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## REASONS TO LOVE ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

### THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO IN THE CHAPEL HILL/ORANGE COUNTY AREA. WHERE WILL YOU START?

**1.** Amazing restaurants, like **Crook's Corner, Lantern, Panciuto, Acme, Mama Dips, Crossroads Chapel Hill, Il Palio & more.**



**2.** For Lexington and Eastern-style barbecue, there's **Allen and Sons, Hillsborough BBQ Company, Pantana Bob's Restaurant and Bar, and The Pig.** Messy good!

**3.** Acclaimed area microbreweries include **Carolina Brewery, Mystery Brewing Company, Steel String Craft Brewery, and Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery.**



**4.** The area is home to a dazzling array of live music—legendary venues like the **Cat's Cradle,**

**Local 506, and The Cave, and many outdoor venues during spring through fall.**

**5.** For public art; permanent and touring: **Norma Rae, Exhale, Pythagoras, Sculpture in the Garden, Art in the Garden Invitational, and Open Studio Tours** plus dozens of painted murals throughout downtown Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

**6.** Where is the Pink Pig? Davie Poplar? Blue fire trucks? The **Goodnight Carolina Family Fun Map** and app can show you the way.

**7.** Winding roads, country scenery and... century farms, berry farms, and dairy farms. Additionally, Orange County boasts five farmers' markets; all open year round with seasonal events.

**8.** *Sports Illustrated* has called **Chapel Hill "The best college town in America,"** and **Franklin Street—named after Benjamin Franklin—is a big reason why.**



**9.** For some of the finest antique shops like **Whitehall** at the Villa, **Shops at Daniel Boone Village, Scavenger Antiques and Leland Little Auction house.**

**10.** Memorial Hall plays host to internationally renowned recitalists and orchestras, dance and chamber ensembles, jazz, folk, and world music performers, opera and theatre.

**11.** PlayMakers Repertory Company is one of America's leading theatre companies according to *American Theatre*. Its artists are always at the top of their game.

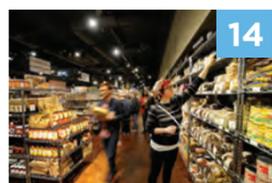


**12.** **TerraVITA Food & Wine Event** brings the finest biodynamic and organically grown wines and microbrews

**in the world together with some of the best North Carolina chefs, known for their outstanding reputations and their devotion to locally grown ingredients.**

**13.** Dirty South Improv Comedy Theater in Chapel Hill is an internationally famous improv comedy club and home to the South's largest comedic gathering.

**14.** *New York Times* food critic **Craig Claiborne** referred to the **60,000-sq.-ft. landmark, Southern Season,** as "wall to wall and floor to ceiling, a visual



**and gustatory delight." And it's worth noting that you can sharpen your culinary skills at their cooking school.**

**15.** If you're hungry, visit **Sutton's Drug Store** on Franklin Street—a living museum in all the best ways. If your photo makes it on the wall, your life's work is done.

**16.** Come, be inspired, and learn through play at **Kidzu Children's Museum.**

**17.** West Franklin Street's **Festifall** features visual and performing arts, food, children's activities, music, and live performances.



**18.** **Book a tour at Top of the Hill Distillery, the only fully local and USDA certified organic distillery in the South, and try their world-class vodka, gin, and whiskey.**

**19.** What are the **Food Network, The Today Show, and Bon Appétit** talking about? **Sugarland** of course! The only bakery in North Carolina with a full bar.

**20.** A historic landmark since 1929, **Merritt's Store and Grill** is touted as the "Home of the World Famous BLTs" and chicken fried humor.



**21.** **NC Botanical Garden—the largest in the Southeast—is known for its nature trails, carnivorous plant collections, aquatics, herb gardens, and revolving exhibits of artwork.**

**22.** **UNC-Chapel Hill** is the oldest public university in the U.S. (chartered in 1789) and the only public university in the U.S. that awarded degrees in the 18th century. And the iconic **Old Well** was the primary source of campus water for more than a century.

**23.** **Paperhand Puppet Intervention** is a spectacle of **giant papier-mâché characters, stilt walkers, dancers, shadow puppets, and original music in the Forest Theatre.**



**24.** Shoot for the stars at the **Morehead Planetarium & Science Center.** The first planetarium in the South and one of the largest in the U.S., **Morehead** was a NASA training facility for 15 years.

**25.** Dubbed the "University's living room," **The Carolina Inn** was voted one of America's Top 10 Haunted Hotels thanks to **Dr. William Jacobs,** a 17-year "resident" in room 256.

**26.** Two words: **Dean Smith.** The legendary former **Tar Heel** coach was an ambassador for Chapel Hill and the state of North Carolina.

**27.** Relive the early days of **Michael Jordan** at the **Carolina Basketball Museum,** along with **Tar Heel** national titles, game-winning shots, and **NBA First Round Picks.**

**28.** **UNC's Finley Golf Course** was redesigned by **Tom Fazio** and continues to be recognized as one of the **nation's top collegiate layouts.**



South Columbia Street in Chapel Hill can be an introduction to **Peter Paul Rubens, Eugene Delacroix, and Andy Warhol.**

**30.** The **Stone Center for Black Culture and History** is a must see—one of the preeminent centers in the nation for the critical examination of African and African-American diaspora cultures.

**31.** The **Horace Williams House** is the only historic house in Chapel Hill open to the public—and is where **Preservation Chapel Hill** offers tours of historic importance.

**32.** **The League of American Bicyclists** name both **Carrboro** and **Chapel Hill** as **Bicycle Friendly Communities.**



**Designated bike trails lead from town to country, countywide.**

**33.** Carrboro's **300 E. Main** for boutique shops, restaurants, and lodging.

**34.** Carrboro's **Weaver Street Market** is the largest community-owned co-op grocery store in the Southeast, offering local, organic, natural, and humanely raised foods.

**35.** Carr Mill Mall was rehabilitated under the **Tax Reform Act of 1976.** Much of the original architecture remains in its restaurants and upscale boutique shops.

**36.** **Open Eye Café,** a coffee shop affectionately known as "Carrboro's living room" serving beans from **Colombia, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Honduras, Guatemala, and Peru.**

**37.** **The ArtsCenter** in Carrboro offers classes in **visual, literary and performing arts, music concerts, theater productions, children's programs, and an art gallery.**



**38.** Hillsborough was once the colonial capital of North Carolina and is now the county seat of Orange County.

**39.** **Moorefield's** was built in 1785 as a summer home by **Alfred Moore,** a military and educational leader, jurist, and the last North Carolinian on the U.S. Supreme Court.

**40.** The **Old Orange County Courthouse** in Hillsborough, with its town clock in the cupola, has been cited by the Library of Congress as one of the finest examples of **Greek-Revival architecture** in the U.S.

**41.** Among the late 18th and early 19th century structures still standing today, you will also find a **chocolate shop, wine store, art galleries, a yarn shop, crafted jewelry store** and much more on **Churton Street** in downtown Hillsborough.

**42.** **Hillsborough's Ayr Mount Historic Site,** built around 1815, is one of **North Carolina's finest Federal-era plantation homes. Meander through woodlands and pastures on the Poet's Walk, a one-mile walking trail surrounding the historic site along the banks of the Eno River.**



**43.** The **Alexander Dickson House** was the last headquarters of the commander of the largest armies to surrender to Union forces, larger than **Lee's army** at **Appomattox.**

**44.** The **Burwell School** was one of North Carolina's leading Presbyterian schools for "young ladies" from 1837-1857. Just two blocks down, find over 2000 artifacts at the **Orange County Historical Museum,** including what's believed to be the only complete set of colonial weights and measures within the U.S.

**45.** **Feel the need for speed at the fastest 3/8-mile racing oval in America, better known as the Orange County Speedway, offering grassroots racing at its best.**



**46.** Orange County Sportsplex has a fitness center with a bird's-eye view of the ice-skating rink (NHL-size, open year round) and an aquatic center with three pools.

**47.** Historic **Occoneetchee Speedway Trail** has a 4-mile trail for hiking and a 1-mile oval track where the original **NASCAR** racers tested their driving skills from 1948-1968.

**48.** Stroll Hillsborough's **Riverwalk,** a 1.8-mile greenway with loop trails, bridges, and boardwalk, accessible to trails, parks, and the **Eno River.**

**49.** Shop 'til you drop with irresistibly Italian selections at the twice-annual **VIETRI Warehouse Sale** and ongoing outlet store.

**50.** **Maple View Farm** produces over 2 million pounds of milk every year and to-die-for ice cream. Seasonal flavors include **candied bacon, banana pudding, and eggnog.**

