



# Corvallis, OR



Corvallis, Oregon, is located in the Willamette River Valley on the confluence of the Willamette and Marys Rivers. The Willamette Valley was the end of the Oregon Trail for migrants to this region in the mid-19th century. Joseph C. Avery made one of the first official claims to land in this area in 1845 and is credited with naming the town Corvallis from the Latin words for “heart of the valley.”

The Benton County Historical Museum, located in the historic Philomath College building, is a history museum, research library, and contemporary art gallery. Other historic buildings in Corvallis include the Benton County Courthouse, Charles Gaylord House, Fiechter House, the one-room Soap Creek Schoolhouse, and the Georgian-styled Willamette Community and Grange Hall.

Opportunities for performing arts are available at the Majestic Theatre and the Corvallis Community Theater, which offer dramas, comedies, and musicals. The Willamette Valley Symphony is a community-based, volunteer symphony orchestra. The Corvallis Youth Symphony performs regularly.

Oregon State University offers concerts, plays, musicals, and other performances at its LaSells Stewart Center and Withycombe Hall Auditorium. The Corvallis-OSU Symphony Orchestra includes professional, student, and local musicians.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

Although nearly 80% of the homes in Corvallis were built after 1950, the city also has historic districts primarily clustered in the areas surrounding and including Oregon State University. Avery-Helm Historic District is located downtown and is a part of the original Joseph C. Avery land claim. College Hill West Historic District is located near the west side of the Oregon State University campus and features single-family homes that date from 1905 to 1945 in Tudor, Bungalow, Colonial, Bungalow, American Foursquare, and Craftsman housing styles. Larger homes with stylistic features were constructed in some areas of College Hill West for influential university figures in the early 1900s; houses in other sections are more modest.

Ranch-style homes dominate the Atomic Ranch neighborhood. This style is often associated with tract housing built from post-World War II through the 1970s and incorporates the long, low to the ground profile typical of the design. Duplexes are also available.

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center is located in the northwestern area of the city and is near neighborhoods, such as Timberhill, Witham Hills, and Glen Ridge Drive. These wooded neighborhoods feature larger lots and larger single-family homes built during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, respectively. Apartments and duplexes are available in some areas.

Home construction in the Willamette Landing neighborhood in the southern portion of the city began in the 1990s and is ongoing. This neighborhood features green homes, recreational facilities, and views of the Willamette River.

The growth of the university has created a general shortage of rental properties, particularly in the surrounding areas.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Corvallis has 37 parks and natural areas. Park amenities include softball, baseball, and soccer fields; basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts; horseshoe pits; playgrounds; fishing; boat ramps; bike paths;

hiking and nature trails; disc golf courses; and off-leash dog parks. The Corvallis BMX Track has a loop track with soil berms, and the Eric Scott McKinley Skate Park is a sculpted arena for skateboarding and BMX bike riding. The Osborn Aquatic Center has outdoor and indoor pools for recreation and exercise.

Willamette Park and Natural Area is the largest park in the city and features significant natural areas, open meadows, and playing fields, including a disc golf course that winds through the park. Most of the park is designated as “off-leash” for dogs. A multimodal path connects the nearby neighborhood of Willamette Landing at one end, the Crystal Lake Sports Fields, which features eight to ten soccer fields and nine baseball fields, and the Willamette Boat Launch at the other end.

Riverfront Commemorative Park borders the commercial district of downtown Corvallis and features views of the Willamette River, decorative sculptures by five different artists, more than 350 ornamental trees, and more than 5,000 decorative shrubs. A multimodal path runs along the park and connects three plazas, the Eric Scott McKinley Skate Park, and Pioneer Park, which runs along Mary's River. The park is home to a Farmers Market in the spring and summer and the annual July Fourth Red, White & Blues Festival.

Central Park features the Central Park Gazebo which serves as the stage for the Corvallis Community Band's free, weekday evening summer concerts. Central Park is also the site for the Fall Festival and Festival of Lights.

The Corvallis Rose Garden at Avery Park displays 1,200 bushes that represent 250 varieties of roses.

Corvallis Knights is a professional baseball team.

## EDUCATION

Corvallis School District educates approximately 6,300 students in seven elementary schools, one K-8 school, two middle schools, and two high schools.

Oregon State University is a research university that offers 200 undergraduate and 100 graduate degree programs throughout its 12 colleges.

## HEALTH CARE

Corvallis is served by one hospital system with 188 licensed beds.

### CITY STATS

2010

City Population	54,462
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	85,527
Per Capita Personal Income, Corvallis, OR, MSA	\$39,937