

## Restaurant Activity Report—Lead Report

*Current Real Estate Transactions, Leases Signed, Ownership Changes, and Business Brokerage Activity.*



**For restaurant contact information, please call Restaurant Activity Report at (315) 790-8151.**

### Hashtag India

1207 Kildaire Farm Rd  
Cary, NC 27511  
[www.hastagindia.com](http://www.hastagindia.com)

**Bhanu Prakash Manduva**  
*Founder/Owner*  
**Est. Opening Date:** Feb. 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Regional  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Asian

**Summary:** Hashtag India is preparing to open a new fast-casual Indian restaurant in Cary, North Carolina, at 1207 Kildaire Farm Road. An authorized representative for the Texas-born concept said the team had originally been targeting an opening before Christmas; however, as of today, the restaurant's website continues to list the location as "Coming Soon." The Cary restaurant will occupy a second-generation space, allowing for a quicker buildout, and will follow the brand's established fast-casual format with a relaxed, playful atmosphere. The menu will feature halal, authentic Indian cuisine, including biryanis with multiple protein options, mandi, and momo dumplings.

### Ayra

2110 Environ Way  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517

**Ravi Jeyaraman**  
*Owner*  
**Est. Opening Date:** May 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 to \$50  
**Menu Type:** Asian

**Summary:** Ayra is a new fine-dining Indian restaurant planned for Chapel Hill, North Carolina, being developed by Ravi Jeyaraman and Mayil Rajendran in partnership with chef Sujan Sarkar of the Michelin-starred Indienne in Chicago. The restaurant is expected to open in the second quarter of 2026, according to Rajendran, and will be located at 2110 Environ Way in the former Elements space. Ayra will feature contemporary Indian cuisine with three distinct experiences: a bar serving Indian-inspired cocktails, a dining room offering a multi-course tasting menu, and a separate dining room for a la carte service.

### Arep Culture

9320 Forum Dr.  
Raleigh, NC 27615

**Marcel Jara**  
*Owner*  
**Est. Opening Date:** April 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Regional  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Latin American

**Summary:** Arepa Culture NC is planning to open a new foodservice operation in Raleigh, North Carolina. Owners have submitted plans for a new Arepa Culture restaurant to open in an existing space at 9320 Forum Drive, according to available filings.

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### Tapside Pizza

52 Ervin St.  
Belmont, NC 28012  
[www.tapsidepizza.com](http://www.tapsidepizza.com)

**Ray Steimel**  
Co-Founders  
**Est. Opening Date:** Feb. 10, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Pizza/Italian

**Summary:** Tapside Pizza is coming soon, opening later this winter inside Primal Brewery at 52 Ervin St, Belmont, North Carolina 28012. The pizza concept is a partnership between Primal Brewery and ASM Group and will offer artisanal pizzas alongside Primal's craft beer, with options ranging from classic margherita to specialty pies, plus a selection of appetizers and shareable plates.

### La Vecina

1306 Central Ave.  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
[www.lavecinaclt.com](http://www.lavecinaclt.com)

**Victor G. Abad**  
Co-Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** Mar. 25, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 to \$50  
**Menu Type:** Latin American

**Summary:** La Vecina is coming soon, with a targeted opening in spring 2026 at 1306 Central Ave, Charlotte, North Carolina 28205, in Plaza Midwood next to Moo & Brew. The outdoor Latino fusion restaurant comes from the teams behind Moo & Brew and Bacao Sushi and will feature full-service dining alongside a walk-up counter for tacos and margaritas to go, with all seating on a wraparound patio. The menu is expected to highlight al pastor shaved on-site and served on homemade tortillas, mezcal-forward cocktails and punch bowls, Sunday brunch, and coffee, with breakfast tacos and burritos likely to be offered as well, plus house music DJs on weekends.

### Roz Cafe

1816 N. Brevard St.  
Charlotte, NC 28206

**Admad Altaany**  
Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** Dec. 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Bakery/Coffee/Snacks

**Summary:** Roz Cafe is coming soon to The Joinery in Optimist Park, with a planned opening by the end of 2026 at 1816 N Brevard St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28206. The Mediterranean-inspired cafe is a sister concept to Roz Grill and is owned by Admad Altaany, who opened Roz Grill in South Charlotte in 2024. Roz Cafe's menu will focus on breakfast and lunch offerings such as breakfast sandwiches, shakshuka, savory pies, pastries, and cookies, with the possibility of dinner service, and the space is designed to feel cozy and welcoming, featuring lounge-style seating intended for relaxing, studying, and working.

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### Blazin Halal Food

697 Country Club Dr.  
Fayetteville, NC 28301  
[www.blazinhalal.com](http://www.blazinhalal.com)

**Zechariah Alsaidi**  
Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** July 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 22, 2026

**Location Type:** Regional  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Other Ethnic

**Summary:** Blazin Halal Food is planning a new brick-and-mortar restaurant in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in the former Carter Bank and Trust building at 697 Country Club Drive. Partner Ali T. Abdo said the team is targeting an opening in approximately six months, by June or July 2026. The new location will feature drive-thru service and expand on the brand's existing Fayetteville food truck operation on Skibo Road, as well as an additional location in Wichita, Kansas. The menu will focus on New York-style halal street food, including chopped cheese, chicken over rice, and lamb over rice, offering a fast and familiar option for lunch and dinner.

### Geos Tavern & Oyster Bar

1118 Environ Way  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517  
[www.giorgiosgroup.com](http://www.giorgiosgroup.com)

**Giorgios Bakatsias**  
Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** May 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 to \$50  
**Menu Type:** European

**Summary:** Giorgios Bakatsias' Giorgios Hospitality Group is opening Geos Tavern & Oyster Bar spring 2026 at 1118 Environ Way in the East 54 center off Highway 54. The gastropub will feature a tavern-style menu with beer, cocktails, and wine. Daniel Jackson, formerly of Osteria Georgi, will serve as chef and partner at the new restaurant. The space will include two private dining rooms, a covered outdoor patio with a garden, and a lounge salon.

### Campo Azul Mexican Cuisine

7320 Buffaloe Rd., #120  
Raleigh, NC 27616

**Christina Chavero**  
Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** Mar. 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Mexican

**Summary:** Campo Azul Mexican Cuisine, a new full-service restaurant, is preparing to open at 7320 Buffaloe Rd. #120 in Raleigh, North Carolina, in a Publix-anchored development. Co-owner Cristina Chavero said the team is currently awaiting final permitting before construction can begin, and once work starts, the restaurant is expected to open in about two months, with March 2026 as a rough target. Campo Azul will feature a full-service dining model with a bar, approximately 17 bar seats, and an estimated 90 to 100 seats overall. The family-owned concept is operated by Chavero, her husband Fabian Mendez, and her cousin Jose Arellano, who also own El Salsas Mexican Grill with locations in Raleigh and Wendell.

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### Sushi Rose

225 S Poplar St.  
Charlotte, NC 28202  
[www.eatsushirose.com](http://www.eatsushirose.com)

**Nevin Anuran**  
Co-Owners  
**Est. Opening Date:** Feb. 28, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Regional  
**Lead Type:** Update  
**Average Check:** \$20 to \$50  
**Menu Type:** Asian

**Summary:** UPDATE!! We previously reported that Sushi Rose was planning to open in spring 2026, but the timeline has since been moved up, with the Japanese-Peruvian nikkei concept now targeting a mid-to-late February 2026 opening. The Charlotte location, owned by Nevin Anuran and Karen Anuran, will be located at 225 S Poplar St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202, in the former Haymaker space under the Ascent Towers. The two-story restaurant will feature a dining-and-lounge experience with an expanded menu blending nikkei cuisine with broader Latin influences, along with cocktails and weekend nightlife programming.

### Wyatt's Superfine

1823 Cleveland Ave.  
Charlotte, NC 28203  
[www.wyattsuperfine.com](http://www.wyattsuperfine.com)

**Jeff Tonidandel**  
Co-Owners  
**Est. Opening Date:** May 1, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$50 and Up  
**Menu Type:** Classic/Varied

**Summary:** Wyatt's Superfine is coming soon to 1823 Cleveland Ave, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203, in the historic Leeper & Wyatt building next to Lelulia Hall. The project is led by Jeff Tonidandel and Jamie Brown, who also own Lelulia Hall, and will transform the 1903 landmark into a four-story restaurant. Wyatt's Superfine will feature period-inspired design and a menu rooted in early 20th-century American fare, including dishes such as Waldorf salads, beef stroganoff, hamburgers, and other classic offerings, while preserving the building's historic character.

### Small Bar

1816 N Brevard St.  
Charlotte, NC 28206

**Est. Opening Date:** Feb. 24, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Regional  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 and Under  
**Menu Type:** Bar & Grill/Pub

**Summary:** Small Bar NoDa is coming soon to the Joinery at 1816 N Brevard St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28206, with an opening planned for late winter. The neighborhood dive bar will be the third location for the Small Bar brand and will offer lunch and dinner, ice-cold beer, handcrafted cocktails, games, karaoke, and live DJs. The new location will join other tenants at the Joinery mixed-use development in Optimist Park, providing a casual gathering spot for residents and visitors.

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### Wisco Taco Foxtrot (WTF)

300 Capital Drive  
Carthage, NC 28327  
[www.wiscotacofoxtrot.com](http://www.wiscotacofoxtrot.com)

**Jim O'Malley**  
Owner  
**Est. Opening Date:** Feb. 10, 2026  
**Publication Date:** Jan. 27, 2026

**Location Type:** Independent  
**Lead Type:** New Opening  
**Average Check:** \$20 to \$50  
**Menu Type:** Bar & Grill/Pub

**Summary:** Wisco Taco Foxtrot, also known as WTF, is a new restaurant opening at The Shops at Tyler's Ridge in Southern Pines, developed by Jim O'Malley. The concept features Wisconsin-inspired tacos and drinks, blending Midwestern flavors with a casual, quick-service-friendly format. Menu highlights include bratwurst "tailgate tacos" and house-made cheese curd tacos made using a Wisconsin recipe. The space is designed with a retro aviation theme and will include a private dining room for up to 24 guests, an outdoor patio with heaters, and a stage for live music. Operations for the restaurant are being managed by Early Bird Night Owl, a North Carolina-based hospitality group.