Tyler, Texas, was named for President John Tyler because he supported the admission of Texas to the United States. Tyler has the nation's largest rose garden, the 14-acre Tyler Municipal Rose Garden.

Tyler has many museums and other attractions: Brookshire's Wildlife Museum, which has dioramas of animals in their natural habitats; Discovery Science Place, a children's museum; the Historical Aviation Memorial Museum, which collects, preserves, and displays aviation memorabilia and aircraft; the Tyler Museum of Art; the Carnegie History Center, which has exhibits ranging from the Caddo Indians to the 20th century; Cotton Belt Depot Train Museum, which maintains model train layouts and related houses, vehicles, bridges, an airport, and other pieces; the Hudnall Planetarium; and the Goodman House and Museum, which is furnished with the original belongings of the Goodman and LeGrand families. Other cultural attractions are the East Texas Symphony Orchestra, the Tyler Civic Theater, and the Tyler Civic Ballet.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Tyler is primarily a commercial and cultural district. Some residential loft projects recently have been developed.

Tyler has three residential historic districts in the South Tyler area. The Charnwood District was developed sporadically between about 1870 and 1950 on parcels of varying sizes and shapes and includes Tudor Revival, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, Queen Anne, and Ranch-style residences. The Azalea District, which was built primarily between 1925 and 1953, features mass plantings of azaleas and is the site of Tyler's "Azalea Trail" during the last week of March. Single-family homes in the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival style comprise most of the dwellings throughout this district. The Brick Streets District was developed mainly between 1890 and 1940 with predominately single-family houses in the Tudor Revival, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman styles. Duplexes, four-plexes, and apartments are also available.

Other Tyler neighborhoods include Stonegate and Graemont Estates, which are private, gated communities; Oak Hollow, which offers townhouses and detached houses of varying sizes; The Cascades, which has condominiums, townhouses, and detached houses; Hollytree Country Club, which was constructed around a golf course; and planned communities such as The Woods and Charleston Park. Many of these neighborhoods have new construction underway.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The city has 26 parks, 22 area sporting lakes, 66 tennis courts, 26 baseball fields, 15 soccer fields, and 9 golf courses. The Tyler Municipal Rose Garden has over 38,000 rosebushes of at least 500 different varieties and is in full bloom in the spring and in mid-October. In the fall, Tyler celebrates the rose with the annual Texas Rose Festival.

Camp Ford was the largest Confederate prisoner-of-war camp west of the Mississippi River during the Civil War. The site of the camp is now a public park and features a kiosk with extensive graphics detailing the history of the camp, a walking trail with interpretive signage, and a reconstruction of a prisoner-of-war cabin.

Other parks include the Tyler State Park, which is located north of Tyler; the Caldwell Zoo; and the Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge, which is home to over 40 rescued tigers and other big cats.

EDUCATION

Tyler Independent School District serves an enrollment of approximately 18,000 students. The district is composed of 17 elementary schools, 6 middle schools, 2 high schools, 2 alternative schools, and a special education campus.

Opportunities for higher education include the University of Texas at Tyler, Texas College, and Tyler Junior College. UT Tyler offers nearly 90 undergraduate and graduate degrees, including a PhD in nursing. Texas College, Tyler's oldest higher education institution, is a historically black liberal arts college affiliated with the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and awards bachelor's and associate's degrees. Tyler Junior College grants associate's degrees in business, technology, nursing, and allied health care services.

HEALTH CARE

Tyler is served by three hospital systems with almost 1,000 acute-care beds. In addition, the city has a hospital dedicated to spine and joint care, a rehabilitation hospital, and a long-term acute-care hospital.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler Medical Center has residency programs in family medicine and occupational medicine.

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<tr>
<th>CITY STATS</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Population</td>
<td>96,018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Statistical Area</td>
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<td>Per capita personal income, Tyler, TX, MSA</td>
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Photo courtesy of Tyler Convention and Visitors Bureau.