

Welcome to the Beaufort Historic Site where you can experience the history of North Carolina in a quaint seaport village setting.

Beaufort, North Carolina's third oldest town, lies on the coast bordering the southern tip of the Outer Banks. Originally a fishing village and port of safety dating from the late 1600's, Beaufort has been visited by patriots, privateers, merchants and skilled craftsmen who built Bahamian and West Indian style homes and public buildings. More than 100 of these have been restored and proudly bear plaques proclaiming their names and dates of construction.

The Plan of Beaufort Towne, laid out in 1713, survives in a 12-block area which today is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Located in the heart of the Historic District is the Beaufort Historic Site, which depicts 18th and 19th century coastal Carolina. The site houses nine historic buildings as well as the Welcome Center on almost two acres, including three authentically restored houses built between 1778 and 1825, the Carteret County Courthouse of 1796, the Carteret County Jail c1829, the Apothecary Shop and Doctors Office c1859 and the c1732 Rustell House that houses the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery. Living history demonstrations, guided tours and special events vividly describe the lifestyles, customs and architecture unique to this coastal area.

*You'll love discovering
our coastal heritage!*

Also on the Historic Site:

The **Robert W. and Elva Faison Safrit Historical Center**, acting as the Welcome Center for the Town of Beaufort, houses historic artifacts, special displays, living history programs, demonstrations by local artisans, and visitor information about Beaufort and the surrounding Carteret County area. *All tours begin here.*

THE OLD BEAUFORT SHOP

Browse in **The Old Beaufort Shop**, located in the Safrit Historical Center, that offers something for everyone in the family including toys, pirate attire, books, locally made crafts and jewelry, colonial dress, handwoven items that were created on site by the Warped Weavers and more!

MATTIE KING DAVIS *Art Gallery*



Monday - Saturday
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The oldest art gallery in Carteret County features the works of over 100 local and regional artists. Located in the historic Rustell House on the grounds of the Historic Site.

BEAUFORT Historic Site

130 Turner Street | PO Box 363
Beaufort, North Carolina 28516
beauforthistoricsite@earthlink.net

Summer Hours
(March - November)
9:30 am -- 5:00 pm

Winter Hours
(December - February)
10:00 am -- 4:00 pm

The Beaufort Historical Association, a private, non-profit organization, owns and operates the Beaufort Historic Site.

BEAUFORT *Historic Site*

HAVE FUN WITH HISTORY



100 Block Turner Street
Beaufort, North Carolina
800.575.7483 | 252.728.5225
www.beauforthistoricsite.org

Spend the day...



discovering the Beaufort Historic Site.

Historic Buildings Tour

The six authentically restored buildings come alive as docents in period dress guide you through three buildings of your choice. The Beaufort Historic Site is nestled on two acres in the heart of quaint downtown Beaufort.

Monday – Saturday
10:00 | 11:30 | 1:00 | 3:00

Double Decker Bus Tour

Hop aboard and see Beaufort's Historic District from atop our vintage 1967 English double-decker bus while local narrators entertain with the lively legends of Beaufort's past.

April – October
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
11:00 & 1:30

Old Burying Ground Tour

Resting in the shade created by a thicket of majestic live oak trees, the Old Burying Ground is a fascinating place. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, its weathered tombstones chronicle the heritage of Beaufort and the surrounding coast.

June – September
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 2:30

Special scheduled times and discounted rates are available for large groups for all guided tours.

All tour tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and depart from the Safrit Historical Center. Tour combinations are offered at reduced prices.

Highlights of the Site

- The **Carteret County Courthouse, c1796** is the oldest wood-framed courthouse in North Carolina, and has recently undergone an award-winning restoration. It serves as the backdrop for the courthouse dramatization, an integral tool for educating today's youth about the early American legal system.
- Our series of **Living History Programs** are offered to the public for a nominal fee every spring and summer. These workshops include tatting, quilling, pine needle basket making, weaving as well as presentations from special guests.
- The award-winning **John C. Manson House, c1825** is a Federal-style house which sits on its original site as an example of the Bahamian architecture so prevalent in Beaufort. It boasts exact replications of the historic decorative faux finishes found on the interior walls and exterior doors of the house.



Be sure to stop and enjoy the charming **Leffers Garden**, replanted by the NC Master Gardener Volunteer Association every spring and fall, depicting a typical garden of a colonial family in the 1800's.

Also visit the **Herb Garden** featuring a variety of plants and herbs that are an example of what was used for medicinal and cooking purposes during Colonial times.

Annual Events

Publick Day, held the third Saturday in April, is a one-day festival featuring vendors selling a wide variety of items including crafts, jewelry and more.

Beaufort Old Homes & Gardens Tour, held the last full weekend in June, allows guests a rare glimpse into some of Beaufort's private historic homes, gardens and churches.

Antiques Show & Sale, held the last full weekend in June, features over 40 local and regional vendors selling antiques and collectibles as well as a gourmet tea room.

Fall Fundraising Party, held the third Saturday in October, offers a unique chance to view original artwork hung in a beautiful Beaufort home as well as gourmet food and live music.

Community Thanksgiving Feast, held the Sunday before Thanksgiving, is a traditional Thanksgiving dinner prepared by local restaurants and served on the Historic Site Grounds.

Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes, held the second Saturday in December, showcases some of Beaufort's most beautiful private homes, Inns and B & B's. Hop aboard the double-decker bus and sing along with carolers while delighting in the holiday decorations.

For information on our events, becoming a member or volunteering, please contact us at 252-728-5225 or visit www.beauforthistoricsite.org