



Living in York County



YORK COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SOUTH CAROLINA



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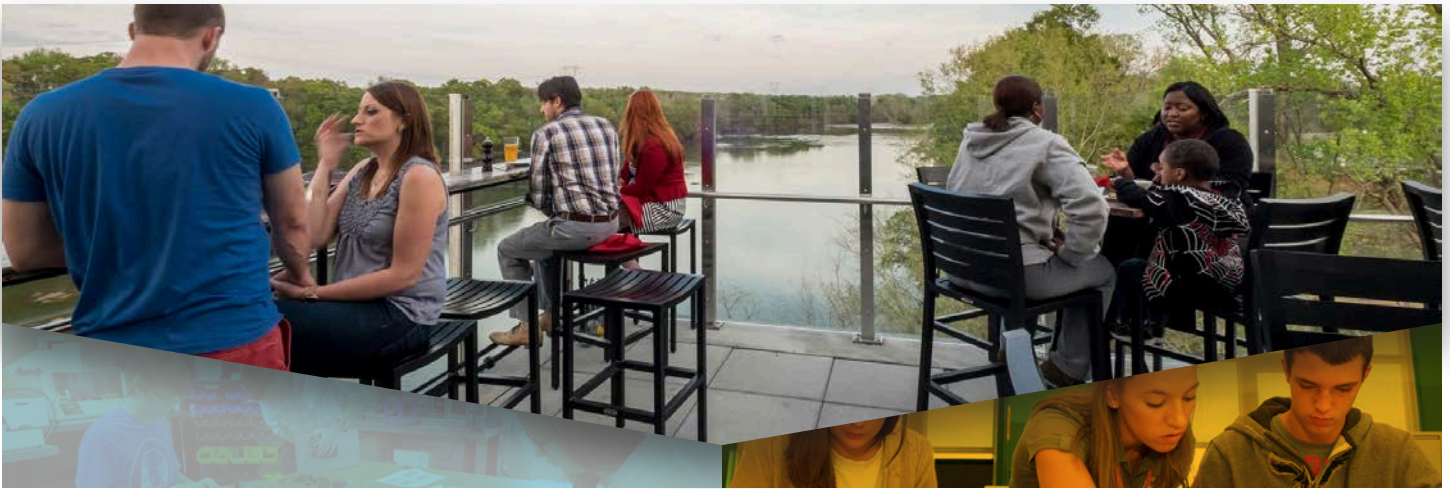
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RECREATION



YORK COUNTY RESIDENTS CAN ENJOY THE REGION'S NATURAL BEAUTY AT A NUMBER OF LARGE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES DESIGNED TO HELP CHILDREN AND ADULTS CONNECT WITH NATURE.

CAMPS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

THE UPPER PALMETTO YMCA'S CAMP CHEROKEE in Blacksburg, S.C., is located within more than 7,000 acres of state and national parks. The camp's beautiful forests and 66-acre private lake make it an ideal setting for its resident camp for children ages 6 through 14. The camp also is open for educational and recreational activities for students, including canoeing, soil study, low ropes course work, and hiking.



CAMP THUNDERBIRD ON LAKE WYLIE is a popular destination for area school students, who visit the camp for day trips or overnight stays. The 100-acre campus has two miles of lakefront and offers a variety of sailing and watersports along with pure fun on inflatable water toys and water slide.

The camp's summer overnight camp programs for children and youth include everything from outdoor living skills to laser tag to pottery.

CAMP CANAAN, located on a 100-acre island on the Catawba River in Rock Hill, is known for its retreats, summer day and resident camps and adventure programs. The facility, which includes a kitchen and meeting space, is available for team building, corporate getaways and other groups. Summer camps offer horseback riding, paintball, archery, a high adventure course and a number of other adventure activities.

THE UPPER PALMETTO YMCA has eleven locations throughout York County that offer group exercise classes, fitness equipment and other activities to get people moving. Its special facilities include the Rock Hill Aquatics Center, a 41,000 square-foot facility with a 10-lane, 25-yard cool water competition pool and an eightlane warm water pool with a wheelchair access ramp.



PARKS

THIS 2,100-ACRE NATURE PRESERVE IN FORT MILL, ANNE SPRINGS CLOSE GREENWAY offers a wealth of outdoor opportunities for all ages. Its 40-mile trail system is well marked for hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers. Primitive tent campsites and a bathhouse with toilets and showers are available on the north side of Lake Haigler, which also is open for kayaking and canoeing. Greenway members are permitted to fish in the lakes and ponds on the property, which are stocked with bass and catfish. The Greenway hosts events year round, including guided hikes, kids nights, and craft fairs.

CHERRY PARK, A 68-ACRE PARK WITH TRAILS, BASEBALL FIELDS AND A LARGE PLAYGROUND is only the second venue to be inducted into the National Softball Association's Hall of Fame. The park, which is open year-round, offers athletic programs for children and adults and hosts some of the largest regional, state and national baseball and softball tournaments in the United States on its five lighted diamonds. Visitors also can enjoy a 1.5-mile paved, lighted trail, picnic tables and multipurpose fields for soccer, concerts, and other large gatherings.



YORK COUNTY'S CAMP CANAAN (AT CATAWBA RIVER) WAS AWARDED THE 2014 TRIPADVISOR CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

CRITERIA: Certificate of Excellence honors hospitality businesses that deliver consistently great service. Given to establishments that have consistently achieved great traveler reviews on TripAdvisor over the past year.



MANCHESTER MEADOWS

ONE OF ROCK HILL'S MOST DIVERSE PARKS, MANCHESTER MEADOWS DRAWS SOCCER ENTHUSIASTS FROM THROUGHOUT THE

REGION. The 70-acre park boasts eight soccer fields, including two lighted, synthetic-turf fields, a soccer pavilion and restroom and concession facilities. It hosts lacrosse as well as all levels of soccer tournaments and offers youth and adult athletic programs. This park can be enjoyed year-round, as it also features a 1.1-mile loop trail, a playground pavilion and a large, covered lakeside picnic shelter.



EBENEZER PARK

Nestled on the shores of Lake Wylie's 13,443-acre lake that borders both South Carolina and North Carolina, Ebenezer Park is a 26-acre park located north of Rock Hill. Visitors to the park can savor a wide array of recreational opportunities including swimming, boating or enjoying a lakeside picnic, as well as overnight stays in one of their 67 campsites.

KINGS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK AND KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

The 6,885-acre Kings Mountain State Park has more than 20 miles of forested hiking trails and sits adjacent to Kings Mountain National Military Park, one of many national park Revolutionary War sites where you can explore the preserved battlefield. The parks feature over 100 camp sites for RV or tent camping, 30 miles of equestrian trails, picnic shelters as well as Lake Crawford and Lake York for fishing and paddling.



WORLD-CLASS CYCLING

ROCK HILL IS HOME TO A GROWING CYCLING SCENE THAT HAS RECEIVED INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION FOR ITS STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS.

THE GIORDANA VELODROME, which is part of the Rock Hill Outdoor Center at Riverwalk, has a 250-meter track that cyclists use for training and development. The facility is open year-round for cyclists of all ages and provides equipment and instruction. The Velodrome regularly hosts programs and events for cyclists, including Friday night races and a time trial/pursuit series. When cycling is not in session, the Velodrome becomes a gathering place for all types of activities and special events for the community.

THE ROCK HILL OUTDOOR CENTER ALSO HOUSES THE ROCK HILL BMX SUPERCROSS TRACK, which opened in the fall of 2014 and was the first Olympic-caliber BMX training facility on the East Coast. It features start hills for amateurs and elite cyclists as well as a pump track. It already has hosted the USA BMX Gold East Regional Championship and the USA Cycling National BMX Championships, and in 2017 it will host the UCI BMX World Champions, which will draw more than 200 pro-elite cycles from around the world.



THE SUPERCROSS TRACK also holds new rider orientation sessions and novice clinics to introduce riders to the BMX riding and racing and provide parents of aspiring riders with information about BMX.

ALL CYCLISTS WILL ENJOY THE ROCK HILL BICYCLE CLUB, which is open to recreational riders, mountain bikers, and racers. This non-profit organization, which was founded in the late 1970s, has more than 100 members and regularly organizes rides, bike tours, and races in the region to promote fitness and bicycle safety.

BIKE YORK COUNTY

Whether you're an advanced cyclist exploring our scenic byways or enjoying a short family ride along the Catawba River, York County offers a variety of cycling opportunities including family-friendly trails, road cycling routes, mountain and off-road bike trails. There are five scenic routes throughout York County consisting of the Central York Route, Reservation Route, Kings Mountain Route, Fort Mill Route and Nimitz Route.



FESTIVALS AND ENTERTAINMENT



FESTIVALS AND ENTERTAINMENT

YORK COUNTY'S CITIES AND TOWNS HOST SOME OF THE MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR FESTIVALS IN THE CAROLINAS,

including Rock Hill's award-winning Come-See-Me Festival each spring that features food, live music and a frog-jumping contest. The South Carolina Strawberry Festival in Fort Mill draws more than 60,000 people, and Feis Chlobhair, or the Clover Highland Games, celebrate the region's Scot-Irish heritage music, competition, dancing and traditional storytelling.

Rock Hill celebrates each December with ChristmasVille, where Old Town is transformed into an old-fashioned village and outdoor art festival with carriage rides, Dickens carolers, art, music, dance, an ice-skating ring, Santa activities and a gingerbread house contest.

WINTHROP SPORTS

The Winthrop University Eagles provide plenty of college sports action. Between the men's and women's teams, the Eagles field 17 sports teams that include baseball, lacrosse, basketball and volleyball. Tickets to individual sporting events as well as seasonal sports passes are available to the community through the university's website.

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

For fans of professional sports, the Carolina Panthers and Charlotte Hornets play less than twenty miles away in stadiums in uptown Charlotte. The Charlotte Knights, the region's minor league baseball team, recently moved into the new BB&T Park, also in uptown Charlotte. Home games have become a popular outing for families thanks to affordable ticket prices and numerous family-oriented theme nights.

CAROWINDS

Situated on 100 acres in northern York County, **CAROWINDS IS THE LARGEST AMUSEMENT CENTER IN THE CAROLINAS.** The park recently has undergone significant expansion and additions, including the opening of Carolina Harbor, a massive waterpark featuring everything from towering water slides to a two-acre children's area. In 2015, Carowinds added Fury 365, the world's tallest and fastest giga coaster that includes an 81-degree drop from 325 feet. Carowinds welcomes more than one million guests annually and regularly hosts concerts; shows; Scarowinds, a month-long Halloween extravaganza; as well as their annual ultimate holiday celebration, WinterFest, where Carowinds magically transforms the park into a winter wonderland - full of enchantment, cheer and classic family fun.



PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS



PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

York County offers a wide range of theater and performing art venues. **NARROWAY** in Fort Mill has been called “The Broadway of Christian Entertainment,” and its dinner shows include original scripts, live animals, inspiring music, and a meal based on the performance’s theme. Residents also can enjoy local music and theater at venues such as the **ROCK HILL COMMUNITY THEATRE**, **FORT MILL COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE**, the **MCCELVEY CENTER** and **SYLVIA THEATER** in York and the **ROCK HILL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**.

ARTS COUNCIL OF YORK COUNTY

The **ARTS COUNCIL OF YORK COUNTY** actively promotes the arts in York County from its headquarters in historic Old Town Rock Hill in the Center for the Arts. There, it provides classroom space for community arts classes and studios for working artists and potters. In addition, the Council includes The **GETTYS ART CENTER**, which is home to Downtown Artistry, the Rock Hill Pottery Center, Social Design House, and more artist studios, including Friday Arts Project. Annually, the Council coordinates the **BLUES & JAZZ FESTIVAL** each year where they host concerts throughout York County at various venues in Rock Hill, Baxter and Clover, SC.

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY’S COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS offers outstanding student performances and art exhibits annually, including more than 100 music performances, numerous theatre and dance performances as well as art galleries presenting both professionally curated and student-centered exhibitions.

AG + ART TOUR

Every summer, western York County’s natural beauty and rural life is on display during the Ag + Art Tour, a self-guided trip which originated in York County and has grown to now cover 12 South Carolina counties. This tour leads visitors through the area’s farms, where they can see where their food comes from and children can enjoy hayrides and meet barnyard animals. Artists take up residence at the farms during the weekend, practicing their craft and selling their works, while musicians provide bluegrass and folk songs. More than 30,000 people have participated in the Ag + Art Tour since 2012, making it the largest free farm and art tour in the United States.

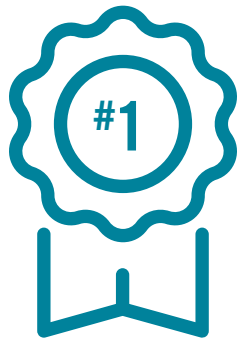


EDUCATION



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

York County's four public school districts include some of the most highly ranked elementary, middle and high schools in South Carolina. Along with K-12 education, York County schools also provide vocational training and adult education.



YORK COUNTY

NAMED #1
BEST PUBLIC SCHOOLS
IN SOUTH CAROLINA

YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT 1: Almost 5,200 students attend York School District 1's ten schools. Students attend neighborhood schools before consolidating into York Middle School and York High School, which provide an innovative and real-world experience for students. The district also includes York Intermediate School, which is open to fifth and sixth graders and has been recognized statewide for academic achievement since it opened in 2010, and York One Academy, an alternative school for grades five through twelve.

CLOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2: Home to award-winning fine arts and career and technology programs, the Clover School District serves more than 7,500 students and is one of the fastest-growing districts in South Carolina. Programs in district schools include Connected Classroom, a one-to-one education technology program that provides all students with an iPad or MacBook, and School-to-Work, an initiative that links classroom learning with workplace learning to guide students toward meaningful careers.

ROCK HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT 3: The largest school district in York County, Rock Hill Schools house around 18,000 students in 27 schools and learning campuses that include adult education programs and a technology and career education center. The district's diverse community of schools provide a challenging curriculum and programs that range from remedial to STEM and International Baccalaureate (IB). Rock Hill Schools are known for their outstanding teachers and their commitment to offering a challenging, relevant and meaningful to education to all levels of students.

FORT MILL SCHOOL DISTRICT 4: In response to the district's rapid growth, the Fort Mill School District has undergone an aggressive expansion and renovation program to accommodate more than 12,000 students in 15 schools. Fort Mill schools balance academic achievement with a commitment to arts and athletic programs and a goal of creating well-rounded students, which has made it the top-performing district in South Carolina based on performance data.



PRIVATE EDUCATION

Ranked as some of the best in South Carolina, there are 22 top private schools in York County. Serving more than 2,800 students, minority enrollment is 12% in these schools, with a student:teacher ratio of 8:1. With most schools being Christian and Baptist, 68% of private schools in York County are religiously affiliated.



LAKE POINTE ACADEMY

A-

OVERALL
NICHE GRADE

#10

2019 BEST CHRISTIAN
HIGH SCHOOLS
IN SOUTH CAROLINA

#13

CHARLOTTE AREA'S
20 BEST PRIVATE
K-12 SCHOOLS

WESTMINSTER CATAWBA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

A-

OVERALL
NICHE GRADE

#15

2019 BEST CHRISTIAN
HIGH SCHOOLS
IN SOUTH CAROLINA

#18

CHARLOTTE AREA'S
20 BEST PRIVATE
K-12 SCHOOLS

Sources: Niche.com and Charlotte Business Journal



COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY: This public institution was founded as a teachers college and continues to be regarded for the quality and value of its education. Located in Rock Hill, Winthrop offers challenging undergraduate, graduate and continuing professional education programs.

The school also is home to a successful NCAA Division I athletics program, more than 125 clubs and organizations, and service learning, study abroad and internship opportunities.

YORK COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE: The school's more than 90 programs include continuing education and degree programs. Classes are held in modern facilities, and the campus in Rock Hill includes a new science and technology building, a library and a child development center.

The college offers two-year university transfer programs as well as certificate and degree programs in business, health services, and engineering.

CLINTON COLLEGE: Sponsored by the AME Zion Church, this private school was founded in 1894 and has long focused on providing a liberal arts education. Starting in 2013, the school began offering four-year programs and now its degree programs include a bachelor of arts in religious studies and a bachelor of science in business administration.

The college strives to prepare all students to be lifelong learners, and it promotes intellectual growth along with moral, ethical and spiritual values.



WINTHROP UNIVERSITY IN ROCK HILL, SC IS THE 8TH BEST PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN THE SOUTH.

STUDY BY: U.S. News & World Report

CRITERIA: Data from 1277 colleges, analyzed by graduation and retention rates, undergraduate academic reputation, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving rate.



HEALTHCARE



WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTHCARE, RESIDENTS IN YORK COUNTY HAVE A VARIETY OF FIRST-RATE CHOICES WITHIN THE COUNTY AS WELL AS ACCESS TO MAJOR HEALTHCARE AND RETIREMENT CENTERS WITHIN THE CHARLOTTE REGION. WHETHER ITS PRIVATE PRACTICES, ADULT COMMUNITIES, OR SPECIALIZED, ACUTE CARE, YOU WILL FIND INTUITIONS IN VIRTUALLY EVERY DISCIPLINE IMAGINABLE.

MEDICAL CENTERS

PIEDMONT MEDICAL CENTER

Piedmont Medical Center (PMC), which first opened its doors in 1983, has grown to become one of the leading medical centers in the York County area. PMC offers a wide array of state-of-the-art healthcare, from advanced heart and stroke care to specialized women and children's services. PMC's team of physicians and staff are community-focused and dedicated to helping every patient receive a comprehensive range of healthcare services within close proximity to where they live. PMC has an extensive network of doctor's practices that offer medical care to residents in and around York County, with its primary campus located in Rock Hill.

ATRIUM HEALTH

Atrium Health (formerly Carolinas HealthCare System) is one of the nation's leading healthcare organizations, which has been serving the York County community since 1940 when they opened their doors as Charlotte Memorial Hospital. With a focus of connecting patients with on-demand care and world-class specialists, Atrium Health is the region's largest primary care network, which includes more than 40 hospitals and 900 care locations ranging from doctors' offices to behavioral health centers to nursing homes. York County practices include those providing services for pediatric healthcare, family medicine, cardiology, orthopedic and general surgery, urgent care, and radiation therapy.

NOVANT HEALTH: PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER

Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center, located in Charlotte, N.C., provides an extensive range of healthcare services to the local community, including emergency services, pediatric emergency care, maternity care, neonatal intensive care for infants, as well as other specialized care to patients with cancer and heart disease. Novant Health's Centers of Excellence include the Heart & Vascular Institute, Cancer Center, Women's Center, Stroke & Neurosciences Center, Rehabilitation Center and Behavioral Health.

RETIREMENT | ACTIVE ADULT COMMUNITIES

York County's warmth and convenience is enticing for any age including those 55 and over. With more than a dozen maintenance-free living options and some of the best recreational and cultural attractions the area has to offer, it's no surprise the county is home to many active adults.



COST OF LIVING | CLIMATE



COST OF LIVING

Simply put, it costs less to live in York County. The proof is in the numbers — specifically in the Cost of Living Index numbers. Using an index, where the average cost of living in the United States is equal to 100, York County comes in at 93.2.

A community with an index of 100 has the same cost of living as the average US City. A community with an index higher than 100 is more expensive, and a community with a lower number is less expensive.

	ANNUAL AVERAGE SALARY	COST OF LIVING INDEX (BASE US)	US PURCHASING POWER	COST OF LIVING INDEX (BASE YORK COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA)	YORK COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA PURCHASING POWER
York County, South Carolina	\$44,228	96.4	\$45,888	100.0	\$44,228
Charlotte-Concord- Gastonia, NC-SC MSA	\$54,784	96.7	\$56,636	100.4	\$54,586
USA	\$55,713	100.0	\$55,713	103.8	\$53,696

Source: JobsEQ*; Data as of 2016Q2; Exported on: Thursday, October 20, 2016 2:40pm





CLIMATE

If you’re looking for a location with mild winters and plenty of time to enjoy the great outdoors, then you’re in the right place. York County’s average high in summer months is just shy of 90 degrees Fahrenheit, and in the winter it’s in the mid to upper 50’s. While snow is possible, it’s a fairly rare site, as York County gets an average of 1 to 2 inches per year.

	JAN (WINTER)	APR (SPRING)	JULY (SUMMER)	OCT (FALL)
Average High	53 F	75 F	91 F	74 F
Average Low	33 F	50 F	71 F	52 F
Average Precipitation	3.7”	3.1”	3.9”	3.4”





YORK COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SOUTH CAROLINA

www.yorkcountyed.com