

# Moving and Relocation



## Best Places to Live

Looking for the ideal city for your family? Chances are, you want a place where you can find an interesting job and afford a good house. An easy commute would be nice, too.

To help in your search for a change of scene, we went looking for places that offered a lively economy, diverse cultural amenities, and abundant recreational activities.

The picture-perfect city would offer a balance of the best. But no one city has it all. If you're looking for a new city, big or small, review our list of best places to see if one fits your list of priorities.

## The Best Big Cities

**Austin, Texas.** On the Colorado River, in the heart of the Hill Country, Austin offers an affordable cost of living, low utility costs, clean water, and easy access to outdoor activities in the surrounding wooded, rolling hills. You'll find an extensive park system with many recreational opportunities, such as boating. Austin boasts a low unemployment rate, and average commute time is only 21.4 minutes. Through its willingness to support economic diversification, Austin's job rate has grown fast in recent years and promises to grow even faster in the future, especially in the high-tech fields. Experts predict an incredible job growth rate (33.19% to 2010).

Love music? You'll love "The Live Music Capital of the World." Austin has become a center for live music and hosts the South by Southwest Music Festival. Home to the University of Texas, Austin offers many opportunities to take part in educational and cultural activities: museums, symphonies, and theaters, not to mention many good restaurants. Any negatives here? You have to like hot summers: average high temp in July is 95.9 degrees F.

*Statistics supplied by Fast Forward, a data consulting company located in Portland, Oregon.  
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