



A Capital Escape: Raleigh, NC

November 19 - 22, 2026

\$2,295 /double • \$2,695 /single

Where Art, Light & Southern Charm Converge

Celebrate autumn's final glow with a four-day cultural escape to North Carolina's capital region. With three nights at the beautifully appointed AC Hotel Raleigh Downtown, you'll be steps from museums, historic districts, world-class universities, and an ever-evolving dining scene. Wander Duke's renowned gardens, stroll Raleigh's historic core, explore one of the South's greatest natural science museums, and be dazzled by the shimmering magic of the North Carolina Chinese Lantern Festival. With fine dining, comfortable travel, and crisp November evenings in the Triangle, this journey blends discovery, comfort, and illumination.

TOUR INCLUDES

- Local home pick-up service and luggage handling
- Fully escorted by Globe Treks tour manager
- All meals, attractions, guides, and activities
- Three nights at the AC Hotel Raleigh Downtown
- The North Carolina Chinese Lantern Festival
- Sarah P. Duke Gardens & Duke University
- NCMuseum of Natural Sciences and NC Museum of Art
- Guided Raleigh City Tour, City Market, Warehouse District, NC Capitol Tour
- Lunch in Durham's Ninth Street District
- Old Salem Museum & Gardens and Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts
- Fine dining at Raleigh's top restaurants
- Deluxe Globe Treks motorcoach with refreshments & Happy Hour

prices & itineraries subject to change

Reserve your spot! (828) 692-1399 • [globetreks.com](https://www.globetreks.com)

Office Location: 1605 Asheville Highway, Hendersonville, NC 28791

A Capital Escape - Raleigh, NC: **Day by Day**

Day 1 – Monday, November 19: Arrival in Raleigh, North Carolina State Capitol Tour

Your journey begins with a warm greeting at your doorstep from a Globe Treks representative. Enjoy a light continental breakfast aboard our spacious motorcoach as we travel east, watching autumn's soft colors shift from mountain golds to Piedmont rusts. After lunch in Raleigh, we begin with a guided tour of the North Carolina State Capitol. This beautifully preserved Greek Revival landmark offers insight into the early government of North Carolina. Afterward, enjoy a gentle orientation drive through downtown and the Warehouse District before checking into the AC Hotel Raleigh Downtown, your refined home for the next three nights. Dinner tonight is at one of Raleigh's acclaimed restaurants.

Life at the AC Hotel Raleigh Downtown

The AC Hotel blends European-inspired design with modern Southern warmth. Clean architectural lines, soft lighting, and warm wood accents create a serene urban retreat. Guest rooms feature plush bedding, spa-style bathrooms, and floor-to-ceiling windows with city views. Mornings begin with the hotel's signature European breakfast—flaky pastries, cheeses, meats, fruit, and rich coffee. Evenings are perfect for unwinding in the AC Lounge with a crafted cocktail or glass of wine. Best of all, the hotel's central location places Raleigh's cultural treasures—museums, restaurants, historic districts—just steps away.

Day 2 – Tuesday, November 20: Raleigh City Tour & North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

Start the day by immersing yourself in the rich cultural tapestry of Raleigh with a guided city tour. Explore the downtown, see NC State University, visit Mordecai Historic Park, and travel through the Warehouse District before stopping for lunch at vibrant City Market. With its cobblestone streets and historic brick buildings, City Market has been a hub of Raleigh life since the early 1900s. After a delicious lunch, visit the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, one of the largest natural history museums in the Southeast. Explore dinosaur galleries, interactive ecosystem exhibits, and live terrariums showcasing creatures from the mountains to the coast. After an early dinner, prepare for a dazzling night at the North Carolina Chinese Lantern Festival. Walk among glowing pagodas, shimmering mythical creatures, and colorful lantern sculptures—a breathtaking finale to a vibrant day.

Day 3 – Wednesday, November 21 - College Rivalries, Duke Gardens & NC Museum of Art

Today we experience two of North Carolina's most beloved universities. We begin the morning in Chapel Hill at UNC, enjoying a brief overview of its storied campus and leafy quads. Continue to Durham and the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, 55 acres of themed landscapes, koi ponds, bridges, and quiet paths framed by magnolias and maples. From here we step into Duke University's striking Gothic architecture, including the impressive Duke Chapel. Lunch follows in Durham's lively Ninth Street District, known for its indie cafés, shops, and relaxed character. In the afternoon, return to Raleigh for a visit to the North Carolina Museum of Art. Explore galleries spanning classical antiquity to contemporary works, including masterpieces by Monet, Rodin, O'Keeffe, African sculptors, and modern visionaries. Outside, stroll the Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park, where art installations blend into meadows, woods, and walking trails. Dinner tonight highlights Raleigh's vibrant culinary scene.

Day 4 – Thursday, November 22: Old Salem, MESDA & Homeward Bound

After a final breakfast at the AC Hotel, begin your return journey with a visit to Old Salem Museums & Gardens — a beautifully preserved Moravian town offering one of the most engaging historic experiences in the nation. Explore MESDA, the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, home to the South's finest collection of period furniture, silver, textiles, paintings, and ceramics. After lunch, continue west toward the mountains. By early evening, a Globe Treks representative returns you to your doorstep, filled with memories of art, gardens, history, gentle autumn light, and the brilliance of the Chinese Lantern Festival.

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