HISTORIC NEW BERN, NC

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Tryon Palace is open year round, with the exception of Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 24-26, and Jan. 1. Various exhibits and events are held at Tryon Palace throughout the year, including programs related to Christmas, the Fourth of July, the Civil War, colonial cooking, and the Palace gardens. To plan your visit around one of these special events, visit www.tryonpalace.org

TICKETS AND TOURS

All tickets may be purchased on the day of your visit at the ticket desk, located in the North Carolina History Center at 529 South Front Street, New Bern, NC. Discounts are available for groups, students, members of the military, and seniors.

529 South Front Street, New Bern, NC 28562
252-639-3500 • 800-767-1560
www.tryonpalace.org

TRYON PALACE IS KNOWN FOR BEING NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST STATE CAPITOL … BUT WE'RE REMEMBERED FOR CAPTURING IMAGINATIONS.

GOVERNOR'S PALACE | HISTORIC HOMES | GARDENS
NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY CENTER
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Walk in the footsteps of governors, stroll through 16 acres of beautifully sculpted gardens, enjoy the aroma of colonial cuisine or travel back to the 1830s for a hands-on, interactive history experience for the whole family.
The North Carolina government house, built between 1767 and 1770 by royal governor William Tryon, represented the British crown and became North Carolina’s first official capitol. It was also one of the most talked about public buildings in the American colonies. During and after the Revolutionary War, the Palace played a crucial role in the founding of the new state of North Carolina as home to its elected governors and site of the state legislature’s first meetings.

A fire destroyed the Palace in 1798 but it was never forgotten. More than 150 years later, a new Palace rose again on the original foundation, based on archaeological evidence and extensive documentation, including the 18th-century architect’s plans. Furnished with rare 18th-century English and American art and artifacts, the Palace stands today as a testament to New Bern’s vital role in American history. This fascinating history comes to life daily with guided tours of the Governor’s Palace, blacksmith demonstrations, cooking in the Kitchen Office, and more. Dressed as if they just stepped out of the 18th century, our historic interpreters are ready to greet you at the Palace’s front steps for a captivating journey through three centuries of American history.

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NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY CENTER

Colonial history intersects with the 21st century at every turn inside the North Carolina History Center – home to the Regional History Museum and the Pepsi Family Center. Walk among legends and artifacts as you read a letter penned by our nation’s first president or travel back in time for an interactive look at New Bern in the 1830s.

Once you’ve sharpened your skills as a quilter, printer, ship’s captain, and cook, make time to join us for featured exhibits in the Duffy Gallery or plan your trip around one of the many live performances held in Cullman Performance Hall.

Step into a glorious new world with every season by exploring our magnificent gardens and landscapes. Find inspiration and beauty as you enjoy our stunning period gardens, formal gardens, allies, and our kitchen garden.

Then take your imagination on an inspirational journey across the 18th and 19th centuries with visits to our collection of historic New Bern homes. Visit the Stanyu House, where George Washington slept during his visit to New Bern, be amazed by the architecture of 19th-century homes like the Dixon and Hay houses, or visit the New Bern Academy Museum to see our Civil War exhibit. Please keep in mind that some historic homes and buildings are only open during special events, so please call ahead for availability.

What better way to end your visit than on the New Bern waterfront? Shop for souvenirs, colonial chocolate, North Carolina pottery, books, and more in the Tryon Palace Museum Store. Then take a moment to relax with a delicious meal on the riverfront at Lawson’s Landing Café. Offering a full breakfast and lunch menu everyday, Lawson’s Landing is the ideal place to relax and enjoy the scenery. Or wrap up your day at Aperitivo, offering small plate dining and outstanding Italian wines.
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