

**Title:** Food Tourism in Charlotte

**Abstract:**

Food tourism is a growing area of research and a growing area of interest for cities and countries. When you go to many cities you will increasingly find a number of food tours available, which is especially true in larger cities. These tours can include tours for tourists which show off the city's foodscape, food tours for locals to show them restaurants in the area, and food tours that include a cooking course. Countries have also started to develop their food tourism as a way to bring tourists in. This presentation will examine food tourism in Charlotte, NC, looking at how these tours are utilized and how they affect the food culture and tourism in the Charlotte region. Who are the consumers of these food events? What does it take for a city or region to become a food destination? How do these tours impact the sustainable local foods movement?

**Keywords:**

Food tourism  
Charlotte  
Food tours  
Food culture  
Food destination  
Local food  
Foodscape  
Foodies  
Tourists  
North Carolina