Salt Lake City, the capitol of Utah and host of the 2002 Olympic Games, sits in a large valley between the Wasatch and the Oquirrh mountain ranges. Salt Lake City is the world headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), the Mormons.

Many downtown sites reflect the Mormon origins of Salt Lake City. Historic Temple Square features the 6-spired Salt Lake Temple and the domed Tabernacle, home of the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Other church-related sites include the Brigham Young Monument, Eagle Gate, Joseph Smith Memorial Building, Mormon Pioneer Memorial Monument, Beehive House, and the Church History Museum.

Other attractions in the downtown area include the Family History Library, which contains the world's largest repository of genealogical records; Pioneer Memorial Museum; Clark Planetarium and IMAX Theater; Discovery Gateway, a children's museum; Rio Grande Depot/Utah State Historical Society; Hope Gallery and Museum of Fine Art; and Salt Lake Art Center. The downtown provides performing arts venues for the Utah Symphony, Utah Opera, Ballet West, Broadway touring shows, Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Repertory Dance Theatre, Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation, and other performing artists and companies.

**SALT LAKE CITY NEIGHBORHOODS**

The western slope of Capitol Hill is called the Marmalade District, because the streets are named for fruits frequently used in making marmalade. This district, considered among the most architecturally diverse of the Utah residential neighborhoods, includes early examples of Utah vernacular architecture, a Russian-influenced LDS meeting house (now the Salt Lake Acting Company headquarters), Gothic revival homes, Victorian mansions, and eclectic houses in various combinations of adobe, brick, and carpentry. Capitol Hill, the site of the Utah State Capitol Building, also has many condominiums. Salt Lake City's first neighborhood, the Avenues, is named after its perfectly gridlike roads (called avenues and streets). Historic preservation is a major priority for its residents. Rose Park has many streets with 1940s brick and frame tract homes on large lots and some of the city's largest and most densely spaced trees. Sugar House, known for its early 20th-century bungalows, cottages, Tudors, and a few Victorians, has tree-lined streets and a 110-acre park. Apartments are readily available.

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

Salt Lake City is home to the Utah Jazz (basketball), Salt Lake Bees (baseball), Real Salt Lake (soccer), and Utah Grizzlies (ice hockey) teams. The city has 126 parks and 58 municipal playgrounds. Pioneer Park, in downtown, was the Latter Day Saints pioneers' first settlement. City Creek Park, also in downtown, features a stream; a pond; and pedestrian paths that lead to Memory Grove Park, which has veterans’ memorials and a replica of the Liberty Bell. Liberty Park has tennis courts, paddle boats, a children’s amusement park, a playground, and picnic facilities. This is the Place Heritage Park marks the spot where the Mormon pioneers first entered the Salt Lake Valley and offers visitors a pioneer experience in an interactive format. Olympic Cauldron Park commemorates the 17 days of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Red Butte Garden and Arboretum, Tracy Aviary, Price Family Holocaust Memorial Garden, Hogle Zoo, and the Gilgal Sculpture Garden are also located in Salt Lake City.

Other museums in Salt Lake City include the Utah Museum of Natural History, Chase Home Museum of Utah Folk Arts, Classic Cars Int’l, and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts.

**EDUCATION**

The Salt Lake City School District serves approximately 24,000 students with 27 elementary, 5 middle, 1 alternative high, and 3 high schools, as well as 5 charter schools and specialized programs. Some schools operate on a year-round schedule.

The University of Utah, the state’s largest research and teaching university, has a School of Medicine, College of Nursing, and College of Pharmacy. Westminster College offers bachelors and masters degree programs. The city is also home to vocational and 2-year institutions, including Salt Lake Community College and LDS Business College. The BYU Salt Lake Center offers continuing education.

**HEALTH CARE**

Salt Lake City is served by 3 hospital systems, which provide approximately 1,200 inpatient beds within the city. In addition, the George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center is a mid-sized affiliated tertiary care facility with 121 authorized active beds. Intermountain Shriners Hospital for Children provides care for orthopedic problems.

**CITY STATS**

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>City Population</td>
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<td>Metropolitan Statistical Area</td>
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<td>Per capita personal income, Salt Lake City MSA</td>
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NOTE: PHOTOS: http://www.visitsaltlake.com/media/image_library/?topicID=4