

Little Ones, *Big Adventures*

The sweetest playgrounds & parks across the Triangle — perfect for families calling NC home



Whether you're a longtime neighbor or just putting down roots in our beautiful corner of North Carolina, this guide is your love letter to every wonderful place where little boots can run wild, climb high, and come home muddy and happy. 🌿 Welcome to the neighborhood, sweet friends!

Parks & Playgrounds by Town

ALL AGES · ICONIC



Raleigh

Pullen Park

📍 520 Ashe Ave., Raleigh, NC 27606

★ NC's **first public park** (est. 1887) — a true Raleigh landmark

🎠 Historic indoor carousel, miniature train rides & pedal boats (\$2/ride)

Carousel & Train

Pedal Boats

Multiple Playgrounds

Snack Bar

Picnic Shelters


🌟 *Don't miss it — this is THE Raleigh bucket-list park. Red caboose photo op included!*


ALL AGES · HISTORIC




Raleigh

John Chavis Memorial Park

 505 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27601

 Free splash pad (spring & summer), skywalk climbing feature & tunnel slide

 Beautiful glass art installation + downtown Raleigh skyline views from the balcony

Free Splash Pad

Skywalk Climb

Community Center

Greenway Access

Teen Lounge

A one-of-a-kind park that practically has it all — even exercise equipment to sneak in a little mama workout!


ALL AGES · INCLUSIVE



Raleigh

Sassafras All Children's Playground at Laurel Hills Park

 3808 Edwards Mill Rd., Raleigh, NC 27612

 3.5-acre **fully inclusive** playground — woodland theme, accessible elevated decking

 Two 50-foot ziplines, adjustable basketball hoops, swings & climbing equipment

Ziplines!

Wheelchair Accessible

Walking Trails

Sports Fields

Designed for children of ALL abilities — one of the most special playgrounds in the entire Triangle.



ALL AGES · NATURE LOVERS



Wake Forest

E. Carroll Joyner Park

701 Harris Rd., Wake Forest, NC 27587

117 gorgeous acres — treehouse-style playground, pecan grove, restored historic farm buildings

1,000-seat amphitheater, formal Walker Garden & 3 miles of paved walking trails

Treehouse Playground

3 Miles of Trails

Amphitheater

Historic Farm Buildings

Pond Fishing

Pack a picnic and plan to stay all day — the pecan grove in fall is pure magic. 🍂

ALL AGES



Wake Forest

J.B. Flaherty Park

1200 N. White St., Wake Forest, NC 27587

Playgrounds, lighted tennis courts, community center & dog park

Baseball & softball fields, soccer fields & picnic areas

Playground

Tennis Courts

Dog Park

Community Center

Sports Fields

ALL AGES · INCLUSIVE



Wake Forest / Youngsville Area

Holding Park

Near Wake Forest — check locally for current address

Fully inclusive playground with ramps, bright primary climbing frames for all abilities

Dog park, community center with gymnasium, fishing ponds & walking paths

Inclusive Design

Catch-and-Release Fishing

Dog Park

Pickleball Courts

Baseball Fields

Reviewers rave about how inclusive and well-maintained this park is — great for kiddos of all abilities! 🌈

ALL AGES



Franklinton

Hix Recreation Park

Franklinton, NC 27525

Playground, three lighted baseball/softball fields & four lighted pickleball courts

Four lighted tennis courts, picnic shelters & walking paths throughout

Playground

Pickleball Courts

Lighted Fields

Walking Paths

Picnic Shelters

A wonderful community park — the whole family will find something to love here, from pickleball to pedaling around!

ALL AGES



Wendell

Wendell Community Center & Park

Wendell, NC 27591

Large playground area, multi-use sports courts & open green spaces

Community center with indoor gym, game room & walking paths

Playground

Community Center

Indoor Gym

Sports Courts

ALL AGES · MUST-VISIT



Knightdale

Knightdale Station Park

810 N. First Ave., Knightdale, NC 27545

Farm-themed playground inspired by the nursery that once occupied this land — grain silo, barn & all!

Free splash pad (spring & summer), large picnic shelter, walking trails & dog park

Unique Farm Theme

Free Splash Pad

Dog Park

Walking Trails

Sports Fields


One of the most beloved parks in ALL of Wake County — kids absolutely lose their minds for this one! Plan to linger.


ALL AGES



Zebulon

Zebulon Municipal Park

 Zebulon, NC 27597

 Playground with climbing structures, slides & swing sets

 Athletic fields, picnic shelters, walking areas & community open space

Playground

Athletic Fields

Picnic Shelters

Open Green Space

A sweet small-town park with that classic neighborhood feel — perfect for a relaxed afternoon out!





ALL AGES · NEW!




Clayton

East Clayton Community Park

 East Clayton, NC 27520

 Brand-new playground that rivals the beloved Sassafras park in Raleigh — reviewers are obsessed!


 Sand volleyball, shade umbrellas, 2 full swing sets, multiple climbing sections & restrooms

Modern Playground

Sand Volleyball

Multiple Swing Sets

Clean Restrooms!

"The equipment looks brand new and they have hand sanitizer units on every section!" — a true gem tucked away in Clayton. 

ALL AGES · SCENIC



Garner

Lake Benson Park

921 Buffalo Rd., Garner, NC 27529



64 stunning acres with a beautiful lake, 1.8 miles of paved & unpaved trails & two playgrounds



Seasonal boat rentals at the boathouse (mid-Mar – Oct), four picnic shelters & Veterans Memorial

Two Playgrounds

Boat Rentals (Seasonal)

Special Events

Veterans Memorial

Fishing

Garner's crown jewel — the 3rd of July fireworks here are absolutely not to be missed!

ALL AGES



Garner

Garner Recreational Park

221 E. Garner Rd., Garner, NC 27529



20-acre Historic District park with 2.25 miles of **mountain biking trails** + playground



North Garner Dog Park (separate fenced areas for big & small dogs), picnic shelter & ballfields

Mountain Biking

Playground

Dog Park

Lighted Ballfields

Picnic Shelter

ALL AGES · ADVENTURE!



Apex

Apex Community Park

Apex, NC 27502



Ninja Warrior-style **Elevate Fitness Course**, tall slides & paved stroller-friendly trails



Wildlife spotting along the trails, interpretive nature exhibits & multiple playgrounds

Ninja Warrior Course!

Nature Trails

Stroller Friendly

Wildlife Spotting

Multiple Playgrounds

Kids AND parents will get a workout at the Elevate Fitness Course — race the clock or race each other!

ALL AGES



Holly Springs

Parrish Womble Park

Holly Springs, NC 27540

Beloved community park with playground, open fields & shaded picnic areas

Walking trails, sports courts & green spaces perfect for a relaxed family afternoon

Playground

Walking Trails

Sports Courts

Shaded Picnic Areas

ALL AGES · WOW FACTOR



Cary

Downtown Cary Park

327 S. Academy St., Cary, NC 27511

"The Nest" playground with cardinal climbing structures, toddler slides & seasonal splash pad

Dog parks for large & small pups, skywalk, snack bar, bark bar & gorgeous waterfront views

Cardinal Climbers!

Seasonal Splash Pad

Dog Park + Bark Bar

Snack Bar

7 Stunning Acres

Like a Central Park right in downtown Cary — plan for several hours. You will not want to leave.

ALL AGES · INCLUSIVE · FAMOUS



Cary

Kids Together Playground at Marla Dorrel Park

Marla Dorrel Park, Cary, NC

Home of **KATAL the Dragon** — the beloved Kids Together mascot with graduated difficulty levels

Wheelchair accessible sand tables, molded swings, graded ramps & adult-size changing tables

Famous Dragon Park!

Fully Inclusive

Fenced Toddler Area

Tire Swings

Paved Trail Access

The most talked-about playground in Cary — and for good reason! KATAL the dragon has won hearts for years.


ALL AGES · ADVENTURE!




Cary

Jack Smith Park

 9725 Penny Rd., Cary, NC 27519

 Impressive **10-foot climbing wall**, splash pad & public art including a charming flock of sheep sculptures

 Three whirligigs, dog park & spacious playground areas for different age groups

10-Ft Climbing Wall

Splash Pad

Sheep Art Sculptures

Whirligigs!

Dog Park

One-stop outdoor fun! The flock of sheep public art pieces are a total delight — darling photo opportunity. 

🌸 House in Bloom Realty 🌸

Park hours vary — most Wake County parks are open dawn to dusk. Always check with your local parks & recreation department for the most current hours, seasonal splash pad dates, and special events. This guide is lovingly curated for families by your House in Bloom Realty team.

Affiliated with LPT Realty · Serving Wake County & surrounding areas · Helping families bloom where they're planted 🌿

