Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, is located on the Spokane River and Lake Coeur d’Alene. French Canadian fur trappers thought that the Schet-chu-chumsh, the local Native American tribe, were sharp traders and therefore named them and the lake Coeur d’Alene, which translates as “heart of an awl.” General William T. Sherman established Fort Coeur d’Alene in 1878 to protect mining and logging interests and to watch the Canadian border. The fort was later renamed Fort Sherman in his honor.

Exhibits at the Museum of North Idaho explore Coeur d’Alene’s history of logging, agriculture, steamboats, railroads, and recreation.

Lake City Playhouse is a community theater that produces seven main season shows per year. Coeur d’Alene Summer Theatre presents professional Broadway musicals with full staging and live orchestras. Opera Coeur d’Alene delivers opera, related events, and educational enrichment. Coeur d’Alene Casino Resort Hotel hosts concerts and other entertainment.

**Neighborhoods**

Coeur d’Alene has encouraged the development of a downtown residential area. As a result, several condominium developments have been constructed, including high- and mid-rise buildings.

Adjacent to downtown and close to the lake is the Fort Ground neighborhood, which occupies the area where Fort Sherman was located and is the oldest neighborhood in the city. Most homes in Fort Ground were constructed between 1910 and 1930 in various styles and sizes on narrow tree-lined streets; some newer homes have also been built in this area. Larger houses are situated along the lake, with more modest houses located further inland. The Sanders Beach neighborhood has similar housing styles.

Many waterfront communities are being built on the sites of former lumber mills. The Bellerive development has condominiums, lofts, townhouses, single-family homes, and waterfront lots that overlook the Spokane River. The Kootenai Medical Center is located close to this neighborhood. The Mill River is a new Spokane River waterfront community that has custom designed houses as well as Craftsman-style single-family homes and condominiums.

Other newer neighborhoods include Coeur d’Alene Place, which is a master planned community in the northwestern part of the city that features new homes on tree-lined streets. Hawks Nest, The Landings, and Sunshine Meadows are also located in this portion of the city and consist of homes built since 2000. The Cottages on Government Way is an infill neighborhood of Craftsman-inspired single-family homes located close to downtown.

**Parks and Recreation**

The Coeur d’Alene’s Parks Department maintains 30 parks with amenities that include tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts; playgrounds and tot lots; boat ramps and docks; softball and hardball diamonds; skateboard and BMX Freestyle parks; and off-leash dog parks. Coeur d’Alene City Park hosts the Summer Concert Series and features a swim beach, volleyball and basketball courts, and the Fort Sherman Playground. Independence Point connects to City Park and has a beach, swim area, and water features and is located near the Coeur d’Alene Resort and the downtown area; tour boats, seaplanes, parasailing, and other aquatic equipment are available. Cherry Hill Park has an 18-hole disc golf course, an off-leash dog park, basketball and tennis courts, a BMX track, sledding areas, the 9/11 Memorial playground, and the Fallen Heroes Plaza. Ramsey Park features five softball diamonds; soccer fields; tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts; children’s play equipment; and access to the Prairie Trail. Canfield Sports Complex hosts four Little League fields, a tournament-sized soccer field. Coeur d’Alene Soccer Complex offers three full-sized soccer fields.

Tubbs Hill is a 120-acre natural area that is bordered by Lake Coeur d’Alene on the west, south, and east sides.

The Mission of the Sacred Heart, the oldest building in Idaho and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located in Old Mission State Park and was constructed between 1850 and 1853 by Catholic missionaries and members of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe. The park features the Sacred Heart Mission church, a restored Parish House, and a historic cemetery.

The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center offers sports, faith, educational, arts, and supportive programs.

The Coeur d’Alene area boasts three ski resorts that are a short distance from the city.

**Education**

The Coeur d’Alene School District educates 10,000 students from the city of Coeur d’Alene; the townships of Dalton Gardens, Hayden, and Hayden Lake; and a portion of rural Kootenai County. District facilities include 10 elementary schools, three middle schools, two high schools, an alternative high school, and a dropout retrieval school. The district has two elementary level magnet schools, one focusing on science and the other on arts and humanities, and a magnet middle school that focuses on science, health, and art.

Idaho Goes is a consortium of North Idaho College, the University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College, Idaho State University, and Boise State University that offers professional-technical certificates as well as associate, bachelor, and graduate degrees. The University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College, Idaho State University, and Boise State University share a campus located at the Harbor Center on the Spokane River. The main campus of North Idaho College, a community college, is situated less than a mile south where the river meets the lake.

**Health Care**

Coeur d’Alene is served by Kootenai Health, which has a 246 bed regional hospital, a behavioral health center, and a rehabilitation center.

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<th><strong>City Stats</strong></th>
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<td>City Population</td>
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