



## Ghostwalk 2020 FAQs

### GHOSTWALK BASICS

Q: You talk about all the changes with **Ghostwalk** this year – but what hasn't changed?

A: Same great entertainment – 13 great ghost vignettes featuring characters from New Bern's past sharing their *hauntingly spirited* tales. Same great price as last year! And, as always, you're supporting the major fundraiser for the New Bern Historical Society, a small 501(c)(3) nonprofit which receives no government funding.

Q: Is **Ghostwalk** scary, like a haunted house?

A: No, **Ghostwalk** is a family-friendly historical tour. The ghost vignettes are all based on real characters or actual news stories from New Bern's history. This year's theme is particularly light-hearted, with a lot of humor. You might see the Grim Reaper wandering the cemetery paths, but don't worry, he's a friendly spirit.

Q: What can I expect during the tour itself?

A: There will be three walking loops at Cedar Grove Cemetery, each with 4-5 different ghost vignettes. Each loop is one-way with a separate entrance and exit. You'll be guided through each loop in small groups. To see all 13 ghost stories you go through all three loops. The total walking time is about two hours. Total walking distance is about 1.5 miles.

Q: I heard there was a flash mob dancing last year. Can I see it this year?

A: *We!!!!*, we might have heard a rumor that if you stroll down Hancock Street, you might just see some "thrilling" entertainment pop up on Academy Green. Friday and Saturday nights only. They can't perform unless they have a crowd.

Q: Are the theaters open this year? What about the churches and the VeriGood Bakery?

A: No, all of the entertainment is at the cemetery this year.



## **GHOSTWALK RESERVATIONS**

Q: Where can I make my **Ghostwalk** reservation?

A: There are three ways to make reservations:

(1) On our secure website at [www.GhostwalkNewBern.com](http://www.GhostwalkNewBern.com). Although we use PayPal to process the purchase, you do NOT need a PayPal account.

(2) Call the Historical Society at 252.638.8558.

(3) Visit our office in person at 511 Broad Street, New Bern Mon – Fri from 10am – 4pm.

Q: Why is the **Ghostwalk** ticket only good for one night and a specific arrival time, not for all three nights like it was in the past?

A: Because of COVID-19 safety restrictions, we are limited on how many people can be in a gathering at one time. Think of Ghostwalk as more like a small group tour by appointment only. With staggered arrival times we can keep everyone safe by keeping the size of crowds down and reducing long wait times.

Q: I don't know what my plans will be for **Ghostwalk** weekend. Can I buy a ticket at the cemetery?

A: There will be no ticket sales at the event. With the reduced number of spaces available and the need for staggering small groups, pre-paid reservations are required this year. Don't wait - we do expect a sellout!

Q: Why is the latest reservation arrival time 7:40pm?

A: The latest cemetery entrance time is 7:40 pm to allow all guests to visit all 13 ghost sites in all three loops. It takes about two hours to complete all three loops.

Q: I haven't received my ticket in the mail. Can I pick it up at the cemetery?

A: This year there are NO paper tickets. Be sure to **print and keep your receipt to show at check-in.**

Q: Can I do part of the tour one night and finish it on another night?

A: Unfortunately, you can't split the tour over multiple nights. But no worries – with your Live **Ghostwalk** reservation you also receive a link to the online the **Virtual Ghostwalk, The Movie**, a professionally produced video with all of the



same ghost stories as the live tour! You can stay home and enjoy the same tour in the comfort of your home.

Q: How do I watch the **Virtual Ghostwalk, The Movie**?

A: The **Virtual Ghostwalk, The Movie** will be available for viewing on the [Ghostwalk website](#) on October 22, 2020, any time from 5:30pm on. You can watch it on a computer, tablet, phone, or (if your device supports it) even cast to your smart TV. The video is approximately 90 minutes long, can be watched whenever you desire (the link does not expire), and can be stopped and restarted at your convenience. *Please note, the Virtual Ghostwalk link is for your immediate household's viewing only and is not to be shared. The copyrighted video cannot be copied for any use.*

## **ARRIVAL & CHECK-IN**

Q: How and where do I check in?

A: Go to the check-in tent at the corner of Queen and George Streets, across from the Cedar Grove Cemetery main entrance. **Show your reservation receipt at the check-in table.** If you are with a group please wait for your entire group to gather so that you can enter together.

Q: What do I do after check-in?

A: You'll receive a wristband good for entry into all three cemetery loops. You'll be told where to begin and what order to go in.

Q: If I'm late for my reserved tour time, can I still get in?

A: We will do our best to get you into the tour but you will have to wait until all other guests are accommodated.

Q: Where can I park for **Ghostwalk**?

A: There is on-street parking along George and Queens Streets as well as side streets in the general area. The Black Bear city parking lot is located three blocks away at the corner of Hancock and New Streets. **Please allow plenty of time for parking!**



## **HEALTH & SAFETY and RELATED PHYSICAL CONDITIONS**

Q: What are the plans for COVID-19 safety?

A: Your safety and the safety of our volunteers is very important to us! **Everyone aged five and over must wear a face mask over their nose and mouth at all times.** For the safety of others, there will be **no exceptions** to the mask requirement. We will observe safe distancing requirements in lines and during the tour itself. Groups are much smaller, wait times are shorter, and ticketing is paperless. There will be hand sanitizer available throughout the tour.

Q: What are the walking conditions like in the cemetery?

A: The cemetery paths are gravel, oyster shell, and grass. Although they're flat, there are many ruts and bumps. Wear comfortable walking shoes! The paths are not optimal for wheelchairs or strollers. In doubt, we recommend you check them out in person before making your plans, as tickets are nonrefundable.

Q: Are pets allowed on Ghostwalk?

A: **No pets** are allowed with the limited exception of certified service animals. Please let the office know if you have a certified service dog when making your reservation.

## **WEATHER**

Q: What are the plans for inclement weather?

A: The cemetery is all outside with no overhead cover. Knowing ENC weather, you need to be prepared for weather changes. **Ghostwalk will proceed in light/intermittent rain or drizzle.** In the event of **heavy rain or stormy conditions**, your tour will automatically be shifted to the following weekend on the same day of the week, same arrival time. Example: if your reservation is Saturday, October 24 at 7 pm, in case of heavy rain it will be moved to Saturday, October 31 at 7 pm. We will post any inclement weather changes on our website and Facebook page at 3 pm that day.

## **OTHER ATTRACTIONS**



Q: Where can we eat during **Ghostwalk**?

A: This year the churches will not be serving meals and the VeriGood Bakery at the Attmore-Oliver House will be taking a break. BUT you can go downtown and enjoy MumFeast! Support your local merchants by feasting in the streets, enjoying festival-style food, music, the celebrated Mum Arch, and more!

Q: I heard something about daytime Cedar Grove Cemetery tours. What's that all about?

A: The nonprofit organization Earl of Craven Questers is offering FREE daytime tours of Cedar Grove Cemetery on at 2pm on Friday and Saturday, October 23-24. No reservations are required. Masks are required to be worn. [More details here.](#)

Q: Is **Ghostwalk** the same as the Ghosts of New Bern tour?

A: No, **Ghostwalk** is held once a year in late October and is a fundraiser for the nonprofit New Bern Historical Society. It features historical spirits, portrayed by local volunteer actors, telling their stories. Ghosts of New Bern, which runs year-round, is a guided walking tour downtown in which the guide tells the history of "haunted" buildings. See [www.hauntednewbern.com](http://www.hauntednewbern.com).