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October 19, 2020 | Writers prepare for college before day one, create new students for success. Starting college can be overwhelming, even for students who have taken college-level classes in the past. Know... Boone Things To Do Boone, North Carolina, is a family paradise for nature lovers. Get ready for your trip with this list of things to do in this beautiful land of adventure next to the mountain. Grandfather's Mountain For thrill seekers, nature lovers and adventurous families, no trip to Boone, North Carolina, is complete without a trip to Grandpa's Mountain. This International Biosphere Reserve offers some of the area's most stunning views. Explore its 12 miles of hiking trails, search for its 73 rare and endangered species, search the sky for its 200 species of birds, or even feed the wild bears of the mountain (but only in the designated area). For the bravest visitors, walk to mile-high swing bridge. Follow the steep but well-maintained path to the 228-foot suspension bridge, which spans an 80-foot chasm over a mile above sea level. If you are adventurous enough to cross it, you will be rewarded with unbelievable views on the other side. Grandpa Mountain is open all year. A ticket will also have your entrance to the nearby Nature Museum. Leave at least two hours and be prepared to walk. Rowing your way to adventure The new river, the second oldest river in the world, is easily accessible from Boone. If you're ready to paddle, stop at Wahoo's Adventures, where you can choose an easy and relaxing canoe or kayak trip, or a challenging whitewater rafting adventure. For those looking for emotions, white water rafting trips are available ranging from light to extreme. Lunch is included, and a guide accompanies each group tour. Downhill Slopes for winter travelers If your trips take you to Boone in winter, you'll want to check out one of the many ski slopes nearby. Choose from Beech Mountain, Sugar Mountain or Appalachian Ski Mountain. For more family fun, hawksnest offers skiing, snowboarding and tubes, and has earned a reputation as a favorite among locals for its short lift lines and diverse terrain. Open all year round, hawksnest can still be enjoyed in spring, summer and autumn thanks to its zipline course, which promises more than two miles of zipline. Experience a Legend in Blowing Rock From all the sights to see in Boone, one of the most unique is the natural phenomenon that is Blowing Rock, a cliff at 4,000 feet above sea level. The views from the lookout and observation tower are stunning. The cliff gets its name because the rocky walls of the gorge form a flume of which the wind sweeps so hard that it returns objects of light thrown over the void (although native Americans have their own explanation for the unusual cliff cliff if you visit Blowing Rock in winter, you can expect to see the snow falling upside down. Editor's note: The information on this page has been compiled using actual comments from travelers on what to do in Boone, North Carolina. We have chosen everything we recommend and select items through testing and evaluations. Some products are shipped free of charge to us without incentive to offer a favorable review. We offer our impartial opinions and do not accept compensation for reviewing products. All items are in stock and prices are accurate at the time of publication. If you buy something through our links, we can earn a commission. Fayetteville Things To Do Fayetteville blends historic small-town charm with a creative vein that embraces the performing and visual arts. It is also home to Ft. Bragg, one of the largest army facilities in the country. Here's advice from other travelers about things to do in Fayetteville. The center of Fayetteville's architecture may be just one of Fayetteville's nine carefully preserved architectural districts, but it's the perfect place to take a walk of informal architecture and marvel at the beautiful old houses and churches (and the beautiful stained glass windows). A must-see is the old Mercado House, one of the state's 50 national landmarks. The Airborne & Special Fayetteville Special Operations Museum is home to Ft. Bragg and the 82nd Airborne Division. The Museum of Special Operations and Airborne near Ft. Bragg brings to life the heroic exploits of the soldiers. The museum tells the story of the 82nd Airborne Division from 1917 to today. An exclusive motion simulator shows modern air troops in action, and is an educational and moving experience for visitors of all ages and interests. You can spend several hours looking at the monitors. The Great Outdoors The Cape Fear River Trail is a paved greenway trail that runs along the Clark Park's Cape Fear River to the Jordan Football Complex. The trail is part of the East Coast Greenway that stretches from Florida to Maine, with a four-mile stretch in Fayetteville. Despite being an urban trail, it passes through swampy areas and mixed wood/pine forests and supports a wide diversity of plants and wildlife. There are also several bridges, including a covered bridge that passes under a railway easel. Cape Fear Botanical Gardens is a private garden founded by gardening enthusiasts in the Fayetteville area. The gardens are separated into two parts – cultivated or not. The cultivated section has several different gardens, such as Shade Garden, with friendly shade plants such as hostas, and butterfly stroll, with plants that attract butterflies. The uncultivated section has some trails that lead through a forest of along the Cape Fear River and Cross Creek. The Fayetteville Art Museum has a beautiful lake where you can feed the ducks and and the short walking path. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Adventure If you're in the mood to ride a horse, head to the Ft. Bragg Riding Stables. You have to call ahead to make an appointment for the 45-minute guided tour. There are several sessions during the day; plan to arrive 20 minutes before their scheduled tour. The stables also offer open horse riding and hay rides. Editor's note: The information on this page has been compiled using actual traveller feedback on what to do in Fayetteville. We have chosen everything we recommend and select items through testing and evaluations. Some products are shipped free of charge to us without incentive to offer a favorable review. We offer our impartial opinions and do not accept compensation for reviewing products. All items are in stock and prices are accurate at the time of publication. If you buy something through our links, we can earn a commission. Airfare \$ Airfare \$ Airfare \$ Regent Seven Seas Cruisecruise \$11,199+ Patricia Magaña Hotel & Lodging Deals Francesca Miele Hotel & Lodging Deals \$229+ Home Destinations USA. + Canada North Carolina USA Getty Images Bold French Vietnamese Read More Cuban steaks and margaritas are the attraction of this relaxed tropical-style restaurant with a high roof with open beams and a polished wooden bar. Read More Fresh Steamed Shrimp descends softer with a chill at this seaside bar and local meeting point inside stripes bar & grille. Read More Chic Steakhouse Read More Barbecue and South-fried sides for the whole family, in a bare-boned road house that is Carolina altogether. Read More Stop by this family barbecue and save for a hearty breakfast of ham and eggs, or enjoy live bluegrass jams Saturday afternoon and evening. Read More Sheltered in a former fish market, this restaurant has trained many of the south's top touches. Current chef Bill Smith is an expert on dishes... Read More Sophisticated South Read More Chinese Hot Spot Read More Grab a burger while kids have fun in their toy-fueled tadpole corner play area. Read More Cozy Tapas stop Read More A modern view of a traditional Chinese noodle house. Read More The kitchen feeds a loyal follower with country ham breakfast and southern biscuits (grab a table on the sunny front porch). Read More French-Italian bistro in a former warehouse Read More Years 50 lunch counter-turned-stylish snack bar and martini bar. This restaurant pays tribute to Poole's Luncheonette, a landmark in downtown Raleigh that... Read More Although the building is a flyspeck, the long lines of cars in the drive-through window the famous sweet tea of the restaurant and... Read More Brooklyn-born Alicia Sessoms and her chef husband Jacob dress up the warehouse space of this restaurant with local daisies, echinacea and single... Read more cozy Turkish mezze set Read Read Try carolina oyster stew or a classic shrimp and grain overlooking Currituck Sound in relaxed elegance. Read More North Carolina's legendary well master Ed Mitchell presides over this airy restaurant in a former meat packaging warehouse. (White tablecloth in a ... Read More This barbecue mecca opens at 6.m. for breakfast brains and eggs; country ham; Grain. The pork is ready around 10:00.m. and it's worth the wait. Sit in a... Read More Nearly 30 million visitors gather annually in Charlotte, North Carolina for its parks and recreational activities, neighborhood shops and galleries, museums, award-winning restaurants, local breweries and more. With year-round weather and a familiar vibe, Queen City has a variety of attractions to keep you busy on a day trip, long weekend or extended stay. From white water rafting at the U.S. National Whitewater Center to sampling local food and drink at the 7th Street Public Market, here are the 15 best things to do in Charlotte. 01 of 15 Courtesy of the Levine Museum of the New South For an in-depth look at Charlotte's history, head to the Levine Museum of the New South in Uptown. The museum's permanent exhibits explore the history and culture of the South from the Civil War to today. Be sure to check out the award-winning Cotton Fields to Skyscrapers: Reinventing Charlotte and the Carolina Piedmont in the New South, which includes more than 1,000 artifacts, images and oral histories, plus interactive exhibits such as a sitting lunch counter and a one-bedroom farmer's house. 02 of 15 Courtesy of the U.S. National Whitewater Center The U.S. National Whitewater Center is not just an Olympic training facility. Located 12 miles north of the city center, on the world's largest whitewater river, the center offers many land and water activities for amateur athletes, too. With stand up paddleboarding, kayaking, climbing, zipline, over 50 miles of trails, and (of course) white water rafting, the 1,300 acres of forests are a haven for outdoor lovers. The facility also hosts a number of summer concerts, as well as festivals, races and other special events throughout the year. Access passes start at \$59, but single activity passes can also be purchased. Please note that while the trails and gates are open 365 days a year, the availability of certain activities varies by season. 03 of 15 Address Freedom Park, Charlotte, NC 28209, USA Located on the eastern edge of Myers Park, the Nearly 100 Acre Freedom Park is a beautiful city retreat. Walk or cycle along the park's wooded trails, then settle into a picnic overlooking the lake, which offers beautiful views of the Street parking is available, but can be challenging during special events such as the Kings Drive Art Walk in spring and the Park Festival in summer. 04 of 15 7th Street Public Market is public part part of local food business incubator. Located 2,650 feet west of the city centre, on-site vendors include a wine shop, cheesemonger, brewery, juice bar and cafeteria. Looking for a meal? Head to Pure Pizza, which supplies all its ingredients from market vendors; or, grab a table at Uptown Yolk for all-day breakfast, such as chicken and waffles and shrimp and beans. Continue to 5 of 15 below. 05 of 15 Science, nature and technology come into life at this practical museum in the heart of Uptown Charlotte. From an on-site aquarium to virtual reality tours of the human body, learning labs and a simulated rainforest, the museum offers hours of interactive fun for children of all ages. Discovery Place also has a series of rotating live shows with animal gatherings and chemistry experiments, as well as films at the largest IMAX theater in the Carolinas. 06 of 15 This uptown performing arts complex is a unique store for the best of Charlotte's culture. A \$20 pass takes you to three museums: Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, the Mint Museum Uptown, and the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art (stop here to see works by 20th-century master artists like Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol). Also part of the Levine, the nearly 1,200-seat Knight Theatre houses the Charlotte Ballet and other local performing arts groups. 07 of 15 Address Lake Norman, North Carolina, USA If you get tired of the chaos of the city, get in the car and go to Lake Norman. Just 20 miles north of Charlotte, the largest man-made lake in the Carolinas offers boating, kayaking, fishing, paddle boarding and other water-based activities. The area also has several parks, greenways and bike and hiking trails that connect to the Carolina Thread Trail system. Relax with dinner at Hello, Sailor, a lakeside seafood spot from the owners of the award-winning Kindred. The menu features shared dishes such as East Coast oysters and crab sauce, as well as whole salads, sandwiches and flounder with green parsley and pepper mayonnaise. 08 of 15 Stop and smell the flowers in this 110-acre public botanical garden located on the shores of Lake Wylie. Daniel Stowe has several distinctive gardens—including an orchid conservatory dedicated to tropical plants, a kindergarten and a perennial garden—as well as fountains, manicure lawns and a three-mile hiking trail. To get here, it is a 30-minute drive southwest of the city. Continue to 9 of 15 below. 9 of 15 A trio of venues—the Belk Theater, Booth Playhouse, and Stage Door Theater—make up the city's Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Here, you can see a variety of live events, from Broadway hits like Hamilton and Wicked to Charlotte Symphony concerts and concerts Comedy. 10 of 15 Located just a few miles north of the city centre, NoDa (North Davidson) is home to some of Queen City City shops, galleries, breweries and restaurants. Visit summerbird for high-end women's fashion and accessories at affordable prices; Curiosity for candles, crystals and other mystical items; and Ruby's Gift for pottery, home goods, and jewelry made by local artisans. Stroll through local galleries like Charlotte Art League, Light Factory and Providence Gallery, then sample local beers at neighborhood breweries such as Birdsong Brewing Co., Divine Barrel Brewing and Free Range Brewing. Cap your visit with dinner at Haberdish or Optimist Hall, one of the largest food halls in the city. 11 of 15 Charlotte is home to more than a dozen craft breweries. Experience several of them—such as the Olde Mecklenburg Brewery, the oldest in the city—on a guided tour with Charlotte Brews Cruise. Weekly tours start Saturdays at 1:30 p.m., and the \$49 fee includes visits to three breweries, 12 to 15 samples of four-ounce beer and bottled water and free snacks. Tours end in the NoDa neighborhood. 12 of 15 Courtesy of the Uptown Mint Museum Explore the neighborhoods, parks, museums, notable city buildings and more with the guided tours of Charlotte segway. The company offers several different tours ranging from 90 minutes to two hours. Your most popular tour is the historic uptown neighborhood tour, which includes an overview of the city's architecture and stops at the Levine Center for the Arts, The Green, and the Historic 4th Ward. Other options include a haunted tour that takes you to spooky locations like Settlers' Cemetery, and a flavor and slip tour with food and drink samples at 7th Street Public Market and Alexander Michael's. Continue to 13 of 15 below. 13 of 15 Explore one of the Carolinas' most beloved sports—stock car racing—at this interactive museum dedicated to all things NASCAR. After admiring the curves and slopes of the building (which mimic those of a traditional track), head inside for more than 50 different games and interactive experiences, including: historical artifacts like Richard Petty's winner Plymouth Belvedere, racing simulators, and a 360-degree wall honoring Hall of Fame racers. Don't miss the exhibition parties, which are held in a 278-seat theater with a 64-foot wide projection screen and surround sound. 14 of 15 This amusement park on the North and South Carolina border has 14 roller coasters, including the Furry 325. At 325 feet tall, the world's largest and fastest steel roller coaster accelerates up to 95 miles per hour. Other tours include the Intimidador, a high-speed roller coaster inspired by the legendary Dale Earnhardt, and the Afterburn, which features six different inversions. Carowinds also has family outings, live performances and an on-site water park. 15 of 15 Gregg Forwerck / Images Home of the Charlotte Knights, the Trip-A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox, this stadium is located right in heart of Uptown. There is no bad place on the 8,460-seat site, which also offers good food and views of the city skyline. On Friday nights, stick around for the post-game fireworks. Fireworks.

