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GREENVILLE-PITT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Find yourself in good company®

We Go Whole Hog on Barbecue Eastern NC does barbecue the traditional way: whole-hog, wood-cooked, and vinegar-based. The **North Carolina Barbecue Society's Historic Barbecue Trail** even begins right here in Pitt County! Starting at **Skylight Inn** in Ayden, this legendary family-owned restaurant was founded by Pete Jones in 1947 serving up 'cue the way his family has done it since the early 1800's. National Geographic even proclaimed Skylight Inn the "**Barbecue Capital of the World**" famous 'cue and US Capitol rotunda replica on top of the building! The next stop is **B's Barbecue** in Greenville, which closes up once they sell out, so it's best to get in line early because they don't mess around when it comes to their 'cue! Finally, head on to **Jack Cobb & Son Barbecue** in Farmville. They are only open 3 days a week, but food this good should be planned around! **Bum's Restaurant** in Ayden is another amazing BBQ joint staple, and the new **Sam Jones BBQ** in Winterville is serving up 'barbecue the traditional Jones Family way, but with a more modern menu, bar, and ambiance. Pitt County has what it takes to satisfy all your 'cue cravings!

What's UP with Craft Beer The craft beer scene is growing UP in Greenville-Pitt County! Stop in Farmville for **The Duck Rabbit Craft Brewery's** range of award-winning dark beers, then head to Uptown Greenville's new **Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery** to sample their selection of staple brews and rotating seasonals...Jalepeno IPA, anyone? The Uptown District will gain its first full-production brewery in late fall 2016 when **Uptown Brewing Company** opens in the historic Belk department store building! Several bottle shops like **Cinderene's** in Ayden and **Tapped** in Greenville meet the demand for new brews with a vast rotating array of craft beer from NC and the rest of the US!

ARRGH Pirates Ye be Warned Greenville is a **PIRATE** town! Our Division 1 **East Carolina University Pirates** athletic events draw crowds of nearly 50,000 for football games, with many coming out for **Freeboot Fridays** to celebrate before ECU Football Saturday home games. The annual **Pirate Fest** in April, attracts pirate lovers to our **Uptown District on the Tar River** for two days of swashbucklin' fun! The NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources **Queen Anne's Revenge Conservation Laboratory** is located on the ECU West Research Campus and houses thousands of priceless artifacts and remnants recovered from world-famous pirate **Blackbeard's** ship which he purposely ran aground off the coast of Beaufort, NC to avoid capture in 1718.

What's New? **Captain Jack's Miniature Golf**— fun pirate-themed indoor putt-putt golf course and pizza place | **Ctrl +Shift Escape**— piratey escape room adventure | **Dickinson Avenue Public House**— modern Southern local-focused eatery and bar | **Villa Verde**— authentic Caribbean restaurant and food truck



Lots of Festival Fun!

Winterville Watermelon Festival August 25—27, 2016

Experience **Winterville** and enjoy “a slice of the good life” and some juicy watermelons fresh from the vine, compete in the watermelon seed spitting contest, see the crowning of the Watermelon Queen, enjoy the parade, rides, vendors, and festival food. Don't miss free live music every night culminating in **The Watermelon Jam** featuring national music acts!

Freeboot Fridays

Fridays Before ECU Football Saturdays

This free alive-at-five community event takes at **Five Points Plaza** on **Fridays 5pm-8pm** before ECU Pirate home football games! Find fun for all ages with an inflatable Pirate Ship, arts & crafts, games, live music, a **Grog Garden**, and yummy Uptown restaurant food!

Ayden Collard Festival September 8—11, 2016

Don't miss the “**Official Collard Festival of the State of North Carolina**” in Downtown Ayden—the **crossroads of 'cue and collards!** Enjoy collard cooking and collard cooking contests, a parade, live music, festival food, rides, art, and more!

John Lawson Legacy Days October 28 & 29, 2016

Step back in time and experience Eastern NC pioneer heritage on the banks of **Contentnea Creek** in Grifton. Celebrate the legacy of **John Lawson, the first man to survey the Carolina's** and who was later killed by **Tuscarora Indians** just miles from area. Enjoy free tours of the **Grifton Historical Museum & Indian Village**, along with educational history presentations, exhibits, live demonstrations, encampments, and cannon firings from the **Colonial, Revolutionary, and Civil War periods**, camp food, traditional music, and boat rides on the creek!

Pirate Fest

April 7 & 8, 2017

Explore the **Uptown Greenville District** at this multi-venue, live music and cultural festival. Come celebrate the **rich pirate history** of Eastern NC with the Friday night **Buccaneer Bash**, then Saturday enjoy roving pirates, mermaids, black powder and weapons demonstrations, a **Parade of Pirates**, an **International Ports o' Call**, kayak rides on the **Tar River**, a **Grog Garden**, delicious street food, arts & crafts vendor, and lots more fun for lil' pirates and big buccaneers alike!

Art Abounds! Marvel at a wondrous array of unique art at **Emerge Gallery & Art Center**, the **Greenville Museum of Art**, ECU's Wellington B. Gray Gallery, and **City Art Gallery**, and studio/galleries **The Art Room of painter Nelle Hayes**, **Tyson Creek Studio** featuring the work of hand-crafted furniture maker **Daniel Peoples**, and **The Hobby Horse and Greenville Metal Zoo of sculptor Jonathan Bowling** who brings animals to life with found metal parts!



Tar River Adventures Explore the beautiful **Inner Banks on the Tar River** as it flows east through piney woods and cypress swamps to the **Pamlico Sound** with **Knee Deep Adventures**. Stop at the **Town Common** to enjoy 20 acres of outdoor **green space adjacent to Uptown Greenville**, or paddle to **River Park North** on **324 acres of land with 1.2 miles along the river** for camping, hiking, fishing, water activities, and several educational programs at the on-site **Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center**. River Park North also is listed on the **NC Birding Trail**, and you may see Bald Eagles, Osprey Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, and Blue Grosbeak flying overhead and perched throughout the park!



Local Eats The **Boutlier family's Starlight Café & Farm** is local gem you will not want to miss! In **Uptown Greenville**, **Starlight Café's Executive Chef Tobias Boutlier** serves up a deliciously eclectic menu made with local ingredients, the majority of which are fresh from the family-operated farm! Finish off this divine foodie experience with a unique cocktail hand-crafted by **master bartender Jimmy Ingenito** and you will certainly be seeing stars! Over at the **Villedge Wood Fired Kitchen & Bar** located within the **Hilton Greenville** on the **Greenville Convention Center Campus**, **Executive Chef Brandon B. Qualls** designs a dinner and drink menu that changes with the seasons and availability of local produce and meats. Find catfish from **Carolina Classics Catfish**, milk, ice cream, and other dairy products from area **Simply Natural Creamery & Jersey Farm**, along with lots of fruit and vegetables from local farms **Strawberries on 903**, **Brock's Berries & Produce**, **Briley's Farm** and **Pitt County Farmers Market** and the **Uptown Greenville Umbrella Market!**

