



**FARGO \* MOORHEAD**

**This is the Life**



FARGO ✶ MOORHEAD

# the good life



National Geographic has been to Fargo Moorhead. So has National Public Radio, which recently aired a piece noting our budding “reputation for high-tech jobs and hipness.” The Los Angeles Times characterization was even more straightforward: “trendy.”

For those who live here or have recently visited our thriving community of nearly 188,000, this is not news. Fargo Moorhead is a diverse, stimulating and family-oriented city with all the amenities that make for a satisfying and fulfilling life. And, flash-in-the-pan proclamations aside, quality living has been shaped here over generations with positive attributes that are not about to change.

Those with firsthand experience talk about Fargo Moorhead’s exceptional K-12 and higher education systems, world-class health care, affordable housing, relatively low cost of living and myriad cultural and entertainment opportunities. They mention stress, crime and traffic jams, too, but only to say there isn’t much of that here.

To appreciate all our community has to offer, you really need to see it for yourself. Come and sample the good life. We have a feeling you’ll want to stay.



CNNMoney.com ranked Fargo as the 9th least violent city in the nation.

The Earth Day Network has ranked Fargo the best among 200 cities in the United States based on environmental, health and quality-of-life indicators.

In an annual Health Care Cost Quotient ranking by *Expansion Management*, both North Dakota and Minnesota ranked in the top 10.

# we're attracting attention

In ranking Fargo Moorhead as the happiest place in the nation for women, *Self* magazine cited low crime rates, low unemployment, short commutes and the fact that residents get to know one another.

Morgan Quitno Press has ranked Minnesota the second most livable state in the nation, the third healthiest and the sixth smartest. It also has ranked North Dakota the country's safest state nine times.





**SPERLING'S BEST PLACES HAS  
LISTED FARGO AMONG  
THE TOP 10  
AFFORDABLE JOB POWERHOUSE  
COMMUNITIES  
IN THE UNITED STATES.**

The ranking included places where cost of living and unemployment are low and the number of jobs is growing steadily.

## **BUZZING WITH ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

Fargo Moorhead has one of the Upper Midwest's fastest-growing economies with a broad base in health care, education, retail, finance, information services, technology, agriculture and manufacturing. Called an island of stability in good times and bad, the area is experiencing dynamic growth in population, employment and job creation.





intelligent



### TOPS IN EDUCATION

With one of the best elementary and secondary systems in the nation, education is where we really shine. Our high school students earn SAT and ACT scores that are consistently above national averages and, compared to other communities, more of our high school students graduate and more go on to college. In addition to exceptional public schools, there are 11 private schools in the community, from religious-based programs to Montessori systems. Fargo Moorhead also is home to two universities, North Dakota State University and Minnesota State University Moorhead, as well as Concordia College, a highly respected private college. In addition, we have Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Aakers College and the University of Mary Fargo Center.

★ Fargo Moorhead's low-stress environment and quality schools played heavily into our ranking among *Money* magazine's 100 "Best Places to Live."



fulfilling



### ALL ABOUT FAMILY

While it costs less to live in Fargo Moorhead, it's worth a lot more. Many tangibles make this a wonderful place to raise a family – low overall and violent crime rates, clean air and water, great schools and medical facilities, short drive times and plentiful, affordable housing. Other reasons are not so measurable but just as important – tight-knit neighborhoods and a sense of community, a focus on families, solid values and a genuine concern for others. They're all in abundance here.

★ Fargo Moorhead has been ranked as one of the Best U.S. Cities for Relocating Families among small-market MSAs by Worldwide Employee Relocation Council and Primary Relation.



vital weather statistics:

average summer high: 80° F

average summer low: 57°

average winter high: 20°

average winter low: 2°

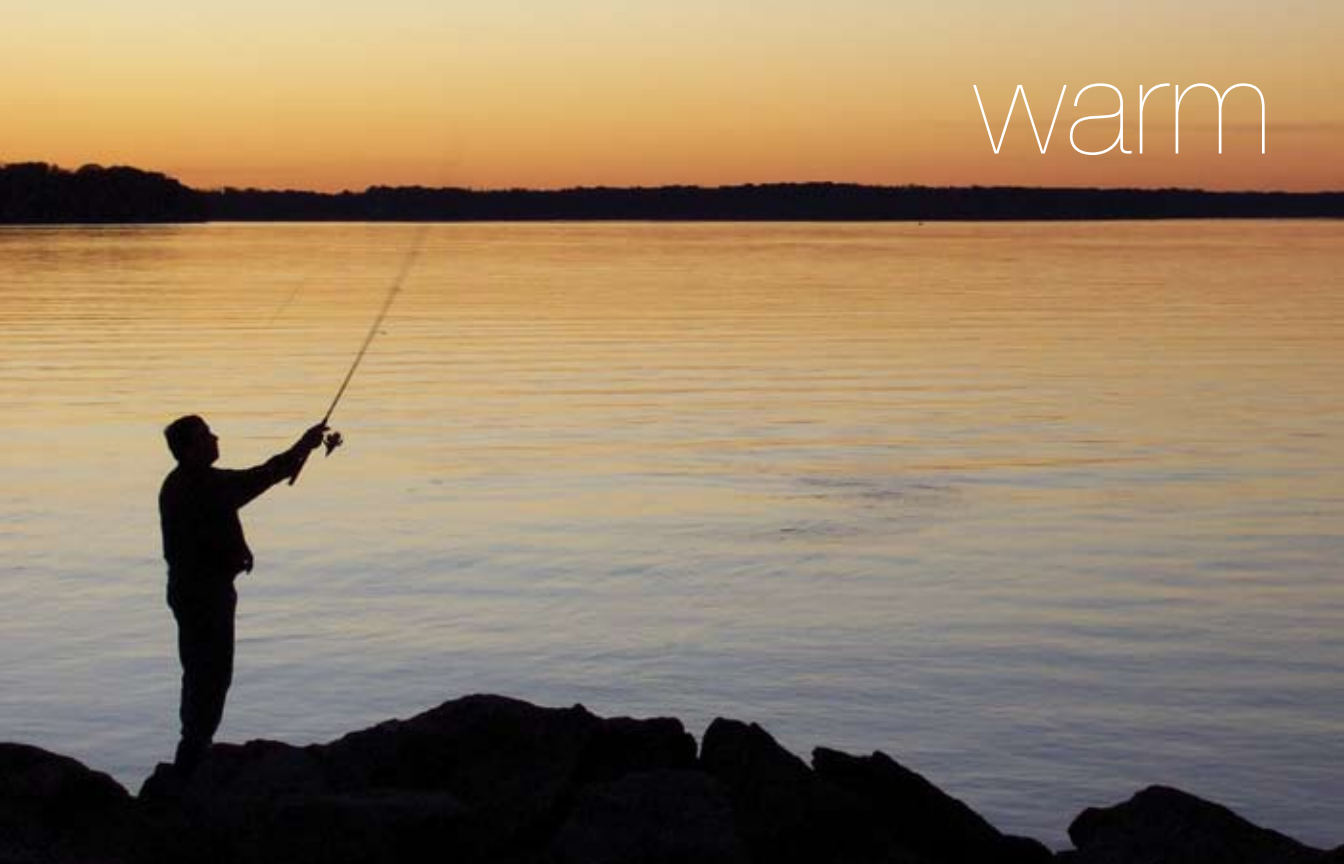
average monthly precipitation: 1.77 inches

### FOUR-SEASON FUN IN THE SUN

Fargo Moorhead gets lots of coverage for the cold, but we enjoy four full seasons and play hard through them all. Fact is, the weather is generally temperate with lots of sunshine all year long. Our springs are warm and bright, summers are pleasant, and autumns are delightfully crisp and cool. Winters are cold but dry and usually include beautiful snowfalls that dust the trees. Each snowfall averages less than an inch.



warm





**SELF MAGAZINE NAMED FARGO MOORHEAD THE  
HAPPIEST CITY  
FOR WOMEN  
AND THE LEAST STRESSFUL  
COMMUNITY IN THE NATION.  
MEN'S HEALTH RANKED IT THE THIRD LEAST ANGRY CITY IN THE UNITED STATES.**

# healthy

With many of the best facilities and programs between Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. and the West Coast, Fargo Moorhead is a regional health care center. The quality of our system flows from medical expertise, advanced technologies and nationally ranked specialty services and facilities, all bound together by a Midwestern passion for caring.

★ Solucient, an independent health-care expert, has named MeritCare Heart Hospital one of the nation's top 100 heart hospitals seven times.



# convenient

Located in the heart of the Red River Valley and straddling the Red River of the North, the Fargo Moorhead area is home to some of the nation's richest farmland and open prairies, with beautiful lake country and pine forests only an hour down the road.

Wherever you are, it doesn't take long to get where you're going. In Fargo Moorhead, the clinic, supermarket, school, a movie and your job are only minutes away. I-94 and I-29, major cross-country interstates, intersect here, with Minneapolis and Winnipeg only a few hours away.

Hector International Airport in Fargo is served by Allegiant Air, Delta Connection, Northwest Airlines and United Express with frequent direct flights to Denver, Chicago, Las Vegas, Minneapolis and Salt Lake City. If you'd rather take a train, Amtrak's rails run east and west.

## LOTS TO DO

You'll not go wanting for entertainment in Fargo Moorhead; far from it. We have exceptional shopping and dining, the symphony, the opera, live theater, museums, dance companies and music ensembles. We also enjoy Division I, II and III college sports, a minor league baseball team, a children's museum ranked in the top 10 nationally, a lively zoo, an air museum, annual film and music festivals, a performing arts school, and everything from Broadway productions to headliner music acts to a three-ring circus at the FargoDome. The metro area features more than 3,000 acres of public parks and 99 miles of biking and hiking trails, dozens of golf courses, softball, baseball, tennis, swimming and cross-country skiing facilities, not to mention beautiful lake country within an hour's drive.





stimulating



### **AN ALIVE AND THRIVING DOWNTOWN**

Hip restaurants, cafes and galleries, distinctive boutiques, artsy hangouts, funky lounges, luxury condos, a historic art deco theatre, and a truly out-of-the-ordinary upscale hotel with distinctive regional touches are all part of a beautifully restored and newly revitalized downtown Fargo. It's all here – dazzling culinary adventures, arts, entertainment and a lively nightlife.



affordable



### GOOD LIVING FOR LESS

Cited as a lower-than-average-cost place to live in the ACCRA Cost of Living Index, Fargo Moorhead offers affordable housing, grocery, transportation and utility costs, all of which are below national averages. We have new, upscale housing developments, quiet, older neighborhoods with stately Victorian homes and everything in between. Downtown living includes luxury condos and lofts with fireplaces, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings and 18-foot-high atrium windows.

★ *Expansion Management* magazine has given Fargo a "Five Star Community" rating, the highest level, in its Quality of Life Quotient. The annual quotient takes into account affordable housing, available workforce, cost of living, education levels, educational facilities, unemployment rates and peace of mind, described as the relative tranquility of a particular area.



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#### **GREATER FARGO MOORHEAD COMMUNITIES**

**CASS (ND)** Alice | Amenia | Argusville | Arthur | Ayr | Briarwood | Buffalo | Casselton | Davenport | Fargo  
Frontier | Gardner | Grandin | Harwood | Horace | Hunter | Kindred | Leonard | Mapleton | North River  
Oxbow | Page | Prairie Rose | Reiles Acres | Tower City | West Fargo **CLAY (MN)** Barnesville | Comstock  
Dilworth | Felton | Georgetown | Glyndon | Hawley | Hitterdahl | Moorhead | Sabin | Ulen

#### **LEARN MORE**

Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Corporation: [www.gfmedc.com](http://www.gfmedc.com)  
Fargo Moorhead Careers: [www.CareerFM.com](http://www.CareerFM.com)