



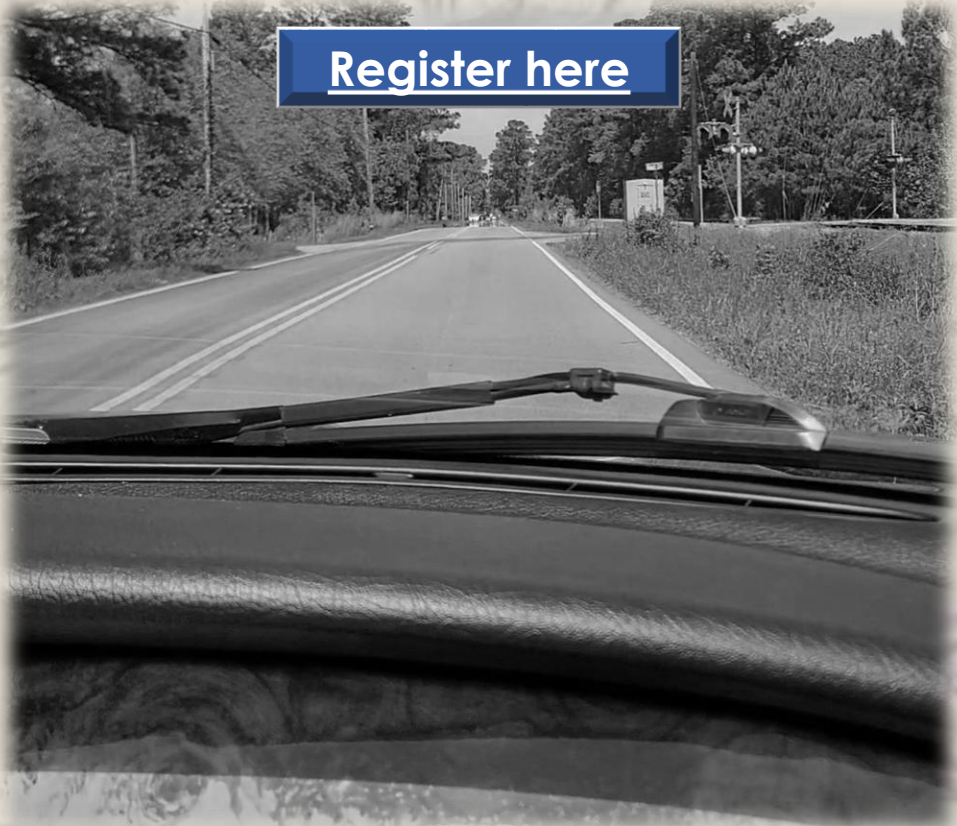
Cape Fear Road Trip

a town & country fall getaway on the coast

Carolina Jaguar Club
week of **25—31** October 2026

Base: Wilmington NC

Register now—deadline is 30 September



[Register here](#)

SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR DETAILS AND SCHEDULE



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THE LOW-DOWN...

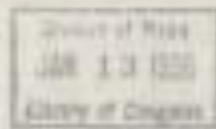
- Home-base will be the [Staybridge Suites](#), at 5010 New Centre Drive in Wilmington. The hotel is centrally-located in the city. You can book your room with the link. Please take note of the hotel's cancellation/refund policy; we have no control over that.
- For dinners, we'll visit [Taqueria Los Portales 2](#), [True Blue Butcher and Table](#), [Jack Mackerel's Island Grill](#), [Ciana Ristorante Italiano](#), [Coquina Fishbar](#), and [Hieronymus Seafood](#).
- On Monday morning, we'll tour [Airlie Gardens](#) at the mouth of Bradley Creek where it meets the Intracoastal Waterway, covering sixty-seven acres. It contains the Airlie Oak, a five-hundred-year-old southern live oak, declared the largest in North Carolina in 2007. We'll drive up to Hampstead, have lunch at [NINETEEN](#), and visit the Karen Beasley [sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation center](#); those who want to can follow that with some beach time at [Surf City/Topsail Beach](#).
- Day trips Tuesday through Thursday will take us out of the city on the byways. We'll end up at [Fort Fisher](#), [Southport](#), [Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson](#), [Moore's Creek National Battlefield](#), [Lake Waccamaw State Park](#), [Cliffs of the Neuse State Park](#), and (optional) [CSS Neuse Civil War Museum](#). Lunch stops will be waiting for us each day, including a picnic catered by [Gnome Nom Nom Deli](#) and a stop at a [side-of-the-road real pit BBQ joint](#). Mike and Ann Rhyne will be hosting a cocktail hour at their home in Kure Beach while we're all down that way on Tuesday evening.
- Friday we'll tour the [Battleship North Carolina](#). The battleship, launched in 1940, was decorated for service in every major engagement of the Pacific war, 1941—45. In late October, no summer crowds! We'll enjoy a group lunch of Thai/Vietnamese food at [Double Happiness](#), a Wilmington institution. After lunch, we'll take our last two-lane drive, an hour-long loop (a favorite of your local cat-herder), ending up back at the hotel. There'll be plenty of rest or on-your-own time that afternoon before dinner.

REGISTRATION IN ADVANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL GROUP MEALS AND ALL GUIDED TOURS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 30 SEPTEMBER

PLEASE NOTE THE CANCELLATION POLICY WHEN YOU REGISTER
FOR QUESTIONS: cjceditors@gmail.com



SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SCHEDULE



SCHEDULE

SUN. 25 OCTOBER

ARRIVE AT [STAYBRIDGE SUITES WILMINGTON](#), 5120 NEW CENTRE DR.,
CHECK-IN 3:00 PM **(USE LINK TO BOOK)**

DINNER AT [TAQUERIA LOS PORTALES 2](#), 29 VAN CAMPEN
BLVD., WILMINGTON
6:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

MON. 26 OCTOBER

BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

GUIDED TOUR OF [AIRLIE GARDENS](#), 300 AIRLIE RD. WILMINGTON
9:30 AM (ARRIVE BY 9:15 AM)—90 MIN.—2 HR. TOUR
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

DRIVE TO [NINETEEN](#) RESTAURANT AT OLDE POINT COUNTRY CLUB,
513 COUNTRY CLUB DR., HAMPSTEAD
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

LUNCH AT [NINETEEN](#) RESTAURANT
@12:45 PM
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

TOUR OF [KAREN BEASLEY SEA TURTLE RESCUE AND REHAB. CENTER](#),
302 TORTUGA LN. SURF CITY
2:30 PM
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

POST-TOURIST-SEASON BEACH TIME (OPTIONAL)—[TOPSAIL ISLAND](#)
3:30 PM

OR TIME ON YOUR OWN ... RETURN ROUTING PROVIDED;
EXPLORE DOWNTOWN WILMINGTON—INFO PROVIDED;
SEE LAST PAGE

DINNER AT [TRUE BLUE BUTCHER AND TABLE](#), 1125 MILITARY CUTOFF ROAD
SUITE A, WILMINGTON
6:30 PM
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

TUE. 27 OCTOBER

BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

DRIVE TO [BRUNSWICK TOWN/FORT ANDERSON STATE HISTORIC SITE](#)
9:00 AM, DEPART AS A GROUP FROM HOTEL

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

SCHEDULE (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF [BRUNSWICK TOWN/FORT ANDERSON HISTORIC SITE](#)
9:45 AM

DRIVE TO [SOUTHPORT](#)
11:45 AM

LUNCH AT THE [PROVISION CO.](#) AT THE YACHT BASIN IN SOUTHPORT
@12:15 PM (RESTAURANT WEBSITE DOWN RIGHT NOW)

[FERRY](#) TO FORT FISHER
2:30 PM (MUST ARRIVE BY 2:00 PM)

TOUR OF [FORT FISHER STATE HISTORIC SITE](#) (SELF-GUIDED)
3:15 PM

DRIVE TO THE RHYNES' IN KURE BEACH FOR HAPPY HOUR
5:15 PM

HAPPY HOUR AT THE RHYNES'
5:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

DINNER AT [JACK MACKEREL'S](#), 113 K AVENUE, KURE BEACH
6:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

WED. 28 OCTOBER BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

DRIVE TO [MOORES CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD](#),
40 PATRIOTS HALL DR., CURRIE
DEPART AS A GROUP FROM HOTEL AT 9:00 AM

GUIDED TOUR OF [MOORES CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD](#)
10:00 AM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

DRIVE TO [LAKE WACCAMAW STATE PARK](#), 1866 STATE PARK DR.,
LAKE WACCAMAW
11:30 AM

PICNIC LUNCH AT [LAKE WACCAMAW STATE PARK](#)
12:15 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

WALK AROUND LAKE WACCAMAW, TIME ON YOUR OWN ...

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

SCHEDULE (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

DINNER AT [CIANA RISTORANTE ITALIANO](#), 4724 NEW CENTRE DR., WILMINGTON
6:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

THU. 29 OCTOBER

BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

DRIVE TO [GRADY'S BARBECUE](#), 3096 ARRINGTON BRIDGE RD., DUDLEY
DEPART AS A GROUP FROM HOTEL AT 10:00 AM

PICK UP LUNCH AT [GRADY'S BARBECUE](#)
11:45 AM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

PICNIC BBQ AND NATURE TIME AT [CLIFFS OF THE NEUSE STATE PARK](#),
240 PARK ENTRANCE RD., SEVEN SPRINGS
12:30 PM

OPTIONAL AFTER LUNCH: [CSS NEUSE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM](#),
100 N. QUEEN ST., KINSTON
1:45 PM

DINNER AT [COQUINA FISH BAR](#), 890 TOWN CENTER DR., WILMINGTON
6:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

FRI. 30 OCTOBER

BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

GUIDED TOUR OF [BATTLESHIP NORTH CAROLINA](#),
USS NORTH CAROLINA RD., EAGLES ISLAND
9:00 AM (ARRIVE BY 8:45 AM)—90 MIN. TOUR
—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

LUNCH AT [DOUBLE HAPPINESS](#), 4403 WRIGHTSVILLE AVE., WILMINGTON
12:00 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

GROUP DRIVE: "PHILLIP'S LOOP"—LOCAL TWO-LANES, SEMI-RURAL
1:30 PM (LEAVE FROM DOUBLE HAPPINESS PARKING LOT, END AT HOTEL)

TIME ON YOUR OWN

DINNER AT [HIERONYMUS SEAFOOD](#), 5035 MARKET ST., WILMINGTON
6:30 PM—**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

SAT. 31 OCTOBER

BREAKFAST IN THE HOTEL

HOTEL CHECK-OUT 12:00 PM

SAFE TRAVELS HOME!

NOTES:

1. While we have vetted and contacted each destination on this schedule, there is always the possibility that, between now and the event, we are forced to make a change—if a restaurant closes, a tour site suffers damage, or a road closure necessitates an alternate route for a drive. It is also possible, though unlikely, that weather could force the cancellation of one or more drives, though we do not intend to cancel a drive for a little bit of rain. We will monitor all elements of the itinerary and do our best to let registrants know of any changes we have to make in advance.
2. The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center will be undergoing an expansion to their turtle tank area while we are there. This will prevent us from being able to go into that area as a group. However, we are working directly with the Education Associate, who will be leading the tour, to provide a live virtual experience for that part of the tour, for which she will enter the area with a camera and we will watch and communicate with her via videocall on a screen in the “classroom.” The rest of the tour and presentation will be “normal.”
3. For drives, expect mostly two-lane rural highways and speed limits of 45 or 55 mph. There will be no gravel roads. Hieronymus Seafood & Oyster Bar, our Friday (final) dinner stop, has a gravel parking lot.

Please take the registration deadline of **30 Sep.** seriously. We incur financial obligations on 1 Oct., so we cannot be flexible on the registration deadline.
Thank you for understanding!

Registration is now OPEN and you may register for your Fall Road Trip experience [here](#).

See following page for a list of things to do and see in downtown Wilmington in your free time!

Exploring downtown Wilmington:

The Riverwalk is a great way to just stroll or to get to shops and spots on or just off the riverfront. “Outer core” street parking is metered at \$1.50/hr. Mon-Sat 9—6:30 with maximum time limits enforced, and on “core” streets, \$3.00/hr. By far the easiest way to pay for metered parking is with the PayByPhone app. Look in your app store for this logo:  **paybyphone** The City also manages six multi-story decks. For full info, see the [City's parking site](#).

The [Wilmington Railroad Museum](#) is toward the north end of the Riverwalk. Wilmington was an important railroad town in the 19th century, and the Museum tells that story. Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the off-season; closed Sundays. Adult admission is \$12.00.

Just a block south and east is [The Cotton Exchange](#), a collection of shops and eateries in the buildings that once housed the center of the cotton business in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The [Cape Fear Museum of History and Science](#) just re-opened this summer in its current location, on Grace St. between N. 2nd and N. 3rd Streets. The Main Branch of the [New Hanover County Library](#) is also on this new campus. The new Museum has a planetarium.

From Grace St. to Market St., most of the shops, eateries, and coffee shops are along Front St., one block up from Water St. Once you get to Market, there are plenty of places along the first two blocks of that street, too, including [Kilwins Ice Cream and Chocolate](#).

At Market and S. 3rd Streets you'll find the [Burgwin-Wright House](#), an 18th-century home open to the public. They offer tours on the hour from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Adults (18—64) \$20.00; Seniors (65+) \$18.00.

Between S. Water St. and the river, just north of Dock St., is the J.W. Brooks Wholesale Grocer Building of 1928. There are several shops in here.

[Wilmington Water Tours](#) operates from a dock off S. Water St., just south of Orange St. Just a bit further south are the shops of Chandler's Wharf, built in 1884.