



# Lexington, KY



**L**exington, Kentucky, was founded in 1775 by frontier explorers at the time that the first battle of the American Revolution was fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. In honor of that battle, the explorers named their site Lexington.

Lexington's many museums include the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, which is located at the Blue Grass Airport and features aircraft, aviation artifacts and equipment, simulators, and interactive displays. The Headley-Whitney Museum exhibits jeweled sculptures and doll houses. Living Arts & Science Center provides creative opportunities for exploration and education in the arts and sciences. Other museums include the Explorium of Lexington, which is a children's museum; 21c Museum Hotel; the Art Museum at University of Kentucky; and Monroe Moonsnick Medical Museum at Transylvania University, which contains 19th-century science and medical artifacts.

Lexington has several historic house museums. Henry Clay's home, Ashland, is filled with his family's belongings and memorabilia and located on a 20-acre wooded estate with an English parterre garden. The late Georgian-style Mary Todd Lincoln House contains Todd and Lincoln family furniture, portraits, and furnishings. The Federal-style Hunt-Morgan House was built in 1814 by John Wesley Hunt and includes a Civil War museum and a period garden. Built for Francis Key Hunt in 1850, the Gothic Revival-style Loudoun House contains galleries, studios, and classrooms and is home to the Lexington Art League. The 46-acre Boone Station was an early settlement that was home to Daniel Boone from 1779 to 1782.

Ballet, opera, children's productions, family shows, comedy, music, and national Broadway tour shows are presented at the Lexington Opera House. Lexington Children's Theater produces shows for children in its own theaters. The Kentucky Theater hosts a variety of concerts as well as the weekly taping of the syndicated radio show "WoodSongs Old Time Radio Hour." Lyric Theatre and Cultural Arts Center hosts shows and exhibits. Manchester Music Hall regularly hosts regional and national musical acts and provides a venue for art and performances of all types. The Downtown Arts Center offers theater, dance, music, visual, and new media arts. Concerts, family shows, and University of Kentucky Men's Basketball are held at Rupp Arena. Whitaker Bank Ballpark serves as an outdoor concert venue. Singletary Center for the Arts on the University of Kentucky's campus hosts the Lexington Philharmonic and other cultural events.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

Lexington's neighborhoods range from urban to rural. Although primarily commercial, the downtown has apartments, condominiums, and townhouses newly built and under construction. Lexington has many historic residential areas, such as Gratz Park, Fayette Park, Western Suburb, and Hampton Court near the downtown. Ashland Park, which was designed by the Olmsted Brothers and built between 1910 and 1935, features single-family homes in various architectural styles and surrounded by trees, green spaces, and curving streets. Most of the homes in Bell Court, which was developed in the early 1900s, were constructed in the Victorian, Queen Anne, and Arts and Crafts styles. Kenwick, built between 1910 and 1940, features bungalow-style housing.

Suburban neighborhoods include Stonewall, which was built in the 1950s and 1960s and consists of mostly brick ranch-style homes. The mostly single-family detached single or two-story brick homes in Rabbit Run and Masterson Station were constructed between 1990 and 2000. Rabbit Run also has some apartments and condominiums. Beaumont Park features primarily brick, ranch-style houses built on large lots on tree-lined streets during the 1960s. The various Andover neighborhoods, built mostly during the 1990s, offer a variety of housing styles and sizes, including some apartments and townhouses.

Lexington's rural areas are comprised of many horse farms and estates. The Greenbriar Country Club subdivision features large, 2-story traditional and ranch style custom-built homes on large lots. Development began in the 1960s, but many homes are less than 10 years old. Ashford Oaks is a new gated community of custom homes that is adjacent to the country club.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Lexington has 98 parks, 6 community centers, 7 pools, 5 golf courses, 4 disc golf courses, 3 skate parks, and 5 dog parks. Located in the downtown area, Thoroughbred Park contains bronze statues of racing horses with their jockeys, broodmares with their foals, and the great stallion Lexington.

Amenities in Castlewood Park, which is the site of the historic Loudoun House, include an aquatic center, a community center with gymnasium,

ball courts and fields, horseshoe pits, and a handicap accessible playground. Jacobson Park features Lakeside Golf Course in addition to ball courts, a dog park, fishing, open play fields, a creative playground, and a marina. Masterson Station Park amenities include an equestrian program and an indoor riding arena complex, a dog park, ball fields and courts, an in-line hockey rink, and a playground. Woodland Park features a skate park, an aquatic center, ball fields and courts, a gazebo, horseshoe pits, a playground, and shelter.

The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky features the Walk Across Kentucky, which includes plants and trees from Kentucky's seven physiographic regions.

Nature sanctuaries include the 726-acre Raven Nature Sanctuary on the Kentucky River and the 26-acre McConnell Springs Nature Sanctuary.

Kentucky Horse Park contains the International Museum of the Horse, American Saddlebred Museum, galleries, theaters, recreational areas, working farm exhibits, and approximately 50 breeds of horses.

Professional sports include thoroughbred horse racing at Keeneland, harness racing at The Red Mile Harness Track, and Lexington Legends (baseball).

## EDUCATION

Fayette County Public Schools serves more than 40,000 students in the Lexington metropolitan area in 36 elementary schools, 12 middle schools, 5 high schools, 3 technical centers, and 11 other academic and alternative programs. The Stables is one such alternative education program that incorporates equine-assisted activities, STEAM Academy, and Opportunity Middle College.

Higher education is available at the University of Kentucky, which offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs at the Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health. Transylvania University and Midway University are affiliated with Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Bluegrass Community & Technical College offers diploma, certificates, and associate's degrees in technical fields and for transfer to 4-year institutions. Sullivan University Lexington campus, Indiana Wesleyan University, and American National University offer career-focused higher education, as does Spencerian College, which focuses completely on healthcare programs.

Commonwealth Baptist College trains people for positions within the ministry. Lexington Theological Seminary is a graduate theological institution.

## HEALTH CARE

Lexington is served by the following health care facilities:

- Baptist Health Lexington: 391 licensed beds
- Saint Joseph East: 217 licensed beds
- Saint Joseph Hospital: 433 licensed beds
- UK HealthCare Good Samaritan Hospital: 221 licensed beds
- University of KY Hospital: 604 licensed beds
- Shriners Hospital For Children: 50 licensed pediatric beds
- Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital: 158 licensed rehabilitation beds
- Eastern State Hospital: 195 licensed psychiatric beds
- The Ridge Behavioral Health System: 110 licensed psychiatric beds
- Veterans Affairs Medical Center has 199 authorized beds that comprise acute care services, residential treatment programs for PTSD and substance abuse, and a community living center.

## CITY STATS

**2014**

City Population	311,399
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	494,189
Per Capita Personal Income, Lexington-Fayette, KY MSA	\$42,231