



Lexington-Fayette, Kentucky



Lexington, Kentucky, was settled 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 museums include the Aviation Museum of Kentucky; Alexander T. Hunt Civil War Museum; Lexington History Museum; the Lexington Public Safety Museum; the Isaac Scott Hathaway Museum, dedicated to highlighting the art and written work of African-Americans; the Kentucky Renaissance Pharmacy Museum; the Headley-Whitney Museum, which features jeweled sculptures and doll houses; Explorium of Lexington (Lexington Children's Museum); Tuska Museum at the Breakers, which displays the art work of John Regis Tuska; The Art Museum at University of Kentucky; and Monroe Moosnick Medical Museum at Transylvania University.

Ballet, opera, children's productions, family shows, comedy, music, and professional national Broadway tour shows are presented at the Lexington Opera House. The Lexington Children's Theater produces shows for children in its own theaters. Concerts, family shows, and University of Kentucky Men's Basketball are held at Rupp Arena. 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. The downtown commercial area is surrounded by historic residential areas. Some are small with fewer than 50 houses, such as Gratz Park, Fayette Park, Western Suburb, and Hampton Court. Larger neighborhoods include Ashland Park, which was designed by the Olmsted Brothers and built between 1910 and 1935. It features many trees, green spaces, curving streets, and single-family homes in many architectural styles. 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. The downtown has new apartments, condominiums and townhouses under construction.

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 in the 1960s. The various Andover neighborhoods, built mostly during the 1990s, offer a variety of housing styles and sizes, including some apartments and townhouses.

The rural areas are comprised of many horse farms and estates.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Ninety parks, seven community centers, and nine aquatic facilities are located throughout Lexington. 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, dog park, ball fields and courts, in-line hockey, and a playground. Woodland Park features a skate park, an aquatic center, ball fields and courts, a gazebo, horseshoe pits, a playground, and shelter. 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. Raven Run Nature Sanctuary is dedicated to preserving the Kentucky River Palisades; a nature center is currently under construction.

The Kentucky Horse Park is home to the International Museum of the Horse, American Saddlebred Museum, many breeds of horses, horse and carriage rides, and films about horses. In September and October 2010, Kentucky Horse Park will host the World Equestrian Games, which are the world championships for equestrian sports.

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 36,000 students in 33 elementary, 12 middle, 5 high schools, and 2 technical centers. Magnet schools include Spanish immersion, creative and performing arts, math and science, and academics. Opportunity Middle College, a partnership between the district and Bluegrass Community & Technical College, allows juniors and seniors to take college classes while completing high school. Alternative programs serve students with special needs.

Higher education is available at the University of Kentucky; Transylvania University, a liberal arts college; Midway College, a woman's college with a Lexington Campus; Sullivan University, which offers diplomas, associate's, bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees; National College of Business and Technology, which offers diplomas, associate's, bachelor's degrees; and Bluegrass Community & Technical College, which offers diploma, and certificates, and associate's degrees. Commonwealth Baptist College trains people for positions within the ministry. Lexington Theological Seminary is a graduate theological institution.

The University of Kentucky Medical Center has colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health.

HEALTH CARE

Lexington is served by 4 acute care hospitals with more than 1,500 beds. In addition, the city has a rehabilitation hospital for orthopedic and neurological conditions; a Shriners Hospital for Children with an orthopedic specialty; a Veterans Affairs Medical Center that offers acute services, long-term care, and primary care; and a state psychiatric facility.

CITY STATS

2008

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| City Population | 292,240 |
| Metropolitan Statistical Area Population | 464,042 |
| Per Capita Personal Income, Lexington-Fayette, KY MSA | \$36,413 |