522. **100 Old Mason Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27517**  
<https://ncbg.unc.edu/visit/exhibits/sculpture-in-the-garden/>

**TBA. Weekends Late September – October. Fall Corn Mazes at McKee Farms in Rougemont.** \$15 corn maze admission. Age 2 and Under Free. Fridays 3-8pm, Saturday 10-8pm, Sunday 1-7pm. 2 mazes – 12 acre cornfield maze and 2 acre fun, interactive adventurous maze for children. Also hayrides, pumpkins, farm animals, play area, games, picnic area, barrel train rides and more. Cedar Creek Farm, 5011 Kiger Rd, Rougemont, (919) 732-8065. <https://mkeecornfieldmaze.com/corn-maze-1>

## **October**

**October 1. 26th Carrboro Music Festival.** All types of music! Event features numerous venues throughout downtown Carrboro with dozens of musical acts as well as food, craft and non-profit vendors. Free shuttle bus from Carrboro Plaza Park & Ride. Coordinated effort by the Carrboro Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Resources Department and the Carrboro Music Festival Planning Committee.; (919) 918-7364.  
[www.carrboromusicfestival.com](http://www.carrboromusicfestival.com).

**October 6-7. Annual Efland Ruritan Rodeo.** Time: Ticket booth and gates open at 5:30PM. Rodeo starts at 7:30PM. Admission - 15 - Adults, \$14 - Adults with military ID (active, reserve, retired), \$7 - Military in uniform, \$7 - Children aged 5 - 12. \*There is an ATM at the Efland Supermarket, if needed. 3009 Forrest Ave, Efland, NC 27243 Featuring all the classic events of rodeo such as Ranch Style Bronc Riding, Team Roping, Cowgirls Break-Away Roping, Calf Roping, Cowgirl Barrel Racing and of course Bull Riding, clowns, special entertainment, good food and more. (919) 971-1129. Hwy 70, I-40/85 Exit 160. Parking is free. No pets, coolers or smoking allowed inside the gate. [www.eflandruritanclub.com](http://www.eflandruritanclub.com)

**October 7. BikeFest 2023: Annual Rural Heritage Tour.** The Tour with 850 riders begins at the Superior Courthouse in downtown Hillsborough, and offers a choice of several rides in rural Orange County: a 35-mile half metric, a 62-mile metric century, and a 100-mile English century. Rides split into age 17 and under and 18 and older). Also enjoy a 7-mile Family-oriented Historic District Fun Ride. Check-in opens at 6:30am and first ride at 7:30 am. Sponsor: Carolina Tarwheels Bicycle Club. (919) 383-9722.  
[www.ncbikefest.org](http://www.ncbikefest.org) or <http://tarwheels.net/wp/bikefest/>

**October 7. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bluegrass at Moorefields.** 1 pm – 6 pm will take place on the lawn at Moorefields, an idyllic homestead on 70 beautiful acres in Hillsborough. Bring your chairs and blankets. Proceeds benefit Historic Moorefields. The event features five bands, food trucks, beer & wine. Moorefields Estate, 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough, Visit [www.moorefields.org](http://www.moorefields.org) to see when tickets available for purchase. Lawn seating tickets are \$15 per person. Teens 13-17 are \$10 and kids 12 and under are free. Free parking. Call (919) 732-4941.

**TBA. Live Action with Carolina Basketball.** The men's and women's basketball teams are kicking off another exciting season of Tar Heel basketball at the Dean Smith Center. Details to come including player and staff introductions, a combined three-point shooting contest and intra-squad scrimmages by both teams. [www.goheels.com](http://www.goheels.com)

**October 12. University Day.** Celebrate the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the oldest public university in the country. UNC Campus, Chapel Hill; UNC Office of Special Projects (919) 962-0045.  
[www.unc.edu](http://www.unc.edu)



**October 14, 21 & 28. Festifall Arts Markets & More.** Chapel Hill's annual arts festival returns in October spanning multiple days, and featuring dozens of local artisans, diverse performances, and interactive arts experiences. Highlights include 30+ art vendors, savory and sweet food trucks, drink vendors, live music, community mural making, commemorative screen printing, dancing, poetry, painting, drumming and more. 1 pm – 6 pm. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/festifall-arts-market-more/>

**October 15. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St. <https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**October 28. Salt & Smoke Festival** from 2 pm to 8 pm at The Barn at Sonark Media at 913 Borland Road, Hillsborough. It's a full afternoon and evening of live music, whole hog barbecue, and raw oysters & roasted clams from our friends at Shooting Point Oyster Co. Delicious Southern sides and plenty of the beverages to wash it all down - local beer, wine, and cocktails. Magicians and yard games. Tickets are \$125 + service fees and VIP parking is extra. <https://saltandsmokefest.com/>. Ticket details at <https://www.exploretock.com/acmefoodandbeverage/event/416130/2023-salt-smoke-festival>

**TBA. West End Poetry Festival.** Event Poetry readings and workshops. Sponsored by the Town of Carrboro and planned by the Carrboro Poets Council. Free. Dates, times and location to come. (919) 918-7364 <https://westendpoetryfestival.org/>.

**TBA. Tarheel Antiques Festival.** This Fall festival features antique vendors, auctions and appraisals. Located at the historic Barn at Lloyd's Dairy centrally located between the Triangle and Triad regions of North Carolina at the merge of Interstate 40 & 85. \$7 weekend pass. Saturday Main Day: 9 am – 5 pm - Festival opens to the public featuring antique and craft vendors, auctions, appraisal and Christmas themed activities and entertainment. Sunday - Finale Day: 9 am – 5 pm. Second day of antiques, crafters and vendors. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 923-3988 or (919) 732-7322 [www.tarheelantiquesfestival.com](http://www.tarheelantiquesfestival.com)

**TBA. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Film Fest 919.** The Chapel Hill, NC based festival returns presenting feature films of the highest calibre from around the world, many at the beginning of their journey to the Oscars. Movies and Silverspot in University Place and The Lumina in Southern Village <http://filmfest919.com/>

**TBA. Hillsborough Spirits Tours 2023.** Hillsborough, the oldest town in the Triangle, is haunted! Join the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough and The Orange Community Players for the annual Haunted Tour through the historic district to encounter these ghostly residents! This fun and dramatic tour will bring you face-to-face with Hillsborough's past. Route and theme to come. Tours last approximately one hour. The ghost performances are family-friendly, but please be aware that this is a walking tour over several blocks, and may include hills and uneven ground. Tours start every 20 minutes. Tickets are timed and groups depart from the Hillsborough Visitors Center (150 E. King St.). Tickets: Adult – \$15, Senior/Student – \$12. Children 5-12 – \$5. Call (919) 732-7741 or [www.visithillsboroughnc.com](http://www.visithillsboroughnc.com).

**TBA. Orange County Feargrounds.** Haunted barn and hayride. Tickets and Dates to come. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 732-7322 <https://www.feargrounds.org/>

**TBA. Halloween Carnival,** Carrboro Town Commons. Carnival games and prizes. Popcorn, sodas, hot chocolate, apple cider and coffee with be sold at concessions (cash only). 6 pm – 8:30 pm. Free. [www.carrbororec.org](http://www.carrbororec.org) (919) 918-7364.

More Fall and Halloween Events to Come.

## **November**

**November 3-5. Tarheel Balloon Festival.** Takes place rain or shine on the grounds Lloyd's Dairy centrally located between the Triangle and Triad regions of North Carolina at the merge of Interstate 40 & 85. The festival will feature hot air balloon rides, tethered balloon rides, morning and evening glow events, antique aircraft displays, paraglide airshow and all types of arts/ craft and food vendors. Ticket sales will open one month prior to the event. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 732-7322  
<https://www.tarheelballoonfestival.com/>

**November 4-5 & 11-12. 29th Annual Orange County Open Studio Tour.** Orange County; Over 90 artists invite you into their studios to see where and how they work. Sponsor: Orange County Artists Guild (919) 933-7880. First two weekends in November, Sat 10 am – 5 pm and Sun 12 pm – 5 pm.  
<https://www.ocagnc.org/tour/>

**November 11. Fool's Faire 2023 Renaissance Festival** at Pluck Farm. Steel String Brewery, Beer Study, and Honeygirl Meadery have come together to host Fool's Faire from 1 pm - 7 pm at Pluck Farm at 6901 NC Hwy 54 West, Mebane in western Orange County. This renaissance festival offers fantastical beverages, craft vendors & artisans, medieval food vendors, feats of strength, cosplay contest, and more.  
<https://www.facebook.com/PluckFarmNC/>

**November 12. The Bazaar Craft & Art Market** from 12 pm - 5 pm at the Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main Street. Shop handmade crafts and creations from 20+ talented local makers, and enjoy awesome eats and drinks including food trucks, craft beer, coffee & kombucha. Face painting and more. The Bazaar is family-friendly and free. Carrboro Town Commons at 301 W. Main St.  
<https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

**November 12. Thanks + Giving Food Truck Rodeo and Non-Profit Showcase** from 11 am – 3 pm. 1714 Legion Road. [www.chapelhillarts.org](http://www.chapelhillarts.org)

**November 17-19. 18th Annual Carrboro Film Festival.** Festival at The ArtsCenter. Carrboro Film Fest has an established history as a dynamic event that brings filmmakers and audiences together for a heartfelt celebration of independent cinema. In recent years, the South has produced numerous independent films that challenge and expand our understanding of Southern culture. Schedule and Tickets to come.  
<https://www.carrborofilm.org/>

**TBA: Arts on the Market.** Shop for hand-crafted art and gifts made by regional artists, artisans, bakers, and makers on Southern Village Green. Live music and free admission. Noon – 4 pm  
<https://www.southernvillage.com/arts-on-market>

WILL HAVE A SEPARATE HOLIDAY ONLY EVENTS LIST TO SHARE. BELOW ARE A HANDFUL OF ANNUAL EVENTS.

**TBA Christmas in the Groves.** Open every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday until Christmas Eve. Open Thursday and Friday 6 pm – 9 pm and Saturday 4 pm – 9 pm. Decorated Christmas Barn with Local Vendors Market. Visit Santa, Horse Carriage Rides, Live Nativity Scene and Food Trucks. General Admission \$10 includes Visiting with Live Nativity Animals, Writing a Letter to Santa, Making a Christmas Ornament, and Visiting Santa. Enjoy horse carriage rides through our lighted Christmas Forest, available from 6 – 9 pm at

\$15 per person. Carriage holds up to 6 people per ride, select time slot when purchasing ride ticket. 3510 NC 86 N. Hillsborough. <https://christmasinthegroves.com/>

## **December**

**December 8-9. North Carolina High School Football Championships**, Kenan Stadium, UNC campus hosts the 1A and 3A Football Championships. (919) 240-7401. NCHSAA state championship basketball games (both men and women). Tickets to be announced. <https://gofan.co/app/school/NC1661> ; <https://gofan.co/app/school/NC1661> Games are Friday at 7 pm and Saturday at 11 am

## **Dates and details to come**

**Holiday events at The Carolina Inn. Details to Come. [www.carolinainn.com](http://www.carolinainn.com)**

**Menorah Lighting at The UNC Pit** Hosted By: Chabad Student Group at UNC-CH

**2023 Deck the Walls Annual Holiday Show.** At the Eno Arts Mill Gallery at 437 Dimmocks Mill Rd., Hillsborough. Find something hand-made and spectacular just in time for your holiday shopping. The exhibit will be on view at Tuesday-Saturday, 12-5pm. <https://artsorange.org/enomill/monthly-mill-openings/>

**Homes for the Holidays: A Hillsborough Gingerbread Tradition.** This year, Hillsborough Arts Council collaborates to bring gingerbread scenes to local shop windows in historic, downtown Hillsborough to be enjoyed by the entire community throughout December.

<https://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/gingerbread>

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Hillsborough, will be holding "The Festival of the Society Tree" (FeST),** a fundraising event to benefit Orange County outreach programs featuring fine handcrafts and creative arts, homemade foods and baked goods, beautifully hand crafted wreaths and ornaments, and other unique gifts. 210 St. Mary's Road, Hillsborough. [www.stmatthewshillsborough.org](http://www.stmatthewshillsborough.org)

**Christmas Holiday Shoppe Craft Show.** 9 am – 4 pm. 18th year at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 60 talented artisans and crafters from throughout North Carolina will have the perfect gift for everyone on your list. Christmas music, a hot lunch and raffle complete the holiday festivities. 940 Carmichael St, Chapel Hill.

**December 9. Chapel Hill-Carrboro Community Holiday Parade.** 10:30 am – 12:30 pm parade runs down Franklin Street beginning at Church Street in Chapel Hill to Carrboro Town Commons via Main Street.

<https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/chapel-hill-carrboro-holiday-parade/>

**Running of the Elves in Downtown Hillsborough.** The race starts 15 minutes before the Parade begins, and follows the same route. Experience the joy of running fast downhill in front of thousands of cheering people. Elf themed. Each participant has the option to select an Elf t-shirt, an Elf hat, and bells. Each participant is expected to wear these during the run. Or if you have a favorite Elf costume, feel free to wear that instead.

**Light up the Night Hillsborough Holiday Parade** begins at 4 pm in Downtown Hillsborough. The parade will travel south on Churton Street from Corbin Street to Margaret Lane, and end at the intersection of Margaret Lane and Cameron Street. Community Sing immediately following the parade on the Old Courthouse Lawn.

<https://www.hillsboroughchamber.com/light-up-the-night-holiday-parade/>

**Chapel Hill Tree Lighting** at University Baptist Church Plaza in downtown Chapel Hill.

**Winter Walk on the UNC Campus.** This walk will meander through the older parts of UNC and will highlight mature specimens of broad-leaf evergreens, conifers, unusuals, and a few originals, storied hollies and cultivars. Geoffrey Neal will lead the walk. Pass through McCorkle Place, Polk Place and the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, and find plants introduced by W.C. Coker.

**Sundaes with Santa** from at Maple View Ice Cream Country Store, 6900 Rocky Ridge Road, Hillsborough. Visit with Santa and his Friends from the North Pole. Collecting diapers, baby wipes, pull-ups, gift cards for Sam's Wish Find at Kids Path of Hospice.

**Annual Carrboro Holiday Tree Lighting** at 6 pm. All invited to join members of the Town Council along with local schoolchildren as we officially kick off the season with music and the lighting of the community tree. Carrboro Town Hall, 301 W. Main Street, Carrboro

**Holiday Circle Show.** It's that time of year again! This traditional holiday show is back, including all your favorite Circle musicians. 300-G East Main St. in Carrboro, or call (919) 929-2787

**Hillsborough Holiday Wreath Stroll 2023.** Wreaths will be on display on businesses and homes. Get map at the Visitors Center at 175 E. King Street or go online to [www.visithillsboroughnc.com](http://www.visithillsboroughnc.com)

**The Efland Christmas Parade** begins at 10 am. The parade line-up will be at 9 am on the gravel drive next to the car wash (at the stop light). The parade will travel from this spot, down Forrest Ave, and end at the Ruritan Club building, 3009 Forrest Avenue, Efland.

**Pictures with Santa at the Hillsborough Visitors Center.** Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the Hillsborough Visitors Center, 150 E King Street, Hillsborough. Join the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough from 11 am to 3 pm. There will be costumed interpreters singing Victorian Christmas Carols and sharing the history of Saint Nicholas and the Christmas Tree. Then, starting at noon, Santa and Mrs. Claus will pose for pictures on the back porch. Guests are encouraged to take their own photographs and to leave letters for Santa in the North Pole mailbox. The gift shop will be open as well, offering a variety of local goods and books. This is a free event, but donations are appreciated. [www.historichillsborough.org](http://www.historichillsborough.org)

**Hanukkah Festival.** Kick off the Hanukkah season with our annual Hanukkah Festival. Enjoy a day of fun with the family, including: Six giant inflatables! Bounce houses, slides; Kids' Corner with arts and crafts, face painting, and more! PJ Library activities; Latkes and sufganiyot for sale at the J Café. Menorah lighting at 4:30PM. Judaica goods/crafts for sale, from our local synagogues. Jewish for Good at Levin JCC, 1937 Cornwallis Road, Durham. <https://www.jewishforgood.org/calendar>

**Nutcracker on Ice.** Friday at 6 pm and Saturday at 11 am. Tickets for the Nutcracker are \$15 per person. Orange County Sportsplex, 101 Meadowlands Drive, Hillsborough, NC (919) 644-0339, <https://www.oc-sportsplex.com/>

**Voices The Chapel Hill Chorus December Concert.** In 2022 it was Sat at 7:30 pm and Sun at 3 pm at Moeser Auditorium in Hill Hall, UNC Campus., General Admission: \$20, Students: \$10, Kids 12 and under free. Purchase tickets online and at the door. <https://www.voiceschapelhill.org/>

**December 21: Solstice Lantern Walk** 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Each December, the Winter Solstice marks the beginning of the winter season in the Northern Hemisphere, and the longest night of the year. Individuals are asked to bring a handmade lantern that lights up the night, to guide all of us along the walk.

Participants will gather at the Eno River Farmer's Market Pavilion at 144 E. Margaret Lane and be led on a procession through River Park, to the River Walk, and ending back in downtown Hillsborough. Local artists, live music, hot drinks, warm food, and more before and after the walk at the Solstice Market! Registration is required to participate. Good place for viewing is the Eno River Parking Deck. The event is free, but we have a suggested donation of \$5.00 per person. <https://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/solstice>

**Thursday December 7 – Friday, December 15: Hanukkah**

**Tuesday December 26 – Tuesday January 2 is Kwanzaa**

### **On-going Seasonal Events**

#### **Guided Tours**

**Free Walking Tours of Chapel Hill.** A tour of the beautiful town of Chapel Hill, NC - learn about the history of the town and its relationship to the oldest state university in the USA. See the distinctive murals that decorate this slice of heaven. Get tips on where to dine, and hints on some of the hidden gems. Your guide is a native of Chapel Hill, and has lived here most of her life. Tours starting at Sundial at Morehead Planetarium at 250 E. Franklin Street. Click here for schedule as day and times differ <http://www.freewalkingtourschapelhill.com/schedule.php>

**Hometown Ambassador Tours** leaving the Welcome Center at 308 West Franklin Street resume in mid-April, 2023. Other tours will resume in the Fall. <https://heartofthehilltours.com/>

**Guided Walking Tours of Historic Hillsborough** from the Alliance of Historic Hillsborough. \$6 leaves from Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King Street. [www.visithillsboroughnc.com](http://www.visithillsboroughnc.com) or call (919) 732-7741.

#### **Guided Tours North Carolina Botanical Garden**

From **March to November**, join skilled volunteer Garden Guides on the **Second Saturday** of the month for a guided tour of the North Carolina Botanical Garden. Each month offers a glimpse into what's happening in the unique native plant gardens – from spring wildflowers to fall color – and what makes the NCBG one of the premier conservation gardens in the US. Tours are one (1) hour and space is limited! Please register each member of your party separately. 10 am start time.

**March - November**, free tours of **Coker Arboretum** are given the **third Saturday** of the month, **11 am**. The Arboretum is located on the UNC-Chapel Hill Campus, at the corner of Cameron Ave. and Raleigh St. Meet at the stone circle just inside the arboretum from the arbor. This walking tour with a Coker Arboretum curator will explore the 5-acres that make up the Arboretum, allowing time for observation and discussion. Each tour differs as the gardens change through the seasons.

**Tours of the UNC Chapel Hill campus** – Visit <http://www.unc.edu/visitors/>. Phone: (919) 962-1630 [uncvisitorscenter@unc.edu](mailto:uncvisitorscenter@unc.edu) Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Last Sunday Open House Tours of Moorefields House and Grounds**, from 1 pm – 4 pm, May – August. 2201 Moorefields Road, Hillsborough. For information, call (919) 732-4384 or visit [www.moorefields.org](http://www.moorefields.org). May 28, June 25, July 30, Aug 27 from 1 pm to 4 pm.

### **Arts/Music Events**

**Downtown Live Music on Franklin Street, Downtown Chapel Hill.** [www.downtownchapelhill.com](http://www.downtownchapelhill.com)

**2nd Fridays** - Held the second Friday of the month in various galleries and other locations throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro featuring live music, poetry and other art related entertainment. 6 – 9 pm. Details to come when event returns. [www.2ndfridayartwalk.com](http://www.2ndfridayartwalk.com)

**Last Fridays** - A fresh season of town-wide Last Fridays art & fun, including Makers Markets, poetry, Living Arts Dancewaves, and more will rejoin the Art Walk (along with warmer weather) in March through September 2023. <https://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/last-friday>

**Last Fridays Art Walks** - Highlight gallery show openings in downtown Hillsborough from 6-9 pm., January – November. Art Walk is part of Last Fridays from March – September. 919-643-2500. [www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org](http://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org)

**Fridays on the Front Porch at The Carolina Inn** - Every Friday evening 5 pm – 8 pm **April 7 – October 27** enjoy live music, food trucks & beverage specials, and comfortable seating on the shady front porch and lawn of the beautiful, historic Carolina Inn. (919-918-2777). Also events continue on home football games. [www.carolinainn.com](http://www.carolinainn.com)

Movies and Music at Southern Village spring to fall. [www.southernvillage.com](http://www.southernvillage.com)

**Events** during university calendar year at Memorial Hall [www.carolinaperformingarts.org](http://www.carolinaperformingarts.org) and PlayMakers Repertory Company [www.playmakersrep.org](http://www.playmakersrep.org). Additional events at Morehead Planetarium & Science Center <https://moreheadplanetarium.org/> and Ackland Art Museum. <https://ackland.org/>

#### **Year Round Farmers Markets**

Carrboro Farmers Market <http://www.carrborofarmersmarket.com/>

Chapel Hill Farmers Market <https://www.thechapelhillfarmersmarket.com/>

Eno River Farmers Market <http://www.enoriverfarmersmarket.com/>

**UNC ATHLETICS** - From late August - mid-May. Men's and Women's sports [www.goheels.com](http://www.goheels.com)

*As always, call the sponsors to confirm these events.*

**Check back often as events marked TBA are updated with days, times and costs and additional events are added. Again more details on [www.visitchapelhill.org](http://www.visitchapelhill.org)**

Contact Patty Griffin at [pgriffin@visitchapelhill.org](mailto:pgriffin@visitchapelhill.org)

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