**NCAIR 2025 | Wilmington, NC**

**Restaurants & Dining**

*Local Cuisine*

Catch: Seafood with a southern twist, focusing on sustainable, locally-sourced ingredients.   
The Pilot House: Southern cuisine with views of the Cape Fear River.

Front Street Brewery: A popular downtown spot for pub fare, craft beers, and a lively atmosphere.   
Pizzeria Don Luca: A locally owned and operated pizza shop.

*International Cuisine*

Savorez: A Latin-American inspired bistro offering innovative and bold dishes.

Capricho: Authentic Mexican street fare, including tacos, elotes, empanadas, and tamales Indochine: A favorite for Thai and Vietnamese cuisine with a beautiful, tropical-themed garden patio.   
Elijah's Restaurant: Riverfront seafood and American dining.

*Casual & Cafes*

The Basics: Farm-to-table comfort food with a Southern flair.

The Peppered Cupcake: For dessert lovers, offering creative cupcake flavors.

Brooklyn Café: Homemade beignets, old fashioned donuts, and coffee.

Bagels on Pointe: 20 flavors of bagels freshly made each day.

*Coffee and Tea Shops*

BeSpoke Coffee & Dry Goods: Classic coffee shop beverages & baked goods with mid-century interior details & natural light.

Drift Coffee (many locations including Front Street):

Maroon Monkey: Downtown Wilmington serving freshly roasted coffee and made to order lattes

Three Friends Coffee Shop: This cafe is a place for all to grab a warm sip of coffee, soft-serve ice cream, and fresh made-to-order donuts.

Tap Tea Bar: Handcrafted boba tea.

**Shopping**

*Boutiques & Specialty Shops*

The Cotton Exchange: A collection of specialty shops located in a historic cotton export complex downtown.

Mayfaire Town Center: An upscale shopping area with a mix of big brands, local boutiques, and restaurants.

*Art & Crafts*

ACME Art Studios: A cooperative gallery and studio space featuring local artists' work. New Elements Gallery: Fine art gallery showcasing both established and emerging artists.

**Sightseeing & Outdoor Activities**

*History, Cultural Sites, and Museums*

Historic Downtown Wilmington: Walk along the riverwalk and explore centuries-old buildings, museums, and shops.

Battleship North Carolina: Tour a WWII battleship anchored across the Cape Fear River.

Bellamy Mansion Museum: A restored historic mansion with exhibits on Civil War-era history and architecture.

Cape Fear Museum: Wilmington’s oldest history museum, highlighting the region's cultural and natural history.

Cameron Art Museum: A mix of contemporary and historical art exhibits along with cultural events. Wilmington Railroad Museum: A family-friendly museum exploring Wilmington's railroading history.   
Expo 216: An art and science museum focusing on global social issues through art installations.

*Nature & Scenic Spots*

Wrightsville Beach: A beautiful spot for beach lovers, known for water sports like surfing, kayaking, and paddleboarding.

Airlie Gardens: A 67-acre garden with walking paths, seasonal blooms, and historic structures.  
 Greenfield Lake Park: Offers canoeing, kayaking, and walking trails around the scenic lake.

Carolina Beach State Park: Great for hiking, bird-watching, and picnicking with views of the river and ocean.

Wilmington Riverwalk: A beautiful boardwalk covering an area along the river for about 5-10 blocks. *Tours*

Ghost Walk of Old Wilmington: A nighttime tour of Wilmington's haunted history.

Riverboat Cruises: Take a sightseeing cruise on the Cape Fear River for scenic views of downtown Wilmington.

*Sports & Recreation*

Cape Fear Paddleboarding: Lessons and rentals for exploring Wilmington's waterways. Wrightsville Beach Scenic Tours: Boat tours focusing on nature, ecology, and sightseeing.

**Live Music & Theaters**

Greenfield Lake Amphitheater: Outdoor concerts from local and national acts in a scenic setting.

Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts: One of the oldest theaters in the U.S., offering plays, musicals, and film screenings.

The Wilson Center: Hosting Broadway shows, concerts, and special events.

Live Oak Pavilion: Wilmington’s largest music venue.

**Nightlife & Bars**

Front Street Brewery: Known for its selection of craft beers and lively atmosphere.   
Whiskey Tango Foxtrot: Craft cocktails in a sophisticated setting.

The Husk: A laid-back bar with games like shuffleboard, pool, and darts.

Luna Caffe: A cozy spot for live music and local talent.

Hi-Wire Brewing: Local taproom serving craft beer. \*Recurring run club on Monday evenings at 6:00 PM.