

YOUR GUIDE TO RELOCATING TO BLOOMINGTON, MN



Welcome to Bloomington, Minnesota! Nestled in the heart of the Twin Cities metro area, Bloomington offers an exceptional quality of life, a thriving economy, and a strong sense of community. This guide provides everything you need to make your move to Bloomington seamless and stress-free.



Bloomington is a dynamic suburb located just 10 miles south of downtown Minneapolis. It is home to over 90,000 residents and serves as a regional hub for business, shopping, and outdoor recreation.

Key Features:

- **Commute:** Easy access to I-494, Hwy 100, Hwy 169, and I-35W, along with the Metro Transit Blue Line and various bus lines.
- **Education:** Top-rated schools and proximity to universities like the University of Minnesota.
- **Healthcare:** Major medical facilities are within minutes like Fairview Southdale Hospital and Park Nicollet.

Housing in Bloomington

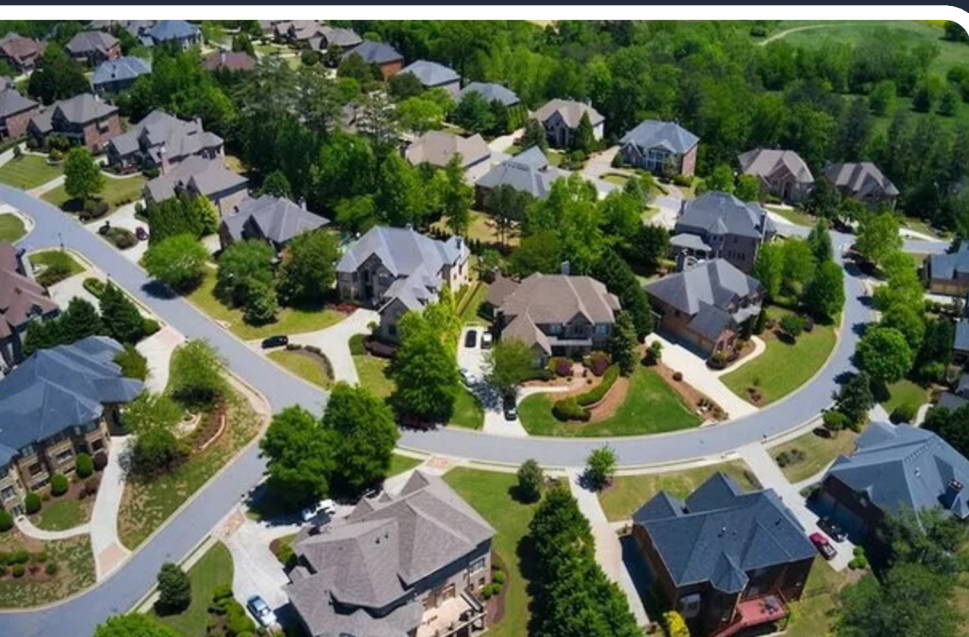
Bloomington offers a variety of housing options, from single-family homes and condos to apartments and townhomes. Whether you're looking for a starter home or a luxury property, Bloomington's diverse neighborhoods provide choices for every lifestyle.

Popular Neighborhoods:

- **Normandale Highlands:** Known for its spacious homes and proximity to parks.
- **West Bloomington:** Features larger lots and upscale properties.
- **South Loop District:** A vibrant urban area with new developments and easy access to public transit.

Housing Market Highlights:

- **Median home price:** \$375,000
- **Median rental price:** \$1,300/month
- **School district:** Bloomington Public Schools, offering excellent K-12 education.



For personalized help with buying or renting a home in Bloomington, contact David Nelson, your Bloomington/Twin Cities real estate expert.

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Things to Do in Bloomington

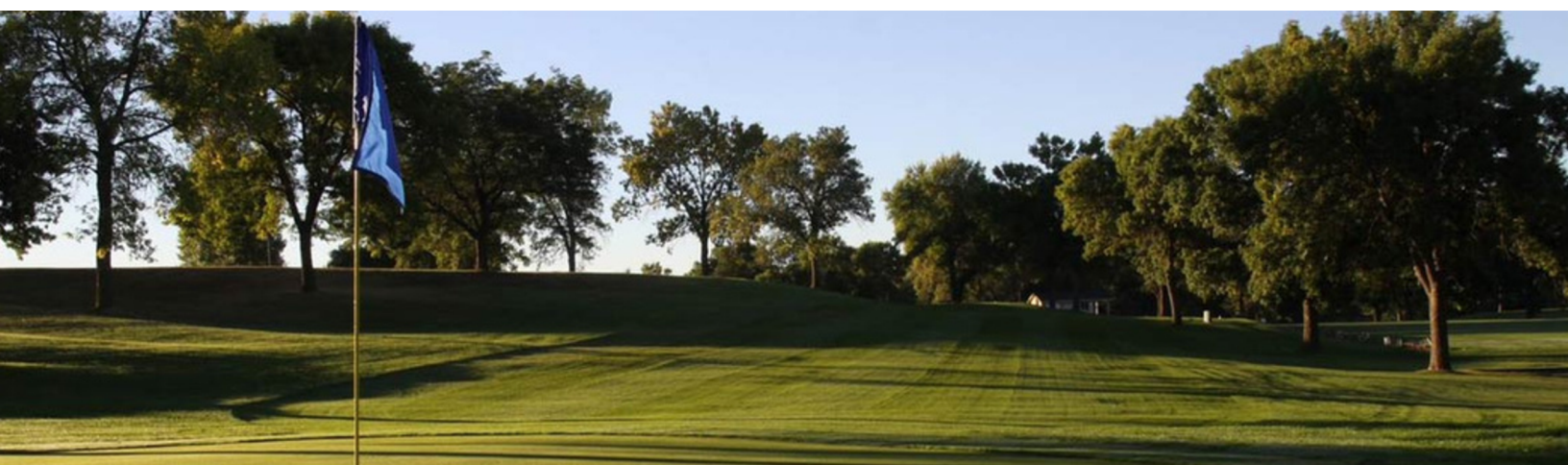
Bloomington, Minnesota, offers a diverse array of attractions and activities catering to all interests and ages.

Water Parks

- **Bloomington Family Aquatic Center:** Located at 201 East 90th Street, this seasonal outdoor pool operates daily from early June through mid-August. Amenities include a zero-depth entry pool, interactive play features, an aqua climbing wall, water slides, diving boards, a bathhouse with token lockers, and a concession stand. [Website](#)
- **Mystery Cove:** Set to open soon near the Mall of America, this \$422 million indoor water park will feature North America's largest indoor pool hall and longest indoor beachfront, complete with a retractable roof. [The Sun](#)

Golfing

- **Hyland Greens Golf and Learning Center:** This 9-hole, par-3 course is perfect for beginners and those looking to practice their short game. [Website](#)
- **Dwan Golf Club:** A challenging 18-hole course offering scenic views and a full-service clubhouse. [Website](#)



Additional Activities

Bloomington, Minnesota, offers a diverse array of attractions and activities catering to all interests and ages.

Hiking and Biking

- **Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge:** Offers over 46 miles of trails for hiking and wildlife observation.
- **Hyland Lake Park Reserve:** Features extensive trails suitable for hiking and biking, with picturesque views of woodlands and lakes.

Parks and Outdoor Activities

- **Normandale Lake Park:** Known for its bandshell hosting concerts and events, the park also offers walking trails and picnic areas.
- **Moir Park:** Features a 9-hole disc golf course, playgrounds, and picnic shelters, making it ideal for family outings.
- **Bush Lake Beach:** A popular spot for swimming and picnicking in summer.

Skiing and Snowboarding

- **Hyland Hills Ski Area:** This ski area offers downhill skiing and snowboarding with a variety of runs for all skill levels, as well as terrain parks and ski jump.



More Things to Do!

Children's Activities

- **The Works Museum:** A hands-on engineering museum designed for children, offering interactive exhibits and activities.
- **SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium:** Located in the Mall of America, this aquarium features thousands of sea creatures and interactive exhibits.
- **Nickelodeon Universe:** An indoor amusement park within the Mall of America, offering rides and attractions themed after popular Nickelodeon shows.



Sporting Venues

- **Bloomington Ice Garden:** A premier ice skating facility with three rinks, offering public skating sessions and hockey programs.
- **Dred Scott Playfields:** Provides facilities for baseball, softball, football, sand volleyball, tennis, and basketball.

But Wait...There's More!



Concerts and Performing Arts

- **Bloomington Center for the Arts:** Hosts a variety of performances, including concerts, theater productions, and art exhibitions.
- **Normandale Lake Bandshell:** Offers outdoor concerts and events during the warmer months.

Festivals and Events

- **Summer Fete:** Bloomington's annual Independence Day celebration featuring live music, food vendors, and fireworks.
- **Winter Fete:** A week-long festival celebrating winter activities like ice skating, sledding, and snowshoeing.

Bloomington's rich array of attractions ensures that residents and visitors alike have access to a wide variety of recreational and cultural activities year-round.

Popular Restaurants

Upscale Dining

- **Bullvino's:** A full-service Brazilian Churrascaria with traditional recipes of some of Brazil's most delectable delicacies. [Website](#)
- **Hazelwood Food + Drink:** A mix of American comfort food and creative culinary flair in a welcoming environment. [Website](#)
- **Kincaid's:** A classic steak and seafood restaurant with an elegant setting, perfect for special occasions. [Website](#)

Casual Dining

- **Potluck Food Hall:** A culinary collective located in the Mall of America, featuring local favorites like Nordic Waffles and Burger Dive. [Website](#)
- **Perk Up Kitchen:** Serving all-day breakfast and lunch - classic items done right and some new and exciting items with a twist. [Website](#)

Ethnic Cuisine

- **Sawatdee:** authentic Thai dishes with rich flavors and various options for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. [Website](#)
- **Itton Ramen:** A favorite spot for ramen and Japanese street food. [Website](#)
- **Andale Taqueria & Mercado:** A vibrant spot for authentic Mexican cuisine, with a connected grocery market. [Website](#)

Family-Friendly

- **NorthStar Tavern:** Chef-driven menu featuring burgers, 24 tap beers, craft cocktails, and a full wine list. [Website](#)
- **Snuffy's Malt Shop:** Family-friendly, diner-style joint serving standard burgers, fries & a variety of malt shakes. [Website](#)

Shopping Options

Malls and Shopping Centers

- **Mall of America:** The crown jewel of Bloomington's shopping scene, featuring over 500 stores, entertainment options, and dining. [Website](#)
- **Southtown Shopping Center:** A smaller shopping area with popular retailers like Kohl's and a variety of eateries.

Specialty Shops

- **IKEA Bloomington:** Known for stylish, affordable furniture and home goods, with a Swedish food market and café. [Website](#)
- **Twin Cities Premium Outlets:** Located nearby in Eagan, this outlet mall offers discounted designer and name-brand stores. [Website](#)

Local Finds

- **Droolin' Moose:** Premium chocolate store with a variety of sweet and savory treats. [Website](#)
- **Galleria Edina:** Upscale shopping featuring high-end stores and unique boutiques, just minutes from Bloomington. [Website](#)



Educational Opportunities

Public Schools

Operated by Bloomington Public Schools (ISD 271), the district serves the city's educational needs with a variety of schools.

Elementary Schools (K–5):

- **Hillcrest Community School:** A choice school emphasizing community involvement.
- **Indian Mounds Elementary:** Focuses on a nurturing learning environment.
- **Normandale Hills Elementary:** Known for strong academic programs.
- **Oak Grove Elementary:** Offers diverse educational activities.
- **Olson Elementary:** Committed to student development.
- **Poplar Bridge Elementary:** Encourages academic excellence.
- **Ridgeview Elementary:** Provides a supportive learning atmosphere.
- **Valley View Elementary:** Focuses on comprehensive education.
- **Westwood Elementary:** Offers a balanced curriculum.



Educational Opportunities

Middle Schools (6–8):

- **Oak Grove Middle School:** Provides a range of extracurricular activities.
- **Olson Middle School:** Focuses on preparing students for high school.
- **Valley View Middle School:** Offers diverse academic programs.

High Schools (9–12):

- **John F. Kennedy High School:** Known for its strong athletics and arts programs.
- **Thomas Jefferson High School:** Offers a variety of Advanced Placement courses.



Additionally, the district provides specialized programs:

- **New Code Academy:** A K–12 fully online school open to families throughout Minnesota.
- **Beacon Alternative Learning Program:** Caters to students seeking non-traditional learning environments.
- **Bloomington Transition Center:** Supports students transitioning to post-secondary life.

For detailed information, visit the [Bloomington Public Schools website](#).

Educational Opportunities

Private Schools

Bloomington hosts several private educational institutions:

- **Bloomington Lutheran School:** A K–8 Christian school affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, focusing on faith-based education.
- **Nativity of Mary School:** Offers K–8 education with a Catholic foundation, emphasizing academic excellence and spiritual growth.
- **United Christian Academy:** Provides K–12 interdenominational Christian education, representing over 60 different churches.

Higher Education

The city is home to notable colleges and universities:

- **Normandale Community College:** Established in 1968, it serves over 14,000 students annually, offering associate degrees and certificates across various disciplines. Normandale Community College
- **Northwestern Health Sciences University:** Focuses on alternative healthcare education, including chiropractic, acupuncture, oriental medicine, and massage therapy. Northwestern Health Sciences University
- **Bethany Global University:** A Christian institution dedicated to missionary preparation, offering degrees in Bible and Theology. Bethany Global University
- **Rasmussen University:** Provides a range of programs leading to associate and bachelor's degrees, with a focus on practical, career-oriented education. Rasmussen University

Bloomington's educational institutions cater to diverse learning needs, ensuring quality education from early childhood through higher education.

When Moving to Bloomington

Tips for Moving to Bloomington

1. **Visit in Advance:** Explore neighborhoods and schools to find the best fit for your needs.
2. **Declutter:** Donate or sell items you don't need before packing.
3. **Pack Strategically:** Label boxes with room names and unpack essentials first.
4. **Update Address:** Notify USPS, banks, and subscription services of your new address.
5. **Plan Utilities:** Schedule connections a week before your move.



Local Utilities

Ensure your utilities are set up before moving day:

- **Electricity/Gas:** Xcel Energy (800-895-4999)
- **Water/Sewer:** City of Bloomington Utilities (952-563-8726)
- **Trash/Recycling:** Republic Services (763-784-2104) or Waste Management (866-909-4458)
- **Internet/TV:** Comcast Xfinity, CenturyLink, T-Fiber, Quantum Fiber

For assistance with your move or finding your dream home in Bloomington, contact:

David Nelson
Bloomington/Twin Cities Real Estate Specialist

Phone: 612-986-4670

Email: david@imperialhometeam.com

Website: www.welovebloomington.com

Welcome to Bloomington, where your next chapter awaits!

Moving Checklist

4–6 Weeks Before Moving:

- Research and hire movers or rent a truck.
- Notify schools and transfer records.
- Start packing non-essential items.
- Arrange childcare/pet care for moving day.

2–3 Weeks Before Moving:

- Change your address with USPS.
- Schedule utilities for disconnection/setup.
- Begin deep cleaning your current home.
- Confirm moving day arrangements.

1 Week Before Moving:

- Pack a moving day essentials box.
- Defrost your refrigerator and freezer.
- Do a final walkthrough of your old home.

Moving Day:

- Ensure movers have clear directions.
- Conduct a final home inspection.
- Celebrate your arrival in Bloomington!

