

WALWILA SCOTTA

YOUR ULTIMATE RELOCATION GUIDE



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WELCOME

TO YOUR MINNESOTA RELOCATION GUIDE

***Thank you for downloading our
exclusive Relocation Guide!***

Whether you're relocating for a new job, seeking a fresh start, or simply drawn to the lakes, trails, and tight-knit communities that define Minnesota, we're thrilled to be part of your journey. This guide is packed with local insights, top counties to explore, and everything you need to settle in with confidence.

Our team at Living in Minnesota is here to make your move smooth, exciting, and stress-free. Let's get you home!



WHY MOVE

TO YOUR MINNESOTA RELOCATION GUIDE

Minnesota combines natural beauty, economic opportunity, and an unmatched quality of life—all wrapped in a culture of friendliness and resilience. Whether you're drawn to the lakes, trails, and parks or seeking a strong job market and top-ranked education, the North Star State checks every box.

Home to innovative companies, world-class healthcare, and a deep commitment to community, Minnesota offers the perfect environment for families, professionals, and retirees alike.

With four stunning seasons, a rich arts scene, and safe, welcoming neighborhoods, it's no wonder so many people choose to call Minnesota home.

From the vibrant energy of the Twin Cities to the peaceful charm of its small towns, Minnesota offers a lifestyle that's both enriching and balanced. If you're looking for a place to grow, connect, and thrive—Minnesota is ready to welcome you.

TOP COUNTIES

HERE ARE SOME OF THE MOST SOUGHT-AFTER COUNTIES FOR NEWCOMERS TO EXPLORE:

Hennepin County

– Home to Minneapolis, this urban hub offers a dynamic mix of business, culture, and green spaces—perfect for professionals and city lovers.

Ramsey County

– Anchored by St. Paul, this county blends historic charm with modern convenience and is known for its family-friendly neighborhoods.

Dakota County

– Located just south of the Twin Cities, Dakota offers suburban living, excellent schools, and quick access to both downtowns.

Washington County

– Ideal for those seeking peaceful suburbs, scenic views, and strong community values near the St. Croix River.

Anoka County

– A growing area with affordable homes, great parks, and an easy commute to the metro—popular among first-time buyers.

Olmsted County

– Anchored by Rochester and the Mayo Clinic, this region is a medical and innovation hub with a small-town vibe.

Minnesota vibes

Minnesota isn't just known for its natural beauty—it's known for its people. Strong communities, progressive values, and a culture of innovation make this state more than just a place to live. It's a place to thrive.

TAXES EXPLAINED



Minnesota offers a moderate cost of living compared to many other states, especially when weighed against its high quality of life.

While the Twin Cities metro area—Minneapolis and St. Paul—tends to have higher housing costs, many surrounding counties offer more affordable options with easy access to urban amenities.

Housing prices vary widely: expect to pay around \$330,000 to \$550,000

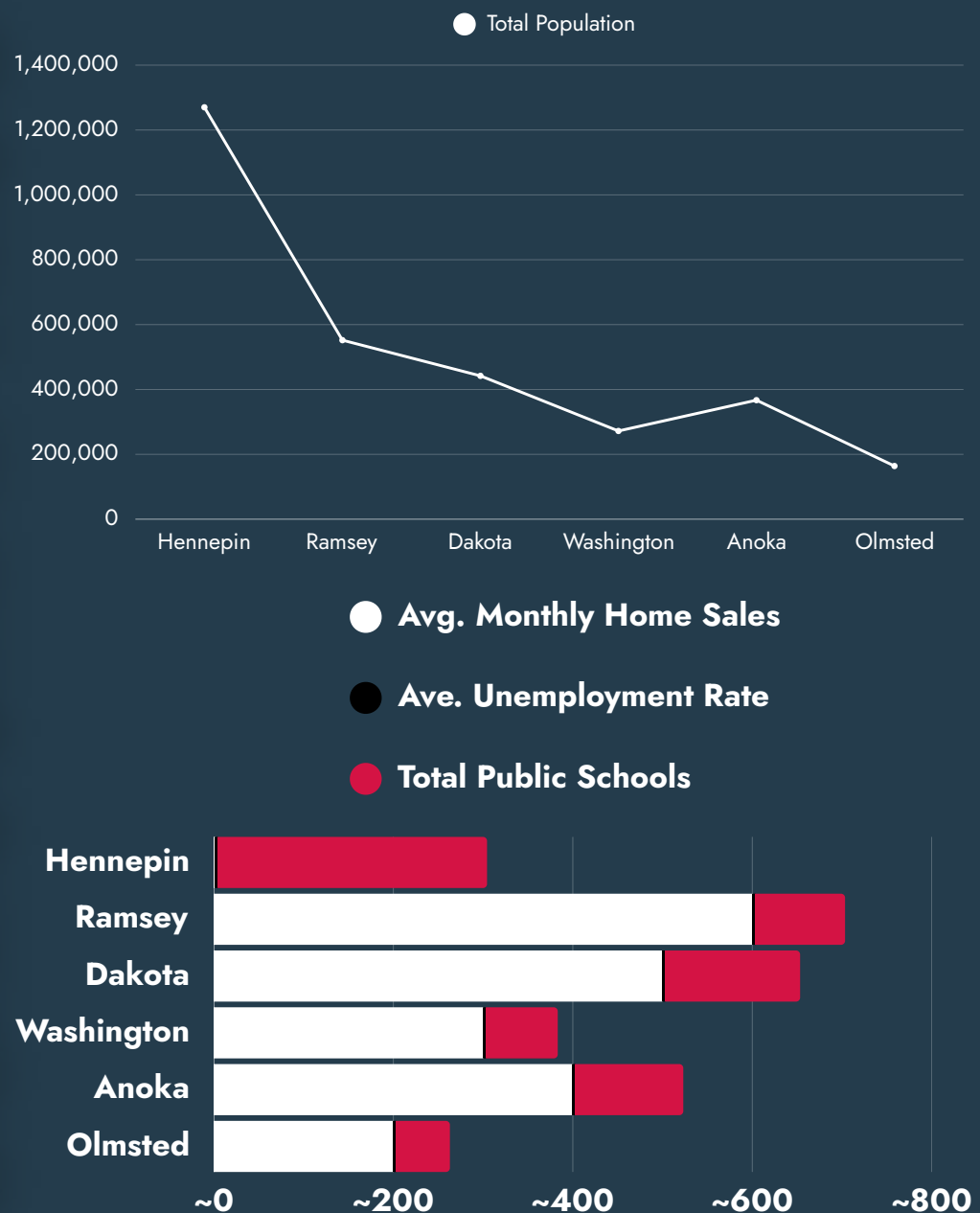
Taxes in Minnesota include:

- State Income Tax: Ranges from 5.35% to 9.85%, depending on income.
- Sales Tax: Base rate is 6.875%, with local additions potentially pushing it to 9.875%.
- Property Tax: Effective average is around 1.05%, varying by county.

Although state taxes are slightly higher than average, residents benefit from excellent public services, top-ranked healthcare, and a strong education system—making Minnesota a great value for families, professionals, and retirees alike.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Understanding the people who make up a community is just as important as knowing the schools, job market, and amenities. Minnesota's counties offer a rich mosaic of backgrounds, lifestyles, and cultural diversity—each bringing its own unique flavor to the state's identity.

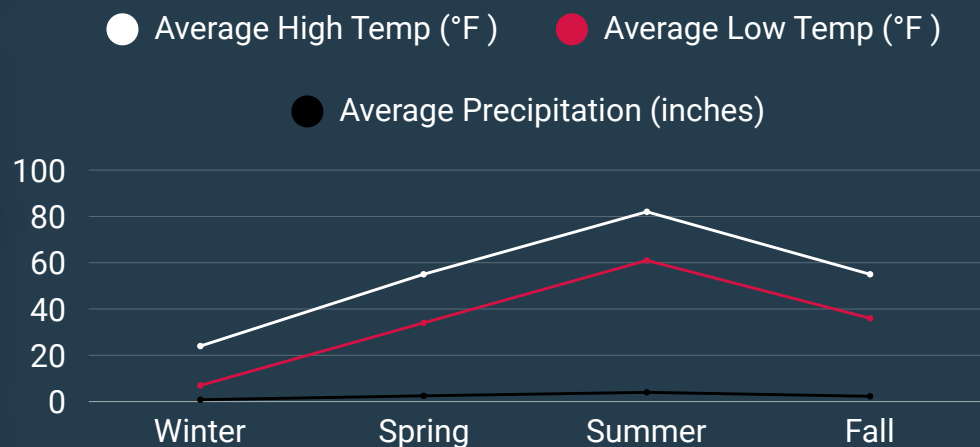


WEATHER OVERVIEW



Minnesota is known for its ever-changing, four-season weather that truly defines the local lifestyle.

From crisp, snowy winters that invite winter sports and cozy fireside evenings, to warm, sun-soaked summers perfect for lake outings and festivals, there's always something unique to experience.

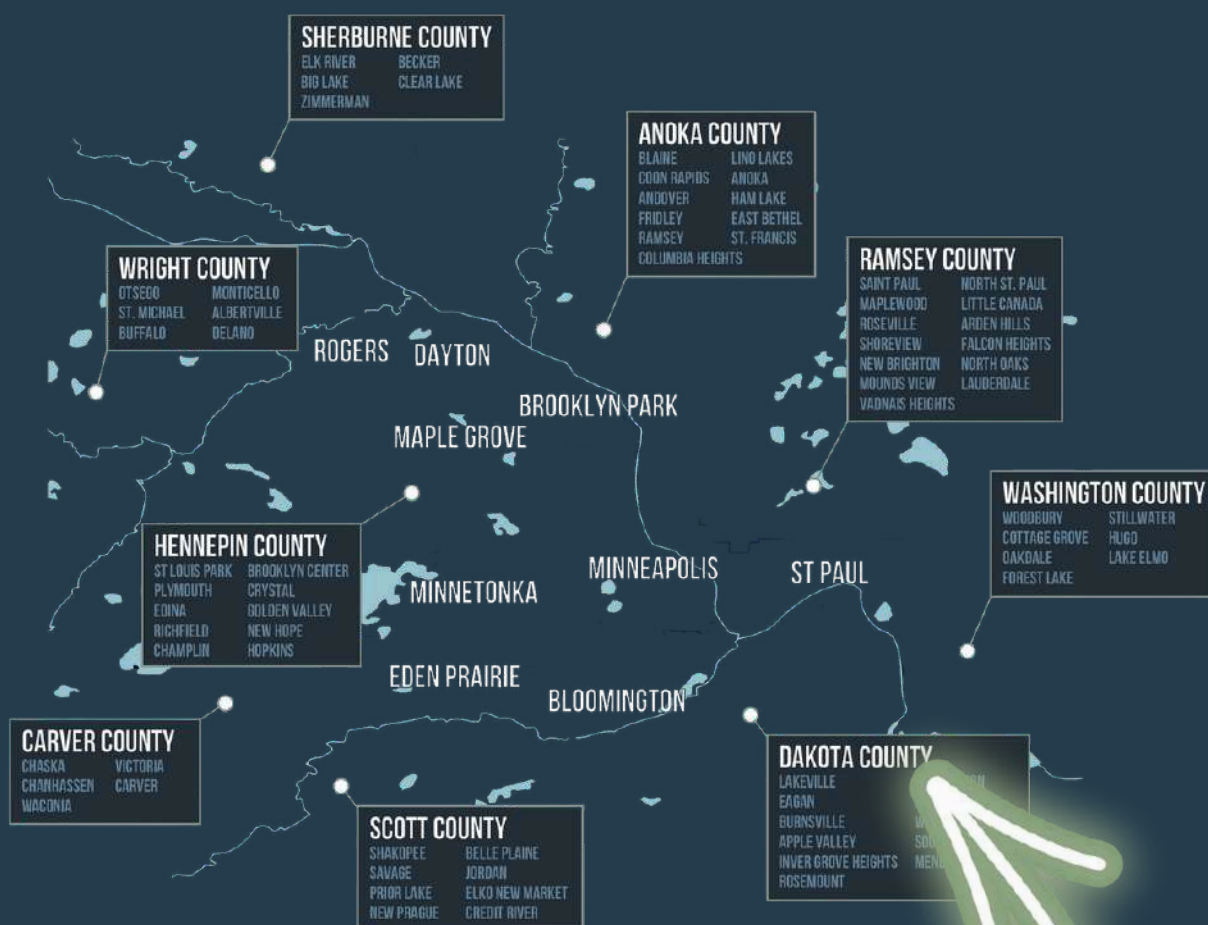


"Four Seasons of Adventure"

Minnesota isn't just a state—it's a year-round adventure. Whether you're skiing through winter wonderlands or enjoying lake retreats in the summer, the dramatic seasonal shifts keep life vibrant and full of opportunities to explore and enjoy every moment.



EXPLORE MINNESOTA



Finding the perfect
neighborhood has
never been easier!



Our Interactive Map allows you to explore Minnesota and its vibrant surrounding cities with just a few clicks.

SHOPPING

WHERE TO SHOP

1. Mall of America – Bloomington

The largest shopping and entertainment complex in the U.S.

With over 500 stores, an indoor amusement park (Nickelodeon Universe), SEA LIFE Aquarium, mini golf, and endless dining options, Mall of America is more than a mall—it's a destination.

2. Twin Cities Premium Outlets – Eagan

Designer deals just minutes from the metro.

This outdoor outlet mall features 100+ stores including Nike, Coach, Under Armour, and Michael Kors at discounted prices. It's a go-to for bargain hunters and brand lovers alike.

3. Rosedale Center – Roseville

A modern indoor mall with style and convenience.

Located between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Rosedale Center offers major department stores, specialty shops, a movie theater, and new dining concepts in the Potluck food hall.



DINING

WHERE TO EAT

1. Spoon and Stable – Minneapolis

Upscale dining with a French twist.

Helmed by James Beard Award-winning Chef Gavin Kaysen, Spoon and Stable offers seasonally inspired dishes in a chic, restored stable. A must-visit for those seeking refined cuisine in a cozy, welcoming atmosphere.

2. Owamni – Minneapolis

Revolutionizing Indigenous cuisine.

With a menu celebrating Native American flavors, Owamni by Sean Sherman reimagines traditional dishes using indigenous ingredients. It's a culinary experience that's both delicious and educational, earning national acclaim.

3. Myriel – St. Paul

French-Nordic fusion in an intimate setting.

This cozy gem offers innovative dishes blending French and Nordic influences, focusing on locally sourced ingredients and creative preparations. Perfect for foodies looking for something unique.



ACTIVITIES

WHERE TO PLAY

1. Hiking in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW)

Explore pristine wilderness.

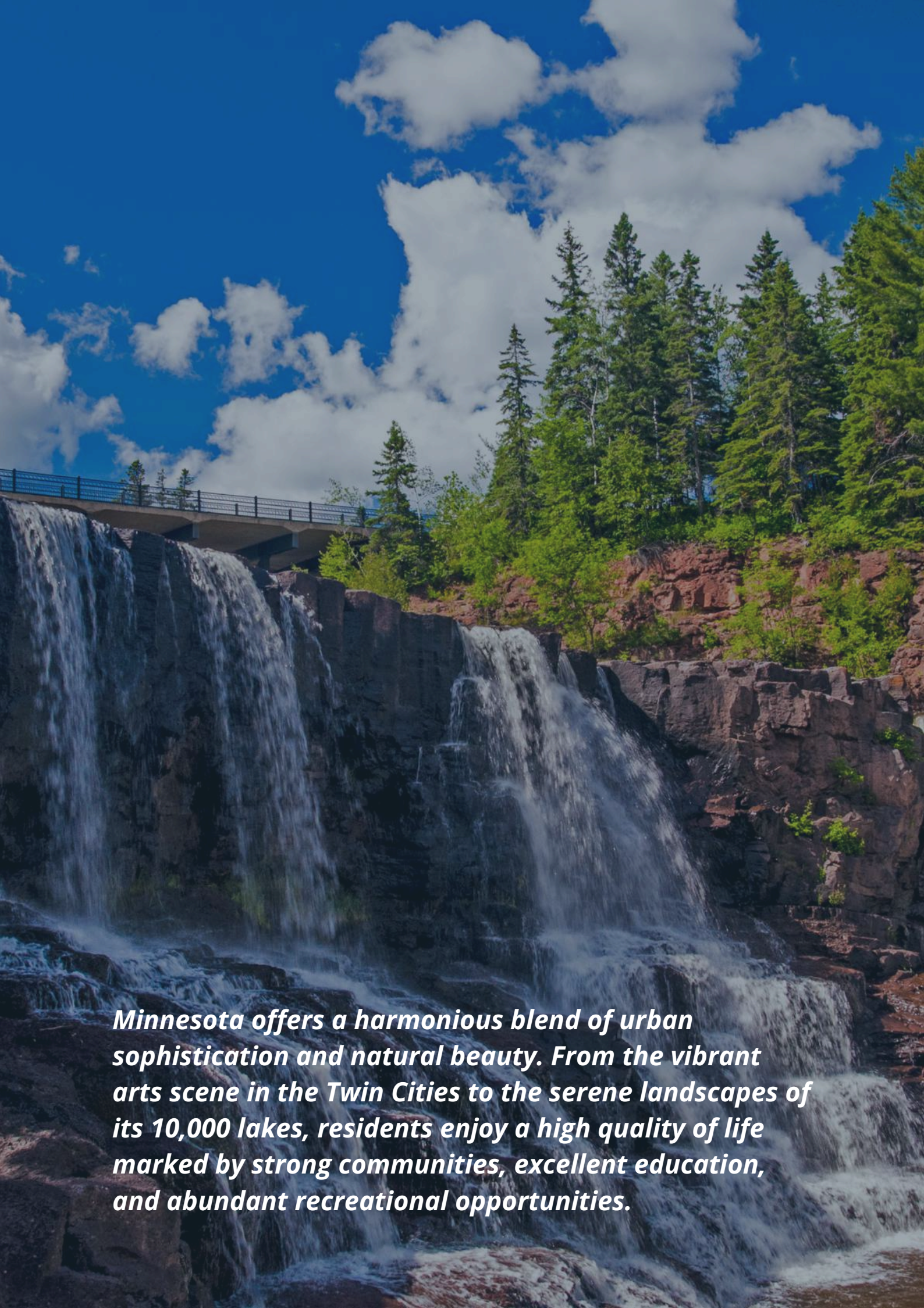
The BWCAW offers over a million acres of untouched forests and lakes, making it a paradise for hikers, campers, and canoe enthusiasts. Its remote, rugged beauty provides solitude and breathtaking views, perfect for multi-day adventures.

2. Biking the Midtown Greenway – Minneapolis

A biking and walking trail through the heart of the city.

The Midtown Greenway is a 5.5-mile urban bike and pedestrian trail that runs through Minneapolis, offering scenic views of the city. It connects neighborhoods, parks, and provides easy access to local shops, making it a favorite for casual and avid cyclists alike.





Minnesota offers a harmonious blend of urban sophistication and natural beauty. From the vibrant arts scene in the Twin Cities to the serene landscapes of its 10,000 lakes, residents enjoy a high quality of life marked by strong communities, excellent education, and abundant recreational opportunities.



Minnesota is a top-ranked state for education, offering high-quality public schools, respected private institutions, and nationally recognized universities. Whether you're raising kids or furthering your own education, there are strong options at every level.

K-12 Schools

Top-performing public school districts like Edina, Wayzata, and Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan provide excellent academics, extracurriculars, and student support. Charter, magnet, and private schools also offer diverse learning environments tailored to different needs.

Higher Education

Minnesota is home to acclaimed colleges and universities, including the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Carleton College, and Macalester College, offering programs in business, health, engineering, liberal arts, and more.

Whether you're seeking top-rated schools for your kids or lifelong learning for yourself, Minnesota delivers.



Minnesota is nationally recognized for its exceptional healthcare system, offering residents access to top-ranked hospitals, specialized care, and wellness services across the state. Whether you live in the heart of the Twin Cities or in a quieter suburb, quality care is never far away.

Leading Providers

- Mayo Clinic (Rochester) – Consistently ranked among the best hospitals in the world, Mayo Clinic sets the gold standard in patient care and innovation.
- HealthPartners (Bloomington) – A trusted name offering comprehensive care, health insurance, and community clinics.
- Allina Health (Minneapolis) – Serving the Twin Cities and beyond with a wide network of hospitals, clinics, and specialty services.

Wellness-Focused Living

Minnesota encourages a healthy, active lifestyle with easy access to parks, trails, fitness centers, and mental health resources. Preventive care, wellness programs, and community health initiatives are a key part of the state's commitment to resident well-being.



MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Minnesota is home to a diverse and thriving job market, anchored by major players in healthcare, retail, finance, and manufacturing. Whether you're in tech, education, or healthcare, career opportunities are abundant across the state.

Notable Employers

- Mayo Clinic – World-renowned healthcare provider and Minnesota's largest employer.
- Target Corporation – Headquartered in Minneapolis, employing thousands in retail and corporate roles.
- 3M – Innovative global manufacturer based in Maplewood.
- University of Minnesota – A top public research university with statewide campuses.
- UnitedHealth Group – One of the largest healthcare and insurance companies in the U.S.
- Cargill – A global food and agriculture company based in Minnetonka.

From Fortune 500 companies to cutting-edge startups, Minnesota offers stable, well-paying jobs across all industries.



EXPLORE

T H E C O M M U N I T I E S

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNEAPOLIS

URBAN, DIVERSE, DYNAMIC

Amenities:

Minneapolis offers world-class amenities, including extensive public transit, a booming food scene, and iconic shopping locations like Mall of America. The city's vibrant arts, culture, and sporting events provide ample opportunities for entertainment year-round.

Notable Attractions:

Key attractions include the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Walker Art Center, and the Chain of Lakes. The city also boasts professional sports teams like the Timberwolves, Vikings, and Twins.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love the balance of urban living with natural beauty, offering parks and lakes alongside vibrant city culture. Minneapolis provides a lively work environment and top-tier educational institutions.

Community Vibe:

Energetic and progressive, Minneapolis is a hub of innovation and culture. It's diverse and welcoming, offering a mix of city living with easy access to nature.



POPULATION
429,606



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$415,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minneapolis Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & light rail)

RAMSEY COUNTY

ST PAUL

HISTORIC, CULTURAL, DIVERSE

Amenities:

St. Paul blends history with modern conveniences, offering top-notch educational institutions, cultural attractions, and beautiful parks. Its proximity to Minneapolis makes it ideal for those seeking a quieter urban life with easy access to the larger city.

Notable Attractions:

Major attractions include the Science Museum of Minnesota, Como Zoo, and the Minnesota State Capitol. The city's riverfront areas and historic neighborhoods also draw residents and visitors alike.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love St. Paul for its rich history, accessibility, and close-knit community vibe. It offers a blend of city culture, outdoor recreation, and excellent schools.

Community Vibe:

St. Paul offers a unique mix of urban living and small-town charm. The community is family-oriented, with a welcoming and supportive atmosphere for newcomers.



POPULATION
311,527



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$332,375.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
St. Paul Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & light rail)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

ST LOUIS PARK

SUBURBAN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY, CONNECTED

Amenities:

St. Louis Park offers suburban tranquility with quick access to Minneapolis, making it ideal for commuters. The area features plenty of parks, top-rated schools, and a growing restaurant scene.

Notable Attractions:

Notable attractions include the West End shopping and dining area, along with numerous parks and recreation centers. The city's proximity to downtown Minneapolis provides even more entertainment and cultural options.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love the family-friendly atmosphere, excellent schools, and strong community programs. The convenience of being close to both work and nature makes it an ideal place to settle down.

Community Vibe:

St. Louis Park combines suburban comfort with easy city access. It fosters an active, engaged community, known for its great public services and sense of safety.



POPULATION
49,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$375,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
St. Louis Park Public
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

RAMSEY COUNTY

ROSEVILLE

SUBURBAN, CONVENIENT, GROWING

Amenities:

Roseville offers a variety of amenities, including the Roseville Shopping Center, parks, and great community services. With its prime location between Minneapolis and St. Paul, it attracts residents who want the best of both cities.

Notable Attractions:

Notable attractions include the Como Park Zoo and the North Star Commuter Rail station. The city's parks and green spaces make it a great spot for outdoor enthusiasts.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love the convenient location and strong community focus. It's an ideal place for families and professionals looking for a well-connected, safe environment.

Community Vibe:

Roseville has a suburban vibe but offers the convenience of urban living. The community is engaged and hosts a variety of events throughout the year.



POPULATION
36,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$340,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Roseville Area Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

RAMSEY COUNTY

MAPLEWOOD

FAMILY-FRIENDLY, GREEN, QUIET

Amenities:

Maplewood provides a peaceful suburban environment with excellent schools, parks, and a close-knit community. The city offers easy access to larger metropolitan areas while maintaining a quiet, family-oriented lifestyle.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Maplewood Mall, multiple parks, and a proximity to the charming cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The city is also close to the Gateway State Trail for outdoor activities.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love the quieter atmosphere and the abundance of parks and green spaces. Maplewood is well-regarded for its low crime rates and family-focused community.

Community Vibe:

Maplewood fosters a safe, welcoming environment with a focus on outdoor activities and family events. Its quiet streets and friendly neighbors contribute to a peaceful atmosphere.



POPULATION
40,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$325,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Roseville Area Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

WASHINGTON COUNTY

WOODBURY

SUBURBAN, SPACIOUS, GROWING

Amenities:

Woodbury offers expansive parks, excellent schools, and a variety of retail and dining options. Its family-friendly atmosphere and proximity to downtown St. Paul make it a desirable place to live.

Notable Attractions:

Key attractions include Woodbury Lakes Shopping Center, Bielenberg Sports Center, and the beautiful Carver Lake Regional Park. The city is also known for its extensive trail systems.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Woodbury for its suburban feel with easy access to the Twin Cities. The city offers excellent schools, abundant green spaces, and a growing local economy.

Community Vibe:

Woodbury has a relaxed suburban vibe with a focus on family activities and community engagement. It's a great place to raise kids while being close to urban amenities.



POPULATION
75,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$375,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
South Washington
County Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

EDINA

UPSCALE, SUBURBAN, PRESTIGIOUS

Amenities:

Edina is known for its luxury homes, upscale shopping, and excellent schools. It offers a mix of suburban tranquility and urban convenience, making it an ideal location for professionals and families.

Notable Attractions:

Notable attractions include the Southdale Center, Centennial Lakes Park, and the Edina Promenade. It's also home to some of the finest dining and shopping in the metro area.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Edina for its quality of life, top-tier schools, and vibrant business community. It's known for its strong sense of pride and community involvement.

Community Vibe:

Edina is sophisticated and family-oriented, with a rich sense of tradition and commitment to excellence. The city attracts those looking for a quiet yet upscale suburban lifestyle.



POPULATION
53,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$550,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Edina Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

RICHFIELD

CONVENIENT, AFFORDABLE, GROWING

Amenities:

Richfield provides suburban living with easy access to Minneapolis and surrounding areas. The city offers excellent schools, parks, and a variety of local businesses, making it an ideal place for young families.

Notable Attractions:

Richfield is home to the popular Southdale Center Mall, Wood Lake Nature Center, and several neighborhood parks. It's known for its proximity to the airport and major highways.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Richfield for its affordable housing, proximity to Minneapolis, and well-maintained parks and trails. The city offers great schools and a welcoming community feel.

Community Vibe:

Richfield offers a mix of residential neighborhoods and commercial development. The community is known for its strong local pride and active participation in city events.



POPULATION
36,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$325,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Richfield Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & light rail)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

BLOOMINGTON

SHOPPING, ENTERTAINMENT, FAMILY

Amenities:

Bloomington offers world-class shopping, dining, and entertainment, featuring Mall of America, the largest indoor shopping center in the U.S. It's also home to several parks and recreation centers.

Notable Attractions:

Top attractions include Mall of America, Nickelodeon Universe, and SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium. The area also boasts numerous dining and entertainment options.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Bloomington for its family-friendly atmosphere, excellent shopping, and proximity to Minneapolis and St. Paul. It's known for being a commuter's dream.

Community Vibe:

Bloomington offers a balanced suburban feel with urban conveniences. The city thrives on community engagement and a strong sense of local pride.



POPULATION
86,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$325,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bloomington Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & light rail)

DAKOTA COUNTY

MENDOTA HEIGHTS

SERENE AND AFFLUENT SUBURB

Amenities:

Mendota Heights offers quiet suburban living, tree-lined streets, and excellent schools. The city is known for its strong sense of community, proximity to parks, and peaceful residential areas.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Mendota Heights City Park and Fort Snelling State Park. The city is also located near the Minnesota River for easy access to nature and outdoor activities.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Mendota Heights for its peaceful atmosphere, safe environment, and easy access to the Twin Cities. The city is ideal for families and professionals seeking a quiet lifestyle.

Community Vibe:

Mendota Heights is a tranquil, close-knit community that fosters a strong sense of belonging. It combines suburban charm with convenient access to major metro areas.



POPULATION
11,744



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
519,000



SCHOOL DISTRICT
West St. Paul-Mendota
Heights-Eagan Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Carver County Transit

DAKOTA COUNTY

EAGAN

SUBURBAN, CONVENIENT, GROWING

Amenities:

Eagan features excellent suburban amenities, including easy access to both Minneapolis and St. Paul. The area offers parks, recreation centers, and shopping options.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Minnesota Zoo, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, and a variety of local shopping centers. The city's access to I-35 and the airport makes it a hub for travelers.

Why Resident Loves it:

Eagan is loved for its high quality of life, well-rated schools, and the abundance of parks. The city's central location makes it an ideal spot for both commuters and families.

Community Vibe:

Eagan fosters a suburban, family-oriented atmosphere with plenty of outdoor activities. The community is active, with events and services catering to all ages.



POPULATION
66,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$380,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Rosemount-Apple
Valley-Eagan



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

DAKOTA COUNTY

APPLE VALLEY

FAMILY-FRIENDLY, SPACIOUS, SUBURBAN

Amenities:

Apple Valley is a suburban area known for its spacious homes, family-friendly parks, and recreational facilities. The area offers good schools and safe neighborhoods.

Notable Attractions:

Notable attractions include the Minnesota Zoo and numerous parks such as Kelley Park and Apple Valley Aquatic Center. The city hosts community events throughout the year.

Why Resident Loves it:

Apple Valley is popular among families for its quiet environment, excellent school system, and access to family-focused activities. The city's affordable housing and green spaces are big draws.

Community Vibe:

Apple Valley maintains a peaceful suburban vibe, fostering a sense of community. It's perfect for those seeking a quieter lifestyle while still having easy access to larger city amenities.



POPULATION
55,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$360,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Apple Valley Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

DAKOTA COUNTY

BURNSVILLE

ACTIVE, SUBURBAN, FAMILY-ORIENTED

Amenities:

Burnsville is a bustling suburban community with vibrant parks, recreation facilities, and a variety of shopping and dining options. It has a reputation for being an ideal place for families.

Notable Attractions:

Major attractions include Burnsville Center, a regional shopping hub, and the scenic Alimagnet Park. The city is also home to various entertainment venues and dining options.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Burnsville for its strong sense of community, easy access to parks, and proximity to major highways. It's known for being a family-friendly place with great schools.

Community Vibe:

Burnsville combines suburban living with a lively retail and dining scene. The city fosters an active, community-focused vibe with numerous family-oriented events.



POPULATION
60,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$315,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Burnsville Public
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

DAKOTA COUNTY

LAKEVILLE

GROWING, SUBURBAN, FAMILY-ORIENTED

Amenities:

Lakeville offers a suburban setting with excellent schools, parks, and recreational opportunities. The city has been growing rapidly, with new businesses and residential developments.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Lakeville Area Arts Center and various community parks. The city is also close to many lakes and trails, providing plenty of outdoor activities.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Lakeville for its high-quality schools, family-friendly atmosphere, and well-maintained parks. The city offers a great mix of suburban living with access to the Twin Cities.

Community Vibe:

Lakeville is a peaceful and community-oriented city. It provides ample opportunities for outdoor activities and strong local engagement through events and programs.



POPULATION
67,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$400,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lakeville Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
SouthWest Transit
(bus)

DAKOTA COUNTY

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

ACCESSIBLE, GROWING, SUBURBAN

Amenities:

Inver Grove Heights offers suburban living with easy access to both Minneapolis and St. Paul. It has a variety of parks, trails, and family-friendly amenities.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Inver Grove Heights Parks System, which features nature trails and outdoor recreation areas. The city is also known for its golf courses and community events.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Inver Grove Heights for its low crime rate, spacious homes, and proximity to downtown. The city is known for its excellent schools and variety of recreational options.

Community Vibe:

Inver Grove Heights offers a suburban vibe with a focus on family living. The city has a strong sense of community with active participation in local events and activities.



POPULATION
36,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$330,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Inver Grove Heights
Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

SCOTT COUNTY

SAVAGE

FAMILY-FRIENDLY, SCENIC, ACCESSIBLE

Amenities:

Savage provides a tranquil suburban lifestyle with scenic views, numerous parks, and a variety of recreational opportunities. It's well-regarded for its family-oriented atmosphere and strong community programs.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve and the Savage Community Center. The city also offers a variety of local shops and dining options.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Savage for its excellent schools, community spirit, and outdoor activities. It's a great place for those looking to raise a family with easy access to the metro.

Community Vibe:

Savage is a welcoming and safe community with an active vibe. Residents enjoy outdoor activities, local events, and a strong sense of civic pride.



POPULATION
30,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$340,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Prior Lake-Savage Area
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
SouthWest Transit
(bus)

SCOTT COUNTY

PRIOR LAKE

LAKESIDE, SCENIC, GROWING

Amenities:

Prior Lake is known for its beautiful lakes, recreational opportunities, and strong sense of community. The city offers an array of parks, trails, and waterfront homes.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include Prior Lake, which offers boating and fishing, and the Prairie Oaks Campground. The city also hosts the annual Prior Lake Rotary Club's Water Carnival.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Prior Lake for its lakeside living, small-town atmosphere, and easy access to both suburban amenities and urban attractions. The city is perfect for outdoor enthusiasts.

Community Vibe:

Prior Lake has a vibrant and community-driven atmosphere. It offers both quiet residential areas and bustling lakeside attractions, making it a perfect mix of relaxation and excitement.



POPULATION
27,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$380,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Prior Lake-Savage Area
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
SouthWest Transit
(bus)

SCOTT COUNTY

SHAKOPEE

THRIVING, FAMILY-FOCUSED, ACCESSIBLE

Amenities:

Shakopee is home to exciting attractions, great schools, and convenient shopping options. It is known for its beautiful parks, trails, and a tight-knit community.

Notable Attractions:

Notable attractions include Valleyfair amusement park, Mystic Lake Casino, and the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. The city also boasts several historical landmarks and trails.

Why Resident Loves it:

Shakopee offers a family-friendly environment with affordable homes and excellent schools. It's a city with a mix of recreation, community events, and proximity to Minneapolis.

Community Vibe:

Shakopee is a growing, community-focused city with a welcoming atmosphere. It provides a balanced lifestyle with ample outdoor activities, schools, and local events.



POPULATION
41,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$365,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Shakopee Public
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
SouthWest Transit
(bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

EDEN PRAIRIE

AFFLUENT, CONVENIENT, SCENIC

Amenities:

Eden Prairie is a high-end suburb offering great schools, lush parks, and ample shopping and dining options. The city is known for its well-planned residential areas and convenient location.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Eden Prairie Center Mall, Purgatory Creek Park, and many local trails. The city also hosts several community events throughout the year.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Eden Prairie for its beautiful surroundings, strong schools, and community-oriented vibe. It's ideal for families and professionals seeking suburban living with urban accessibility.

Community Vibe:

Eden Prairie offers a balanced suburban lifestyle with access to excellent public services and a variety of recreational options. It's a place where residents feel at home in their community.



POPULATION
64,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$485,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Eden Prairie Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

CARVER COUNTY

CHASKA

HISTORIC, SCENIC, AFFORDABLE

Amenities:

Chaska offers a charming, small-town atmosphere with abundant green spaces, top schools, and easy access to both rural and urban amenities. Its historic downtown adds to its appeal.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Chaska City Hall and Library, along with local parks like the Chaska Community Park. The city is also close to the scenic Minnesota River and the Chaska Golf Course.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Chaska for its community-oriented lifestyle, historic charm, and affordable housing. The town is known for its friendly, welcoming atmosphere.

Community Vibe:

Chaska combines small-town living with easy access to larger suburban and urban amenities. The community is known for its focus on family values and local engagement.



POPULATION
27,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$350,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Chaska Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Carver County Transit

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNETONKA

SCENIC, AFFLUENT, CONNECTED

Amenities:

Minnetonka offers suburban living with top-tier schools, upscale shopping, and numerous parks. It's known for its serene lakeside homes and access to both urban and suburban amenities.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the scenic Minnetonka Mills Park, Gray's Bay Marina, and a variety of local dining and shopping centers. The city is also close to the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes for recreational activities.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Minnetonka for its excellent schools, beautiful lakes, and family-friendly atmosphere. It offers a peaceful yet convenient location with easy access to both Minneapolis and the surrounding suburbs.

Community Vibe:

Minnetonka maintains an upscale, residential vibe with strong community engagement. It's known for its green spaces, local events, and easy access to the metro area.



POPULATION
53,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$525,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minnetonka Public
Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

PLYMOUTH

FAMILY-FRIENDLY, SAFE, GROWING

Amenities:

Plymouth is a rapidly growing suburban city offering spacious homes, excellent schools, and a variety of parks and recreational opportunities. It's also known for its proximity to Minneapolis and major highways.

Notable Attractions:

Top attractions include the French Regional Park, Medicine Lake, and the Plymouth Creek Center, which offers entertainment, dining, and shopping options.

Why Resident Loves it:

Plymouth residents love the city's strong sense of community, its highly-rated schools, and the safe, family-friendly neighborhoods. The city is a favorite for commuters working in Minneapolis.

Community Vibe:

Plymouth has a suburban, family-oriented vibe. The city's well-maintained parks and recreation centers foster a healthy, active lifestyle, with numerous opportunities for community involvement.



POPULATION
78,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$410,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Wayzata Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MAPLE GROVE

GROWING, SUBURBAN, CONVENIENT

Amenities:

Maple Grove offers expansive parks, great shopping centers, and a mix of suburban living with easy access to Minneapolis. The city is home to multiple recreation centers and high-quality schools.

Notable Attractions:

Major attractions include the Shoppes at Arbor Lakes, a large outdoor shopping center, and Fish Lake Regional Park, a popular spot for fishing, boating, and nature walks.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love the city's balance of convenience, outdoor spaces, and family-oriented amenities. Maple Grove offers a strong sense of community with great schools and low crime rates.

Community Vibe:

Maple Grove offers a vibrant, family-friendly community with active participation in events and neighborhood gatherings. It is known for its well-maintained streets and parks.



POPULATION
70,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$375,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Osseo Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

BROOKLYN PARK

DIVERSE, EXPANDING, ACTIVE

Amenities:

Brooklyn Park offers affordable housing, excellent schools, and abundant parks, all within reach of downtown Minneapolis. The city is growing rapidly, with new developments and local businesses flourishing.

Notable Attractions:

Attractions include the Eidem Farm, a historical farm museum, and the West Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. Brooklyn Park also boasts numerous biking and hiking trails.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents love Brooklyn Park for its affordability, diverse community, and outdoor activities. It's an ideal place for families and those seeking a balanced lifestyle close to the city.

Community Vibe:

Brooklyn Park is known for its diverse population and strong community engagement. Its active parks and recreation programs create a welcoming environment for all.



POPULATION
80,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$315,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Osseo Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus)



EXPLORE

THE COUNTIES

HENNEPIN

URBAN, DIVERSE, DYNAMIC

Amenities:

Hennepin County, home to Minneapolis, offers a vibrant urban lifestyle with extensive public transportation, diverse dining options, and numerous parks and lakes. The county boasts a rich cultural scene, including theaters, museums, and music venues.

Notable Attractions:

The Minneapolis Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center showcase world-class art collections. The Chain of Lakes provides recreational opportunities year-round.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents appreciate the blend of urban amenities with natural beauty. The county's commitment to sustainability and community engagement fosters a high quality of life.

Community Vibe:

Hennepin County exudes a progressive and inclusive atmosphere. Neighborhoods range from bustling urban centers to serene suburban enclaves.



POPULATION
1,273,334



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$415,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minneapolis, Edina, others



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & light rail)

SCOTT

GROWING, FAMILY-FRIENDLY, CONNECTED

Amenities:

Scott County offers a suburban lifestyle with access to parks, trails, and family-oriented communities. The area has seen significant growth, attracting new businesses and residents.

Notable Attractions:

Canterbury Park hosts horse racing and events, while the Minnesota Renaissance Festival draws visitors annually.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents value the balance between small-town charm and proximity to the Twin Cities. The county's schools and community programs are highly regarded.

Community Vibe:

Scott County fosters a welcoming environment with active community involvement. Neighborhoods are tight-knit, emphasizing family and education.



POPULATION
153,268



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$509,900.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Shakopee, Prior Lake-Savage



PUBLIC TRANSIT
MVTA Bus Service

WRIGHT

SCENIC, EXPANDING, ACCESSIBLE

Amenities:

Wright County combines rural landscapes with growing suburban developments. Residents enjoy outdoor activities, local shops, and community events.

Notable Attractions:

Lake Maria State Park offers hiking and camping, while the Wright County Fair showcases local agriculture and entertainment.

Why Resident Loves it:

The county's natural beauty and expanding amenities attract families and individuals seeking a balanced lifestyle.

Community Vibe:

Wright County maintains a friendly, community-oriented atmosphere with a focus on growth and connectivity.



POPULATION
141,337



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$448,100.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Buffalo-Hanover-
Montrose, STMA



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Trailblazer Transit

SHERBURNE

RAPIDLY GROWING, NATURE-RICH

Amenities:

Sherburne County provides a mix of suburban living and natural spaces, with parks, trails, and access to the Mississippi River.

Notable Attractions:

The Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge offers wildlife observation and outdoor recreation.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents appreciate the county's growth, affordability, and proximity to the Twin Cities.

Community Vibe:

Sherburne County has a dynamic community with a blend of newcomers and long-time residents, fostering a welcoming environment.



POPULATION
102,275



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$392,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Elk River, Becker



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Northstar Commuter Rail

ISANTI

Affordable, Tranquil, Community-Oriented

Amenities:

Isanti County offers a peaceful rural setting with access to parks, lakes, and community centers.

Notable Attractions:

The Rum River provides opportunities for canoeing and fishing, while local festivals celebrate the county's heritage.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents enjoy the county's affordability, safety, and strong sense of community.

Community Vibe:

Isanti County exudes a small-town charm with active community involvement and neighborly spirit.



POPULATION
41,135



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$359,900.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Cambridge-Isanti



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Heartland Express

CARVER

PROSPEROUS, SCENIC, EDUCATED

Amenities:

Carver County features picturesque landscapes, excellent schools, and a high quality of life. The area boasts parks, trails, and cultural venues.

Notable Attractions:

The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum offers extensive gardens and educational programs.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents value the county's blend of natural beauty, strong economy, and community engagement.

Community Vibe:

Carver County maintains an affluent yet approachable atmosphere, with active civic participation.



POPULATION
108,622



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$544,100.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Eastern Carver,
Waconia



PUBLIC TRANSIT
SouthWest Transit

DAKOTA

DIVERSE, ACCESSIBLE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Amenities:

County provides a mix of urban and suburban living, with extensive parks, libraries, and community centers.

Notable Attractions:

The Minnesota Zoo and Lebanon Hills Regional Park offer educational and recreational opportunities.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents appreciate the county's services, schools, and proximity to Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Community Vibe:

Dakota County fosters a diverse and inclusive community with a focus on family and education.



POPULATION
439,882



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$390,230.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Rosemount-Apple
Valley-Eagan



PUBLIC TRANSIT
MVTA Bus Service

RAMSEY

HISTORIC, URBAN, CULTURAL

Amenities:

Ramsey County, encompassing St. Paul, offers rich cultural experiences, historic neighborhoods, and urban amenities.

Notable Attractions:

The Science Museum of Minnesota and Como Park Zoo & Conservatory are popular destinations.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents enjoy the county's blend of history, culture, and community events.

Community Vibe:

Ramsey County has a vibrant urban atmosphere with diverse neighborhoods and active civic life.



POPULATION
552,352



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$332,375.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
St. Paul Public Schools



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit (bus & rail)

ANOKA

SUBURBAN, GROWING, CONNECTED

Amenities:

Anoka County offers suburban living with access to parks, shopping centers, and recreational facilities.

Notable Attractions:

Bunker Hills Regional Park provides outdoor activities, and the Anoka Halloween Festival is a notable event.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents value the county's balance of suburban comfort and access to urban centers.

Community Vibe:

Anoka County fosters a family-friendly environment with active community engagement.



POPULATION
369,000



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$350,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Anoka-Hennepin



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit &
Northstar Rail

WASHINGTON

HISTORIC, SCENIC, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED

Amenities:

Washington County is known for its beautiful landscapes, strong schools, and quiet neighborhoods. It offers a retreat with access to metro perks.

Notable Attractions:

Highlights include historic Stillwater, Afton State Park, and St. Croix River trails. Wine tours and fall festivals attract visitors year-round.

Why Resident Loves it:

Residents appreciate the relaxed lifestyle and strong community values. It's ideal for those wanting space, safety, and charm.

Community Vibe:

Peaceful and visually stunning, this county balances rural tranquility with refined living.



POPULATION
275,912



MEDIAN HOME PRICE
\$425,000.00



SCHOOL DISTRICT
Stillwater, South
Washington County



PUBLIC TRANSIT
Metro Transit & Local
Shuttles

READY TO MAKE THE MOVE?



Thank you for exploring the Living in Minnesota Relocation Guide! We hope this helped you get a clearer picture of what life could look like here—from the best counties to call home to the schools, weather, and lifestyle that make Minnesota truly special.

Reach out with your questions, schedule a tour, or let us connect you with the right community for your lifestyle.

***Let's get you moving—
your Minnesota dream
starts now.***

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