Lexington, Kentucky, was founded in 1775 by frontier explorers at the time of the first battle of the American Revolution was fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. In honor of that battle, the explorers named their site Lexington.

Lexington’s many museums include the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, which is located at the Blue Grass Airport and features aircraft, aviation artifacts and equipment, simulators, and interactive displays. The Headley-Whitney Museum exhibits jeweled sculptures and doll houses. Living Arts & Science Center provides creative opportunities for exploration and education in the arts and sciences. Other museums include the Explorium of Lexington, which is a children’s museum; 21c Museum Hotel; the Art Museum at University of Kentucky; and Monroe Moosnick Medical Museum at Transylvania University, which focuses on healthcare, science, and medical artifacts.

Lexington has several historic house museums. Henry Clay’s home, Ashland, is filled with his family’s belongings and memorabilia and located on a 20-acre wooded estate. The 19th-century Hunt-Morgan House was designed by Asher Benjamin. Woodland Park features an English parterre garden. The late George and Mary Todd Lincoln House contains Todd and Lincoln family furniture, portraits, and furnishings. The Federal-style Hunt-Morgan House was built in 1814 by John Wesley Hunt and includes a Civil War museum and a period garden. Built for Francis Key Hunt in 1850, the Gothic Revival-style Loudoun House contains galleries, studios, and classrooms and is home to the Lexington Art League. The 46-acre Boone Station was an early settlement that was home to Daniel Boone from 1779 to 1872.

Lexington’s neighborhoods range from urban to rural. Although primarily commercial, the downtown has apartments, condominiums, and townhouses newly built and under construction. Lexington has many historic residential areas, such as Gratz Park, Fayette Park, Western Suburb, and Hampton Court near the downtown. Ashland Park, which was designed by the Olmsted Brothers and built between 1910 and 1935, features single-family homes in various architectural styles and surrounded by trees, green spaces, and curving streets. Most of the homes in Bell Court, which was developed in the early 1900s, were constructed in the Victorian, Queen Anne, and Arts and Crafts styles. Kenwick, built between 1910 and 1940, features bungalow-style housing. Suburban neighborhoods include Stonewall, which was built in the 1950s and 1960s and consists of mostly brick ranch-style homes. The mostly single-family detached single or two-story brick homes in Rabbit Run and Masterson Station were constructed between 1990 and 2000. Rabbit Run also has some apartments and condominiums. Beaumont Park features primarily brick, ranch-style houses built on large lots on tree-lined streets during the 1960s. The various Andover neighborhoods, built mostly during the 1990s, offer a variety of housing styles and sizes, including some apartments and townhouses.

Lexington’s rural areas are comprised of many horse farms and estates. The Greenbriar Country Club subdivision features 2-story family ranch homes. The mostly single-family detached ranch-style homes built on large lots in the developed in the 1960s, but many homes are less than 10 years old. Ashford Oaks is a new gated community of custom homes that is adjacent to the country club.

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