Columbus is the capital of Ohio and the state’s largest city with more than 730,000 people. Newsweek magazine calls Columbus one of America’s most livable cities, and it’s not surprising. Spread out over 225 square miles, Columbus offers a bustling downtown, quaint neighborhoods, lazy rivers, and lots to see and do.

Surrounding Neighborhoods

South Campus Gateway

The redevelopment of the campus’s southern gateway along High Street offers restaurants and entertainment venues, shopping, a theater, and apartments. This mixed-use urban complex adds vibrancy and a sleek new look to the east border of campus.

Landmark’s Gateway Theatre, 1550 N. High Street, (614) 545-2255, Features a café, a lounge, and seven state-of-the art movie theaters offering a mix of commercial and art films.

Barnes & Noble, The Ohio State University Bookstore, 1598 N. High Street, (614) 247-2000. One of only 11 Barnes & Noble academic superstores in the country. Features academic, trade book, and periodical sections, as well as Buckeye gear.

Short North Arts District

This area between campus and downtown along High Street features excellent restaurants, shopping, and art galleries. The Short North is home to a Gallery Hop on the first Saturday of every month. Held in the early evening, the hop is a must for lovers of arts and crafts, as gallery owners open their doors for extended hours, sometimes offering hors d’oeuvres while visitors enjoy the exhibits.

Arena District

This dynamic area surrounds the Nationwide Arena with its urban village housing, office space, restaurants, and movie theater.

Nationwide Arena, 200 W. Nationwide Boulevard, (614) 246-2000, nationwidearena.com. Located in the Scioto River Peninsula in downtown Columbus, Nationwide Arena is home to the Columbus Blue Jackets ice hockey team and a site for shows, concerts, and exhibitions.

Arena Grand Theatre, 175 W. Nationwide Boulevard, (614) 469-5000, areagrand.com. Features an eight-screen all-THX stadium movie theater and café.

North Market, 59 Spruce Street, (614) 463-9664, northmarket.com. A historic public market in the Arena District, the North Market has been home to butchers, bakers, fishmongers, green grocers, and farmers since 1876. Those establishments are still there, joined by a unique collection of shops and restaurants.

Downtown

About two miles south of campus is downtown Columbus where many major companies have their national headquarters. However, the downtown area is anything but just business. Visitors will find award-winning restaurants, theaters, galleries, and museums, as well as the confluence of the Olentangy and Scioto Rivers, both of which are lined with beautiful, tranquil parks.

Columbus Museum of Art, 480 E. Broad Street, (614) 221-6801, columbusmuseum.org. Permanent collections of European and American artworks, traveling exhibitions, ethnographic and decorative arts, gift shops, and a café. Open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday; closed Monday and holidays.
**Columbus Symphony Orchestra**, 55 E. State Street, (614) 228-8600, [columbussymphony.com](http://columbussymphony.com). The highly acclaimed orchestra performs classical and pops concerts in the Ohio Theatre and outdoors with Picnic with the Pops. Call for show times.

**COSI–Center of Science and Industry**, 333 W. Broad Street, (614) 228-COSI, [cosi.org](http://cosi.org). Hands-on science exhibits make discovery fun for children and adults. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

**Franklin Park Conservatory**, 1777 E. Broad Street, (614) 645-TREE, [fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org). Four climates are housed in this horticultural landmark that also includes bonsai and orchid collections, a gift shop, and a café. The conservatory is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday.

**The King Arts Complex**, 867 Mount Vernon Avenue, (614) 645-KING, [kingartscomplex.com](http://kingartscomplex.com). A cultural and performing arts facility housing the Elijah Pierce Gallery and hosting a variety of music, dance, theater, and literary events. The gallery is open from 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday.

**Ohio Statehouse**, Broad Street and High Street, (614) 446-2125, [statehouse.state.oh.us](http://statehouse.state.oh.us). The center of downtown is home to this beautiful example of Greek/Doric architecture, including a dome detailed with 24-carat gold leaf. The Statehouse is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends. Free guided tours are available every day.

**Ohio Theatre**, 55 E. State Street, (614) 469-0939. This beautifully ornate, grand old theater is a venue for top touring pop, jazz, and classical entertainers and home to a summer classic film series. Call for show times.

**Palace Theatre**, 34 W. Broad Street, (614) 469-9850. Designed to resemble France’s Palais de Versailles, the Palace is home to Opera Columbus. The Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Jazz Arts Group, and the Broadway Series also performs here.

**Southern Theatre**, 21 E. Main Street, (614) 340-9698. Columbus’s only remaining 19th-century theater hosts jazz, opera, classic, and popular entertainers. Call for show times.

**Victorian Village**

Bordering the campus on the south is the neighborhood known as Victorian Village. Named for its restored Victorian-style architecture, the village also offers lovely front-yard gardens and Goodale Park.

**German Village**

Just south of downtown is the neighborhood of German Village, renowned for its beautifully restored brick homes and cobblestone streets. German Village is also known for its fine restaurants, galleries, shops, and bookstores.

**Brewery District**, High and Front Streets, (614) 241-2070. The renovated and remodeled brewery buildings house fine shops and restaurants, outdoor concerts and summer events.

**Grandview**

Across the river from the university is the community of Grandview, a rapidly growing neighborhood that is quickly becoming a haven of culture. Grandview also boasts its share of fine restaurants, cafés, and shops.

**Shopping**

**Easton Town Center**, 4004 Morse Crossing, (614) 337-2200, [eastontowncenter.com](http://eastontowncenter.com). Innovative shopping, dining, and entertainment center located in northeast Columbus near the intersection of I-270 and Morse Road. Features indoor and outdoor shopping and dining, theaters, storefronts with Georgian architecture, green space, and pedestrian walkways.

**Lennox Town Center**, Olentangy River Road and Kinnear Road, (614) 228-5331. Southwest of the Ohio State campus, Lennox boasts a theater, shops, and restaurants including Target, Old Navy, Don Pablo’s, and Johnny Rockets.
Other Attractions

Columbus Zoo, 9990 Riverside Drive, Powell, (614) 645-3550, colszoo.org. A world-class zoo featuring more than 700 species and 11,000 specimens of wildlife. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day of the year.

Ohio Historical Center, 1982 Velma Avenue, (614) 297-2300, ohiohistory.org. Just off I-71 north of downtown, the museum features exhibits about Ohio’s history, natural history, and prehistory. Open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday; from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

Olentangy Indian Caverns, 1779 Home Road, Delaware, (614) 548-7917 olentangyindiancaverns.com. Off U.S. 23 six miles north of I-270. Tour the three-level caverns and see the geological displays at the cave house museum. Open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October.

Sports Ohio, 6314 Cosgray Road, (614) 764-1000 sports-ohio.com. This sports complex features the Chiller, two indoor ice-skating rinks, a soccer field, batting cages, miniature golf, and a pro shop. Call for public skating times.

Thurber House, 77 Jefferson Avenue, (614) 464-1032, thurberhouse.org. Literary center, museum, and bookstore that hosts a reading series of nationally known authors. Open from 1 to 4 p.m. daily. Free self-guided tours are available Monday through Saturday. Call for event information.

Professional Sports

Columbus Blue Jackets, bluejackets.com. This National Hockey League team plays in Nationwide Arena in downtown Columbus. Season begins in October.

Columbus Clippers, clippersbaseball.com. A Triple-A baseball franchise in the International League, the Clippers are an affiliate of the Washington Nationals. Their current home field is Cooper Stadium.

Columbus Crew, thecrew.com. The city’s Major League Soccer franchise plays in the first stadium in the country dedicated to soccer—Crew Stadium. Season runs April through September.

Columbus Destroyers, columbusdestroyers.com. This Arena Football League team plays in Nationwide Arena in downtown Columbus. Season runs February through May.

Conveniently Located Area Banks

5/3
1960 N. High Street
(614) 291-2017
OSU Hospital
450 W. 10th Avenue
(614) 293-2155
53.com

CHASE
1698 N. High Street
(614) 248-2624
chase.com

Credit Union of Ohio
1660 Neil Avenue
800-443-5698
cuofohio.org

Huntington Bank
1928 N. High Street
(614) 480-0026
huntington.com

Key Bank
1672 W. 5th Avenue
(614) 486-0040
keybank.com

National City
1886 N. High Street
(614) 297-5420
nationalcity.com

US Bank
1894 N. High Street
(614) 291-6960
usbank.com
Weather

Greater Columbus has a mild, temperate climate with four distinct seasons. The region’s weather can be characterized by the following:

**Yearly Averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear Days</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloudy Days</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partly Cloudy Days</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Days</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precipitation Days</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Days</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-Degree Days</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freezing (below 32˚F) Days:</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0˚F Days</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainfall:</td>
<td>37 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowfall</td>
<td>28 inches</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Average High and Low Temperatures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>High °F</th>
<th>Low °F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Temperature Ranges per Month**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Min. °F</th>
<th>Max. °F</th>
<th>Mean °F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul.</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>71.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep.</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>65.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Places Rated Almanac, 1997

Visiting Ohio State

**Campus Tours**

Students considering Ohio State as a college option and their families or friends can arrange to take a campus tour. Campus tours are available twice a day on weekdays and on many Saturdays. Tours must be scheduled two weeks in advance by visiting campusvisit.osu.edu or calling (614) 292-3980.

**Accommodations**

We understand that for some of our guests, it is quite a commute to Ohio State’s Columbus campus. Information regarding accommodations convenient to campus can be found at osu.edu/visitors/accommodations.php.

**University Affiliated Hotels**

**The Blackwell**
2110 Tuttle Park Place
(614) 247-4000
theblackwell.com

**More Information**

For more information about things to do and places to go in Columbus, visit the Experience Columbus web site at experiencecolumbus.com.