



Pensacola, FL



Pensacola, Florida, was discovered by Spanish explorers led by Don Tristan de Luna y Arellano in 1559 and became the first major European settlement attempt in America. Through its long history, Pensacola has been ruled by Spain, Britain, France, the Confederacy, and the United States and is therefore known as the “City of Five Flags,” which is celebrated in the annual 10-day Fiesta of Five Flags.

Historic Pensacola Village consists of 27 properties in the Pensacola National Register Historic District and includes the Old Christ Church, the 1805 French-Creole Lavelle House, the 1871 Dorr House, the 1832 Old Christ Church, the 1890 Lear-Rocheblave House, and the 1825 Barkley House. The T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum displays historic artifacts illustrating West Florida’s history. The Museum of Industry and the Museum of Commerce are also located in the Historic Pensacola Village. The Colonial Archaeological Trail contains archaeological remains from the British fort.

The National Naval Aviation Museum located on board Pensacola Naval Air Station contains artifacts and over 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation. The Museum also hosts the renowned Blue Angels. The nearby Fort San Carlos de Barrancas was the site of British, Spanish, and American forts and is available for touring.

Other museums include the Pensacola Lighthouse & Museum, Pensacola Historical Museum, Pensacola Children’s Museum, and the Pensacola Museum of Art. Quina House is Pensacola’s oldest surviving house still located on its original site and is furnished with pieces dating from 1790 through the 1880s.

Performing arts venues include the Saenger Theater, which is home to the Pensacola Symphony, Ballet Pensacola, Pensacola Opera, and the Pensacola Children’s Chorus and also presents concerts, plays, and family entertainment. The Devilliers Cultural Heritage Museum of Performing Arts is dedicated to the preservation of cultural blues, jazz, and gospel music. The Pensacola Cultural Center is home to the Pensacola Little Theatre, which produces musicals, comedies, dramas, and children’s shows.

The Center for Fine & Performing Arts at the University of West Florida showcases the work of their students as well as artists from around the world.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Pensacola offers historic homes and newly developed loft condominiums. A newer downtown neighborhood, Aragon, was constructed to resemble a turn-of-the-20th-century neighborhood with homes in many sizes; many of the homes have home offices or workshops.

Located close to downtown, the North Hill Preservation District contains more than 600 historic homes built between 1870 and the 1930s in Queen Anne, Neoclassical, Tudor Revival, Craftsman Bungalow, Mediterranean Revival, and Art Moderne styles and are situated on cobblestone streets lined with oak trees. North Hill is one of two garden districts and is close to Baptist Hospital. Housing styles in East Hill, the other garden district, include Craftsman, Federal, National, Neoclassical, and French Provincial. Homes in this neighborhood tend to be a little smaller than those in North Hill, with the exception of the homes bordering Bayou Texar and overlooking Pensacola Bay.

The Cordova Park neighborhoods feature houses built between 1950 and 1990. The Whispers is a small, newer neighborhood of contemporary homes that are situated on smaller-sized lots. Homes were first built in the Inverness neighborhood in the mid-1980s and are primarily traditional, ranch, and contemporary styles. These neighborhoods are convenient to Sacred Heart Hospital.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The City of Pensacola has a total of 92 parks, open spaces, and resource centers with facilities that include 8 activity centers, 2 seasonal swimming pools, 58 playgrounds, the Osceola Golf Course, 21 sports fields, a 28-court tennis center, and 25 outdoor basketball courts.

Roger Scott Athletic Complex is the largest park in the city and contains the Vickrey Community Center; baseball, softball, football, and soccer fields; a swimming pool; tennis center; and fenced dog parks. Bayview Park has a boat launch, bocce court, tennis courts, playground equipment, an off-leash dog park, recreation center, senior center, and soccer field. Admiral Mason Veterans’ Memorial Park is located in the downtown area and features The Wall South: The Florida Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the only permanent replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Memorial Park also features WWI and WWII memorials.

The Pensacola Blue Wahoos baseball team plays at the multi-use stadium in Community Maritime Park, which is also the site of the Randall K. and Martha A. Hunter Amphitheater, Festival Grounds, and Exhibition Grounds.

EDUCATION

Escambia County School District educates approximately 8,500 students from Pensacola in 7 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 2 high schools. The district offers students the opportunity to apply to magnet schools with specific focus and to choice programs with a specific theme not offered in the student’s assigned school. The district also has middle- and high-school career academies and a virtual academy.

The University of West Florida, located north of the city, offers undergraduate, graduate programs, and a doctoral program in education. Pensacola Christian College provides a traditional Christian liberal arts education in undergraduate and graduate programs. Pensacola State College offers associate degree programs.

Career education is provided at the Virginia College in Pensacola, Fortis Institute, and the Florida Institute of Ultrasound.

Florida State University College of Medicine, a community-based medical school, provides third- and fourth-year clinical training in internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, geriatrics, psychiatry and emergency medicine at the Regional Medical School Campus–Pensacola.

HEALTH CARE

Pensacola is served by two hospital systems with a total of almost 1,000 beds. These systems offer a pediatric hospital and behavior health facilities. In addition, a third hospital with over 500 beds serves the unincorporated Escambia county areas. Two military hospitals are also located nearby.

CITY STATS

2011

City Population	51,944
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	453,218
Per Capita Personal Income, Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent, MSA	\$36,079