



Medford, OR



Medford, Oregon, began in 1883 when the Oregon and California Railroad came to Southern Oregon. The city was named by David Loring, a railroad employee, for his home town, Medford, Massachusetts. Medford became a center of the orchard and wine industries and remains the home of the largest direct marketer of fruits and food gifts in the United States.

Medford's museums include the Southern Oregon Historical Society, which operates a history center in downtown, and the Hanley Farm, a historic farm that uses draft horses to plow the fields. Kid Time! is an interactive children's museum with exhibits geared to children up to age eight.

Opportunities for performing arts are also available in Medford. Programs at the Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater include Broadway musicals and stage plays. The Teen Musical Theater of Oregon and the Children's Music Theater of Oregon also perform at this theater. The Randall Theater produces large theatrical theme events, as well as traditional theater productions in drama, comedy, and musical theater. The Rogue Opera presents full-scale productions each year. Various jazz styles are heard at the three-day Medford Jazz Festival that takes place annually in October.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Medford is being revitalized. Many projects have been completed to preserve the historic buildings in Medford and some residential units have resulted from this effort.

Medford is split by U.S. Highway 5 and neighborhoods are defined by their location east or west of the highway. The east side has more owner-occupied houses than the west, which has many rental properties.

Closest to the downtown, the Old East Medford neighborhood has homes dating from the 1940s. This neighborhood features large homes located on large lots as well as small cottage-style homes. Most of the older homes have been renovated. Some new homes are interspersed. Brookdale Meadows, another east-side neighborhood, features primarily ranch-style homes built between the late 1980s and late 1990s. The Kerrisdale neighborhood, which was built between 1990 and 2005, has larger two-story homes in various styles, including contemporary, Craftsman, and Mediterranean. Summerfield at Southeast Park, a master planned neighborhood, is under construction and will feature a neighborhood park, greenways, unique lighting, and street tree plans that define the entire area. Farther from the downtown, in the foothills of Roxy Ann Mountain, the Cherry Lane Estates and Saddle Ridge neighborhoods have newer custom-built homes on large lots with Rogue Valley views.

The oldest neighborhoods in Medford are located in the western portion of the city. Many of the houses in these neighborhoods were built in the cottage and Craftsman styles. Further west, homes were constructed on very large lots and many have stables.

Medford has condominium developments scattered throughout the city. Depending on the development, some condominiums are rentals and others are available for purchase.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Medford has 26 parks and community facilities. Amenities include basketball, sand volleyball, horseshoe, tennis, and bocce courts; soccer, softball, and baseball fields; playgrounds; outdoor pools and water play areas; walking and equestrian trails; a skatepark; and a dog park.

Bear Creek Park is a large community park with an amphitheater that hosts summer concerts. This park also has a dog park, softball and baseball fields, tennis courts, trail heads, a skatepark, and a playground.

Roxy Ann Peak, a 30-million-year-old dormant volcano, is located in Prescott Park, the largest city park. Most of the park is undeveloped and is home to several nature trails. In spring 2012, the city is opening a challenge course with land- and tree-based elements at Prescott Park.

EDUCATION

Medford School District, also known as Jackson County School District 549C, educates approximately 12,700 students in 14 elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, one secondary alternative school, and two charter schools. All of the Medford schools follow a common curriculum that is aligned with Oregon state standards.

Higher education is available at Rogue Community College, a comprehensive two-year community college that offers academic and career and technical programs, college transfer courses, and basic skills programs for adults. In conjunction with Rogue Community College, Southern Oregon University-Medford Campus offers bachelor degree completion classes, at the Higher Education Center or online, in business, computer science-computer information science, criminal justice, early childhood development, human service, and psychology. Master's degree programs in business, management, and teaching are also available. Abdill Career College offers programs in business and health care fields. The Pacific Bible College provides a Bible-based, two-year general studies curriculum transferable to accepting 4-year institutions.

HEALTH CARE

Medford is served by two hospitals with a combined total of 546 licensed beds.

CITY STATS

2010

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| City Population | 74,907 |
| Metropolitan Statistical Area Population | 203,206 |
| Per Capita Personal Income, Medford, OR, MSA | \$34,765 |