



WHY PEORIA?

(Let us explain)

*You're three
hours or less from
Chicago, St. Louis
or Indianapolis.*

Live as big or small as your heart desires! Nestled in the Illinois River Valley, the Greater Peoria area provides opportunities for a variety of lifestyles.

Live in the City of Peoria, with its urban amenities and hustle. Or choose a suburb, small town or rural life, with a laid-back vibe and community schools. Whatever you choose:

- High quality of life with a lower cost of living
- Easy commutes everywhere
-
- A variety of great dining and entertainment options
- And, of course,

LET'S GET SPECIFIC

Education

- Peoria ranks No. 6 in Illinois – and No. 1 outside the Chicago suburbs – with 14.2% of the population holding a post-graduate degree.
- , ranked the No. 4 regional university in the Midwest
- , which partners with and
- a nationally ranked STEM high school; several area high schools rank among best in Illinois

Exciting annual events

Hundreds to choose from, but these are the most famous:

- and the , world's fastest four-mile foot race
-
-
- – at 132 years, longest-running holiday parade in U.S.
-





Picture this

- observation deck: panoramic views of the Illinois River Valley
- , overlooking the Illinois River, proclaimed by President Theodore Roosevelt as the “World’s Most Beautiful Drive”
-
- paddlewheel riverboat cruises
- , with 60 square miles of woods, trails, recreation fields, golf courses
- and the

Sports

Our calendar is full of high-caliber sports events:

- (NCAA Division I)
- hockey (SPHL)
- baseball (Midwest League, affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals)
- state championships in baseball, cross country and softball
-

Arts and entertainment

Dating to vaudeville, we’ve given rise to entertainment icons like comedian Richard Pryor, opera singer Jerry Hadley and singer-songwriter Dan Fogelberg. Thanks to the , the , and countless small- to medium-sized venues, both indoors and outside, the Greater Peoria area continues to draw national touring shows while nurturing local talent with opportunities like these:

- , featuring world renowned guest artists
-
-
- celebrations of local art and music

Food and drink

Greater Peoria is home to a large and eclectic selection of locally owned restaurants, craft breweries and wineries. Run the gamut from the world-class, upscale creations of Chef Dustin Allen at to the original treats of . Treat your taste buds from the comfort food at to fried chicken at and the giant tenderloin sandwiches served at local joints throughout the area.

Check out – or better yet,
COME VISIT.

Note: Business hours and activities may have changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please call ahead or check websites for up-to-date info.

Why Peoria? **WHY NOT?**