

Updated 1/10/25

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



2025 MAJOR ANNUAL EVENTS

January

January 19-24 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.

<http://www.mlkpc-ch.com/event/>

January 24-26. Carrboro Film Festival 2025 at the Drakeford Library Complex . In recent years, the South has produced numerous independent films that challenge and expand our understanding of Southern culture. Schedule and Tickets on website. <https://www.carrborofilm.org/>

January 31. The Argyle Film Festival (formerly the Chapel Hill Black Film Festival) at the Varsity Theater, 123 E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill. <https://filmfreeway.com/TheArgyleFilmFestival>

February

Black History Month – Carrboro Events

<https://www.carrboronc.gov/>

Black History Month – Orange County Events

<https://orangecountync.gov/>

February 27-March 1. 48th 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 9. 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/Calendar.aspx?EID=8204&month=3&year=2025&day=9&calType=0>

March 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/thebazaar> <https://www.takethehighstreet.com/thebazaar>

TBA. The ArtsCenter's 2025 Golden Horizon Gala. For information, please contact Wendy Smith 984-500-4523 / wsmith@artscenterlive.org 5:30 pm www.artscenterlive.org

TBA. Historic Grounds Hike at Moorefields. Walk the grounds of historic Moorefields at 10 am with Board Members Rich Shaw and Paul Noe. Explore the ways the landscape and its uses have changed over the past 250+ years to meet the needs of the people who lived there. No registration required. Rain date the

following day at 10 am. 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 or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

TBA. Spring Equinox fundraiser sponsored by the Hillsborough Arts Council. For tickets visit <https://www.hillsboroughartscouncil.org/equinox>

April

April 5. 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 (919) 843-7959. <https://moreheadplanetarium.org/program/expo/>

TBA. 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, the Orange County Historical Museum, the Burwell School Historic Site, and Occaneechi Replica Village. Sponsored by the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, 10 am – 4 pm. (919) 732-7741. <https://historichillsborough.org/revwarday/>

April 5-6. 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. April 6 Main Day: 9 am – 5 pm - Festival opens to the public featuring antique and craft vendors, auctions, appraisal and Christmas themed activities and entertainment. April 7 Grande Finale Day: 9 am – 5 pm. Second day of antiques, crafters and vintage vendors. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 923-3988 or (919) 732-7322 www.tarheelantiquesfestival.com

April 12. 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 – 2 pm; 5-8-years-old – 2:30 pm; and 9-12-years-old – 3 pm. There will be plenty of eggs for everyone so please bring a basket to collect your eggs! The event also includes Bunny Photos at 3:15 pm plus inflatables, crafts and face painting. 1 pm – 4 pm. FREE. Field behind Central Recreation Center, 302 West Tryon Street, Hillsborough. <https://www.orangecountync.gov/870/Egg-Hunt>

April 12. 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/calendar.aspx?eid=7594>

April 12. EASTER EGGstravagnaza at Chapel Hill Community Center pool from 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 \$10-\$15 per person. Take a photo with the Easter Bunny. 120 S. Estes Drive. (919) 968-2784. www.chapelhillparks.org

April 12. 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 6-13. Costs \$15 - \$18. (919) 968-2784. www.chapelhillparks.org

April 13. 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 13. 34th 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 and www.musicalroots.net (second show in Fall, Nov 9)

TBA. 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 19. Egg-ceptional Egg Hunt from 10 – 10:45 am and 11 – 11:45 am at Oakwood Park in Chapel Hill. Hunt for kids with different abilities and special needs.

April 19. Carrboro Flashlight Egg Hunt. Recreation, Parks & Cultural Resources Department event for youth ages 11 – 14. Bring your own flashlight, bag or basket and hunt for special golden eggs in the dark. Prizes. Wilson Park. Registration at 7:45 pm; Rules & info at 8:10 pm and hunt begins at 8:20 pm.

April 19. The 18th 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://tarheel10miler.com/>

TBA - Fridays on the Front Porch at The Carolina Inn begins for 2024. Every Friday evening 5 pm – 8 pm April - October. 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

TBA. River Park Concert. The event opens at 12pm, music will begin at 12:30 and wrap up around 8:00pm. 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. More information to come.

TBA. Fields of Funk Beer Festival. Coordinated by Steel String Brewery at Pluck Farm at 6901 NC Hwy 54 West, Mebane in western Orange County. 3 pm. More details to come.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/707692361349471>

TBA. UNC's Spring Football Game. Admission is free and several events are planned for fans of all ages presented by Wegmans at Kenan Stadium. Find a Fan Fest around the Bell Tower. It will include interactive games for kids, music and more! All fans attending the Spring Game will have the chance to win great prizes, including Nike prize packs, tickets to a 2024 home football game, signed footballs, and more. Free Public Parking opens at Noon at Bell Tower Deck (ADA Parking), Bowles Lot, Cardinal Deck, Craige Deck, Jackson Deck and Manning Lot.. <https://goheels.com/>

April 26-27. 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/piedmont-farm-tour/>

TBA. Arts on the Market. 1pm – 5 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. (Second show in the Fall) <https://www.southernvillage.com/arts-on-market>

May

May 2-4. 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://www.vietri.com/pages/warehouse-sale> Also a Fall Version.

May 3. Hillsborough Garden Tour - 100 Years of Gardening Together. Ticket sales begin in February 2025.
<https://www.hillsboroughgardenclubnc.org/>

TBA. 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/>

TBA. Burwell Auction Gala. Proceeds benefit the preservation of the Burwell School, 319 N. Churton Street, Hillsborough, www.burwellschool.org

TBA. Movies Under the Stars at Carolina Square. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/>

May 3-4, 10. 30th 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. <https://garden-art-gallery.com/>

TBA. Wild Bird Walk with Tom Driscoll. 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. 8 am. 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 or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

May 4. 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

TBA. Moorefields Annual Spring Wildflower and Creek Surrounds Hike. 10 am. 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 and Laura Cotterman. At the hike, a \$5 donation is suggested. Registration required with limit of 25 people. Moorefields is located at 2201 Moorefields

Road, Hillsborough. For more information, call (919) 732-4384 or write to bjacobsfc@gmail.com or visit <https://moorefields.org/>

May 10. UNC Spring Commencement Class of 2025 7 pm in Kenan Stadium, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill. Keynote speaker is Mia Hamm '94, a world-renowned soccer player. The two-time Olympic gold medalist helped lead the Tar Heels to NCAA championships in 1989, 1990, 1992 and 1993. [UNC Office of Special Projects](#), (919) 962-0045. <http://commencement.unc.edu/>

May 11. 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 16-17. FlushFest in West Hillsborough. Silent movie with live piano, plus plenty of great local music, kids activities, food trucks, a photo booth, outdoor games, and lots of fun. <https://www.flushfest.org/>

TBA. 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/>

TBA 13th annual Carolina Moonlight Garden Party. 6 pm – 9 pm. Dress in your best floral attire and join us for live music, an opening reception, dinner on-site amongst the native wildflowers, and a spirited Fund the Need auction 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 24-25. Jawsfest 2025 is in Midway on Graham Street off West Franklin Street. Midway Market is Saturday with 40+ vendors from 12 pm – 5 pm. Music at Local 506

Late May -July 31. 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 late May. \$25 for 25 stems of lavender that you cut. Pre-cut bundles are available to purchase in their boutique. Visit the website for Lavendar lunches, wine dinners and other events planned including the **Lavender Festival**. The boutique opens beginning February 18, Tuesday & Thursday 11 am – 3 pm 3833 Millard Whitley Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516. <https://lavenderoaks.farm/>

June

June. Small Town Pride Events

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

June 7. Pride Promenade is a march from Peace & Justice Plaza to 140 West Franklin Street for music, food and more begins at 12 pm. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/pride-promenade/>

TBA. North Carolina Symphony returns to perform on the Southern Village Green Concert is free. Bring a blanket or low chairs or coolers (no glass allowed). Arrive early for a good seat. 8 pm. <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=832847302206566&set=pb.100064439123664.-2207520000>

TBA. Juneteenth Celebration Come be a part of the Chapel Hill Juneteenth Celebration at 2 pm with food, music and more. Juneteenth, officially observed on June 19, is also known as Emancipation Day, commemorating the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. Hargraves Community Center, 216 N. Roberson St, Chapel Hill www.chapelhillarts.org

Returning in June in 2025 at a new location and new name. The Efland Seafood Festival will be Hillsborough Clam and Jam featuring seafood, music and vendors. 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 \$5 or \$20 for three day package. Friday 3 pm – 10, Saturday 10 am – 10 pm, Sunday 1 pm – 9 pm.
<https://eflandseafoodfestival.com/> <https://clamandjam.com/>

July

Carrboro July 4th 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

July 4th Efland Parade Lineup at 9:00 starts at 10:00. Starts at Lloyds Carwash and ends at Ruritan club. www.eflandruritanclub.com

July 4th 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 4th 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, flags and patriotic music performed by the Village Band. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, family and friends. www.preservationchapelhill.org

July 4th Fireworks. Fireworks in Southern Village Community Park. Shuttles begin from Jackson Deck near UNC Hospital at 6 pm and parking lot at Southern Village opens at 7 pm with fireworks at 9 pm. Chapel Hill Community Arts & Culture. (919) 968-2828. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/calendar/fireworks/>

August

TBA. Uproar Festival of Public Art featured sixty bold, high-impact, outdoor works of art showcased throughout the downtown communities of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough, and in cash prizes were awarded based on public voting and a jury panel of experts. The event celebrates artists, engages art lovers of all types and supports and celebrates the community. <https://uproarfestnc.com/>

August 8 –September 28 in Chapel Hill, NC. 25th Annual Forest Theatre Summer Giant Puppet Show with giant puppets, stilt performers, dancers, and incredible musicians. Theme is Earth and Sky A Great Gathering For All Beings. Pre-show starts at 6:20pm with main show at 7pm. Shows usually last around an hour and a half. There will be a few matinees as well as a Labor Day show on Monday, September 1. Paperhand Puppet Intervention <https://www.paperhandpuppet.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.

TBA. Sonark Harvest Festival. This festival at the scenic Blackwood Farm Park 4215 NC Hwy 86 South, Chapel Hill, is a day-long celebration designed to delight the entire family. Presented by Robust Records and Sonark Media, with support from Orange County, this Festival promises an enriching experience from 2 PM to 8 PM. Immerse yourself in the vibrant local arts scene with a diverse array of vendors showcasing their crafts. Savor delicious eats from top food trucks and enjoy craft beers and other drinks. Tickets info to come.

September

TBA. 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.

September 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>

Mid-September – early December. 37th 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/>

Late September – November 2. Fall Corn Mazes at McKee Farms in Rougemont. \$15 corn maze admission. Age 2 and Under Free. Fridays 3-7pm, Saturday 10-7pm, Sunday 1-6pm. 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. Special Events: - **Start of Fall Harvest and Pumpkin Festival; Fun Run at the Maze Breast Cancer Awareness Day; October 22 Carve pumpkins with the farm animals; Carve pumpkins with the farm animals and Kids Costume Contest 2pm; Last day for the Fall Season - Hours 10am-7pm** Cedar Creek Farm, 5011 Kiger Rd, Rougemont, (919) 732-8065. <https://mckeecornfieldmaze.com/corn-maze-1>

September 28. 28th 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.

October

October 3-4. Annual Efland Ruritan Rodeo. Ticket booth and gates will open at 5pm and the rodeo will start at 7pm both nights. 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. This is a full rodeo with bronco riding, barrel racing, bull riding, and more. Bring the whole family for an evening of fun. Multiple vendors offering a variety of food inside the gates. Bounce houses and a pony ride for the kids. The money raised by the rodeo is used by the Efland Ruritan Club to support our community. This money goes to scholarships, families in need, and other worthy

causes. (919) 971-1129. Hwy 70, I-40/85 Exit 160. Parking is free. No pets, coolers or smoking allowed inside the gate. www.eblandruritanclub.com

TBA. 10th 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 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. BikeFest 2025: 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 7:15am and first ride at 7:30 am. Sponsor: Carolina Tarwheels Bicycle Club. (919) 383-9722. <https://tarwheels.net/wp/bikefest/>

October 12. University Day. Celebrate the 232nd 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

October 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>

TBA. West End Poetry Festival. Event Poetry readings and workshops. Sponsored by the Town of Carrboro and planned by the Carrboro Poets Council. Event features readings, workshops, poetry slam and more. Schedule to come. Free. (919) 918-7364 <http://www.westendpoetryfestival.org>

October TBA. Hillsborough Halloween Spirit's Tours 2025. 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. 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. **Schedule - Tours will begin at 6pm. Tours start every 20 minutes. The last tour begins at 7:40pm.** Tickets are timed and groups depart from the Hillsborough Visitors Center (150 E. King St.). Tickets: Adult – \$20, Children 5-12 – \$10. Call (919) 732-7741 or visit <https://historichillsborough.org/event/hillsborough-halloween-spirits-tours/>

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 9 am – 5 pm -Festival opens to the public featuring antique and craft vendors, auctions, appraisal and Christmas themed activities and entertainment. Sunday 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

TBA. Halloween Carnival, Carrboro Town Commons. Carnival games and prizes. Popcorn, water, hot chocolate, apple cider and coffee with be sold at concessions. 5:30 pm – 8 pm. Free. No registration required. (919) 918-7364.

October 24-25. 7 pm – 11 pm. Orange County Feargrounds. Haunted barn and hayride. 226 N. Lloyds Dairy Rd, Efland (919) 732-7322 <https://www.facebook.com/OCfeargrounds/> The venue features an expanded 20,000 sq ft haunted barn for those that dare enter and a calmer side option of our spooky hayride with a family friend twist. Admission price to come.

TBA. Festifall Arts Markets are 12 pm – 5 pm. Chapel Hill’s annual arts festival returns in October spanning two days this year. New this year, each Festifall Arts Market will have its own theme with artisan vendors, music, performances, and more. <https://www.chapelhillarts.org/>

More Fall and Halloween Events to Come.

November

November 1-2 & 8-9. 31st 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 8. Fool's Faire 2025 Renaissance Festival at Pluck Farm. Steel String Brewery, Beer Study, and Honeygirl Meadery have come together to host Fool's Faire from 12 pm - 8 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 9. 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. Additionally the Westend Bazaar Crafts & Arts Market is November 24 from Noon – 5 pm at 427 West Franklin St <https://www.facebook.com/thebazaarus>

November 15. 4th Annual Makers at the Mill Holiday Bazaar from 10am-4pm at the Eno Arts Mill in Hillsborough. Artists, crafters, artisans, plus feature festive food and beverage, Paint it Orange Plein Air Paint-out exhibit in the gallery, live music, and more. Activities outdoors at 437 Dimmocks Mill Road, Suite 17, Hillsborough. Free and ample parking. <https://artsorange.org/enomill/>

November 22. 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/>

TBA. Acme’s Salt & Smoke Festival hopes to return in 2025. 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. <https://saltandsmokefest.com/> .

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

TBA. Christmas in the Groves. 6 pm – 9 pm. Free General Admission includes visiting the decorated Christmas Barn with Local Vendors Market selling holiday gifts, goodies and crafts, visiting Santa and seeing Live Nativity Animals. Enjoy food trucks. Tractor Hayride through the Lighted Christmas Forest \$10 per person. Visit The Grinch in the Who-ville Maze Wonderland, write a letter to Santa, make an ornament, make a s'more – all \$5 each. Children under five free. Purchase tickets on website. 3510 NC 86 N. Hillsborough. <https://christmasinthegroves.com/>

Begins December 1. The Carolina Inn's Favorite Things Holiday Events
<https://www.destinationhotels.com/carolina-inn/chapel-hill-event-calendar>

TBA. North Carolina High School Football Championships, Kenan Stadium, UNC campus (919) 240-7401. Dates, classifications and tickets to be announced. ...nchsaa.org

Holiday Events – Special holiday only events list to come

Homes for the Holidays Gingerbread House Display. Downtown Hillsborough businesses will host displays of gingerbread homes to celebrate the creative arts and bring joy to our community this holiday season. All aspiring gingerbread artists and architects are invited to participate and have fun showcasing your creative streak and holiday spirit!

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. Sat 10 am – 2 pm. www.stmatthewshillsborough.org

Christmas Holiday Shoppe Craft Show. 9 am – 4 pm. 19th year at St. Thomas More Catholic Church. Shop 65 talented artisans and crafters from throughout North Carolina and find the perfect gift for everyone on your holiday shopping list! Handmade gifts, specialty items including pottery, hand knitted garments and accessories, soaps, wreaths, dog and cat toys, holiday ornaments and decorations, jewelry, garden art and more. Holiday music, a raffle, bake sale and food trucks add festive flair. Free admission. 940 Carmichael St, Chapel Hill.

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. <https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/Hillsborough/RunningoftheElves>

Light up the Night Hillsborough Holiday Parade begins at 4 pm in Downtown Hillsborough. Holiday Parade theme and Grand Marshal to come. The parade travels south on Churton Street from Corbin Street to Margaret Lane and ends at the intersection of Margaret Lane and Cameron Street.
<https://www.hillsboroughchamber.com/light-up-the-night-holiday-parade/>

Chapel Hill Tree Lighting at University Baptist Church Plaza in downtown Chapel Hill at 6 pm. Community sing-a-long featuring the Tarpeggios, remarks by community leaders, holiday treats and surprises.
www.downtownchapelhill.com

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Community Holiday Parade. 10 am 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/>

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 Fund at Kids Path of AuthoraCare (formerly 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

Ho-Ho-Home by Transactors improve Theater. Family-themed but not guaranteed to be family-friendly, this show will be filled with all the tensions and tenderness of the ties that bind us. ArtsCenter at 400 Roberson Street, Carrboro plays host to this completely improvised show featuring spontaneous songs and based on audience suggestions. 8 pm.

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.

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>

Elfland Christmas Festival features Elfland Christmas Village, Santa's workshop with arts, crafts, children's and holiday gifts, Hayrides, Interactive holiday scenes from your favorite holiday memories (A Christmas Story, Charlie Brown Christmas, The Grinch and more for amazing photo opts), Outdoor lights, entertainment, field of Christmas trees and much more. \$10 age 13 and older, \$5 4-12 and Free 3 years and under. Hosted at The Barn at Lloyds Dairy, 227 North Lloyds Dairy Road, Efland, NC 27243 and Efland United Methodist Church from 6 pm – 9 pm. www.elflandfestival.com Lloydsdairy@gmail.com

TBA. Voices The Chapel Hill Chorus December Concerts. Held at Moeser Auditorium in Hill Hall, UNC Campus., Tickets \$10-\$20. Purchase tickets online and at the door. <https://www.voiceschapelhill.org/>

December 21: Solstice Lantern Walk 5 pm – 8:30 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. Enjoy Solstice Market with local artists, live music, hot drinks, warm food, and more to be enjoyed before and after the walk Registration is required to attend the event. Event is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per person. <https://www.hillsboroughartsCouncil.org/solstice>

Sunday, December 14– Monday, December 22: Hanukkah

Friday, December 26 – Thursday, January 1: 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 spring and fall <https://heartofthehilltours.com/> **2025 tours run spring months and fall months on Saturdays 11 am.** Visit the website to register for a tour.

Triangle Walking Tours. Each Saturday you can take three guided tours leaving from Rougarou (Imbibe) at 108 Henderson Street. The 4 pm tour is a Chapel Hill Historic Churches Tour, the 6 pm is the Chapel Hill True Crime Tour and at 8 pm find the Chapel Hill Ghost Tour. Tickets are \$14 and you must register online in advance. <https://www.trianglewalkingtours.com/book-online>

Guided Walking Tours of Historic Hillsborough from the Alliance of Historic Hillsborough. March – October 10:30 am – Noon, \$10 and age 10 and under free. Leaves from Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King Street. 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 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. From 1 pm to 4 pm.

Haunted Hillsborough Tours - Historic Ghost Walks in Hillsborough. Visit www.HauntedHillsborough.com for dates, times and registration.

Arts/Music Events

2nd Fridays - Held the second Friday of the month in various galleries and other locations throughout

Carrboro featuring live music, poetry and other art related entertainment. 6 – 9 pm. Follow current events on facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/2ndfridayartwalk/>

Fridays on the Front Porch at The Carolina Inn - Every Friday evening 5 pm – 8 pm **April – October timeframe** 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

Movies and Music at Southern Village spring to fall. www.southernvillage.com

The last Friday of every month, from March to November, 2025 rain or shine, Downtown Hillsborough showcases its art scene with the [Last Fridays Art Walk](#) from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Explore art galleries, artist studios, fine jewelers, boutique shops and award winning restaurants. There will also be live music, circus performers, spoken word poetry and more. At the **Last Friday** events from May to October, there's an additional feature. Last Fridays Makers Market take place on the Old Courthouse Lawn. They feature 20+ vendors and live music, which is generally a 1-2 hour outdoor concert. www.hillsborougharts council.org

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

Downtown Chapel Hill. www.downtownchapelhill.com

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

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.visit Chapel Hill.org

Contact Patty Griffin at pgriffin@visit Chapel Hill.org

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