



Cincinnati City/County Backgrounder

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About the Area

CincinnatiUSA is a river city rich with history, yet utterly contemporary; a city with unforgettable sweeping views and a compact regional footprint. More to see, more to do and more than meets the eye. Every experience is set against a dazzling backdrop of hills, the Ohio River and our shimmering skylines on both sides of the river.

The city is located about mid-point on the shoreline of the 981-mile long Ohio River. Cincinnati is known for its rolling hills, wooded suburbs, revitalized downtown, riverfront, a dynamic workforce and environment where businesses grow and people thrive. *Fortune Magazine* calls Cincinnati one of the Top 10 places in the country to live and work. The region boasts 5,000 acres of parks and green space, miles of trails, bike routes and scenic overlooks along the Ohio River Corridor, and an internationally renowned arts, cultural and entertainment scene. Cincinnati also has two professional sports teams and college and semi-pro sports experiences.

There are 77.2 square miles in the city itself. The city's population is about 365,000. The metropolitan area in Ohio consists of Hamilton, Clermont and Warren Counties. The metropolitan Cincinnati population is 1,900,000.

Story Ideas

- Cincinnati has America's first professional baseball team the Cincinnati Reds
- "The World's Sexiest Zoo," The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden – More births than any other Zoo
- The World's largest Oktoberfest outside of Munich – America's Oktoberfest Zinzinnati
- The oldest Choral Music Group in America, May Festival – At Cincinnati Music Hall
- The First U.S. Museum of Contemporary Arts – The Contemporary Arts Center, designed by an Iranian Female Architect, Zaha Hadid.
- Just selected to host to the July 2012 World Choir Games
- Home to the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra – the only orchestra asked to open the 2008 Olympic Games in China
- Some of Cincinnati's most recent designations :

- Cincinnati USA was named the Best Walking City in Ohio and ranked 10th in the nation, according to *Prevention Magazine* and the American Podiatric Medical Association.
- *Outside Magazine* 2009 named Cincinnati, one of the Top 10 outdoor activity cities with our Paddlefest, Flying Pig Marathon and Cincinnati Triathlon.
- *Esquire Magazine* ranks Cincinnati as seventh on its Top-10 list of “Cities that Rock.” Cities were chosen based on the talent in their music scenes, venues and record stores. Cincinnati’s musical history includes Syd Nathan’s King Records, which produced tracks from James Brown, John Lee Hooker, the Stanley Brothers and Hank Ballard in the 1940s and ‘50s to Bootsy Collins, Greg Dulli (Afghan Whigs) and Peter Frampton.

Attractions

- BB Riverboats
- Beach Waterpark
- Cincinnati Art Museum
- Cincinnati Bengals (Football)
- Cincinnati Reds (Baseball)
- Cincinnati Museum Center – five museums under one roof
- Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
- Coney Island Waterpark
- Contemporary Arts Center
- Fountain Square
- Kings Island
- Krohn Conservatory
- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
- Taft Museum of Art

Annual Events

- Appalachian Festival (Mother’s Day Weekend)
- Cincinnati Reds Opening Day Parade (April)
- Cincinnati Reds Baseball (April-September)
- Civil Rights Game Weekend Celebration (3rd Weekend in June)
- Flying Pig Marathon (1st Weekend in May)
- Taste of Cincinnati (Memorial Day Weekend)
- Macy’s Music Festival (Last Weekend in July)
- Midpoint Music Festival (Last weekend in September)
- Oktoberfest Zinzinnati (3rd Weekend in September)
- Riverfest (Sunday before Labor Day) – 33rd Annual Fireworks Celebration
- Riverspan – 3rd Weekend in June

Location/Getting Here*

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) is ranked No. 1 in the U.S. and No. 10 in the world by International Air Transport Association

- New lower Delta fares with savings upwards of 70 percent
- The fastest-growing major airport in the world—Delta Air Lines' second largest hub (after Atlanta)—and within 600 miles of 60 percent of the country's population.
- Nearly 250 daily departures & 90+ non-stop destinations

Interstates I-75, I-71 and I-74 link the Cincinnati USA region to the rest of the continental United States

- Trucks reach 20 major metro markets within 400 miles and 30 major metro markets within 600 miles
- Four major railroad systems serve the Cincinnati USA region; Amtrak, CSX, Conrail and Norfolk Southern

- Metro bus system links downtown with the suburbs, while TANK links downtown with Northern Kentucky

Port Cincinnati is the fifth-largest inland port

- 52.3 million tons pass annually through Cincinnati USA on the Ohio River
- Milder climate means the river doesn't freeze, offering a year-round mode of transport

Cultural History/Diversity*

For more information on Cincinnati's cultural offerings, please make sure to check out www.cincinnatiusa.com/multicultural.

Multicultural Festivals:

- Celtic Fest
- Cincy Cinco
- Juneteenth
- Macy's Music Festival
- Midwest Black Family Reunion – Largest in Midwest
- Museum Center – Passport to Europe Festivals
- Oktoberfest Zinzinnati
- Pangeyri Greek Festival
- Salsa Festival

Climate*

The area's continental climate produces a wide range of temperatures from winter to summer. Winters are moderately cold with frequent periods of extensive cloudiness; summers are warm and humid with temperatures reaching 90 degrees about 19 days each year.

- Area: 78 square miles (2000)
- Elevation: 869 feet above sea level
- Average Temperatures: January, 28.9° F; July, 75.3° F; annual average, 53.3° F
- Average Annual Precipitation: 40.14 inches (23.9 inches of snow)

Economy*

Greater Cincinnati is the headquarters city for various national and international companies such as American Financial Corporation, Duke Energy, The Kroger Company, Chiquita Brands International, Cincinnati Milacron, Procter & Gamble Company, Western-Southern Insurance and more. The city is a world leader in production of machine tools, playing cards, soaps and detergents. It figures prominently in the production of building materials, cans, chemicals, clothing, cosmetics, electronic equipment, jet engines and valves. Cincinnati USA is home to 10 Fortune 500 companies and two Fortune 100 companies.

- 700 WLW – nation's largest AM radio station, once hosted the first soap opera "the Guiding Light" present by Ivory Soap and P&G
- Great American Insurance is building what will be the tallest building in Cincinnati to house their global headquarters and has purchased the naming rights to the Cincinnati Reds Ball Park – Great American Ball Park
- Trade Area is markets within 600 miles – more than half the country is within half a day's drive!
- Average age is 43 with a household income of \$78,000 and 55 percent are families with children
- Travel Party Size of 3.7 and Average number of travel trips is 3.5 per year

Lodging*

Cincinnati is a regional destination with a selection of accommodations from boutique hotels, to bed and breakfasts to chain hotels. You can find all the hotels listed on www.cincinnatiusa.com/hotels.

Did You Know?*

- **Cincinnati-Style Chili** – Between Skyline Chili, Goldstar Chili and other Cincinnati chili restaurants (more than 140 in all!), Cincinnati eat more than 2 million pounds of chili each year topped by 850,000 pounds of shredded cheddar cheese. Cincinnati chili sauce contains finely ground beef, seasoned with a mixture of spices. Some aficionados report a distinct hint of cinnamon and sometimes even chocolate. It is characteristically served over spaghetti or as coney sauce, with oyster crackers on the side.
- **Ice cream** – Cincinnati is home to Graeter's ice cream. Graeter's, founded in 1870 by Louis C. Graeter, is a Cincinnati tradition with Graeter's French Pot ice cream, handmade chocolate confections and fresh baked goods found at locations all over the city. Today, the Graeter family, consisting of three grandchildren and three great-grandsons of Louis Graeter, still faithfully use the over one-century old recipes and methods of production in the Reading Road plant. Now with the goal of national distribution, they will be multiplying production each of the next few years.
- **Goetta** – Primarily composed of ground meat and steel-cut oats and flavored with bay leaves, rosemary, salt, pepper and thyme, this dish originated with German settlers who immigrated to the Cincinnati area in the 19th century. The modern popularity of goetta in Cincinnati has led to it being called "Cincinnati Caviar." Glier's Goetta, the largest commercial producer of goetta, produces more than 1 million pounds annually, around 99 percent of which is consumed locally in greater Cincinnati. Cincinnati is home to two Goettafests, Glier's Goettafest on the Levee Banks of the Ohio and Mainstrasse Goettafest in historic Mainstrasse Village.
- CincinnatiUSA is a big city with a friendly warm, small town feel where travelers will be right at home.
- Cincinnati encompasses a tri-state area: Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio
- A terrific weekend getaway for families. All year, families can enjoy professional sports, thrill rides at our theme parks and live exhibits at our zoo as well as our museums.
- Home to a thriving arts community that rivals any major metropolitan city.
- CincinnatiUSA is a creative center with a successful advertising and branding community that serves many of the Fortune 500 companies such as Proctor & Gamble.
- Cornhole originated on the West Side of Cincinnati
- Queen City: Cincinnati's rapid growth in the early 1800s precipitated the nickname the Queen City. As steamboats helped Cincinnati become the chief port on the Ohio River, the city shipped goods to both the Eastern U.S. and to foreign countries. The city, the fastest growing in the nation between 1835 and the 1850s, became the largest city in Ohio and the largest city in the Midwest prior to the Civil War, giving it regal status and the moniker "The Queen City of the West."
- Findlay Market is the longest running outdoor market in Ohio
- Roebling Bridge is the model for the Brooklyn Bridge
- Museum Center at Union Terminal is the second-largest half-dome venue in the world
- Public water fountains created here

Cincinnati Firsts:

- 1835: First bag of airmail lifted by a hot air balloon.
- 1849: First city in the U.S. to hold a municipal song festival - Saengerfest.
- 1850: First city in the U.S. to publish greeting cards - Gibson Greeting Card Company.

- 1853: First practical steam fire engine. First city to establish a municipal fire department and first firemen's pole.
- 1869: First city to establish a weather bureau.
- 1869: First professional baseball team - the Cincinnati Red Stockings, now known as the Cincinnati Reds.
- 1870: First city in the U.S. to establish a municipal university - University of Cincinnati.
- 1880: First city in which a woman, Maria Longworth Nichols Storer, began and operated a large manufacturing operation - Rookwood Pottery.
- 1880: First and only city to build and own a major railroad.
- 1902: First concrete skyscraper built in the U.S. - the Ingalls Building.
- 1905: Daniel Carter Beard founded the Sons of Daniel Boone, later known as the Boy Scouts of America.
- 1935: First night baseball game played under lights.
- 1952: First heart-lung machine makes open heart surgery possible. Developed at Children's Hospital Medical Center.
- 1954: First city to have a licensed Public television station - WCET TV.

Most Noteworthy Residents and Famous People:

- Boomer Esiason
- Bootsy Collins, rock-n-roll hall of famer and funk music legend
- Chris Collinsworth
- Doris Day
- Jerry Springer
- Jim Dine, visual artist
- Ken Griffey Jr. and Sr.
- Neil Armstrong
- Nick, Rosemary and George Clooney
- Nick Lachey of 98 Degrees
- Oscar "Big O" Robertson
- Peter Frampton, rock musician
- Pete Rose
- Sarah Jessica Parker, actress
- Steven Spielberg, movie producer
- WKRP in Cincinnati