



The following community descriptions have been graciously provided by our partner, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber.

Northern Kentucky

Includes Boone, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Pendleton, and Kenton Counties

BOONE COUNTY

Established in 1799, Boone County, named after frontiersman Daniel Boone, is the second fastest growing of Kentucky's 120 counties. Population: 93,290.

Burlington

www.boonecountyky.org

The county seat for Boone County, Burlington, was once a farming community. While there are still rolling farmlands, building is booming on Route 18 to the I-75 interchange. Housing consists of older and newer homes in a range of prices. There are soccer fields, baseball/softball fields, basketball courts, a walking trail and three shelters. Burlington is the home of the Boone County Fairgrounds; the private Traditions Golf Club, one of the areas most challenging golf courses; and Dinsmore Historic Home, an operating museum farm with roots going back to 1841. The upscale Tousey House, known for its gourmet fare, is also here.

- *Avg. home price* \$158,600
- *Population* 8,200
- *Government* County
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 25 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 9 minute
- *School district* Boone County Schools

Florence

<http://www.cityofflorenceky.com/>

Established in 1828, Florence was once a major crossroads community. Today it's vibrant and progressive with a wide selection of homes for middle- and upper-income families. Two big draws here are Florence Mall, with 133 stores, and Thoroughbred racing at Florence's Turfway Park. The area boasts a healthy commercial development, which is closely monitored and controlled by strict commercial and industrial planning to preserve the interests of the city. It is home to minor-league baseball team, Florence Freedom, which will have a 4,000-seat stadium in 2004 at Tom Gill Chevrolet Field in Florence.

- *Avg. home price* *\$151,880*
- *Approx. area* *8.8 square miles*
- *Population* *23,551*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *18 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *7 minutes*
- *School district* *Boone County Schools*

Hebron

www.boonecountyky.org

Once a small village, Hebron began a period of active new home construction several years ago with the opening of the I-275 beltway. But despite residential and commercial growth, the area keeps its serenity and small-town charm. Community growth also parallels the success of the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, which is located here. Homes available range from cottages to contemporary houses.

- *Avg. home price* *\$192,958*
- *Population* *3,500*
- *Government* *County*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *25 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *10 minutes*
- *School district* *Boone County Schools*

Union

www.cityofunionky.org

Established in 1833, Union was incorporated in 1854 and reincorporated in 1969. White fences, rolling countryside, pastoral horse and cattle farms, and wide-open spaces typify Union (not to be confused with Clermont County's Union Township). There are new, upscale single-family homes and some estates. The Benjamin Piatt Fowler house, circa 1817, is a Union landmark. The Lassing Pointe Golf Course, a public course, is rated as one the most challenging in the Tristate. Triple Crown Country Club, and beautiful million dollar homes surround the golf course. Big Bone Lick State Park, devoted to prehistoric Kentucky, is nearby. Access to downtown Cincinnati and Florence Mall has been enhanced by the addition of the new Mount Zion interchange at I-75.

- *Avg. home price* \$240,700
- *Approx. area* 3 square miles
- *Population* 3,000
- *Government* Commissioner
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 20 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 15 minutes
- *School district* Boone County Schools

Walton

www.cityofwalton.org

Founded in the mid 1790s, Walton was a promising railroad community in 1869. Today, Walton, "a rural community with a modern twist," appeals to homebuyers in search of rolling countryside, rich farmlands and horse farms. Housing choices include ranch, contemporary and traditional two-story. The community offers the small-town charms of friendly neighbors, less traffic and pride in the local schools. Shopping is close by at Florence Mall. A Walton-Verona Veterans Memorial to honor men and women in the service has just been completed.

- *Avg. home price* \$171,228
- *Approx. area* 3.2 square miles
- *Population* 2,450
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 25 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 12 minutes
- *School district* Walton Verona Independent Schools

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Founded in 1794, Campbell County was named in honor of John Campbell, an Irish immigrant who was a soldier, explorer, and one of the drafters of the first Kentucky Constitution. Its two county seats are Alexandria and Newport. Land area is 102,000 acres, population 88,816.

Alexandria

www.alexandriaky.org

Alexandria, founded in 1834, is "Where the city meets the country." It has become one of Campbell County's fastest-growing areas with the recent completion of the AA Highway, which cuts across Northern Kentucky. Housing options range from vintage, picturesque farms to construction in new subdivisions. Land is affordable and shopping is conveniently close. Many homes feature large, wooded lots, and there is still much acreage left for future development. The A.J. Jolly County Park, which offers golf, camping and swimming, is just south of Alexandria. Harry's Hometown Diner is located here.

- *Avg. home price* \$152,356
- *Approx. area* 5.39 square miles
- *Population* 8,269
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 25 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 30 minutes
- *School district* Campbell County Schools

Bellevue

www.bellevneky.org

The community was established in 1870 and named after a revolutionary hero James Taylor's Virginia farm, Bellevue. Its riverside location gives it one of the area's best views of the city skyline and lights. A \$40 million office and residential project east of Port Bellevue is being developed. There are also plans for 24 condos to be built at Taylor and Eden avenues. Joe's Crab Shack and Buckhead Mountain Grill are located on Port Bellevue, its restaurant district. Affordable homes and newer condominiums, plus a short commute to downtown Cincinnati, make Bellevue a popular choice with singles, first-time homebuyers and middle-income families.

- *Avg. home price* \$88,819
- *Approx. area* 1 square mile
- *Population* 6,480
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 5 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 20 minutes
- *School district* Bellevue Independent

Cold Spring

www.coldspringky.com

Named for a natural, freshwater spring that still runs underground and was discovered in the 1780s, Cold Spring, incorporated in 1941, is a quiet community of attractive homes and pretty parks. Recent growth in subdivisions has produced an array of new residential options. Shopping, office complexes and a large industrial park are close by. Cold Spring is home to the national headquarters of the Disabled American Veterans organization and is just minutes from Northern Kentucky University. Part of the community's appeal is its proximity to downtown and the east side of Cincinnati. It is close to shopping at Crestview Hills and Florence malls.

- *Avg. home price* *\$148,051*
- *Approx. area* *13.2 square miles*
- *Population* *3,806*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *12 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School district* *Campbell County Schools*

Dayton

www.daytonky.com

Dayton, one of Tristate's older riverfront communities, began in 1849. The city offers affordable homes, located just a short drive from downtown Cincinnati. Favorite community events include Mary Inglis Day, Memorial Day and Light Up Dayton. There are five parks and summer recreation programs for youth. Currently, Dayton is redeveloping its riverfront area. It is home to Watertown Yacht Club, an attractive, colorful marina complex. This Kentucky city should not be confused with the other, much larger Dayton in south-central Ohio.

- *Average home price* *\$59,357*
- *Approx. area* *1.3 square miles*
- *Population* *5,966*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *7 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *20 minutes*
- *School district* *Dayton Public Schools*

Fort Thomas

www.ftthomas.org

An attractive residential community, Ft. Thomas was founded in 1867 and named for a Civil War fort that today serves as a park and community center. Fort Thomas stretches along a north-south ridge high above the Ohio River, providing scenic river views from many of its homes. Large, older homes and tree-lined streets are part of the charm of this city that maintains a small-town feel. Fort Thomas has also earned a reputation for good city government, excellent schools and involved parents. It is home to Vito's Café, which features singing servers.

- *Avg. home price* *\$156,448*
- *Approx. Area* *5.5 square miles*
- *Population* *16,500*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *20 minutes*
- *School district* *Fort Thomas Independent Schools*

Highland Heights

Best known as the home of Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, founded in 1927, is another of Campbell County's quiet neighborhoods that has seen substantial growth as a bedroom community. There is a broad range of affordable houses—from older ones to new construction in single-family housing, condominiums and apartments. Quick access to I-471 and I-275 makes this community convenient to downtown Cincinnati, the area's east side, shopping at Crestview Hills and Florence malls in Northern Kentucky, and shopping at Anderson Towne Center and Eastgate Mall in Cincinnati.

- *Avg. home price* *\$110,996*
- *Approx. Area* *2 square miles*
- *Population* *6,554*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *20 minutes*
- *School district* *Campbell County Schools*

Newport

www.cityofnewportky.org

Newport's beginning goes back to 1791. Many of the houses and buildings, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, reflect this. Its East Row Historic District offers homebuyers an eclectic selection of architectural styles such as Italianate, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival. Soon some high-rise luxury condos will be available. People flock to Newport's riverfront— to the \$210 million Newport on the Levee, a food and entertainment complex. Located here are restaurants such as Bamboo Club, Claddagh Irish Pub, Brio Tuscan Grille, Tropicana, Mitchell's Fish Market, and Bar Louie. The Levee is anchored by the \$40 million, 100,000-square-foot Newport Aquarium holding 11,000 marine animals. Ten blocks south of the Levee is Monmouth Street, which is getting a makeover with new sidewalks, street lamps and trees. It is attracting artsy people and new businesses, including a new restaurant, Washington Platform. The New Edgecliff Theater and Monmouth Theater are located here. Newport is home to the World Peace Bell and is the site for the Newport Arts & Music Festival, Italianfest and Seafood Festival. The new Hofbrauhaus, a beer garden at the old Dehner Historic Building, is drawing crowds; as is the new Jeff Ruby's Coconut Grove, a cabaret and restaurant. Plus old-time favorites Green Derby, Pompilio's and York St. Café.

- *Avg. home price* \$96,960
- *Approx. area* 1.5 square miles
- *Population* 3,472
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 8 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 20 minutes
- *School district* Southgate/Campbell County Schools

Wilder

Wilder was incorporated in 1935, when most of its residents made their living at the Andrew Steel Company (now Newport Steel). Its Licking River frontage is home to the Northern Kentucky Port of Authority. Housing styles vary along the Licking River, and much recent development has centered around condominiums and upscale single-family houses.

- *Avg. home price* \$119,560
- *Approx. area* 3.4 square miles
- *Population* 17,048
- *Government* City manager
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 5 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 15 minutes
- *School district* Newport Independent

Southgate

www.southgatepd.org

Named after a wealthy landowner in the late 1800s, Southgate is a small residential community offering a selection of modestly priced, older, traditional homes. Its small-town feel and convenient access to downtown Cincinnati and the expressways are part of Southgate's appeal.

- *Avg. home price* *\$108,147*
- *Approx. area* *11 square miles*
- *Population* *2,624*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *20 minutes*
- *School district* *Campbell County Schools*

GALLATIN, GRANT and PENDLETON COUNTIES

Gallatin County, population 7,870, was founded around 1800 and named after Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury under Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. Grant County, established in 1820 with a population of 22,384, was named after early settler Samuel Grant, a son of William and Elizabeth Boone Grant and nephew of Daniel Boone. Pendleton, population 14,390, was named for Edmund Pendleton, a member of the Virginia House Burgesses and member of the Continental Congress during the Revolutionary War. It was established in 1799.

These three rural counties became part of the Greater Cincinnati metropolitan area in 1992. Each offers true country living, yet is only about an hour's drive from downtown Cincinnati and the airport. All are convenient to the fast-growing industrial and office parks in Northern Kentucky. Housing ranges from cottages and cabins, to ranches, farms and historic homes. Much acreage is available, as is new construction.

Gallatin County is Northern Kentucky's smallest county. Warsaw, the county seat, was settled along the banks of the Ohio River around the 1800. Quiet villages are scattered throughout this sparsely populated county that is conveniently located near a public golf course, churches and parks. Gallatin County is changing and growing and attracting businesses. It is home to Kentucky Speedway, a new NASCAR track opened in June 2000.

Grant County enjoys good accessibility via I-75, which runs through the county and accounts for much of the area's new construction. There are all types of housing, good school system and a hospital in Williamstown, the county seat. Leisure activities include boating, camping, horseback riding. There are lakes that offer fishing, water skiing and boating. Plus lots of shopping from antique to outlet shops. Several communities are set among the area's rolling hills and farmland, including Corinth, Dry Ridge and Crittenden.

Pendleton County covers 280 square miles. It is home to Kincaid Lake State Park, a 200-acre impoundment with outdoor recreational activities that include boating, camping, fishing and hiking. The county's largest city, Falmouth, is the county seat and has a number of restored historic homes. The Gene Snyder Airport in Falmouth maintains a 4,000-foot paved runway.

- Avg. home price
 - Gallatin Co. \$100,747
 - Grant Co. \$125,058
 - Pendleton Co. \$100,306
- Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati 45 minutes
- Approx. drive to airport 30-55 minutes
- School districts Gallatin County Schools, Grant County Schools, Williamstown Schools, Pendleton County Schools

KENTON COUNTY

Formed in 1840, the county was named after General Simon Kenton, who helped settle the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area in the late 18th century. Independence and Covington are the county's two seats. Land area is 162 square miles and population is 151,464.

Covington

www.covingtonky.com

Covington was established in 1815 and named for War of 1812 general, Leonard Wales Covington. The city boasts 15 National Register Historic Districts, with more than 4,600 structures in Colonial Revival, Italianate and Victorian styles. In addition to historic homes, there's a selection of condominiums and apartments, many with postcard views of the river and the Cincinnati skyline. There are plans for a new neighborhood, an \$800 million, 15-acre Riverfront West, a mixed use of residential, office and entertainment project.

It is home to more than 3,800 businesses, and has a thriving entertainment district in the redeveloped riverfront area. The MainStrasse section is a hub for dining and boutique shopping. There are 20 city parks, including the 688-acre Devou Park, home to the Carnegie Arts Center and Behringer-Crawford, two of Covington's gems. Located here is the magnificent Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, a replica of the Gothic Abbey Church Saint-Denis in Paris; more than 70,000 people visit it annually. Covington Latin, an excellent college-prep and 2003 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School, is here.

- *Avg. home price* *\$79,153*
- *Approx. area* *12.5 square miles*
- *Population* *43,370*
- *Government* *Council/manager*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *5 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School districts* *Covington Independent Schools, Kenton County School District*

Crescent Springs

www.crescent-springs.ky.us

This old farming community was established in 1957. Couple of possibilities on the name: "Crescent" refers to the crescent the railroad tracks made as they passed through town. It is also possible it was taken from the name Queen & Crescent Railroad. And springs? There are springs in the general area of the railroad tracks. Thus Crescent Springs. The town has seen tremendous growth in the past decade, with a daytime population of 5,000. Quick interstate access makes this neighborhood a convenient commute to downtown Cincinnati, the airport, riverfront attractions, and shopping at Florence and Crestview Hills malls. There are plans to build a shopping center, Buttermilk Towne Center, on more than 46 acres along Anderson Road, north of Buttermilk Pike. However, no construction date is set.

- *Avg. home price* \$201,800
- *Approx. Area* 2 square miles
- *Population* 3,931
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 10 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 10 minutes
- *School district* Kenton County Schools

Crestview Hills

www.crestviewhills.com

Home to Thomas More College; Crestview Hills became a city in 1951. The community's growth has been facilitated by the development of the expressway system. Newcomers can find a range of newer single-family and older homes and condominiums, some with lakeside or course views. Major employers include Alliance Research, Dillards, Applebee's and TGI Friday's. A charming town, Crestview Hills has all the amenities and attractions of a nearby big city. Summit Hills Country Club and Crestview Hills Mall are located here.

- *Avg. home price* \$229,164
- *Approx. Area* 3 square miles
- *Population* 2,889
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 10 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 10 minutes
- *School district* Kenton County Schools

Edgewood

www.edgewoodky.com

Formed in 1948, Edgewood is a quiet, pretty neighborhood with parks, schools, health centers and a hospital. Housing options include brick ranches, luxurious single-family homes, and two-story structures, most built in the past two decades. Edgewood is close to golf, shopping at area malls and the airport; it is also minutes away from downtown Cincinnati. St. Elizabeth Medical Center South is located here.

- *Avg. home price* \$208,801
- *Approx. area* 4.4 square miles
- *Population* 9,400
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 15 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 10 minutes
- *School district* Kenton County Schools

Erlanger/Elsmere

www.friendshipcity.com

These similar communities offer housing choices that range from historic residences to affordable first homes and new construction. The Erlanger and Elsmere communities are linked by a combined school system. Residents take advantage of many parks and playgrounds, and are served by top-notch fire, police and rescue squads. Both communities are convenient to downtown Cincinnati, the airport, dining, entertainment, a cinema multiplex, area shopping and Florence Mall.

- *Avg. home price*
 - Erlanger* \$129,167
 - Elsmere* \$100,853
- *Approx. area*
 - Erlanger* 6.4 square miles
 - Elsmere* 12 square miles
- *Population*
 - Erlanger* 16,676
 - Elsmere* 8,139
- *Government* Mayor/council
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* 10-15 minutes
- *Approx. drive to airport* 10-15 minutes
- *School districts:* Erlanger-Elsmere Independent Schools, Kenton County Schools

Fort Mitchell

www.fortmitchell.com

Incorporated in 1910, the community is named after Ormsby MacKnight Mitchel (one "l"), a Union army general, who founded the Cincinnati Observatory on Mt. Adams. Housing includes quaint Victorian houses, luxurious condos, and elegant homes with manicured lawns. Shopping spots line Dixie Highway, which runs through the community, and its location makes for quick access to the Florence and Crestview Hills malls. The community is home to Fort Mitchell Country Club and Drawbridge Inn, which boasts three fine restaurants. Its residents are proud of the good school system.

- *Avg. home price* *\$194,011*
- *Approx. Area* *3 square miles*
- *Population* *8,089*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *10 minutes*
- *School district* *Beechwood Independent & Kenton County Schools*

Fort Wright

www.fortwright.com

Ribs aficionados drive in droves to Fort Wright, home of Walt's Hitching Post, famous for its finger-lickin' hickory smoked ribs. They're absolutely the best. Homes here are well-maintained traditional, brick and Cape Cods on winding streets. The hillside setting and an I-75 location for exceptionally fast travel to downtown Cincinnati and the airport, shopping and dining have provided houses here with traditionally strong resale value. Fort Wright, adjacent to Covington, is primarily a residential community, with a small industrial park and a number of office complexes

- *Avg. home price* *\$138,359*
- *Approx. Area* *3.75 square miles*
- *Population* *5,674*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School district* *Kenton County Schools*

Independence/Taylor Mill

www.cityofIndependence.org

These rural communities offer urban advantages, which draw families to the area. Farms and older homes are reminders of the areas secluded country origins. But as Cincinnati expands, both Independence (Kenton County's second seat) and Taylor Mill are becoming increasingly popular choices for families seeking moderately priced homes in a peaceful, rural setting. Independence, incorporated in 1842, still has its original county courthouse. Taylor Mill is close to Ryland Heights Country Club. Both are convenient to I-275 for quick commutes to shopping, dining, the airport and downtown Cincinnati. A municipal center, housing police and administrative offices, is due for completion April 2004.

- *Avg. home price*

<i>Independence</i>	<i>\$142,889</i>
<i>Taylor Mill</i>	<i>\$137,454</i>
- *Approx. area*

<i>Independence</i>	<i>23.43 square miles</i>
<i>Taylor Mill</i>	<i>7 square miles</i>
- *Population*

<i>Independence</i>	<i>14,982</i>
<i>Taylor Mill</i>	<i>6,913</i>
- *Government*

<i>Independence</i>	<i>Mayor/council</i>
<i>Taylor Mill</i>	<i>Mayor/commission</i>
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *20 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *20 minutes*
- *School district* *Kenton County Schools*

Lakeside Park

Newcomers are drawn to the park-like setting and minor-smooth lakes in this small community, established in 1930. Homes range from elegant Victorians to brick houses, many built in the past 25 to 80 years. Lakeside Parks civic association awards its residents for property beautification. Excellent property values here are enhanced by the Lakeside's close proximity to malls, downtown Cincinnati, hospitals and the airport.

- *Avg. home price* *\$138,333*
- *Approx. Area* *2 square miles*
- *Population* *2,869*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *13 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School district* *Beechwood Independent & Kenton County Schools*

Park Hills

This neighborhood is well known for its hills, which offer panoramic views. Houses come in varied traditional architectural styles and winding streets shaded by stately trees. Park Hills is adjacent to the 668-acre Devon Park, which features a public golf course, tennis courts, playgrounds and picnic areas. Affordable houses, proximity to downtown Cincinnati and the riverfront make Park Hills a popular neighborhood.

- *Avg. home price* *\$177,874*
- *Approx. area 1 square mile*
- *Population* *2,977*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *10 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School district* *Kenton County Schools*

Villa Hills

www.villahills.com

A beautiful and highly desirable neighborhood, Villa Hills was incorporated in 1962. Because of its location above the Ohio River, many homes offer stunning river valley views. There are a nice variety of houses and condos—from contemporary to traditional, from moderately priced to the most luxurious (in the million-dollar range). Most homes are less than 10 years old. Civic pride is very evident in this family-oriented community, with parks, well-maintained ball fields and strong youth sports programs. Villa Hills is home to college-prep school Villa Madonna Academy.

- *Avg. home price* *\$265,698*
- *Approx. area* *3.4 square miles*
- *Population* *8,000*
- *Government* *Mayor/council*
- *Approx. drive to downtown Cincinnati* *18 minutes*
- *Approx. drive to airport* *15 minutes*
- *School district* *Kenton County Schools*