

NC Home Furnishings Shopping Spree Itinerary

Are you looking for fine quality American furnishings for your home or office at great prices? In this three-day shopping spree, you'll find everything from living room sets to lighting to rare china and flatware patterns in an area of North Carolina world famous for its high-quality handmade furniture and furnishings.

3-Day Itinerary

Day 1

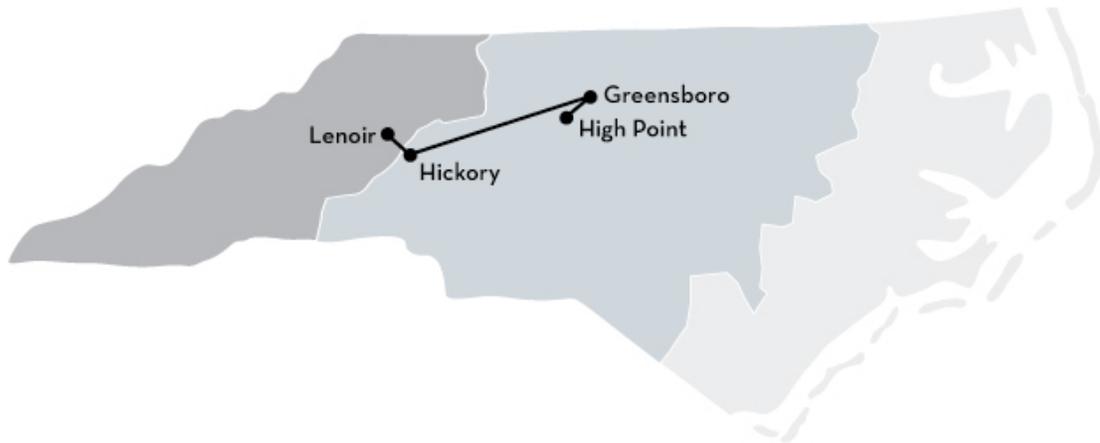
Explore 20 miles of furniture along US Highway 321, then enjoy an authentic German dinner in Hickory.

Day 2

Explore the Hickory Furniture Mart, the Catawba Furniture Mall, and other great handcrafted furniture makers in Catawba County.

Day 3

Check out the world's largest collection of old and new dinnerware at Replacements, Ltd., explore a wide array of furnishing options in the High Point area, then end at the massive Furnitureland South.



With so much to see and do in the area, we recommend the following 3-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

You're about to see an overwhelming amount of furnishings options, so an ideal place to start is the **Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce** in the beautiful town of **Lenoir**. The staff here can help you find specific stores that carry the specific furniture or brand that you're looking for. Or, call the Chamber's Furniture Hotline at 1-800-737-0782 to get the same information by phone.

Then, start your spree by getting on **US Highway 321 South** towards **Hickory**. Here, you'll find 20 miles of furniture stores, including major manufacturers such as Bernhardt, Broyhill, Fairfield Chair, Kincaid, and Thomasville, as well as an abundance of lesser-known companies that also produce top-quality furnishings.

Furniture shopping here is a year-round attraction, but savvy shoppers know that you can find special sales both before and after the spring and fall furniture markets. At those times, you may be able to find fabulous one-of-a-kind items or deeply discounted samples. So, keep your eyes open for great deals!

By the time you get into Hickory, you'll probably be hungry from all your bargain hunting. Head to the **Old German Schnitzel Haus** on Highway 70, where Ulf and Silce Menzel offer some of the most authentic German cuisine this side of Frankfurt. Enjoy some "Bratwuerste" or "Sauerbraten", perhaps some "Apfelstrudel" for dessert, then settle in for a stay at the **Councill House Bed & Breakfast**, a restored 1902 Queen Anne Victorian home. The furnishings here might even inspire you for your upcoming second day of furniture shopping.

Day Two

Start the second day of your spree at the **Hickory Furniture Mart**, a one-stop-shop featuring a unique mix of nearly 100 furniture outlet stores, shops, and galleries. Within this four-story complex, you'll find furnishings, accessories, lighting, art and more – sometimes as much as 80% off of retail prices. Like the stores along Highway 321, the Hickory Furniture Mart has many sales and special events throughout the year, so you'll always be able to find something you're looking for at a remarkable discount. Later, head over to the **Catawba Furniture Mall**, another one-stop-shop containing more than eight acres of uncluttered showroom space.

Hickory is also a great place to find antiques, so if you're in the market for some one-of-a-kind items or gifts, stop in at the **Hickory Antiques and Collectibles Mall**, which features more than 80 booths containing the area's most varied selection of antiques, collectibles, and fine furnishings.

When you've finished your shopping day in Hickory, get onto Interstate 40 East and make the 100 mile journey to Greensboro. Check into America's Greenest Hotel, the **Proximity**, and have dinner at the hotel's **Print Works Bistro**, which features traditional and modern versions of classic dishes made popular in European cafes.

Day Three

Whether or not you need replacement china, dishes, or flatware, the tour of Greensboro's **Replacements, Ltd.** is a must-see on this itinerary. The company has the world's largest selection of old and new dinnerware, and the facilities here house more than 13 million pieces of more than 300,000 patterns, some of which are over 100 years old. If a piece of your heirloom china or dinnerware is broken or missing, odds are you'll be able to replace it here. After all, that's the company's name!

Now take a short drive south into **High Point**, another of North Carolina's furniture manufacturing meccas. Every spring and fall, High Point becomes the capital of the world's furniture industry when it hosts the High Point Market. The public isn't invited to the Market, but you can reap the benefits of being at the center of the furniture world by browsing through the numerous stores along **US Highway 311** between High Point and Thomasville. Of course, even a shopping trip deserves some photo opportunities, so be sure and grab a couple of shots in front of the **18-foot Duncan Phyfe Chair** in Thomasville and the **"World's Largest Chest of Drawers"** in High Point.

Finally, no North Carolina furniture shopping spree would be complete without a stop at **Furnitureland South** in Jamestown, which bills itself as the "World's Largest Home Furnishings Showplace". The store features 1.3 million square feet of showroom space, 150 sales & design consultants and a nationwide delivery team. You may actually have to add another day to your trip just to get through it all!

Where to eat:

Old German Schnitzel Haus (Hickory) – Lunch, Dinner
Print Works Bistro (Greensboro) – Lunch, Dinner

Where to stay:

Councill House Bed & Breakfast (Hickory)
Proximity Hotel (Greensboro)

For more information:

Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
www.caldwellcochamber.org

Hickory Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.hickorymetro.com

Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.visitgreensboro.com

High Point Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.highpoint.org