

# Quick Trips

## Featured Family Destination:

Charlotte

Raleigh

Greensboro

## Charlotte, NC



Best known as the “Queen City,” Charlotte is the largest city in North Carolina, with plenty to offer in the way of arts and culture.

When you arrive at the Charlotte Train Station, there are several transportation options to take you and your

family into the heart of the city just a couple of miles away. Charlotte’s CATS buses are not only reliable, but affordable too! For \$2 per passenger, families can comfortably and safely arrive in the middle of Charlotte’s busiest streets to spend a day of enlightenment and fun. The #11 bus meets the *Piedmont* and *Carolinian* trains outside the Amtrak station. If you miss this bus, there’s a bus stop across the street from the station. Taxis are typically waiting outside the station too, and car services like Lyft and Uber provide convenient connections to the city center.

Once in the middle of downtown, you and your family can explore every corner of Uptown Charlotte with the **B-Cycle** program, a bike sharing program that allows riders to check out a bike from one of the 24 stations around the downtown area and ride it to another station closest to your destination. The first 30 minutes are free if riders can return their bike to another B-cycle station within those 30 minutes, and each additional 30 minutes is \$4 per bicycle. The maximum per day fee is \$75. Be sure to check

### Depart on Train 73 from:

Cary	6:57 am
Greensboro	8:18 am
Salisbury	9:08 am
Arrive in Charlotte	9:55 am

### Depart Charlotte on Train 76 5:15 pm

#### Arrive:

Salisbury	5:56 pm
Greensboro	6:49 pm
Cary	8:08 pm

their website or a map located at a B-cycle station to locate all available stations, and be sure to bring your own helmet!

For an afternoon of adventure and learning, kids will love visiting **Discovery Place**, where they can learn about science through hands-on activities, demonstrations and interactive exhibits. The museum’s featured exhibit includes exploration in a rainforest exhibit, where visitors can walk on a swinging bridge and observe the live creatures living in this immersive rainforest environment. Also intriguing is a walk through an aquarium which holds 15 tanks of varying sizes featuring ecosystems from around the world, displaying creatures such as octopus, jellyfish and more. Discovery Place is located on 301 N. Tryon Street. The museum hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is \$15 for adults and \$12 for children and seniors. An IMAX cinema with a rotation of movie options is also located at the museum.

For more details about these places or travel plans, visit [CharlotteCenterCity.org](http://CharlotteCenterCity.org).

Charlotte is home to some of the most unique art museums in the Carolinas. **The Mint Museum: Uptown** features world-class pieces, including the iconic Royal Blue Mint Chandelier by the famous glass sculptor, Dale Chihuly. The Mint Museum Uptown is located at 500 S. Tryon Street. Museum hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for college students and seniors aged 65 years and older, \$5 for children 5-17 years and free for children under 4 years old.



**The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art** is located on 420 S. Tryon Street, right around the corner from the Mint Museum. This museum holds a rotating collection of eclectic masterpieces from artists all over the world, including a piece by the famous Pablo Picasso. Museum hours are Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors aged 65 and older and college students (with school ID), \$4 for youth aged between 11-18 years and free to children aged 10 and younger.

There's no better place to check out the local scene than at **7th Street Public Market**, located at 224 E. 7th Street. The indoor market is home to unique food and beverage options, including Bonzai Fusion Sushi, Pure Pizza, Local Loaf, Cloud 9 Confections and Not Just Coffee. Local vendors include barCHOCOLATE, Charlotte Tea & Spice Co., Orman's Cheese Shop, Salts of the Earth and Viva Raw. Market hours are Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. However, each individual vendor may have their own hours of operation, so be sure to check out their website to make sure your shop of interest is open during your visit in the city.

**For more dining options that both you and your family will love, be sure to check out the restaurants all over Uptown Charlotte:**

#### **Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery**

Burgers, steaks, pasta, seafood, salads, sandwiches, brewery, outdoor seating  
401 N. Tryon St., Charlotte  
(704) 334-2739

**Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 12 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### **Chima Brazilian Steakhouse**

Brazilian steakhouse, sirloin, filet, ribs, pork, lamb, chicken, sausage, fish, vegetarian  
139 S. Tryon St., Charlotte  
(704) 601-4141

**Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#### **Rí Rá Irish Pub**

Irish pub, pub food, small plates, soups, salads, burgers, sandwiches, vegetarian  
208 N. Tryon St., Charlotte  
(704) 333-5554

**Hours:** Lunch: Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Brunch: Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Dinner: Sunday-Saturday, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

#### **Amélie's French Bakery**

French bakery, soups, sandwiches, salads, pastries, desserts, European-style espresso bar, vegetarian  
330 S. Tryon St., Charlotte  
(704) 376-1782

**Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.