



St. Louis, MO



St. Louis, Missouri, was founded in 1764 by French-born fur traders who journeyed upriver from New Orleans and named the city for the French King Louis IX. The city was built on a high bluff near the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and became part of the United States through President Thomas Jefferson's 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

The Gateway Arch, which symbolizes the westward expansion of the United States, and the Old Courthouse are part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Located underground on the Gateway Arch grounds, the Museum of Westward Expansion chronicles the Lewis and Clark expedition and pioneer life.

Three museums are located in Forest Park: the St. Louis Art Museum, Missouri History Museum, and St. Louis Science Center. The new National Blues Museum showcases the history of blues music and its influence on other music genres. The City Museum is a mixture of a children's playground, funhouse, surrealist pavilion, and architectural marvel made out of found and repurposed objects. The Museum of Transportation has more than 70 train locomotives located throughout the museum grounds, one of the largest collections in the world. The St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame and Museum is filled with more than 16,000 items of memorabilia. Other museums include the Contemporary Art Museum, Griot Museum of Black History and Culture, Campbell House Museum, Soldiers Memorial Military Museum, and Field House Museum.

St. Louis offers many performing arts options. The Fabulous Fox Theatre hosts touring Broadway shows, concerts, and comedians. The Grand Theatre is home to Ashleyliane Dance Company, The Big Muddy Dance Company, Circus Flora, Consuming Kinetics Dance Company, Fly North Theatricals, Ignite Theatre Company, Insight Theatre, JPEK CreativeWorks, Karlovsky & Company Dance, Metro Theater Company, R-S Theatrics, Saint Louis Ballet, The University Theatre, and Upstream Theater. The St. Louis Municipal Opera Theatre, known as the Muny, produces seven Broadway musicals during its mid-June to mid-August season in its Forest Park amphitheater. An annual summer Shakespeare Festival takes place in Shakespeare Glen, which is also in Forest Park. Other theaters include the Stray Dog Theatre at Tower Grove Abbey, Bob Kramer's Marionettes, The Black Rep, New Line Theatre at the Marcelle Theater, and West End Players Guild.

Diverse musical concerts are performed at The Sheldon Concert Hall and Art Galleries. Stifel Theatre plays host to a wide variety of events, including concerts, comedies, theatricals, family shows, and holiday productions. Powell Hall is the home of the St. Louis Symphony. Concerts are also performed at BB's Jazz Blues & Soups and The Pageant. Local performing groups include BandTogether; Ambassadors of Harmony; African Musical Arts, Inc.; Opera Theatre of Saint Louis; Union Avenue Opera; Saint Louis Brass Band; St. Louis Metro Singers; and CHARIS, the St. Louis Women's Chorus. Local dance presentations are performed by the Saint Louis Ballet and MADCO. Dance St. Louis sponsors performances by traveling dance companies.

Student productions and other performances are held at Washington University's Edison Theatre, St. Louis University's University Theatre in Xavier Hall, and University of Missouri St. Louis Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Neighborhoods

St. Louis has several downtown residential areas. These include the Cupples Station and Washington Avenue neighborhoods, which feature loft apartments located in restored historic warehouses and industrial buildings.

Several historic districts are convenient to the city's hospitals. The Central West End borders Forest Park and features tree-lined, private streets with large homes dating from the late 1800s. Italian Renaissance, Tudor Revival, Georgian Revival, Victorian Revival, French Eclectic, and Colonial Revival homes situated on private, tree-lined streets can be found in the Kingsbury-Washington Terrace neighborhood, which is known for its entrance gates. The majority of houses in the Lafayette Square district, which is built around Lafayette Park, were constructed before 1900 in Second Empire style; others were built in the Italianate style or display a Germanic influence. Although laid out as a planned residential development in 1889 with wide setbacks, curving streets, and deed restrictions, many of the large houses in Compton Heights were built as a result of the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Tower Grove East also dates from the World's Fair period and offers red-brick single-family homes, duplexes, and apartments on small lots near Tower Grove Park.

Parks and Recreation

St. Louis has 108 parks with amenities that include archery; skating rinks; outdoor and indoor swimming pools; baseball, football, rugby, soccer, softball,

and multipurpose fields; basketball, handball, horseshoe, tennis, racquetball, and volleyball courts; playgrounds; bike and walking trails; dog parks; a velodrome for track cycling; boathouses; lakes; and recreational centers.

At 1,300 acres, Forest Park, the city's largest park and site of the 1904 World's Fair, is home to three museums, St. Louis Zoo, The Muny amphitheater, and Steinberg Ice Skating Rink. Other park amenities include the World's Fair Pavilion; the Boathouse; archery; handball, racquetball, tennis, and volleyball courts; rugby, soccer, and softball fields; lakes; monuments; memorials; paths; and trails. The art deco-designed Jewel Box contains hundreds of flowers and exotic plants surrounding a central fountain. The Cabanne House, built in 1876, is also located on park grounds.

Designed in the 19th century Gardenesque style, the 289-acre Tower Grove Park features winding paths; symmetrical features; intense planting; and the use of architecturally elaborate gates, pavilions, and houses. The park features the Piper Palm House (a historic greenhouse); a farmers' market; playgrounds; a wading pool; tennis and horseshoe courts; and baseball, softball, corkball, and soccer fields. The adjacent Missouri Botanical Garden includes a Japanese strolling garden, Henry Shaw's original 1850 estate home, and a collection of rare and endangered orchids.

Laumeier Sculpture Park feature dozens of large sculptures spread out over more than 100 acres.

Professional sports teams include the St. Louis Cardinals (baseball), St. Louis Blues (hockey), St. Louis BattleHawks (football), Saint Louis FC (soccer), and St. Louis Vipers (roller hockey).

Education

St. Louis Public Schools educate approximately 22,000 students in 42 elementary schools, 3 elementary/middle schools, 12 middle schools, and 15 high schools. The district offers magnet and school choice programs.

Many opportunities for higher education are available. The University of Missouri-St. Louis is a public university that offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, including programs in the colleges of nursing and optometry. Washington University in St. Louis is a private research university that offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs and also has a medical school. Fontbonne University and Saint Louis University are Catholic universities that offer undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs; Saint Louis University also has a medical school, advanced dental school, and nursing school. Harris-Stowe State University is the area's only historically black university. Maryville University offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees. St. Louis College of Pharmacy is a private university.

Two-year programs are offered at Ranken Technical College, a private, nonprofit college, and St. Louis Community College's Forest Park Campus.

Health Care

St. Louis is served by the following health care facilities:

- Barnes-Jewish Hospital: 896 licensed beds
- Barnes-Jewish Hospital-North: 482 licensed beds
- Barnes-Jewish Hospital-Psychiatric Support Center: 50 licensed beds
- Kindred Hospital-St. Louis: 60 licensed beds
- SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital: 195 licensed beds
- SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital: 344 licensed beds
- SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital-South: 12 licensed beds
- St. Alexius Hospital-Broadway: 190 licensed beds
- St. Louis Children's Hospital: 402 licensed beds
- The Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis: 96 licensed beds

The VA St. Louis Health Care System provides inpatient and ambulatory medical, surgical, psychiatric, and rehabilitation care and other services for veterans.

City Stats

2018

City Population	302,838
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	2,805,465
Per Capita Personal Income, St. Louis, MO-IL, MSA	\$55,883