



COLUMBUS: DESTINATION PROFILE

EXPERIENCE
COLUMBUS

COLUMBUS AT A GLANCE

14TH
LARGEST CITY
IN THE COUNTRY

EXCEPTIONAL



68% of overnight travelers to Columbus said they were **very satisfied with their overall trip experience**, according to 2022 visitor research by Longwoods International.

SMART



As the winner of the **U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT)** first-ever Smart City Challenge, Columbus was awarded \$50 million in grant funding and the designation as **America's Smart City**.

SAFE



Columbus is committed to the safety of our residents and visitors. Mayor Andrew J. Ginther developed the **Comprehensive Neighborhood Safety Program** and, in 2022, committed \$660 million to fund community safety initiatives. **Safety Ambassadors** are also available to assist visitors and locals as safety escorts.

INCLUSIVE



Columbus has continually scored a 100% on the **Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Municipal Equality Index**, and City Council, with the support of more than 3,000 local businesses, **declared racism a public health crisis**.

DYNAMIC



Named one of the **Best Cities for Gen Z** in 2022 by *The New York Times*, one of the **Top 25 Convention Cities** in 2022 by *Meeting Source* and one of **Best Weekend Getaways** by *Midwest Living* in 2023, Columbus is a top place to visit and live.

BOOMING



Columbus has been declared one of the **10 Best Big Cities to Live in Right Now** by *Money*, one of the **Top Places for Young Professionals to Live** by *Forbes* and one of the **9 Best Gay-Friendly Cities in the U.S.** by *Matador Network*.

DISTRICTS: FIVE ON HIGH

Columbus' vibrant districts offer endless entertainment options. There's so much to explore! Start your discovery of the city with the neighborhoods surrounding the convention center on High Street, or the **"Five on High."**

SHORT NORTH ARTS DISTRICT

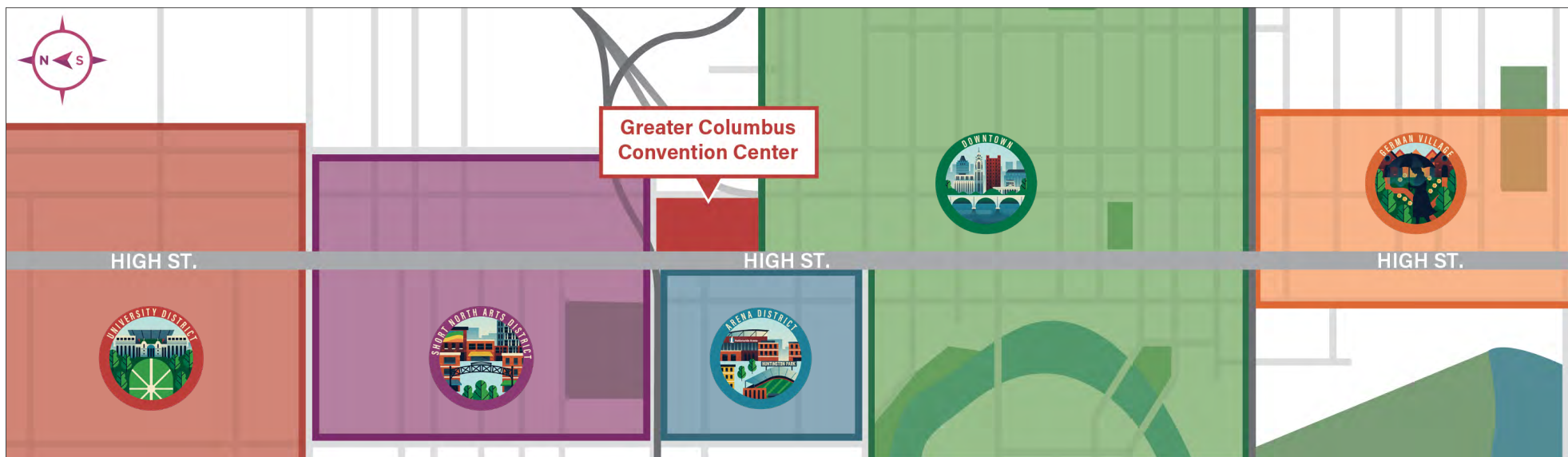


The "art and soul" of Columbus is lined with charming buildings that house the city's best boutique shopping, art galleries, dining and buzzing nightlife.

GERMAN VILLAGE



This quaint, historic neighborhood is one of the most atmospheric in the country. Here you'll find brick-lined streets, brick homes and shops and some of the best local dining.



UNIVERSITY DISTRICT



Home to The Ohio State University, this neighborhood is packed with cutting-edge science and tech, as well as sports, shopping, music and nightlife.

ARENA DISTRICT



This district is home to all of the city's professional sports teams and brings live music, nightlife and dining within steps of the convention center and adjoining hotels.

DOWNTOWN



Downtown holds hotels, historic theaters, world-class museums and acres of green space that create an iconic skyline in the heart of the city.

TOP ATTRACTIONS

Columbus is filled with so many can't-miss attractions, you'll want to revisit the city to experience them all.



COLUMBUS ZOO AND AQUARIUM



COSI



COLUMBUS MUSEUM OF ART



FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY & BOTANICAL GARDENS



NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM



EASTON

BUSINESS IN COLUMBUS



"Columbus isn't the next business destination. It's already happening." – Inc.

#1 Fastest-Growing Midwest City
for GDP, Job Growth and Population

#1 Top City
for Rising Tech Start Ups
-Forbes

Home to 52
Colleges Campuses
- One Columbus

WORTH A FORTUNE

Columbus is a startup and innovation hub. We are also home to 5 Fortune 500 companies, 16 Fortune 1000 companies and these other notable brands:

Abercrombie & Fitch



Bath & Body Works®



Bob Evans®



covermymeds®

DSW
DESIGNER SHOE WAREHOUSE®



EXPRESS



GREIF

HEXION™



intel.

jenie's

METTLER TOLEDO



THE *Scotts* **Miracle-Gro**
COMPANY



VS&Co
VICTORIA'S SECRET & CO.



COLUMBUS FOR EVERYONE

Columbus thrives thanks to the inclusivity that's quintessential to our city's DNA.



PRIORITIZING ACCESSIBILITY

In July 2022, Experience Columbus launched a new **Accessibility Guide** that was highlighted by *Travel + Leisure*. Visitors can explore four categories — mobility, vision, hearing and cognition — and learn about Columbus attractions, hotels, restaurants and transportation options that are accessible.



CLOSING THE GENDER WAGE GAP

In late 2017, the **Columbus Women's Commission**, an advisory body to Mayor Andrew J. Ginther led by First Lady Shannon Ginther, launched the Columbus Commitment. More than 300 Columbus companies have signed the voluntary, employer-led pledge to close the wage gap and achieve pay equity for working women.



WELCOMING EVERYONE

With the **15th largest LGBTQIA+ population** in the nation, more than 100 LGBTQIA+-owned businesses and organizations, the largest Pride celebration in the Midwest, and our thriving, LGBTQIA+-friendly neighborhoods, the contributions of the LGBTQIA+ community are woven into the fabric of who we are. They are part of what makes Columbus a great place to live, work and visit.



CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

We celebrate diversity year-round through initiatives like **CBUS Soul®**, a platform that amplifies rich, historic, innovative and forward-moving Black culture in Columbus.

Our **Diversity Apprenticeship Program** (DAP) is helping close the racial equity gap in the Central Ohio hospitality community through hands-on experience and job opportunities.

CREATIVE CULTURE OF COLUMBUS

FESTIVALS

With festivals for music, art, food, diverse cultures and more, Columbus boasts a year-round schedule of celebrations throughout the city.



VISUAL ARTS

Can there ever be too many murals? We don't think so. On our streets or in our acclaimed museums and galleries, you'll be surrounded by inspiration and creativity.



COLOMBUS

Columbus was named one of the **"30 Most Fun Places to Live in the U.S."** by *U.S. News & World Report*, and is bursting with creativity from independent artists, professional performance companies and artists-in-residence.

PERFORMING ARTS

Are you spellbound by ballet, stunned by symphony or thrilled by theatre? See world-renowned talent in inspiring spaces, from historic grand theaters to open-air parks.



FASHION

Columbus is the #1 metro in the U.S. for concentration of professionals working in the apparel and fashion industry. For visitors, that means amazing fashion events and an abundance of boutique shops.



DIVERSE AND DISTINGUISHED DINING



WORLD-FAMOUS DESSERTS
Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams



PREMIER, PLANT-BASED
Comune



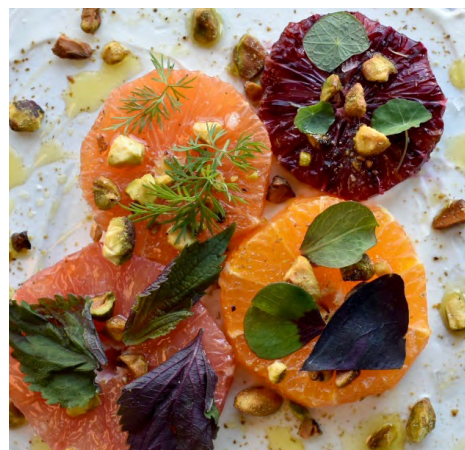
GLOBAL CUISINE
North Market



ROOFTOP VIEWS
Brass Eye



CRAFT BREWERIES
Land-Grant Brewing Co.



JAMES BEARD AWARD NOMINATED CHEFS
Chapman's Eat Market, Ginger Rabbit and Hiraeth



INNOVATIVE CUISINE
Joya's and Agni



LIQUOR, FARM-FRESH FOOD
Watershed Distillery

“ Columbus boasts a rapidly expanding food scene that’s rich with ingenuity and fresh innovation. It’s also home to some of the best hotel dining in the country, a bevy of breweries, an award-winning ice cream empire, some of the best bagels in the U.S., epic breakfast sandwiches, a slew of food halls, and a soaring rooftop bar scene to rival that other sky-scraping Midwest metropolis, Chicago. ”

– *Tasting Table*

COLUMBUS HAS NO OFFSEASON

With three professional sports teams along a half-mile stretch in the Arena District, Columbus has no off season. Choose from professional hockey, soccer or baseball or nationally recognized collegiate athletic programs. Elite annual events happen year-round with the PGA Tour's Memorial Tournament presented by Workday, as well as premier hosted events like the 2024 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, 2024 MLS All-Star Game and 2027 NCAA Women's Final Four.

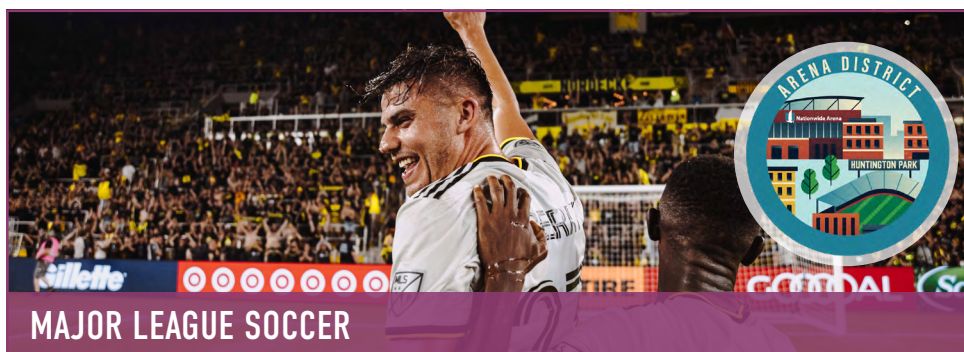
Columbus will soon be home to a brand-new professional sports team, and its first-ever major professional women's sports team. The Fury, part of the Pro Volleyball Federation, will undertake its inaugural 24-game season in 2024.



NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE



Columbus Blue Jackets have called Columbus home since 2000. Catch a game at Nationwide Arena to hear the fire of the cannon after a Blue Jackets' goal.



MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER



Columbus Crew plays in a brand-new, 20,000 seat facility in the Arena District, Lower.com Field, bringing all three of Columbus' professional sports teams to the district.



MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



Columbus Clippers, Triple-A baseball affiliate of the Cleveland Guardians, play at Huntington Park, a multiyear winner of *Baseball Digest's* "Best of the Ballparks" award.



COLLEGIATE SPORTS



The Ohio State Buckeyes are a must-see in Columbus. Ohio State Football plays at Ohio Stadium, or "The Shoe," one of the most recognizable landmarks in college athletics.



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COLUMBUS

ExperienceColumbus.com

