



# Charlotte, NC



Charlotte, the largest city in North Carolina, is located near the state's border with South Carolina. The city was named in honor of the British Queen Charlotte Sophia. Mecklenburg County, where Charlotte is located, was named for the region in Germany where the queen was born. The Catawba Native Americans were the first known historic tribe to settle in Mecklenburg County. The Town of Charlotte was incorporated in 1768.

The Levine Center for the Arts is a major cultural destination in Charlotte and includes the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art, the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, the Knight Theater, and the Duke Energy Center. The Mint Museum Uptown is also an integral part of the Levine Center and features the internationally renowned Craft + Design collection; collections of American, contemporary, and European art; the James B. Duke Auditorium; and the Lewis Family Gallery.

The Mint Museum Randolph showcases art of the ancient Americas, ceramics and decorative arts, European and African art, and other collections. The NASCAR Hall of Fame celebrates the sport of auto racing through interactive exhibits and films. The Levine Museum of the New South specializes in post-Civil War Southern history, particularly of the Charlotte area. *ImaginOn*: The Joe & Joan Martin Center houses the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, and a children's museum. Other museums in Charlotte include Discovery Place, an interactive science and technology museum with an IMAX Dome Theater; Discovery Place Nature; the McColl Center for Art + Innovation; and the Light Factory, which specializes in photography education and exhibition.

Charlotte has many performing arts venues. The campuses of the Blumenthal Performing Arts (Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Spirit Square Center, Levine Center for the Arts, and Owens Auditorium) encompass many theaters that are home to the Charlotte Symphony, Charlotte Ballet, Opera Carolina, and Queen City Theatre Company. They also host touring performers and Broadway shows. Theatre Charlotte is a volunteer-based theater company. Actor's Theatre of Charlotte presents bold and innovative new works by contemporary playwrights. *NarroWay* is a dinner theater that presents original, Christian-themed, Broadway-style musicals.

Bank of America Stadium, Spectrum Center, and Bojangles' Coliseum are homes to sports teams and also are venues for other entertainment.

Charlotte Metro Credit Union Amphitheatre offers outdoor concerts and other entertainment.

## Neighborhoods

Charlotte's downtown—known as Uptown—comprises four distinct wards. The First Ward features townhomes and condominiums with a few streets of Craftsman-style single-family homes. Governmental offices are located in the Second Ward. The Third Ward offers condominium skyscrapers with a few townhomes on the outskirts. Victorian homes line the streets of the Fourth Ward, which was the city's first major historic preservation effort.

Dilworth and Wilmore were early suburbs that feature wide, curvilinear, tree-lined streets. Most of the homes in Dilworth were built between 1890 and 1920 in Victorian, colonial revival, Craftsman, and Tudor styles. Overhanging roofs, full-width front porches, and Craftsman details typical of the bungalow style are prevalent in Wilmore, which also has numerous duplexes and apartment buildings.

Homes in the Hermitage Court neighborhood of the Myers Park subdivision were constructed between 1913 and 1925. Architectural styles include an eclectic mix of Bungalow-style houses interspersed with Colonial and Tudor revival homes. This neighborhood, which is known for its tree-lined avenues, also has condominium and townhouse options.

SouthPark's real estate consists of approximately two dozen individual neighborhoods—including Foxcroft, Morrocroft, Barclay Downs, and Beverly Woods—that offer single-family homes ranging from ranchers and split levels built in the 1960s to large Tudor estates.

Newer housing options are also available. Single-family homes built from the mid-1990s to the late 2000s dominate in the master-planned community of Ballantyne, although townhomes are also available. Several large golf and country club communities are located in Ballantyne. On the city's western edge, the newly built Waverly community has pioneered a new type of development featuring single-family homes, townhomes, and apartments all in walking distance of restaurants, shopping, and offices.

## Parks and Recreation

Mecklenburg County has 210 parks and 25 recreation centers. Park amenities vary but include ball courts and fields, playgrounds, trails, lakes, and picnic facilities. In addition, the county has six public golf courses, 12

disc golf courses, nine spraygrounds, six dog parks, two indoor aquatic centers, three outdoor pools, and Grayson SkatePark.

In its 98 acres, Freedom Park has many amenities, including a 7-acre lake, four baseball fields, batting cages, 12 tennis courts, four soccer fields, a full-court basketball court, two volleyball courts, two playgrounds, NFL Play 60 KidZone, a bandshell, demonstration gardens, and walking trails and paths.

Other large parks include the 29-acre Martin Luther King Park, which offers a full-court basketball court, two multipurpose fields, two tennis courts, a playground, and walking trails. At 21 acres, Cordelia Park has an indoor park pavilion, a full-court basketball court, an outdoor swimming pool, a sprayground, a playground, walking trails, and a community garden. Southside Park encompasses 20.5 acres and features two basketball courts, two multipurpose fields, and a playground. Carowinds is an amusement park located in Charlotte that offers rides, a waterpark, and shows.

The U.S. National Whitewater Center is home to the world's largest man-made whitewater river and has many water and land activities.

Professional sports teams in Charlotte include the Charlotte Hornets (basketball), Carolina Panthers (football), Charlotte Checkers (ice hockey), Charlotte Independence (soccer), Charlotte Knights (baseball), and Charlotte Eagles (soccer). The Charlotte Motor Speedway hosts the NASCAR All-Star Race, Coca-Cola 600, and Bank of America Royal 400.

## Education

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools educate more than 148,000 students from the cities and towns of Mecklenburg County in 94 elementary schools, 46 middle schools, 32 high schools, and three alternative schools. The district offers 67 magnet school programs. Cato Middle College offers high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn college credit.

Higher education is available at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, which is an urban research university that has undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs. Queens University of Charlotte is a private, coeducational, Presbyterian university that offers bachelor's and master's degree programs in liberal arts and professional studies. Pfeiffer University, a United Methodist university, provides undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Johnson C. Smith University is a private liberal arts university with proud historically black college and university traditions. Johnson & Wales University is a private, nonprofit institution and offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business, hospitality, and culinary arts. ECPI University provides associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees and diploma programs in select career-focused fields. Belmont Abbey College, Charlotte campus, is a Catholic college that offers degree programs for adults.

Central Piedmont Community College has four campuses in Charlotte: Cato, Central, Harper, and Harris. It also has two campuses elsewhere in Mecklenburg County. Carolinas College of Health Sciences is a public 2-year college that offers programs in nursing and various health technology fields.

## Health Care

Charlotte is served by the following health care facilities:

- Atrium Health Pineville, Licensed Beds-General: 221, Rehabilitation: 29
- Atrium Health University City, Licensed Beds-General: 100
- Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center, Licensed Beds-General: 519, Psychiatric: 75, Hospice: 14
- Novant Health Mint Hill Medical Center, Licensed Beds-General: 36
- Novant Health Charlotte Orthopedic Hospital, Licensed Beds-General: 64
- Carolinas Rehabilitation, Licensed Beds-Rehabilitation: 70
- Carolinas ContinueCare Hospital at Pineville, Licensed Beds-General: 40
- Carolinas ContinueCare Hospital at University, Licensed Beds-General: 17
- Carolinas Medical Center/Center for Mental Health, Licensed Beds-General: 1,055, Rehabilitation: 13, Psychiatric: 132, Substance Abuse: 11

## City Stats

2018

City Population	872,514
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	2,594,090
Per Capita Personal Income, Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC, MSA	\$52,176