



visit sanford

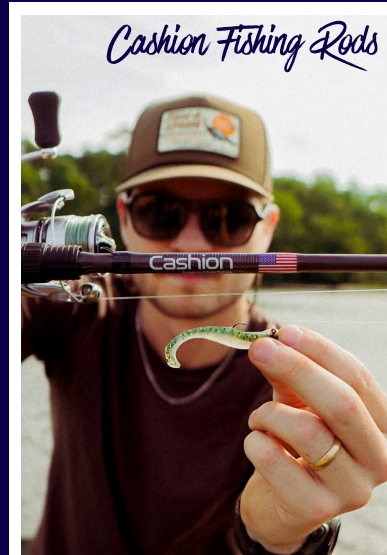
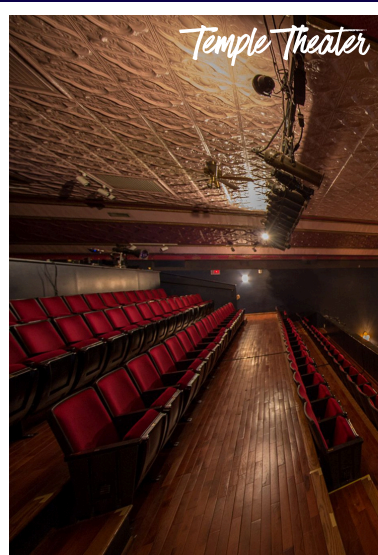
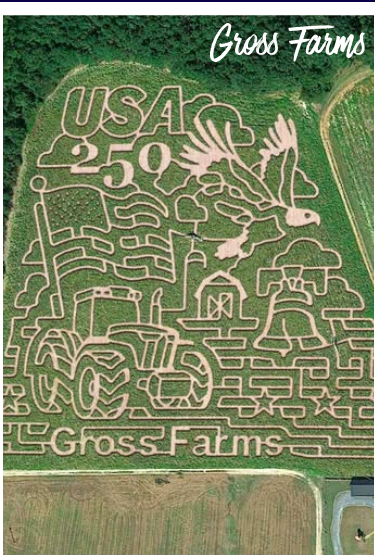
Better Together in Sanford

you'll See

In Sanford, at the heart of North Carolina, the best experiences come two by two:

- Shop the brand-new marketplace the whole community built, then get lost in the corn maze at Gross Farms.
- Catch a show at the Temple Theatre, celebrating 100 years, then lunch at Mrs. Lacy's while meeting Faye Shultz our insta-famous baking grandmother
- Cheer on a pro rodeo, then sit down at the family's restaurant that started it all.
- Cast a Cashion rod, and shoot sporting largest wing shooting tournament in the world at Deep River.

Come for one. You'll see the other is unmissable, too.



Perfect Pairings

1

Fresh from the Farm

Gross Farms + Pilgrim's Sanford Agricultural Marketplace

You'll see a farm that's growing when so many aren't. Gross Farms is a seventh-generation farm, known each fall for its award-winning 10-acre corn maze, pumpkin patch, hayrides and homemade ice cream from Mema's Creamery – a local favorite since 2002. This year, John H. Gross was named the 2026 North Carolina Farmer of the Year – with all four of his children back working the land and the farm buying more acreage. Pair it with Sanford's newest landmark: Pilgrim's Sanford Agricultural Marketplace, ribbon-cut in March 2026 and now home to the Sanford Farmers' Market. It took state, county and city government plus community fundraising to build – and it's already a huge regional success, with a demonstration kitchen and the area's only commercial kitchen.

2

Curtain Up, Then Cake

Temple Theatre + Mrs. Lacy's Magnolia House

You'll see two Carthage Street icons, a short stroll apart. The Temple Theatre, has stood in downtown Sanford since 1925 – an intimate 333-seat, century-old vaudeville house still staging professional, Broadway-caliber productions. Come for lunch first at Mrs. Lacy's Magnolia House, Faye Schulz's tea room. Every morning, Faye's grandson Chad – who runs his own biotech servicing company – still bakes beside her, just as she taught him at 14. He now turns out 10 cakes in a morning, including the famous Hershey bar cake sold daily at the restaurant. You'll see Faye around the dining room wearing her Jesus & Shortcake shirt, hugging customers, hustling cook books, all while keeping a keen eye on drink refills.

3

Rodeo Night, Family Table

Los Pinos Arena + San Felipe Mexican Restaurant

You'll see one family behind two Sanford successes. The Chavez-Garcia family owns both Los Pinos Arena – home to the Sanford Pro Rodeo, with bulls, broncs and barrel racing – and San Felipe Mexican Restaurant, serving authentic enchiladas, sizzling fajitas, quesadillas and arrachera since 1995, now with 10 locations (2 in Sanford) across North Carolina. Start at their table, end at their arena – that's a Sanford Saturday night, family-owned start to finish.

4

Cast & Blast

Cashion Fishing + The Southern Side by Side at Deep River

You'll see Sanford craftsmanship the sporting world travels for. Cashion Fishing Rods are designed and hand-built right here in Sanford, using carbon-fiber science more common in race cars, with blanks engineered so every tick travels straight to your fingertips. Every year, on the third week in April, you can pair a visit with the Southern Side by Side Championship & Exhibition at Deep River Sporting Clays, a wooded 65-acre course. The event draws shooters, gun makers, artisans and historians from around the world – people cross the country, and the ocean, for both.