



living like A LOCAL

RALEIGH, NC



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A little about me

My name is Bri Bolling, and I'm the Broker and Owner of Bolling Realty, part of the Elite Collective Agents team, brokered by eXp Realty. With a career rooted in business management, finance, and education, I help my clients see every move as a smart investment and an exciting opportunity.

As a U.S. Army veteran with experience in finance, payroll, and university administration, I bring discipline, problem-solving, and a passion for educating my clients. With over 10 years of experience living and working in Raleigh, I've witnessed firsthand how this city has grown while maintaining its welcoming charm and vibrant local culture. I'm deeply familiar with Raleigh's dynamic market and committed to helping my clients navigate their relocation with confidence and ease.

This guide is designed to introduce you to what makes Raleigh such a special place to call home. Whether you're moving for the first time or settling into a new neighborhood, I'm here to ensure your transition is seamless and stress-free.



Let's get started on your journey to calling Raleigh home!

A few of my Raleigh's Favorites

On a Saturday...

You can find me at the YMCA cheering on my son Elijah's sports team, or spending the day at Lake Lynn Park, followed by a bite to eat at Sassol or Kwench Smoothie Cafe.

Best Coffee

There's just something about the way Jubala creates the perfect cup every time. My go-to is the chai latte or americano with oat milk.

Best Views

I love watching sunrise at Umstead State Park and sunset at Wrightsville Beach - Located about 2 hours east of Raleigh, this beautiful coastal town offers gorgeous ocean sunsets that are well worth the drive.

Most Unique

Raleigh is home to some truly unique and quirky businesses. One of my favorites is Videri Chocolate Factory - A local chocolate maker with a whimsical factory storefront where you can watch the chocolate-making process and sample delicious treats.



Get to know Raleigh

QUICK FACTS

- The state capital and second-largest city in North Carolina
- often referred to as the "City of Oaks" due to its abundance of oak trees lining the streets and parks, adding to its aesthetic appeal and greenery.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- population of over 460,000 people
- Median age: 34
- a diverse city, with a population composed of various ethnicities, including White, Black or African American, Asian, Hispanic or Latino, and others.

DESIGNATIONS

- part of the Research Triangle area, known for its high-tech research and development industry.
- #2 spot for best cities to live in America in 2023 for its quality of life and economic opportunities. (Studyfinds)



Raleigh FAQs

COST OF LIVING

Rent averages \$1,288 for a 1 bedroom apartment. Transportation costs in Raleigh amount to \$5,509 a year. Food costs \$3,351 a year on average for a single resident of Raleigh

TRAFFIC

Rush hour in NC is between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
The average commute time is about 26 minutes

JOB MARKET

The Wall Street Journal named Raleigh one of America's top three Hottest Job Markets. The city is also rated the number one best city for working women, third on the STEM job growth index, and eighth in the biggest boomtown in America in 2023.

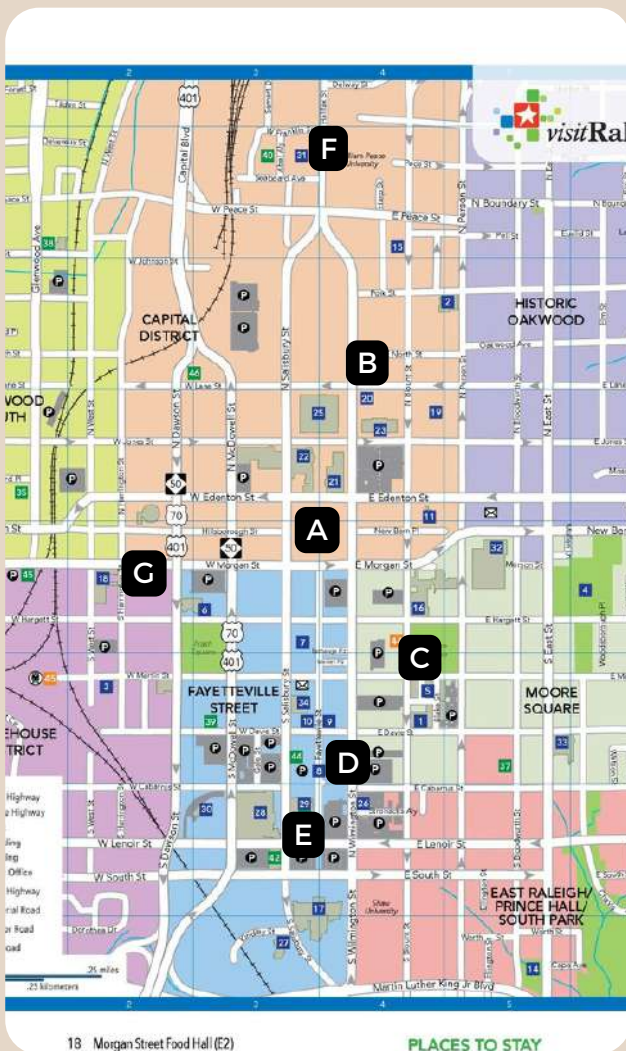
COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Raleigh has a pro-business regulatory environment and a low cost of living, making the metro a competitive place to live and work. Business costs are 5% below the national average and North Carolina has a AAA bond rating, making it one of only 10 states to earn this rating.



Raleigh At a Glance

Raleigh has something for everyone. From a vibrant downtown scene to quieter family neighborhoods, you are guaranteed to find an area you love. One feature you'll find throughout City Name? Parks & green spaces - they're sprinkled throughout the city!



- A** NC State Capitol- a National Historic Landmark, is located on Capitol Square in the heart of downtown Raleigh.
- B** Freedom Park- a park on Lane Street downtown between the Executive Mansion and the Legislative Building.
- C** City Market
- D** City Plaza
- E** Visitor Information Center- located between the Raleigh Convention Center and the Raleigh Marriott City Center at 500 Fayetteville St. Opens, Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5pm, and Sat., 9am-5pm
- F** Seaboard Station- an engaging and active neighborhood that sits between the historic railroad station and William Peace University. Here you'll find vibrant shops and restaurants, thoughtfully designed apartments and a dynamic hotel with a lively central corridor connecting them all.
- G** Morgan St. Food Hall- Bustling marketplace showcasing local eateries with diverse, casual offerings, plus food retailers.



The Triangle Area COMMUNITIES



RALEIGH

Raleigh, known as the "City of Oaks," is an inviting city with a thriving job market, exceptional education institutions, and affordable living. Its cultural diversity, natural beauty, arts scene, and culinary offerings make it a well-rounded place to live.

With a mild climate and proximity to both the coast and mountains, Raleigh offers a high quality of life for those seeking a vibrant and welcoming community with a wealth of opportunities for personal and professional growth.



WAKE FOREST

Wake Forest, a charming and historic town, is an ideal place for those seeking a serene and welcoming community. Nestled in the picturesque Wake County, it offers several compelling reasons to make it your new home.

Wake Forest provides a peaceful and family-friendly environment. Its top-notch schools, beautiful parks, and easy access to Raleigh's job opportunities make it an attractive choice for families. The town's historical downtown area offers a quaint and vibrant shopping and dining scene.

If you're looking for a place with a strong community spirit, a slower pace of life, and proximity to urban amenities, Wake Forest is an excellent choice to call home.



CARY

Cary is a vibrant and highly sought-after community, offering numerous reasons for people to choose it as their new home.

Cary consistently ranks as one of the best places to live in the US. The town boasts a thriving job market, excellent schools, and a low crime rate, making it an ideal choice for families.

With its beautiful parks, green spaces, and a wide range of cultural and recreational activities, Cary offers a high standard of living. Its proximity to the Research Triangle Park and Raleigh provides diverse job opportunities, while Cary's welcoming neighborhoods and well-planned development create a perfect blend of suburban comfort and urban convenience.



KNIGHTDALE

Situated just outside Raleigh, Knightdale offers a perfect blend of a close-knit community and access to urban amenities. The town boasts a family-friendly atmosphere with excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and affordable housing options.

Knightdale's commitment to green spaces and recreational facilities makes it an ideal place for outdoor enthusiasts. The town has been experiencing growth and development, leading to a thriving job market.

For those seeking a balance between a relaxed lifestyle and opportunities for personal and professional growth, Knightdale is an attractive choice with its charm and proximity to Raleigh.



GARNER

Garner is a welcoming and family-friendly town that offers numerous reasons for people to consider it as their new home.

Nestled just outside Raleigh, Garner provides a peaceful and close-knit community while maintaining easy access to the job opportunities and amenities of the city. The town's excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and affordable housing make it an attractive option for families. Garner also features beautiful parks and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts.

Its small-town charm, cultural events, and proximity to Raleigh's vibrant scene provide the best of both worlds, offering a comfortable and convenient lifestyle for those seeking a quiet and family-oriented environment within reach of urban benefits.



WENDELL



Wendell is a picturesque town with numerous reasons why people should consider it as their new home.

Nestled in Wake County, Wendell offers a peaceful, family-friendly environment with a strong sense of community. Its charming downtown area, complete with historic buildings and local businesses, creates a unique and welcoming atmosphere.

The town provides excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and affordable housing options. Wendell's proximity to Raleigh and its serene, small-town ambiance offer the best of both worlds, providing a comfortable lifestyle while keeping urban amenities within easy reach.

Raleigh *Coffee & Bakeries*

COFFEE

- Jubala Coffee
- Heirloom Brewshop
- The Morning Times
- Idle Hour Coffee Roasters
- Black & White Coffee at Videri
- 42 & Lawrence
- Lucky Tree
- North Raleigh blends

BAKERIES

- Boulted Bread
- Yellow Dog Bread Company
- La Farm Bakery
- The Cupcake Shoppe Bakery
- Lucettegrace
- Union Special

Raleigh *Breakfast & Lunch*

BREAKFAST

- STIR
- Rosewater Kitchen & Bar
- Capital Club 16
- A Place at the Table
- The Daily Planet Cafe
- Big Ed's City Market Restaurant
- Taverna Agora Greek Kitchen & Bar
- Mecca Restaurant

LUNCH

- Bartaco
- Beasley's Chicken + Honey
- Parkside Restaurant
- Manhattan Cafe
- Clyde Cooper's BBQ
- Whiskey Kitchen
- Wye Hill Kitchen & Brewing
- Tobacco Road Sports Cafe

Raleigh Dinner

UPSCALE

- Vivace
- Coquette Brasserie
- Crawford and Son
- Second Empire Restaurant & Tavern
- Bida Manda
- St. Roch Fine Oysters + Bar
- Las Ramblas

CASUAL

- Beasley's
- Clyde Cooper's
- Sitti
- Poole's Diner
- Morgan Street Food Hall
- Vic's Italian Cafe & Pizzeria

Raleigh *Dinner*

DINNER - KID FRIENDLY

- Giorgio Pizza Bar
- Coquette
- The Cowfish Sushi Burger Bar
- Poole'side Pies
- Char-Grill
- Gringo a Go Go
- Snoopy's Hot dogs
- Bittersweet

DINNER - UNIQUE

- Level7 Rooftop Bar
- Vita Vite Wine Bar
- Parkside Restaurant
- Cafe Luna
- MOFU Shoppe
- Mulino Italian Kitchen + Bar
- Stanbury (Innovative neighborhood delight)

Raleigh *Sweet Treats*

ICE CREAM

- Ben & Jerry's
- Kilwins
- Two Roosters
- Howling Cow
- Raleigh Rolls
- Amorino

NOT ICE CREAM

- Videri Chocolate Factory
- Lucettegrace
- Bakers Dozen Donut Shop
- Krispy Kreme
- The Cupcake & Bakery Shoppe



Raleigh *Adult Beverages*

BREWERIES

- Brewery Bhavana
- Burial Beer Co (The Exhibit)
- Clouds Brewing
- Crank Arm Brewing Company
- Little City Brewing & Provisions
- Raleigh Beer Garden
- Standard Beer + Food
- Tobacco Road Sports Cafe & Brewery

COCKTAILS & EXPERIENCES

- Coquette Brasserie
- Willard Rooftop Bar
- Mulino Raleigh
- The Capital Grille
- Northside Bistro
- Cucciolo Raleigh
- Whiskey Kitchen
- Watts & Ward

Things to do in Raleigh

OUTDOORS

- Stroll through Pullen Park
- Experience Trolley Pub Public Tour
- Pickle ball at Brier Creek Park
- Raleigh Historian-Guided Downtown Walking Tour
- Shopping along Triangle Town Center & Commons
- Rooftop bar at The AC Hotel
- Bike ride in Art to Heart Trail
- Stand up paddle boarding in Lake Johnson

INDOORS

- See Art at the North Carolina Museum of Art
- Go to The Tower Escapes and Play an Escape Game
- Go to a Show at Lincoln Theatre
- Bowl at Bowlero Raleigh
- Learn New Things at the North Carolina Museum of History
- See a Show at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
- See a Movie at The Cary Theater





Things to do in Raleigh

KIDS

- Ride the historic carousel and iconic miniature train in Pullen Park
- Go-karts, laser tag, batting cages, bumper boats, flight simulators, mini-golf, arcade games in Frankie's Fun Park
- Trampoline park, ropes course, laser tag, go-karts, bumper cars, and soft play area in Galaxy Fun Park
- Visit Marbles Kids Museum

TEENS

- Shopping at REI and Omega Sports
- Play Bowling and Arcades at Kings Bowling
- Tee off at Drive Shack
- See the NC State Women's basketball at famed Reynolds Coliseum
- Go on a Ghost Walking Tour
- Check out all the Murals
- Participate in a Cooking Class at Flour Power
- Take on a High Ropes Challenge at Go Ape (near Falls Lake)





Working out in Raleigh

YOGA / PILATES / BARRE

- Bliss Body Yoga
- Blue Lotus
- YoBa Studio
- Body & Brain Yoga Tai Chi
- 110 Yoga
- Athletic Lab
- Crunch Fitness
- Pulse Pilates

GYM / WEIGHTLIFTING / HIIT

- Fitness Connection
- Life Time
- Hardwork Strength & Performance Gym
- Heat Studios
- LA Fitness
- TrapFit
- Anytime Fitness
- Burn Bootcamp



Dog-Friendly Raleigh

PARKS

- Lake Johnson Loop Trail.
- Buffalo Road Athletic Park
- North Hills Dog Park
- Dorothea Dix Park
- Carolina Pines Park
- Millbrook Dog Park

MY FAVE ESTABLISHMENTS

- Lafayette Village
- Smoky Hollow
- Village District
- Boxcar Bar & Arcade
- Great Outdoor Provision Company
- Cause for Paws Thrift Shop



Events You Can't Miss

- January: Annual African American Cultural Celebration
- February: Krispy Kreme Challenge
- March: Art in Bloom
- April: The Pit's 'cuegrass Festival
- May: Artsplosure (Raleigh Arts Festival)
- June: International Food Festival
- July: Festival for the Eno
- August: Beer, Bourbon and BBQ Festival
- September: La Fiesta Del Pueblo
- October: N.C. State Fair
- November: Chinese Lantern Festival
- December: Illuminate Raleigh





Why I love Raleigh

LIVING IN RALEIGH

As a military veteran, Raleigh's resemblance to my hometown, Richmond, VA, along with its diverse offerings of beaches, mountains, and suburban life, drew me in. Even after a decade, its vibrant culture keeps me exploring new surprises.

WHAT I LOVE MOST

In Raleigh, my ideal weekend involves visiting the farmers market with my family, exploring local events downtown, taking a stroll in Lake Lynn Park, or enjoying a quick getaway to Myrtle Beach. My go-to eateries include Flying Biscuit, Bar Taco, and Morgan Street Food Hall, offering diverse cuisines from pizza to Indian dishes. And of course, no weekend is complete without indulging in delicious donuts or pastries at Baker's Dozen.



Local Trades & Service Providers

SERVICE	NAME	PHONE	WEBSITE
HVAC, PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SERVICE	Michael & Son	919-278-7841	michaelandson.com/raleigh
PEST CONTROL	Moxie Pest Control	919-781-8200	moxieservices.com/locations/raleigh
SECURITY SYSTEM	ADT Partner	CONTACT ME FOR A REFERRAL	bri@bollingrealtyinc.com
HOME IMPROVEMENT	Affordable Remodeling Solutions	919.607.5467	thebrowsingbutterfly.com
HOUSE PAINTING	Longinos Painting LLC.	919-841-6462	longinospainting.simplesite.com
ROOFING SERVICE	Big Bear Roofing	919.739.3716	mcroofinginc.com
MOVER	Cowboys Hauling LLC	919-215-7207	facebook.com/people/Cowboys-Hauling-LLC
TREE REMOVAL	Raleigh's Tree Removal & Tree Service	919-825-0266	raleigh-tree-service.com
POOLCLEANING	Pool Scouts	919-741-4949	poolscouts.com/triangle/
PLUMBING	Arbor Plumbing & Backflow	984-295-8378	arborplumbing.com/

Local Resources

SERVICE	PHONE	WEBSITE
POLICE	919-996-3335	raleighnc.gov/police
PRIMARY CARE	919-350-8000	wakemed.org/
DRIVERS LICENSE	(919) 715-7000	ncdot.gov/dmv
POST OFFICE	919-832-3478	tools.usps.com/
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER	919.834.5900	visitraleigh.com/
WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION	919-431-7400	www.wcpss.net/
CITY COUNCIL	919-996-3050	raleighnc.gov/city-council
CHILD CARE	919-814-6300	ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/
SENIOR CARE	919-855-3400	ncdhhs.gov/divisions/division-aging
PARKS AND RECS CITY OF RALEIGH	919-996-3285	raleighnc.gov/departments/parks-recreation-and-cultural-resources



Your Resource for All Things Raleigh

If you ever have questions or are looking for a local recommendation, I'm here for you! Don't hesitate to reach out or send me a message!



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For the skinny on Raleigh, follow me on IG!

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