

Raleigh



Raleigh, North Carolina, is a corner of the Research Triangle that includes Durham and Chapel Hill. The Research Triangle originally referred to the 3 cities' universities and their research facilities but now includes the more than 170 high-tech companies and federal agencies located in Research Triangle Park.

RALEIGH'S NEIGHBORHOODS

The downtown has been the heart of Raleigh and a focal point of business, government, and cultural institutions since the city became state capital in 1792. Union Square, with the State Capitol and surrounding blocks, typifies the city and State's governmental and historic heritage. Burke Square, adjacent to Union Square, houses the Governor's Mansion. The State Government Center houses the State Legislative building, Caswell Square, the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, and the North Carolina Museum of History. Fayetteville Street Mall, the city's most densely developed area, has the most commercial and pedestrian activity. Moore Square Park and the Moore Square National Register Historic District adjoin the City Market, with its shops, galleries, and restaurants, and are near the Marbles Museum and IMAX Theater. Southside contains the Convention Center; Progress Energy Performing Arts Center, with 5 venues for theater and musical performances; and Shaw University. Nash Square is primarily a warehouse district but will soon be home to the Contemporary Art Museum.

Five Points East, the densest single-family neighborhood, contains small lots with owner-occupied 1- to 2-story bungalows constructed between 1920 and 1940. Mordecai offers a mix of bungalows, large neo-colonial houses, and some modest post-World War II houses. King Charles comprises houses of various sizes, some developed in the 1940s and others since 2000. South Park contains mostly 1- and 2-story single-family homes, with newer multifamily dwellings; some properties are part of the nationally registered East Raleigh-South Park Historic District. Foxcroft, a rural, equestrian-friendly community; Glen Forest, characterized by single-family detached residences in forested, hilly terrain; Laurel Hills, which features large lots; and Westover/Mount Vernon Park, with its single-family detached homes and surrounding large, institutional properties, are all farther from downtown.

West of downtown are North Carolina State University (NCSU) and its nearby neighborhoods. Avent West, adjacent to both the NCSU main campus and the growing Centennial Campus, features single-family homes, ranging from 1950s brick ranch-style to 1970s and early 1980s

split-level and 2-story homes; a new subdivision was added in 2001. Gorman-Burt also borders both campuses. The downtown and NCSU are both easily accessible from the moderately priced housing of Kirby-Bilyeu. Cameron Park, west of downtown and east of the NCSU campus, comprises mostly single-family houses built between 1910 and 1940, with a few small multifamily dwellings. Oberlin Village, north of NCSU, was created after the Civil War from farmland that was subdivided and sold to freed African Americans. It is characterized by a mix of single-family and multifamily residences on small- to medium-size lots and also contains historical structures, such as the Latta House.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Raleigh has many parks, including 3 with lakes that offer fishing and boating and 3 that allow off-leash dogs. Pullen Park offers amusement rides, swimming, a children's playground, picnic shelters, lighted tennis courts, classes, fitness programs, and workshops. The Pullen Arts Center has arts education programs, summer arts camps, and monthly art exhibits. Sertoma Arts, located in Shelly Lake Park, offers similar programs. The Mordecai Historic Park is home to the Mordecai Mansion, a preserved 19th-century plantation home with many of its original furnishings.

The Carolina Hurricanes (hockey) and the North Carolina State University men's basketball team play at the RBC Center. The Carolina RailHawks (soccer) play in nearby Carey and the Carolina Mudcats (baseball) in nearby Zebulon.

EDUCATION

The Wake County Public School System serves Raleigh with 50 elementary schools, 14 middle schools, 9 high schools, and 7 special schools for students with learning issues. Twenty-seven magnet elementary, middle, and high schools offer special programs, including gifted and talented, international studies, engineering, creative arts, and international baccalaureate. Some schools operate on a traditional school calendar and others on a year-round schedule.

Raleigh has many opportunities for post-secondary education. North Carolina State University, the largest, offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, including veterinary medicine. St. Augustine's College and Shaw University are historically black liberal arts colleges; Shaw also offers graduate programs and a divinity school. Meredith College and Peace College are women's liberal arts colleges. These schools also provide many art and theater programs. Wake Technical Community College is a 2-year, public institution.

HEALTH CARE

Raleigh is served by 3 acute-care hospitals with approximately 1,360 beds. In addition, Raleigh has a 78-bed facility for physical rehabilitation and a treatment facility for persons with behavioral issues.

RALEIGH CITY STATS

(2007)

City Population	375,806
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	1,043,961
Per capita personal income, Raleigh-Cary, NC MSA	\$39,373