

# Raleigh City Guide

## Weather:

Personal comfort depends upon humidity. You get four seasons which most describe as “moderate”

### Winter:

You may experience light and moderate rain throughout the winter with only a 6-8% chance of light to heavy snow, most often in February. The average daily high sits below 57 degrees. Temperatures rarely fall below 30 degrees and the joke is that when it snows, the state shuts down.

### Spring:

Spring is when the air is the driest as humidity will fall below 45% most days. Temperatures will be warm (mid 60's-mid 80's) with light rainfall at some point during the day. But as they say, if you don't like the weather, wait 20 minutes because it will change.

### Summer:

Prepare to sweat in the summer when temperatures above 81 feel warmer with July and August being the hottest and most humid months. There will be rainfall and some thunderstorms so if you're heading outside, bring light layers.

### Autumn:

During Autumn the air feels perfect: not too dry, not too wet. Moderate spring-like temperatures will be kissed with a soft southern breeze. October ranks high as the favorite month for residents.

## Transit Options:

The R-Line offers free bus service in the Central Business District. Capital Area Transit (CAT) busses run in and around Raleigh, including Amtrak train station stops. Paid parking available downtown during the day; free parking available nights and weekends.

## Popular Nightlife Destinations:

Shagging is North Carolina's official popular state dance. This swing dance evolved from the Jitterbug on the beaches of Carolina. To get a taste of it in Raleigh, try the members-only **TJ's Nightlife**. Yearly fee is just \$40.

Head to **Glenwood South** for a younger crowd and dancing. **C Grace** offers up jazz and blues while **Solas** will give you something a little more upscale including a roof-top area.

When the weather is nice head to **Cornerstone Cavern**. Inside can get loud and crowded, so head outdoors for spacious seating and firepits to unwind.

For a “mature” taste of nightlife, head to Fayetteville. Step into the British Pub, **Oxford**, which offers great food and live music on most weekends.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

Help yourself at the Downpour Wall in downtown’s unique craft brewery, **Clouds Brewing**. Plenty of seating, plenty of beer, and an American-style menu you’ll love.

For “seasonally inspired, Southern fusion, farm-to-fork vegetarian cuisine”, give **Fiction Kitchen** a taste. Located in the southwest, also known as the “Creative District” it’s becoming a fast favorite.

Choose the bar’s tapas tables or one of the dining levels for a taste of seafood, veal, and various menu items at **Margaux’s Restaurant**. Enjoy surprising your palate? Sign up for the Pampered Palate Club.

**Vivacer** presents Italian food served in an open setting which includes a beautiful outdoor area. Located in the North hills area, you will be delighted by its quiet atmosphere.

### **Tourism / Attractions:**

**North Carolina Museum of Art** encourages you to have a different experience each visit including music events, special and permanent exhibits, even a giant ear of corn in the museum park.

With local and international talent, a night at the **North Carolina Opera** brings the music to you. From tux to blue jeans, dress for the experience you want to have.

**Pullen Park** is North Carolina’s first public park and 5<sup>th</sup> oldest operating amusement park. Includes an aquatic center, kid-sized train, carousal and outdoor playing space.

When football is on your list, even if you don’t root for the home team, head to **Carter Finley Stadium**. Recently renovated from sky box to field house. Beautiful!

### **Raleigh Terms You Need to Know:**

**Hot Dog “All The Way”** – want ketchup? Fuggitaboutit. As they say at The Roast Grill, only children should put ketchup on a dog.

**Esse Quam Videri** – “To Be Rather Than to Seem” is the state motto. So be sure to keep it real.

**Inner Loop and Outer Loop** – these refer to the highway and you better be sure you understand the flow of traffic.

***Tobacco Road***– this is where basketball rivals from three University’s converge. You’ll know where their hearts lie by their colors.

***Cheddar Bo*** – think flaky biscuits and cheese...lots of cheese. You won’t understand the obsession until you taste it at Bojangles.

### **5 Essential Items You Must Own**

Hydration packs. Four mild seasons provide multiple exercise options. Be extra cautious in summer when humidity is at its highest.

Wolfpack Red. College sports are all about NC State. Out-of-state students must be prepared for 12 months of higher tuition.

Rocking chair. Find your rhythm during a summer night on your screened porch. Life doesn’t get much better than this.

Bicycle. Ride the city, ‘burbs, or 12,000 acres of parks. The theme here is to get out and enjoy nature.

Allergy Medication. Many people experience allergies for the first time after moving to Raleigh. You are exposed to more nature.