

History

Archaeological findings indicate that Indians of the Siouan family inhabited the area that is now Moore County from as early as the beginning of the sixth century, until about 400 years ago. They hunted and camped throughout the area and, in places settled in villages. A well-used Indian trail which crosses the county is thought to have first been beaten out by buffaloes on their annual migrations from the Piedmont to the coastal marshes. This trail, which later came to be known as the Yackin Road, played an important role in the early settlement of Moore County.

The earliest European settlers came to the region about 1730. During the ensuing years, additional settlers, largely English, Ulster Scots, and Germans moved into the area, traveling down the "Great Wagon Road" from Pennsylvania or up the Cape Fear River Valley from Wilmington. Most settled on the fertile lands of the "clay country" along the Deep River in northern Moore County. By the mid-1750's, the area was sparsely, but evenly, settled.



The next twenty years saw a large influx of settlers, particularly Highland Scots, who emigrated to the Colonies to escape the harsh economic and political conditions which existed in Scotland at the time. These Highlanders settled in the Sandhills of the southeast, an area bypassed by earlier settlers due to the poorness of the soil. The industrious Scots, making the best of what they had, soon

established the manufacture of naval stores as a major industry of the vast forests of longleaf pines.

The American Revolution curtailed the influx of settlers to the area and set the stage for bitter conflict. The Highlanders, who had taken an oath of allegiance to the King of England before leaving Scotland, remained loyal to the British throne; settlers in the "clay country" supported independence. Although no major battles were fought in Moore County, the guerrilla warfare between the two factions was bloody. The Highlanders paid dearly for their political views after the defeat of the British, facing the scorn of their neighbors, and, in some cases, confiscation of their property and exile from the state.

In 1783, shortly after the end of the American Revolution, Moore, until that time a part of Cumberland, officially became a county. The new county was named for Alfred Moore of Brunswick, a famous militia colonel in the Revolution. The citizens quickly set about establishing their government. As the area recovered from the disrupting effects of the war and began to prosper, some schools were built and several industries flourished in the north, including a gun factory in Robbins and a carriage factory in Carthage. The Sandhills area continued to lag behind.

The Civil War put an end to all progress, as every able-bodied man went to war. After the War, Moore County had a long struggle to recover. But, in the 1870's, the Raleigh and Augusta Railroad came through the Sandhills, providing a means to ship the products of the pine forests. Little towns sprang up every ten miles or so along the line to serve as shipping points. The region quickly began to develop as a commercial center.

During the 1880's, yet another industry developed in the Sandhills. At that time, there were a number of human ailments for which the only treatment was fresh air and mineral water. The area had an abundance of both, and plenty of cheap land. Town sites were laid out up and down the rail line. Soon, people wishing to improve their health or seeking "refuge from the Northern blizzard" began to flock to the resort towns. Shaw's Ridge, later incorporated as Southern Pines, became the most popular. Several years later, in 1895, Pinehurst was built; a complete resort village with an elegant inn, electricity and a telephone system. Near the turn of the century, golf, which would prove to be the biggest industry of all, was brought to Pinehurst. The rest is history.

Campbell House

This handsome Georgian house on fourteen acres of beautifully landscaped grounds was once a private home. It is now operated as a cultural visitor's center and a gallery for local artists. Revolving exhibits show the diversity of talent in the area. In one room, a variety of local pottery is offered for sale.

The Campbell House is open to visitors from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Weymouth Woods

Weymouth Woods was established in 1963 to preserve and protect the unique habitat of the Sandhills Region. Nearly 600 varieties of plants thrive in the area. Indian pipe, pitcher plants, wild orchids, dwarf iris, blueberry and wild azalea are just a few of the colorful species found along the nature trails.

The preserve, with its museum, interpretive programs and nature trails allows visitors to observe and better understand the natural history of the region. Hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 12 noon until 5:00 pm on Sunday. Admission is free.

World Golf Hall of Fame

Golf was first introduced into the Sandhills area near the turn of the century. Since that time the popularity of the sport has grown so much that the area has become known as the "golf capital of the world".

The Hall of Fame is intended not only to pay tribute to famous golfers, but also to celebrate the game of golf. On display in the museum section are golfing artifacts and memorabilia, featuring a collection of antique clubs dating as far back as 1690.

The Hall of Fame is open to the public, seven days a week from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. An admission fee is charged.

Blue Farm

The Malcolm Blue House, built in 1825, is one of the few remaining examples of early 19th century Scottish homesteads in the Sandhills. The house was part of a large farm complex, which included a pack house, grist mill, pump house, water tower and horse barns.

Each year, at the end of September, a Crafts and Skills Festival is held on the farm. Appointments to tour the farm throughout the year can be made by calling (919) 944-3840 or 944-1115.

Terrain

From the more gentle rises in southeastern Moore County to the short, steep hills of the northern section, the terrain throughout the area can be generally classified as "rolling". A ridge running in an east-west direction across the county, passing through Carthage, divides the county into two physiographic regions, the "clay country" of the north and the "sandhills" of the south. Vegetation varies considerably with oaks and other hardwoods characterizing the north, and large stands of longleaf pines prevailing in the south.

The overall elevation of the county ranges from 190 feet above sea level in the eastern part to over 600 feet in the northwestern part, with the sandhills rising to 700 feet above sea level.

Climate

Termed "humid subtropical", the climate of Moore County is good for bicycling nearly year-round. Even during the coldest months, there are days on which the temperature climbs into the 70's to provide a glimpse of spring, which is never very far away. The long transitional seasons of spring and fall are especially good for bicycling, with sunny days and moderate temperatures. Summer is also very pleasant, although there are generally a few very hot and humid days in July and August. But, even then, bicycling early in the day is comfortable.

The average annual rainfall is about 45 inches, with heaviest rainfall occurring during the summer months. Prevailing winds are from the southwest and average nine miles per hour.

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMPERATURE		NORMAL PRECIP.
	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	
JAN	55	33	3.55
FEB	56	33	3.79
MAR	65	40	4.18
APR	74	47	4.01
MAY	82	55	3.66
JUN	88	64	4.55
JUL	90	67	6.45
AUG	89	66	5.66
SEP	84	62	4.00
OCT	75	49	3.55
NOV	64	39	3.07
DEC	54	33	3.55

Jackson Springs

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, a resort hotel was built at Jackson Springs. People came from far and wide—as many as six trainloads a day—to drink the flowing spring water, which was purported to have healing properties. They played spirited games of bridge, checkers and whist. They danced the fox trot and waltz in the pavilion over the spring. No one exerted themselves; they just took life easy.

In 1932, the hotel burned to the ground. All that remains today of the once-famous resort is the old train depot and the ever-flowing spring.

Jugtown Pottery

A visit to Jugtown is like a trip into the past. Log buildings are spaced out among pine trees; furnishings, tools, and methods date back to the designs of early settlers. The pottery is produced essentially as it was in the 18th century; clay is dug locally, dried, ground to a powder, mixed with water and churned in a pug mill drawn by a horse, then stored in the earth floor of the pottery.

Potters shape the clay into traditional forms, placing the finished pieces on wooden shelves to dry for a week. The wares are then fired in a ground-hug kiln. The pieces are glazed, using either traditional glazes such as Tobacco Spit and Frogskin, or the newer shades of Wood Smoke and Blue Ridge Blue. A final firing completes the process.

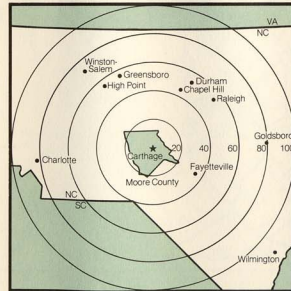
Jugtown is open to visitors Monday through Saturday, from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm.



Welcome to Moore County

There's no place in North Carolina that's better for bicycling than Moore County. Whether you are a casual cyclist who likes to wander along peaceful lanes through quiet villages, a day-rider who enjoys exploring new places by bicycle or a bicycle tourist looking for a great weekend trip, Moore County has something for you. Its friendly folks, charming villages, pleasant countryside and miles of quiet back roads invite you to just relax and enjoy yourself.

Moore County is located in that south-central region of the state called the Sandhills. Easy access from most of the major cities in the Piedmont, coupled with the promise of a delightful bicycle excursion, make the trip well worthwhile. The chart below shows the approximate distance from Carthage, the county seat, to selected cities within a 100-mile radius of the area.



Public transportation via Greyhound bus is available to Aberdeen/Southern Pines and to Carthage via Trailways; Amtrak passenger train service is available to Southern Pines. There is no scheduled air service into the area.

Loop Rides

Four short loop trips are outlined below, inviting you to discover the diversity of Moore County. Try one, or try them all; each one offers something special.

Written cues for following the routes in the preferred direction are included with each loop description. The location of the loops is shown on the map inside this brochure. When riding the loops, be sure to follow the written directions instead of the bike route signs. They'll take you around the perimeter of the county on the 100-mile Tour Moore Route!



Horse Country Loop

Distance: 22.6 miles

Direction of travel: counter-clockwise

Starting point: Campbell House

Miles of fenced horse pasture and deep pine forests await you when you ride out of Southern Pines into the Sandhills countryside. Throughbred horses pause from their grazing to watch you ride by, wondering what kind of animal moves so silently on two wheels. Stop at one of the country stores at Lakeview or Niagara to take a break before heading back to Southern Pines for a picnic at the Campbell House or a hearty meal at one of the restaurants in town.

From Campbell House, turn left onto Connecticut Ave., ride 1 mile; turn right on Ridge St., ride 3 miles; turn right on Youngs Rd. (2024), ride 5.3 miles; turn right on 2023, ride 3.0 miles; turn left on 1853, ride 3.7 miles to Lakeview; cross US 1, continue on 1853 4 miles;

Tour de Moore

Each year on the last Saturday in April, the Kiwanis Club of the Pines sponsors the Tour de Moore, a 100-mile bicycle road race around the perimeter of the county. Forty-six riders participated in the first Tour de Moore, held in 1976. Since that time, the race has grown into one of the premier road racing events on the national racing scene, with the field now limited to 600 riders. A Women's Category race of 32 miles is held on the same day, drawing the best women riders in the country.

Competition is intense. The race consistently draws an international field of riders, including Olympic-caliber racers from the US, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Ireland. For many bicycle racers, Moore County is the place to be in April.



For additional maps or more information contact: Moore County Parks & Recreation Department PO Box 905 Carthage, NC 28327

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Tour de Moore racing photo compliments of Glen Dickerson. Other Photos: Tom Norman & Ellen Holding Graphics: Ellen Holding Cartography: Margaret Booth Pierce

turn left on 1861, ride 3 miles; turn right on 1843, ride 3.2 miles; turn left on 1802, ride 2.9 miles to Niagara, continue on 1802, 1 mile; turn right on 1857, ride 1.1 miles; merge with 2080 (N. May St.), ride 2.0 miles; turn left on Connecticut Ave., ride 2 miles back to Campbell House.

The McLendon Cabin Loop

Distance: 20 miles

Direction of travel: clockwise

Starting point: McLendon-Bryant Place

It is not hard to imagine that this was once North Carolina frontier country. The area is still sparsely settled and heavily forested, with a certain stillness that is very refreshing. The McLendon-Bryant homestead provides a glimpse of what life was like for the early settlers. Take time to picnic there, or stop for lunch in Carthage, the half-way point.

From the McLendon-Bryant Place, turn right onto 1210, ride 3.0 miles; turn right on 1261, ride 6.2 miles; turn right on NC 22/24/27 (McReynolds St.), ride 1.3 miles to Carthage; turn right on Dowd St. (1240), ride 8.5 miles; turn right on 1210, ride 1.2 miles back to starting point.

Pottery Loop

Distance: 24.4 miles

Direction of travel: clockwise

Starting point: Jugtown Pottery

It will take awhile to travel this loop. It isn't because the distance is too great or because the hills are too steep, although there are a couple of good ones. It's just that there are a lot of potteries along the way and you'll want to allow plenty of time to browse through each one. Most are family operations, run by descendants of potters who migrated to the area from England in the mid-1700's. Before you start your ride, stop in at Jugtown to pick up a map showing you the potteries in the area. Robbins is about half-way around the loop, just the right place to stop for a cool drink or a light lunch.

From Jugtown, turn right onto 1420, ride 1 mile; turn left on 1419, ride 5.3 miles; bear left, continuing on 1419, ride 1.6 miles; turn right on 1470, ride 2.7 miles; continue straight on NC 705 (Middleton St.) into Robbins, ride 3 miles; turn right on 1002, ride 5.9 miles;

TOUR MOORE



turn right on 1275, ride 2.5 miles; turn right on 1428, ride 2.4 miles; turn left on 1427, ride 6 miles; turn left on NC 705, ride 3 miles; turn right on 1419, ride 2.6 miles; turn left on 1420 and return to Jugtown.



Jackson Springs Loop

Distance: 26.6 miles

Direction of travel: clockwise

Starting point: Downtown Pinehurst

Around the turn of the century, resort villages began to spring up in the Sandhills. Visitors would arrive by train to spend the winter months enjoying the mild climate and pleasant surroundings. Bicycling along the quiet lanes, it is easy to understand what drew people to the area. Pack a lunch and picnic at Jackson Springs. Try the water if you like, but be warned that the strong mineral taste is not to everyone's liking. Or, stop at the small grocery store in West End for a little refreshment, then ride back to Pinehurst for a special treat at one of the fine restaurants in town. There's no rush. Just relax and enjoy yourself.

From Shaw Rd. turn north on Beulah Hill Rd., ride 2 miles; turn left on Linden Rd. (1115), ride 2.3 miles; turn right on 1122, ride 8.7 miles; turn right on 1125, ride 2 miles to Jackson Springs; turn right on NC 73, ride 10.6 miles, passing through West End; turn right on 1209 (Cutler Rd.), ride 4.0 miles into Pinehurst; turn right on McKenzie Rd., ride 1 mile; turn left on Beulah Hill Rd., ride .5 miles back to starting point.