

Welcome to Pittsburgh



VINTAGE REAL ESTATE RELOCATION GUIDE

Updated 2014





Relocation Services

Meet Your Relocation Counselor

Your relocation counselor will introduce themselves via e-mail and/or video message. They will briefly go over the services they will be providing as you move to the Greater Pittsburgh Area and will provide you with their contact information.

Orientation & Tours of Greater Pittsburgh Area

Once you arrive, your relocation counselor will take you on a personalized tour of Pittsburgh and the surrounding suburbs. Learn about different neighborhoods, landmarks, attractions, recreational activities, restaurants, and more.

You will also learn about the processes and procedures required to be a Pennsylvania resident and a United States citizen, such as applying for social security cards, obtaining a driver's license, etc.

We are also happy to give you referrals for various services such as physicians, hair salons, fitness centers, bankers, and more.



Relocation Services

(continued)

Home-Finding Assistance

Your relocation counselor is qualified to assist you in finding a place to live, whether you wish to rent or purchase a home. They will focus on neighborhoods that fit your lifestyle and that provide the amenities and activities that you are looking for. You will also be provided with statistics about schools, taxes, and other local information.

Settling-In Services

Once you are in Pittsburgh, we can continue to help you settle into your new home. We can assist you with opening bank accounts, registering children for school, connecting utilities, and more. Your relocation counselor will do everything they can to help you make a smooth transition into your new community!



Relocation Counselor

Sue Schmitz
Broker/Owner, Vintage Real Estate LLC



sue@vintagerealestatellc.com

724-941-8000

412-608-3515

Vintage Real Estate wants to assist you in relocating your transferring and new employees to Pittsburgh.

Benefits of Working with Sue Schmitz:

- 30+ years of experience in domestic and international relocation
- Office fully equipped with today's technology
- References from other relocation companies
- Experience handling both individuals and groups of transferees
- Member of the Peters Township Chamber of Commerce



Pittsburgh Makes the List

#1 Best City to Relocate to in America as named by CNBC

According to the Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey, Pittsburgh was rated as the **most affordable city in America**

Forbes ranked Pittsburgh in the **top 20 best places for a working retirement**

Forbes Magazine also ranked Pittsburgh as the **4th best area for working mothers**.

The Atlantic ranks Pittsburgh near the top of the list of the **ten best places to pursue the American dream**.

National Geographic Traveler chose Pittsburgh as **one of the best places in the world to visit** on their 2012 "Best of the World" list.

Pittsburgh ranked in the top five in the *US News & World Report* of the **top places to retire** in 2012.

ABC City Guides for Kids has voted Pittsburgh as their **#1 family fun destination** in their annual list.

PNC Park is No. 1 on TripAdvisor's list of the **top 10 ballparks** in America.



Pittsburgh welcomes you...

When you first visit Pittsburgh, you will find that “the ‘Burgh” is not the smoky city that it once. Over the last four decades, the city has evolved from a major producer of steel to a leader in technology and services. Our workforce, once dominated by laborers, now has one of the highest concentrations of technically skilled people in the country.

Pittsburgh is a close-knit community – a family town steeped with tradition and a rich, unique culture. It is one of the top rated cities in the country in which to live and work based on the quality of life, cost of housing, top rated schools, and low crime rate. Here you will find the perfect mix of mid-west hospitality and big city sophistication.

Pittsburgh offers diverse shopping, unique restaurants, and cultural entertainment. Enclosed are a few of the attractions that are waiting for you. We hope that this relocation information is of value as you make your decision whether to make Pittsburgh your home.

When we look for your perfect home, we will supply you with additional information on municipalities, neighborhoods, and school districts. In the meantime, please call us with any questions you may have.

Visitor Information

Official Visitors Guide | www.VisitPittsburgh.com

Visitors Guide for Washington County | www.VisitWashingtonCountyPA.com

Regional Alliance of Chambers | www.RCA-PA.com

Peters Township Chamber of Commerce | www.PetersTownshipChamber.com

Tourism and Attractions

Carnegie Science Center | www.CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh | www.PittsburghKids.org

The Andy Warhol Museum | www.Warhol.org

Kennywood Amusement Park | www.Kennywood.com

National Aviary | www.Aviary.org

Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens | www.Phipps.Conservatory.org

Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium | www.PittsburghZoo.com

Climate and Weather

Pittsburgh climate features four distinct seasons, with precipitation somewhat evenly spread throughout the year. Summers are hot and humid, while winters are cold and snowy. Spring and autumn are mild to warm.

The warmest month of the year in Pittsburgh is July, with a 24-hour average of 72.6 °F (22.6 °C). Conditions are often humid, and combined with the 90 °F (32 °C), a considerable heat index arises.

The coldest month of the year is January, when the 24-hour average is 27.5 °F (-2.5 °C), and sub-zero lows (below -18 °C) can be expected on an average 3.9 nights per year.

Precipitation is greatest in May, due to frequent thunderstorms. On average, 4.04 inches (103 mm) of precipitation falls during this month. The driest month of the year is October, with 2.35 inches (60 mm).

Annual precipitation is around 37.9 inches (963 mm), while annual snowfall is 40.3 inches (102 cm). In terms of cloudiness, Pittsburgh averages 59 clear days and 103 partly-cloudy days per year, while 203 days are cloudy.

SOURCE: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pittsburgh#Climate>

The benefits of owning a home

Over the last ten years, the cost of rental housing in the U.S. has increased an average of 3 percent per year. That means that an apartment or home renting for \$750 per month will cost more than \$978 a month in ten years. If you rent the same home for ten years, the total amount you would pay for rent will equal \$103,000!



Homeownership has tax advantages over renting a home, and those advantages can help you save money. Unlike your monthly rent, part of your monthly mortgage payment “comes back to you” in tax savings. You will actually save money by owning a home instead in renting!

Social Security Number/ Card

Visit this website to learn how to apply for a Social Security Number.

<http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10096.html#2>

This is very important when coming to the United States, so please read the information carefully and thoroughly.

U.S. Census & Demographics

Visit this website to conduct a search for specific data sets pertaining to U.S. census and demographic information:

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/42000.html>

Driver's License

http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/new_residents/index.shtml

All new residents with out-of-state non-commercial driver's licenses must obtain a PA Driver's License within 60 days of establishing Pennsylvania residency. To apply, you must appear in person at one of our [Driver License Centers](#). You will be required to surrender your out-of-state driver's license (valid or expired six months or less) before PennDOT can issue you a PA Driver's License. You will need to take a vision-screening test and complete [Form DL-180R](#) "Application for Pennsylvania Non-Commercial Driver's License By Out-of-State Non-CDL Driver." In addition, you will need to show [proof of identification and residency](#) and your Social Security card. Please visit our [fees page](#) for information on the fee for the product you will be requesting.

Although a knowledge test is not required for new residents with out-of-state driver's licenses which are valid or expired six months or less, [The Pennsylvania Driver's Manual](#) is designed to help you become a safe driver and enjoy your driving privilege in our beautiful state.

A previous resident returning to Pennsylvania must meet all the same identification and residency requirements as a customer who has never been a PA resident.

All documents must show the same name and date of birth, or an association between the information on the documents. Additional documentation may be required of a connection between documents cannot be established (e.g. Marriage Certificate, Court Order of name change, Divorce Decree, etc.)

Out-of-state learner's permits cannot be transferred to Pennsylvania. In addition, if your out-of-state driver's license has been expired for more than six months, it cannot be transferred for a Pennsylvania Driver's License. You must apply for a [Pennsylvania Learner's Permit](#) and complete all applicable knowledge and skills tests in order to obtain a Pennsylvania Driver's License.

PennDOT uses state-of-the-art [facial recognition technology](#) when an individual has their photo taken for their driver's license/identification card renewal.

Utilities

ELECTRIC COMPANIES

Duquesne Light | 1-888-393-7100
Allegheny Power | 1-800-255-3443
PennElec Power | 1-800-720-3600

GAS COMPANIES

Equitable Gas | 1-800-654-6335
Dominion Peoples Gas | 412-244-2626
Columbia Gas | 1-800-440-6111

WATER COMPANY

Pennsylvania American Water | 1-800-565-7292

SEWAGE COMPANIES

Alcosan | 412-766-4810
Upper St. Clair | 412-831-9000
Peters Creek San. Authority | 724-348-6860

TELEVISION/INTERNET SERVICE COMPANIES

Comcast | 1-800-824-2290
Verizon | 1-800-837-4966

Local School Districts

For more information regarding specific school districts in the area, visit each district's website:

Peters Township: <http://www.ptsd.k12.pa.us/>

Canon McMillan: www.cmsd.k12.pa.us/

Upper St. Clair: www.uscsd.k12.pa.us

Mt. Lebanon: www.mtlsd.org

Bethel Park: www.bpsd.org

South Fayette: www.southfayette.org

Chartiers Valley: www.cvsd.net

South Park: http://www.edline.net/pages/South_Park_School_District

West Jefferson Hills: www.wjhsd.net

Baldwin-Whitehall: www.bwschools.net

Keystone Oaks: www.kosd.org

Chartiers-Houston: www.chbucs.k12.pa.us

Higher Education

For information on higher education in the Pittsburgh area, visit:

<http://www.pittsburghmagazine.com/Pittsburgh-Magazine/September-2011/College-101-The-Insider-Guide/>

2014 Guide to Western Pennsylvania Schools Rankings

1. Mt. Lebanon School District
2. Upper St. Clair School District
3. Hampton School District
4. South Fayette School District
5. North Allegheny School District
6. Fox Chapel School District
7. Peters Township School District
8. Quaker Valley School District
9. Pine-Richland School District
10. Franklin Regional School District
11. Penn-Trafford School District
12. Mars Area School District
13. Moon Area School District
14. West Jefferson Hills School District
15. Seneca Valley School District
16. Bethel Park School District
17. Greater Latrobe School District
18. Norwin School District
19. Beaver Area School District
20. Canon-McMillan School District

Shopping Malls

Robinson Town Centre | <http://www.robinsontowncentre.com>

South Hills Village | <http://www.simon.com>

Galleria Mall | www.galleriapgh.com

Century III Mall | <http://www.centuryiiimall.com>

Tanger Outlets | www.tangeroutlet.com/washington

Food and Grocery Markets

Giant Eagle | www.gianteagle.com

Shop N Save | www.shopnsave.com

The Fresh Market | www.thefreshmarket.com

Whole Foods Market | www.wholefoodsmarket.com

Trader Joe's | www.traderjoes.com

Aldi | www.aldi.us

Pharmacy | Drugstores

Walgreens Pharmacy | www.walgreens.com

CVS Pharmacy | www.cvs.com

Rite Aid Pharmacy | www.riteaid.com

Public Transportation

<http://www.visitpittsburgh.com/navigating-pittsburgh/>

<http://www.portauthority.org>

Furniture Rental

CORT Furniture | <http://www.cort.com/>

Parks

Montour Walking Trail | www.montourtrail.org/

South Park | <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/parks/spfac.aspx>

Postal | Delivery Service

United States Postal Service | <https://www.usps.com/>

UPS | www.ups.com

FedEx | www.fedex.com

Banking

Citizens Bank | <http://www.citizensbank.com>

PNC | <http://www.pnc.com>

Dollar Bank | <http://www.dollarbank.com>

For a full list of banks in Pittsburgh, visit
<http://www.usbanklocations.com/pittsburgh-banks-pa.htm>

Hospitals

List of Hospitals in the Pittsburgh Area:

<http://pittsburgh.about.com/od/hospitals>

[/Hospitals Medical Centers.htm](http://pittsburgh.about.com/od/hospitals/Hospitals_Medical_Centers.htm)

Fitness Centers

L.A. Fitness (multiple locations) | <http://www.lafitness.com>

Curves (multiple locations) | www.curves.com

Anytime Fitness (McMurray, PA) | <http://anytimefitness.com>

HealthTrax (Bethel Park, PA) | <http://www.healthtrax.com>



In case of emergency, dial 911.

