

The Seller Scoop

608 Canal Street, Durham, NC

View | There's nothing quite like a front porch. We've become a part of neighborhood from this porch, watching cars drive by on Elizabeth, chatting with neighbors, and waving to folks walking, jogging, and strolling by. We've made some great friends from our porch and front yard. Seeing neighbors on their walks with their dogs and families, kids jumping off the school bus and running down the sidewalk, or people biking home from work are all daily reminders that we are a part of a friendly and lively community.

Room | The living room is what makes this house into a home. The open floor plan and tall ceilings in this space make the whole house feel even bigger than it is, while still bringing our family together in a shared space. Movie nights, game nights, kids watching birds and passing cars from the window, a good book on the couch...the memories are made here.

Tree | We are very fond of our crepe myrtles in the front of the house. When we bought the house, they had been choked out by some larger, unhealthy trees that had to be removed. We've spent our years here gently rehabilitating these trees, pruning and training them back to their full glory. The pink and purple flowers that scatter the canopy add a refreshing pop of color to hot summer days.

Walk | Where to begin!? We love how walkable this area is. We love to load our kids in the stroller and take off down the sidewalks and streets of our neighborhood. Most Saturdays start with a walk to get coffee at either Vessel or the Durham Hotel. Any time we're free on Friday mornings, we hop around the corner to the Counter Culture HQ (just the next block over!) for their free weekly coffee tastings. If we're in need of some cardio, our walks sometimes stretch all across town, even over to Duke's East Campus. Being so close to downtown and able to walk to some of our favorite spots has been a highlight of our time in this home.

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Breakfast | Hatch Burritos recently opened their storefront in Old Five Points and has quickly become part of our weekend morning routine. We walk to Hatch and bask in the sunlight at their window seats while sipping on amazing coffee and breakfast burritos... sometimes even splurging on some fresh squeezed orange juice.

Lunch | We love to head over to Durham Food Hall for a weekend lunch. There are tons of local options there. Our favorites are smashburgers from Patty Boy and the fried shrimp from Locals Seafood. The rest of this area, Central Park, is great as well. The weekend farmer's market is here, as is the historic Bulls stadium (where Bull Durham was filmed), as well as a lot of new, fun spots opening up over the last few years.

Dinner | You really can't go wrong in downtown Durham. Viceroy, Taberna Tapas, Pizzeria Toro, several of the M restaurants, all within walking distance or a quick car ride. Emmy Squared is our go-to (Detroit-style) pizza spot, a little farther away in the Brightleaf district. The VIP pizza and cheesy bread sticks will never disappoint. And if you want to make a night of it, catch a movie at one of the Carolina Theatre's movie theaters up above the main theater - new releases, retro films, and any number of special features. We love movies and feel like this is a real hidden gem.

Pub/Winery | HiWire, just a few minutes' walk away at Golden Belt, is a popular brewery that is an easy walk from our house... but the real star is Two Roosters, the local ice cream spot right across from the brewery. And don't forget about Cugino Forno firing up Neapolitan pizza right next door. We usually linger to people-watch and let our young kids play in the grass, and we often bump into friends - or make new ones - while we're there. We certainly never leave hungry or thirsty.

Living here has been... | The four years we've spent living in this house have been such a blessing. When we moved here, we knew very little about this neighborhood or Durham in general, and living here has made us feel part of this city. The neighborhood has grown and changed in the few years we have been here, and it's been fun to watch new life be breathed into these streets and homes around us. Living so close to downtown helped us get to know Durham quickly and made us feel a part of this community. Going to Bulls games, checking out the thriving food scene, strolling through the farmers market...there's always something going on. It's been a treat to be close to the action but still feel tucked away in this quiet street. We dearly love this house and are sad to be leaving. It's given us some of our very favorite memories.