

THE LAKESIDE OF CHARLOTTE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: North Carolina's "Inland Sea" is not only a place of breath-taking beauty, but it offers plenty of entertainment and activities. Loaded with genuine charm, our towns of Cornelius, Davidson, and Huntersville are filled with rich history and culture, exceptional dining and one-of-a-kind adventures. Our outdoor playground, created by Duke Energy in the 1960s, is conveniently located 15 miles north of Charlotte. Take the Lake Norman voyage where amenities and excitement abound.



520 miles of shoreline, 3 power plants, and 32,510 acres of recreation make for plenty of opportunities to explore the waters of Lake Norman. Lake activities can mean a variety of things from *wakeboarding*, *rowing*, to *fishing* and *sailing*. It's a water sports paradise. With so many acres and miles of shoreline, the best way to explore the lake is by boat. Several marinas grace the shores of Lake Norman, providing **boat rentals** and launches. Boats and pontoons share the waters with *kayaks*, *canoes*, *paddle boards*, *the occasional paddle boat* and of course, *swimmers*. Paddle board at **My Aloha Paddle Paddle & Surf** or catch a ride on the area's first and only pedal-powered party boat at **Charlotte Cycleboats**. Also, stop by the public swimming beach for a quick dip at Ramsey Creek Park.



My Aloha Paddle & Surf

Explore nature's wonders and experience history at **Latta Plantation Nature Preserve**. The 1,400 acre preserve boasts 16 miles of trails for *hiking*, *segway tours*, and *horseback riding*. Get face to face with birds of prey at the **Carolina Raptor Center**, which houses one of the world's largest raptor collections. Don't miss the *live flight shows*, *Harry Potter Owl Exhibit*, *Bald Eagles: Savannah and Derek*, and a world of *Vulture Culture*. Then step back into the past at **Historic Latta Plantation**, a circa 1800 cotton plantation and living history farm with *historical tours*, *ghost hunts*, and *annual reenactments* of battles from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War II.

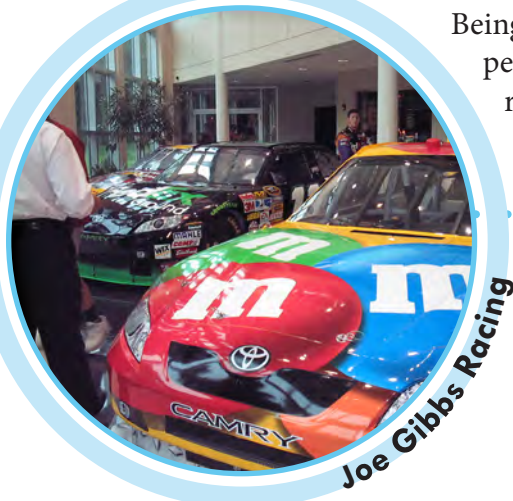
Carolina Raptor Center



Historic Latta Plantation



Being located in the heart of NASCAR country, Lake Norman is the perfect pit-stop for a race shop tour. Browse the pristine facilities of a racing and football legend at **Joe Gibbs Racing** and discover his race shop, providing behind the scenes access to race fans.



Joe Gibbs Racing

Lake Norman hosts many unique annual events that are sure to please. Some of our favorites include the **Carolina Renaissance Festival**, **Rural Hill's Loch Norman Highland Games**, **Amazing Maize Maze**, **Annual Lighted Boat Parade**, **North Carolina Brewers and Music Festival**, and the international **Charlotte Asian Festival & Dragon Boat Race**.

Carolina Renaissance Festival



Dragon Boat Race



WHAT ELSE MAKES US FUN & DIFFERENT?

- Many opportunities for live music: dance with the family during summer eves at **Birkdale Village**, catch laughs at the **Lake Norman Comedy Zone**, chill to live music at the waterfront **North Harbor Club**, discover the hottest local bands at **Old Town Public House**, or enjoy the music and outdoors with **Concerts on the Green**.

Kindred Restaurant



- **Downtown Davidson's** quaint charm, friendly folks, and local shops embody all that you expect of the quintessential small southern town. Check out **Kindred Restaurant** and try one of the best pasta dishes in the country. Kindred is all about sharing the love (and food). As a young couple move back to the husband's hometown to open a restaurant, it turns out they're not just running a business - they're building a community. Also, **Christmas in Davidson** is a magical event that warms even the heart of the grouchiest scrooge.

- **Breweries** where you can experience North Carolina craft beers through brewery visits, local tasting events and festivals.

- The 100 year old **Bradford Store**, which sells only organic, locally and regionally made products and foods. Many items are grown right on the Bradford farm surrounding the store, complete with their own blacksmith, making for a unique atmosphere and shopping experience.

- **Metrolina Greenhouses**: the world's largest single site greenhouse. Area **Farm Tours** featuring local favorite **Old Store Produce**, plus some of the best **Farmer's Markets** around.

Be sure to contact us for accommodation assistance and itinerary suggestions. We welcome the opportunity to show off our towns and love to hear any ideas you have too.

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 **VISIT
LAKE NORMAN**