



Baltimore



Baltimore, Maryland, was named for the second Lord Baltimore, the first proprietary governor of the Province of Maryland. Baltimore played a crucial role in the War of 1812 when soldiers stationed at Fort McHenry successfully held off a British attack—the inspiration for Francis Scott Key’s “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Downtown Baltimore is primarily a governmental and commercial area with some newer condominium and apartment developments. The downtown is surrounded by many distinctive neighborhoods. The Inner Harbor is home to many major attractions, including the National Aquarium, Maryland Science Center, Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, Geppi’s Entertainment Museum, American Visionary Art Museum, Sports Legends at Camden Yards, Babe Ruth Birthplace & Museum, Port Discovery Children’s Museum, and Historic Ships in Baltimore. In Mount Vernon, 19th-century mansions have been converted to museums, such as the Walters Art Museum and the Contemporary Museum. This area is also the site of the Peabody Library’s Grand Cathedral of Books, the first monument to George Washington, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Lyric Opera House, CENTER-STAGE, and Everyman Theater. The American Visionary Art Museum and the Baltimore Museum of Industry are located in the Federal Hill neighborhood. Fell’s Point is a waterfront area that celebrates Baltimore’s British nautical roots. Vagabond Players and Fell’s Point Corner Theaters offer community theater productions. In Canton, former factories have been converted to condominiums, artist studios, offices, eateries, and stores. Located along the waterfront, Canton has traditional Baltimore brick and formstone row houses with marble stoops, painted screens, and window shrines. Harbor East has several luxurious waterfront condominium developments. The Westside is the site of Edgar Allen Poe’s grave in Westminster Hall burial ground; Lexington Market, the nation’s oldest continually-running public market; the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum; and the France Merrick Performing Arts Center at the Hippodrome Theater. Some neighborhoods, like Little Italy and Greektown, have strong ethnic influences.

Further from the downtown, the Coldstream, Homestead, and Montebello neighborhoods contain federalist and colonial-style town and single-family houses that were constructed during the second half of the 19th century and early 20th century. The neighborhoods of Cylburn and Levindale feature 1950s-era detached red brick houses, some of which have been converted to duplexes. In Brooklyn and Curtis Bay, housing styles vary from brick row homes to single-family detached homes with yards. Howard Park offers primarily single-family Victorian, Tudor, and rancher-style homes with a smaller number of duplexes and brick row homes. Glen’s predominantly single-family brick and frame cottage homes were built around the turn of the 20th century. The neighborhood also has mansions, garden apartments, condominiums, and semi-detached homes.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Baltimore has 19 city parks. Patterson is Baltimore’s most intensively used large park and has athletic fields and an ice rink. Clifton Park is the former estate of Johns Hopkins and has an 18-hole golf course and clay tennis courts. Other parks include Druid Hill Park, home to the Maryland

Zoo, and Cylburn Arboretum. In addition, Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine commemorates the War of 1812 battle and other historical events.

Many professional sports teams play in Baltimore, including the Baltimore Orioles (baseball), Baltimore Ravens (football), Baltimore Burn (women’s football), Baltimore Nighthawks (women’s football), Baltimore Mariners (arena football), Baltimore Blast (indoor soccer), and Crystal Palace F.C. USA (soccer).

Pimlico Race Track, in the Park Heights area, is the home of Maryland’s Preakness horse race.

EDUCATION

Baltimore City Public Schools educate over 82,000 students in 201 schools: 55 elementary (Pre-K–5th grade); 69 elementary/middle (Pre-K–8th grade); 19 middle (6th–8th grade); 34 high (9th–12th grade); 9 middle/high (6th–12th grade); 6 special education; and 9 alternative options programs. Charter schools account for 25 of the schools.

Baltimore has many opportunities for higher education, including the College of Notre Dame, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University, Maryland Institute College of Art, Morgan State University, University of Baltimore, Coppin State University, Sojourner Douglass College, Community College of Baltimore, University of Maryland at Baltimore, Baltimore International College, Baltimore Hebrew University, The Peabody Conservatory of Music, and Saint Mary’s Seminary and University.

Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland both have Schools of Medicine.

HEALTH CARE

Baltimore is served by 10 hospital facilities with over 4,000 licensed acute care beds. The city also has facilities that provide adult and pediatric rehabilitation and long-term acute care. In addition, the Baltimore VA Medical Center is an acute medical and surgical care facility that offers veterans a full range of inpatient, outpatient, and primary care services.

CITY STATS

2007

City Population	640,150
Metropolitan Statistical Area	2,663,805
Per capita personal income, Baltimore-Towson MSA	\$45,887