

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.

Hadramawt Restaurant & Catering

115 Rosemary St.
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Ali Abdo, T.
Co-Owner
Est. Opening Date: March 1, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

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

Summary: Hadramawt Restaurant & Catering is preparing to open a full-service Yemeni restaurant in downtown Fayetteville at 115 Rosemary Street. Co-owner Ali T. Abdo said the team is in the final stages of city approvals after more than a year of planning, with an opening targeted within the next few months, approximately March 2026. The restaurant will focus on authentic Yemeni cuisine, featuring dishes such as haneeth, saltah, and fahsa, along with Yemeni coffee and desserts. Hadramawt plans to operate 7 days a week, with seating capacity and final hours to be determined as approvals are completed.

Tche Gaúcho Brazilian Steakhouse

3741 Sumner Blvd., #150
Raleigh, NC 27616
www.tchegauchousa.com

Patric Emmer
Owner
Est. Opening Date: June 1, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

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

Summary: Tche Gaúcho Brazilian Steakhouse, an all-you-can-eat Brazilian steakhouse from husband-and-wife team Patric Emmer and Hanah Rizzato, is planned to open in Summer 2026 at 3741 Sumner Blvd #150 in Raleigh. The nearly 10,000 sqft restaurant is currently under renovation and awaiting permits, with plans to seat approximately 350 guests and include two private dining rooms. Tche Gaúcho will offer authentic Southern Brazilian-style churrasco, featuring meats cooked over live fire and carved tableside, including 17 cuts such as picanha, along with a gourmet salad bar, Brazilian cocktails like caipirinhas, and a curated wine list. The restaurant is expected to operate seven days a week for lunch and dinner, with a modified, lower-priced lunch menu.

Pranzo

1000 Social St., #120
Raleigh, NC 27609

Michael Bongiorno
Owner
Est. Opening Date: April 1, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 to \$50
Menu Type: Pizza/Italian

Summary: We previously reported that Michael Bongiorno, owner of Bongiorno & Son, was planning to open a new retail and foodservice concept called Pranzo, an Italian bistro and market, in a 2,193 sqft space under construction at 1000–120 Social St., Raleigh. We now know that Pranzo is being refined as an Italian aperitivo concept opening, with a targeted opening timeframe of March or April 2026.

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Simpli City Cafe

To Be Announced
Charlotte, NC 28217

Marian Chism
Owner
Est. Opening Date: Mar. 27, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

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

Summary: Marian Chism is returning to North Carolina to open Simpli City Cafe in the Lower South End area of Charlotte, North Carolina 28217, with an anticipated opening in spring 2026. The cafe will offer quality coffee, handcrafted lattes, and fresh smoothies, blending health and indulgence in a casual, community-focused setting designed for both quick stops and relaxed visits.

The Taj House

1535 Elizabeth Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28204
www.tajhouseuptown.com

Sachin Salian
Co-Owners
Est. Opening Date: Feb. 9, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

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

Summary: The Taj House, a modern Indian fine-dining restaurant, is opening soon at 1535 Elizabeth Ave, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204. Co-owned by Sachin Salian along with partners Bodhisattwa Dasgupta, Thanveer Reddy Gadwal, Bhabesh Ranjan Roy, and Sandeep Kumar Poondru, the restaurant will offer a full-service experience centered on modern Indian cuisine with a fusion touch. The menu is expected to feature lunch platters and a more formal dinner menu, with seating for over 100 guests, two bars, and private event space, and the team is currently hiring ahead of opening.

Shinjuku Station

230 E WT Harris Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28262
www.shinjukusushi.com

Est. Opening Date: Feb. 8, 2026
Publication Date: Jan. 6, 2026

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

Summary: Shinjuku Station, a revolving all-you-can-eat sushi bar, is opening soon at the Grande Promenade shopping center at 230 E. W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte, North Carolina 28262, in the University City area. The restaurant will offer premium sushi and nigiri, more than a dozen specialty rolls, and appetizers such as crab rangoon, shrimp skewers, and fried calamari, along with entrees including chicken teriyaki, tonkatsu ramen, and steak hibachi. The concept emphasizes a lively, tech-driven dining experience inspired by Tokyo's Shinjuku district, marking the brand's second North Carolina location following its High Point opening in January 2025.

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Antidote

To Be Announced
Asheville, NC 28803
www.antidote.bar

James Donaldson
Co-Owner
Est. Opening Date: Jan. 28, 2026
Publication Date: Dec. 30, 2025

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

Summary: Antidote by Chemist Spirits will open a second cocktail lounge location in Biltmore Village, Asheville, North Carolina 28803, expanding from its original South Slope location. Operated by locally owned Chemist Spirits, founded in 2015, the new venue will continue its cocktail-focused concept while highlighting an expanded coffee, tea, and mocktail program that gained momentum following Tropical Storm Helene.

Dilworth Social House

1301 East Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28203

Gennaro Vitale
Co-Owner
Est. Opening Date: Jan. 27, 2026
Publication Date: Dec. 30, 2025

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

Summary: Dilworth Social House will open in January 2026 at 1301 East Blvd, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203, taking over the former Bakersfield location in the Dilworth neighborhood. The new restaurant comes from Vitale Hospitality Group, which also operates Midtown Tavern, and is designed as a casual, family-friendly neighborhood gathering spot offering American comfort food such as burgers, wings, sandwiches, appetizers, and salads, along with beer, cocktails, TVs for sports, and jukeboxes.

Bridge Street Wing & Burger

206 Bridge St.
Washington, NC 27889
www.bridgestreetnc.com

Austin Bass
Owner
Est. Opening Date: Jan. 31, 2026
Publication Date: Dec. 30, 2025

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

Summary: Bridge Street Wing & Burger is preparing to open at 206 Bridge Street in Washington, North Carolina, with owner Austin Bass targeting a end January 2026 debut. The independent concept will operate as a quick-service restaurant with counter ordering and an initial focus on takeout. The menu will center on wings and burgers, complemented by shareables, sandwiches, and sides with Eastern North Carolina influences such as collard greens and mac and cheese. The restaurant will also serve Sup Crush vodka cocktails, featuring popular recipes from Sub Dogs bar. Indoor seating for 24 guests is planned at opening, with patio seating to be added in spring, and the restaurant expects to operate seven days a week.

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Lutra Cafe & Bakery

312 Blackwell St.
Durham, NC 27701
www.lutrabakery.com

Chris McLaurin
Owner
Est. Opening Date: Feb. 1, 2026
Publication Date: Dec. 30, 2025

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: Update
Average Check: \$20 and Under
Menu Type: Classic/Varied

Summary: We previously reported that Chris McLaurin was planning to open Lutra Cafe and Bakery at the American Tobacco Campus, 312 Blackwell Street in Durham. The restaurant is now expected to open in early January 2026. Lutra will occupy a 2,600 sqft space and offer baked goods, breakfast, lunch, and weekend brunch items, with seating for approximately 60 guests indoors and 20 on the patio. The concept evolved from more than a year of farmers market and pop-up testing and aims to fill a gap in breakfast options in the Triangle.

Sassy's Butler's Kitchen

4836 Summit Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27405

Sohail Quamar
Owner
Est. Opening Date: Feb. 2, 2026
Publication Date: Dec. 30, 2025

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

Summary: Sources have reported that Sohail Quamar, owner of Sassy's Butler's Kitchen, located at 4836 Summit Ave, Greensboro, North Carolina 27405, has submitted plans for kitchen renovations to accommodate a new restaurant operation set to open in the former Church's Chicken facility at this location.