

# SMALL SURPRISES FOR CURIOUS TRAVELERS



Located in central North Carolina, tucked between the mountains and the coast, you'll find the towns and villages of Alamance County. The area is easily accessible via two major interstates. Venture off the beaten path and discover an environment full of wonder for nature lovers, thrill seekers, and history buffs.

## CHART A COURSE ON THE HAW

The Haw River is a valuable resource for those who love to be on the water or on the trails. Planning a guys', girls', or a couple's getaway? Cast the Haw River in a starring role.

### A Journey on Land

Currently, more than 19 miles of land trail along the Haw River are open to the public in Alamance County, offering beautiful views for hikers and walkers. There are also plenty of spots to picnic or fish along the river.

### An Adventure on the Water

For those who want to dip their toes in the water, there are 14 paddle accesses in Alamance County. While out on the Haw River, learn about the history of the river and its early explorers or enjoy searching for wildlife, such as barred owls.

### Paddling the Starry Night

Combine the serenity of the open water with the wonders of the night sky for an unforgettable experience. This canoe or kayak adventure is appropriate for paddlers of all skill levels. Set out at dusk and watch the stars light up the sky. A naturalist will guide paddlers along the two-to-three-hour scenic trip.

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## SMALL SURPRISES

### SAVOR THE LOCAL SCENE

To get a true sense of the personality and culture of Alamance County, meet the artisans who call this area home.

#### Thank You for Your Service

Alamance County supports the men and women who've served our country. From coffee shops to establishments that offer something a little stronger, these veteran-owned businesses share the same message: "All Are Welcome." Get your day started with cup of coffee or a latte at Salvation Coffee. Unwind at the end of the day with a cocktail at Hyperion Bar or a pint at Forgotten Road Ales.

#### Crops to Hops or Grapes to Glass

Haw River Farmhouse Ales will quench your thirst with delicious pints of craft beer made from locally-sourced ingredients. Schedule a tour and tasting at Iron Gate Vineyards and Winery and see how a once-abandoned farm is now yielding award-winning wines.



#### Farm to Fork

In Alamance County, we take pride in knowing where our food comes from. That pride results in an unparalleled community spirit. You'll feel that spirit at Cane Creek Farm, where you can actually spend

the night on the land. Meet the animals (pigs, goats, chickens, and turkeys, just to name a few) and see the farming practices firsthand. Accommodations include setting up your own tent or staying in a yurt, a camping shelter, or two modified buses. Whatever you choose, it's sure to be a vacation you'll remember for years! In addition, restaurants such as The Eddy Pub and Reverence Farms Café offer true Farm to Fork cuisine as producers of many of their own ingredients.

#### We All Scream for Ice Cream

Whether you prefer a double scoop on a waffle cone or a sundae dripping with hot fudge, be sure to treat yourself to a sweet confection at Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream. It's a good thing there are three locations throughout Alamance County. You won't be able to stop at just one!



### WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Howl with wolves. Chuffle with tigers. In other words, see wild animals like you've never seen them before at the Conservators Center. The zoological park

is home to more than 80 animals and more than 20 species. Schedule a tour, where you'll be accompanied by a highly-trained guide. You'll learn each animal's personality and story and you'll leave with a better understanding of each species' ecological importance.

### FOLLOW A VITAL THREAD IN HISTORY

Because of Alamance County's prime location along the Haw River, it became a haven for water-powered textile mills. From the 1800s until well into the 20th century, the textile industry was big business for the area.

#### The Textile Heritage Museum

The Textile Heritage Museum preserves and celebrates Alamance County's rich history in the textile industry. The museum is housed in the fully-restored offices and company store of the Glencoe Cotton Mill. Glencoe Mill Village contains 48 homes and buildings and 6 contributing structures built between 1880 and 1882.

#### Saxapahaw Rivermill

What was once a cotton mill and dye house is now a blend of history, community and sustainability. Saxapahaw Rivermill features livable space as well as several gathering spaces including the Haw River Ballroom and the Saxapahaw General Store, "Your Local Five Star Gas Station."



### EMBRACE THE ARTISTIC FLAIR

Alamance County has a thriving music and arts scene. Get in the groove during the summer months at one of the many free weekly concerts. View the latest exhibition at Alamance Arts. Celebrate the art deco style of the 1920s at the historic Paramount Theater.

#### A Menagerie of Murals

A sense of pride and love for community can be felt throughout Alamance County, thanks to the brightly-colored murals that decorate many buildings. The "Love, Graham" mural in Graham is a must-see, as members of the community painted their hearts on the wall for the masterpiece. With a blooming garden at the center, this work of art is the perfect backdrop for a photo.

#### Love Locked

What better way to express your love than by locking it in place on a 400-pound galvanized steel heart?

The "Heart of Downtown" sculpture in Burlington is six feet tall. As tradition goes, locks of love symbolize one's commitment to another, be it romantic or as friends and neighbors. Customizable locks can be found at the Owl and Rabbit Gallery, home to creator Beechwood Metalworks. Seal your love for the ages.



Alamance County. Small surprises await.