



Columbus, OH



Columbus, Ohio, was selected by the state's legislature as the site for Ohio's capital in 1812 because of its central location within the state and access to transportation routes.

The Ohio History Center Museum contains a variety of historical exhibits and Ohio Village, which is opened during the summer and is a recreated 1860s Ohio town. Columbus is home to the following art museums: Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio Craft Museum, Cultural Arts Center, Riffe Gallery, and Jubilee Museum. In addition to interactive exhibits, the Center of Science and Industry has a giant movie screen and a planetarium. Exhibits and videos at the Supreme Court of Ohio Visitor Education Center explain the role of courts and important cases and issues. Central Ohio Fire Museum & Learning Center is located in a restored 1908 fire station.

Thurber House was the home of author and cartoonist James Thurber. The Greek Revival and Italianate Kelton House Museum & Garden interprets urban life in the late 19th century. The Italianate-styled Heritage Museum of Kappa Kappa Gamma, which is also known as the Snowden-Gray mansion, contains several rooms restored as in the Victorian period.

The following museums are located at The Ohio State University: Historic Costume and Textiles Collection, Jack Nicklaus Museum, Frank W. Hale Jr. Black Cultural Center, Museum of Classical Archaeology, Orton Geological Museum, and University Museum.

The Ohio State University is also home to the Wexner Center, which offers contemporary visual and performing arts, films, and videos. The Urban Arts Space is an exhibition and nontraditional performance space for professional artists and students. Other performances are held at the university's Sullivant Theater and Drake Performance Center.

Columbus has many other performing arts venues, including the Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre, Capitol Theatre, Riffe Center, Lincoln Theatre, and King Arts Complex. These theaters host performances by the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, BalletMet, Broadway Across America, Columbus Jazz Orchestra, Chamber Music Columbus, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, Columbus Gay Men's Chorus, The Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra, CATCO, Phoenix Theatre for Children, Available Light Theatre, Evolution Theatre Company, Dove Arts Project, Columbus Children's Theatre, Capital University Theatre, Jazz Arts Group, Judah Performing Arts Center, Leap of Faith Dance Company, and Thiossane West African Dance Institute.

In addition, concerts are held at the Newport Music Hall, Nationwide Arena, Express Live!, Mapfre Stadium Jerome Schottenstein Center, and Ohio Stadium. Shadowbox Live offers sketch comedy and concerts.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Columbus features townhouses, contemporary condominiums, lofts, and apartments. Fourteen residential neighborhoods overlap or border the downtown area. Lofts, townhouses, and apartments dominate the Arena District, home to the Nationwide Arena; the Brewery District, site of the former beer brewery industry; and the Short North, the city's official arts district. The German Village is characterized by brick cottages, Victorian and Italianate homes, and original brick streets. The Italian Village, once an early suburb of Columbus, features Italianate architecture. The University District surrounding the Ohio State campus consists of restored Victorian mansions, 1900s brick homes, gabled frame farmhouses, Craftsman and bungalow dwellings, and rental options. Victorian Village has a mix of large homes and modest cottages and multifamily dwellings on tree-lined streets; housing styles include Italianate, Queen Anne, Second Empire, Carpenter-Stick, Foursquare, Tudor, Shingle Style, Gothic Revival, Greek Revival, and Richardson Romanesque.

Further from the downtown area, Clintonville has more than 80 subdivisions that include traditional Sears, Roebuck and Co. kit homes; Foursquare, bungalow, and Dutch Colonial houses; and several all-metal Lustron homes and post-World War II Larcomb homes. Easton Commons is a new luxury apartment and townhouse development that adjoins the Easton Town Center. Other new developments are Upper Albany West and Hayden Run, which have single-family houses, condominiums, and apartments.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Columbus has 230 parks with amenities that include 29 community centers, 5 indoor athletic complexes, the Columbus Aquatics Center, 6 golf courses, 7 outdoor pools, 3 public docks, 4 off-leash dog parks, and Dodge Skate Park. The Anheuser Busch Sports park has 8 regulation ball diamonds. Berliner Sports Complex features multiple softball and football fields and a playground.

The Promenade connects Battelle Riverfront Park with the John W. Galbreath Bicentennial Park. The Promenade features a stone colonnade with swings, gardens, Huntington Plaza fountains, water canals, and table seating. Bicentennial Park's American Electric Power Foundation Fountain offers an evening show choreographed to music and daytime hours to interact with the fountain. Battelle Riverfront Park is home to many monuments and memorials and features multipurpose trails and river access for small, hand-powered watercraft.

Whetstone Park features the award-winning Columbus Park of Roses with over 350 types of roses. The park also offers athletic fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, fishing, trails, and playgrounds.

Schiller Park features a recreation center, softball diamonds, basketball and tennis courts, a fishing pond, and a stage for the summer performances of Actors' Theater.

Other attractions include the Franklin Park Conservatory; Topiary Garden Park, which is a recreation of Gorges Seurat's famous painting created from shaped plants; and English Park's Kwanzaa Playground, which is designed in the shape of a human representing a first ancestor. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium is home to more than 11,000 animals. The Ohio State University Chadwick Arboretum's labyrinth is modeled after a famous 800-year-old French labyrinth.

Professional sports teams in Columbus include the Columbus Blue Jackets (ice hockey), Columbus Crew (soccer), and Columbus Clippers (baseball).

EDUCATION

The Columbus City School District educates approximately 51,000 students in 71 elementary schools, 17 middle schools, and 21 high schools. The district offers special focus alternative schools at each level.

Opportunities for higher education are available at The Ohio State University, which is a public research university with Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Optometry, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine. The university also offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degree programs.

Private universities include Franklin University, which offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs with a focus on working professionals. Mount Carmel College of Nursing provides undergraduate and graduate nursing education. Ohio Dominican University is a Catholic liberal arts university that offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Columbus College of Art and Design offers bachelor and master of fine arts programs.

Columbus State Community College offers liberal arts, career, and technical programs; continuing education classes; and licensure and personal enrichment courses.

Bexley Seabury, Pontifical College Josephinum, and Trinity Lutheran Seminary are also located in Columbus.

HEALTH CARE

Columbus is served by the following hospitals:

- Doctor's Hospital West: 262 total beds
- Grant Medical Center: 636 total beds
- Mount Carmel West: 514 total beds
- Mount Carmel East: 461 total beds
- Nationwide Children's Hospital: 472 total beds
- Riverside Methodist Hospital: 1,059 total beds
- The Ohio State University East: 404 total beds
- The Ohio State University Hospitals: 1,106 total beds
- The OSU Arthur James Cancer Hospital: 306 total beds

The city also has 4 long-term acute care hospitals, a physical rehabilitation hospital, 2 psychiatric hospitals, and a substance abuse facility.

CITY STATS

2014

City Population	835,957
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	1,994,536
Per Capita Personal Income, Columbus, OH, MSA	\$44,902