LOCATION GUIDE

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

Housing, BAH, schools, gates, contacts and coastal know-how for Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River.

SERIES
CONUS
PCS

FROM
Your current duty station

TO
Camp Lejeune, NC

GUIDE
Location

BRANCH
Marines · Navy

BAH AREA
Camp Lejeune, NC

ALSO COVERS
MCAS New River

INSIDE THIS GUIDE

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WELCOME

Camp Lejeune at a glance

Camp Lejeune is the Marine Corps' largest East Coast base, wrapped around Jacksonville on the North Carolina coast. Beaches are 20 minutes away — and so is hurricane season.

FACT	DETAIL
Location	Jacksonville, NC (Onslow County), on the Atlantic coast
Nearest cities	Jacksonville (next door), Wilmington (about 45 min), Raleigh (about 2 hr)
Major units	II MEF, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, MARSOC
Next door	MCAS New River, home of Marine helicopter and tiltrotor squadrons
Size	246 square miles with 14 miles of beach; 130,000+ Marines, Sailors, civilians and families
BAH housing area	Camp Lejeune, NC
On-base housing	Hunt Military Communities and Liberty Military Housing
Hospital	Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune

Getting here

OPTION	DETAIL
Albert J. Ellis Airport (OAJ)	Jacksonville's small airport, close to base
Wilmington (ILM)	About 1 hour south, with more flights
Raleigh-Durham (RDU)	About 2 hours northwest, with the most options
By car	U.S. 17 and NC 24 bring you to the Main Gate in Jacksonville

COUNTDOWN

Before you arrive

Lejeune housing waits are often short, but newer neighborhoods fill fast. Start the hurricane plan the same week you start house-hunting.

As soon as you have orders 90+ DAYS OUT

- [ ] Apply for base housing with Hunt or Liberty
- [ ] Call the School Liaison about DoDEA or Onslow County
- [ ] Look up your BAH for Camp Lejeune
- [ ] Ask which gate your unit uses most
- [ ] Request a sponsor from your gaining unit
- [ ] In EFMP? Contact EFMP through MCCS now
- [ ] Request child care on MilitaryChildCare.com
- [ ] Join local military spouse groups

Book the move 60 DAYS OUT

- [ ] Schedule household goods or plan your PPM
- [ ] Start the off-base rental or home search
- [ ] Check flood zones before you choose a home
- [ ] Reserve temporary lodging
- [ ] Gather school, shot and IEP/504 records

Final prep 30 DAYS OUT

- [ ] Confirm check-in steps with your unit
- [ ] Book a DEERS/ID card appointment if needed
- [ ] Keep registration, insurance and license handy at the gate
- [ ] Set up utilities and internet at the new address

Hurricane season: June to November

Onslow County sees regular storms. If you arrive in summer or fall, build a hurricane kit and evacuation plan in your first week.

DAY ONE

Check-in and gates

Marines and Sailors check in with their gaining unit as listed on orders. The base operator can connect you: (910) 451-1113.

1

Check in with your unit

Your unit and sponsor give you the check-in location and sheet. Wear the uniform your orders specify.

2

Marine Corps Family Team Building

Newcomer orientation, spouse classes and relocation help through MCCS.

Bring with you

- Orders and any amendments, with copies
- Marriage and birth certificates for dependents
- Vehicle registration and insurance
- Your CAC and recent LES
- Travel receipts and PPM weight tickets
- Lease or mortgage papers, if you have them

Gates to know

GATE	NOTES
Main Gate (NC 24)	Busiest gate; backups 6–8 AM and 4–6 PM
Holcomb Blvd Gate	Good for north-side commuters
Piney Green Gate	North Jacksonville and the New River area
Back Gate (Sneads Ferry Rd)	Sneads Ferry, Hubert, Stone Bay and Courthouse Bay

WHERE TO LIVE

On-base and off-base housing

More than 5,000 homes in 16 neighborhoods, from 2-bedroom duplexes to 4-bedroom homes. Waits average about a month, longer for newer neighborhoods.

On base HUNT AND LIBERTY

- Apply through the Military Housing Office as soon as you have orders
- Base-housing kids can attend DoDEA schools on base
- BAH covers rent and most utilities
- Military Housing Office: (910) 450-1627

Off base PICK BY COMMUTE

AREA	FEEL	TYPICAL 3BR RENT
Jacksonville	Closest, most shopping	$1,400–$1,600
Hubert	Quiet, near the back gate	$1,400–$1,700
Sneads Ferry	Waterfront small town	$1,600–$1,900
Swansboro	Historic town, top schools	$1,700–$2,000
Richlands	Rural with newer homes	20–30 min commute
Holly Ridge / Hampstead	Near Topsail and Wilmington	30–45 min commute

Flood zones matter here

Ask for a home's flood history and check FEMA flood maps. Flood insurance is separate from renter's or homeowner's policies.

THE NUMBERS

2026 BAH and rent vs. buy

Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River use the Camp Lejeune, NC housing area. Monthly rates below.

GRADE	WITH DEPS	WITHOUT	GRADE	WITH DEPS	WITHOUT
E-1 to E-4	$1,578	$1,323	W-5	$2,316	$2,004
E-5	$1,584	$1,476	O-1	$1,635	$1,566
E-6	$1,944	$1,569	O-2	$1,941	$1,596
E-7	$1,995	$1,593	O-3	$2,085	$1,809
E-8	$2,049	$1,662	O-4	$2,355	$1,989
E-9	$2,160	$1,761	O-5	$2,553	$2,016
W-1	$1,962	$1,590	O-6	$2,571	$2,064
W-2	$2,016	$1,659	O-1E	$2,001	$1,599
W-3	$2,088	$1,776	O-2E	$2,073	$1,740
W-4	$2,187	$1,950	O-3E	$2,208	$1,935

Source: DoD 2026 BAH rates via FedRateCalc

Double-check your rate before you budget — BAH changes every January: travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Basic-Allowance-for-Housing/BAH-Rate-Lookup/

Some high-cost areas also pay CONUS COLA: travel.dod.mil/Allowances/CONUS-Cost-of-Living-Allowance/

Rent or buy?

- Jacksonville homes commonly run about $200K–$350K
- BAH covers a 3-bedroom rental in most areas for many ranks
- Buying can work for a 3+ year tour — strong rental demand from incoming Marines
- Budget for flood and wind insurance near the water

Insurance can surprise you

Wind and flood coverage on the coast can add hundreds a month. Get quotes before you make an offer.

KIDS

Schools and child care

Seven DoDEA schools serve families who live in base housing. Off base, most kids attend Onslow County Schools.

DISTRICT OR SCHOOL	SERVES
DoDEA (on base)	PreK–12 for base housing residents, including Lejeune High School
Onslow County Schools	Jacksonville, Hubert, Sneads Ferry, Richlands and Swansboro
Carteret, Pender and Jones counties	Families living farther out, such as Emerald Isle or Hampstead

School Liaison

Reach the School Liaison through MCCS for enrollment, district help and IEP or 504 transitions.

Military Interstate Compact

Helps with records, placement and graduation rules when you move mid-year.

Coastal Carolina Community College

In Jacksonville, with programs for spouses and teens.

Child care

- Request Child Development Center care on MilitaryChildCare.com as soon as you have orders
- Family Child Care homes on base fill gaps
- CDCs: (910) 450-0553
- Youth programs run before and after school and in summer

FAMILY LIFE

Spouse, family and North Carolina rules

Spouse support

- MCFTB and the Family Member Employment Assistance Program help with job searches
- North Carolina offers licensing help for military spouses
- Coastal Carolina Community College and UNC Wilmington are close
- MyCAA can fund certificates for eligible spouses

Family programs

- EFMP through MCCS — enroll before you arrive
- New Parent Support through MCCS
- L.I.N.K.S. classes for new Marine spouses
- Health Benefits Advisor: (910) 450-4665

North Carolina rules for military families

TOPIC	WHAT TO KNOW
State income tax	Nonresident service members stationed here aren't taxed by North Carolina on military pay
Spouse income	Spouses who keep another legal residence may be exempt under MSRRA
Driver's license	Service members and dependents with a valid home-state license can keep it
Vehicle registration	Nonresident service members can keep home-state registration
Hurricanes	Season runs June to November; know your evacuation zone

Build your hurricane kit

Keep water, food, medications, documents and pet supplies for at least three days, and plan where you'll go if you must evacuate.

OFF DUTY

Living here

You'll need a car. Rush hour around the Main Gate and Western Boulevard is the main slowdown in Jacksonville.

Climate

Hot, humid summers and mild winters. Hurricane season runs June to November.

Shopping

Commissary and exchange on base. Western Boulevard has most of Jacksonville's retail.

On base

Onslow Beach, marinas, golf, fitness centers and outdoor rec rentals.

Day trips

DESTINATION	DRIVE	WHY GO
Onslow Beach (on base)	~20 min	Beach cabins and camping for military families
Topsail Island	~20–30 min	Beaches and the sea turtle hospital
Emerald Isle	~30 min	Family beaches and fishing piers
Hammocks Beach State Park	~25 min + ferry	Bear Island's untouched beach
Wilmington	~45 min	Riverwalk, Battleship North Carolina
Beaufort / Shackleford Banks	~1 hr	Wild horses and a historic waterfront
Raleigh	~2 hr	Museums and pro sports
Outer Banks	~2.5 hr	Lighthouses and the Wright Brothers memorial

KEEP THIS HANDY

Key contacts

Phone numbers change — call ahead to confirm hours before you drive over.

OFFICE	PHONE
Base operator	(910) 451-1113
Military Housing Office	(910) 450-1627
Liberty Military Housing	(910) 355-0112
Child Development Centers	(910) 450-0553
BEQ / BOQ	(910) 451-1385

OFFICE	PHONE
Naval Medical Center	(910) 451-1186
Health Benefits Advisor	(910) 450-4665
Onslow County Schools	(910) 455-2211
MCAS New River BEQ	(910) 787-9575
Nurse advice line	1-800-874-2273

Add your own

MCFTB

SCHOOL LIAISON

EFMP

VET CLINIC

Links

MCB Camp Lejeune · MCCS Lejeune-New River · Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune · BAH Rate Lookup · Plan My Move

Sources: PCS Pay It Forward Camp Lejeune base guide; DoD 2026 BAH rates via FedRateCalc.

READY FOR THE FULL PLAYBOOK?

Go step by step with the kits.

Worksheets, trackers and a complete binder setup for every stage of your move.

pcslikeapro.org

hello@pcslikeapro.org

WORKSHEET

Plan your landing

My housing budget

ITEM	AMOUNT
My monthly BAH	$
Rent or mortgage	$
Utilities (estimate)	$
Renter's or homeowner's insurance	$
Left over (BAH minus costs)	$

Neighborhood comparison

AREA / ADDRESS	RENT OR PRICE	COMMUTE TO GATE	SCHOOL DISTRICT	NOTES

First-week checklist

- [ ] Check in with your unit
- [ ] Update DEERS; get dependent IDs
- [ ] Turn in travel and moving paperwork
- [ ] Register with Child and Youth Programs
- [ ] Confirm your housing application
- [ ] Enroll in TRICARE
- [ ] Enroll kids in school
- [ ] Build your hurricane kit