

## **1. What is New Bern known for?**

New Bern is renowned as the second-oldest European-settled town in North Carolina, founded in 1710. It served as the state's first capital and is the birthplace of Pepsi-Cola. The city boasts a rich history, evident in its preserved architecture and cultural sites. [newbernnc.gov](http://newbernnc.gov)

## **2. Where is New Bern located?**

Situated in eastern North Carolina, New Bern lies at the confluence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers. It's approximately 35 miles inland from the Atlantic Ocean, offering both riverfront charm and proximity to coastal attractions.

## **3. What is the population of New Bern?**

As of the latest data, New Bern has a population of approximately 31,563 residents. [Point2Homes](#)

## **4. What are the top attractions in New Bern?**

Notable attractions include:

- [Tryon Palace](#): A reconstructed colonial governor's mansion with gardens.
- [North Carolina History Center](#): Interactive exhibits detailing state history.
- [Birthplace of Pepsi](#): The original pharmacy where Pepsi-Cola was created.
- [Union Point Park](#): A scenic waterfront park ideal for relaxation and events.
- New Bern Firemen's Museum: Showcasing the history of firefighting in the city.

## **5. What is the cost of living in New Bern?**

New Bern's cost of living is approximately 16.4% lower than the national average. The median home price is around \$239,500, and renting a two-bedroom apartment averages \$1,070 per month. [BestPlaces](#)

## **6. How far is New Bern from the beach?**

The closest beach is Atlantic Beach in Morehead City, roughly a 55-minute drive from New Bern. [atlanticdestinations.com](http://atlanticdestinations.com)

## **7. What is the history of New Bern?**

Founded by Swiss and Palatine immigrants in 1710, New Bern became North Carolina's first capital. It played significant roles during the colonial period and the Civil War. [newbernnc.gov](http://newbernnc.gov)

## **8. What are the demographics of New Bern?**

The city's population is diverse: 54% White, 29% African American, 6% Hispanic, 6% Asian, and 4% identifying as two or more races. [Niche](#)

## **9. What is the climate like in New Bern?**

New Bern experiences a humid subtropical climate, with hot summers, mild winters, and an average annual rainfall of about 50 inches.

## **10. What are the best outdoor activities in New Bern?**

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy kayaking on the Neuse and Trent Rivers, exploring Union Point Park, and visiting Lawson Creek Park for hiking and fishing.

## **11. What is the education system like in New Bern?**

New Bern is served by Craven County Schools, offering a range of public schools. Higher education institutions include Craven Community College.

## **12. What are the utility rates in New Bern?**

Utility rates, including electricity and water, are managed by the City of New Bern. For detailed rates and billing information, visit the [City's Utilities FAQ page](#).

## **13. What are the major events and festivals in New Bern?**

Key events include MumFest in October, the Coastal Carolina Flotilla in December, and the Shriner's Parade in January. [Southern Living](#)

## **14. What are the best restaurants in New Bern?**

Popular dining spots include:

- [The Chelsea Restaurant](#): Known for its Southern cuisine.
- [Morgan's Tavern & Grill](#): Offers a diverse menu in a historic setting.
- [Cypress Hall Kitchen + Bar](#): Features New American dishes.
- [Captain Ratty's Seafood & Steakhouse](#): Specializes in seafood and steaks.

## **15. What are the housing options in New Bern?**

Housing ranges from historic homes downtown to modern developments. The average home value is approximately \$272,472. [Zillow](#)

## **16. What is the job market like in New Bern?**

New Bern's economy includes sectors like healthcare, education, manufacturing, and tourism. The city has seen growth in median household income over recent years. [Numbeo+4Census Reporter+4World Population Review+4Time](#)

## **17. What transportation options are available in New Bern?**

Transportation includes local bus services, a regional airport (Coastal Carolina Regional Airport), and access to major highways like US-70.

## **18. What healthcare facilities are available in New Bern?**

CarolinaEast Medical Center is the primary hospital, offering comprehensive medical services to the region.

## **19. What recreational facilities are available in New Bern?**

Recreational facilities include parks, sports complexes, and community centers managed by the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

## **20. What is there to do in downtown New Bern?**

Downtown New Bern is a hub for shopping, dining, art galleries, and historic walking tours. You can explore boutique shops, grab coffee at [Bear Towne Coffee](#), or take a [historic trolley tour](#). The area is also known for its charming waterfront and live music events.

## **21. Is New Bern pet-friendly?**

Yes! Many parks, trails, and even downtown businesses welcome pets. Lawson Creek Park and Union Point Park are great spots for walking dogs, and several local restaurants offer dog-friendly patios.

## **22. How safe is New Bern?**

New Bern is generally considered a safe city, especially in its historic and residential neighborhoods. Like any city, crime can vary by area, so it's a good idea to review detailed safety stats at [CrimeGrade.org](#).

## **23. What are some good day trips from New Bern?**

Popular nearby destinations include:

- [Atlantic Beach](#): For oceanfront relaxation.
- [Beaufort, NC](#): A charming waterfront town with maritime history.
- [Kinston](#): For BBQ, local art, and breweries.

## **24. Are there ghost tours or haunted locations in New Bern?**

Yes, New Bern is known for its ghost stories and paranormal history. [Ghosts of New Bern](#) offers guided walking tours through haunted sites, including cemeteries and historic homes.

## **25. Where can I find more info about visiting New Bern?**

You can start with the official [Visit New Bern website](#), which has everything from event calendars and lodging to maps and itineraries.