

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau Publishes
Official Visitors Guide to Raleigh, Cary and Wake County
Call 1-800-849-8499 or 919-834-5900 for Free Copy**

RALEIGH, N.C. – Planning a getaway to the Greater Raleigh area? The Official Visitors Guide to Raleigh, Cary and Wake County is now available from the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. This premier resource for planning a visit to North Carolina’s Capital City highlights the many aspects of Raleigh and its 11 neighboring cities and towns through vivid editorial and new photography.

The guide has several new features designed to give visitors an “insiders” view to the Raleigh area. Short articles highlight the destination’s unique, unexpected and celebratory attributes with topics ranging from quirky shopping to out-of-the-ordinary festivals and outdoor dining hotspots. Nearly 100 new images from local photographers including: Matt Robinson, Dave Horn, Massimo Strazzeri, Chrysti Hydeck and a cover image by Matthew Blake Powers were used to create a stunning pictorial of the area.

The 74-page Visitors Guide is in a user friendly, easy-to-read magazine format and features comprehensive information on local attractions, cultural opportunities, shopping information, sports and recreation options and 127 Greater Raleigh hotel accommodations. Also highlighted are 2009 area maps and a dining guide that lists more than 500 restaurants by geographic location. Returning to the guide is a city-by-city listing of surrounding cities and towns including drive times from downtown Raleigh, a detailed guide to Cary, Wake County’s second largest visitor destination, as well as information on the area’s most popular entertainment districts and accompanying color-coded maps.

With more than \$3 billion in development, expansions and renovations to hotels, restaurants, attractions and meeting facilities, 2008 proved to be a banner year for the Raleigh area. Highlighted are the opening of the Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh Marriott City Center hotel and Renaissance Raleigh North Hills. Many upcoming projects, which are scheduled to be complete in late 2009 / early 2010, include: N.C. Museum of Art expansion, Nature Research Center at the N.C. Museum of Natural Science and streetscape improvements to downtown Raleigh’s City Market and the Warehouse District.

The guide is available to all business and leisure travelers through all North Carolina Welcome Centers, Raleigh-Durham International Airport, Capital Area Visitor Information or by calling the GRCVB at (919) 834-5900 or (800) 849-8499 or e-mailing the Bureau at visit@visitraleigh.com.

The Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau, as the official destination marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business.