

# Arts in the Triangle

RALEIGH • DURHAM • CHAPEL HILL • SMITHFIELD

## *An Art “full” Trail in Johnston County*

A day of art in Johnston County begins in Clayton with coffee and a creative walk through the art on display downtown. Shop for a piece to take home and grab lunch at Jones’ Cafe, home to unique art and memorabilia about hot dogs. Travel down the road to Smithfield and spend the afternoon immersed in the art of Hollywood’s gilded age with a stop at the Ava Gardner Museum—all about the starlet’s life and big-screen roles. Enjoy the craft of local artists at Frank Creech Art Gallery and dinner with a local, southern staple, BBQ at Holt Lake. End the day with an evening of music at the Rudy Theatre; the American Music Jubilee is fun for all ages.



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HERE IS A SAMPLE ITINERARY.

### MORNING

#### Sherry’s Signature Cheesecakes

120 E. Main St., Clayton, NC 27520 • 919.270.0513

Let’s start with Sherry’s Signature Cheesecakes where you can get coffee and a delicious slice of cheesecake or a granola bar for a morning pick-me-up. Since you are downtown, take a walk along the Clayton Art Trail. The Town of Clayton has brought public art to the forefront with sculptures placed around town, murals throughout town, school art projects and greenways. While you’re walking, maybe a stroll among the downtown merchants is a good idea. Stop and shop for custom jewelry at the Jewelry Design Studio or unique furniture pieces at Circa Furniture, just across from the ice cream shop. Then walk through town and look for unique shops like Right Angles and Eye of the Eagle Art Gallery.

### LUNCH

#### Jones’ Cafe

415 E. Main St., Clayton, NC 27520 • 919.553.7528 • <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jones-Cafe/116290391732380>

You’ve been walking around all morning, and now it’s time for lunch. A local staple, and favorite of those who come to Clayton, is Jones’ Cafe. Located in the heart of downtown Clayton this tiny eatery is known for their “red” hot dogs. Take time to look at all the hot dog memorabilia and talk to some of the locals. We recommend two hot dogs, all the way, with french fries and a sweet tea.

### AFTERNOON

#### Ava Gardner Museum

325 E. Market St., Smithfield, NC 27577 • 919.934.5830 • [www.avagardner.org](http://www.avagardner.org)

After you’ve shopped till you almost dropped, it’s time to head to Smithfield to enjoy an amazing collection of memorabilia from Hollywood legend and Johnston County native, Ava Gardner. At the Ava Gardner Museum you will find outfits from movies, learn about her life growing up and see things she collected throughout her life. The gift shop offers Ava’s movies, cookbooks, Christmas ornaments and calendars for a unique gift idea.

## Frank Creech Art Gallery

245 College Rd., Smithfield, NC 27577 • 919.209.2032

[www.johnstoncc.edu/frank-creech-art-gallery/index.aspx](http://www.johnstoncc.edu/frank-creech-art-gallery/index.aspx)

For an excellent collection of amazing, local art on display head to the Frank Creech Art Gallery, dedicated to a local artist. This gallery rotates local artist exhibits from painting to sculpture to quilting. Located at Johnston County Community College and open to the public.



### DINNER

## Holt Lake

3506 U.S. Hwy. 301 S., Smithfield, NC 27577 • 919.934.5564

[www.yelp.com/biz/holt-lake-bar-b-que-and-seafood-smithfield](http://www.yelp.com/biz/holt-lake-bar-b-que-and-seafood-smithfield)

## Bistro on Third

146 S. Third St., Smithfield, NC 27577 • 919.989.4931 • [www.bistroonthird.net](http://www.bistroonthird.net)

Smithfield has so much to offer in culinary delights. Try good ole eastern style BBQ at Holt Lake or enjoy the quaint feel and familiar delicious taste of Bistro on Third.

### EVENING

## American Music Jubilee

300 N Raiford St., Selma, NC 27576 • 919.202.9927 • [www.amjubilee.com](http://www.amjubilee.com)

Depending on when you visit, there is a good chance that there will be some form of entertainment for you to enjoy. Look into shows at Paul A. Johnston Auditorium for nationally touring artists or Neuse Little Theatre for productions put on locally. Our restaurants and breweries are also known to have live music on certain nights of the week. A popular attraction is the American Music Jubilee at the Rudy Theatre. This Branson-style production entertains visitors year round. If you're around during the holiday season, get your tickets for the Christmas production—they go quickly.