

UNC Visitors' Center Staff Recommendations for A TRUE-BLUE CAROLINA VISIT

UNC Visitors' Center is open Monday-Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM. We are located on campus inside the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center (250 East Franklin Street). Enthusiastic students with a wealth of knowledge of UNC provide a true Carolina Experience, including campus tours, maps and information about UNC and the Carolina community. Although the UNC Visitors' Center is closed on weekends, maps, guides, and other information are still available at our desk and the staff of the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center can provide directions and assistance.

Morehead Planetarium and Science Center – Built in 1949, this planetarium was the first on a college campus in the United States - and the first NASA astronauts trained here in celestial navigation. There are weekend and evening shows in the GSK FullDome Theatre and Science LIVE experiments. The website lists shows, times, and descriptions. During the school year, school groups reserve shows on weekdays but there are usually seats available to the general public, too...just ask in the Gift Shop. Closed Mondays. 250 East Franklin Street. 919-962-1236. www.moreheadplanetarium.org

Wilson Library houses a wondrous gallery. To schedule a guided tour, please call 919-962-1172. A real treat! Also, it is home to the North Carolina Collection (complete with a tribute to Thomas Wolfe), the Southern Historical Collection, the Rare Book Room, and changing exhibits. And, please allow time to see the photographs lining the halls on the lower level...a good glimpse into Carolina's history thanks to Archival Services. Open weekdays, 9 AM – 5 PM, and Saturdays, 9 AM – 1 PM. www.lib.unc.edu/ncc/gallery.html

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History is the University's center for the critical examination of African American diaspora and African cultures. The Center provides intellectual and cultural programming that is both timely and informative and regularly exhibits artwork and other collections in the Brown Gallery exhibit space. Located at 150 South Road, Chapel Hill, the center is open

Carolina Performing Arts, located at 114 East Cameron Avenue (Hours Vary depending on performances), curates and presents exceptional arts experiences that inspire and provoke the Carolina community and beyond and celebrate the intrinsic value of the creative process. Carolina Performing Arts hosts a number of diverse artistic performances ranging from dance to theater to world music. Performance attendees can purchase tickets online, by phone or in person at the Memorial Hall Box Office.

Coker Arboretum is located next to the Morehead Planetarium & Science Center on the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus, at the corner of Country Club Road and Raleigh Street. Managed by the North Carolina Botanical Garden, it is one of the Garden's oldest tracts. The arboretum began as an outdoor classroom for study of trees, shrubs and vines native to North Carolina and now consists of a wide variety of plantings, including flowering trees and shrubs as well as bulb and perennial displays. Visitors can take a free, one-hour guided tour at 11 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month (March -November). Open daily from dawn to dusk.

Carolina Basketball Museum – Open Monday – Friday, 10AM – 4PM and Saturday, 9AM – 1PM. Please allow 30-45 minutes to explore the artifacts, videos, photos, statistical and historical panels that highlight our Carolina Basketball program. To visit the **Dean E. Smith Center**, please call 919-962-7777 prior to your visit to make sure the building will be open. The arena is closed to visitors during basketball practice and during event setups.

The Women's Basketball Museum is located in Carmichael Arena at 310 South Road and is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Carmichael Arena is closed during all team practices and when there is an event scheduled that would require the building to be closed for event preparation. Call the Carmichael Arena Administrative Office at 919-962-7874 prior to your visit to make sure the building will be open.

Carolina Inn – Built in 1924 and given to the University, “Chapel Hill's living room” is proudly listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Southern charm, modern amenities, gracious service, and memorable food blend beautifully here at the corner of Cameron Avenue and Columbia Ave. There's no better way to end your week than stopping by the Carolina Inn for “Fridays on the Front Porch” (May-October, 5 PM- 8 PM). www.carolinainn.com. 919-933-2001.

Ackland Art Museum, located downtown at 101 South Columbia Street, has 15,000 pieces in its collection and always gives us something new to see and explore. Open 10 AM – 5 PM Wednesday – Saturday and Sundays, 1 PM – 5 PM. Check www.ackland.org for further details. Free admission. We love the Ackland here!

Franklin Street – A day on the Hill would not be complete without strolling and exploring Franklin Street. This is where Tar Heels of all ages come to eat, play, shop, and celebrate! Take notice of the gold watches, on the walls of some buildings on East Franklin Street, commemorating businesses 50 years old and more. Some staff favorites include Julian's, FRANK, and Peacock Alley. The restaurants along Franklin Street offer all prices and tastes including several chefs garnering nominations for the James Beard Chef of the Year for the Southeast. **Andrea Reusing, at Lantern, won the 2011 award for the national chef of the year.** Other staff favorites for a taste of Chapel Hill culture include:

Ye Ole Waffle Shoppe

Sutton's Drug Store. Look at all the photos of famous faces! Sweet tea and oreo milkshakes. Perhaps sit next to one of our champions!

Top of the Hill Restaurant

411 West Restaurant

Crook's Corner - home of shrimp & grits, barbeque, Southern with a twist

Time Out for country ham biscuits and chicken n' cheddar biscuits

Mama Dip's – homemade Southern cookin'

Sugarland Bakery, a Food Network favorite, for authentic Italian gelato and truly amazing cupcakes. And don't miss our downtown murals by local artist, Michael Brown, and the public art installations at 140 West Franklin Street! **Exhale**, an eye-catching art sculpture with colorful lighting and fog effects, was designed as an interactive component to the sculpture by international artist, Mikyoung Kim... and **Tar Heel Blues**, a 48' recycled steel wall mural by Napa artist, Gordon Huether.

The **Horace Williams House** at 610 East Rosemary Street is the only historic house open to the public, and headquarters for the Preservation Society of Chapel Hill. Their self-guided tour of the historic district is popular and informative...and they offer a guided walking tour of Franklin Street on Wednesday and Sunday at 2 PM (\$5 per person). Open M-F 10 am - 4 pm and Sun 1 - 4 pm. 610 East Rosemary Street. 919-942-7818. www.chapelhillpreservation.com.

Visit the **North Carolina Botanical Garden** (100 Mason Farm Road) and **A Southern Season**, our gourmet food emporium, at **University Mall** (201 South Estes Drive).

For all Carolina sports info, visit www.goheels.com.

Other websites you might like to explore for events on and around town and campus:

***good for kids & adults*

www.dailytarheel.com UNC student newspaper

www.unc.edu/cuab Carolina Union Activities

www.carolinaperformingarts.org

www.downtownchapelhill.com

www.visitchapelhill.org

www.chapelhillmagazine.com

www.southernneighbor.com

www.artscenterlive.org **

www.carolinainn.com

www.fearrington.com **

www.chapelhillnews.com

www.kidzchildrensmuseum.org **

Welcome to Carolina and Chapel Hill! We look forward to seeing you!

With best regards from UNC Visitors' Center staff