



Thanks for registering for the **Southeast Rail Forum** on **March 16-18, 2016!** We are thrilled to have you take part in the forum that will align our vision for rail in the Southeast and market for funding both in freight and passenger rail.

In this guide, you can find information about travel to Charlotte and where to stay and what to do once you arrive.

- [Hotel Reservations](#) - Information on making a reservation at the official SRF Hotel, Sheraton Charlotte Hotel.
- [Travel Discounts](#) - Conference attendees can receive special discounts from Amtrak, Delta and United.
- [Welcome reception](#) at **NASCAR Hall of Fame** on **March 16** at **6:30 p.m.** with interactive activities that you don't need to be a hard core NASCAR fan to enjoy.
- If you didn't sign up for a [Special Rail Tour](#), it is not too late. Check them out!
- Information on [Visiting Charlotte and Local Transportation](#).

Hotel Reservations

The official SRF hotel for this conference is:

Sheraton Charlotte Hotel
555 South McDowell Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

Block room rates are \$159 night + tax

About the Hotel

The Sheraton Charlotte Hotel is ideally located in uptown, near many dining, shopping, and entertainment options. Many attractions are within walking distance, such as the Charlotte Convention Center, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, the Panthers' Bank of America Stadium, and the Bobcats' Time Warner Arena. Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) can be reached in 15 minutes by car.



Retreat to one of our 305 renovated guest rooms, filled with everything you need for a comfortable home away from home. Stays connected with wireless High Speed Internet Access and enjoy a blissful night's rest in The Sheraton Sweet Sleeper™ Bed. At the Link@Sheraton(SM) experienced with Microsoft® in our lobby, surf the web on our terminals or bring your laptop for complimentary wireless High Speed Internet Access. Stay in shape at our Sheraton Fitness center, and relax in the outdoor pool, indoor pool, or hot tub.

Be sure to sign up as [a Starwood Preferred Guest](#) (SPG) for free and gain some extra benefits for your stay.

Group rate available until March 2, 2016. Subject to Availability.

Important Information

Please read this information before completing the room reservation request form below.

1. All cancellations, name and date changes must be received 72 hours prior to arrival. If 72 hours' notice is not given, the hotel reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee of first night's room/tax.
2. An early departure fee of \$182.25 will apply if a customer attendee checks out prior to the confirmed checkout date.
3. A 12:30 pm check-out time is available for the attendees when requested.
4. Be sure to keep a copy for your records.

Make Your Reservations

To make your reservation, complete the online reservation form below.

- [Online Hotel Reservation Form](#)
- **Reservation Line 1-800-325-3535** and reference "2016 Southeast Rail Forum (2016 SRF).

Travel Discounts

Amtrak

Amtrak Fare Code Number: X68A-945 (Valid for Travel: March 13 – March 21, 2016)

Amtrak is offering a **10% discount off the best available fare** for travel to Charlotte.

To make a reservation:

- Call Amtrak at 1-800-872-7245 or contact your local travel agent.
- Make sure you refer to the fare code when making your reservation.
- This discount is not available for online reservations.

Please note: This offer is not valid on the Auto Train and Acela service. Offer valid with Sleepers, Business Class or First Class seats with payment of the full applicable accommodation charges. Fare is valid on Amtrak Regional all departures seven days a week, except for holiday blackouts.

Delta

Meeting Event Code: NMN22 (Valid for Travel: March 13 - March 21, 2016)

Eligible Airport: CLT

SRF has partnered with Delta to provide meeting attendees a discount of up to 10% off round-trip fares for travel to Charlotte, NC.

To make a reservation:

- Go to www.Delta.com to book your flight. Enter your Meeting Event Code in the box provided on the Search Flight page.
- Call Delta Meeting Network reservations at 1-800-328-1111. Please note that a Direct Ticketing Charge will apply for booking by phone.

Please note: Discounts applicable to U.S./Canada originating passengers and apply to roundtrip travel only. Not valid with other discounts, certificates, coupons or promotional offers.

United

Valid for Travel: March 13 - March 21, 2016

Eligible Airport: CLT

SRF has partnered with United to provide meeting attendees a discount of 2% to 10% off published fares.

To make a reservation:

- Go to www.united.com and save an additional 3% off of your fare. Choose flight times and access your meeting discounts by inserting ZWA6541673 in the Offer Code Box
- You may also call United Meetings at 1-800-426-1122. Use **Z Code: ZWA6** and **Agreement Code: 541673**. Please note that a Direct Ticketing Charge will apply for booking by phone.

Please note: Discounts applicable to U.S./Canada originating passengers and apply to roundtrip travel only. Not valid with other discounts, certificates, coupons or promotional offers.

Welcome Reception



RACE WEEK & HERITAGE SPEEDWAY



Welcome Reception for Southeast Rail Forum

March 16, 2016

6:30 pm—8:30 pm

Join us at the starting line of the Southeast Rail Forum with a cocktail social and hors d'oeuvre at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Explore NASCAR history and engage in interactive content like driving a NASCAR racing simulator or take part in a pit crew challenge.

You don't need to be a hard core NASCAR fan to enjoy!

Sponsored by:

AECOM

One More Reception Sponsorship Opportunity for \$3,000

THIS IS OUR SPORT. THIS IS OUR HOUSE.

Tours

Piedmont Improvement Program Train Tour

Ride the Amtrak train to High Point, NC and back with presentation by Jason Orthner, NCDOT, on the Piedmont Improvement Program

Meet at Sheraton at 11:30 a.m. to 11:40 p.m. ground transportation to Amtrak Station with train departing at noon sharp – returning at 3:05 p.m.

Tour includes train ticket, drinks and snacks

Cost \$25 per person

(Limited to 60 people)

[Sign up for additional tour](#)



Lynx Charlotte Train Tour



Ride the Blue Lynx Line with speaker from Charlotte Area Transit System to talk about the history of the project, future plans and the economic benefits the light rail system has brought to Charlotte.

Meet at Sheraton at 1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. ground transportation to Lynx Station with train departing at 1:33 – returning to Sheraton around 3:30 p.m.

Tour includes ticket, drinks, and snacks

Cost \$25 per person

(Limited to 30 people)

[Sign up for additional tour](#)

[Visiting Charlotte/Local Transportation](#)

Discover Charlotte

Charlotte is a major city and commercial hub in North Carolina. Charlotte's Center City is a walkable and compact area boasting nearly 100 restaurants plus cultural venues, museums and a vibrant nightlife scene. Its modern city center (Uptown) is home to the Levine Museum of the New South, which explores post-Civil War history, and hands-on science displays at Discovery Place. Uptown's also known for the NASCAR Hall of Fame, which celebrates auto racing through exhibits and films. Visit [Charlotte's Got A Lot](#) for more details!

Accessible Public Transportation/Contact Information

[Charlotte Area Transit System \(CATS\)](#)

Ground Transportation from Train Station/Airport

Royal Cab

Order by phone 704-222-2222 or online <http://royalcab.com/>

Amtrak Station address: 1914 N. Tryon St, Charlotte, NC

Hotel address: Sheraton Hotel address: 555 S. McDowell St, Charlotte, NC

CATS Bus Routes \$3 or less to Airport

Looking for a quick, convenient ride from the airport to Center City? Then get on board the CATS route serving Charlotte Douglas International Airport, the Sprinter. You can travel to and from the airport hassle-free and for \$3.00 or less per ride. Get on board and enjoy a hassle free trip on your next visit to the airport.

Route 5 Sprinter - Leaves from the Charlotte Transportation Center

- Services starts at 5:05 a.m. from Uptown
- Operates every 20 minutes, Monday – Friday
- Operates every 30 minutes on Saturday and Sunday
- Last trip leaves the Airport at 11:54 pm Monday – Friday; and at 12:55 am Saturday-Sunday

Check [here for the schedule](#) and fares/passes

Bike Share

Charlotte B-cycle is one of the largest urban bike sharing systems in the Southeast. With 200 blue bikes and 24 stations strategically placed throughout Uptown and surrounding neighborhoods. B-cycle is a great way to experience our uptown area and there are several stations in close proximity to the conference center for your convenience. Learn more about B-cycle at <https://charlotte.bcycle.com/>

Additional Resources

- [Visit Charlotte](#)
- [Charlotte Area Transit System \(CATS\)](#)
- [Lynx Light Rail](#)
- [NASCAR Hall of Fame](#)