

Regional Focus on Liverpool



••• Thinking of moving up North?

“Think you know Liverpool? Liverpool's not just about the Beatles, football or wisecracks. It's all these things - and none of them. It's about being one of the most vibrant, life-affirming and creative cities in the UK. The Liverpool of today is a changed city. It's emerging as one of the UK's leading centres for culture, entertainment and sport with one of the fastest economies in the UK. The award of European Capital of Culture 2008 has confirmed this.”

Culture and the Arts

Liverpool's architecture is world-class, boasting no fewer than 1,500 listed buildings with more listed buildings than any city outside London. The heart of the city and its waterfront sit proudly alongside treasures like the Taj Mahal and Pyramids at Giza as a World Heritage Site.

In and around Liverpool, attractions to satisfy the mind are always within reach, with magnificent architecture and cultural wonders filling the metropolis as well as the countryside and seafront.

Liverpool boasts two cathedrals which are major attractions in their own right. The Anglican Cathedral and the Metropolitan Cathedral, known locally as "Paddy's Wigwam", are fine examples of internationally recognised architecture. Many gems of the National Museums Liverpool fall within the heritage site. The refurbished World Museum and Walker Art Gallery are housed in this part of town, while the Tate Liverpool and Merseyside Maritime Museum have their homes on the waterfront, at the Albert Dock, alongside the not to be missed Beatles Story.

Liverpool boasts several theatres; you can choose from the Everyman and Playhouse, Unity and Empire theatres for a range of contemporary, classic and touring productions.

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Sports and Leisure

Renowned for its sporting successes and top class events, Liverpool is home of the world famous racecourse Aintree. Golfers are spoilt for choice with more golf courses in the area than any other county (Merseyside is home to three Open Championship courses). The coastal location is a perfect place for water sports enthusiasts. Football fans can see matches played by Liverpool's two famous teams, Everton, and Liverpool.

If you fancy getting away from the hustle and bustle, the city's parks are ideal places to spend lazy Sundays. There are nature reserves up the coast at Formby and stately homes at Speke and Croxteth. Sandy beaches on the Wirral and the beautiful countryside of North Wales are within easy reach.

Dining Out

Liverpool's restaurant and bar scene has blossomed over recent years and new venues are opening all the time. Enjoy everything from good solid British cooking, highlighting the fantastic North West food produce available, to the more unusual such as Argentinean, Afro-Caribbean and Chilean cuisine. Indian, Chinese and other menus from across the world are on offer, while in many places you can still indulge in excellent Scouse, seafood and local delicacies.

Shopping

You will find almost every form of retail therapy in Liverpool and elsewhere in the city region. City centre Liverpool boasts some of the largest big-name high street stores in the country. Ranging from designer boutiques on Bold Street to the soon to be Selfridges in Chavasse Park, Liverpool has something for everyone's taste.

Where to live?

Affordable housing can be found throughout Merseyside. Conversions and new build properties dominate the city centre offerings. Woolton and Allerton are home to many of the city's professionals; in these suburbs you will find a plethora of cafes, restaurants and boutiques all easily accessible to the city.

North of the city you will find desirable suburbs in Crosby and Formby, both of these towns offering sea view accommodation. South of the city and across the River Mersey is Wirral. Wirral is a borough of Merseyside and offers an eclectic range of places to live ranging from seaside towns such as West Kirby and Hoylake to rural hamlets such as Burton. Commuters from Wirral can use one of two Mersey Tunnels, the extensive Merseyrail network or take the famous "Ferry across the Mersey".

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