

Elizabeth City

OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE

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quaint & inviting
coastal town



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Elizabeth City

NORTH CAROLINA

VisitElizabethCity.com



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- US News and World Report

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Come to *Discover*. Leave to *Conquer*. | ECSU.EDU



Welcome

Welcome to the Harbor of Hospitality™ – Elizabeth City, NC. Our quaint, coastal town with plenty of southern charm will make you feel at home in no time! Located mid-way down the East Coast with a mild climate, Elizabeth City is a great place to visit any time of year. With our unique location in Northeast North Carolina, we are a short drive full of waterways and woodlands to the beaches of the Outer Banks and the nearby big cities of Hampton Roads. We're only an hour from the Norfolk International Airport, so it's easy to enjoy your stay in our waterfront community, experience great meals at local restaurants, and relax without all the hustle, bustle and traffic of a big city.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2004, the Pasquotank River was the first river in the nation to receive an Underground Railroad Network designation for its role in helping freedom seekers escape slavery.

"Kick up your feet and soak in the southern way of living in Elizabeth City, North Carolina."

When you're in town, be sure to stop by our Welcome Center, located in the beautiful Museum of the Albemarle, where our friendly staff would love to meet you Monday through Saturday. Remember to check out VisitElizabethCity.com for more information before and during your visit. Thank you for your interest in our revitalized and growing city and we hope to meet you very soon!

- The Visit Elizabeth City Team

Top 5 Things to Do

ON THE WATERFRONT & DOWNTOWN

Downtown Elizabeth City, adjacent to the waterfront, is the place to go to enjoy shopping, dining, and more, all within walking distance.



Pasquotank River

1. GET OUT ON THE WATER

Elizabeth City's waterfront has a picturesque view of the **Pasquotank River** – get out and experience it! Rent a kayak or pontoon boat from **Pelican Marina** or paddleboat at **Coast Guard Park**, join **Native Girl Kayaking** for tours through Dismal Swamp and the harbor, or take part in rowing lessons with **Sail River City!** If you have a boat of your own, the Waterfront Park boat ramp is open to the public and easy to access.

2. FUN FOR FAMILIES

If you're traveling with little ones in tow, check out **Port Discover**. This hands-on science center offers programs where kids can learn about the science and environment of our region. The fish, reptiles and guinea pigs (Wilbur and Orville) are always a big hit!

Take a painting class at **Dear Alchemy** and have a beautiful keepsake of your trip to Elizabeth City. Right down the street, **Studio 511** offers art programs for kids and hosts events to help you get creative.

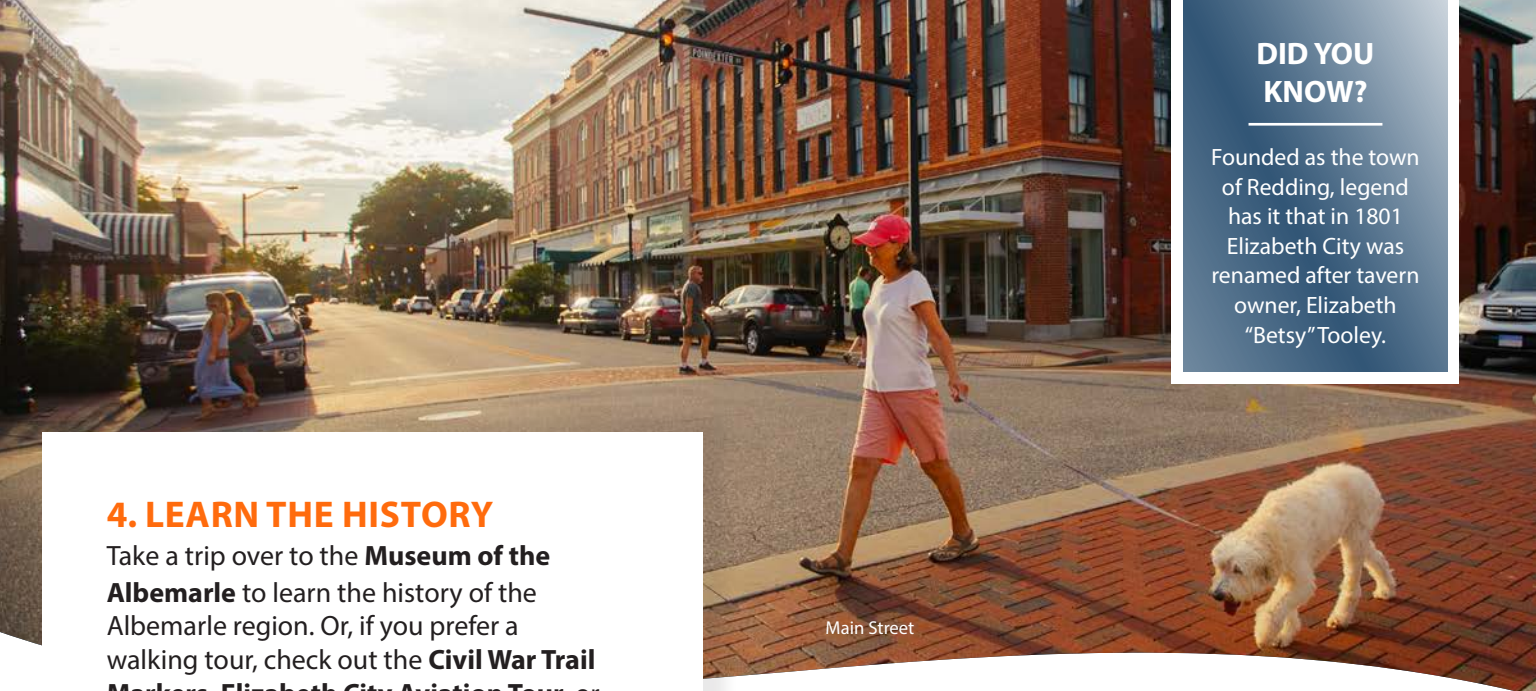
3. RETAIL THERAPY

Downtown is great for shopping; you can find a unique variety of boutiques and shops within walking distance! There's plenty of fashion and jewelry for everyone at **Elle Lynn Boutique**, **Lazzy Frog**, **Small Town Trendz**, **In Stitches**, and **Eclectic Jewelry**.

Don't forget to check out **Brackwater Brush Studio's** art and repurposed furniture and grab a book to take home from **Page After Page!**



Port Discover



DID YOU KNOW?

Founded as the town of Redding, legend has it that in 1801 Elizabeth City was renamed after tavern owner, Elizabeth "Betsy" Tooley.

4. LEARN THE HISTORY

Take a trip over to the **Museum of the Albemarle** to learn the history of the Albemarle region. Or, if you prefer a walking tour, check out the **Civil War Trail Markers**, **Elizabeth City Aviation Tour**, or the **Main Street Residential District Tour** at VisitElizabethCity.com or stop in our Welcome Center for a brochure.

5. WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN

Pailin's Alley has been transformed to a gorgeous social hub of outdoor dining and live music. Check out our calendar of events at VisitElizabethCity.com/Events for special events and happenings. The businesses of the alley come together for a concert series and it's always a good time. The ever-popular local microbrewery, **Ghost Harbor Brewing Company**, has an exceptional variety of craft beer or wine and on select nights, catch a local band or play some trivia.

For a slower paced evening, start at **Arts of the Albemarle** for live performances and gallery exhibitions, then take a stroll to one of many restaurants within a block. Whether you're in town for business or leisure, there's something fun for everyone here in the heart of Elizabeth City!

Main Street

YMCA AT THE PINES Golf Course and Conference Center

The YMCA at the Pines 18 Hole Golf and Banquet facility is located in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. The Pines winds its way through the Albemarle pine thickets and features elevated greens, wide fairways and large chipping areas.

The facility offers banquet options for weddings, private parties and corporate events, as well as membership options to include golf and full YMCA member benefits.

Golf Course: 252.335.0278

Event Information: 252.335.7245



Educational Institutions

Founded in 1891, **Elizabeth City State University** is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System. Visitors can take part in public events like music concerts, sporting events, and the new Community Connections series. ECSU also has one of only 12 planetariums in the world with the fully interactive DigiStar technology providing complete 180° x 360° digital video with surround sound.

Right down the street from downtown is **Mid-Atlantic Christian University**. The university is focused on strengthening the next generation of leaders who are confident in their faith and future. Visitors can attend a leadership or continuing education event, community training, or just stop by to enjoy a walk on the waterfront campus!

Our local community college, **College of The Albemarle**, is home to the Fenwick-Hollowell Trail. Visit this free boardwalk that runs along the Pasquotank River and see local flora and fauna. COA also has a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center that hosts events throughout the year.

Proud to be a Coast Guard City

As the 17th U.S. city designated a “Coast Guard City” and home to the second largest Coast Guard base in the country, the Coast Guard members of our community and their families are revered and always welcomed with open arms. The Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station sits on over 800 acres of land in the Weeksville area of the city. While the base is accessible to military personnel only, civilian visitors can drive by to check out the decommissioned HH-52 Seaguard helicopter and decommissioned 32 ft. PWB at the entrance. If your timing is right, you just might catch an aircraft taking off overhead!

Keep an eye out for the very first official **Coast Guard Half Marathon** happening right here in Elizabeth City! Registered runners will be able to run on base, past the air station and more. The route begins at Waterfront Park, loops through the Coast Guard Base and ECSU’s campus, and ends on Main Street. Food and music will follow the race.

To learn more about the Half Marathon, visit TheCoastGuardHalfMarathon.com.





The *Dismal Swamp State Park* is teeming with wildlife and scenic beauty. There are 20 miles of hiking trails, a half mile boardwalk, plus bike, canoe and kayak rentals. The Park offers ranger-led programs and is recognized as a National Park Service Network to Freedom designated site.

Dismal Swamp State Park



Currituck Outer Banks

Take a day trip to the **Currituck Outer Banks** and see the wild Corolla Spanish Mustangs! These majestic horses roam freely on the off-road areas of Corolla and Carova and are a distinct breed to NC's barrier islands.



Edenton

Beautiful, historic **Edenton** is just a short drive from Elizabeth City. Hop on the antique trolley for a guided tour of the town and learn some of its history along the way. From May through July, take the family for a trip to watch an Edenton Steamers baseball game.



SPRING

Splash Art Celebration
TarWheel Cycling Event
Bocce, Beer, & Bites
N.C. Potato Festival
Downtown Waterfront Market
First Friday ArtWalk
Coast Guard Half Marathon

SUMMER

Fourth of July Celebration
Mariners' Wharf Film Festival
Music on the Green
Downtown Waterfront Market
First Friday ArtWalk

FALL

Historic Ghost Walk
River City Rhythm & Brews
Albemarle Craftsman's Fair
ECSU Homecoming
Day at the BOO-Seum!



Elizabeth City

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Elizabeth City, NC 27909
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Mistletoe Show
Holiday Celebration and Grand Illumination
Kids First Turkey Trot
Downtown Waterfront Market
First Friday ArtWalk
Music on the Green

WINTER

Christmas Parade
Museum of the Albemarle Holiday Open House
Lighted Boat Parade
First Friday ArtWalk
Christmas in Elizabeth City

Please note that specific dates of events may change year to year. A full list of events and information is available at VisitElizabethCity.com/Events





ANNUAL HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

- Mistletoe Show
- Christmas Parade
 - Museum of the Albemarle Holiday Open House
- Lighted Boat Parade
- Downtown Grand Illumination

Museum of the Albemarle



CHRISTMAS *in* *Elizabeth City* NORTH CAROLINA

Christmas is a special time of year here in Elizabeth City. Throughout the whole month of December the city comes alive with merry music, shopping, Santa sightings, workshops for crafting gifts from the heart, and more hometown happenings! Make sure to stop in for the Annual Christmas Parade, Grand Illumination, and the award-winning Lighted Boat Parade on the Pasquotank River.

It's a season full of fun and holiday festivities for the whole family. We can't wait to celebrate with you, so mark your calendar and let us show you Christmas in Elizabeth City.



Annual Christmas Parade

For more information and a complete list of holiday events, visit: **ChristmasInElizabethCity.com**

Places to Stay

Hotels & Motels

Best Western Plus

848 Halstead Blvd

252.331.7751



Comfort Inn

306 South Hughes Blvd

252.338.8900



Days Inn

308 South Hughes Blvd

252.335.4316



Econo Lodge

522A South Hughes Blvd

252.338.4124



Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

1640 City Center Blvd

252.333.1003



Hampton Inn

402 Halstead Blvd

252.333.1800



Quality Inn

522 South Hughes Blvd

252.338.3951



Queen Elizabeth Motel

1160 US Hwy 17 South

252.338.3961



Travelers Inn

1211 North Road Street

252.338.5451



Whistling Pines Motel

1151 US Hwy 17 South

252.335.0817

Bed & Breakfasts

Culpepper Inn

609 West Main Street

252.335.9235



Elizabeth City Bed & Breakfast

108 East Fearing Street

252.338.2177



Foreman House Bed & Breakfast

311 West Church Street

252.562.6539



Grice-Fearing House Bed & Breakfast

200 South Road Street

252.333.1792



Philemon House Bed & Breakfast

613 Maple Street

252.679.7870

The Pepperberry Inn

Historic Downtown

Main Street

252.340.1431

The Pond House Inn

915 Rivershore Road

252.335.9834



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Sun: Closed
Closed all State Holidays

museumofthealbemarle.com
facebook.com/MuseumoftheAlbemarle

Free Admission
Donations Welcome

Where to Eat & Drink

LOCALS' FAVES!

Paradiso Roma Ristorante



There are a variety of options all throughout town, so no matter where you are, there's sure to be a tasty meal right around the corner. By popular vote, these are the top places for local fare in Elizabeth City.

One favorite is *Hoppin' Johnz New South Cuisine*. The food is fantastic and the atmosphere is too. If you ask a local, they'll tell you to try the shrimp and grits! They also have a great cocktail menu from mules to martinis with frequent specials.

From coffee stout to coffeehouse, *Muddy Waters Coffeehouse* has all your beverage needs covered. Start and end your day in this cozy shop with creative coffee and espresso drinks and wrap it up with local beer and wine in the evening.

Are quesadillas and frozen margaritas calling your name? Head over to *3 Amigos Mexican Restaurant*. They have a screened-in patio for dining in warm weather and plenty of space for large groups who want a delicious, casual dining option.

If a restaurant with creative cuisine and a "back in the good ole' days" vibe is more your style, *The Mills Downtown Bistro* is the place to go. Everything on the menu is delicious, and they have different specials every weekend so you can always try something new.



The Mills Downtown Bistro

Elizabeth City has several options for a romantic night out including *Montero's*. They've been serving amazing food with customer service to match since 2005. They have a plant-based menu full of delicious options to choose from but if you're a meat-lover, you can't go wrong with their flat iron steak!



Speaking of romantic, what's more romantic than waterfront dining? **Paradiso Roma Ristorante** offers dining on the patio overlooking the river so you can enjoy tasty, locally sourced, Italian fare with a view. Right down the street is another local fresh-food favorite with a river view – **Cypress Creek Grill**. Come enjoy high-quality seafood, the freshest local ingredients and drinks from craft brews to cocktails. The menu changes often, so if you're in the mood for something new, they have you covered.

Sometimes all you need is a quick bite to eat and friendly conversation. Luckily, those are easy to find here in Elizabeth City! **The Pineapple Café** is just one of many locally owned and operated restaurants that exemplify our city's friendly, small-town feel. They have sandwiches, baked goods, and an a la carte menu for a made to order lunch that really hits the spot.

These are some local favorites, but if we missed yours let us know - tag us at @VisitECity and use #VisitECity! With a surprising amount of dining options, and new ones opening all the time, you'll never go hungry in Elizabeth City! For a full list of dining options, go to: VisitElizabethCity.com/Dine

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Hoppin' Johnz Restaurant
and Pailin's Alley



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