

Cotton Fields to Skyscrapers

Find North Carolina legends sprinkled along Interstate 85 from Charlotte to Raleigh. On this itinerary, you'll see the vibrant Queen City from the inside out, learn how NASCAR's best do it, visit with nationally known local artists and wrap it all up in the state capital of Raleigh.

4-Day Itinerary

Day 1

Visit the Charlotte area for history and racing

Day 2

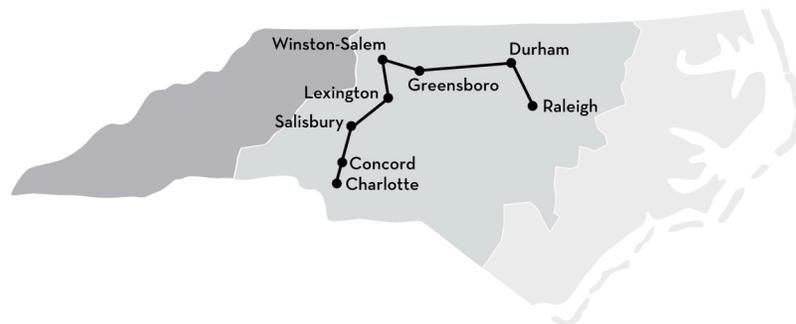
See Salisbury, Lexington and Winston-Salem

Day 3

Spend the day in Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Durham

Day 4

Raleigh, the State Capitol and the state capital



With so much to see and do in the area, we recommend the following 4-day itinerary. Enjoy your visit by mixing and matching events to your particular interest. Be sure to check days and hours of operation for each venue.

Day One

Charlotte:

Start your adventure in the Queen City, Charlotte, with a guided tour of past and present aboard a historic **Streetcar of the Charlotte Trolley**. On the weekend, docents ride along, and you'll hear about Charlotte's rise as an industrial and financial center and note the many historic landmarks along the route. Hop off at 7th Street Station for a short walk to the **Levine Museum of the New South**, an interactive museum housing the nation's

most comprehensive interpretation of post-Civil War Southern history. View interactive, multi-sensory exhibits that inspire, challenge, educate and amuse.

Afterwards, travel back in time and discover the roots of Charlotte becoming a financial center. Tour **Reed Gold Mine**, site of the first documented gold find in the U.S. in 1799. Allow time to explore the museum and stamp mill, and you will want to go underground to the actual mine and try your luck at panning for gold.

Continue traveling through history on a visit to **Historic Bost Grist Mill**. Built in the early 1800s, the mill was the source of flour and cornmeal for southern Cabarrus County residents. On the National Register of Historic Places, the restored mill is filled with original milling equipment and artifacts. Step back in time; enjoy the antiques and watch corn being ground into cornmeal and grits.

Day Two Salisbury:

Before heading north to Salisbury, make a stop less than a lap away from Lowe's Motor Speedway in Concord at the **Sam Bass Gallery** to see this nationally recognized artist's vivid recollections of racing's most exciting and memorable events.

Keep your engines running as you head to Salisbury and the **North Carolina Transportation Museum**, located on the site of what was once Southern Railway Company's largest steam locomotive repair facility. See antique automobiles at the "Bumper to Bumper" exhibit and trace the history of transportation in "Wagons, Wheels & Wings." Experience days of the working railroad repair shop in the restored 1924 Robert Julian Roundhouse. The museum features 13 buildings on 57 acres, including a restored roundhouse and exhibits of early transportation.

Lexington:

Next, travel to Lexington, famous not only for its barbeque but also for local artist Bob Timberlake. Nestled in the heart of North Carolina's Piedmont region, **The Bob Timberlake Gallery** invites visitors to step into the artist's life and immerse themselves in his world. The gallery itself is truly a work of art and offers a shopping experience that you will not want to miss, including Timberlake's signature line of furniture.

Winston-Salem:

Take another step back in time in Winston-Salem while visiting **Old Salem**. Founded as a Moravian town and backcountry trading center, Old Salem has survived to become one of America's most authentic and well-documented colonial sites. Today you can explore life in the 18th century in historic Old Salem, a living

history museum. Costumed guides re-create household activities and trades common in Salem, as it was once known in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Day Three

Winston-Salem:

Start your morning with the sweet experience of **Krispy Kreme Doughnuts**. This doughnut giant was founded in Winston-Salem in 1937. When the “Hot Doughnuts Now” sign begins to flash, come in to see doughnuts roll off the conveyor belt and enjoy a free sample.

Filled with doughnuts and coffee, head to **Reynolda House Museum of American Art**. Named to the National Register of Historic Places, it is the former home of tobacco baron R. J. and Katharine Reynolds and contains one of the finest public collections of American art south of Washington, DC. View period fashions within a display of the Reynolds' collection. Three rooms in the attic are devoted to the exhibition of vintage clothing, accessories and toys belonging to members of the Reynolds family from 1889 to the 1960s. Mrs. Reynolds' hats, shoes and gowns comprise the major portion of the collection.

Greensboro:

Your next stop should be **Replacements, Ltd.**, a one-of-a-kind shop with the world's largest selection of old and new dinnerware, including china, stoneware, crystal, glassware, silver, stainless and collectibles. The 300,000-square-foot facility (the size of five football fields) houses an incredible inventory of 10-million pieces in 200,000 patterns, some over 100 years old. Need a few pieces to round out your grandmother's rare china set? Chances are, you'll find it here.

Durham:

In Durham – just an hour away – visit the **Duke Homestead**. The 19th-century homestead portrays the life of the Duke family before and after the Civil War, where they first grew and processed tobacco. The site includes the main house, the original 1869 tobacco factory, two outbuildings, a tobacco packhouse and a curing barn. A visitor center/museum contains exhibits and programs chronicling tobacco marketing memorabilia and packaging, production and manufacturing.

Day Four

Raleigh:

Start your day at the **North Carolina State Capitol**. Completed in 1840, the Capitol building is one of the finest and best-preserved examples of Greek revival architecture and is a National Historic Landmark.

Have a little fun at the **North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences**. The Southeast's largest natural history museum offers four floors of exhibits, live animals, a store and Acro Café. See highlights like the world's only Acrocantosaur dinosaur, a two-story waterfall and the Living Conservatory buzzing with hummingbirds and butterflies. Don't miss "Willo," the first dinosaur discovered with a fossilized heart.

Enjoy your afternoon at the **State Farmer's Market**. Pore over 75 acres of indoor and outdoor specialty shops, restaurants, garden center and fruits and vegetables from across the state. On special days, you might catch a watermelon or pumpkin contest or witness a celebration of produce on "Pecan Day," "Gourd Day" or even "Colossal Collard Day."

For more information:

Visit Charlotte

www.visitcharlotte.com

Cabarrus County Convention & Visitors Bureau

<http://www.cabarruscvb.com>

Rowan County Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitsalisburync.com

Winston-Salem Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitwinstonsalem.com

Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitgreensboro.com

Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.durham-nc.com

Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitraleigh.com