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What you should know when relocating to the Triangle area in North Carolina



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By The Jim Allen Group
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If you're moving to the Raleigh-Durham area, or even just considering it, you're not alone, the area is on the rise. **Raleigh-Durham was named one of the top 25 fastest growing areas** in the United States in 2023, in large part because of the job market and the universities, which are encouraging alumni to stay rooted to the area. Around 70 people relocate to the area daily.

Whether you're coming from a different part of North Carolina, a major U.S. city, or from somewhere overseas, the Triangle has a distinct draw. Whether you're coming for a

renowned education, job hunting, or looking for new opportunities, you'll find it here. Here's what you should know before you move.

There's a reason it's called "the Triangle"

The region is known as the Triangle because of the three prestigious research institutions that are at the heart of these communities. Raleigh's [North Carolina State University](#), the [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#), and [Duke University](#) in Durham make a literal triangle on the map, and at the center of these locations is the [Research Triangle Park](#), or RTP.

RTP is a 7,000-acre center for research and innovation, and it is home to Apple, Red Hat, IBM, Cisco, Microsoft, and more. With nearly 400 companies that represent tech, biotech, healthcare, life sciences, and more, the region retains top talent and is a draw for people and businesses from across the globe.

The economy, schools, culture, and health care are strong

Triangle residents are living the good life in many ways. Thanks to the presence of top companies that represent numerous industries, job growth is constant. In addition, the educational system – from its highly-ranked public schools, prestigious private schools, and both major universities and smaller colleges that are spread throughout – is top-notch and brings opportunity to all ages.

Because the area is a global draw, diversity is welcome in the Triangle. From powwows to a Holi festival to the annual Chinese Lantern Festival, as well as ethnically diverse restaurants and art exhibitions, the Triangle is inviting for people from across the globe.

In addition, the universities have ensured the region has the most outstanding healthcare available for residents across the area. Duke and UNC healthcare are [top-ranked hospitals](#) with many specialties and types of care available.

Search luxury home listings in the Triangle area from the Jim Allen Group using the [interactive Home Watch map](#).

There are options to live in the city, in the country, and in-between

Depending upon what you're looking for in your move, you'll find it in the Triangle. As the entire region grows, new opportunities are springing up around the cities and smaller communities outside of them. Both [Raleigh](#) and [Durham](#) are at the heart of the Triangle, and both offer an urban feel where you can find luxury homes, historic homes, and master-planned communities with condominiums and apartments that put you close to it all.

If you're looking for a suburban experience, cities like Cary and [Apex](#), consistently named [two of the Best Places to Live](#) in the U.S., as well as communities like Wake Forest, Knightdale, and Garner are quiet, but growing. Meanwhile, the outskirts of the Triangle are growing while still retaining their small-town charm. Spots like [Fuquay-Varina](#) and [Pittsboro](#), as well as [Angier](#), [Clayton](#), [Hillsborough](#), and [Mebane](#) will allow you to find a hometown while giving you more house for your money.

Transportation is changing

While congestion has been an issue in the Triangle, leaders from the region have committed to easing transportation issues. [An I-540 extension](#) is currently under construction, with the first phase about ready to open. This extension will make a commute from the smaller cities around the eastern and southern regions of Raleigh a much quicker undertaking.

In addition, [GoTriangle](#) is implementing a new commuter rail system, which will take approximately 10,000 passengers per day across Raleigh, Durham, the Research Triangle Park. The region is also working on a rapid transit bus system to ease congestion. They will be operational in 2030.

The Triangle is close to it all

One of the benefits of living in the Triangle is its proximity to both the beach and the mountains. Both are a day trip from the region, so whether you're looking for [historic beaches once inhabited by Blackbeard](#), or you want to escape a hot summer in the heart of the [Blue Ridge Mountains](#), they're an easy drive from the Triangle.

Keep in mind that the weather has a humid, subtropical climate. That means summers get hot and humid, and winters stay mild. It's why the beaches and mountains are such great destinations over summer breaks.

Find what's right for you

As you get ready to make your move, make sure you have a smart, local agent who understands the Triangle market and can help you find the right home for your needs. Start building out your wish list to make it easier to find what you need and be prepared to talk about a budget, so you're set up for success before you get here.

Thinking about buying a home? [Check out this list of local professionals with the Jim Allen Group.](#)

[The Jim Allen Group](#) is a nationally recognized and award-winning real estate team in Raleigh, North Carolina ranked the #1 Coldwell Banker HPW Sales Team in the nation.