



Explore Ballantyne/ South Charlotte

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The Overview

A polished, convenient suburban lifestyle with plenty of family-friendly amenities.

If your ideal Saturday involves coffee, kids' activities, a park, errands, dinner, and maybe a little shopping—all without going too far from home, Ballantyne and South Charlotte may be worth exploring.

Located in the southern part of Charlotte, the area is known for its established neighborhoods, newer communities, shopping and dining, employment centers, parks, and easy access to major roads including I-485.

Ballantyne in particular has developed into a live-work-play community, with residential areas alongside offices, restaurants, retail, entertainment, and green spaces. The ongoing Ballantyne Reimagined development is continuing to add mixed-use spaces and public amenities to the area.

For families, one of the biggest draws is convenience: there are plenty of places to spend time together, stay active, grab dinner, run errands, and get outside without having to make every outing a trip into Uptown.

The Breakdown



This area may fit your family if...

You like a suburban lifestyle but don't want to feel far from everything.

You value convenience.

Shopping, dining, recreation, healthcare, schools, and everyday services are all part of the broader South Charlotte landscape.

You want options for family activities.

Parks, greenways, sports facilities, community events, and outdoor spaces give families plenty of ways to get out of the house.

You like newer amenities and planned communities.

South Charlotte has a mix of established neighborhoods and newer developments, so you can explore different home styles and community environments.

You don't mind driving.

This is an important one! South Charlotte is generally more car-oriented than Charlotte's most walkable urban neighborhoods. You'll have access to major roads and plenty of amenities, but don't expect everything to be a five-minute walk from your front door.



The Vibe:

-  Suburban
-  Convenient
-  Family-oriented
-  Lots of dining + shopping
-  Car-friendly
-  Close enough to Charlotte's urban core, but not an urban lifestyle

If your family wants **space, convenience, amenities, and lots of things to do** without giving up access to the rest of Charlotte, Ballantyne/South Charlotte is a natural area to put on your list.

THE QUESTION TO ASK YOURSELF:

“Would having most of our family's everyday needs within a short drive make our life easier?”

If the answer is yes, this area may be worth exploring.



Everyday Life

Check out this quick snapshot of what the area has to offer. These are the places that would be a part of your everyday life.

Grocery Stores

- Harris Teeter – Ballantyne Commons East, 15007 John J Delaney Dr
- Harris Teeter – The Shoppes at Ardrey Kell, 16625 Lancaster Hwy
- Publix Super Market at Ballantyne Town Center – 11222 Providence Rd W
- Sprouts Farmers Market – 15121 Ballancroft Pkwy
- Trader Joe's – nearby on Rea Road
- Whole Foods Market – Waverly
- Target – Blakeney/Stonecrest areas
- Wegmans – Ballantyne area; Coming Soon 2026!



Pharmacies

- Publix Pharmacy – Ballantyne Town Center
- Harris Teeter Pharmacy – Ballantyne Commons East
- Harris Teeter Pharmacy – Shoppes at Ardrey Kell
- CVS Pharmacy – several locations throughout the South Charlotte/Ballantyne area
- Walgreens – Ballantyne Town Center
- Carolina Compounding & Nutritional Pharmacy – 7825 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy
- Walker's Drug Store & Post Office – 8145 Ardrey Kell Rd

Daycares + Preschools

- Oakcrest Preparatory Academy of Ballantyne – 14732 Lancaster Hwy
- The Learning Experience - Ballantyne – 11625 Providence Rd W
- Chesterbrook Academy Preschool of Ballantyne – 11922 Providence Rd W
- LeafSpring School at Ballantyne – 9829 Providence Rd W
- The Goddard School of South Charlotte - Ballantyne – 13820 Ballantyne Corporate Pl
- Primrose School of South Charlotte – 15933 Lancaster Hwy
- Ballancrest Academy – 8165 Ardrey Kell Rd
- Sunshine House of Ballantyne – 15644 Donnington Dr
- Everbrook Academy of Charlotte – 16825 Marvin Rd

Coffee Shops

Local / independent

- Coffee Republic – Ballantyne Village
- Summit Coffee Ballantyne – Conlan Circle
- Littl Madeleine – N Community House Rd
- Haraz Coffee House – John J Delaney Dr
- Fly Kid Fly – The Bowl at Ballantyne

Chains / convenient options

- Starbucks
- Dunkin'
- Einstein Bros. Bagels
- Panera Bread



Restaurants

Family/casual

- First Watch
- Bossy Beulah's
- Harriet's Hamburgers
- Rooster's Wood-Fired Kitchen
- Potbelly
- Mellow Mushroom
- Cabo Fish Taco

Date night / nicer dinner

- Zinicola
- The Blue Taj
- Hestia Rooftop
- North Italia
- Postino

“Something different”

- The Imperial Treasure – dim sum/Chinese
- Sheng Ramen Ballantyne
- Prime Fish Sushi Charlotte

Gyms + Fitness

- Sara's YMCA – Brixham Hill Ave
- Orangetheory Fitness – Ballantyne Village
- Crunch Fitness - Ballantyne
- Planet Fitness
- Life Time – Rea Farms
- YogaSix – Ballantyne Village
- solidcore – The Bowl at Ballantyne
- Luma Pilates – Ballantyne Village

Commute: Ballantyne → Major Charlotte Work Areas

**BALLANTYNE CORPORATE
PARK**
5–15 min

PINEVILLE
10–20 min

SOUTHPARK
15–25 min

FORT MILL, SC
15–25 min

SOUTH END
20–30 min

SOUTH END
20–30 min

**CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS
AIRPORT**
20–30 min

UPTOWN CHARLOTTE
25–35 min

**UNIVERSITY CITY / UNC
CHARLOTTE**
30–40 min

Approximate drive times. Actual commute times vary based on traffic, route, and time of day.

Things To Do with Kids!

(Short List)



Parks + Outdoor Adventures



Ballantyne's Backyard

A huge open-space destination in the heart of Ballantyne with 100+ acres of green space, walking/running trails, ponds, and open areas. It's also used for community events and seasonal programming.

Stream Park

This is one I'd definitely feature in the guide. It's a six-acre park with an interactive playground, water features, a natural stream, pond, covered pavilion, hammocks, and greenway connection. The playground is specifically recommended for roughly ages 5-12.

Four Mile Creek Greenway

A wooded multi-use trail with paved sections and boardwalks. It's a great option for families who want to walk, bike, or get outside without committing to a huge hike.

Kid Pond

This one's particularly cute for younger kids. It has a walking trail, fountains, and a boardwalk with a catch-and-release fishing area.

Great for: A short outing with little ones, fishing, exploring.

Indoor + Rainy-Day Activities

Sports Connection

It's an indoor family entertainment center right in Ballantyne with attractions including rock climbing, indoor activities, birthday parties, and other family entertainment.

Great for: Rainy days, birthday parties, school breaks, active kids.

MyGym Ballantyne

A children's movement/fitness center in the Ballantyne/Blakeney area offering guided physical activities, gymnastics-style movement, obstacle courses, music, games, and classes.

Great for: Babies, toddlers, preschoolers and younger kids who need to MOVE.

Superior Play Systems

This one's an interesting addition because it's not your traditional children's attraction. Their South Charlotte location has an indoor open-play area where kids can actually try playground equipment, trampolines, and other play structures.

Great for: Active kids + rainy days + parents who want to see backyard equipment in action.



Arts + Culture

The Bowl at Ballantyne + TD Amp

The Ballantyne campus has increasingly become an entertainment/community destination, with the TD Amp hosting concerts, festivals, fitness events and other programming.

And the broader Ballantyne calendar includes community events, markets, festivals and seasonal activities.

Great for: Family events, outdoor entertainment, seasonal activities.



Family Events + Festivals



Ballantyne Farmers Market

The 2026 schedule includes markets from March through October, with local vendors and live music.

Great For: Grab breakfast/coffee, walk around, listen to music, shop local.



Bowl Street Pop-Up Markets

The Bowl hosts recurring pop-up markets featuring local vendors. The 2026 calendar includes monthly markets from spring into fall.

Great for: Browse vendors + food + outdoor time.



Carolina Holiday Light Spectacular

Ballantyne's annual event calendar lists the Carolina Holiday Light Spectacular among its recurring community events, and it takes over Ballantyne's Backyard during the holiday season.

Great for: Holiday lights + seasonal outing.



Live at The Amp

The Amp hosts a recurring outdoor music series during the warmer months, along with food trucks and other programming.

Great for: Bring the kids, grab food, listen to music, hang outside.

Library

South County Regional Library

5801 Rea Road, Charlotte, NC 28277

This is the major regional library serving southern Mecklenburg County and is a very relevant resource for Ballantyne-area families. Charlotte Mecklenburg Library currently lists it as open with regular weekly hours.





Festivals + Food Events

Ballantyne's annual programming also includes larger events such as:

- Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival
- Wine & Food Festival
- Whiskey, Wine & Fire Festival
- Food truck events
- Community markets
- Seasonal celebrations
- Fitness events



Don't Forget the Library!

South County Regional Library



Storytime



Children's programming



Educational activities



Reading programs



Family events



A PERFECT BALLANTYNE FAMILY SATURDAY



Morning:

Grab coffee + head to the Farmers Market.



Late morning:

Let the kids run around Stream Park or Ballantyne's Backyard.



Lunch:

Grab something at The Bowl.



Afternoon:

Home for naps / downtime.



Evening:

Check the Ballantyne calendar for a concert, seasonal event, or outdoor activity.

COULD BALLANTYNE BE YOUR NEXT CHAPTER?

There isn't one perfect Charlotte neighborhood for every family. The right fit depends on how you want your family to live.

If you love the idea of:

- ✓ A suburban feel with lots of everyday conveniences
 - ✓ Plenty of restaurants, shopping, and family activities nearby
 - ✓ Parks, green space, and recreation options
 - ✓ A mix of established neighborhoods and newer communities
 - ✓ Being close to major roads and South Charlotte employment centers
 - ✓ Having plenty of things to do without heading into Uptown
- ...then Ballantyne and South Charlotte may be worth exploring. But don't just take this guide's word for it.

Go experience it.

Grab coffee.

Visit a park.

Try a restaurant.

Drive the commute.

Take the kids somewhere fun.

Picture your ordinary Tuesday—not just your Saturday afternoon.

Because you're not just choosing a house.

You're choosing the place where your family is going to live its everyday life.



THINKING ABOUT A MOVE?

You don't have to be ready to buy or sell to reach out.

Maybe you're:

“We're definitely moving.”

“We're probably moving... eventually.”

“We're not moving, but I want to know what our options are.”

“We're just starting to look around.”

All of those are good reasons to have a conversation.

I'm happy to help you compare neighborhoods, talk through your options, or simply help you get familiar to the Charlotte market.



I'M JAMIE 🙋

I'm a Charlotte Realtor, mom, and local resource for families navigating their next chapter. Let's figure out what fits your family.