



You only have **one life.**





A person wearing a cap, a light-colored jacket, and a life vest is standing in a lake, fishing. The sun is setting in the background, creating a golden glow and a reflection on the water. The sky is filled with scattered clouds. The text "Live it GREATER" is overlaid on the top left of the image.

# Live it GREATER

Big-city amenities.  
Small-town feel.

Your opportunities are  
greater here, and your  
efforts go further.

**Make your home here  
and live greater.**

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# LIVE >



## **CHOOSE GREATER PEORIA**

Achieving work/life balance is something you have to work at, no matter where you live. But it's easier in Greater Peoria.

Here, you'll enjoy all the benefits of city living with a small-town feel. Cost of living is low. Quality of life is high. Commutes are short. And the list of things to do is long. You can build a fulfilling career with plenty of time to make memories with those you love.

Work greater. Play greater. Live greater. Make your home in Greater Peoria — and live the life you want to live.

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## THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE

You'll quickly discover how easy it is to meet people, make friends and get connected here. Newcomers and new ideas are welcome. And diversity isn't a buzzword — Greater Peoria is a true melting pot of ethnicities and cultures.

To find your people, join a service organization and team with others to give back to the community. Attend business networking events and interact with local decision-makers. Or discover your spiritual home at an area church, mosque, temple or synagogue.



"I was born in Chicago and I've lived in cities all over the country. Of all the places I've lived, this is truly the place that feels most like home. We are proud to live and raise our daughter here in Greater Peoria!"

### Nikki Romain

Co-Founder and Executive Director,  
Artists ReEnvisioning Tomorrow  
(ART Inc.)

## Greater Peoria BY THE NUMBERS



**MOST AFFORDABLE  
MID-SIZED COMMUNITY**



**VOTED ALL  
AMERICAN CITY**



**LARGEST PARK  
DISTRICT IN  
ILLINOIS**





## TO YOUR HEALTH

With short commutes and the outdoors close at hand, you'll find more time to live an [active lifestyle](#) in Greater Peoria. And more places to get moving your way: Gyms. Pools. Yoga studios. Mile after mile of trails to run, hike or bike.

[Access to world-class healthcare](#) is right here, too. Greater Peoria is a medical hub, with two major hospital systems, the only children's hospital in Illinois south of Chicago, a brand-new cancer institute, specialty care options and robust mental health services.



**Average commute time  
in Greater Peoria is just  
17.5 minutes.**

That leaves you more time to spend with the people you love, doing the things you love.



# MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

Downtown loft? Family-friendly subdivision? Secluded country cabin? Greater Peoria is an affordable place to **find your dream home**, whatever you prefer. From city living to suburban outposts to rural estates, there are choices for every lifestyle and budget.

Best of all, wherever you choose to call home, you're just minutes from work and school, activities and attractions, healthcare and travel options that will take you across the country and around the world.



## LESSON PLANS

Thinking about where to send your kids to school — or where to continue your own education? You've got high-quality options **from pre-school to medical school**:



National Blue Ribbon award-winning public schools



Multiple private and faith-based alternatives



An affordable community college



Two private four-year universities



Illinois' only downstate International Baccalaureate program



A campus of the nation's largest public medical school





# WORK

## **FROM TRACTORS TO ROBOTS**

Greater Peoria has long been a mecca for makers. Caterpillar grew into a Fortune 100 leader here, flanked by hundreds of manufacturers serving global industries. And our rich Midwestern soil places you among the world's most abundant agricultural regions.

Today's diverse economy encompasses manufacturing, agriculture and so much more. Healthcare is the fastest-growing sector, joined by thriving businesses in industries from financial services and education to engineering, robotics, autonomy and beyond.

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## MAKE YOUR MARK

From innovative startups to internationally known firms, Greater Peoria's employers serve **in-demand industries** worldwide:



### MANUFACTURING

In addition to Caterpillar, the region is home to over 350 manufacturing firms large and small, from heavy equipment to steel production to specialty manufacturing.



### HEALTHCARE

More than 30,000 residents are employed at two major health systems, dozens of specialty providers and schools of nursing.



### CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING

Greater Peoria's firms are second to none — designing and building world-class projects across the state and around the nation.



### TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Greater Peoria's innovators and entrepreneurs bring new concepts to life every day. Think autonomy, robotics, electric vehicles, biotech, sustainable materials and more.



### FINANCIAL SERVICES

Four major insurance firms are headquartered here, while banks, credit unions and wealth management firms offer a host of career opportunities.



### EDUCATION

From community colleges and four-year universities to public, private and faith-based schools, career options abound in the education sector.

But that's not all! In Greater Peoria, you'll find opportunities in transportation & logistics, legal services, nonprofits, government, energy, hospitality, the arts and much more. Whatever your industry, it's a great place to build your career.



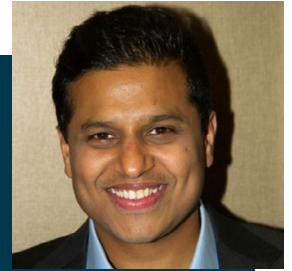
## START SOMETHING NEW

**Innovation** is alive in Greater Peoria. It's a great place to birth a business, thanks to lab, incubator and coworking spaces and a host of resources to support entrepreneurs. Multiple biotech and medtech startups have launched here in recent years. And other locally based innovators are already changing the world with unique, groundbreaking solutions. That includes Natural Fiber Welding's plant-based sustainable materials and Pringle Robotics' BoTs for the hospitality, healthcare and retail markets.

"Greater Peoria isn't just about work – it's also a fantastic place to raise a family and pursue your passions. I get to play my favorite sport, cricket, enjoy outdoors walking the trails, and connect with like-minded professionals to exchange ideas and drive growth."

### **Ravindhar Uddavolu**

Senior Vice President - Automotive and Industrial Solutions,  
Tada Cognitive Solutions







## WHERE PEOPLE MAKE PROGRESS

Whether you want to take on a leadership role or rise up the ranks, it's easy to advance your career in Greater Peoria. Professional development is a priority for area employers — in fact, our workforce development pipeline serves as a model for the nation. You'll **discover opportunities** to gain new skills, take on new challenges and showcase your talents. There's no better place to take the **next great step** in your career.



## GIVING BACK

When you join the Greater Peoria workforce, you join a community committed to **giving back** and paying it forward. Local employers encourage philanthropy and volunteerism — generously donating to local nonprofits, matching employees' gifts and supporting time off for charity work. And every year, the business community comes together to lead a United Way campaign that's consistently one of the highest-performing in the nation.





## WELCOME TO THE GREAT(ER) OUTDOORS

Yes, you'll find prairies and cornfields here. But you'll also find diverse landscapes and terrains — forests, river bluffs, marshes, wetlands and more — as well as Illinois' oldest and largest park system, offering a wealth of **outdoor adventures**. It's an ideal environment to enjoy your favorite activity or try something new. Kayak, canoe, paddle board or set sail. Run, hike or bike the trails. Grab a fishing rod or pack up your camping gear. It's up to you!

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## FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Do you have toddlers, grade-schoolers or teenagers? Relatives and friends coming to visit? Don't worry about finding ways to keep them entertained — no matter what their age.

In addition to sports and outdoor activities, Greater Peoria boasts plenty of other **family-friendly adventures**. A zoo and wildlife park. Museums with kid-focused exhibits. Escape rooms and trampoline parks. Climbing gyms and ice-skating rinks. The toughest choice? Deciding what to do first.



## GET YOUR GAME ON!

Greater Peoria is a **sports mecca**, with world-class venues and teams at various levels of play — perfect for athletes and spectators alike.



### BASEBALL

Peoria Chiefs, affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals



### BASKETBALL

Bradley Braves, NCAA Division I action



### GOLF

More than two dozen local courses (plus disc golf!)



### HOCKEY

Peoria Rivermen, Southern Professional Hockey League



### RACING

Running, motorcycles and auto racing



### SOCCER

Peoria City, USL League Two pre-professional team





## BEST IN SHOW

Welcome to a community that loves [the arts!](#) The Peoria Civic Center hosts events throughout the year, from Broadway musicals to big-name rock concerts and more! In addition to our Smithsonian-affiliated Peoria Riverfront Museum, you'll find many smaller galleries showcasing regional and national painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers and other artists. Community theater, ballet and public art thrive here as well.

## WINE AND DINE

Feel like dressing up and [dining](#) at an award-winning Distinguished Restaurant of North America? Rather grab some Indian, Lebanese or Vietnamese takeout and chow down in front of the TV? Greater Peoria's got you covered, no matter what your dietary desires.

You'll find everything from traditional steakhouses and old-school diners to plant-based eateries and farm-to-table bistros — plus a thriving coffee, brewery and cocktail scene. Are your taste buds ready?







## SHOP LOCAL

**Find everything you need** to outfit your new home or complete your new wardrobe in Greater Peoria. Nearly 100 stores fill two local malls, one indoor and one outdoor. Specialty boutiques, independent bookstores, vintage shops and more abound at hometown outlets like Junction City, Keller Station and the Metro Centre — along with charming downtown shopping districts in Morton, Pekin, Peoria Heights and Washington.

“I’ve been afforded great opportunities to raise a family and build a wonderful career in Greater Peoria — and you can, too! Connect with us today... and create the future you want.”

### **Leanne Skuse**

President, River City Construction







## TOP 10 REASONS TO MOVE TO GREATER PEORIA

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1

One of the most affordable metro areas in the U.S.

6

One of the fastest parking-to-gate airport experiences in the country

2

Average commute of just 17.5 minutes

7

Professional and NCAA Division I sports teams

3

Two major healthcare systems plus a children's hospital

8

Indoor and outdoor fitness opportunities galore

4

World-class employer network serving in-demand industries

9

Illinois' largest park system and thousands of acres of prairies, forests and waterways

5

Quality education options from pre-school to medical school

10

Family-friendly atmosphere with zoos, children's museums and more





[choosegreaterpeoria.org](http://choosegreaterpeoria.org)

CHOOSE GREATER >  
**PEORIA**