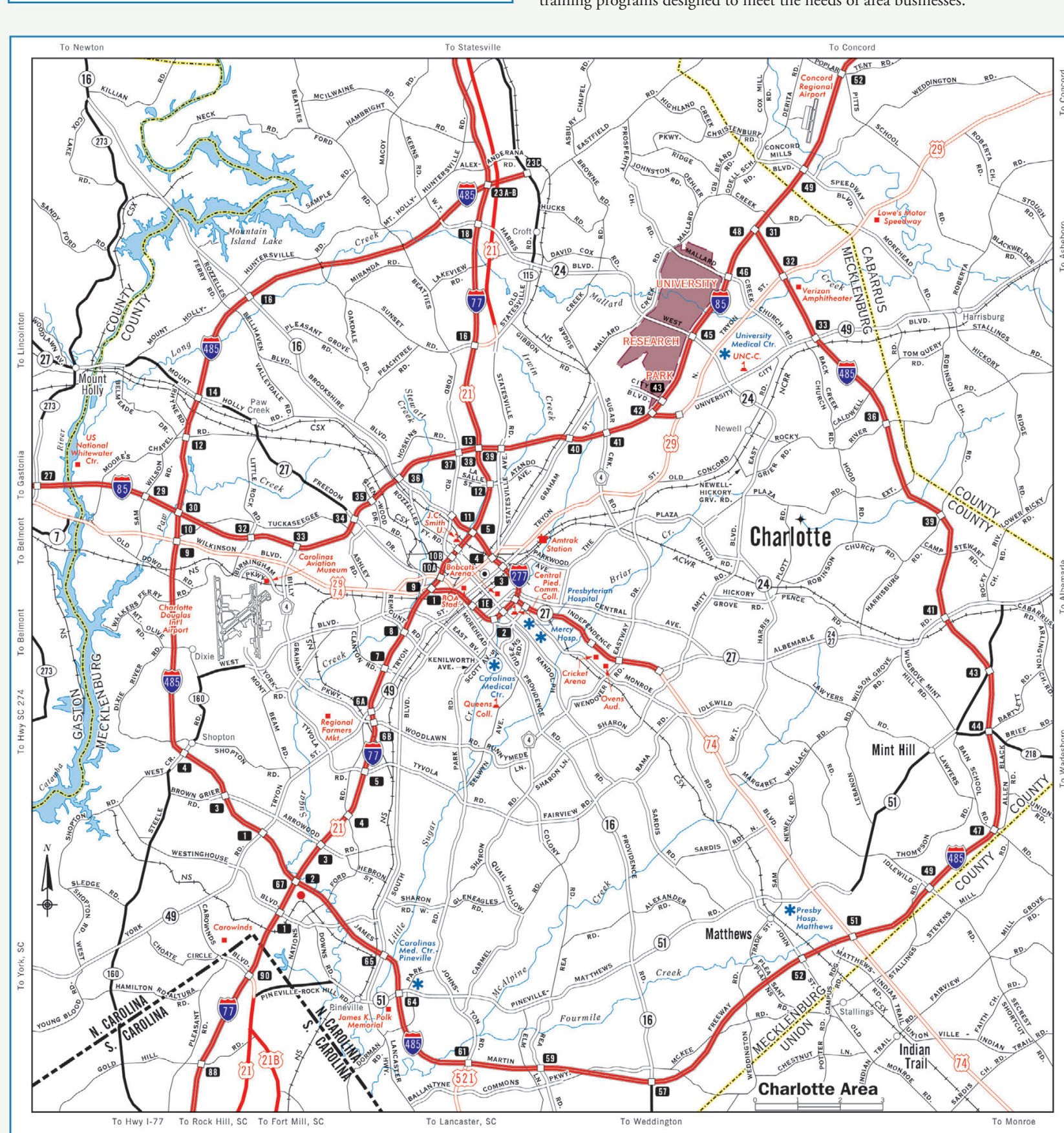
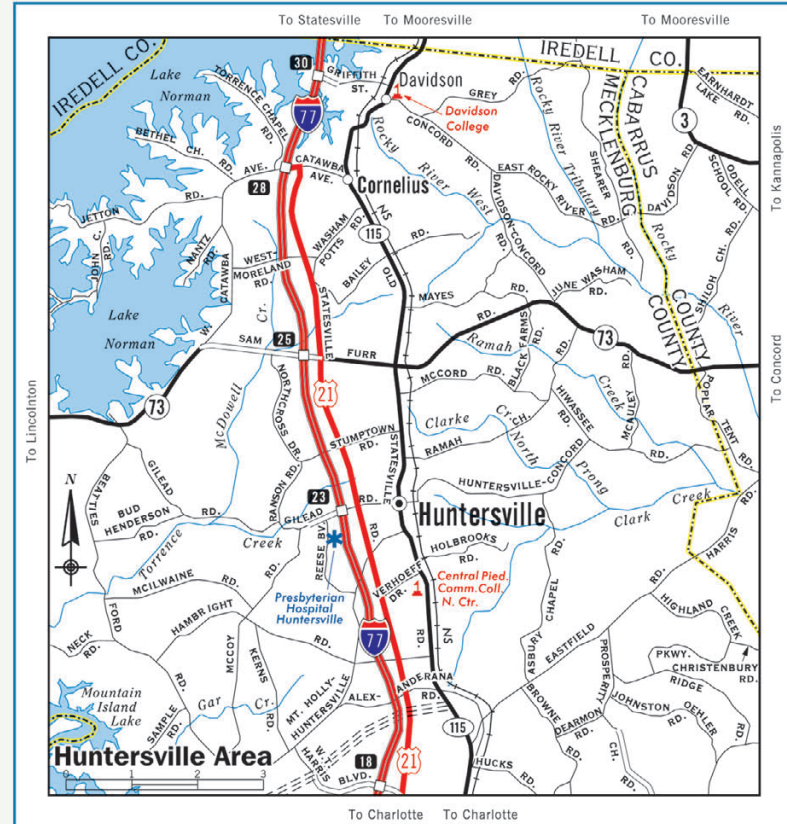
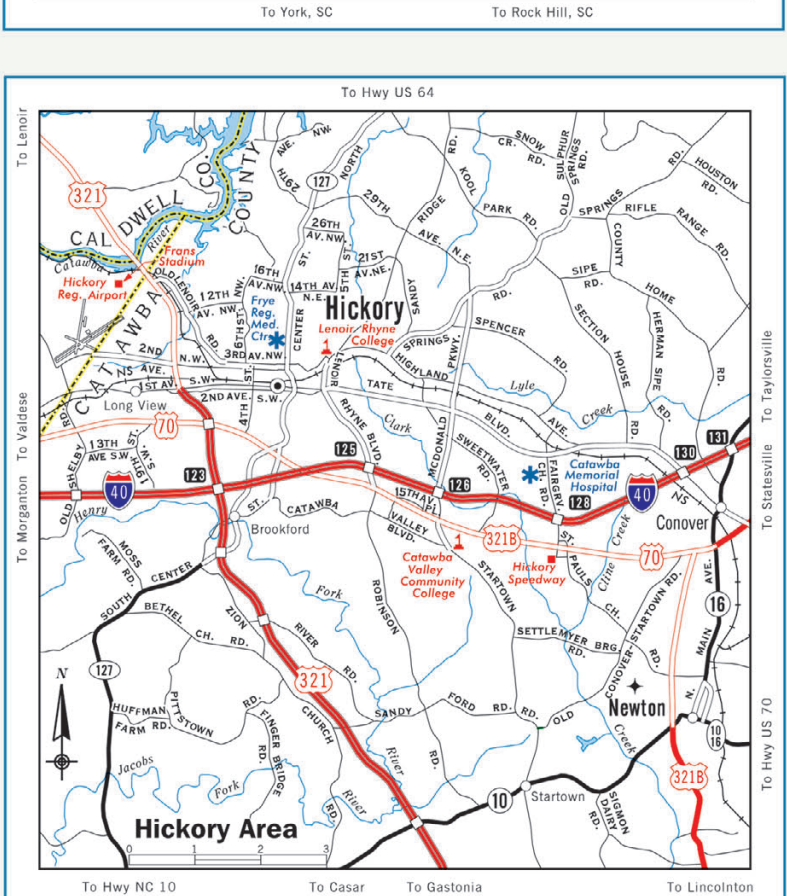
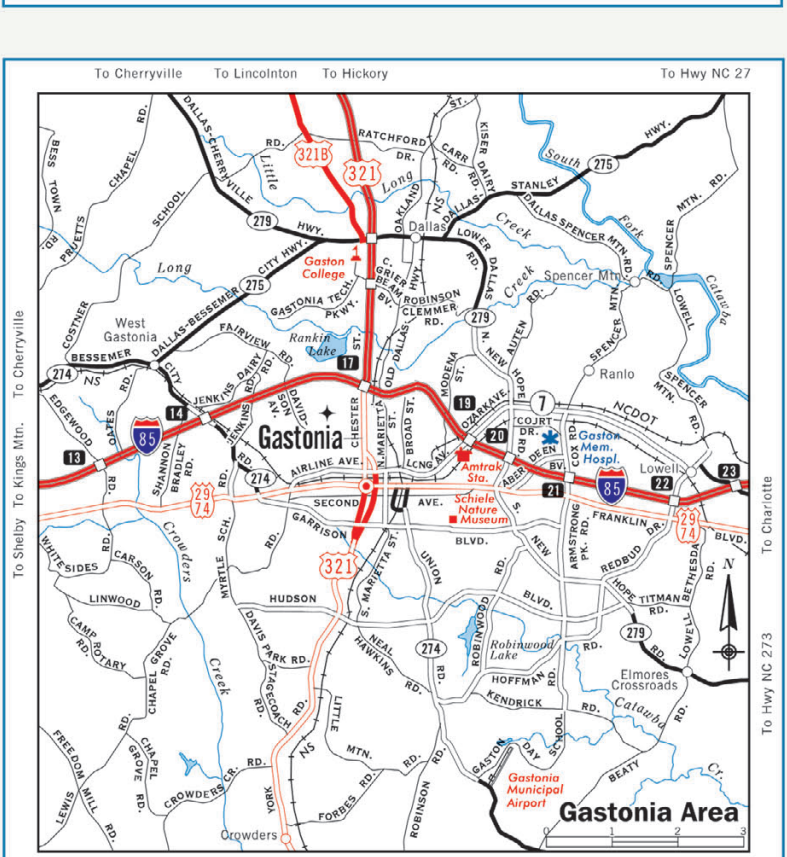
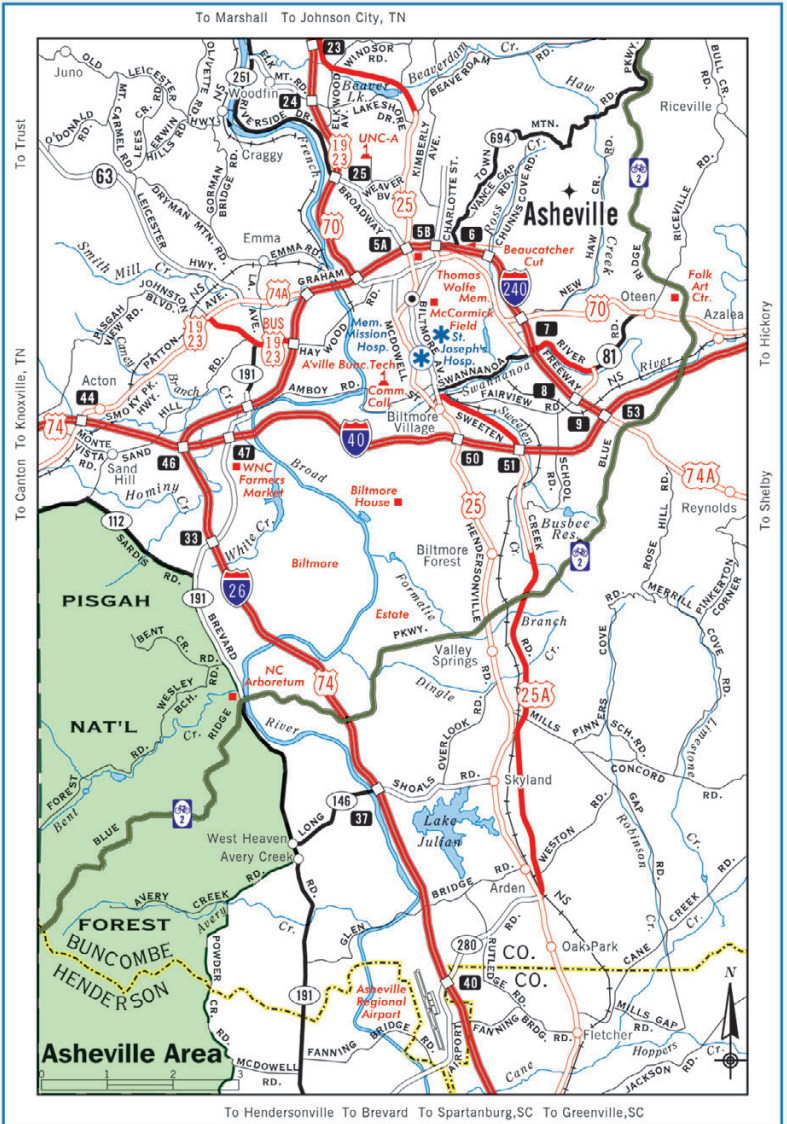




Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in Graham County is a journey in time with magnificent trees as old as 400 years.



## Economic Development

In 2008, North Carolina was ranked by *Site Selection* magazine as the state with the best business climate, an honor it had received for seven of the past eight years. From January through October 2008, North Carolina's economic development network helped create 23,546 jobs, with companies investing \$5.5 billion statewide. North Carolina has established itself among the nation's top markets in knowledge-based industries such as biopharmaceuticals, information technology and aviation and aerospace. In addition, North Carolina is the nation's 10th largest grape and wine producing state, is ranked among the top 10 for film, television and commercial production; and is one of the most visited states in the country. North Carolina also boasts outstanding public and private universities and a top-ranked community college system that offer highly rated, customized training programs designed to meet the needs of area businesses.

For more information about economic development in North Carolina, contact the N.C. Department of Commerce at (919) 733-4977 or visit [www.nccommerce.com](http://www.nccommerce.com).

## State Ports Authority

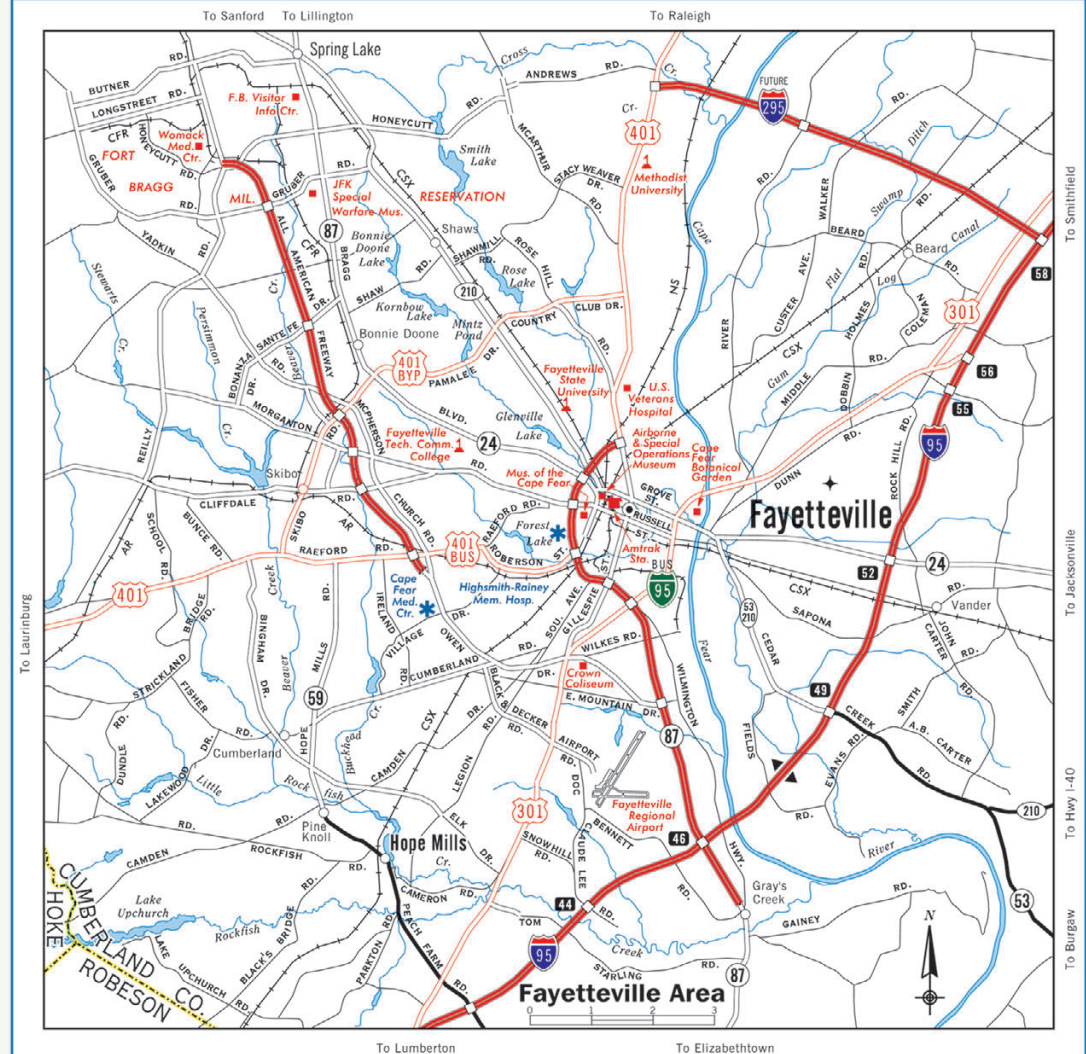
Ports in Wilmington and Morehead City, plus inland terminals in Charlotte and Greensboro, link North Carolina's consumers, businesses and industry to world markets and serve as magnets to attract new business and industry. Port activities contribute 85,000 jobs statewide and \$299 million each year in state and local tax revenues. Top trading partners are Brazil, China, Colombia, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Mexico, South Korea and Venezuela. Exports include phosphate, wood pulp, forest products, scrap metal and food. Imports include chemicals, coal, forest products, cement, natural rubber, scrap metal, aggregate and general merchandise.

For more information about state ports, call (910) 763-1621 or visit [www.ncports.com](http://www.ncports.com).

## Global TransPark

The N.C. Global TransPark is an aerospace and logistics business park developed in Lenoir County. The GTP is designed to attract aerospace-related companies and bring increased economic opportunities to the state. The GTP, designated as a Foreign-Trade Zone, features available industrial sites and the 33,000-square-foot TransPark Center, configured for meetings, conferences and business training. The Kinston Regional Jetport (ISO), located at GTP, has one of the longest commercial runways in the southeastern United States.

For more information, contact the Global TransPark Authority at (252) 522-4929 or visit [www.ncgtp.com](http://www.ncgtp.com).



## State Parks

North Carolina's natural diversity and stunning scenery are unrivaled and well represented in its 39 state parks, recreation and natural areas. Between the highest peak east of the Mississippi River at Mount Mitchell State Park and the largest eastern sand dune at Jockey's Ridge State Park, you will find hardwood swamps, long leaf pine forests, mysterious bay lakes, tumbling rivers and much more.

The oldest in the Southeast, North Carolina's state parks system has always been deeply committed to careful conservation of resources. Environmental education is a hallmark of North Carolina's state parks, with free interpretive programs, ranger-led hikes and museum-quality exhibit halls. More than 13 million visitors annually discover that our state parks are "Naturally Wonderful."

For more information, including maps and directions, park histories and a schedule of events, call the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation at (919) 733-4181 or visit [www.ncparks.gov](http://www.ncparks.gov).



## Department of Transportation

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.** North Carolina is a leader in environmental streamlining and stewardship. The Ecosystem Enhancement Program, a collaboration between NCDOT, the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and other state and federal resource agencies allows the state to implement wetland and stream mitigation for transportation projects in advance of construction. For more information, visit [www.ncdot.gov/programs/environment](http://www.ncdot.gov/programs/environment).

**HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION.** The Roadside Environmental Unit's Wildflower Program has 2,500 acres of seedbeds and plants 200,000 daylilies annually. The Adopt-A-Highway Program covers about 12,000 miles of highways, with more than 4 million pounds of litter picked up annually by volunteers. For more information, call 1-800-331-5864 or visit [www.ncdot.gov/transit/beatification](http://www.ncdot.gov/transit/beatification).

**FERRY.** The ferry system includes 22 daily ferries that operate on seven routes along the coast. Ferries take visitors to unforgettable attractions such as lighthouses, pristine beaches, world-class fishing, romantic getaways, historic sites, kayaking, windsurfing and more. For more information, call 1-800-BY-FERRY (293-3779) or visit [www.ncferry.org](http://www.ncferry.org). Reservations are recommended on several routes.

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN.** North Carolina has an extensive system of more than 5,000 miles of cow-estate, regional and local mapped and signed bicycle routes along lightly traveled, scenic roads. Call (919) 807-0777 or check the list of available maps at [www.ncdot.gov/transit/bicycle/maps/maps\\_intro.html](http://www.ncdot.gov/transit/bicycle/maps/maps_intro.html).

**AVIATION.** With more than 300 privately owned and 74 publicly owned airports, heliports and other landing areas, aviation is a vital part of the state's economy. More than 47 million passengers fly to and from North Carolina each year, and commercial and general aviation airports generate about \$12 billion annually. For more information, visit [www.ncdot.gov/transit/aviation](http://www.ncdot.gov/transit/aviation).

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.** Urban, rural and regional public transit systems provide mobility for citizens without a vehicle and for those who prefer to let someone else do the driving. At work in all 100 counties, public transportation provides access to employment, education, medical services, shopping and recreational activities. This means a cleaner environment and improved quality of life. For more information, visit [www.ncdot.gov/transit/ncrrast](http://www.ncdot.gov/transit/ncrrast).

**SCENIC BYWAYS.** NCDOT has designated 52 scenic byways throughout the state. These routes give motorists an opportunity to experience the state's rich history, culture and scenery. From the scenic views of the Cherokee Skyway to the historic sites along Lafayette's Tour, travelers can experience natural beauty on more than 1,800 miles of scenic byways. For more information, visit [www.ncdot.gov/scenic](http://www.ncdot.gov/scenic).

**NORTH CAROLINA'S AMTRAK TRAIN SERVICE.** North Carolina's Amtrak is an alternative travel option with service four times daily to Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte and nine other North Carolina cities. The Winston-Salem Connector offers shuttle service between the High Point train station and downtown Winston-Salem. For train schedules and ticket information, call 1-800-BYTRAIN (298-7246) or visit [www.bytrain.org](http://www.bytrain.org).



## WELCOME!

Dear Friends,

Welcome to North Carolina. I thank you for making our state the place you want to visit or, for many of you, the place you call home.

From the western mountains to our eastern coastline, North Carolina offers a wide range of opportunities and experiences for the whole family. Learn about the state's rich history of the Outer Banks at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras. View photographs capturing daily life in the mountains during the turn of the 20th century at the Mountain Gateway Museum and Heritage Center in Old Fort.

You can also experience our state's culture by watching a performance at the new Durham Performing Arts Center, taking in the history and beauty of Tryon Palace in New Bern or exploring majestic Grandfather Mountain. Every county has stories waiting to be told, as well as a host of recreational opportunities.

Travel our highways and byways to learn about our traditions, see our beauty and discover why North Carolina is one of the country's fastest-growing states. Our comprehensive transportation infrastructure offers the nation's second-largest highway and ferry systems. We are also home to extensive aviation, rail, public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian networks that help support our state's future growth and success.

Thank you for making North Carolina your travel destination. Drive safely and enjoy all our state has to offer.

Sincerely,

Bev Perdue  
Governor

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511  
Travel Info



## NORTH CAROLINA 2009-10 STATE TRANSPORTATION MAP

