



Twin Falls, ID



Twin Falls, Idaho, is located on the southern edge of the Snake River Canyon in a region of the state known as the Magic Valley. Named for a nearby waterfall of the same name, Twin Falls was incorporated as a village in 1905. The waterfall had two side-by-side plunges, but only one currently flows as Idaho Power Co. dammed the other for hydropower. Twin Falls is the regional center for a rich agricultural area as a result of the efforts of I.B. Perrine, who is generally credited as the city's founder. At the turn of the 20th century, he arranged for funding the construction of a dam and its accompanying canals on the Snake River that enabled commercial irrigation for the first time and the development of agriculture, which remains a primary business.

In addition to Twin Falls, two other waterfalls are located in the area: Pilar Falls and Shoshone Falls. Shoshone Falls is one of the largest natural waterfalls in the United States, with a 212 foot drop and a width of 900 feet. The flows over the falls are seasonal runoffs from the Snake River, which carves its way through deep basalt canyons and is the largest tributary to the Columbia River. Peak water flows occur between April and July.

The Twin Falls County Historical Museum is located in the old Union School and exhibits farm machinery that was used to develop the land and such artifacts as butter churns, report cards, vintage clothes, photographs, patent medicines, plows, and postcards.

Located on the College of Southern Idaho campus, Herrett Center for Arts & Science is home to the Faulkner Planetarium and Centennial Observatory. The museum also contains a complete mammoth skeleton, fossils, contemporary art, and artifacts from ancient cultures.

From college productions to world class touring shows, the College of Southern Idaho's Fine Arts Center is the focal point for performing arts in Twin Falls. The Center has three performance facilities: the CSI Fine Arts Auditorium, the CSI Fine Arts Theatre, and the CSI Fine Arts Recital Hall. The restored Historic Orpheum Theatre hosts plays and musicals, comedy events, and classic films. Other performance venues include the Band Shell in City Park, which is home to the Twin Falls Municipal Band's summer concert series. Rock Canyon Amphitheater hosts nationally known groups in various music genres, including rock, country, and Mexicali.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Twin Falls is primarily a commercial and governmental center. The adjacent downtown neighborhood with streets named for the early presidents contains homes that date to the city's early period. Homes are primarily single-story small bungalows on small lots. The Tree Streets neighborhood has older homes, including small bungalows as well as large homes belonging to early commercial town leaders.

Many residential subdivisions were initiated in the early 2000s. Subdivisions that include Sunterra, Northern Passage, Settlers Ridge, Hometown Place, Fieldstone, and Pioneer Court were established in the desirable location near the canyon rim on the northwestern side of the city and are also close to the hospital. Some of these developments feature large, custom-designed homes situated on large lots. The Morning Sun development, on the northeastern side of the city, also features large custom-built houses on large lots.

Many gated communities are located outside the city limits and include the Willows, with homes built in the 1970s and 1980s, and Hidden Lakes and Quail Ridge, where construction began in the 1990s and is ongoing. Some of the developments are situated on the ridge overlooking the canyon and offer views of the canyon.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Twin Falls has 28 city parks, a community swimming pool open year round, and an 18-hole golf course with a driving range and putting and pitching greens. In addition to the band shell, the ADA-accessible City Park also has an open green space and playground equipment.

The 191-acre Dierkes Lake Park offers opportunities for swimming, fishing, nonmotorized boating, biking, and hiking. The park has open green space, playground equipment, a dog training area, and a sand volleyball pit.

Situated on 24 acres, Harmon Park features many possibilities for sports, including 3 lighted softball fields; 2 lighted, full-size baseball fields; 2 batting cages; 6 lighted tennis courts; a sand volleyball pit; a basketball court; 2 horse-shoe pits; and a skate park with 10,000 square feet of concrete surface.

The Sawtooth National Forest and its congressionally designated 754,000-acre Sawtooth National Recreation Area offer recreational opportunities that include bicycling, camping, climbing, fishing, hiking, horse riding, hunting, off-highway vehicle riding, nature viewing, boating, swimming, tubing skiing/snowboarding, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing/snowshoeing. Settings range from primitive and undeveloped, like the Sawtooth Wilderness, to highly developed recreation sites, such as Redfish Lake. In addition, Sawtooth Forest has nearly 1,500 heritage sites recorded, 1,100 lakes, and more than 3,000 miles of rivers and streams.

The Perrine Bridge that spans the Snake River Canyon is one of the nation's few legal take-offs for BASE jumpers.

EDUCATION

Twin Falls School District educates over 9,000 students in 7 elementary schools (grades kindergarten through 5), 2 middle schools (grades 6 through 8), and 2 high schools (grades 9 through 12). The district also operates an alternative middle school and an alternative high school.

Higher education is available at Idaho State University-Twin Falls, which offers bachelor degrees in general studies, psychology, nursing, and education. Boise State University offers degree programs in accounting, general business, criminal justice, and social work in Twin Falls.

The College of Southern Idaho is a public community college that provides transfer and general education, professional-technical education, courses for personal enrichment, and opportunities for high school students to earn college credit.

HEALTH CARE

Twin Falls is served by St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center with 224 licensed beds.

CITY STATS

2015

City Population	47,468
Microropolitan Statistical Area Population	105,189
Per Capita Personal Income, Twin Falls, ID, MSA	\$35,586