



# Eugene, OR



Eugene, Oregon, is located on both sides of the Willamette River in the western central portion of the state. The Kalapuya Indians were the first people known to live in the Willamette Valley. The city was named for Eugene Skinner, one of the first settlers seeking land claims in the upper regions of the Willamette Valley and later the city's first mayor. Eugene was incorporated in 1862.

The University of Oregon is home to the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, which exhibits historic and contemporary art; and the Museum of Natural and Cultural History, which contains ethnographic and archaeological objects, fossils, and biological specimens from Oregon, the Pacific Northwest, and around the world. The Science Factory is a hands-on science museum and planetarium. Other museums in Eugene include the Lane County Historical Society & Museum; the Oregon Air and Space Museum; and the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House, which is a historic home designed in the late-era Queen Anne Revival style.

The Springfield Museum features a permanent historical exhibit with interactive elements and artistic exhibits that are rotated monthly.

The Hult Center for the Performing Arts houses six resident companies: Ballet Fantastique, Eugene Ballet Company, Eugene Concert Choir, Eugene Opera, Eugene Symphony, and Oregon Bach Festival. The Center also hosts other local and touring performances, including Broadway shows. Oregon Contemporary Theatre, The Very Little Theater, and Actors Cabaret of Eugene produce series of plays annually. Other concerts are presented at the McDonald Theatre and The Jazz Station. Basketball games and concerts are held at the Matthew Knight Arena at the University of Oregon.

Located at the edge of Alton Baker Park, the Cuthbert Amphitheater offers live music performances by touring bands during the summer.

The Richard E. Wildish Community Theater in Springfield, hosts the following resident companies: Chamber Music Amici, Swing Shift Jazz Orchestra, Rose Children's Theater, and Riverside Chamber Symphony.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Eugene is the civic center and the economic, cultural, and governmental focus of the region. The downtown area also has apartment buildings, such as the renovated Tiffany Building, Broadway Place, and High Street Terrace, and other apartments located above commercial properties.

Eugene has a variety of residential neighborhoods and types of housing. East Eugene consists of the area immediately surrounding the University of Oregon campus, where student housing and rental properties dominate. However, further from the campus, in Fairmount, ranch and two-story homes in various contemporary styles are located on heavily wooded lots along narrow, winding, hilly streets.

Ferry Street Bridge refers to North Eugene across the Willamette River from the downtown area. In addition to the established developments in the Cal Young and Harlow neighborhoods, where construction began in the 1970s, the boundaries are pushing north with newer development particularly in Cal Young. Ranch-style homes dominate these neighborhoods.

Historic College Hill is part of the Friendly neighborhood, which is located in South Eugene, and is one of the city's early suburbs. Housing in College Hill is primarily constructed in bungalow and Revival styles built between 1900 and 1925 on hilly streets; smaller houses were built at the base of the hill following World War II. Other areas of Friendly feature ranch and two-story homes in various contemporary styles located on heavily wooded lots along winding, hilly streets.

The Whiteaker neighborhood in West Eugene consists primarily of two-story homes built between 1950 and 1970. Danebo, at the western edge of Eugene, is a rapidly developing flat area with many subdivisions dating from the 2000s.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Eugene has 82 parks, 8 community centers, the 9-hole Laurelwood Golf Course, 3 pools, and several thousand acres of publicly-owned natural area.

Alton Baker Park, Eugene's largest developed park, consists of two major areas: the more developed West Alton Baker Park and the 237-acre Whilamut Natural Area. Park amenities include the Cuthbert Amphitheater, a BMX track, a boat launch, disc golf, a dog park, exercise stations, looped path, shared-use trail, informal sports/play field, and opportunities for fishing.

The 34.6-acre Maurie Jacobs Park offers lovely views of the river. The park has soccer field, informal sports/play field, community gardens, play

area, and sand play areas. The Greenway Bridge, which provides the zero base mile marker for the Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path system, leads pedestrians from the South and West Bank paths across the Willamette River to the North and East Bank paths.

Wayne Morse Family Farm is a 27-acre park of open space and natural wooded area that was home to Senator Wayne Morse. Park amenities include an off-leash dog park, hiking trail, looped path, performance space, and informal sports/play field.

The almost 63-acre Westmorland Park offers ball fields, disc golf, exercise stations, a looped path, a performance space, a play area, a recreation center, a soccer field, an informal sports/play field, and tennis courts.

With its iconic ribbon, mini-snake run, and a blend of varied skate terrain, the WJ Skatepark is one of the many amenities of Washington Jefferson Park, which also has basketball courts, nationally sanctioned horseshoe pits, and a performance space.

Mount Pisgah Arboretum is a 209-acre living tree museum that lies between the Coast Fork of the Willamette River and the slopes of Mount Pisgah in the Howard Buford Recreation Area.

West Eugene Wetlands is home to rare and unusual animal species and more than 350 species of plants, some of which exist only in the Willamette Valley.

The Cascades Raptor Center rescues, rehabilitates, and releases (if possible) injured birds of prey. The center has 50 resident birds that represent over 24 different species.

Nearby Springfield is home to the Dorris Ranch, a living history farm that is Oregon's oldest working filbert orchard with 9,250 filbert trees planted in 75 acres.

Professional sports include the Eugene Emeralds (baseball), Eugene One Gro (Stags) (rugby), and Eugene Generals (ice hockey).

## EDUCATION

Eugene School District (4J) educates about more than 17,000 students, including most of the students from Eugene as well as students from Coburg and Linn County, in 26 elementary schools, 13 middle schools (including a kindergarten through grade 8 program), and 8 high schools. The Bethel School District, which also is located in Eugene, serves 5,600 students in 5 elementary schools, 2 traditional middle schools, 2 kindergarten through grade 8 schools, a traditional high school, and an alternative high school.

Eugene is also a center for higher education. The University of Oregon, a public research university, offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. Pacific University's College of Education maintains a Eugene Campus. Lane Community College has career and technical and lower-division college classes that lead to associate and transfer degrees, certificate programs, and community education both on campus and online.

Eugene is also home to Northwest Christian University, which is a private, Christian liberal arts college; New Hope Christian College, which is a private, four-year Bible college; and Gutenberg College, which offers an undergraduate "Greats Books" liberal arts program.

## HEALTH CARE

The following health care facilities are located in Eugene: (PeaceHealth) Sacred Heart University District: 104 licensed beds. Serenity Lane: 55 beds drug and alcohol abuse treatment center. The following health care facilities are located in Springfield: (PeaceHealth) Sacred Heart Medical Center-Riverbend: 351 licensed beds. McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center: 113 licensed beds.

## CITY STATS

	2016
City Population	166,575
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	369,519
Per Capita Personal Income, Eugene-Springfield (MSA):	\$41,027