



MARINE CORPS AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

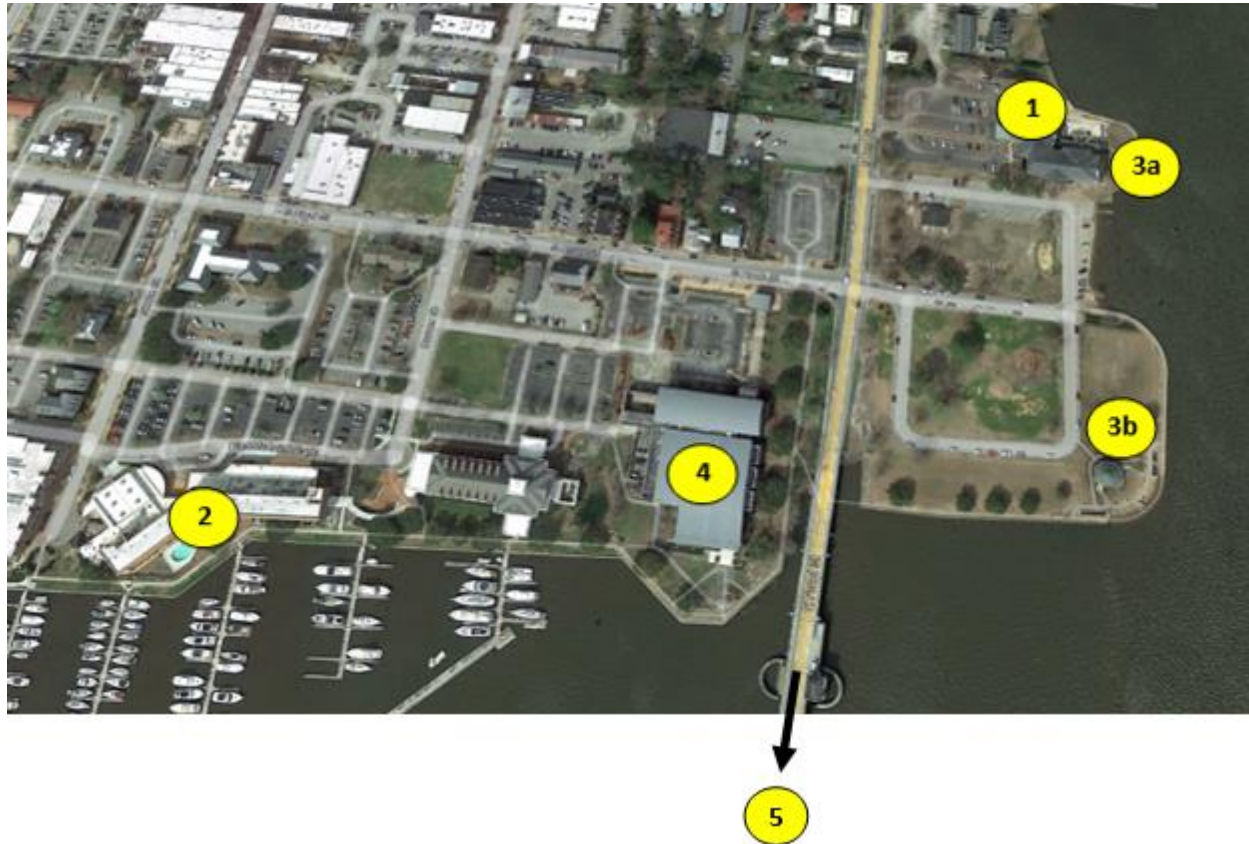
# 2023 REUNION

New Bern, North Carolina

Site Plan, Calendar, Event Menu's, Sightseeing Ideas, Dining  
Options & Local History

# SITE PLAN

\*Approximate travel times are from the Courtyard Marriott



1. Marriott Courtyard
2. Hilton DoubleTree (8-min walk)
3. Membership Picnic (Thursday)
  - a. Primary (2-min walk)
  - b. Secondary (5-min walk)
4. New Bern Riverfront Convention Center (5-min walk)
  - a. Ladies Luncheon (Friday)
  - b. Board Meeting (Saturday)
  - c. General Membership Meeting (Saturday)
  - d. 2023 Reunion Banquet (Saturday)
5. Coastal Carolina Regional Airport (EWN) (10-min drive)

## EVENTS calendar

Wed. 18 Oct– Early Bird Check-in

- 0800-2300 Hospitality Room open

Thurs. 19 Oct– Regular Check-in

- 0800-2300 Hospitality Room open
- 1600-2000 Membership Picnic

Fri. 20 Oct– Tentative visit to VMGR-252

- 0800-2300 Hospitality Room open
- 1200-1330 Ladies Luncheon
- Squadron tour?

Sat. 21 Oct– Business Meetings and Banquet

- 0800-2300 Hospitality Room open
- 0900-1030 Board Meeting
- 10:30-1200 General Membership Meeting
  - Hospitality Room closed during membership meeting
- 1700-1800 Reception
- 1800-2200 Banquet and Dinner

Sun. 22 Oct– Goodbyes and Fly/Drive Away

# EVENT menus

## Membership Picnic, **Thursday (10/19/2023 @ 1600)**

NC-style Pig Pickin' featuring Whole Pig Pulled Pork BBQ, BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans w/Maple Sausage, Potato Salad and Cole Slaw.

## Ladies Luncheon, **Friday (10/20/2023 @ 1200)**

### Deli Buffet

Fruit Salad: (Pineapple, Cantaloupe, Honeydew, and Grapes)

Assortment of Sliced Breads and Kaiser Rolls, Gluten and Vegan Rolls available with Lettuce, Tomato, Red Onions, Pickles, Mustard, and Mayonnaise

Chef Smoke's Famous Shrimp Bisque Soup

Deli Meats/Cheese: Roasted Turkey, Honey Smoked Ham, Roast Beef, Cheddar, Swiss

Italian Pasta Salad

House Salad: Fresh Spring Mix and Iceberg Lettuce, Sliced Cucumbers, Shredded Carrots, Cherry Tomatoes, Shredded Cheddar and Garlic Croutons with Choice of Two Dressings

Assorted Freshly Baked Cookies

Beverages: Sweet and Unsweetened Iced Tea, Water, Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee

## Reunion Banquet, **Saturday (10/21/2023 @ 1800)**

### Seated/Plated Dinner

Farmer's Market Garden Salad: Fresh Spring Mix and Iceberg Lettuce, Sliced Cucumbers, Shredded Carrots, Cherry Tomatoes, Shredded Cheddar and Garlic Croutons with Ranch & Italian Dressings

Choice:

(1) Grilled Atlantic Salmon, Seasonal Sautéed Vegetables, Chef's Starch

(2) Chicken Supreme: Marinated Grilled Chicken Breast Layered with Smoked Bacon, Mozzarella Cheese, Mushrooms, and Topped with a Supreme Sauce over Rice Pilaf

(3) Specialty Seasoned Ribeye, Seasonal Sautéed Vegetables, Chef's Starch

(4) Gluten Free Option: Grilled Chicken Breast with Fresh Tomato Bruschetta topped with Mozzarella Cheese

(5) Vegan/Vegetarian Option (TBD)

Dinner Rolls w/Butter

Dessert Station: Lemon Cake, Tiramisu, Double Chocolate Cake

Beverages: Sweet and Unsweetened Iced Tea, Water, Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee

No host bar

## SIGHTSEEING ideas

\*Approximate travel times are from the Courtyard Marriott

### [Tryon Palace](#) (13-min walk)

529 South Front St, New Bern, NC 28562  
(800) 767-1560

### [New Bern Fireman's Museum](#) (9-min walk)

420 Broad St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 636-4087

### [North Carolina History Center](#) (10-min walk)

529 S Front St, New Bern, NC 28562  
(800) 767-1560

### [New Bern Historic Trolley Tours](#) (11-min walk)

*Note: Pickup available at Marriott Courtyard*  
610 Pollock St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 637-7316

### [Craven-Pamlico Regional Library](#) (12-min walk)

400 Johnson St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 638-7800

### [Birthplace of Pepsi Cola](#) (6-min walk)

256 Middle St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 636-5898

### [New Bern Farmers Market](#) (8-min walk)

*Note: Open on Saturday only, 0800-1400*  
421 S Front St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 633-0043

### [Boat Tours & Guide Services](#)

*Various Vendors*

### [Gunny B Outdoors Guided Fishing Trips](#) (5-min drive)

225 Walt Bellamy Dr, New Bern, NC 28562  
(803) 920-5501

### [New Bern 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ghost Walk](#)

*Note: Oct 19-21, 2023*  
(252) 638-8558

## QUICK LINKS

Things to do in:

[New Bern](#)

[Morehead City](#) (50-min drive)

[Atlantic Beach](#) (55-min drive)

[Beaufort](#) (60-min drive)

[Jacksonville](#) (45-min drive)

[NewBernNow](#) Local News & Information Source

[New Bern Visitors Center](#) (5-min walk)

316 S Front St, New Bern, NC 28563  
(800) 437-5767

[Walking Map](#)

[Digital Guide](#)

[New Bern Visitors Guide](#)

[NC State Crystal Coast Visitors Guide](#)



## DINING options

\*Approximate travel times are from the Courtyard Marriott

### [Baker's Kitchen Restaurant & Bakery](#) (7-min walk)

*Breakfast/Lunch*

227 Middle St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 637-0304

### [Baxter's 1892](#) (6-min walk)

*Dinner (Tapas)*

323 Pollock St. New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 253-6340

### [Bella's Cafe & Catering](#) (7-min walk)

*Breakfast/Lunch*

323 Middle St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 633-7900

### [The Chelsea](#) (8-min walk)

*Lunch/Dinner*

335 Middle St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 637-5469

### [The Country Biscuit](#) (15-min walk)

*Breakfast/Lunch*

809 Broad St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 638-5151

### [Lawson's on the Creek](#) (9-min walk)

*Lunch*

529 S Front St, New Bern, NC 28562  
(252) 631-1718

### Michael's Pub & Patio (2-min walk)

*Lunch/Dinner*

208 Pollock St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 631-1209

### [Persimmons Waterfront Restaurant](#) (3-min walk)

*Lunch/Dinner*

100 Pollock St, New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 514-0033

## QUICK LINKS

[New Bern Dining & Drinks](#)

[NEW BERN DOWNTOWN](#)

[TRIPADVISOR](#)

[YELP](#)

# local HISTORY

## New Bern

New Bern, North Carolina's second oldest town, was founded in 1710 by Swiss nobleman, Christoph von Graffenried, and named after his native city of Berne, Switzerland. Bern means "bear" and the "Bern Bear" symbol is seen on its flag. Throughout the city you will see many creative Bear Town Bears.

New Bern has witnessed the beginnings of Colonial America, the American Revolution and the birth of our Nation, and survived the devastation and divisiveness of the Civil War. Occupied by Union Troops after the Battle of New Bern, New Bern became a safe haven for emancipated slaves who gathered there forming a freedman's colony and one of the first United States Colored Troops. Many historic homes and buildings endured, and remain standing, adding authentic charm and character to the city today.

In the 19th century, the town of New Bern was a thriving strategic riverside port and center of culture and was nicknamed "The Athens of North Carolina." Today, New Bern welcomes visitors with a unique blend of European influence, and a tradition of Southern hospitality. The town boasts a thriving main street, several museums and numerous art galleries, specialty shops and eateries. New Bern is the birthplace of Pepsi-Cola.

Garden & Gun recently showcased downtown New Bern, its rich history and Tryon Palace. New Bern has small-town charm but big-town spirit, and was recently named by Southern Living as one of the South's top ten small towns in America.

Accommodations in New Bern range from charming B&Bs to full-service hotels. It's vibrant downtown features an array of restaurants and eateries, from elegant dinners in restored historic buildings to down-home cooking at locals' favorite spots. Historic downtown New Bern is walking distant from Tryon Palace.

Source: [TryonPalace](#)

## Havelock

Havelock has always welcomed visitors. The lovely woods, creeks, and Neuse River welcomed some of the earliest settlers in America. Our area boasted permanent plantation sites as early as 1707 and was home to many woodsmen, fishermen, and farmers before the American Revolution.

### General Henry Havelock

This area welcomed the coming of the railroad in 1858 at a time that a British general was gaining worldwide fame for his heroic rescues of hostage citizens during a bloody uprising in India. When the Atlantic and North Carolina tracks came to a crossroads and a depot was built, it needed a name. The local folks embraced the name of General Henry Havelock for their budding community. Sir Henry was a devout Christian and a military genius. The story of his courage gives inspiration to this day.

This City is one of eight in the world named for Sir Henry Havelock. Two are in Canada; three are in the United States. There is one Havelock in Swaziland of Southern Africa and two in New Zealand. There is also an island named for him in the Indian Ocean.

## Civil War

The town of Havelock Station saw action during the Civil War when elements of the Rhode Island Heavy Artillery under the command of General Ambrose Burnside stormed ashore on the beach of what is now the Officer's Club at Cherry Point and Carolina Pines Golf and Country Club. The Union forces quickly took control of the hamlet and its railroad depot using Havelock as a starting point for the capture of New Bern and Fort Macon. The operation in March 1862 provided the first major foothold in the South for the Yankees.

The Union troops had few kind comments about the area, calling it desolate, snake-infested, and muddy. One correspondent said the only comfort for the soldiers was the "chain-lightning whiskey" available from local stores and farmhouses.

## Economic Growth

Wills and other records indicate that the production of "naval stores" such as tar and turpentine had more economic impact here than did farming. While most people farmed, the greater income was produced through the operation of turpentine distilleries and tar kilns.

With the advent of the steam engine during and following the Civil War, wooden ships began to be replaced and the market for tar, pitch, and turpentine collapsed. To make ends meet, more than a few local families switched from turpentine distillation to the distillation of something with a little more kick to it. Local legend has it that Havelock and nearby Harlowe became renowned for the quality of their "moonshine" and that a few fortunes were based on the copper coil.

## Hunting & Fishing

From the late 1800's until the 1930's, the Havelock area was a haven for hunters and fishermen. Sportsmen came from all over the east coast to enjoy the river and forests. Several old-timers' albums boast photos of baseball stars Babe Ruth and Christie Mathewson and then-famous cartoonist Bud Fisher decked out in hunting gear in the local woods.

## Marine Corps

Havelock welcomed the United States Marine Corps in 1940. Today, visitors are often seen craning their necks as a Harrier or Intruder streaks by overhead. Local residents are used to the roar acknowledged by a sign near the base's main gate which reads, "Pardon our noise. It's the sound of freedom."

Source: [Havelock NC](#)

## **MCAS Cherry Point**

It is said that the name "Cherry Point" comes from a Neuse River promontory once called Cherry Point to the east of Hancock Creek. A tiny settlement of fishermen and hunters sprung up in the area in the early 19th Century under the name of Cherry Point Landing, where the name was eventually shortened when a post office opened there in 1890. The post office was closed in 1935, but the community's small cemetery still exists today.

Congress authorized Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point on July 9, 1941, with an initial appropriation of \$14,990,000 for construction and clearing of an 8,000-acre tract of swamps, farms and timberland.



Interestingly, early records indicate that Cherry Point's location was selected from a "sunshine map" as one of the three areas in the United States having the greatest amount of annual sunshine – "an important factor in an air base." Two bad features that detracted from its desirability were, first, its exposure to hurricanes, and second, the presence of malarial mosquitoes due to the swamps. Fortunately, sunshine won the day.

On August 18, 1941, the organization known as "Air Facilities under Development at Cherry Point, North Carolina" was established in accordance with Major General Commandant Letter 01358/AN-14-mwk, dated August 9, 1941. The initial construction of the air station focused on clearing the site, with extensive drainage and malaria control work.

In September 1941, the designation of the organization was changed to Cunningham Field, Cherry Point, N.C., in honor of the Marine Corps' first aviator, LtCol. Alfred A. Cunningham. Construction began in November, just 17 days before the attack on Pearl Harbor. The December attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese lent urgency to the completion of the complex, located in Craven County between New Bern and Morehead City.

On December 1, 1941, the designation of Cunningham Field was changed to U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. It was commissioned as such on May 20, 1942.

Cherry Point's primary World War II mission was to train units and individual Marines for service in the Pacific theater. The air station also served as a base for anti-submarine operations, with a U.S. Army Air Corps and U.S. Navy unit each being responsible for the sinking of a German U-boat just off the North Carolina coast in 1943.

Cherry Point's contribution to the Korean War effort was to provide a steady flow of trained aviators and air crewmen as well as maintenance and support personnel as replacements to forward deployed aviation units.

During the Vietnam War, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing deployed three Cherry Point-based A-6 Intruder squadrons to the Far East and again provided a constant source of replacements for aircrews and enlisted aviation personnel.

In Operation Desert Storm, Cherry Point was a major contributor to the victory in Southwest Asia by supporting the deployment of three AV-8B Harrier squadrons, two A-6E Intruder squadrons, one KC-130 Hercules squadron, one EA-6B Prowler squadron, and headquarters detachments from Marine Aircraft Group 14, Marine Aircraft Group 32, and the 2d MAW.

After the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington D.C., Cherry Point provided support to a constant stream of combat units involved in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq. From 2001 through 2014, 2d MAW units prepared for the War on Terrorism at Cherry Point's bombing ranges and expeditionary landing fields between repeated rotations into Iraq, Afghanistan, Horn of Africa and shipboard with deployed Marine Expeditionary Units, as well as deployments to the Far East under the Unit Deployment Program. The air station not only served as a prime location for training and maintenance of Harrier, Prowler and KC-130 combat aircraft, and training and housing the Marines who operate them and support them on the ground – it also served as the jump-off and return point for thousands of East Coast-based ground combat Marines through the air station's Aerial Port of Embarkation.

Today, Cherry Point remains one of the best all-weather jet bases in the world. The air station and its associated support locations occupy approximately 29,000 acres. The heart of Cherry Point is its massive four-point runway system, which is designed to provide multiple approach and departure advantages to all aviators who have the opportunity to fly here. The air station's runways are so long they served as an alternate emergency landing site for NASA during the years that the agency maintained a space shuttle program. Reaching further out from the main air station area is Cherry Point's system of ranges and auxiliary landing fields, which provide unique littoral training opportunities for 2d MAW as well as aviation and naval combatants across all U.S. and some foreign military services. Cherry Point's influence in the region stretches even further with its 2015 expansion of air traffic control services to cover more than 9,000 square miles of airspace for military, civil and commercial air traffic.

Cherry Point is home to Marine Transport Squadron 1, which operated the well-known HH-46E search and rescue helicopters affectionately referred to as "Pedro" until the sundown of the squadron's search and rescue mission in September 2015. In addition to its military search and rescue duties, Pedro also served the local community with its medical evacuation and search and rescue capabilities. The Pedro helicopters flew their final flight on September 25, 2015, as the last flying H-46 airframes in the Department of Defense. The squadron continues to operate the McDonnell Douglas C-9 Skytrain and the Cessna UC-35 Citation II in support of worldwide personnel transport for DOD.

More than 53,000 people make up the total Cherry Point-related population, including active duty and retired Marines, the civilian workforce, and their families. Nearly 14,000 Marines, Sailors and civilian employees earn an annual payroll of more than \$1.2 billion. These salaries, in addition to retiree benefits and local expenditures for supplies and capital improvements, come to more than \$2 billion in annual economic impact to the state, adding more significance to Cherry Point's total value to the region, to North Carolina and to the nation.

Finally, the air station owes much of its success to the warm support its service members and their families receive from the surrounding off-base communities, both in peace and in war. The people of the region have proven, time and again, that Cherry Point Marines and Sailors are fortunate to have them as neighbors.

Source: [MCAS Cherry Point NC](#)

### **Neuse River Information**

The Neuse River has been described as "one of Americas great streams" and also as "one of the widest rivers in the US." Six nautical miles across at its widest point, it averages over three miles in width between the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) and New Bern. It is also believed to be one of the oldest rivers in the US. Archeological evidence indicates that early Native Americans settled near the Neuse as early as 14,000 years ago.

From the founding of New Bern by Swiss colonists, the Trent and Neuse Rivers have had a major role in regional growth and development. By the mid 1700's, New Bern had become a vital port for the new colonies. Nearly seven decades before the American Revolution, the city became a bustling port and the colonial capital.

The waterways of the Neuse and Trent rivers continued to serve as the primary means of transportation for area people, supplies and crops until the late 1800's. Initially, large flat-bottom boats were used and eventually there regularly-scheduled steamboat service. Today these rivers are famous for water sports,

offer great boating and sailing opportunities and the fishing attracts knowledgeable anglers from all over the country.

#### Neuse River Facts:

- The Neuse flows about 275 miles mostly southeast. At New Bern it is 35 miles to the Atlantic Ocean.
- It is the longest river contained entirely within North Carolina.
- The Neuse River and creeks provide approximately 2,750 acres of prime fish nursery habitat and 1,250 acres of secondary fish nursery habitats.
- The Neuse river's current is fast moving for 150 miles from its source, west of Raleigh, until it reaches western Craven County and becomes a slow-moving brackish estuary that continues for another 40 miles & flows into the Pamlico Sound.
- There is a clearly marked channel from the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) to New Bern. Natural channel depths range between 8 and 12 feet with little noticeable tidal effect.

Source: [US Coast Guard](#)

#### **Trent River Information**

The Trent River begins in Lenoir County approximately 15 miles southwest of Kinston and flows through Jones and Craven County. Beginning as a narrow, black water stream, with a limestone bedrock. The river which is approximately 100 miles long takes a winding course heading towards the east. An estuary of the Neuse River, it joins the Neuse River at Union Point Park in downtown New Bern.

Named after the river Trent which flows through the Midlands of England, the river provides good fishing grounds for the sports fisherman as it did for the Tuscarora Indians whose settlements lined its banks decades ago. When the water level is moderate to high the river is navigable about eight miles upstream to Pollocksville. The thing to watch out for are strong west-to-southwest winds that push the water out of much of the river.

Much of the area the river goes through is undisturbed with ample wildlife and scenic undisturbed vistas. Water sports along the Trent River are common. Many enjoy sailing, water skiing and jet skiing along the smooth waters as well as kayaking and canoeing.

Source: [US Coast Guard](#)