Ann Arbor, Michigan, is situated on both sides of the Huron River. It is believed that the city was named for the wives of the city’s two founders and for the grove found in the Michigan woods.

The University of Michigan is located in Ann Arbor and is home to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, which collects, preserves, and shares archival materials on domestic issues, foreign relations, and political affairs from the Cold War era. The Bentley Historical Library, Selden Museums of Dentistry, Stearns Musical Collection, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, Jean Paul Slusseller Gallery, Museum of Art, Gallery at Duderstadt Center, and Museum of Natural History and Planetarium are also part of the University.

The Ann Arbor Art Center features rotating exhibition galleries and art courses. Other attractions in Ann Arbor include Delivering Discovery, which provides arts and cultural exhibitions; Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum; the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County; the Kempf House Museum; and the Cobblestone Farm Museum.

Located on the campus of Concordia University, the Kreft Center Gallery provides exhibition space for local and national artists. Power Center for the Performing Arts, Hill Auditorium, Arthur Miller Theatre, Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre, and Rackham Auditorium are performing arts centers located at the University of Michigan. The Kreft Center at Concordia University offers theatrical productions, art exhibitions, and concerts. Other venues include the Kerrytown Concert House, Vitoshia Guest Haus Inn and Pinocchio Theatre, Performance Network Theatre, The Ark, Michigan Theater, and Ann Arbor Civic Theater.

The three-week Ann Arbor Summer Festival offers theatre, dance, music, and comedy performances.

**NEIGHBORHOODS**

The downtown area is experiencing residential growth through the construction of new high-rise apartment buildings, some of which are oriented towards the general population and others toward students. Apartments are widely available in many of the residential areas surrounding the university.

The Old West Side is a large historic district with homes built in diverse architectural styles primarily between the 1830s and 1920s. These two-story wood-sided homes were built with small front yards on small lots. Water Hill is similar to the Old West Side in its diversity of architectural styles, with home building still ongoing since the 1840s. This neighborhood borders the Sunset Hills Nature Area, Kuebler Langford Nature Area, Bird Hills Nature Area, Camp Hilltop Park, and Barton Nature Area. The primarily wood-sided two-story homes in the Eberwhite neighborhood were built in the early to mid-20th century. This neighborhood features Eberwhite Woods, one of the city’s secluded natural areas.

Adjacent to the University of Michigan, Burns Park’s northern area is a popular student neighborhood. The southern portion features larger wood-sided or brick two-story homes built primarily between 1900 and 1930 in the colonial style. Also situated on tree-lined streets, these houses are set back from the curb. Ann Arbor Hills, which is a neighborhood east of Burns Park, features large homes built primarily between 1930 and 1960 in mid-century modern, ranch, colonial, and contemporary styles on large, heavily landscaped lots set on winding streets.

Newer neighborhoods in the city include Riverwood, which was built in the 2000s and features larger two-story homes on smaller lots. Riverwood is surrounded by over 20 acres of open space that includes Riverwood Creek and Riverwood Forest Nature Park. Large custom-built brick, contemporary style homes on large landscaped lots characterize the Newport Creek and Newport Hills neighborhoods constructed within the last 20 years.

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

Ann Arbor has 157 parks with amenities that include basketball and tennis courts, softball and soccer fields, swimming pools, boat launches, ice rinks, dog parks, disc golf, dirt bike tracks, rollerblade hockey, golf courses, and petanque. Parker Mill is a 28-acre park with walking trails, a handicap-accessible wetland boardwalk, interpretive signs, and the Parker Mill Grist Mill, which is functional and open for tours. The Buhr Park features an outdoor swimming pool, Cobblestone Farm, ice skating, in-line skating facility, play area, tennis courts, and softball diamonds.

The University of Michigan Nichols Arboretum offers trails, riverfront, peony and lilac gardens, and native and exotic trees and shrubs. Located nearby, the University of Michigan’s Matthaei Botanical Gardens contains numerous formal gardens, an indoor conservatory, and miles of hiking and discovery trails.

Michigan Stadium is home to the University of Michigan Wolverines and is the largest stadium in North America. The university has 13 men’s and 14 women’s sports teams.

**EDUCATION**

The Ann Arbor Public School District educates approximately 16,500 students in Ann Arbor and parts of eight surrounding townships in 20 elementary, 1 kindergarten to 8th grade open school, 5 middle schools, 3 comprehensive high schools, 3 alternative high schools, and 1 pre-school. Higher education is available at the University of Michigan, which offers bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs as well as professional degrees. The university has a medical school, school of nursing, school of public health, school of dentistry, and college of pharmacy.

Concordia University Ann Arbor is a Lutheran, higher education community that awards bachelor’s degrees and master’s degrees in business, education, and organizational leadership.

Eastern Michigan University is located in nearby Ypsilanti and Washtenaw Community College in nearby Ann Arbor Township.

Thomas M. Cooley Law School is a private, independent accredited law school.

**HEALTH CARE**

Ann Arbor is served by the University of Michigan Health System with a total of 989 hospital beds and a dedicated pediatric hospital. In addition, the VA Ann Arbor Health Care System operates 105 acute care beds and 40 community living center beds for veterans. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital has a total of 537 hospital beds and is located in nearby Superior Township.

**CITY STATS 2012**

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