Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is located at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers at the head of the Ohio River. Originally established as Fort Duquesne, the city was renamed for William Pitt the Elder, 1st Earl of Chatham, in 1758.

The Senator John Heinz History Center documents the lives of Western Pennsylvanians over the past 250 years with materials from corporations, everyday tools and textiles, and ethnic artifacts. Within the Center are the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, the Detre Library & Archives, and the Museum Conservation Center. Located in historic Point State Park, Fort Pitt Museum focuses on the area's role during the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village in nearby Avella is the oldest site of human habitation in North America.

The museums of Pittsburgh include the Carnegie Museum of Art, which specializes in contemporary art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, which is famous for the Hall of Dinosaur and Powdermill Nature Reserve; Carnegie Science Center; and The Andy Warhol Museum, which exhibits works by Warhol and other modern artists. The Frick Art & Historical Center interprets the life of Henry Clay Frick and consists of The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum, and Frick’s Victorian home and greenhouse.

Other Pittsburgh attractions include Station Square’s Fountain at Bessemer Court; the historic Duquesne and Monongahela Inclines, Hartwood Mansion, Photo Antiquities Museum of Photographic History, Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh, Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum, Mattress Factory contemporary art museum, Stephen Foster Memorial Museum, and Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh has many venues for the performing arts. Heinz Hall is home to the Pittsburgh Symphony; Broadway shows, and popular events. Benedum Center for the Performing Arts hosts ballet, opera, Broadway musicals, concerts, and other performances. August Wilson Center for African American Culture celebrates the art, culture, and history of African Americans. Byham Theater, Arcade Comedy Theater, Braddock Production Company, Cabaret at Theater Square, and Pittsburgh Public Theater also offer a wide range of live performances.

Other venues include the Stephen Foster Memorial, which is home to the University of Pittsburgh’s Department of Theatre Arts, and the Point Park University’s Pittsburgh Playhouse. Opera Theater Summerfest comprises 3 weeks of operas and musicals sung in English. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust also produces several festivals that celebrate the performing arts.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Residential options in downtown Pittsburgh include modern apartments and condominiums, and lofts in historic buildings.

Located in Pittsburgh’s North Side. Observatory Hill offers restored brick homes on wooded lots, many of which date from the 1800s, including the historic mansions on Perryville Avenue (“Judges’ Row”). With streets named for its battles and soldiers, the Mexican War Streets district has restored rowhouses that feature Greek revival doorways, Gothic turrets, stained glass, and Richardsonian stonework. The historic Manchester neighborhood features 19th- and early 20th-century architecture, flat lawns, and tree-lined, wide streets.

Housing in the Mount Washington neighborhood on the South Side includes restored homes from the early 1900s, red brick homes from the 1950s, and new single-family homes and condominiums that can offer views of the rivers and downtown.

Victorian mansions, restored and modern homes, apartments, and condominiums are available in Shadyside. Homes in Squirrel Hill and the adjacent Point Breeze were built by the mid-1900s and range from high-rise apartments to large brick mansions set back along wide streets with mature trees. The hilly Greenfield neighborhood provides views of the downtown skyline; housing styles include Victorian, Pittsburgh box, and ranch. Tree-lined streets with Victorian, Tudor, and Colonial homes characterize the Highland Park neighborhood.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Pittsburgh’s large park system is home to the Oliphant Bath House, the Mellon Park Tennis Center, Frick Environmental Center, and the Riverpark Park Soccer Field. Park amenities include play areas, 10 recreation centers, 18 outdoor pools, 6 spray parks, 3 skate parks, 5 disc hockey courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, ball fields, hockey rinks, disc golf, lawn bowling, and 6 off-leash dog parks. The 644-acre Frick Park is known for its extensive trails throughout steep valleys and wooded slopes. Amenities include the Frick Environmental Center, Blue Slide Playground, red clay tennis courts, baseball fields, lawn bowling green, and an off-leash dog park. The park is a popular site for birding enthusiasts. Schenley Park contains 456 acres of trails and woods and attractions that include the Bob O’Connor Golf Course, Schenley Oval Sportsplex, Schenley Park Skating Rink, disc golf course, playgrounds, and a swimming pool. The historic Pihipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers seasonal flower shows and exhibits, groundbreaking sustainable architecture, outdoor gardens, and green rooftops. The 259-acre Riverview Park is known for its wooded trails and steep hillsides and is also home to the landmark Allegheny Observatory, a space-themed playground, and the 2-mile Riverview Loop. Highland Park is a 500-acre space decorated with historic monuments, handcrafted sculptures, and ornate entryways. The park is also home to the Super Playground, a swimming pool, tennis courts, and Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium. The National Aviary houses more than 600 exotic birds from around the world in natural habitats.

Pittsburgh’s professional sports teams are the Steelers (football), Pirates (baseball), and Penguins (hockey).

EDUCATION

Pittsburgh Public Schools educate 25,003 students in 34 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, 5 middle/high schools (grades 6-12), 4 high schools (grades 9-12), and 4 special schools. The district offers magnet programs at all levels, career and technical education programs at the high school level, and online options.

Higher education is available at the University of Pittsburgh, which is a public research university with Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Dental Medicine, and the Graduate School of Public Health. Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University, and Chatham University are private colleges that offer bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral, and professional degree programs. Carlow University, Point Park University, and The Art Institute of Pittsburgh are private universities with undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Associate and certificate programs are available at Community College of Allegheny County, Bidwell Training Center, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Bradford School, Western Pennsylvania Hospital School of Nursing, Dean Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, Triangle Tech-Pittsburgh, St. Margaret School of Nursing, and Vet Tech Institute.

Byzantine Catholic Seminary, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary are also located in Pittsburgh.

HEALTH CARE

Pittsburgh is served by the following hospitals:

- Allegheny General Hospital: 631 licensed beds
- Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC: 310 licensed beds
- Jefferson Hospital: 341 licensed beds
- Magee – Women’s Hospital of UPMC Health System: 363 licensed beds
- St. Clair Memorial Hospital: 328 licensed beds
- UPMC Mercy: 496 licensed beds
- UPMC Passavant: 437 licensed beds
- UPMC Presbyterian (includes Montefiore): 762 licensed beds
- UPMC Shadyside: 520 licensed beds
- UPMC St. Margaret: 249 licensed beds
- West Penn Hospital: 317 licensed beds

The city also has 2 specialized children’s facilities, 4 long-term acute care facilities, 2 psychiatric hospitals, and the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

CITY STATS

- City Population: 305,412
- Metropolitan Statistical Area Population: 2,355,968
- Per capita personal income, Pittsburgh, PA, MSA: $49,349