

Meet **Minneapolis**

City by Nature

MEDIA KIT



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Meet **Minneapolis**
City by Nature

YOU'VE NEVER MET A PLACE QUITE LIKE THIS

Meet the biggest underestimated place in the north. A dramatic riverfront skyline, three professional sports stadiums within 1.3 miles, so much art you're literally surrounded by it and a theater on almost every corner. A culture committed to perfecting the craft of the brew, the best park system in the nation, and a foodie paradise where you can get Nordic cuisine for breakfast, Ethiopian for lunch and this thing called a "Jucy Lucy" for dinner - and, oh yeah, cocktails on a Ferris wheel. A place to bring your dancing shoes and party at festivals all year round, enjoy four gorgeous seasons surrounded by 22 lakes, the Mississippi River and a waterfall, and meet friendly locals who can't wait to show you why they love living here.

CONDÉ NAST

Condé Nast Traveler listed Minneapolis as one of
18 Best Places to Visit in 2018

HAVE YOU HEARD?

**Minneapolis named ONE OF 30
TOP USA CITIES TO VISIT IN 2018**

-Trip Advisor, 2018

**Minneapolis named one of
seven winter wonderlands
around the world**

-Hub United, 2018

**Minneapolis ranked #1
AIRPORT IN WORLD on-
time percentage**

-OAG Aviation Group, 2018

**Critics rave about the city's
parks and urban beauty,
world-class dining scene,
burgeoning craft brewries and
distilleries, design prowess,
professional sports offerings
and more.**

-Trivago Magazine, 2018

THE BASICS

CITY POPULATION

U.S. Census

Minneapolis: 422,331 (2017)

Hennepin County: 1,252,024 (2017)

Downtown: 49,781 (2019)

16th largest metro area

GEOGRAPHY

Latitude: 44° 58' 39"

North Longitude: 93° 15' 56" West

Area: 59 square miles or 37,516 acres

Land: 35,244 acres

Water: 2,324 acres

Lakes: 22

Elevation: 824 feet above sea level

TALLEST BUILDING

IDS Center: 57 stories, 775 feet

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES

Public: 3 Private: 8

WEATHER

Average high in January: 24° F

Average high in July: 83° F

Average annual precipitation:

30.64 inches

Average annual snowfall:

55 inches

SALES TAX

8.025% (downtown Minneapolis)

6.875% (elsewhere-statewide)

*There is no sales tax on apparel or shoes in Minnesota



FAST FACTS

MINNESOTA

Settled: 1858

Capitol: Saint Paul

State Bird: Common Loon

State Fish: Walleye Pike

State Flower: Pink and White Lady's Slipper

STATE POPULATION

5,611,179 (2018 U.S. Census estimate)

Geography Area: 86,943 square miles

Water: 7,326 square miles of Minnesota are covered by water

LAKES

11,842 (22 within Minneapolis city limits)

ANNUAL VISITOR STATISTICS (METRO AREA)

2017: 33.3 million

2012: 27.9 million

2008: 17.9 million

2000: 11.1 million

1990: 4.5 million

MINNEAPOLIS HISTORIC NICKNAMES

Mill City

City of Lakes

DID YOU KNOW?

With more than 183,000 miles, Minnesota has more shoreline than Hawaii, California and Florida combined!



MINNEAPOLIS ICONS

Visitors will find a lot of must-sees in Minneapolis. Here is a quick guide to the top 10 icons that represent the city's diverse offerings.

SPOONBRIDGE AND CHERRY

This has been Minneapolis' signature sculpture since its completion by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje Van Bruggen in 1988. The spoon tips the scale at 5,800 pounds and the cherry weighs 1,200 pounds! The 17-acre Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, where the Spoonbridge and Cherry reside, is one of the largest of its kind and includes more than 40 works of art. It's also just across the street from the renowned Walker Art Center, which was renovated in June 2017.

FIRST AVENUE & 7TH STREET ENTRY

Featured in "Purple Rain," this Minneapolis classic is still one of the hottest clubs in town. Stop in and rock out to musical stylings from major national acts and local emerging artists. It was named one of 10 best live music venues in America by *Rolling Stone*, December 2018.

FREDERICK R. WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

Housed in a striking stainless steel building, the Frank Gehry-designed Weisman is a unique museum experience. A teaching museum for the University of Minnesota and the community, its collection features early 20th-century American artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, Alfred Maurer and Marsden Hartley.

BDE MAKKA SKA *fī cfa Yf̄m@_Y7U\ci bē*

Part of the Chain of Lakes, Bde Maka Ska is a popular site for windsurfing, swimming, sailing and canoeing. More than three miles of trails for walking, jogging, biking and in-line skating encircle the lake with the unique Minneapolis skyline as its urban backdrop. The popular lake is also part of the 52-mile Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway. Bde Maka Ska is the lake's original Dakota name, meaning "White Earth Lake," and was formally renamed in 2018.

STONE ARCH BRIDGE

Enjoy the roaring St. Anthony Falls with a stroll across the Stone Arch Bridge – the only one of its kind to span the Mississippi River. As part of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Trail, this pedestrian crossing is the oldest mainline railroad bridge in the Northwest. Chronicling Minneapolis' milling history are the nearby Mill Ruins Park and Mill City Museum.

FLAGSHIP TARGET STORE

This two-story retail hot spot lies in the heart of downtown action, just down the street from Target Corporation's world headquarters. With a unique escalator for shopping carts, this flagship retail experience shouldn't be missed.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Minneapolis is one of the top
40 most vibrant art
communities in America
in 2018

-SMU Data Arts, 2018

Minneapolis named one of
10 least stressful cities to
fly to

-Remedy Review, 2018

SKYWAY HIGHWAY

Glass-enclosed, elevated walkways provide comfortable, convenient connections between downtown restaurants, shops and more. The Minneapolis skyway system links hotels, restaurants, shopping malls, office buildings, performance venues and attractions via glass-enclosed walkways one floor above street level. The first skyway opened with fanfare in 1962 and many more followed. Today, a typical skyway in the city's retail core accommodates thousands of shoppers, sightseers and office workers every day.

So where is everybody going? Almost anywhere, considering the skyway system spans more than 9 miles and accesses the Minneapolis Convention Center, Orchestra Hall, the State Theatre, Target Center, most downtown hotels, and many popular shops and restaurants. Banks, dry cleaners and salons line the city's skyway highway, too - as if staying high and dry in the rain or snow weren't enough. Directional signs and maps aid navigation in the skyway system.



UPTOWN THEATRE SIGN

Just south of downtown, Uptown is the center of Minneapolis' hip energy, and includes off-beat shopping, late-night dining and vibrant nightlife. Just steps from the Chain of Lakes, Uptown has everything an urban neighborhood should and then some. You'll know you've entered Uptown when you see the iconic Uptown Theatre sign towering over the neighborhood and the more than 100-year-old art deco movie house.

GUTHRIE THEATER

The stunning Jean Nouvel-designed riverfront home for the world-renowned theater company opened in July 2006 and has earned numerous design awards including The Pritzker Architecture Prize. With three theaters, 11 bars, spacious lobby space and the Endless Bridge offering breathtaking views of the surrounding area, the bold blue building laid the groundwork for continued growth in the Mill District.

MARY TYLER MOORE STATUE

Stop for a photo with the bronze statue where the statue sits on the corner of 7th Street and Nicollet near where the "Mary Tyler Moore Show" credits were filmed. The show's setting was in Minneapolis.

SKYWAYS

The skyway system is one of our most striking assets. One floor above ground, this over 9-mile system links shopping, restaurants, entertainment and more through enclosed elevated walkways. It connects over 80 blocks of downtown Minneapolis in climate-controlled bliss. The skyway expanded further when the new connection was made to U.S. Bank Stadium in July 2016.

DID YOU KNOW?

**THE SKYWAY CONNECTS MORE THAN 80 BLOCKS, NEARLY 6,000
HOTEL ROOMS, THOUSANDS OF BUSINESSES AND HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS OF PEDESTRIANS EVERY DAY.**



SEASONS

.....

The beauty and sophistication of Minneapolis is augmented by its striking seasonal variety. Whether nestled by a crackling fire, sipping wine or snowboarding at Theodore Wirth Park; strolling through the Walker Art Center’s world-class sculpture garden or stopping to smell the flowers at Lake Harriet’s rose gardens; watching movies under the stars at one of Minneapolis’ city parks or playing in the water at one of the city’s 22 lakes; apple picking in crisp autumn air or admiring the colorful fall foliage; visitors and residents alike will enjoy the abundance of activities each season brings.

SPRING

[April through May]: Spring in Minnesota varies widely and weather may be glorious or erratic and visitors should pack a heavy jacket. April shows the first true signs of spring when snow melts and gentle showers abound. By May, flowers have pushed their way out of hibernation, trees blossom, gardens are planted and the city bursts into life.

SUMMER

[June through August]: The city sizzles with temperatures in the mid-eighties and high humidity levels make it the perfect season to hang out at one of Minnesota’s 10,000+ lakes! Downtown restaurants have sidewalk seating and the city is alive with bikers, joggers, sunbathers and festivals. Shorts and sandals are the standard uniform and the abundance of lakes make bathing suits and beach towels a must.

FALL

[September through late November]: As the air turns crisp and leaves turn to deep golds, oranges and reds, fall is easily one of the most beautiful times in Minneapolis. Visitors can enjoy striking autumn colors and lively outdoor activities in mild temperatures by packing a sweater or a light jacket. Autumn foliage peaks late-September on Minnesota's North Shore and slowly spreads throughout the state and into the cities by mid-October, making the transition from summer to winter a long and leisurely one.

WINTER

[Late November through March]: Snuggled under a white blanket of snow, winter is our coldest season and though vegetation may be hibernating, the city is not. During our winter season lakes are alive with skaters, our landscape is full of snowmen and snowshoers, and downtown bustles with shoppers and diners. Minneapolis has the country’s largest network of glass-enclosed, climate-controlled skyways; however, a winter coat, gloves, hat, scarf and boots are necessary so you can get out and take part in one of our many active winter sports and festivals like the Great Northern Festival.

DID YOU KNOW?

ON AVERAGE:

- JANUARY = COOLEST MONTH**
- FEBRUARY = DRIEST MONTH AND MOST CLEAR DAYS**
- JULY = WARMEST MONTH**
- AUGUST = WETTEST MONTH**
- DECEMBER = MOST CLOUDY DAYS**

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOODS

Stroll from the iconic Sculpture Garden by Loring Park to the picturesque Mississippi river to catch the sunset on the skyline in Northeast. Get the High Score at an all-night pinball bar in Lyn Lake. Or enjoy an incredible Ethiopian meal in Cedar-Riverside. All without ever leaving the city limits.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

"Taken together, the Twin Cities today are less a New Scandinavia and more a varied, singularly American cultural smorgasbord"

-Travel + Leisure, 2018

Diverse Minneapolis was also recently named by *Forbes* magazine as:

"America's healthiest city; it is also wealthy and wise. Every neighborhood - from the hipster art party vibe of northeast to the foodie, lakeside culture Linden Hills in the southwest - has the capacity to charm, delight and incubate The Next Big Thing."



..... DOWNTOWN

Locals work and play in downtown Minneapolis. They live there too, in artsy lofts and upscale condos – nearly 50,000 residents call downtown home. That's because this glittering metropolis, which overlooks the scenic Mississippi River, is easy to get to, easy to get around and easily one of the most vibrant, engaging cities in America. Hot restaurants, cool shops, festive events and diverse entertainment ranging from professional sports to Broadway shows keep downtown constantly buzzing. Safe, friendly and compact, downtown is a destination and a community in one.

DOWNTOWN CENTRAL

The city's glimmering steel and glass core spans more than 50 square blocks, encompassing the financial, retail and theater districts. Sidewalk cafes, window displays and outdoor concerts have people flocking to the streets, while the city's second-story skyway system links restaurants, stores, theaters, hotels and the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Home to: Hennepin Theatre District, IDS Center, Nicollet Mall, Foshay Tower, Target Center

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT/NORTH LOOP

Flush with historic charm, as well as design firms, breweries and boutiques, the North Loop reflects the city's creative streak. Weathered brick buildings that served the previous century's industrial boom now house hip restaurants, shops and art galleries. Located on downtown's northwestern edge, the district is the epicenter of Minneapolis nightlife, offering music venues, comedy clubs, sports bars and brewpubs.

Home to: Target Field, ACME Comedy Club, Fine Line Music Cafe, Edwards Dessert Kitchen

RIVERFRONT/ MILL DISTRICT

Idyllic parks and pathways, landmark restaurants and historical attractions line the banks of the Mississippi River, which once fueled Minneapolis' flour milling boom and now defines downtown's northern edge. Many milling era buildings have been reborn as housing and cultural venues, while concerts and festivals along historic cobblestone Main Street further enliven this ever-evolving neighborhood.

Home to: Guthrie Theater, Mill City Museum, Gold Medal Park, St. Anthony Falls, Stone Arch Bridge, Mill Ruins Park, MacPhail Center for Music

LORING PARK

Located on the southwestern edge of downtown Minneapolis, Loring Park revolves around its namesake green space. Its popular restaurants offer city skyline views and intimate theaters present original productions. An eye-catching suspension bridge connects Loring Park to the Walker Art Center and Minneapolis Sculpture Garden.

Home to: Basilica of St. Mary, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Minneapolis Convention Center, Orchestra Hall, Peavey Plaza

NORTHEAST ('NORDEAST')

Ethnic churches and restaurants highlight this long established, newly imagined neighborhood, located just across the Mississippi River from downtown Minneapolis. New immigrant populations add flavor to the global dining scene, while artists living and working in the area's brick warehouses shape the city's visual arts scene including Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association's First Thursdays, where they offer an Open Studio and Gallery Tour held the first Thursday of each month. Dance clubs, tap rooms and fun bars create a vibrant come-one come-all nightlife scene.

Home to: Young Joni, Ritz Theater, St. Anthony Main Theater, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Northrop King Building, Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, Betty Betty Danger's Country Club, Popol Vuh & Centro

UPTOWN

Decidedly urban and unabashedly hip, Uptown supplies trendy 20- and 30-somethings with cutting-edge cuisine, intoxicating nightlife, funky, high-end fashions, independent movie theaters and home accessories. Located immediately south of downtown Minneapolis, just steps away from the scenic Chain of Lakes, Uptown centers around the intersection of Hennepin Avenue and Lake Street, where coffee shops, restaurants and salon-spas abound.

Home to: Uptown Theatre, Lagoon Theatre, Calhoun Square, Bde Maka Ska (Formerly Lake Calhoun), Midtown Greenway, Lake of the Isles

LINDEN HILLS

A modern village with a view of the downtown skyline, Linden Hills occupies an idyllic pocket of southwest Minneapolis between Bde Maka Ska (formerly Lake Calhoun) and Harriet. Born as a resort community at the turn of the century, the area remains an escape from the everyday – a unique shopping and dining destination minutes from beaches, gardens, concerts and winding recreational paths.

Home to: Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway, Chain of Lakes, Lyndale Park Rose Garden

WHITTIER

More than 50 ethnic restaurants, groceries and cafes form the urban buffet known as "Eat Street," a 17-block stretch of Nicollet Avenue running south from downtown Minneapolis. Asian flavors abound in noodle shops and authentic markets, while German, Greek, African, Mexican and Middle Eastern cuisine are among the flavors available.

Home to: Black Forest Inn, Mia, Children's Theatre Co., Hennepin History Museum, Midtown Global Market

LYN-LAKE

South of downtown and east of Uptown, Lyndale Avenue and Lake Street converge in this funky urban zone where originality reigns supreme. Flamenco music, authentic tapas, European-style brews and late-night bowling are among the diverse dining and nightlife options, while inventive entertainment includes multimedia arts performances and boundary-pushing local theater.

Home to: Bryant Lake Bowl, Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), Jungle Theater

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA/DINKYTOWN

East of downtown, the University of Minnesota straddles the Mississippi River, supporting dining, shopping and entertainment on the two banks. The Cedar-Riverside neighborhood offers multicultural restaurants, shops and theater along the river's West Bank. On the East Bank, Dinkytown epitomizes the urban university experience, with bookstores, music shops and energetic eateries and nightlife. A covered pedestrian bridge spans the river and unites the campus.

Home to: Weisman Art Museum, Mixed Blood Theatre, Theatre in the Round, TCF Bank Stadium

50TH AND FRANCE (EDINA)

50th Street and France Avenue intersect in the posh community of Edina, where classy restaurants, upscale gift shops, esteemed art galleries and designer boutiques thrive amidst cobblestone streets and elegant street lighting.

Home to: Edina Cinema, the Edina Art Fair, Red Cow, Salut



A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Minneapolis combines the bustle of a big city with the intimacy of neighborhood life. Big enough to attract world class theater, sports teams and businesses, yet small enough to avoid the crime and overcrowding of bigger, denser destinations, this city by the Mississippi has it all.

Why? Well, start with employment. Target, U.S. Bancorp, United Health Group and Best Buy are just a few examples of the Fortune 500 companies which, along with strong local businesses, bring a low rate of unemployment and a high tax base to the area. The good public schools and many options for higher education (including the University of Minnesota) mean an educated, skilled workforce, resulting in good business in Minneapolis.

Companies from nearly every U.S. industry provide the local economy with a strong base, representing manufacturing, health care, publishing and many others. There are 25 Fortune 1000 companies in Minnesota as of 2018. Wide-reaching public facilities and investment in transportation and infrastructure have yielded a city that's good for business.

And business is good for the city. Companies here, both big and small, have a tradition of giving back to the communities that help them succeed. Private funding and corporate philanthropy help keep Minneapolis vibrant and exciting. One example: A large portion of five major venues in Minneapolis (Central Library, Guthrie Theater, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis Institute of Art and Children's Theatre Company) were funded by the generous giving of businesses and individuals throughout the city.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE NAME MINNEAPOLIS IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE CITY'S FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER, WHO COMBINED "MINI" (THE DAKOTA WORD FOR WATER) WITH "POLIS" (THE GREEK WORD FOR CITY).

MADE IN MINNESOTA

It might surprise you, but a lot of products you use every day were developed right here in Minnesota. The land of 10,000 lakes is also the land of 10,000 innovators!

LOCALLY GROWN GOODS

- ▶ Aveda beauty and wellness products
- ▶ Betty Crocker® baking goods
- ▶ Bisquick
- ▶ Bundt cake pan
- ▶ Caribou Coffee
- ▶ Dairy Queen® ice cream treats
- ▶ Green Giant® vegetables
- ▶ Honey Crisp apples
- ▶ Indoor Shopping Mall
- ▶ Jucy Lucy burgers
- ▶ Magnetic Poetry
- ▶ Milky Way, 3 Musketeers and Mars bars
- ▶ Minnetonka Moccasins
- ▶ Wearable Pacemaker
- ▶ Polaris snowmobiles
- ▶ Post-it® notes
- ▶ Red Wing Shoes
- ▶ Rollerblades®
- ▶ Wet/dry sandpaper
- ▶ Scotch® tape
- ▶ SPAM
- ▶ Toastmaster toaster
- ▶ Tonka® trucks
- ▶ Toro®
- ▶ General Mills products
- ▶ Wheaties cereal
- ▶ Zubaz Zubaz
- ▶ Twister
- ▶ NERF Ball

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Many Minnesota businesses received high marks in the 2018 Corporate LGBT Equality Index:

3M, Allianz, Ameriprise, Best Buy, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cargill, Dorsey & Whitney, Ecolab, Fredrickson & Byron, General Mills, Hormel, Land O'Lakes, Lindquist & Vennum, Medtronic, RBC Wealth Management, Robins Kaplan, Target, U.S. Bancorp and Xcel Energy Inc. received 100%

**"Minnesota ranked FOURTH
MOST FINANCIALLY SAVVY STATE."**

- WalletHub, 2018

**Minneapolis ranked #1 CITY
TO FIND SMALL BUSINESS JOBS**

- Zip Recruiter, 2018



WITH 19 FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES (2018), MINNESOTA'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY THRIVES GLOBALLY.

- ▶ UnitedHealth Group (5)
- ▶ Target (39)
- ▶ Best Buy (72)
- ▶ CHS (96)
- ▶ 3M (97)
- ▶ U.S. Bancorp (122)
- ▶ SuperValu (180)
- ▶ General Mills (182)
- ▶ C.H. Robinson Worldwide (193)
- ▶ Ecolab (215)
- ▶ Land O'Lakes (216)
- ▶ Ameriprise Financial (252)
- ▶ Xcel Energy (266)
- ▶ Hormel Foods (323)
- ▶ Thrivent Financial (343)
- ▶ Mosaic (382)
- ▶ Securian Financial Group (462)
- ▶ Patterson Cos. Inc. (466)
- ▶ Polaris Industries (496)

DID YOU KNOW?

"MINNESOTA RANKED SECOND BEST STATE IN THE U.S. OVERALL."

- USNews.com, 2018



CHARTING THE WATERS 1680-1850

Minneapolis was born on the Mississippi, on land the Sioux and Ojibwe people had long called home. Around 1680, Father Louis Hennepin christened scenic St. Anthony Falls, which, centuries later, would give the burgeoning city enormous industrial power. The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and the construction of Fort Snelling in the 1820s ushered more Europeans into this pristine region for trading, trapping and settlement.

FLOUR POWER 1850-1930

Minneapolis grew beside the Mississippi River where St. Anthony Falls fueled the lucrative flour milling industry. From the 1880s to the 1930s, flour production made Minneapolis the milling capital of the world, and established modern corporate giants such as Cargill, General Mills and Pillsbury. Tourists and artists also flocked to the only waterfall on the river, spanned in 1883 by the landmark Stone Arch Bridge, which remains today.

COMING OF AGE 1930-PRESENT

A progressive city claiming many commercial, political, medical and cultural firsts, Minneapolis continues to make history. The city has one of the most stable economic bases in the country, and includes global leaders Medtronic, Best Buy and 3M within its broad, successful business community.

INCREASINGLY DIVERSE

Minneapolis has always been empowered by its people, including native residents, pioneers, immigrants and transplants from around the world. Many Lakota Sioux and Ojibwe names – Minnehaha, Minnetonka, Nokomis – attest to the continued presence of Minnesota's first residents. The cultural influences of the city's first settlers – Scandinavian, Irish, German, Italian, French-Canadian, Greek, Polish, Jewish and people of many nationalities – can be seen in neighborhood churches, businesses, architecture and events. A massive influx of Scandinavians in the late 1800s had a well-known and lasting impact on area culture. Today the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area boasts the largest Hmong and Somali populations in the country as well as other diverse ethnic groups. This includes recent immigrant groups such as the Karen and Liberians, whom hold large populations in Saint Paul and Brooklyn Park, respectively.

EXCEPTIONALLY ACTIVE

Minneapolis' history is an interactive experience. From museums and landmarks to excursions and parks, fun and engaging opportunities immerse residents and visitors in the city's past. Rightfully, Minneapolis never lost touch with its source, preserving and developing the Mississippi riverfront to combine restaurants, nightclubs, galleries and shops with historic buildings and natural wonders.

HISTORY & HERITAGE

Minneapolis wasn't built in a day. This dynamic, prosperous city is the current incarnation of its unique past – a history impacted by the region's natural beauty, its original indigenous and immigrant residents and its fluid relationship with the mighty Mississippi River.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Minnesota ranked #1
HAPPIEST STATE IN THE U.S.

-Business Insider, 2018

MYTH BUSTER

MYTH:
There is no diversity in Minneapolis.

REALITY:
The Minneapolis area is home to:

- The largest Somali population outside Somalia
 - The largest Hmong population outside Laos
 - The second-largest Vietnamese and Ethiopian populations
 - One of the fastest growing Latino/Hispanic populations in the country
- The city's many distinctive neighborhoods offer colorful places for visitors to discover a plethora of ethnic shopping, dining and entertainment possibilities.

WE KNEW THEM WHEN

Many public figures who have made huge splashes on the national scene in politics, art, music and movies hail from the land of 10,000 lakes. Throughout Minnesota's rich history, an abundance of people have stood out as stars among us, including actors, musicians, politicians, entrepreneurs, cartoonists, radio stars, writers and pro-wrestlers.

THE ENTERTAINERS

Joel and Ethan Coen, writers/directors/producers of such movies as "Fargo," "No Country for Old Men," "The Big Lebowski," "A Serious Man," "Burn After Reading" and "True Grit," grew up in the Minneapolis suburb St. Louis Park and filmed "Fargo" and "A Serious Man" in the area.

Josh Hartnett, the heart-throb movie star of films such as "The Black Dahlia" and "Pearl Harbor," grew up in Saint Paul. He lived in Minneapolis until 2015.

Melissa Peterman, a product of the Brave New Workshop, wrapped a successful run on the TV show "Reba" in 2007. She's also known for her memorable prostitute role in the movie "Fargo."

"Six Feet Under", "Dirty Sexy Money", and "Parenthood" star **Peter Krause** grew up in Alexandria, west of Minneapolis.

Prince Rogers Nelson was born in Minneapolis on June 7, 1958, and passed away on April 21, 2016. He was as an international recording star, musician and actor whose fame rose in the early 1980s with the release of "Purple Rain," which was filmed at Minneapolis' First Avenue. The "Minneapolis sound" was truly pioneered by Prince's hybrid mixture of funk, rock, pop, R&B and New Wave. It has influenced many other musicians.

Movie actor **Seann William Scott** hails from Cottage Grove, suburb of Saint Paul.

T.R. Knight, known to his fans as George O'Malley on the Emmy-winning "Frey's Anatomy", is a Stillwater native. For many years, he was a member of the Guthrie Theater's acting company.

Minneapolis native **Vincent Kartheiser**, known for his role on "Mad Men" began his acting career at the Children's Theatre Company.

OTHER WELL-KNOWN PERSONALITIES WHO HAIL FROM MINNESOTA

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ▶ Lori Anderson | ▶ Peter Graves | ▶ Winona Ryder |
| ▶ Richard Dean Anderson | ▶ John Hawkes | ▶ Jane Russell |
| ▶ James Arness | ▶ Garret Hedlund | ▶ Miriam Shor |
| ▶ Jessica Biel | ▶ Tippi Hedren | ▶ Kevin Sorbo |
| ▶ Nate Berkus | ▶ Jessica Lange | ▶ Analeigh Tipton |
| ▶ Kelly Carlson | ▶ Kelly Lynch | ▶ Lea Thompson |
| ▶ Rachael Leigh Cook | ▶ Frances McDormand | ▶ Vince Vaughn |
| ▶ Judy Garland | ▶ Chris Pratt | ▶ Lindsay Vonn |
| ▶ Genevieve Gorder | ▶ Marion Ross | ▶ Steve Zahn |

GREAT MINNESOTA AUTHORS

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD: The author of “The Great Gatsby” is one of many literary geniuses to grow up in Saint Paul.

THOMAS FRIEDMAN: Attending the same high school as the Coen brothers and “Saturday Night Live” comedian, and former senator, Al Franken, the three-time Pulitzer Prize winner is a prolific author, columnist and expert in Middle East affairs for the *New York Times*.

GARRISON KEILLOR: The well-known humorist whose weekly radio show, “A Prairie Home Companion,” inspired Robert Altman’s last film of the same name hails from Anoka, just north of Minneapolis.

CHARLES SCHULZ: The cartoonist who drew “Peanuts” for nearly 50 years was born in Minneapolis and lived in Saint Paul through his young adulthood.

OTHER WELL-KNOWN AUTHORS AND WRITERS FROM MINNESOTA

- ▶ Carol Bly
- ▶ Robert Bly
- ▶ Kate Dicamillo
- ▶ Louise Erdrich
- ▶ Vince Flynn
- ▶ Maud Hart Lovelace
- ▶ Laura Ingalls Wilder
- ▶ Lorna Landvik
- ▶ Sinclair Lewis
- ▶ John Sandford

A NEW BREED OF POLITICIANS

Even before Arnold took over California, Minnesota began producing Hollywood stars-turned-politicians.

JESSE VENTURA: From feather boa in the wrestling ring to glasses and suits as governor of the state, Jesse “The Body” Ventura raised Minnesota’s profile by unexpectedly beating two high-profile candidates to become the state’s 38th governor.

AL FRANKEN: An Emmy Award-winning comedian, actor, author, screenwriter, political commentator, radio host and “Saturday Night Live” alum, grew up in St. Louis Park and is a Minneapolis resident. Noted for his liberal social and political views, Franken won Minnesota’s United States Senate seat in 2008.

OTHER FAMOUS MINNESOTA-BRED NAMES IN THE WORLD OF GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS:

- ▶ Warren Burger, Supreme Court Chief Justice
- ▶ Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States
- ▶ Walter Mondale, Vice President of the United States
- ▶ Paul Wellstone, U.S. Senator
- ▶ Alexander Ramsey, second Governor of Minnesota; U.S. Senator

DID YOU KNOW?

MUSICAL ROYALTY HAILS FROM MINNEAPOLIS AND MINNESOTA.

- ▶ 2007 Grammy award-winning **PRINCE** owned a \$10 million recording studio in suburban Chanhassen, which was also his home and now is Paisley Park museum.
- ▶ **BOB DYLAN**, the barefoot boy from the Iron Range of northern Minnesota who forever changed the face of music, once owned the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Minneapolis. A mural of Dylan by Eduardo Kobra is now on Hennepin and 5th Street. Dylan won the Nobel Peace Prize in literature in 2016.

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THEY LIVED IN MINNESOTA, TOO

- ▶ The Andrews Sisters, 1940s harmony singing group
- ▶ Ann Bancroft, polar explorer
- ▶ Amelia Earhart, American aviation pioneer
- ▶ John Madden, American football coach and television announcer
- ▶ Herb Brooks, 1980 Olympic gold-winning American ice hockey coach
- ▶ Charles Lindbergh, aviator, first solo, non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean

MINNEAPOLIS WEBSITE

► **MINNEAPOLIS.ORG**

The ultimate Minneapolis travel and convention resource, this site features all that's Minneapolis. It's also the place to book hotels.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Outdoor enthusiasts can play in and around 22 lakes, 180 parks, or the Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway, whose 52 miles wind through gardens, golf courses and waterfalls.

- *Forbes Travel Guide, 2018*



VISITOR RESOURCES

Visitor Information: 1.888.676.MPLS (6757) or 1.612.767.8000

For more information or to request a visitor information packet, visit **www.minneapolis.org**.

Visitors can check out the Meet Minneapolis Visitor Center on the corner of Nicollet and 5th Street.

Staff is available to answer questions, share visitor maps and resources about things to do in Minneapolis, City by Nature.

FOR MEDIA

From fact-checking to interviews and b-roll to royalty-free photos, Meet Minneapolis provides a host of media resources. Visit **minneapolis.org/media** for the latest local destination information, news releases and photos of Minneapolis.



GOING GREEN

.....

Minneapolis has gone green with more than 80 green rooftops. The Central Library, the Target Center and a handful of underground parking garages, as well as the lawn-bowling green at Brit's Pub are just a few located in downtown. One of the oldest examples is the Hennepin County Government Center's north plaza which is a park area above a cafeteria and office space. A 5,800-square foot roof at City Hall includes plantings and solar panels.

MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER

- ▶ HVAC and lighting systems are monitored around the clock to save energy.
- ▶ 2,613 rooftop solar panels produce 750,000 kWh of renewable electricity per year, offsetting 539 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.
- ▶ In 2018, nearly 800 tons of waste was recycled, with the annual rate at 60 percent.
- ▶ In 2018, more than 180 tons of organics are composted or provided as "food to hogs."
- ▶ The MCC Plaza is a green roof, and water is collected from the facility in a cistern to reuse in landscaping.

MALL OF AMERICA

- ▶ There is no heating system in the mall; it relies on the heat from lighting and skylights for warmth. It is 70 degrees Fahrenheit 365 days a year.
- ▶ Leftover food from restaurants is picked up daily by a local hog farmer.

TARGET FIELD

- ▶ The baseball stadium was the second LEED-Silver-certified major league stadium in facility and operations in the country.
- ▶ The nearby Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) provides heat for the stadium with captured waste energy.
- ▶ Nearly 20 percent of Target Field was built with recycled content.

GOLD MEDAL PARK

- ▶ Gold Medal Park encompasses 7.5 acres in the heart of Minneapolis' Riverfront Mill District. The park includes close to 300 mature trees, including maples, lindens, hackberries, oaks and catalpas.

MINNEAPOLIS CENTRAL LIBRARY

- ▶ The 18,560-square-foot green roof atop the Minneapolis Central Library creates a model for other downtown buildings and developments and promotes a clean, sustainable city.
- ▶ Low-growing prairie plants reduce cooling and heating loads and improves downtown air quality.

DID YOU KNOW?

MINNEAPOLIS RANKED #1 CITY PARK SYSTEM

-ParkScore, 2013 - 2018

MINNEAPOLIS RANKED #1 CITY IN PROMOTING OVERALL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

-Thrive Global, 2018

MINNEAPOLIS RANKED BEST BIKEABLE CITY IN THE U.S.

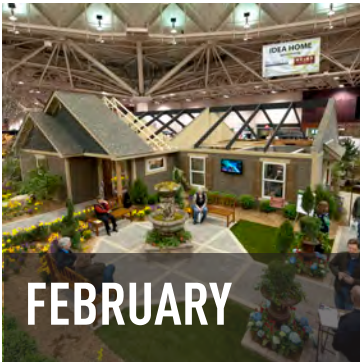
-RedFin, 2018

MINNEAPOLIS RANKED SECOND FITTEST CITY

-American Fitness Index, 2018



- ▶ Polar Dash
- ▶ Lake Harriet Kite Festival
- ▶ Minneapolis Boat Show
- ▶ TwinsFest
- ▶ Great Northern
- ▶ City of Lakes Loppet
- ▶ U.S. Pond Hockey Championships
- ▶ Saint Paul Winter Carnival



- ▶ Saint Paul Winter Carnival
- ▶ International Motorcycle Show
- ▶ RV Vacation and Camping Show
- ▶ Lake Home and Cabin Show
- ▶ Minneapolis Home & Garden Show



- ▶ Twin Cities Auto Show
- ▶ St. Patrick's Day Parade
- ▶ Northwest Sportshow
- ▶ MN State High School League Championships



- ▶ Minnesota Twins Home Opener/Season begins
- ▶ MSP International Film Festival
- ▶ Art in Bloom at Minneapolis Institute of Art
- ▶ Get in Gear 2K, 5K, 10K, & Half Marathon

ANNUAL EVENTS

ANNUAL EVENTS

- MayDay Parade ◀
- Northeast Minneapolis Art-A-Whirl ◀
- Dandelion Day at the ◀
- Ard Godfrey House
- Cinco de Mayo Mexican Fiesta ◀
- Festival of Nations ◀



- Northern Spark ◀
- Juneteenth ◀
- Midsommar Celebration at the ◀
- American Swedish Institute
- Stone Arch Bridge Festival ◀
- Rock the Garden- Walker Art Center ◀
- Twin Cities Pride Festival ◀



- Red, White & Boom Festival, ◀
- Fireworks and TC Half Marathon
- Basilica Block Party ◀
- Loring Park Art Festival ◀
- Minnesota Orchestra's Sommerfest ◀
- Minneapolis Aquatennial Mill City ◀
- Summer Opera at Mill City Museum ◀



- Uptown Art Fair ◀
- Mill City Live Concerts ◀
- Powderhorn Art Fair ◀
- Minnesota Fringe Festival ◀
- Minnesota Renaissance Festival ◀
- Minnesota State Fair ◀





- ▶ Minnesota Renaissance Festival
- ▶ Minnesota State Fair
- ▶ Minnesota Golden Gophers Football at TCF Bank Stadium
- ▶ Minnesota Vikings Football
- ▶ Minneapolis Monarch Festival/ Festival de la Monarca



- ▶ Twin Cities Marathon
- ▶ U.S. Open Racquetball Championship
- ▶ Zombie Pub Crawl
- ▶ ValleySCARE at Valleyfair in Shakopee



- ▶ Art Attack at the Northrup King Building
- ▶ Holidazzle Festival



- ▶ "A Christmas Carol" at Guthrie Theater
- ▶ Noon Year's Eve at Como Zoo
- ▶ Holidazzle Festival
- ▶ Sports Minneapolis Minnesota Sports Awards

ANNUAL EVENTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Minneapolis is home to the largest non-juried theater festival in the U.S. – the Minnesota Fringe Festival. The annual festival packs theaters across the city every August. It's the ideal time for lovers of the stage to experience the city's diverse theater scene risk-free – each show is just one hour.

DID YOU KNOW?

Theaters Total: 181
Theaters per capita: 45
per 100,000 residents

-U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) 2017

STEALING THE SHOW

Minneapolis Saint Paul is home to dozens of professional theater groups and has three regional Tony Awards to its credit.

DOWNTOWN

The glittering Hennepin Theatre District is home to the opulent State, Orpheum and Pantages theatres and the country's oldest satirical comedy theater, Brave New Workshop. Broadway shows, headliners and home-grown shows fill the marquees. In fact, big-name shows like "The Lion King" and "Sweet Charity" made their debuts in Minneapolis before heading to Broadway. Classics like "Hamlet" often grace the stage of the globally renowned, Tony Award-winning Guthrie Theater. From cabaret to storytelling, unique playhouses like the Illusion Theater and the Southern Theater also add flavor to the downtown theater scene. The sparkling Cowles Center for Dance and Performing Arts rounds out the scene.

NEIGHBORHOOD GEMS

Brimming with bohemian coffee shops and topical theater, the Uptown and Lyn-Lake neighborhoods of Minneapolis are always abuzz. Uptown's edgy cousin, Lyn-Lake, is home to the Jungle Theater, which is set among a cluster of fabulous ethnic eateries. Just blocks away, funky hangout Bryant-Lake Bowl features an old-school bowling alley and an offbeat 99-seat theater.

The Dinkytown and Cedar-Riverside neighborhoods cater largely to the young urban college crowd with hot spots like the Mixed Blood Theatre, promoting cultural pluralism, and Theatre in the Round, the state's oldest community theater, featuring a unique arena stage for classic productions. The Varsity Theater and Rarig Center at the University of Minnesota are popular spots for live music and theater.

SAINT PAUL

In Saint Paul, the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts hosts Broadway hits and also is home to the Minnesota Opera and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Minnesota Public Radio fans can go to the Fitzgerald Theater to listen to host and Grammy award-winner Chris Thile of "Live From Here," who replaced Garrison Keillor after he retired in 2016.



DID YOU KNOW?

MINNEAPOLIS' GUTHRIE THEATER, CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY AND FORMER THEATRE DE LA JEUNE LUNE WERE ALL HONORED WITH TONY AWARDS

WORTH THE DRIVE

Nestled on the shores of Lake Minnetonka, the city of Excelsior is home to the country's oldest continuously running theater, Old Log Theater. Prince fans may want to take a drive by Paisley Park on the way to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres. With three stages featuring musicals and comedy improv, it's the largest Equity dinner theater in the U.S.

FOR THE KIDS

The only theater for young people to ever win a Tony® Award, Children's Theatre Company (CTC) produces first-rate performances that delight audiences of all ages. *Time* magazine named CTC the top theater in the country for kids.

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre in South Minneapolis uses various forms of puppetry inspired by cultures around the world to tell its stories, while the Stages Theatre Company brings children's literature to life.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL RANKS THIRD ON LIST OF BEST PLACES FOR LIVE THEATER IN AMERICA

- *Regional Theater Report, 2018*

HAVE YOU HEARD?

“ART IS PERSONAL AND INTERACTIVE IN THE TWIN CITIES; VISIT A STUDIO AND ENJOY A CONVERSATION WITH THE ARTIST, AND COME AWAY FEELING A CONNECTION TO THIS VIBRANT ARTS COMMUNITY.”

-Arts America

DISCOUNTS & BARGAINS

Contemplate famous artworks for free inside three monumental museums. The Weisman Art Museum (always free) boasts energetic examples of modern art, while the Minneapolis Institute of Art (always free) highlights classic works and global artifacts spanning 5,000 years. The Walker Art Center (free every Thursday night and the first Saturday of every month) packs its singular artistic punch into stunning new galleries, public spaces and the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, which is free 365 days a year.



MUSEUMS GALORE

Highlighting world-class collections that span millennia, the city's museums engage, inspire and educate millions each year. Boasting groundbreaking buildings and exhibits, they display tremendous foresight and reach. Nearly 60 destinations – of an astonishing 600 in Minnesota, many in and around downtown – celebrate life's natural, artistic and scientific wonders.

A CITY-WIDE CANVAS

Minneapolis' globally acclaimed art museums highlight beauty in all forms. Hailed by *Newsweek* as “possibly the best contemporary art museum in the country,” the Walker Art Center has a building as dynamic as the events and artworks it presents. A stunning expansion, designed by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, opened in April 2005, doubling the exhibit and performance space of this immensely popular and influential museum. Outside the Walker, the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden has 58 sculptures, including 19 added in 2017, featuring the landmark “Spoonbridge and Cherry” sculpture by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje von Bruggen.

With its impressive columns and wide-ranging exhibits, the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) puts up a classical front – one that houses one of the largest displays of classical Chinese art and architecture in the country in 22 galleries. Considered one of America's finest encyclopaedic museums, Mia possesses works from every age and medium, many of which reside in the museum's Michael Graves-designed 2006 expansion.



HIDDEN GEM: MILL CITY MUSEUM

Flour milling may not sound like an exciting concept, but Minneapolis was built on flour and the Mill City Museum provides a portal to the city's storied past. The museum lives in the partially reconstructed ruins of a flour mill that exploded in 1878, burned in 1928 and burned again in 1991. You can still see the twisted girders that melted in the heat and the soot on the bricks, but this relic from Minneapolis' history is still standing.

Billed as "the best-smelling museum ever created," a baking lab operates in the museum's basement. Visitors can smell the fabulous aromas of the Baking Lab while they peruse artifacts of the city's milling days. They can learn all about Minneapolis, from then to now, in the film, "Minneapolis in 19 Minutes Flat," which plays in the museum's small theater all day long. Afterwards, visitors can head up to the Flour Tower, an elevator ride that shows how milling makes wheat into flour (and why it's explosive!) and culminates in a rooftop deck with a panoramic view of the entire Mississippi Riverfront, including St. Anthony Falls and the Stone Arch Bridge.

Architect Frank Gehry, of Guggenheim Bilbao fame, brought global focus to the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, an abstract composition of stainless steel set next to the Mississippi River that opened an expansion in Fall 2011.

The museum's warm, ethereal interiors highlight the University of Minnesota's modern art collection.

The Museum of Russian Art is the only museum in North America solely dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Russian art and artifacts. Even the Guggenheim has borrowed art from this unique museum.

SCIENCE ROCKS!

Each year, more than a million people wrap their heads – and their hands – around science at the hugely popular Science Museum of Minnesota, an interactive learning pioneer located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Saint Paul. Cutting-edge exhibits and colossal attractions include dinosaur fossils and a 90-foot convertible domed Imax movie screen.

The atmosphere is especially charged inside the Bakken Museum, which explores electricity and magnetism while showcasing 2,500 electrical devices dating to the 1700s. It is also the first Minnesota affiliate of the Smithsonian.

The Pavek Museum of Broadcasting features industry equipment and memorabilia, while the Bell Museum offers dioramas depicting life's amazing diversity and new planetarium. The Bell opened a sweeping new facility near the Minnesota State Fair Grounds on the University of Minnesota's Saint Paul campus in summer 2018.

MYTH BUSTER

MYTH:
Minneapolis has only one big mall.

REALITY:
We're proud to be home to the largest shopping and entertainment complex in nation, but there's so much more to Minneapolis. The city's arts and culture scene is thriving. And with six major professional sports teams, it's always action-packed here. One of the most alluring aspects of Minneapolis is the opportunity to enjoy its green urban environment - visitors can enjoy biking, walking, running, blading, boating and fishing, all within the city limits.



SPECTACULAR SHOPPING

Minneapolis is a world-class shopping destination. People from around the globe come to shop the city's chic boutiques, stellar malls and diverse retail districts. Mall of America is a big reason shoppers flock here, but there are many others, including a red-hot downtown and neighborhood shopping zone and no sales tax on clothes and shoes.

DOWNTOWN

Shopping comes easy in downtown Minneapolis, where you'll find scores of popular merchants within steps of hotels and hip eateries. The retail beat sounds loudest along Nicollet, the pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare, where Minneapolis-based Target's flagship store anchors this corridor that includes shops like Saks Off Fifth, Nordstrom Rack and Marshalls. Minneapolis-based Target's flagship store anchors this thriving corridor. Virtually every building offers a climate-controlled skyway connection, while the convenient METRO Blue Line speeds power shoppers on a quick 35-minute trip to Mall of America.

MALL OF AMERICA

Shoppers hungry for the best selection in the nation feed their cravings at Mall of America, the country's largest retail and entertainment destination. Home to more than 520 stores, including unique shops, national flagship stores and emerging retail concepts mean something for everyone. Other attractions include Nickelodeon Universe, the nation's largest fully enclosed theme park; SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium; Crayola Experience and Fly Over America along with an appetizing range of more than 60 restaurants and bars and a 13-screen movie theater make staying in the two on-site hotels a good idea as you could spend days there and not see everything.



NORTH LOOP, UPTOWN AND BEYOND

Original boutiques and signature retailers add charm and entice shoppers into the city's many distinct neighborhoods. The North Loop is the city's latest retail hot spot with new shops popping up regularly. The Loop is lined with trendy and unique boutiques including PARC, MartinPatrick3 and Ribnick Luxury Outerwear & Leather. Statement Boutique and Larissa Loden offer beautifully handcrafted jewelry. The North Loop is still transforming, which means more there are more boutiques to come. Hipsters are constantly on the prowl for high-voltage clothing and trendy home furnishings in Uptown. Packed with locally owned gift shops, bakeries and bookstores, Linden Hills in southwest Minneapolis personifies the independent spirit of the city's neighborhoods, where ethnic flavors and lifestyles vary.

SINGULAR SUBURBS

Minneapolis made retail history in 1956 when Southdale Center in suburban Edina opened as the world's first enclosed mall. This bright, airy location continually delights with myriad stores, energetic restaurants and a movie theater. Nearby Galleria refined the mall concept to further applause, showcasing high-end retailers casually elegant dining and spa services. Sophisticates ponder elite labels and lux houseware on 50th and France in Edina. On the other end of the spectrum, Albertville Premium Outlets, west of Minneapolis, discount designer duds for those who crave a range of shopping experience.

DID YOU KNOW?

**IN MINNESOTA, THERE'S NO SALES TAX
ON CLOTHING OR SHOES!**

DISCOUNTS & BARGAINS

Retail therapy comes cheap in Minneapolis where locally based Target sells affordable, stylish wares inside its flagship store. Albertville Premium Outlets offer 100 stores, including Banana Republic and Polo Ralph Lauren. And the bargains inside Mall of America's stores are surpassed only by its mammoth interiors, which guests can gawk at for free.

CULINARY ADVENTURES

The innovative Minneapolis food and drink scene is ready to impress - whatever your tastes. Whether it's the famous Jucy Lucy cheese-filled burger at Matt's, a signature Old Fashioned at Parlour, fine dining at its finest at Spoon and Stable, trying to choose between 18 ethnic restaurants and food vendors at the Midtown Global Market, or two scoops of artisan ice cream at Milkjam creamery. We just ask that you bring your appetite.



WAREHOUSE DISTRICT/NORTH LOOP

Anchored by the Target Center's Cargo Food Authority, scores of music venues and the iconic First Avenue, the Warehouse District is the epicenter of Minneapolis nightlife. A palpable energy feeds an exciting dining scene that ranges from the Monte Carlo, a classy joint with a century of service, to sleek, sexy Cosmos, a stunning temple to edible opulence. Kieran's Irish Pub brings a bit of Ireland to Minneapolis in the form of a traditional Irish pub, while brew pubs and restaurants serve casual American fare and European specialties, while the stylish wine bars elevate bar food to an art form.

HENNEPIN AVENUE

Restaurants in the city's bustling cultural district serve dramatic, inspired fare. Showcasing contemporary cuisine at its finest, Mercy Restaurant located in Le Meridien Chambers Hotel Minneapolis, never ceases to delight guests. CRAVE's chic atmosphere and locally sourced food impress as much as their rooftop views, while the more casual Rock Bottom Brewery satisfies with handcrafted brews.

DOWNTOWN CORE/LORING PARK

The depth and quality of downtown's restaurants – more than 50 in the core alone – is impressive. Offerings span the globe and excite the palate: established visionaries such as Dakota Jazz Club & Restaurant, Murray's and Hell's Kitchen earn positive buzz, while Chef Jamie Malone's Eastside and 4Bells push the culinary envelope. Ambiance ranges from simple to stunning. Clubby Oceanaire is loaded with leatherette booths and retro charm. Trendy Café Lurcat attracts the hip and discriminating crowd while cheery Brit's Pub offers the the perfect beer food and a rooftop lawn bowling court with downtown skyline views.



MARKETS

An agricultural state loves its markets. The Mill City Farmers' Market runs next to the Guthrie Theater and the riverfront, and features organic foods. This year-long farmer's market holds their indoor markets every second Saturday from November to April inside the historic Mill City Museum. Outdoor markets are held on Chicago Avenue every Saturday from May to October. The Midtown Global Market just south of downtown lets vendors hawk their wares from countries all over the world in the redeveloped former Sears building on the Midtown Greenway.

RIVERFRONT – MILL DISTRICT

The city's Mississippi riverfront restaurants wow diners with amazing views and memorable food. Historic cobblestone Main Street hosts both elegant and easygoing American eateries, including Aster Cafe, Wilde Cafe & Spirits and the casual Hideaway. In the nearby Northeast (pronounced by locals as "Nordeast") neighborhood, a 65-foot Ferris wheel and an eight-hole golf course offers a hipster country club vibe at Betty Dangers Country Club. The only country club that serves "Mexampton" food, a unique fusion of Tex-Mex and preppiness.

UPTOWN

The restaurants in this ultra-hip neighborhood have people talking – and eating. Designer martinis, semi unisex bathrooms and exotic meals give Chino Latino a stimulating vibe that personifies the area. Barbette offers seasonal fare in a bistro setting, while pizza joints and exotic eateries safeguard Uptown's multifaceted identity.

EAT STREET

An appetizing stretch of more than 50 ethnic restaurants, Eat Street stretches a mile along Nicollet Avenue, which runs south from downtown. This culinary cornucopia is home to authentic German, Greek, Israeli, Thai, Vietnamese and more, not to mention ethnic bakeries and grocers. Popular are Eat Street Social, Copper Hen and Black Forest Inn.

NEIGHBORHOOD GEMS

Minneapolis is flecked with stellar neighborhood restaurants centered on fresh, seasonal and ethnic fare, including the Holy Land, Red Stag Supperclub and Revival.

HAUTE FOODIE HAUNTS

THE CULINARY SCENE IN MINNEAPOLIS CONTINUES TO BE RECOGNIZED BY NATIONAL MEDIA OUTLETS:

Minneapolis named 'America's Coolest Drinking City'

- Shared publication from National Geographic and the Wall Street Journal, 2018

The Bakers Wife and Hi-Lo Diner both listed on The Best Donut Shops in America

- Thrillist, 2018

Spoon + Stable Named One of 40 Most Important Restaurants in the Past 40 Years

- Food & Wine, 2018

The Food Network regularly features Minneapolis - from fine dining to "Diners, Drive-ins & Dives," where host Guy Fieri has visited Bryant Lake Bowl, Psycho Suzie's Motor Lounge and many other local eateries.

FROM THE CHEFS

“MINNEAPOLIS IS MY HOME, AND FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS I HAVE SEEN OUR CITY GROW AND DEVELOP IN A UNIQUE WAY. WHAT USED TO BE MISLABELED ‘FLYOVER’ COUNTRY, IS NOW A NATIONAL LEADER IN THE ARTS, BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP, EDUCATION AND MOST IMPORTANTLY WE HAVE ONE OF THE MOST DYNAMIC AND ENGAGING FOOD SCENES IN AMERICA. MINNEAPOLIS IS WHERE IT’S AT!”

- Andrew Zimmern,
Chef & TV host

DID YOU KNOW?

AFAR Magazine named the Minneapolis cocktail scene one of the best in the United States (2018)



FARM FRESH

Co-ops have made their mark in Minneapolis and households all over the city have gone organic. But those who insist on sustainably grown organic food can go out to eat, too, because many Minneapolis restaurants have the same values. A creation of long-time natural restaurateur, Brenda Langton, Spoonriver, has been serving the finest gourmet natural cuisine since 2006. Minnesota sources provide the restaurant a wide palate from grass-fed beef, lamb and naturally raised pork to fresh local produce. Northeast’s Red Stag Supperclub is Minnesota’s first LEED-CI certified restaurant serves as many local and organic foods as possible while conserving water and energy and composting waste.

AWARD-WORTHY FOOD EXPERTS

Five Minneapolis chefs have won James Beard Best Chef Midwest Awards – commonly referred to as the Oscars of the food world. Numerous chefs from Minneapolis have continued to be nominated annually and in 2018, Spoon and Stable’s Gavin Kaysen won Best Chef Midwest.

BEST CHEF: MIDWEST

- ▶ **Tim McKee**, now a partner with The Fish Guys and consultant for several other restaurants was known for La Belle Vie, which closed in 2015 (won in 2009)
- ▶ **Alex Roberts**, chef/co-owner of Restaurant/Cafe/Hotel Alma and Brasa Rotisserie (won in 2010)
- ▶ **Isaac Becker**, chef/owner of 112 Eatery (won in 2011)
- ▶ **Paul Berglund**, former chef at The Bachelor Farmer (won in 2016)
- ▶ **Gavin Kaysen**, chef/owner of Spoon and Stable, Bellecour and newly-opened Demi (won in 2018)

THE 80S – THE R&B AND PUNK ERA

The early 1980s helped define Minneapolis' sound and launched the careers of R&B mega-producing team Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, who started the band that would become The Time and was joined by Morris Day and toured as an opening act for Prince. The team then went on to produce such artists as Janet Jackson, Sounds of Blackness, Boyz II Men, Alexander O'Neal, Cherrelle and Patti LaBelle.

Also in the 80s, Minneapolis' innovative punk scene and the rise of music-royalty Prince solidified Minneapolis' music scene place on the map. Several bands including The Suicide Commandos, Hüsker Dü, Soul Asylum and The Replacements quickly rose to punk cult status and became pivotal in the development of alternative rock. Hit songs like, "What's on Your Mind (Pure Energy)" by Minneapolis area band Information Society and The Jayhawks modern folk-rock sound, helped to further solidify Minneapolis purely original sound. But the "Minneapolis sound" was truly pioneered by Prince's hybrid mixture of funk, rock, pop, R&B and New Wave. It has influenced many other musicians.

THE 90S - MORE COMMERCIAL SUCCESS

The 1990s saw continued success for Minneapolis bands. Prince introduced one of his most popular albums, "Diamonds and Pearls," and Semisonic, an alternative rock band formed in 1995, topped the charts in 1998 with their single "Closing Time." Semisonic member Dan Wilson continues to top charts today with his songwriting for Adele, Keith Urban, Josh Groban and many more.

INTO THE NEW MILLENNIUM – MAKING WAVES IN THE HIP-HOP SCENE

Home to a thriving underground hip hop scene due largely to the presence of Rhymesayers Entertainment and Doomtree – two major hip hop crews whose artists include Atmosphere, P.O.S. and Dessa, as well as as a growing techno/dance landscape, Minneapolis is still a musical hotbed.

FIRST AVENUE STARS IN THE MINNEAPOLIS MUSIC SCENE First Avenue has been the starting point for virtually every single band to come out of the Twin Cities, including The Replacements, Hüsker Dü, Prince, Soul Asylum, Semisonic, American Head Charge, Atmosphere, Brother Ali, Dillinger Four, Dosh, The Jayhawks, Curtiss A and many others.

Bands and artists have performed at the nightclub and influenced the Minneapolis music scene from 1970 onward, as exemplified by the silver stars that adorn the black building's exterior (every star has the name of an artist who has played at First Avenue or 7th St Entry). Prince's star was painted gold after his death in 2016.

First Avenue also appeared in Prince's 1984 film, "Purple Rain." U2 wrote part of "October" at First Avenue during a sound check. And Grammy Award-winning alt-country star Lucinda Williams was married on stage here, following her performance at First Avenue in 2009.

THE MINNEAPOLIS SOUND

Since the late 1950s when Minnesota-native Bob Dylan broke onto the folk-rock scene playing free shows on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota has highly impacted American music and some of the world's most respected and well-known artists got their start in Minneapolis clubs.

ROLLING STONE NAMED FIRST AVENUE ONE OF 10 BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES IN AMERICA. IT ALSO NAMED ELECTRIC FETUS ONE OF 10 BEST RECORD STORES IN AMERICA. (2018)

DID YOU KNOW?

**MINNEAPOLIS HAS
RECENTLY BEEN RANKED
#1 FITTEST CITY BY AMERICAN
FITNESS INDEX (2011,
2012, 2013 & 2017) AND
WAS RANKED #2 FITTEST
CITY IN 2014, 2015, 2016 AND
2018.**

**"MINNEAPOLIS IS A BIKE-
FRIENDLY, LAKE-FILLED, PARK
-STREWN TANGLE OF BLOCK
PARTIES, OUTDOOR CONCERTS,
FESTIVALS, FAIRS, FARMERS
MARKETS, AND MORE."**

-MSN, 2018

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Sparkling lakes, inviting trails and rolling green spaces beautify the urban landscape and make the City by Nature an all season playground. Bike, hike, pedal or paddle – all within the limits of downtown. In a city where every resident lives within six blocks of a park, the great outdoors are highly prized.

SHORE THING

Minnesota is famous for its lakes; Minneapolis included. There are 22 lakes within city limits, including the popular Chain of Lakes (Bde Maka Ska, Lake Harriet, Lake of the Isles, Cedar Lake and Brownie Lake), which curls around southwest Minneapolis, drawing bikers, walkers, runners and sun seekers to the area's hip, active neighborhoods. Boaters, swimmers and anglers can make a splash, too, thanks to convenient lake access, watercraft rentals, clean beaches and well-stocked waters.

GRAND ADVENTURE

In Minneapolis, taking the scenic route means staying in the city, where the Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway meanders past gardens, golf courses, waterfalls and idyllic views. One of the only designated urban scenic byways in the country, the Grand Rounds offers 52 miles of hiking, biking, skiing and driving paths, which link the city's lakes and parks "like jewels of a bracelet," according to *Midwest Living* magazine.

RIVER RAMBLING

Having transitioned from industrial to recreational, the Mississippi riverfront delights outdoor enthusiasts and history buffs with parks, picnic areas, landmarks and monuments along miles of well-kept trails. The Audubon Great River Birding Trail, Grand Rounds Scenic Byway and St. Anthony Falls Heritage Trail, which highlights unique mill ruins and the only stone railroad bridge to cross the Mississippi River, all pass through this history-rich recreational haven.

PARK IT

Recreation happens naturally in the city's many parks, where offerings range from mountain bike trails to bird sanctuaries. Minnehaha Park was immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "Song of Hiawatha," while Theodore Wirth Park features the country's oldest wildflower garden and a rare "quaking bog" made of moss. *USA Today* identified Lake Harriet's Lyndale Park Rose Garden, the second oldest public rose garden in the U.S., as one of "10 Great Places to Inhale the Scents of Spring." Minneapolis parks are also abuzz in winter, attracting ice skaters, skiers and snowshoers.



FORE THE LOVE OF GOLF

It's easy to come out swinging in Minneapolis. Minnesota has more golfers per capita than any state in the country, which means quality courses abound. There are seven public courses in Minneapolis and 170 more in the surrounding area. One of the first public golf courses in the state, Theodore Wirth, frames the Minneapolis skyline, while tranquil Minnehaha Creek graces the Hiawatha and Meadowbrook courses.

MYTH BUSTER

MYTH:

Minneapolis is all lakes, fishing, hunting and flannel shirts.

REALITY:

While areas of Minnesota are home to some of the most breathtaking scenery and nature anywhere, the Minneapolis–Saint Paul area is a bustling, urban center. Minneapolis is the City by Nature, with an active and vibrant city atmosphere. While you might spot a flannel shirt or two during the winter, you're more likely to see residents wearing the latest styles, as Minneapolis boasts the largest mall in America and is home to Target, which works in collaboration with designers such as Lily Pulitzer and Victoria Beckham.

CITY BY NATURE

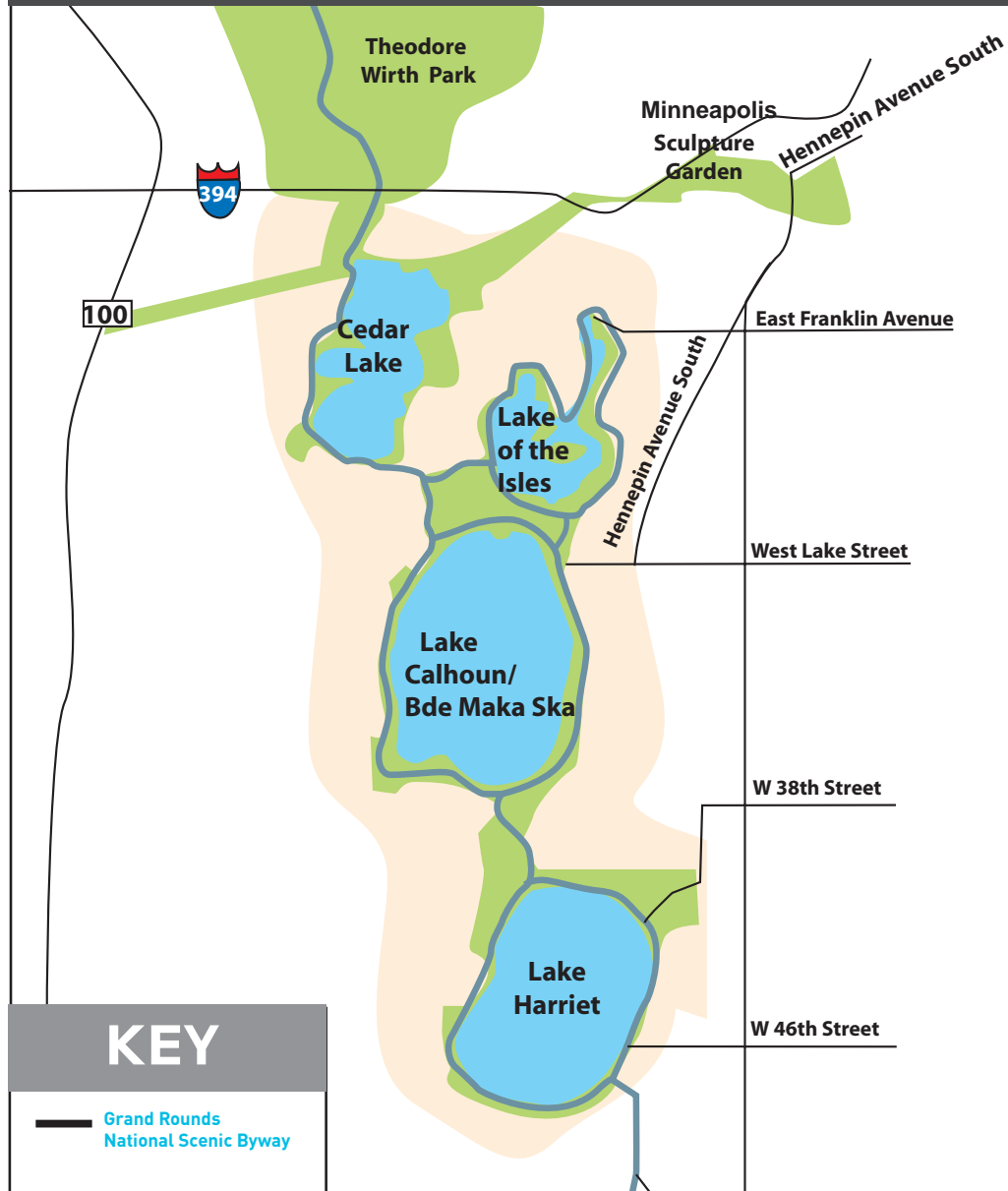
Take a self-guided tour on the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Trail through the Minneapolis Riverfront District or, for a longer walking, biking or blading adventure, make your way through seven beautiful districts on the Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway. Along the Grand Rounds is gorgeous Lake Harriet, which offers a variety of activities: free outdoor concerts at the Lake Harriet Bandshell in the summer, an Asian-influenced Peace (Rock) Garden, the second-oldest public rose garden in the U.S. and much more.

DID YOU KNOW?

**MINNEAPOLIS PARKS WERE
NAMED #1 FOR SIX YEARS
IN A ROW FROM 2013-2018**

*- Trust for Public Land ParkScore
Index, 2018*

MINNEAPOLIS CHAIN OF LAKES



DID YOU KNOW?

ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE AMERICAN FITNESS INDEX 2011-2017, MINNEAPOLIS HAS MORE:

- ▶ recreation centers
- ▶ park units
- ▶ basketball hoops
- ▶ tennis courts
- ▶ ball diamonds
- ▶ park playgrounds
- ▶ dog parks

PER CAPITA THAN THE TARGET GOAL FOR CITIES

DID YOU KNOW?

Golden Gopher Men's Hockey were NCAA champions in 1974, 1976, 1979, 2002 and 2003.

Golden Gopher Women's Hockey were 2004, 2005, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2016 National Champions.

The University of Minnesota Wrestling brought home NCAA Championship titles in 2001, 2002 and 2007.

Gopher baseball has produced more than 35 major leaguers including Baseball Hall of Famers Dave Winfield and Paul Molitor.

GET INTO THE GAME

Inside tips for sports fans who want to make the most of a trip to Minneapolis:

Timberwolves – Offers Kids Day Sunday and College Night deals. See Timberwolves.com for details and current package offerings.

Twins – Fans can get baseball caps, bobbleheads, pennants and more for being some of the first fans at the game. Promotional items are offered at many weekend home games so fans have plenty of chances to score team memorabilia. See Twinsbaseball.com for details.



PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

With six major professional sports teams, six incredible venues and some of the most enthusiastic sports fans on the planet, Minneapolis is a major-league town.

In spring 2010, the **Minnesota Twins** (MLB) scored a grand slam with their new stadium, Target Field. The 40,000-seat stadium was awarded LEED-Silver certification, making it the second Major League ballpark in the United States to achieve that status. The stadium also offers a Taste of Twins Territory featuring signature food from local restaurants and vendors.

The **Minnesota Vikings** (NFL) season's kick-off brings countless Vikings fans downtown to tailgate and show their purple pride. The Vikings home, U.S. Bank Stadium, opened the summer of 2016 on the site of the former Metrodome. The stadium has the largest ETFE roof and the five largest pivoting glass doors in the world, and is the site of the X Games (2017, 2018, 2019, & 2020), Super Bowl LII and the NCAA Men's Final Four in 2019.

Minnesota Lynx (WNBA) four-time WNBA champions (2011, 2013, 2015 & 2017), and **Minnesota Timberwolves** (NBA), along with concerts and other public events, keep completely renovated Target Center busy year-round.

Dubbed the "State of Hockey," it's only fitting that Minnesota has a beautiful ice arena, the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul, for the **Minnesota Wild** (NHL).

Minnesota United FC was selected as an expansion team by Major League Soccer and began playing in the new Allianz Field in Saint Paul in Spring 2019.

Every year, the National Sports Center in Blaine, just north of Minneapolis, plays host to many amateur baseball and professional and amateur soccer games, drawing crowds of all ages.

Revel in the summer weather at a minor league **Saint Paul Saints** baseball game at the open-air CHS Field. Always packed with quirky activities like mascot pig races and much more, fans are guaranteed a good time.

For college sports, the **University of Minnesota** is the largest university in the Minneapolis area and is known for its men's and women's hockey teams, which play at Mariucci Arena on campus.



HAVE YOU HEARD?

"Minneapolis has a vibe that's at once youthful and sophisticated, with a nice balance of vibrant cultural offerings and exciting outdoor activities.

-Frommers, 2018

WALLETHUB LISTED MINNESOTA AS 2018'S SECOND BEST STATE TO RAISE A FAMILY.

DID YOU KNOW?

MINNEAPOLIS RANKED 3RD BEST PLACE PLACE FOR JOBS AND AFFORDABLE HOMES

-Realtor, 2018

FAMILY FUN

.....

Kids rule in Minneapolis, where engaging museums, thrilling amusement parks and action-packed shows keep them easily entertained.

PLAY ALL DAY

Mall of America, the largest shopping and entertainment complex in the country, engages young people with oodles of fun eateries and attractions, including Nickelodeon Universe indoor amusement park, LEGO Imagination Center, SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium, a stunning walk-through aquarium swimming with sea creatures, and a Crayola Experience, where families can discover the magic of color. The Minnesota Zoo features exotic animals with species from around the globe.

LEARN THE FUN WAY

Bustling with exhibits and events that cater to kids, the Minnesota Children’s Museum in Saint Paul is always a hit. Saint Paul’s Science Museum of Minnesota, known for its popular experiment gallery and awesome dinosaur display, excites the mind and the senses, while the ruins of a flour mill and other milling artifacts at Mill City Museum excite the imagination about Minneapolis history along the Mississippi Riverfront. Explore a grain elevator inside the Minnesota History Center in Saint Paul, or converse with costumed guides at several living history sites like Historic Fort Snelling.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

“IN MINNEAPOLIS, IT’S JUST AS EASY TO SPEND A MORNING SKIPPING STONES ACROSS A LOVELY LAKE AS IT IS TO VISIT AN ACCLAIMED SCIENCE EXHIBIT. THIS FRIENDLY METROPOLIS BOASTS 22 LAKES AND 180 PARKS THAT ENTICE FAMILIES TO BIKE, HIKE, WALK, PICNIC AND FISH. THE BLEND OF URBAN PLEASURES AND ABUNDANT RECREATION MEANS YOUR FAMILY CAN EASILY ADJUST THE PACE OF YOUR VACATION DURING YOUR VISIT.”

-DisneyFamilyFun.com



MAKE YOUR MOVE

A swirling vortex of summer fun, Valleyfair! Amusement Park boasts speeding roller coasters, dizzying thrill rides and decidedly cool water attractions. Saint Paul's Como Town offers kiddy rides and games within a lion's roar of neighboring Como Zoo and Conservatory. Life moves more slowly on the Mississippi River, where paddlewheelers like the Minneapolis Queen cruise through history.

ON STAGE, IN ACTION

Imagination takes center stage during productions by renowned children's theater companies, including In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, Stages Theatre Company and the Tony® Award-winning Children's Theatre Company. The Minnesota Orchestra encourages active listening with a family music program, while the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts hosts concerts, musicals and events that immerse kids in culture. On the field and on the court, Minnesota Twins baseball and Timberwolves and Lynx basketball excite fans of all ages.

GREAT EATS

Kids are valued customers at many Minneapolis restaurants, from playful theme eateries to old-fashioned malt shops. Busy families only boost the energy inside Minneapolis-born Buca di Beppo, where guests enjoy platters of family-style Italian fare and a bustling, happy atmosphere. Old Spaghetti Factory's family friendly pricing and arcade ensure a good time for moms and dads. Mall of America feeds kids at the Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. among many others.

HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS

RIVERFRONT DISTRICT

Minneapolis was born and thrived on the banks of the mighty Mississippi River where St. Anthony Falls fueled a lucrative flour milling industry now chronicled in one of the city's many museums, the Mill City Museum. Built within the ruins of a 19th-century mill that was destroyed by fire, the museum overlooks Mill Ruins Park, featuring the remains of water-powered mills. Just blocks away is The Depot. Once a boarding place for trains of the Milwaukee Road Line, the renovated complex houses two hotels and event space.

Take a walk across the Stone Arch Bridge, built in 1883, to St. Anthony Main on Main Street, a cobblestone street lined with buildings that date back to the 1850s. Attractions on Main Street include: Magical History Tours on Segways; Our Lady of Lourdes, a French Catholic church established in 1857 that still sells French meat pies; the Ard Godfrey House, once the family residence of the Maine millwright who helped put the waterpower of St. Anthony Falls to use; and Pracna on Main, the oldest restaurant in Minneapolis.

Hit all the attractions by walking the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Trail, a 1.8-mile interpretive loop that crosses the Stone Arch Bridge that runs along St. Anthony Main and crosses the river again via Nicollet Island, a 19th-century residential district.

AROUND TOWN

Built in 1902, the Minneapolis Grain Exchange was the first steel structure in Minneapolis. Five years later in 1907, the grain industry was booming and the rich economy was reflected in the Basilica of St. Mary, the first basilica in the U.S. and one of the finest examples of Beaux Arts.

Some of Minneapolis' most popular historic sites are also the homes of the city's most notorious haunts. The tallest building in Minneapolis until 1971, the Foshay Tower (now W Minneapolis - The Foshay hotel), built in 1929 as a tribute to the Washington Monument, is rumored to be haunted by the ghost of Wilbur Foshay, while the nearby gothic Minneapolis City Hall is said to harbor the spirit of a man hanged in 1898. Although there have been no reports of the paranormal, the Lakewood Cemetery in Uptown takes visitors back through 150 years of history.

The American Swedish Institute's lavish furnishings and interiors of the former Turnblad Mansion combined with detailed exhibits to convey the stories, traditions and culture of Scandinavia, honoring a heritage shared by many immigrants and residents. An addition in 2011 (Nelson Cultural Center) ensures this historic mansion remains relevant for another century. Also included in the long list of Minneapolis museums is the Bell Museum, which explores the natural history of Minnesota, and the Wells Fargo History Museum, chronicling banking in the Midwest. Hennepin History Museum embraces the area's rich historic past.

THE PAST PERSEVERES
IN MINNEAPOLIS, WHERE
MONUMENTS, LANDMARKS
AND LIVING HISTORY
SITES AWAIT GUIDED AND
INDEPENDENT EXPLORATION.

MYTH BUSTER

MYTH:

There is nothing to do in
Minneapolis.

REALITY:

Minneapolis was named one of the "Best Cities for Families" by *MSN and Parenting*, in part because there are so many things to do. The area boasts multitudes of museums, golf courses and theatres. And that's not all: Nearby and in the city, there are amusement parks, race tracks, casinos and the country's largest shopping mall. Should we go on?

EXCURSIONS, TOURS & DAY TRIPS

Walking and talking pair beautifully in Minneapolis, especially when informed guides provide the narrative during insightful tours of the city's most popular places. Operators also offer colorful commentary aboard buses, boats, pedicabs and historic trains – often for little or no cost. Self-guided exploration of area history, culture and art is easy, too.



THAT'S THE TICKET

Backstage tours of the city's highly esteemed performance venues, including the Tony® Award-winning Guthrie Theater and the spectacular historic State, Orpheum and Pantages theaters, highlight what happens behind the scenes at these storied landmarks, from stagecraft to costume design to who has graced the dressing rooms.

ART FOR ALL

With renowned museums offering frequent free tours and events, it's easy to access world-class art in Minneapolis – and just as easy to understand it! The admission-free Minneapolis Institute of Art offers fun and engaging family activities every Sunday, while the Walker Art Center features free performances, films, tours and more each Thursday and the first Saturday of the month. The 11-acre Minneapolis Sculpture Garden encourages leisurely art appreciation in the great outdoors, and is always free.

RIDING THE RAILS ... AND MORE

Riverboat, kayak, scenic railway – you name it, you can ride it, while learning more about the area than you ever imagined. The Minnesota Transportation Museum moves visitors in many ways with its restored streetcar line and classic buses. Experience the Mississippi Riverfront area aboard the Minneapolis Queen, a stately paddlewheeler, or for a truly unique experience, sightsee on a two-wheeled Segway, in a kayak from PaddleShare, on a bike by Nice Ride Minnesota, or one of the many running, food or fitness-themed tours available in the City by Nature.



APPROXIMATE DRIVING HOURS TO MINNEAPOLIS

Des Moines - 4	Chicago - 6
Fargo - 4	Kansas City - 7
Madison - 4.5	Winnipeg - 8
Sioux Falls - 4	Indianapolis - 10
Green Bay - 5	St. Louis - 9
Milwaukee - 6	Detroit - 12
Omaha - 6	Cincinnati - 12

Three historic river towns offer memorable shopping, dining and recreation within an hour of Minneapolis. Nestled in the bluffs of the St. Croix River, one of America's wild and scenic waterways, Stillwater has a charming Main Street lined with antique shops, art galleries and romantic bed-and-breakfast inns. Further upstream, the quaint city of Taylors Falls overlooks a steep gorge of bedrock, around which an idyllic state park and downhill ski area create a recreation haven. Sixty miles south of Minneapolis, Red Wing (of Red Wing Shoes fame) bustles along the Mississippi River, offering measurable charm and Victorian ambiance, as well as unique shopping. All three cities offer historic and contemporary attractions ranging from river cruises to hot air balloon rides.

Minnesota's rugged North Shore region follows the western edge of Lake Superior, the world's largest freshwater lake and an unparalleled source of outdoor recreation and scenic beauty. Mountain biking and downhill skiing make Lutsen Mountain an all-season attraction, while fishing, sailing and kayaking are Lake Superior favorites. The 200-mile Superior Hiking Trail offers lodge-to-lodge hiking and cross-country skiing.

Further north, the historic Gunflint Trail leads to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), one of the largest and most heavily used wilderness areas in the country. This unique landscape creates a scenic border between the U.S. and Canada and offers 1,200 miles of canoe routes, some 2,000 campsites and hundreds of lakes and rivers. State parks within and around the metro get visitors back to nature quickly.

WORTH THE DRIVE

FROM PRISTINE
WILDERNESS TO
PICTURESQUE RIVER TOWNS,
SOME OF THE REGION'S
MOST INTRIGUING PLACES
ARE AN EASY DRIVE FROM
MINNEAPOLIS.

PLACES TO STAY

Genuine hospitality and more than 44,900 hotel rooms make the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area an inviting place to stay. From executive suites to economy lodging, there's a room for every style.



DOWNTOWN

Hotels in the city's vibrant core are comfortable, convenient and friendly. They're also steps from theater, entertainment, shopping and dining. More than 5,600 hotel rooms offer weather-proof access to the Minneapolis Convention Center and other destinations via the city's famous skyway system. Here are just a few of the cozy options available to you:

UPSCALE OFFERINGS

Grand Hotel Minneapolis - Hyatt - An oasis of casual elegance since 1915, the Grand Hotel is considered the city's finest social, business and athletic club. A Lifetime Athletic club, pet-friendly policies and 140 boutique urban spaces make this hotel unique and worth a visit. Renovated in 2011, the contemporary furnishings set it apart from other historic hotels.

Le Meridien Chambers Minneapolis - Like its Big Apple counterpart, the Minneapolis location of this sleek boutique hotel feels like a luxury residence, complete with original artworks in the highly refined interiors and Mercy Bar & Dining Room, which features seasonal fare focused on food and family.

Loews Hotel Minneapolis - Rising 21 stories above First Avenue, the high-tech property reaches new heights in luxury accommodations. European-style guest rooms display commissioned artworks, plasma TVs and spa-worthy amenities, while world-class cuisine feeds a sophisticated clientele.

Marquette Hotel - Posh details, including feather pillows and Egyptian cotton linens, bring first-class comfort to this newly renovated hotel, known for its deluxe oversized guest rooms and guaranteed five-star service. The Marquette also boasts a convenient, memorable location inside the distinctive IDS building, the tallest in Minneapolis.

FULL-SERVICE FAVORITES

Hilton Minneapolis - The city's largest hotel was renovated in 2017 and is complete with a modern and sophisticated lobby, swimming pool, health club, restaurants and shops, spans a full city block, equally accommodating business travelers, families and convention goers.

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis - The Hyatt's Nicollet Mall location affords first-class shopping and dining, while the top-of-the-line athletic club and swimming pool, renovated guest rooms and Prairie Kitchen & Bar, where seasonally inspired locally-grown food is highlighted.

Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot – The historic building draws visitors to the renovated Milwaukee Road Depot, a Riverfront District relic that also houses two hotels, a restaurant and a cocktail lounge.

MIDTOWN SOPHISTICATES

Minneapolis Marriott City Center – Soaring 31 floors above downtown, this upscale hotel attached to City Center features bi-level suites with stunning views of downtown Minneapolis and a restaurant serving Midwestern fare.

Radisson Blu Minneapolis Downtown – The Radisson's spacious rooms and suites are complemented by a health club, 24-hour business center and concierge service, a FireLake Grill and convenient skyway access.

METROPOLITAN ACCOMMODATIONS

Many of the area's more than 44,000 hotel rooms are located near Mall of America and the Minneapolis–St. Paul International Airport, just minutes from downtown Minneapolis with nearby METRO Blue and Green Line access.

NOTEWORTHY

HAWK

The Hewing Hotel, coined the local living room of the North Loop neighborhood, pairs historic timber and brick with high-end interiors. Dining at restaurant Tullibee will top off a stay at this authentic, cozy hotel.

W Minneapolis - The Foshay

The Foshay Tower, long the tallest skyscraper between Chicago and the west coast, experienced a makeover, becoming the W Minneapolis - The Foshay. The structure kept its art deco look with marble, terrazzo, etched glass and observation deck and gained 229 luxurious rooms.

The Saint Paul Hotel – Built in 1910, this historic gem pairs Old World class and first-class service on the edge of charming Rice Park, across from the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts and venerable Landmark Center in Saint Paul.

WINNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Mystic Lake Casino & Hotel – Located 30 minutes south of Minneapolis, the country's second-largest Native American gaming and entertainment facility successfully blends Las Vegas-style attractions and Midwestern hospitality.

Treasure Island Resort & Casino – This Caribbean-themed destination, situated in the limestone bluffs of southern Minnesota about an hour south of Minneapolis, features continuous gaming activity, live entertainment and a pool with waterfalls.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Get help deciding what to do. Go to <https://plan.minneapolis.org> to build a customized itinerary that includes hotel, attractions and more with UTrip.

PROGRESS & PRESERVATION

The W Minneapolis—Foshay isn't the only hotel to be created in the shell of a historic building. The Westin Minneapolis hotel opened in the old Farmers & Mechanics Bank building in 2007. Le Meridien Chambers Minneapolis took up residence in the long-vacant Fairmont Hotel. In Minneapolis, progress and preservation co-exist.

COMING & GOING

Easy to get to and even easier to get around, Minneapolis is one of America's most accessible cities.

Located between both coasts, Minneapolis is a destination that's central for everyone and a hub city. The Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport is the 17th busiest airport in the U.S. and a Delta Air Lines hub. The city's highly lauded METRO Green and Blue Line systems ensure the city is not only easy to fly in to, but easy to navigate.

The InterContinental Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport Hotel is connected to the MSP Airport. This hotel features two signature restaurants, a luxury spa, and event spaces. TSA access to Terminal 1-Lindbergh is available to those with carry-on luggage.



GETTING AROUND

Less than a three-hour flight from most U.S. cities and just minutes from downtown with access to the METRO Blue Line, the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) is served by 17 commercial passenger airlines at two terminals. A hub of Delta Air Lines, MSP connects Minneapolis to nearly 800 cities in 120 countries. In addition, major freeways in all directions plus ample bus and train service, make getting around a snap!

BOARD THE TRAIN

Metro Transit's light rail transit METRO Blue Line connects downtown Minneapolis with the airport and Mall of America. Conveniently serving several stations, including Target Field and Nicollet, along the route passengers can easily get to and from all of the area's popular destinations. The METRO Green Line connects visitors to Saint Paul. The route takes riders past the State Capitol to Union Depot where the Amtrak station is situated.

RIDE THE BUS

Metro Transit, which annually provides 70 million bus trips, offers a handy, low-cost way to get around. Fares range from \$0.50 to \$3.25, depending on time of day and route. Take a bus up and down Nicollet Mall and to the Minneapolis Convention Center for free; simply watch for the "Free Ride Bus" sign.

CATCH A CAB

Taxi service is available anywhere in the metro area. Catch a taxi at the Minneapolis Convention Center and any hotel, or call ahead for service.

CAR SHARING

VISITORS AND MINNEAPOLITANS ALL AROUND ALSO USE UBER, LYFT, HOURCAR AND ZIPCAR TO GET AROUND THE CITY. ANOTHER CHEAP ALTERNATIVE IS METRO TRANSIT BUSES, WHERE ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS, SUCH AS ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND NEW YEAR'S EVE, THEY OFFER FREE RIDES TO PATRONS.



TRY THE SKYWAY

Downtown Minneapolis has a unique skyway system, located one floor above ground, offering enclosed travel between buildings. More than 9 miles of glass-enclosed walkways connect hotels, shopping, sports and entertainment venues, restaurants and parking ramps, which means pedestrians can travel in climate-controlled bliss.

PARKING

There are tens of thousands of parking spaces in downtown Minneapolis and 8,000 on-street spaces. Street parking requires change or a credit card for meters, which have varying rates, limits and time restrictions. Ramps and lots, which run \$7 to \$30 a day, provide convenient parking spaces. Mall of America offers ample free parking, as well.

MYTH BUSTER

MYTH:

Minneapolis is flat, dull and small — basically it's flyover country.

REALITY:

Minneapolis is about as geographically centralized as you can get. In fact, it is one of the most accessible cities in the country because it's a hub of Delta Air Lines, one of the world's largest airlines. However, when you get here, you'll find the 16th-largest metropolitan area in the nation — home to about 3.6 million residents. Lakes, trees and the mightiest river in the country decorate Minneapolis' landscape, a true City by Nature.

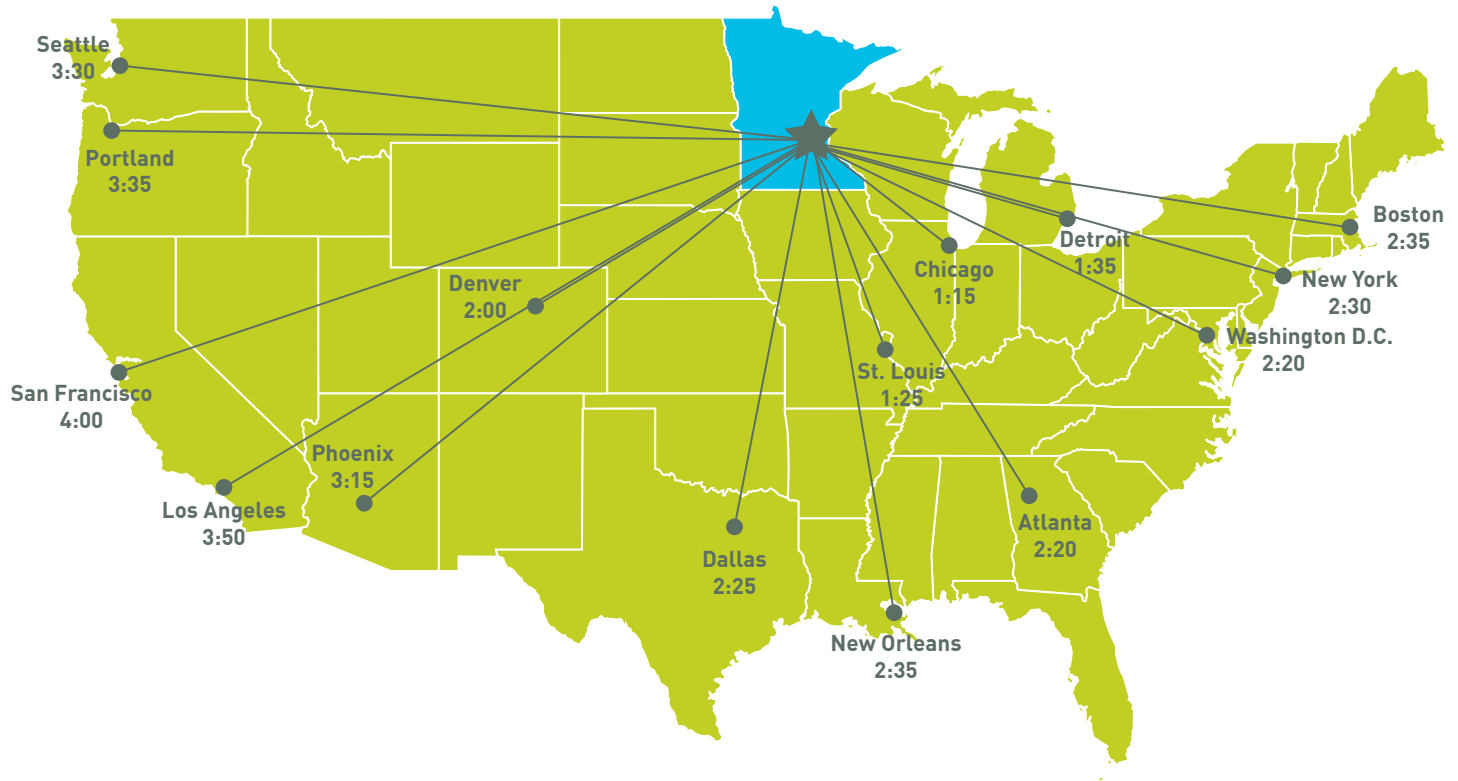
HAVE YOU HEARD?

Convene Magazine noted, "GETTING AROUND MINNEAPOLIS COULDN'T BE EASIER, NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER."

DID YOU KNOW?

AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL NAMED MSP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT THE BEST IN NORTH AMERICA BY SIZE AND REGION AND VOTED BEST STAFF SERVICE IN NORTH AMERICA. (2018)

APPROXIMATE FLIGHT TIMES IN HOURS TO MINNEAPOLIS



METRO & BUS FARES*

\$0.50 to \$3 Bus fare in the metro area
\$2.00 to \$2.50 METRO fare on Blue and Green Lines

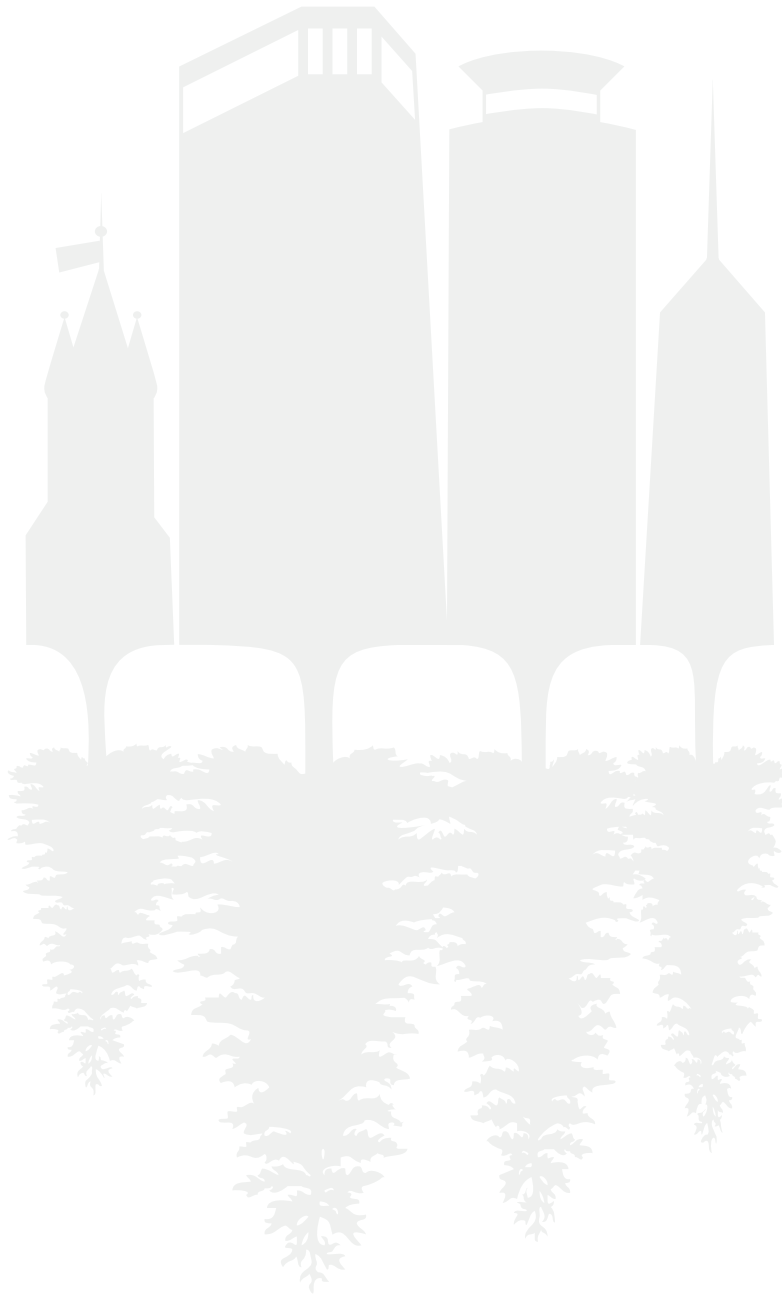
CAB FARES*

MSP International Airport to downtown Minneapolis: \$35-45
Within downtown Minneapolis: \$5-10
Downtown Minneapolis to downtown Saint Paul: \$30
Downtown Minneapolis to Mall of America: \$40

*All fares are approximate

DRIVE TIMES

Des Moines, IA - 4 hours
Madison, WI - 4.5 hours
Sioux Falls, SD - 4 hours
Omaha, NE - 6 hours
Chicago, IL - 6 hours
Grand Forks, ND - 4.75 hours



Meet **Minneapolis**
City by Nature

Signature
PARTNERS

 DELTA 

Meet Minneapolis 1.800.445.7412 minneapolis.org
Convention & Visitors Association