St. Paul, Minnesota, known as the twin city of Minneapolis, spans both sides of the Mississippi River. St. Paul is the capital of Minnesota.

St. Paul's Neighborhoods
Downtown St. Paul, located along the Mississippi River, houses the Minnesota State Capitol and many government buildings. St. Paul's 5 miles of skyways link buildings and attractions including the Xcel Energy Center, Rivercenter, Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota Children's Museum, Lowry Theater, Park Square Theater, and St. Paul Central Library. Other downtown attractions include the Minnesota History Museum; the Schubert Club Museum of Musical Instruments, American Association of Woodturners, and the Ramsey County History Museum (all located in the Landmark Center); and the Minnesota Museum of American Art (located along the river). During the winter, the Landmark Plaza becomes St. Paul's outdoor artificially-chilled ice rink. Homes in downtown St. Paul are apartments, studios, lofts, and condos. A few new high-rise condominium developments have been built and old warehouses and commercial spaces have been converted into modern apartments and lofts. Because the downtown is a growing residential area, additional housing is planned.

Other neighborhoods have homes of historic significance. Summit Hill is largely residential in character and has hundreds of houses of historical and architectural interest. Much of the Summit Hill area is within the National Register Historic Hill District. Summit Avenue, the northern border of the neighborhood, contains the longest stretch of Victorian houses in the United States, which begins at the Mississippi River and includes the University of St. Thomas, Macalester College, William Mitchell College of Law, the Governor's mansion, haunted houses, places of worship, and the St. Paul Cathedral. Dayton's Bluff has a few Prairie-style houses in addition to late 19th and early 20th century houses, some of which are architecturally intact. The Como neighborhood consists of several wood frame, pressed brick, and rock-faced concrete block houses that date from the 1900s, although bungalows constructed before World War II are more prevalent.

Parks and Recreation
St. Paul's professional sports teams, the Minnesota Wild Hockey Club of the National Hockey League and the Minnesota Swarm of the National Lacrosse League, play at the Xcel Energy Center, which also hosts concerts, shows, and other athletic events. The American Association Baseball League's St. Paul Saints play at St. Paul's Midway Stadium.

St. Paul has more than 170 parks and open spaces. Lake Como and Phalen Lake are the two most visited lakes in the city. Phalen Lake is in Phalen Park, which also has a golf course, a recreation center, playgrounds, picnic areas, grills, and a man-made beach on the lake. In addition to Lake Como, Como Park is the site of the Como Zoo, Marjorie McNeely Conservatory; a golf course, swimming pool, athletic fields, miniature golf, and other amenities.

Winter sports available in St. Paul include 3 cross-country skiing areas, downhill skiing and snowboarding at Como Park, ice climbing in 4 locations, 21 outdoor ice skating rinks, 3 indoor ice skating arenas, and 14 sledding locations.

Education
St. Paul educates over 38,000 students. The 53 elementary schools offer various magnet programs, including Montessori, language immersion, arts, museums, and science and technology, in addition to traditional elementary education. Twelve middle and junior high schools and 11 high schools also offer magnet programs.

University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus, houses the College of Veterinary Medicine and several other colleges and schools of the university. The University of St. Thomas; The College of St. Scholastica, St. Paul Campus; Hamline University; Concordia University; Metropolitan State University; Macalester College; and College of St. Catherine also offer bachelor degree programs and some master programs. St. Paul College awards associate degrees.

Health Care
St. Paul is served by 5 hospitals with over 1,324 staffed acute care beds. Two of these hospitals specialize in pediatric care. In addition, 1 hospital offers 120 long-term acute care beds for respiratory care, rehabilitation, brain injury services, geriatric behavioral services, and complex medical care.

St. Paul City Stats

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